

Moral perspectives

Rev. Lloyd Buss

First commandment means today's idolatry

"You shall have no other gods." It's the first of Ten Commandments in our Judeo-Christian heritage. Martin Luther said we should think about it every day, that we should ask ourselves the questions it raises, that we should be guided by what it says. Some have suggested that it is a universal truth, that all would recognize its intent, that all would know what it means.

Beyond what Luther said we should do with it, and how some have given it a universal status, the commandment offers a strong indictment to the practice of religion in the United States. Either we will have to stop claiming ourselves as a God-fearing people or amend our definition and practice of religion.

AN IMPORTANT function of the First Commandment is to excise idolatry. According to Luther, "A god is that to which we look for all good and where we resort for help in every time of need; to have a god is simply to trust and believe in one with our whole heart."

It is the confidence and faith of the heart that can turn money, or power, or honor, or nation, or security, or national security or anything into God. What we do in this world is determined by what we believe. The activity of each human being is the unfolding of his or her relationship to his or her god. What we decide to do is primarily based on what we acclaim as god.

THIS POTENTIAL for idolatry is not peculiar to us. Early in the history

of our forefathers, Aaron succumbed to the wishes of the people to construct a golden calf as the object of their worship.

In subsequent times, it was called Mammon, but the confidence and faith of the heart remained fixed on the same object. When Dietrich Bonhoeffer challenged the intent of Adolf Hitler's leadership in a radio broadcast in 1933, he called it a quest for ultimate power and so the idolatry was identified.

In 1973, at the annual National Prayer Breakfast in Washington, D.C., Sen. Mark Hatfield warned about the danger of "misplaced allegiance" and "outright idolatry" in our nation's failure to distinguish between the duty of a national folk religion and the creator of heaven and earth who incorporates judgment and grace in the exercise of His love.

I'M NOT advocating the return of the Ten Commandments to the classroom for study and learning, nor am I suggesting that we need more of that "old-time religion." The past record of either practice is not that exemplary or noteworthy.

But we need to remind one another of our natural inclination towards those beliefs and deeds that serve only our self-interests at the expense of others.

The ultimate price of idolatry is being held captive by the idols we have made. Lifting our vision and directing our trust to the Creator of Heaven and Earth will enlarge our care and magnify our resources available for our exercise of that care.

Kosher pop available for Passover season

Coca-Cola Bottlers of Detroit has begun production of kosher Coke and Tab in preparation for Passover, which begins April 8.

Sanitization of the mixing and storage tanks to be used in the production of the kosher beverages, syrup preparation, and bottling has been conducted at the Coca-Cola plant in Detroit. The sanitization process is under rabbinic supervision of the Council of Orthodox Rabbis of Greater Detroit.

Rabbinic endorsement will be indicated on the bottle caps of the products by the kosher "K" symbol. Bill Allen, vice president for operations at Coca-Cola, said that the company would produce approximately 20,000 cases of kosher Coke and 8,000

cases of kosher Tab. The syrup used for the kosher Coke will differ from that of the non-kosher product in that it will not contain corn sweetener, but will be sweetened by 100-percent sucrose. None of the ingredients used in non-kosher Tab will be changed to produce a kosher diet beverage.

Kosher Coca-Cola products have been produced elsewhere in the country, but this will be the first time for production in Detroit, according to Stuart Giller, Coca-Cola chairman. "We are initiating production here," he said, "in order to ensure an adequate supply of kosher Coke and Tab for the large Jewish community of this area."

Energy Barry Jensen

Energy Expo joins home show at Cobo

The funky Energy Expo, held each fall at Cobo Hall, has merged with the Builders Home, Flower and Furniture Show. So if you want to see what products and services are available to the energy-conscious, you have until March 14 to visit the home show, also at Cobo.

The Energy Expo was put on by the Governor's Energy Awareness Advisory Committee. Although the last show drew 350,000 people, it didn't break even, let alone make money, said Martin Habalewsky, who worked with the advisory committee on the most recent expo. So the committee decided to merge with the existing home show.

The aim of the two groups is not identical, but they are close. A house that is energy efficient is cheaper to operate, thus a better buy. And the word "buy" is a pleasant one for the Builders Association of Southeastern Michigan, sponsor of the home show.

With the addition of elements of the Energy Expo, the home show offers show-goers a chance to explore alternative energy sources, such as solar, wind and geothermal, to complement a new house or as a home improvement idea.

FIFTEEN ELECTRIC passenger cars will be displayed at the home show. This is one of the largest collections ever assembled for a consumer exhibition, according to the sponsor.

A display showing an earth-sheltered wall also will be at the home show. A wall section and concrete floor will show typical insulation, waterproofing and inside surface of this energy-effi-

cient house-building technique. The earth-sheltered wall will be one of several "hands-on" displays by the Ready Mixed Concrete Association. Since concrete is the most common material for underground and earth-sheltered houses, the ready mixed folks would serve energy efficiency and themselves by supplying the material for earth-sheltered houses.

