

'Israel Wants Peace,' Local Visitor to Mid-East Reports

"The people of Israel certainly seem to want peace, so I'm inclined to think some sort of accommodation will come out of the Mid-East crisis."

The words are those of a Garden City educator and Jewish lay leader who recently made his first visit to Israel.

"I went as a skeptic, because I think American Jews tend to romanticize Israel," said Neal Freeling, currently president of Temple Beth Am in Livonia.

"But the people we met over there, their hospitality is overwhelming in a beautiful sense. These people have such pride in their land and they want you to share with them in the good life they have achieved."

Freeling said the Israelis he met also are extremely proud of their military victories, but sad over the continuation of hostilities.

"They've overcome many obstacles and are very resourceful," he added, "and I had the feeling that they wish they could share their good life even with the Israeli Arabs."

NEAL FREELING "saw" Israel in a way far different from that of most visitors. His visit came during the Christmas vacation of the Penrickson Center for Blind Children, where he has been on the staff since 1964 as psychologist and assistant director.

"My father, who is retired, had visited Israel last year," Freeling said, "and he was so enthusiastic I decided to go. Originally, I signed up for a tour for the blind and partially-sighted, but after that fell through with my father and I decided to go together during my vacation time."

FREELING SAID he felt most fortunate that he could visit Israel both as a tourist, hitting the cities and historic high spots, and also be able to be the guest on a kibbutz.

"My father had discovered longlost relatives when he first visited," Freeling explained, "and she and her husband invited us to stay with them for part of our visit."

Life on the kibbutz follows

the "communal form of living," Freeling said. "Everybody shares and receives according to his need. It's pretty much a pure democracy, except that some matters have to be relegated to a committee."

"The system seems to work, but you have to be a certain sort of person to find life on a kibbutz satisfying. Not everyone would be suited to such a life, and I think the qualities you need are idealism, intelligence and tolerance. You must live on the kibbutz for a year before you are voted in as a full member."

AS AN EDUCATOR, Freeling was especially interested in the treatment accorded children on the kibbutz. "They are cherished—the most precious part of the group," he said.

"Nurses and teachers take care of them in the communal house and they see their parents in the evenings."

"The general attitude is permissiveness, in the sense that the adults allow the children as much freedom as possible in learning and growing, rather than setting up many restrictions. I never heard an adult raise his voice to a child."

"Does it work? Well, it certainly didn't seem to hurt any of the children I saw. The worth of any child-rearing system is shown in the feeling toward them, and the feeling here was obviously great tenderness. And it should be noted that the rate of crime and delinquency in Israel is very low."



NEAL FREELING
(Observer photo by Leonard Poger)

FREELING SAID he enjoyed participating in a number of kibbutz celebrations, including a wedding feast. "They really celebrate with enthusiasm," he said. "The Israelis work hard, but they play hard too."

Freeling, a native of New

ECUMENICAL REFLECTIONS

By DR. BARTLETT L. HESS
Ward United
Presbyterian Church,
Livonia

Many people have reacted and rebelled against institutions in our society in recent years. Some have deserted the ratrace of business for the quiet life in a small community working for a fraction of the salary they received before.

Colleges and universities have under fire from students for not being sufficiently relevant to the needs of society. Sometimes this opposition has taken the ugly form of bomb and destruction.

People have protested against government policies such as the undeclared war in Vietnam that goes on and on.

In recent years many have dropped out of the church and synagogue declaring that they no longer minister to the deep needs of their natures.

ONE OF THE 20th century's most profound thinkers and theologians died in Israel recently. A Jewish theologian, he studied not only the Old Testament but the New Testament as well; not only the traditions of Judaism but the world's religions also.

He stressed that the heart of reality, that which makes man a complete person, lies only from the I-Thou encounter, the meeting of the self with the living God.

Abraham met God in Ur of the Chaldees and by faith journeyed to the land God promised him and his posterity. Moses met God in the burning bush in the wilderness west of Mount Sinai.

Ezekiel met God on the banks of the river Chebar in Babylon. Isaiah met God in the temple at Jerusalem, confessed his sin and that of his people, was purified by the angel with the hot coal from off the altar, and went out to witness for God to Israel. We meet God in Jesus Christ, who brings deity and humanity together.

MARTIN BUBER, the German and then Israeli theologian, contrasted the I-Thou relationship which proceeds from an encounter, and the I-It relationship. Man can reduce everyone and everything to It, by using people and things instead of meeting them where they are, and meeting God and letting that transforming encounter change all of life.

Prof. Buber pointed out the danger of forms and institutions strangling reality, the I-It encounter and relationship.

"Form is a mixture of Thou and It. In belief and in action it can harden into an object; but, in virtue of the essential quality of reality that lives on in it, it continually becomes present again. God is near His forms so long as man does not remove them from Him. In true prayer belief and cult are united and purified to enter into the living relation." (Martin Buber, "I and Thou," Scribner's 1958).

