

# Lots of family non-denominational programs

As noted in this column previously, local churches are very active, including lots of activities for the family as well as the various adult programs conducted as "non-denominational".

The Holy Cross "Renew" program is designed for large groups or small depending on the program. For those who feel uneasy with lots of people around, there are more intimate sessions with the leader. The reverse is true for those who wish to "get lost in the crowd".

The next session will be next Wednesday (Oct. 28) at 8 p.m. in the Parish Hall. "The good news of God's healing power" will be under the leadership of Dr. and Catherine McKenna.

Dr. McKenna is a surgeon at York Finch Hospital and Mrs. McKenna is a registered nurse. They'll talk on their experience over the last five years with spiritual renewal through the healing power of God.

Immanuel Lutheran Church, under the ministry of Dr. Drickamer, has been considering the cults. The series of free classes investigates the influence of cults in modern society and religion. "What are these Cults?" should be of value to all Christians in these last days. Call Pastor Drickamer at 877-0424 for further details on this series.

Novval Presbyterian Church



## IN THE CHURCHES

By Bob Ollivier

will hold a "Fall Thankoffering" service and meeting next Tuesday (Oct. 27) at 7:30 p.m. Highlighting the annual session will be an address on "Caring" by Dr. Ruth Allison of Princess Margaret Hospital. Also participating in the ses-

sion devoted to the International Year of the Disabled will be the Hope Singers from Oakville. A fellowship hour follows; everyone is welcome. Is the Church growing under the pressure of the modern world? Figures show that 84

million U.S. Christians over the age of 18 claim to have made a personal commitment to Jesus Christ. Notice the word "commitment". This signifies more than just a "basic belief", and shows the extent of evangelical teaching in that country. I have no figures for Canada, since this was an American survey, but it is expected that the same average should apply.

The government of Mozambique has closed all churches, mission hospitals and schools and prohibited Christian youth and women's organizations from meeting. Pastors have been prohibited from visiting in rural villages, yet the Church in Mozambique has refused to buckle under to such governmental pressures.

In Kenya, 70 new churches have sprung up on the coastal strip of that country. Kenya has an area of some 576,000 square kilometres, much of it desert. With a population of 13,800,000 the government has an open mind on religion.

There is complete religious freedom there.

BOOK REVIEW: I had quite a surprise recently. The number of Christian books available is very high. The variety of titles is exciting, and with this in mind, this column will once again attempt to give a series of book reviews for Christian and non-Christian alike.

The main idea is to encourage those seeking clarity on the Christian faith and those who are serious Bible students to buy and read. Of course everything in-between will also be considered.

A new book to me is "The Incredible Cover-up" by Dave MacPherson. This book was recommended to me by the Christian Book Shop in Georgetown from whom I get most of the books for these reviews. This book deals with "pre-TRIB" and "POST-TRIB" theories.

This is the belief that God will take his Children out of the world before the tribulations

that will befall the world at the last times. This book is essentially a "post trib view" but should be studied for the complete feelings of all sides.

if you may call them sides. There is often serious dispute over the feelings of these two groups in the Christian Church, and it behooves us to

know all aspects of the discussion. This book is for the serious student of the Bible and should be approached prayerfully or not at all.

## Halton social planners seek more regional dollars

The Halton Region Social Planning Council (HRSPC) has asked the region for an additional \$8,137 to cover secretarial costs and office expenses for the remainder of the year.

Composed of members from social planning councils in north Halton, Burlington and Oakville, the organization has most recently been involved in

an extensive study of funding available for volunteer agencies in the region. One point the report made when presented to regional council last January was that Halton badly needs its own United Way because it cannot always depend on funding from similar organizations in Burlington and Oakville.

A steering committee form-

ed from the HRSPC later this year has been preparing terms of reference which will be needed as the region creates its own United Way by 1995. However, the HRSPC says it needs a secretary to handle the workload the organization now has, largely because of its role in paving the way for a region-wide United Way.

While regional chairman

Jack Raftis envisioned the region's social planning councils and the umbrella HRSPC remaining for the next "two to five years", Oakville social planning council chairman Judy Barrett said it would be premature to comment on whether or not the two social planning levels will eventually amalgamate.

Halton chief administrative officer Dennis Perlin said that some municipalities have regional social planning councils which appoint local sub-committees to deal with particular community needs.

## Council favors thrift despite staff concerns

Despite staff concerns that a mid-priced contractor would do a more professional job of making masonry repairs at the town's administration building on Trafalgar Road, council has decided to give the job to a local businessman who bid a lower price.

A seemingly innocent announcement of a tender opening Monday night dragged councillors into a lengthy debate over whether to give the contract to an out-of-town business which may have more experience in brickwork or to a local firm which has not been involved in the trade for a number of years.

Tower Restoration Ltd. of Toronto, contractors who worked extensively on renovations in the Stewarttown community hall last year, was the staff's first choice for the brick repair project, proposing to do the work for \$8,900 about \$2,000 cheaper than a third tender submitted.

Although the staff report on the tendering said that both Tower and the low bidder, Halton Building and Maintenance, have good reputations, the latter has not been regularly involved in brickwork since the late 1950s.

But most councillors maintained that Halton Building and Maintenance, the lower bidder by \$2,600, should get the job or at least the two competitors should present their proposals before council.

Mayor Pete Pomeroy explained that the administration building's exterior problems are caused by bricks "exploding" because water and frost

seep through their rather "soft" composition. The last time some bricks were replaced at the municipal headquarters was five years ago.

Apparently agreeing with some councillors' sentiments that no one on council was qualified enough to determine which contractor could do a

better job from a public meeting, council decided to choose the low bidder.

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