

To avoid disaster

Make sure the marriage will fly

Anyone interested in the health of marriage might learn something from people who fly.

Flies are understandably more concerned with the stability of the plane than the color of the fuselage. A safe flight is more dependent on tuning the engines and learning the controls and the instruments than on painting the airplane.

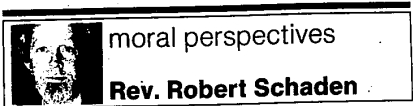
If we could translate this wisdom of flight preparation into our approach to marriage preparation, we might avoid much of the pain of divorce and empty marriage.

AS IT IS, the preparation given to the lifetime relationship is superficial, more often than not. The "paint," or preparation for the wedding day, is many times the larger concern.

Business workshop offered

A one-day workshop for current or prospective small business owners and managers will be held 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Jan. 23 in the Rackham Memorial Building, Woodward and Warren, Detroit.

Participants will be introduced to various record-keeping systems, how long to preserve records and time and money-saving tips.



moral perspectives

Rev. Robert Schaden

church get the major attention. For some couples, keeping the two families happy with the details is no minor item.

In short, a major portion of an engaged couple's energy is directed toward the first few minutes and hours of their marriage. Very little time or energy is left to look seriously at the realities of their life together.

Few marriages fail to live up to expectations because something went wrong with the ceremony or the reception.

Many do fail because of the many surprises which surface long after the band has gone home. No one assumes that a wedding ceremony will fall together just because the bride and groom want it that way. Yet more than a few seem to operate on the assumption the marriages fall into place just because the couple is in love.

MARRIAGE involves far more than setting up housekeeping and it requires more than a bridal shower to put it together.

Only an open and honest exploration of the needs, expectations and personality traits of each partner can build the foundations of a life together. Those who wish to experience the fulfillment that marriage can offer would do well to risk answering some important questions.

The answers to such questions as "Why do you want to marry?" and "Why do you want to marry me?" are far too important to assume the answers are known.

"Because I am in love with you" is not an entirely adequate answer. Most

people who are divorced made that statement or one like it before they married.

Questions such as these may be risky, but not nearly as risky as entering marriage without knowing the answers. The only alternative to knowing the truth is to marry an illusion or a myth. Love may be magnificent, but it does not prevent myths from exploding.

IT IS TRUE that marriage preparation begins long before the engagement. It is also true that people entering marriage have grown up in the marriage of their parents and that marriage courses are offered in high schools.

However, most parents choose not to expose their children to the realities of their relationship. And the textbook courses seldom deal with the dynamics of communication, need fulfillment and companionship.

If we could put as much importance on preparing for marriage as we do on preparing for weddings, we might open the door to healthier marriages.

And if those who look forward to a happy marriage in their future would put as much energy into learning about themselves and their partners as they put into planning their wedding event, they might come closer to realizing their dreams.

Group seeks meeting of world religions

A group has been visiting shopping malls in an effort to get signatures to a petition which asks that the secretary general of the United Nations call a summit meeting of the world's religions to try to "enhance unity, hope, freedom, understanding and peace throughout the world."

The group is an informal organization called CONCERN (Citizens Offering New Concepts Encouraging Reason Nationwide and Beyond).

"We want religious representatives to sit down and start problem solving," said Joe Diroff, a retired Detroit high school teacher math teacher, who now works as a substitute teacher in the Livonia and Clarenceville school districts.

He estimated that by Jan. 1 the group had collected about 300 signatures.

"We will continue having our members get signatures until we get some reaction from church groups or the UN itself," commented Diroff. "Once we get something started we'll bow out, and the churches can take over."

Diroff, who is a member of St. Monica Catholic Church in Detroit, said CONCERN is a non-denominational and non-political organization

about 12 members. He can be reached at 537-7337.

"We think the UN has the facilities to handle a meeting of this sort," he said. "It could act on a neutral basis. I feel if we could just get them (members of world religions) to sit down and discuss world problems like starvation and the arms buildup, it might lead to something."

Possibly if they sat down together they might discuss what they have in common. It might break down mistrust, misconceptions and misunderstandings among them.

