

RELIGION CALENDAR

If you want to submit an item for the religion calendar fax it to (734) 591-7279 or write: Religion Calendar, Observer Newspaper, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, MI 48150. The deadline for an announcement to appear in the Thursday edition is noon Monday.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST

HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

First United Methodist Church of Farmington presents its final Lenten program at 7 p.m., Sunday, March 17. On Palm Sunday, March 24, the Chancel Choir, along with Logos, and the liturgical dance ensembles, Praise in Motion and Footprints, will present the cantata, *Experiencing God* at the 9:30 and 11:15 a.m. services. The cantata is a gift to the community from Dick Carvell, in memory of his wife, Clare. The First United Methodist Church is located on Grand River, just east of Farmington Road.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Worldwide Marriage Encounter offers weekend experiences designed to help married couples improve communication and learn the value of intimacy. April 6-7 and May 17-18 at the St. John's Family Life Center, 44011 Five Mile, Plymouth. Registration fee is \$50. (248) 628-2612 or (810) 288-5624.

RELIGION CLASSES

Faith Covenant Church in Farmington Hills hosts ALPHA, a series of classes that offer a practical introduction to the Christian faith. Classes run 6:30-9 p.m. Thursdays through May 2. Some of the topics to be discussed will be: Who is Jesus?

Why did He die? Does God heal today? Dinner and child care will be provided. Call (248) 661-9191.

RETREAT FOR THE DIVORCED

A spiritual weekend retreat for men and women who are divorced or separated will be held March 22-24 at St. John Center in Plymouth. Presenters include the Rev. Ed Farrell and Bishop Kevin Britt. Cost is \$100-\$115 and includes lodging and five meals. Register by March 15. (313) 886-7413 or (734) 453-0222.

WOMEN'S CLASS

Ward Presbyterian Church offers the ALPHA course on Christianity for women beginning Tuesday, March 19, in the church, 40000 Six Mile. Northville. The 10-week class meets at 9 a.m. and includes a continental breakfast. An evening class, at 6 p.m. starts on Thursday, March 21. It includes dinner. Call (248) 374-5937 to register.

ON-GOING

WIDOW/WIDOWER SUPPORT

New Hope Center for Grief Support, a Christian-based bereavement outreach center, offers support for widows and widowers with children on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. The group meets at 7 p.m., at St. Kenneth's Parish offices, 14951 Haggerty, Plymouth. New Hope for Kids meets at the same time and place and is aimed at children, age 4-11. (248) 348-0115.

EVENING LENTEN SERVICE

A six-week Lenten devotional series, The Silent Witnesses, is

held at 7:30 p.m., Wednesdays, through March 20 at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, located on Farmington Road, just north of I-696. (734) 622-6830.

FUN AND FUND-RAISERS

LET'S DANCE

Bethany Together, a ministry for divorced and separated people will sponsor a dance 8 p.m. Saturday, March 16, at Divine Providence Hall, 26335 West Nine Mile, Between Telegraph and Beech Daly. Proper attire is required. No blue jeans. Cost is \$9 and includes beverages and snacks. (734) 728-1974.

CATHOLIC ALUMNI

The Catholic Alumni Club of Detroit, a non-profit organization of single Catholics, age 21 and over, who have earned a bachelor's degree and are eligible to marry in the Catholic church, plans these activities:

■ Indoor volleyball — 7-9 p.m. Tuesdays through March 26 at Butcher Community Center, located on Martin between Ryan and Mound Roads in Warren. (248) 332-1462.

■ Dinner and general meeting — 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 20 at Gino's Pizzeria & Restaurant, 1999 Cass Lake road, Keego Harbor. A guest speaker from Whole Foods Market will talk about organic foods. (734) 677-4856.

■ St. Patrick's Day Dance — 8 p.m. Saturday, March 16, St. Dennis School, 1415 Stephens Highway, south of 12 Mile, Royal Oak. Pop and munchies provided. \$10. (313) 881-0625.

Jewish center recalls history at 75th anniversary party

The Jewish Community Center will mark 75 years of service to the Jewish community at its anniversary celebration at 5:30 p.m. Sunday, April 14.

