

Newburg Seeks New Answer To 'Racism'

By MARGARET MILLER

In a developing fellowship with the congregation of a large black church in northern Detroit, Newburg United Methodist Church is seeking an answer to the perennial Christian problem of "coming to grips with whiteness in the middle of a vacuum."



THE REV. WILLIAM RITTER and his wife Chris greeting members of Scott Memorial United Methodist Church in Detroit after one of his two Sundays of preaching there during October.

in the midst of a "getting-to-know-you" project with Scott Memorial United Methodist Church, a congregation similar to Newburg in size, budget and member composition.

So far the Livonia church and Scott Memorial, located at Wyoming and West Chicago, have exchanged pastors for two consecutive Sundays, joined in a family retreat and begun a family-matching "Pal" program.

On Sunday, Dec. 3, the choirs of the two churches will fill each other's pews, giving Newburg and Scott still another link in a hoped-for chain of familiarity, and therefore understanding.

THE WHOLE PROGRAM is designed as one solution to a problem articulated this way by Rev. Ritter:

"Every church in a situation like ours is still faced with the question of how to build real bridges of racial understanding, how do you begin to accept black people when there are no black people around?"

Several aspects of the program that began coming together during the last Lenten season seem important to Rev. Ritter in view of the "polarization" he sees as a result of the busing issue.

"First," he said, "there's nothing paternalistic about this situation. This club is as big as ours, and its budget is a little larger. Its members are roughly comparable from



an economic and occupational standpoint.

"Scott moved from the lower east side to northwest Detroit because its membership moved-in other words, it has been through the same dilemma faced by many white suburban churches."

"As I put it to my congregation, 'They definitely don't want our old hymnbooks.'"

ALSO, HE SAID, the invitation for the fellowship came from Scott Memorial's pastor, the Rev. David Scavella, during a Lenten

"But we of the church really have to ask ourselves if we are then serious about finding a solution that is unforced, far more natural and completely voluntary."

"If we can't do it with society at large, can we at least begin with a group of fellow Christians who happen to be black?"

REV. RITTER said Newburg has had a history of working toward racial understanding.

A number of years ago, he pointed out, the congregation had worked with Westland St. James church, an Annapolis church where Westland and Inkster come together.

"But that was a much smaller congregation, and no matter how hard anyone tried it tended to be a benevolent kind of relationship," he said. "Then came the spirit of black separatism, and all

attempts at bridge-building went out the window. We tried some seminars on racism, but found we were largely operating in a vacuum because we lived in white suburbia."

That, he said, was the spirit that prevailed when he and Rev. Scavella first got together and began talking of the fellowship. After the invitation, the boards of the two churches held several joint sessions and came up with several aims for this year.

The Pal program is just beginning, he said, and about 20 families in Newburg have volunteered, along with a smaller number from Scott.

"There is a certain fear on their part of being used," he said, "but we find this fear is slowly becoming less."

The pulpit exchange, he said, was deemed successful.

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

FAIR HAVEN ASSEMBLY OF GOD
878 North Beach Day
Oakman Heights, Michigan
214-5755
Rev. Fred D. McMillan, Pastor 425-1089
SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 a.m.
Worship Services 11:00 a.m.
SUNDAY EVENING 7:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY 7:30 p.m.

PARKDALE ASSEMBLY OF GOD
38516 Parkdale
1815 S. Park and Levee Rd.
Rev. David H. Kist
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening 7:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY 7:30 p.m.

— Christian Service —
425-0430 or 422-6000

CHURCH OF GOD
Riverside Park
CHURCH OF GOD
11771 Newburg Road
at Plymouth Road
Livonia 464-0990
Pastor: The Rev. J. C. Hild
Rev. Robert L. McFarling
11 a.m. Bible Study 11:30 a.m. (Family Service)
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Service 7:30 p.m.
Church 426-4766
Parsonage 476-4555

Livonia Church of God
19827 Middlebelt Rd.
Rev. J. L. Walker
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Service 7:30 p.m.
Wed. Night 7:30 p.m.
Church 426-4766
Parsonage 476-4555

CHURCH OF GOD
585 N. Mill St.
L. H. Rice Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Service 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday Night 7:30 p.m.
Phone 455-8515

First Baptist Church
4300 N. Territorial Rd.
Livonia 455-2300
Pastor: Paul S. Thompson
9:30 Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
11:00 a.m. Bible Study
6:30 Evening Service 7:00 Program for entire family
2:30 Tuesday Evening

Strength For Today Faith For Tomorrow
Christ gives courage to face each day's crisis and hope for a more joyous tomorrow.

CHRIST IS THE SOURCE OF SPIRITUAL POWER.

