## <u>'He'll be missed'</u>

# Christ Church sadly accepts rector's firing

By GREG KOWALSKI
STATP WAITZE

"It was said but it had to be done," said Arthur Hadley, administrator for the Episcopal Dicesse of Michigan following the removal last week of Christ Church Cranbrook Rector Almus Thorp Jr.

Thorp, 52, was fired last week for adultery involving several women over a period of years.

"It was necessary to take this action because I received information of sexual misconduct which has been confirmed," the Right Rev. R. Stewart Wood of the cliences wrote to the Episcopal clience.

diocese wrote to the Episcopal clergy.

"Unfortunately these allegations are true," Thorp wrote in a letter to parishioners. "I am guilty of repeated sexual misconduct. I deeply regret the damage which my behavior has caused my victims. In each case I have tried to make amends and pray that each is on the road to recovery

"How tragic, how sad, how ironle that I, your rector and champion of the diblical injunction to
'name the truth,' have been keeping a terrible secret about my own
behavior, behavior that is not
only professionally reprehensible
given the implicit trust that each
of you has placed in me, but behavior which is dishonest, exploitative of women and utterly contrary to all that we have been
doing to make Christ Church trary to all that we have been doing to make Christ Church

Cranbrook a safe place for every-one."
Christ Church Cranbrook has about 3,000 members and the mood there was one of stunned sadness following the removal of the popular rector.

### 'It's a shock'

the popular rector.

'He's a shock'

"People are reacting to it as you would expect them to react. It's a shock. He will really be sadly missed," said Christ Church chere has been as director Karen Bota.

"Since Almus came to Christ Church there has been a resurgence of energy that there wasnietion," said Bota. "He taught parishioners not to be content to just live in the building. .. but to reach out."

Since being appointed rector in 1981, Thorp expanded the Bloomfield Hills parish's outreach programs, helping to found several community organizations and participating in others.

Among his accomplishments, he was co-founder and served as president of the Cranbrock Peace Foundation, which helps raise codownent funds for various peace-keeping organizations. He helped expand into Oakland County the Detroit-based FousiHOPE organization, which helps support and provide job training for needy people.

He also was an original member of the Birmingham-Bloomfield Task Force on Race Relations and Ethnic Diversity.



He was a founder of the Pontiac Area Transitional Housing pro-gram, which provides shelter and self-improvement programs for homeless women and children. And he served with the Subur-ban-Urban Clergy Conference, the Adivisory Committee for St. George's College in Jerusalem, the Economic Justice Implemen-tation Committee of the national Episcopal Church and was found-er and first president of the Epis-copal Clergy Association of Mich-igan.

### Leader for homeless

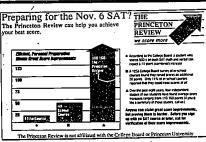
Under his direction, Christ Church Cranbrook was the first church in Bloomfield Hills to host the South Oakland Shelter for the homeless program. He was

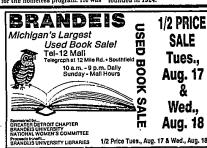
one of four clergy elected to represent the diocess of Michigan at the national Episcopal General Convention in 1985, 1983 and 1991. And he speatheaded two successful capital campaigns for the parish.

"His whole attitude was to make the parish less dominated by the clergy and have more parishioner involvement," Bota said. Shirlye Bryant, community relations director for the Birmingsham school district, served with Thorp on the race relations task force. She said she was saddened by his dismissal.
"He broadened the understanding of the members of Christ Church Crabroko about the need to be involved in the community with those tees fortunate," Bryant said.
"I was yery saddened." said

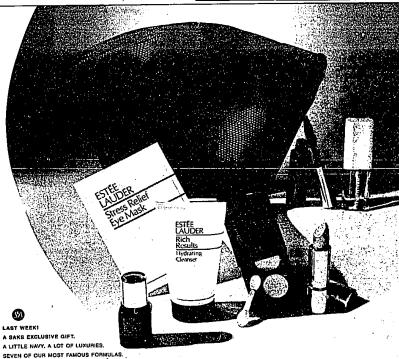
with those less fortunate," Bryant said.
"I was very saddened," said Wanda Brown, director of programs for PATH. "He has been very active in the Pontiac community, He will be deeply missed."
The Rev. J. Donald Waring has been appointed to replace Thorp, who is being allowed to stay in the rectory while he recovers from hip replacement surgery.
Earlier this year he had informed parishioners that he and his wife, Joanne, had separated. She has since moved to Massachusetts.

Thorp was Christ Church Cran-brook's fifth rector since it was founded in 1924.





SALE Tues., **Aug. 17** Wed.. Aug. 18



SUPERSTARS FROM ESTÉE LAUDER, WORTH \$85.

YOUR GIFT' TO TAKE HOME WITH ANY ESTÉE LAUDER PURCHASE OF \$15 OR MORE: WHITE LINEN PARFUM SPRAY; ALL-DAY LIPSTICK; FRUITION TRIPLE REACTIVATING COMPLEX; MORE THAN MASCARA MOISTURE-BINDING FORMULA; RICH RESULTS HYDRATING CLEANSER; SIGNATURE EYESHADOW DUO, AND STRESS RELIEF EYE MASK PACKETTE, ALL TUCKED IN A NAVY FAUX LIZARD COSMETIC BAD. THE B-MINUTE GIFT, MAKE AN APPOINTMENT FOR A COMPLIMENTARY MAKEUP AND SKINGARE CONSULTATION. WHEN YOU COME BACK, RECEIVE A 10-DAY SUPPLY OF ADVANCED NIGHT REPAIR AND A NAVY FAUX

LIZARD COIN PURSE TO MATCH THE BAG ABOVE. COSMETIC COLLECTIONS.

TOFFER GOOD WHILE SUPPLIES LAST, ONE TO A CUSTOMER, PLEASE

# ESTÉE LAUDER

# Don't Waste A New York Minute



# The Only Nonstop

If you're planning a trip to London, why waste time waiting for a connecting flight in Boston or some other east coast airport? Fly Delta's daily nonstop instead - the only nonstop from Detroit to London.

Our 6:55 p.m. departure lets you put in a full day of business before leaving. And because Delta's London flight is nonstop, you arrive in London early enough for a morning meeting.

For more information or reservations, see you Travel Agent. Or call Delta at 1-800-241-4141. For the only London service that won't waste your time.