

Life Here and in the Hereafter: Continuing a Glorious Journey

By NANCY PLUM TUTHILL

My sister and I used to comment on the fact that we had never known true loss in our family the way so many of our friends had. But that all changed one Friday evening in 1996 when her adult son, her only child, was killed instantly in a senseless pickup truck accident.

Two years later, our precious 98-year-old Dad, who had been married to our Mom for seven decades, died, and two years after that, six weeks apart, both my husband and mother suddenly passed from our sight.

Without the understanding I had gained when I first began studying Christian Science, I don't know how I could have dealt with the fear and anguish which came from the onslaught of these life-changing experiences.

I was a young adult when I first learned, through the Science of the Christ, that God is life, and knows not death; that "God (made) man in His own image, in the image of God created he him" (Deut 30:20; Gen 1:27).

What a wonderful realization that my parents could never die! They would pass from my sight, but just as a plane keeps on flying when we can no longer see it, they would keep right on living in a way they could relate to.

My Mom's great fear of her husband passing on (yet he was with her for another 50 years) had been transferred to me at a very young age. Now I had a new view of man - one of life based in Spirit and in Truth, God, which would continue to change, but which would not end.

What Mary Baker Eddy, the author of the book "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures" and the discoverer of Christian Science (the Science of the Christ), had discerned from her lifelong study of the Bible

was that man's true identity is quality, not quantity; spiritual, not material.

I found that as I concentrated more on the qualitative makeup of all mankind, as well as of those I knew and loved, I would have a clearer picture of their true identity than any physicality could ever convey.

In her primary work on Christian Science, Mrs. Eddy explains, "Matter, with its mortality, cannot be substantial if Spirit is substantial and eternal. Which ought to be substance to us - the erring, changing, and dying, the mutable and mortal, or the unerring, immutable and immortal?" (Science and Health...p. 278)

The eternal qualities of our loved ones are ever with us, and no phase of human experience can change the actual identity of those who go on from this earthly existence. On page 251 (ibid), I've read, "In the illusion of death, mortals wake to the knowledge of two facts: (1) that they are not dead; (2) that they have but passed the portals of a new belief."

I truly find comfort and direction in the Scriptures - in the 91st Psalm, the 23rd Psalm and in the writings of great prophets and all humble seekers of truth who have gone before us.

In referring to the "Lord of heaven and earth," St. Paul tells us, "For in him we live and move and have our being..." (Acts 17:28). What a comforting, glorious thought that is. Even now, we are not and can never be separate from our Maker regardless of what the five physical senses declare. Through prayer and the spiritualization of ever-uplifting thought, we never stop soaring to higher heights, here and hereafter.

Nancy Plum Tuthill is First Reader at the First Church of Christ, Scientist, located at 422 East Broad Street in Westfield.



WEEKEND WELCOME...Vincent Parlapiano of Roselle Park, a volunteer tour guide at the Miller-Cory House Museum, prepares to welcome visitors to the historic site during "Four Centuries in a Weekend" on October 20 and 21. The museum is located at 614 Mountain Avenue in Westfield.

Miller-Cory to Participate In 'Four Centuries' Tours

WESTFIELD - The Miller-Cory House Museum in Westfield will be among 22 museums taking part in free, two-day tours of Union County's historical sites in celebration of Arts and Humanities Month.

During "Four Centuries in a Weekend," the Miller-Cory Museum, located at 614 Mountain Avenue, will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, October 20, and from noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday, October 21.

Tours of the historic farmhouse and 18th-century cooking demonstrations will take place both days.

On October 20, Sherry Lange of Cranford will demonstrate soap making, while Tim Truedson of Scotch Plains will demonstrate Indian leather and beadwork.

Highlights for October 21 will include food preservation, presented by Mae Frantz of Cranford, and tin piercing, with Joseph Remus of Clark. "Halloween Hocus Pocus" will be

featured at Miller-Cory on Sunday, October 28, from 3 to 6 p.m. A family activity, it is especially geared toward children ages 2½ through 7. Attendees are invited to come in costume and enjoy children's crafts, play acting, storytelling, face painting and refreshments.

