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Peace supporters: Hazel Boltwood and the Rev. Stephen Jones display one of the flags that will be flown on the west front of the building where the Peace Pole will stand.

metro-Detroit. The planting of the Peace Pole will take place at the conclusion of what has been a three-part Sunday worship and preaching series entitled, "Things that Make for Peace," based on Luke 19:42. The series will discuss peace making in our community this Sunday, May 24 and peace making in our world on Sunday, May 31. Both sermons will be at the 11 a.m. services with Jones as the speaker. The "peace in our community" presentation will have Jones talking about how the metropolitan area is really all one large place. He said he feels we all live in Detroit and Birmingham, for example, is just a neighborhood in that metropolitan area. "A favorite theme of mine is that lines like the one drawn for

Eight Mile Road aren't really there, we just draw them ourselves, we all live in one community," he said. The entire community is welcome to attend any of the upcoming worship services in the peace-making series and of course the brief public ceremony when the Peace Pole is implanted on May 31 at noon. "First Baptist Church has a long commitment to peace and justice issues and few people symbolize that more than Bob and Hazel Boltwood. We're honored to be planting a Peace Pole on our busy downtown corner in memory of a man who quietly yet firmly practiced ways of peace," Jones said. For more information call the church at (248) 644-0550.

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extending our own limited sensory ability. Ironically enough, such devices only tend to magnify our perceptual limitations. All of this is a rather elaborate way of saying that seeing is not believing, rather it is the other way around; believing is seeing. For if the truth be told, we can only see that which we already believe to exist. All other reality will be eliminated from our perception from our own internal censors.

"Very interesting," you may say, "But what does this have to do with faith?" Everything! For one definition of faith is that, "Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." (Hebrews 11:1) Or, as Paul put it, "We walk by faith, not by sight." (II Corinthians 5:7) Given the fact that our eyes are some of the poorest judges of realities, we must rely on powers of perceptions that are not limited by time and space; such perception is spiritual and therefore it is eternal. In order to really

see this truth, you must believe. Dr. Allan Eichelmann is the senior minister of the Congregational Church of Birmingham.

COMMUNITY MESSENGER

Community Messenger features spiritual announcements from Oakland County religious institutions. Write: Community Messenger, c/o Beliefs & Values Editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009. Our fax number is (248) 644-1314.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER
Wordwide Marriage Encounter, a Roman Catholic, non-profit organization dedicated to marriage enrichment, will host a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend May 29-31. The weekend experience is for married couples to improve their communication skills, learn the value of intimacy and renew their love for each other. The upcoming weekend will be hosted at the St. John's Family Life Cen-

ter in Plymouth, MI. For more information call Bill & Carol at (248) 638-2519 or Dnn & Debbie at (810)286-5524. Or www.rcnec/detroit/wme.

SOUNDS OF SPRING
The Sounds of Spring concert series will host its season finale on May 31 at 4 p.m. at Christ Church of Cranbrook in Bloomfield Hills. Music for Organ, Choir and Orchestra will be featured. Tickets for the Spring Concert are \$15 (\$10 for seniors and students). Tickets may be purchased at the Parish office or at the door. Christ Church is located on Lone Pine Road, one mile west of Woodward Avenue. For further information call the church at (248)644-5210.

OLDSIES DANCE

Bethany-South Oakland, a ministry to the divorced and separated, will present a "Jukebox Saturday Night" dances on Saturday, June 6 from 8 p.m. to midnight. The event will feature Golden Oldies of the 50's and 60's plus favorites of today. Music will be provided by Hug Productions. The dance will be at Shrine Grade School Gym. Admission is \$9 and includes refreshments. Proper attire is requested. For tickets call Margo at (248)879-9777. Shrine is located on 12 Mile Road just east of Woodward Avenue in Royal Oak.

EDUCATION CENTER
Congregation Beth Shalom announces that building has begun on their new education center. When completed, the center

will be composed of 14 classrooms, a media center/library and the office of the Beth Shalom Religious School. Two of the classrooms will be dedicated for preschool. Plus are presently under way for a new congregation sponsored preschool to open in September of 1999. The remaining 12 classrooms will house the Beth Shalom Religious School. Currently the Religious School holds classes at Avery Elementary School and Norup Junior High School. The opening of the new Education Center in the fall of 1998 will mark the first time in Beth Shalom's 40 year existence that all student classes will be taught at the Synagogue. For more information on Beth Shalom's Religious School call the Synagogue office at (248) 547-7970.

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Anyone interested in participating should call: 1-888-457-3744 or (313) 923-3906. Please ask for the Normal study when calling.

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