

**BELIEFS** Values



PHOTO BY BILL HANSEN

Spreading hope: Oakland County CROP walk organizers include (seated, from left) the Rev. Louise Westfall and Dick Purtan and (standing, from left) the Rev. William Ritter and the Rev. Dick Cheatham.

# Oakland CROP walks to fight world hunger

BY RENA FULKA  
SPECIAL WRITER

They will come from all walks of life — be they young, elderly, single, married, widowed, wheelchair-bound, or parents with infants and toddlers in tow. Uniting in an interfaith journey through their neighborhoods, they will not only call attention to local and global hunger, but also offer aid through the pledges they collect. "They're very different people in the way they look and act, but the common thread is their sincere heart and a feeling for those who are suffering from hunger," said Greater Rochester Area CROP walk chairman Joseph Sonerant, Christian Services coordinator at St. Andrew Roman Catholic Church in Rochester. "It puts us in solidarity with people who have to walk

to live." CROP walking, now in its 20th year in Michigan, is a community fund-raising event sponsored by Church World Service, an ecumenical, international relief, development and refugee resettlement agency. CWS was founded 50 years ago as an interfaith mission unit of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. In the fight to stop hunger, Oakland County walkers last year netted \$216,766 as the four-county Metro Detroit area raised more dollars than any other metropolitan region across the United States with a cumulative total of \$692,705. This year's hunger relief efforts in the four-county area began with 15 CROP walks last spring, and continue with 22 walks this fall. All walks take

place rain or shine. Proceeds meet the development and emergency requests locally and in more than 70 countries worldwide. The Birmingham/Bloomfield CROP walk, now in its 16th year, is scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 6. Registration and pre-walk festivities begin at 1 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 1689 W. Maple. The 10-kilometer and 5-kilometer walks start at 2 p.m. and end through Birmingham before ending at First Presbyterian Church, 1689 W. Maple. More than 200 walkers are expected to bring in \$20,000. Among them is West Bloomfield resident Dick Purtan, morning radio personality for WOMC-FM (104.3). Purtan, who walks a home See CROP, B8

## Inspirational concert at St. Irenaeus parish

Jeannie Cotter, a recording artist, pianist, singer and composer, will perform in concert at 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 11, at St. Irenaeus Parish, 771 Old Perch, Rochester Hills. She blends inspirational life stories with piano music and songs to provide a moving spiritual experience. A dinner reception will precede the concert at 6 p.m. in the St. Irenaeus Activities Building. A center/choir workshop focusing on the concerns of trained and untrained singers, cantors and choir members is scheduled for 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 12, in the church. The workshop is designed to improve congregational singing, choral blend and vocal techniques. There is a charge for both the concert and workshop. For more information on either program, call the church at (810) 661-9595.

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DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES: 12:00 NOON, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27.  
Winners will be announced in the Classified section Monday, September 30. Twelve winners will be selected in a random drawing. Tickets will be mailed out in advance. Each winner will receive four tickets to the October 2, 1996, 7:30 p.m. performance.