Religions only live as long as true prayer lives. God abandons the religion that petrifies and objectifies and loses the presence and power of true prayer. Prayer can only take place when God and man meet and man yields his nothing-perfect to God's All-Complete. God and

man meet in Jesus Christ who meets us as persons and makes us whole persons.

WHEN PEOPLE become occupied with the church as an object, end and goal in itself instead of vehicle by which man can meet, know, love, serve, and pray to the living God, then the church dies as an effective force in life.

Buber says, "God knows it no more, and the universal dwelling-place that is built about its altar, the spiritually apprehended cosmos, tumbles in." Man does not see what is taking place and that only proves what has taken place. As Buber said, "Disintegration of the Word has taken place."

The very fact that so many groups of young people over the country are calling themselves "the Jesus-people," have revived a simplified and primitive form of apostolic Christianity which they follow largely outside the organized church, challenges the institution of the church to the presence of the living Christ in its life and work.

Many of these young people have turned from drugs to Christ, from "doing their own thing," to following Him completely. They read the Bible eagerly, they look for their Lord's return at any moment. They live in the context of an I-Thou relationship. When the church loses the crucified and risen Christ as the center of its life, it has lost its reason for being.

No individual has become a person totally involved in life until he meets God. Then he can face life and death, time and eternity, himself and his society, his past, his present and his future.

Folk Musical To Be Heard

The Emmanuel New Song Harmonies will present a musical program in the Calvary Missionary Church, 2860 Six Mile, Livonia, Sunday, Feb. 28, at 7 p.m.

There is no admission charge for the lively variety program, which will feature the contemporary folk musical "Tell It Like It Is."

The Harmonies consist

of 36 young people who come from Emmanuel Bible College, Kitchener, Ont. They represent several denominations from Canada and the U.S. The college is sponsored by the Missionary Church of Ontario and offers the degree program of bachelor of theology, as well as diploma courses in missions and Christian education.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

CONGREGATIONAL

MT. HOPE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

3030 Schoolcraft Road • 425-7280

Sunday Service at 10:30 a.m. Worship and Church School

Minister: Rev. Richard Campbell

Helen and Jack Trudgop

Directors of Mt. Hope

CHURCH OF CHRIST (Christians)

MEMORIAL CHURCH OF CHRIST (CHRISTIAN CHURCH)

36475 Five Mile Livonia

BIBLE SCHOOL 9:30 a.m.

MORNING WORSHIP 10:45 a.m. (Persons invited)

10:30 a.m. Youth service and evening service

Min. Gerald Martin

Cong. Fred Martin

LUTHERAN

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE RISEN CHRIST

42260 Ann Arbor Road (M-141) East of Plymouth

Rev. Kenneth E. Ziekle

482-5282

Sunday School Teen Age and Adult Bible Classes

9 a.m.

Worship Service 10:15 a.m. (Nursery Provided)

PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

(Missouri Synod) 12 Mile at Farmington Rd. 474-0210

Rev. Victor H. Mesenbring

Worship Service 8 and 10:45 a.m. (Nursery Provided)

Sunday School 9:15 a.m.

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Parkdale Assembly of God

36518 Parkdale

Rev. Dwayne H. Kiser

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

Sunday Evening 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday Bible Study 7:30 p.m.

425-0430 or 422-0000

UNITY OF WEST SUBURBIA

30025 Curtis Road 421-1780

Lesson Topic "Formula for Prosperous Living"

Dial-A-Prayer 281-2640

Sunday Service 9:30 and 11 a.m.

Youth Education 11 a.m.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

You are cordially invited to attend Sunday School as listed below. Sunday School is conducted by all churches, and care is provided for children of pre-Sunday School age.

Wednesday Testimonial Meetings at 8 p.m.

FOURTH CHURCH, Detroit 11 a.m.

24400 W. Seven Mile near Telegraph

FIRST CHURCH, Garden City 11 a.m.

33111 Ford Road

FIRST CHURCH, Plymouth 10:30 a.m.

1100 West Ann Arbor Trail

FIRST CHURCH, Farmington 11 a.m.

33820 Grand River at Hwy

LUTHERAN

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Churches

WISCONSIN LUTHERAN RADIO HOUR WABX 99.5 FM

Sunday 11 a.m.

In Livonia: St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church

1781 Farmington Rd. Pastor: William C. Lindholm

Worship Services 8:15 and 11 a.m. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. 464-2906

IN Plymouth:

St. Peter's Ev. Lutheran Ch. 1343 Peninsula Avenue Pastor: Robert G. Knudsen 453-3293

Worship Services 8 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 9:15 a.m.

In Redford Township:

Lola Park Ev. Lutheran Ch. 4700 Knox Road Pastor: David L. 422-5555

Worship Services 8:15 and 11 a.m. Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

In Westland:

Rev. David Ev. Lutheran Ch. Pastor: Jack A. 427-8119

Worship Services 8:15 and 11 a.m. Sunday School 9:15 a.m.