The black tie dinner dance will take place in the Marion and David Handelman Hall and Auditorium in the Jewish Community Center D. Dan and Betty Kahn Building on the Eugene and Marcia Applebaum Jewish Community Campus in West Bloomfield.

The evening will include a video presentation by Sari

Cicurel and a photographic exhibit coordinated by Barbara Bloom and center board member Sharon Alterman.

Music for dancing will be provided by Noveaute. Florine Mark Ross and Ronald B. Rich will chair the event.

At 7 p.m. on March 19, center board member Debbie Levin will lead a panel discussion on "Our Center — Past, Present and Future."

The year-long celebration will conclude with a family carnival and birthday bash on June 9 at

the Jewish Community Center Jimmy Prentiss Morris Building on the A. Alfred Taubman Jewish Community Campus in Oak Park.

All anniversary activities are open to the public.

Admission is free to the March 19 panel discussion and the June 9 family carnival. Admission to the dinner dance on April 14 is \$125 per person.

For an invitation to the dinner dance, call the Jewish Community Center Executive Offices at (248) 432-5418.

Finnish Center sets activities

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day the Finnish way.

The Finnish Cultural Center recognizes both St. Patrick's Day and St. Urho's Day on Friday, March 15, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the center.

Wear purple and green to this family event. Dinner starts at 5:30 p.m., at the center, 35200 West Eight Mile, Farmington Hills. Call (248) 478-6939 for more information.

Other center events this month include:

Finnweavers

The talented Finnweavers are

still weaving away. Come join and learn how to use a loom. They'll meet 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. March 19, April 3 and April 16 at the center.

Senior luncheons

Seniors can enjoy an affordable meal, 50/50 drawing, jokes and entertainment on the third Wednesday of every month. Lunch starts at noon at the Finnish Center. For reservations, call Eleanor at (248) 437-0350.

Sunday brunch

Sunday brunch runs 11:30

a.m. to 1:30 p.m. April 14. There are three different lunch entrees, breakfast, juices, and dessert. Prices vary.

Musicians Wanted

The Finnish Center needs musicians for the annual Jamboree on Saturday, June 1. The jamboree will feature a new act every half hour on an indoor stage with an excellent sound system (acoustic only). Ample parking is available. Musicians interested in participating in the event can call Ruth Mannisto at (248) 349-3225.

Hills artist exhibits paintings in Owosso

Farmington Hills artist, Gail Eisner, shows her oil paintings through March 30 at the Shiawassee Arts Center, 208 Curwood Castle Drive, Owosso.

The show also includes sculpture by West Bloomfield artist Joyce Gottlieb.

Eisner's paintings, full of brilliant color and boldly skewed lines, evoke Paul Cezanne's 19th century works. Describing her paintings Eisner says, "My camera is made of paint and brush and mind's eye lens that focuses from my unique point of view."

Eisner has had many solo exhibitions including ones at the Starkweather Society Art and Cultural Center in Romeo, The Art Center of Mount Clemens, and the Gwendolyn Jay Gallery in Chicago, and her paintings hang

in many corporate collections. Her work has been featured in *The Artist's Magazine*, *Metropolitan Woman Magazine* and other publications. She is listed in *Who's Who in American Art*.

Eisner studied at Wayne State University, the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and the Art Student League of New York.

Gottlieb's innovative sculptures combine glass with metals. Born and raised in Michigan, Gottlieb has had a passion for art since early childhood. In college she studied art, earning a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Wayne State University and a Master of Arts in Sculpture from Eastern Michigan University.

Gottlieb has exhibited her works at Outside the Lines in Grosse Ile, the Starkweather

Art and Cultural Center in Romeo, and the Biddle Gallery in Wyandotte. Her art has won many awards and hangs in a number of corporate collections.

Both Eisner and Gottlieb are members of the Detroit Society of Women Painters and Sculptors.

The Shiawassee Arts Center is located in Curwood Castle Park and is open 1-5 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. There is no admission charge.

The Shiawassee Arts Council is a non-profit corporation working to develop programs and projects that will make the arts available to everyone in the area.

For more information call (989) 723-8354.

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