The petition was directed to the new secretary-general of the United Nations, Javier Perez de Cuellar of Peru, who recently took over the position from Kurt Waldheim.

It stated: "We appeal to you in behalf of all humanity to offer your position, facilities, and services for the purpose of initiating an international summit conference of all religions. It is sincerely hoped that such an action would greatly enhance unity, understanding, freedom, hope, love and peace throughout the world."

"Thank you, best wishes, and may God bless you and your efforts."

It was "respectfully submitted" by the Concerned Peoples of the World.

That Blessings May Shine on You...Come to Church

For Church Directory Information Please Call 644-1100 Ext. 200

Kirk in the Hills Presbyterian Church, 1340 W. Long Lake Rd, Ministers: James F. Anderson, Robert L. Lindsey

Central Woodward Christian Church, 1000 Chapel of Christy, 355 W. Big Beaver at Adams, 7907, Church School 9:30 AM, Worship 11:00 AM

The Covenant Baptist Church, 800 N Maple St, Bloomfield Hills, 48303, 9:45 am Church School, 11:00 am Worship Service, 6:30 pm Evening Service

St. Pauls United Methodist Church, 165 E Square Lake Road, Bloomfield Hills, 12 blocks east of Woodward, Church School - 9:30, Worship - 10:45, Nursery Provided, Dr. David Truett, Pastor

Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 29887 West Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills, 478-8860, Worship Services: 9:15 & 11 AM, "THE DROUGHT" Rev. Wm. Miller

Orchard United Methodist, 30450 Farmington Road, Between 13 and 14 Mile Road, Morning Worship 9:30 AM & 11 AM, Church School & Nursery 9:30 AM & 11 AM

First Baptist Church, American Baptist, Bessie and Wilks, Birmingham, Robert C. Woodson, Barbara Sinter, Ministers

Hope Lutheran, 1000 W. 12 Mile Road, Farmington Hills, Sunday School 9:15 AM, Worship 10:30 AM, V.M. Mourning Pastor

Christ Church Cranbrook Episcopal, Lone Pine at Cranbrook, 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, 9:15 and 11:00 a.m. Morning Prayer and Sermon

St. Paul's Lutheran Missouri Synod, 20805 Middlebelt at 8 Mile, Farmington Hills, 474-0871, Rev. Ralph E. Unger, Pastor

Prince of Peace Lutheran Missouri Synod, 12 Mile and Farmington Roads, Behind Crowley's, Worship 8:30 and 10:45, Sunday School & Bible Class 9:30

Bloomfield Hills Christian Church, Roma's of Bloomfield, 2101 S. Telegraph, Bloomfield Township, Worship 9:30 AM, Praise Service: 6 PM

Clarenceville United Methodist, 23300 Middlebelt Livonia, 474-3444, Pastor Gerald Fisher, 9:45 am First Worship Service, 10:00 am The Church School, 11:15 am Second Worship Service

Faith Covenant Church, Pastor Michael A. Hallean, Associate Pastor Mary Miller-Vikander, Minister to Youth David A. Rose, 35415 W. 14 Mile Road at Drake, 661-9191

Churches all alike? No, not really. Do you know what your Church believes about the Bible? The Evangelical Free Church believes: "The Scriptures, both Old and New Testaments, to be the inspired Word of God, without error in the original writings, the complete revelation of His will for the salvation of men, and the Divine and final authority for all Christian faith and life."

St. Andrew Lutheran Church, L.C.A., 6255 Telegraph-North of Maple, Birmingham, 9:15 Sunday Church School, 10:20 Sunday Worship, The Rev. C. Richter, Pastor, 646-5207-646-6119

The Salvation Army, 27500 Shilohwaste, 10 AM - Sunday School, 11 AM - Morning Worship, 6 PM - Evening Bible Study, Call 477-1153 for more information.

