

Religion



Chaplaincy program operating

There is more to health care than medicine; there is also the need for spiritual care. In recognition of this fact Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital and the Georgetown Ministerial have established a chaplaincy program at the hospital. Local chaplains will be available to all patients and hospital staff on a daily basis for those who want spiritual help. The 15 local clergymen participating in the program took part in an orientation session at the hospital last Tuesday. The chaplains include (front row, left to right), Tom Kingston, St. George's Anglican Church; Nancy Knox, St. John's United Church, Georgetown;

Mary Campbell, Norval Presbyterian Church; Carol Skidmore, St. Alban's Church, Glen Williams. (Second row, left to right), David Caldwell, Mountainview Baptist Church; Winston Robinson, Holy Cross Church; Margaret Murray, St. John's Church, Stewarttown. (Third row, left to right), Fritz Schmitt, Immanuel Lutheran Church; David Tabley, Halton Gospel Temple; David Cote, Holy Cross Church. (Fourth row, left to right), Joseph Durkacz, Holy Cross Church; Dale Redekop, Halton Gospel Temple; and Paul Stadt, Christian Reformed Church. (Herald photo)

Remembering the wedding

By JIM REID

Nov. 11, 1990

32nd Sunday in O.T.

Matt. 25:1-13

Parable of the Ten Bridesmaids

A Wedding in Paradise

My wife and I were married in a forest, on a hilltop, in a conservation area near Ancaster, two years ago.

We planned the thing from start to finish:

1. Design invitations and programmes.
2. Bake bread for agape feast
3. Buy beer, wine and mineral water.
4. Decorate hall and outdoor chapel.

Some things weren't planned:

1. The heat. It was the hottest day in a hot July. You probably installed central air that sum-

mer.

2. The clean-up crew. We were it. Carrying plants, decorations and unopened wine bottles home after everyone had left.

3. The car keys. I locked them in the trunk of my mother-in-law's Toyota.

4. The hotel. They bumped us.

But it was great.

There were moments of:

1. Grandeur. A hawk flew overhead during the ceremony.
2. Humour. a. A squirrel rooted around in the dry underbrush behind the altar. b. Two-year-old baby girls shook their rattles in time with a recorder trio during the reception.
3. Mystical delight. A welcome breeze brought forth applause from the trees after we had read a prayer by Chief Dan Goerge.

We had one priority: to be in-

clusive.

We wanted our family and friends, who are differing varieties of Christians, secular humanists and pagans, to feel at home. We wanted everyone to be able to share wholeheartedly in the ceremony without having to worry about denominational restrictions.

Our solution was simple: an outdoor wedding.

Nature is inclusive. She makes no distinction between R.C., U.C. and N.C. (non-Christian).

A BIT OF HEAVEN

Jesus talked a lot about weddings. He must have gone to quite a few in his time. In his parables, wedding feasts become metaphors for the Kingdom of heaven.

Interesting, isn't it? Many of the weddings I've been to seem about as close to heaven as you can get.

But a lot of things seem close to heaven:

1. Camping in a walk-in site at Bon Echo Provincial Park.
2. Jazz clubs.
3. The first cup of coffee in the early morning, sitting by a lake.
4. Riding a bicycle on quiet dirt roads in July.

If Jesus were walking around today, I'm sure he'd invest in a mountain bike and helmet and head off into the wilderness with his disciples.

And after returning, he'd make up a parable about mountain biking with friends as a metaphor for the Kingdom of heaven.

The Bible is like that. It really is a collection of written accounts of people's attempts to make sense out of life; not only the tough stuff, like unemployment, divorce, death, emigration and war; but also the good stuff, births, marriages, getting jobs, reading books, playing games, watching sunsets.

When we do the same with our own lives we're doing what he did. When we sit around with friends considering hopes for the future, considering possibilities, then we're doing the same thing. When we try to make sense out of the death of a child, or the failure of a marriage, then we're doing the same thing.

What about the Parable of the 10 Bridesmaids?

Jesus had a pretty good eye for detail.

Palestinian marriage customs at the beginning of the twentieth century suggest that sometimes the groom is caught up with last minute details concerning the marriage contract at the parents-in-law's home, that he arrives very late at his paternal home, where the bride and her bridesmaid wait.



Wedding day

Harvey and Muriel Nurse of Ashgrove are pleased to announce the wedding of their son John Harvey Nurse to Linda Kazienko. John Nurse, the son of Harvey and Muriel Nurse of Ashgrove, was married to Linda Sue Kazienko, the daughter of Bronny and Rose Kazienko of Hamilton at the Olivet United Church, Hamilton, on September 22. The happy couple will be residing in Freelon, Ontario.

Bible Digest

"I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works: and that my soul knoweth right well." Psalm 139:14.

You are special. God has a wonderful plan for your life. Don't forget to praise Him as you go through life.

"And when he saw that, he arose, and went for his life and came to Beersheba, which belongeth to Judah, and left his servant there." 1 Kings 19:3.

If Elijah the prophet was fearful and apprehensive about a certain situation don't be down on yourself if you are struggling. Be faithful to the Lord and He will see you through.

"Peter therefore was kept in prison: but prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him." Acts 12:5.

Prayer does make a difference. Pray for someone in need. God is waiting to do great things in your life and in the life of others.

"Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people." Proverbs 14:34.

The well-being of a person or nation depends upon their rela-

tionship to the Lord. Godly righteousness will uplift a nation while sin will disgrace a nation. It is time for all concerned citizens to pray for their country.

"For we are the circumcision, which worship God in the spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh." Philippians 3:3.

Salvation is a gift from God. We didn't earn it. "In my hand no price I bring, only to the cross I cling." Have you accepted God's gift of salvation?

"And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? If the Lord be God, follow him; but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word." 1 Kings 18:21.

The time for fence-straddling is past. Make up your mind. Follow the Lord with all your heart.

"Then the disciples, every man according to his ability, determined to send relief unto the brethren which dwelt in Judaea." Acts 11:29.

Every Christian has something special to offer to the Lord and His people. Ask the Lord to help you discover his abilities in you.

Life issues seminar at Baptist Church

Mountainview Baptist Church will be hosting a Life Issues Seminar on the subject of child abuse Nov. 17 at the church located on Mountainview Road just north of Delrex Boulevard.

Speakers Audrey McDonald and Eleanor Magie will discuss how people can equip themselves to deal with child abuse. As part of the discussion Ms. McDonald

will also share her personal experience concerning the subject.

The discussion is lead from a Christian perspective, according to a church press release.

The event gets underway at 11 a.m. and refreshments will be served. People are encouraged to bring their lunch.

For more information call David Caldwell at 873-2184.

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