Admission is \$2 for children and free to adults. For further information about the museum, its fall schedule of events or volunteer opportunities, please call (908) 232-1776.

Hadassah to Present Godparents Gala

WESTFIELD - The Westfield Hadassah chapter will hold the Godparents Grand Buffet 2001 on Sunday, November 11, at 6 p.m. at Temple Emanu-El in Westfield.

This long-standing project benefits the Mother-Child Center at Hadassah Hospital at Ein-Karem in Israel, which is fully operational.

Westfield Hadassah funds not only help to build the facility but continue to furnish patient rooms, treatment rooms and a common area and to outfit the laboratories.

This year's Grand Buffet will feature a selection of hors d'oeuvres followed by a dinner of meat, fish, fowl, vegetables, fruit, breads and wine, as well as an array of desserts, prepared by Hadassah members. Entertainment will be provided by TUVIA.

Godparents' certificates will be issued to those couples that contribute \$185 or more. Their names will be inscribed in the Book of Life on display at Hadassah Hospital. Single participants are asked to contribute \$92.50.

Reservations or contributions should be mailed to Jeanne Goldstein, 819 Knollwood Terrace, Westfield 07090.

Echo Lake Church Slates Gospel Meeting Series

WESTFIELD - The Echo Lake Church of Christ, located at 419 Springfield Avenue in Westfield, has invited members of the community to a Gospel Meeting series. It will be held from Sunday through Wednesday, October 21 to 24.

Featured will be Curtis Hickey, who has been preaching since 1966 and serves the Kingville Church of Christ in Millport, Ala. His topic and lessons will be as follows:

Sunday, October 21, 9:30 a.m. - "Prayer: A Spiritual Fortifier to Faith;" 10:30 a.m. - "'Nicer' Sins That Crucify Jesus;" and 6 p.m. - "There Were Three Crosses On Golgotha."

Monday, October 22, 7 p.m. - "Refuse Not Him That Speaketh." Tuesday, October 23, 7 p.m. -

God's Message For This Mess Age. Wednesday, October 24, 7 p.m. - "The Danger Of Forgetting God." For more information, please call (908) 233-4946.



Curtis Hickey

Donations are Sought By Episcopal Church For Annual Book Sale

WESTFIELD - St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Westfield is seeking book donations for its annual "Friends of Music" Book Sale which will take place from Sunday, October 28, through Tuesday, October 30.

Especially needed are hardback and paperback fiction, nonfiction, audio books, videos, computer software and children's books. The church is unable to accept donations of textbooks, magazines, Encyclopedias, records or Reader's Digest books.

St. Paul's Church is located at 414 East Broad Street. For further information, please call Charles Banks at (908) 232-8506, extension no. 17.

Annual Men's Day Set At St. John's Baptist

SCOTCH PLAINS - St. John's Baptist Church, located at 2387 Morse Avenue in Scotch Plains, will celebrate its Annual Men's Day on Sunday, October 28, during the 11 a.m. morning worship service.

The guest speaker will be the Reverend Dr. Charles Walker from Philadelphia's 19th Street Baptist Church.

Reverend Walker will also preach for St. John's Fall Revival from Monday to Wednesday, October 29 to 31.

Ketubah, Temple Members Plan Country Club Weekend

AREA - The B'nai B'rith Ketubah Married Couples and members of Temple Sha'arey Shalom of Springfield will gather at Kutscher's Country Club in Monticello, N.Y. from Friday to Sunday, January 18 to 20, 2002.

The weekend will include six meals, starting with dinner on Friday through

Mountainside Retirees To Meet October 23

MOUNTAINSIDE - The Mountainside Active Retirees (M.A.R.) will meet on Tuesday, October 23, at 10 a.m. in the Community Room on the second floor of Mountainside Borough Hall, 1385 Route 22, East.

Jean White, an Aerobics/Exercise Coordinator from the Westfield Y, will present a program entitled "Exercise Geared to the Golden Years." Members and guests are advised to wear comfortable clothing if they wish to participate in some of the exercises.