House builders participating in Detroit Edison's Fuel Efficiency Award and Energy Efficiency Excellence Award programs will be spotlighted.

"If it ain't broke, don't fix it" is a good motto, and it goes for energy-users as well as anything else. But when your furnace, hot water heater, stove or other large energy-consuming appliance gives out, you can replace it with a new one that uses substantially less energy.

Michigan Consolidated Gas Co. will be displaying such energy-saving appliances. The utility also will be pushing home energy audits.

The home show is a chance to see what is, and is not, being done by builders of new houses and those who reduce the energy use of existing houses. Some of those things, such as insulating the just above your basement wall, can be done by almost any homeowner. Installing flue dampers and restrictors is best left to the professionals.

Home show hours are 1-10 p.m. Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday.

Tickets cost \$3.50 for adults, seniors and children 6-12, \$1.50, children under 6 in free.

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

THE COVENANT BAPTIST CHURCH
800 West Franklin
623-9191
9:45 a.m.: CHURCH SCHOOL • 11:00 a.m.: WORSHIP SERVICE
6:30 p.m.: EVENING SERVICE
WEDNESDAY EVENING FAMILY NIGHT
6 P.M.: Dinner • 7 P.M.: Classes in Art, Drama & Bible
• 8 P.M.: Senior Choir Rehearsal
Ministers: Rev. Nicholas Titus and Rev. Edward Liberty

Orchard United Methodist
3045 FARMINGTON ROAD
Between 13 and 14 Mile Road
626-3629
MORNING WORSHIP
9:30 AM & 11 AM
CHURCH SCHOOL & NURSERY
9:30 AM & 11 AM
MINISTERS
Robert L.S. Brown
James F. Thomas

NORTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
26275 Northwestern Highway near Lahser
Southfield, MI Phone: 356-1660
United for the worship of God and service to Humanity
Rev. Mark P. Jensen, Senior Minister
Rev. David W. Howell, Minister of Christian Education
Dr. Harry Langford, Dir. of Music
WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM
CHURCH SCHOOL 11 AM
No Stairs Nursery CIVIC CENTER DR.

CENTRAL WOODWARD CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(Disciples of Christ)
2605 W. Woodward Ave. Adams-Troy
CHURCH SCHOOL: 9:30 AM
WORSHIP: 11:00 AM
Minister: Robert H. Boyle
644-0512

NORTHERBROOK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
14 Mile and Labor Roads
WORSHIP SERVICE
9:30 & 11:00 AM
Pastor: M. L. Dunkelberger
Peter Moore

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
Pastor: Rev. T. Richard Marcis
Church Phone: 553-3380

NARDIN PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
2987 West Eleven Mile Road
Just West of Middlebelt
Farmington Hills 476-8660
Worship Services: 9:15 & 11 AM
"A COAT OF VARNISH"
Dr. Wm. Ritter Preaching
Dr. William A. Ritter, Pastor
Mrs. Donata Miller, Dir. C.E.
Mr. Melvin Reusch, Dir. Music

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
(Holy Eucharist 15 Sundays)
Tuesday 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
Wednesday 7:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Christian Science Churches
FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST
BIRMINGHAM
191 Chester at Willis
SUNDAY SERVICES 10:30 AM
SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 AM
WEDNESDAY TESTIMONY MEETING 8:00 PM
READING ROOM
355 East Maple • 644-7935
Mon., Tues. 9:30-10:15 Wed. & Sat. 9:30-10:15
FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST
FRANKLIN-MEADOW LAKE
Maple at Inlander
SUNDAY SERVICES 10:30 AM
SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 AM
WEDNESDAY TESTIMONY MEETING 8:15 PM
READING ROOM
4361 Orchard Lake Rd. 85-1-7440
Mon.-Sat. 10:30-11:30
All are welcome at the above church services and Reading Rooms. Child care facilities provided Sunday & Wednesday.

Rich in the Hills
PRESBYTERIAN
2340 W. Long Lake Rd.
MINISTERS
James F. Anderson
Robert L. Lindsey
Worship service and Church School
9:30 AM and 11:30 AM

FIRST UNITED METHODIST
1589 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
Crib-Adult: 9:30 & 11 AM

UNIVERSITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1385 S. Adams • Rochester
-375-9400
WORSHIP 9:00 & 11:15
CHURCH SCHOOL
10:15 - All Ages, Inc. Adult Ec
11:15 - Two Grades
Nursery Provided

ON WEDNESDAY EVENINGS
In the above churches you may hear testimonies of healing through the application of Christian Science. To problems of health, finances, personal relationships, academics, business and so on. Join us in rejoicing that there is a practical answer to every need. You will be lovingly welcomed.