First Presbyterian Church Birmingham, 1669 West Maple Road, Ministers: F. Morgan Roberts, Charles A. Sommers, Dennis F. Barger, D. William McKee, Gerald S. Crawford

First United Methodist, 1669 West Maple at Pleasant, Ministers: James W. Wright - Douglas W. Vernon - Evans C. Bentley, Worship Services 8:30, 9:30 & 11 AM, Nursery Care 8:30 AM, Church School Classes 9:15 AM, Crib-Adult: 9:30 & 11 AM

University Presbyterian Church, 1385 S. Adams - Rochester, 375-0400, Worship: 9:00 & 11:15 Church School, 10:15 - All Ages incl. Adults, 11:15 - The Church & Nursery Provided

Christ Science Churches, First Church of Christ, Scientist Birmingham, 191 Chester at Wilks, Sunday Services 10:30 AM, Sunday School 10:30 AM, Wednesday Testimony Meeting 8:00 PM

Grace Evangelical Free Church, Meeting at: Birmingham Community House, 380 S. Bas, Birmingham, Sunday School: 9:30, Worship Service: 10:30, Pastor: Rick Hartsell, 334-6165

North Congregational Church, 26275 Northwestern Highway near Lusher, Southfield, MI Phone: 356-1560, United for the worship of God and service to Humanity, Rev. Mark P. Jenson, Senior Minister, Rev. David W. Howell, Minister of Christian Education, Dr. Harry Langford, Dir. of Music

Farmington Hills Christian Church, Pastor: Gray N. Hartwell, North Farmington High School, 32900 W. 13 Mile Rd., Farmington Hills, Sunday: 10:30 AM, 474-3464

Franklin Community Church, On The Village Green, Worship Service: 9:00 and 11:15, Church School: 9:00 - Pre-School (child care provided), 9:15 AM - Adult Classes, 11:15 - Children & Youth, Youth Fellowship: 8:00 PM, Dr. Samuel P. Stout

Northbrook Presbyterian Church, 14 Mile and Lusher Roads, Worship Service 9:30 & 11:00 AM, Pastors: M. L. Dunkelberger, Peter Moore

Christ Science Churches, Reading Room 4361 Orchard Lake Rd., 851-7440, All are welcome at the above church services and Reading Room. Child care facilities provided Sunday & Wednesday

Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church, 16360 Hubbard Road, Livonia, Michigan 48154, 421-8451, Wednesday 9:30 a.m. - Holy Eucharist, Saturday 5:00 p.m. - Holy Eucharist, 9:00 a.m. - Christian Education for all ages, 10:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist, Sunday Morning - Nursery Care Available, The Rev. Kenneth G. Davis, The Rev. N. Scott Gogel, The Rev. Edward A. King

Ward Presbyterian Church of Livonia, Farmington and Six Mile Roads, 422-1150, Worship and Sunday School: 8:30, 10:00 & 11:30 a.m., "STIFF NECKS" Dr. Bartlett L. Hess, 7:00 PM "THAT I MAY KNOW HIM" Rev. W. Wallace Hestetter, Wednesday, Jan. 27 at 7 PM: Annual Congregational Meeting, No Adult School of Christian Education, New! Sunday Service Telecast 8:30 PM, Channel 62, Sunday Service Broadcast 9:30 AM, WNUZ-FM 103.5, Nursery Provided at All Services

Brightmoor Tabernacle, 26555 Franklin Rd., Southfield MI 48066 & Telegraph - Just West of Holiday Inn, Sunday School - 9:45 AM, Worship Service 11:00 AM, Celebration of Praise: 6:30 PM, Wed.: Prayer & Praise Lighthouse Youth Service - 7:30 PM, A Charismatic Church where people of many denominations worship together, Thomas E. Trask, Pastor

The Congregational Church of Birmingham UCC, Woodward at Cranbrook, Bloomfield Hills, Family Church Worship 9:30 AM, Adult Church School, 11 AM, Nursery Care Both Hours, The Rev. Charles O. Erickson, Carol D. Grim

"Train up a child the way he should go..." - Proverbs 22, In this age of "anything goes" children need and appreciate the sound foundation of the Bible, and a practical, usable understanding of their relationship to God. Our Sunday Schools provide this and they welcome young people up to age 20.