SUNDAY
9:30 a.m. Family Bible Study (Graded study of God's word for 2 1/2 hrs. Adult)
10:45 a.m. Evening Worship (Prayers, Praise, Children's Bible Clubs, Youth Group)
7:00 p.m. Evening Worship (Prayers, Praise, Children's Bible Clubs, Youth Group)

WEDNESDAY
6:15 p.m. Family Devotion by Reservation
7:30 p.m. Bible Study for the Family
21575 W. 10 Mile, Southfield

GRAND RIVER BAPTIST CHURCH
SIX MILE ROAD
(1 1/2 Mile West of Farmington Rd.)

MAIN STREET BAPTIST CHURCH
Affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention
8481 Main Street, Plymouth
453-4785
The Rev. J. H. Thwaites, Pastor
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday Night 7:30 p.m.

Livonia Baptist Church
Southern Baptist Convention
32940 Schoolcraft
2 1/2 miles East of Farmington Road
422-7373
Rev. Elmer Clark, Pastor 474-1073
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday Night 7:30 p.m.

UNIVERSITY HILLS CHURCH
(CHRISTIAN REFORMED)
Worship with Us at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.
at our New Church
Farmington Rd. at 1888
Dr. J. M. Elmer 477-1330

ST. JOHN
23225 Old Road, Farmington
Pastor Charles Fox
474-0584 or 474-4499
Worship 8:30 and 11 a.m.
Sunday School 9:40 a.m.
Nursery Provided

SWORD OF THE SPIRIT
34583 Seven Mile Road, Livonia
Pastor William D. Wolfe
Family Worship 10 a.m.
Study for All Ages 11 a.m.
Phone 478-3818 or 591-8555

261-8600, ext. 254

CHURCH DIRECTORY

CONGREGATIONAL

MT. HOPE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
30330 Schoolcraft Road — 425-7280
Sunday Service at 10:30 a.m. Worship and Church School
Interim Minister
Norman W. Grange
Helen and Jack Trudgen
Directors of Music

EPISCOPAL

The Episcopal Church welcomes you
Saint Andrews, Livonia
16360 Hubbard Road
421-8451
Sunday Worship
8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
10 a.m. Eucharist
Holy Spirit, Westland
34645 Cowan Road
261-8460
(Serving Southwestern Livonia)
Transportation available — call church
Sunday Worship
8 a.m. & 10 a.m.

CHURCHES OF CHRIST

FARMINGTON
36500 Eleven Mile
SUNDAY WORSHIP
11 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.
Sunday School 10 a.m.
11 a.m. and 8 a.m.
Bible School 10 a.m.
Wed 7:30 a.m. Worship
Earl Dean, Minister
582-5878

LIVONIA
15431 Merriman Rd.
SUNDAY WORSHIP
10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.
Wed 7:30 a.m. Worship
Ronald White, Minister
427-8743

PRESBYTERIAN

ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Hubbard at West Chicago
Worship and Church School 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
Pastors: Richard C. Dunkelberger, D.D.
Arthur Beumler Jr.

ST. MARK'S PRESBYTERIAN
19701 Joy Rd. (E. of Inkster)
278-9340
"Serving The Four Communities"
EVERYONE WELCOME
CHURCH SCHOOL AND WORSHIP 10:00
Rev. Irvin G. Smith, Pastor

ST. TIMOTHY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ADRIAT IN AN IMPERIAL WORLD?
VISIT ST. TIMOTHY PRESBYTERIAN
ON HUBBARD RD. SOUTH OF SIX MILE FOR 1200 CLOCK WORKSHOP
1 Clementer Church School and Nursery
or call Rev. CARL GUNDERSEN 281-4844

ST. PAUL'S Presbyterian Church
27476 Five Mile Road
GA 2-1470
Lorraine Wilson
Dr. William F. Whitehead
Rev. Arnold S. Dabney
Rev. William A. McGivney

CLARENCEVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
26300 Middlebelt, Liv. GR 4-3583
9:00 a.m. First Worship Service
10:15 a.m. Church School
11:15 a.m. Second Service of Worship
1:30 p.m. Youth Meetings
2:30 p.m. The Living Word Service
Elders: J. H. Thwaites, J. H. Thwaites
Nursery provided for all services

ORCHARD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
30450 Farmington Road
Between 12 and 14 Mile
MA 5-8520
9:30 and 11:00 a.m.
Worship and Church School
Elders: J. H. Thwaites, J. H. Thwaites
Nursery provided for all services

ST. MATTHEW'S United Methodist Church
30000 Six Mile Road
422-6038
William D. Richard, Pastor
Jerrold S. Smith, Associate Pastor
Nursery Available
9:30 a.m. Church School (All Ages)
9:30 a.m. Fellowship Sunday 7:30
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Tuesday 7:30

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Call 261-8600 Ext. 254