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCHES

CHRIST LUTHERAN

14300 Normal Road, Redford Pastor: Donald M. 422-5462

Sunday School 9:30 a.m. 534-2462

ST. JOHN

13228 Normal Road, Farmington Pastor: William C. Lindholm

Worship Services 8:15 and 11 a.m. Sunday School 9:40 a.m.

Phone GR 4-0584

Pastor Charles Fox

SWORD OF THE SPIRIT

34662 Seven Mile Road, Livonia Pastor: William D. Wolfe

Worship Services 8:15 and 11 a.m. Sunday School 9:15 a.m.

Study for All Ages 11 a.m. Phone 476-1019 or 591-5555

TIMOTHY

8620 Wayne Road, Livonia Pastor: George F. 427-8119

Worship Services 8:30 and 11 a.m. Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

427-2290 or 425-3194

Nursery Provided

EPISCOPAL

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH WELCOMES YOU

St. John's, Westland 555 S. Wayne Road

St. John's, Plymouth 574 S. Sheldon Road

721-5023

Sunday Worship: 8:15 and 11 a.m.

8:30 and 10 a.m.

St. Andrew's, Livonia 16360 Hubbard Road

421-8451

Sunday Worship: 8:15 and 11 a.m.

Sunday, Deal Worship: 10 a.m.

Holy Spirit, Westland 34645 Cowan Rd.

281-8460

(Serving Farmington) 11 a.m.

8 and 10 a.m.

CHRISTIAN REFORMED

University Hills Church

CHRISTIAN REFORMED

meeting at 11 a.m. on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month. Building "C" adjacent to east parking lot.

It's Lutheran

Hour Sunday On Feb. 28

Sunday, Feb. 28, has been designated "Lutheran Hour Sunday" by Lutherans around the world.

On that day, Lutherans in

Observerland are asked to join others of their faith in

supporting the program that is broadcast over 1,800 radio

stations into 125 countries in

41 different languages.

The program began in De-

troit in 1935; with then Gen-

eral Motors executive Wil-

liams S. Knudsen underwriting

expenses for the original se-

ries and Bruce Beemer, ra-

dio's former "Lone Ranger,"

as the first announcer.

Dr. Walter A. Maier deliv-

ered the messages until his

death in 1950, and the regular

"speaker now is Dr. Oswald

Hoffman.

The program is heard

weekly on Sundays in 30

a.m. over WDEB at 9:30

a.m. and over WYNN in

Silenti at 12:30 p.m.

Area Deaths, Funerals

JOHN L. OPALEWSKI — Funeral services for Mr. Opałowski, 85, of 1403

Fenton, Redford, were held recently in the Holy Miss Funeral Home with

burial in Mount Olivet Cemetery. Officiating was Fr. Daniel Day of Our Lady of

Gladstone Church.

Mr. Opałowski is survived by his

daughters Mrs. Florence Mann, Mrs.

Soledad Percha, Mrs. Barbara Vaisner

and Mrs. Genevieve Gubon.

MADRENA WALSH, funeral services for Mrs. Magdalena Walsh, 75, of

24520 N. Sylvan Dr., Redford, were

recently held in the Charles H. Step

funeral home with burial in Holy Sa-

ludine Cemetery.

Mrs. Walsh, who was born in Lithu-

ania, is survived by her daughters, Mrs.

Henry Zabala, Mrs. Elsie Vaisner and

her son, Charles Walsh of Denver, Col.

GEORGE J. MASAREMY, funeral services for Mr. Masaremy, 70, of 9902

Grand, Redford, were held this

week in St. John Baptist Church with

burial in Mt. Olivet Cemetery. Officiating

was Fr. Daniel Day.

Mr. Masaremy, who was a salesman

for Hiram Foods, died in a Veterans

Administration Hospital in Florida. He is

survived by his brother, Albert Masaremy, and sister, Mrs. Anna Hadden.

and daughters, Mrs. Joseph Masaremy, Mrs. Michael Shamo and Mrs. Roger Todd of Redford.

JAMES L. MADRISON, funeral services for Mr. Madison, 20, of 24818

Redford, were held last week in Henry J. Wolf Funeral Home with

burial in White Chapel Cemetery. Officiating was Rev. Glenn H. Miller.

Mr. Madison, who was a tube re-

pairer at Ford-Torco, Inc., is survived by his wife, Cheryl, and mother, Mrs. Marilyn Madison.

Despite more than 400 deaths in the boxing ring since 1960, plus the un-

numbered army of "bum-

bers" ("punch drunk")

ex-boxers — the expressed

concern of organized religion about boxing has been minimal and isolated.

Nearly two decades ago, Jesuit Father Alfredo Boschi

wrote that "boxing cannot be justified from a moral viewpoint, but must be con-

sidered as something gravely illicit in itself. It not only produces, but aims to produce, serious injuries

and lead to death."

Dr. Walter A. Maier delivered the messages until his death in 1950, and the regular

"speaker now is Dr. Oswald Hoffman.