HOPE LUTHERAN
39200 W. 12 Mile Road
Farmington Hills
SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:15 AM
WORSHIP 10:30 AM
V.H. Massenberg
Pastor

SAINT ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
16360 Hubbard Road Livonia, Michigan 48154
421-8451
Wednesday 9:30 a.m. - Holy Eucharist
Saturday 9:00 p.m. - Holy Eucharist
Sunday 7:45 AM Holy Eucharist
9:00 a.m. - Christian Education for all ages
10:30 a.m. - Holy Eucharist
Sunday Morning - Nursery Care Available
The Rev. Kenneth G. Davis The Rev. R. Scott Knapp
The Rev. Edward A. King

St. Paul's Lutheran
Missouri Synod
2085 Middlebelt at 8 Mile
Farmington Hills - 474-0575
The Rev. Ralph E. Unger, Pastor
SUNDAY WORSHIP 8:30 & 11 AM
SUNDAY SCHOOL AND ADULT BIBLE CLASSES 10 AM
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
Grades K-8
Wayne C. Bieweck, Principal
474-2488

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
33112 Grand River
Farmington 474-6573
WORSHIP 9:30, 10:30 AM
CHURCH SCHOOL 10:30 AM
Nursery Provided
Minister Charles M. Beynon

WARD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LIVONIA
Farmington and Six Mile Roads
422-1150
Worship and Sunday School: 8:30, 10:00 & 11:30 a.m.
"THE VERSE THAT REVOLUTIONIZED THE CHURCH"
Rev. L. Edward Davis
7:00 PM
Teen Choir Musical: "COME TOGETHER"
Wednesday 7 PM: School of Christian Education (Activities for All Ages)
New! Sunday Service Telecast Sunday Service Broadcast
8:30 PM, Channel 62 9:30 AM, WJMUZ-FM 103.5
Nursery Provided at All Services

ST. ANDREW LUTHERAN CHURCH, L.C.A.
6255 Telegraph - North Maple
BIRMINGHAM
9:15 Sunday Church School
10:30 Sunday Worship
The Rev. C.W. Richter, Pastor
646-3027 • 646-6119

ST. JOHN AMERICAN LUTHERAN
2225 Grand River Farmington
Charles Fox - Pastor
Mark Radtke - Pastor
8:30 & 11 AM Worship
9:40 Sunday School
474-0584

ST. PAULS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
165 E. Square Lake Road
Bloomfield Hills
12 miles west of Woodward
Church School - 9:30
Worship - 10:45
Nursery Provided
Dr. David Truman, Pastor

THE SALVATION ARMY
27500 Shawwassee
161 Inlander Road
SUNDAY SCHEDULE:
10 AM - Sunday School
11 AM - Morning Worship
6 PM - Evening Bible Study
Call 477-1153 for more information.

FAITH COVENANT CHURCH
SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30
MORNING WORSHIP 10:45
Pastor Michael A. Halleen
Associate Pastor Mary Miller-Vikander
Minister Youth David A. Rose
35415 W. 14 Mile Road at Drake
661-9191

CLARENCEVILLE UNITED METHODIST
20000 Middlebelt, Livonia
474-3444
Pastor Gerald Fisher
8:45 a.m. First Worship Service
10:00 a.m. The Church School
11:15 a.m. Second Worship Service
Nursery Provided at All Services

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH BIRMINGHAM
1669 West Maple Road
Ministers
F. Morgan Roberts
Charles A. Sommers
Dennis F. Barber
D. William McIvor
Gerald S. Crawford
Morning Worship and Church School
9:30 and 11:15 AM
Nursery Provided

Bloomfield Hills Christian Church
Roma's of Bloomfield
2101 S. Telegraph
Bloomfield Township
WORSHIP: 9:30 AM
PRAISE SERVICE: 6 PM
BIBLE STUDY: 7 PM WEDNESDAY
645-1202

FRANKLIN COMMUNITY CHURCH
On The Willaga Green
WORSHIP SERVICE: 9:30 and 11:15
CHURCH SCHOOL: 9:30 - Pre-School (Child Care provided)
10:15 - Adult Classes
11:15 - Children & Youth
YOUTH FELLOWSHIP: 6:00 PM
Dr. Samuel F. Stout

BAPTIST CHURCH
First American Baptist
Bates and Willis
Birmingham
Robert C. Hodder
Barbara Snieker
MINISTERS
CHURCH SCHOOL
9:45 AM
WORSHIP
11:00 AM
644-9550

FRANKLIN COMMUNITY CHURCH
26555 Franklin Rd. • Southfield MI
(1-636 & Telegraph - Just West of Holiday Inn)
Sunday School - 9:45 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM
BILL MURRAY, converted son of famed artist
Medaly Murray O'Hair 6:30 PM
"A Charismatic Church where people of many denominations worship together"
Thomas E. Trask, Pastor

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661-9191

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474-3444
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8:45 a.m. First Worship Service
10:00 a.m. The Church School
11:15 a.m. Second Worship Service
Nursery Provided at All Services

Brighton Fabernacle
26555 Franklin Rd. • Southfield MI
(1-636 & Telegraph - Just West of Holiday Inn)
Sunday School - 9:45 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM
BILL MURRAY, converted son of famed artist
Medaly Murray O'Hair 6:30 PM
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