All M.A.R. meetings are held at 10 a.m. on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at Mountainside Borough Hall. Prospective new members are welcome.

Sunday lunch. A lavish cocktail party with open bar will be featured on Saturday, and a new variety show will be presented each evening, with no cover or minimum charge.

The cost for this weekend is \$377 for the newly-furnished and renovated Rip Van Winkle rooms. This price is per couple per room and includes taxes and gratuities.

Day camp, teen programs and night patrol are available, along with babysitting at a nominal charge. There is also a nominal charge for children eating in the main dining room.

Reservations are currently being accepted. A \$50 deposit will hold a room. If individuals wish to stay until Monday, January 21, for Martin Luther King Day, there is an additional charge of \$179 per couple.

Balances are due no later than Tuesday, November 20. Checks should be made payable to B'nai B'rith and mailed to: P.O. Box 140, Livingston, 07039. Individuals are asked to include their name, address, ages of children and telephone number.

For further information, please call Phyllis at (973) 992-5791 or Larry at (973) 467-3715.

Methodist Church to Hold Six-Week Grief Workshop

WESTFIELD - The First United Methodist Church of Westfield will hold a Grief Workshop for six Wednesdays beginning October 24.

The group will meet from 8 to 9:30 p.m. with Dr. Dan Bottorff, a licensed marriage and family therapist, serving as facilitator. He is also Associate Pastor of the church.

"Facing loss with the fullness of one's feelings can be so destabilizing that most of us tend to minimize or postpone our grief work," said Dr.

Bottorff. "A grief group experience can mobilize one's strength to deal more effectively with loss - one of life's toughest challenges."

Various topics will be presented each week, such as stages of grief, tasks, coping strategies, remembering and moving on.

Pre-registration is encouraged and may be done by calling the church office at (908) 233-4211. There is no charge, but a free will contribution can be made.

Westfield Y's Men to Host Halloween Parade, Contest

WESTFIELD - The Westfield Y's Men's Club will host its 41st annual Halloween Parade and Costume Contest on Sunday, October 28.

Children and parents wishing to participate in this year's festivities are asked to gather at the Elm Street Field in Westfield at 12:45 p.m. that day.

Judging of costumes will take place and free treat bags will be given to participating youngsters between 12:45 and 1:15 p.m.

The parade will begin at 1:15 p.m. from the Elm Street Field and travel up Elm Street to East Broad Street into Mindowaskin Park. Leading the parade will be the Westfield Fire Department's Super Truck and the Westfield High School Marching Band.

Awards will be given following the parade at the Mindowaskin Park gazebo. Ribbons will be awarded first, second and third place for each age group. For groups of five or more there will be cash prizes awarded for first (\$35), second (\$25) and third (\$15). Children of all ages up through fifth grade may participate.

Grace Episcopal Plans Memorial Service

AREA - The Grace Episcopal Church, located at 600 Cleveland Avenue in Plainfield, will hold a special memorial service for the victims of the World Trade Center and Pentagon attacks and others.

It will take place on Friday, November 2, at 7:30 p.m. at the church, which includes congregation members from Westfield, Scotch Plains and Fanwood. There is no admission fee.

The choir, featured soloists and guest instrumentalists, led by Domecq Smith, will perform *Fauré Requiem*, by French composer Gabriel-Urbain Fauré.

La Leche League Sets Next Meeting Date

WESTFIELD - The La Leche League of Westfield, a breastfeeding information and support group, will meet on the third Thursday of each month.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, October 18, at 9:30 a.m. at the Cranford United Methodist Church, located at 201 East Lincoln Avenue in Cranford.

For more information, please call (908) 301-1339, (908) 789-4772 or (908) 233-7164.



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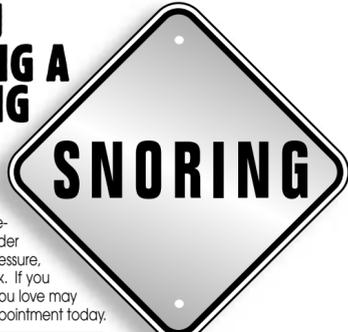
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and not by sight"

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