

Women's Role in Church To Be Conference Topic

A two-day conference, "New Women? New Church?" has been scheduled by the Rochester Regional Task Force on Women in the Church for April 29-30 at the Interfaith Chapel of the University of Rochester.

A lecture dealing with the role of women in the Church, past and present, is scheduled for 7:30 p.m., Friday, April 29. The focus will be theological, scriptural and historical. No fee is necessary but donations will be accepted.

A workshop will begin at 9:30 a.m., Saturday, April 30. It will use some of the Call to Action recommendations as a starting point for reflections on sexist language, dialogue with Rome, and future direction concerning the issues both nationally and locally. It will conclude at 4 p.m. after a Eucharistic Liturgy. A \$5 fee will include lunch.

Guest speakers will be Arlene and Leonard Swidler. She is a co-founder of the Journal of Ecumenical Studies and is its education editor. She has written several books, including Women in a Man's Church and Sister celebrations.

Leonard Swidler is professor of Catholic Thought and Ecumenism in the Religion Department at Temple University. Co-founder with Arlene of the Journal of Ecumenical Studies, he is its editor.

All are invited and early

registration is recommended. For further information, anyone interested should contact the task force at 1000 North Greece Road, Rochester, N.Y. 14616, or call 716-225-7320.

Gillis Tragedy Called 'Tremendous Loss'

BY JOHN DASH

Don and Jane Gillis' deaths in the recent airplane crash which took more than 570 lives on a fog-bound runway in the Canary Islands, are "a tremendous loss," to the spiritual life of the Rochester community, their pastor said last week.

Father John Norris, pastor of Blessed Sacrament Church, where the couple was especially active in religious affairs, said they "were always generous with their time and efforts for the Church."

Don Gillis was a member of the parish council for three years, during which time he organized retreats and spiritual activities for the group. Jane was a member of the Parish Life committee.

She grew up in the parish, Father Norris said. She and her husband sent their children to the parish school. In recent years, he said, Gillis had served as a lector for Mass and was an extraordinary minister of the Eucharist, bringing Holy Communion to those confined to their homes on Sunday. In addition, the couple often would bring elderly parishioners to Sunday Mass. They were frequent communicants at the Church, at times, daily communicants.

Father Dennis Shaw, associate pastor, said they "were very powerful ministers to poor people." They readily offered financial aid to people in difficulty, he said, "Or if anyone had a need to talk to someone, their door was always open. That's the kind of people they were."

Gillis also was active in the charismatic prayer gatherings in the area and founded a prayer group in the parish.

At the time of the accident Gillis and his wife were residing in the Netherlands. He was on a one-year assignment with the Rank-Xerox Corporation there. The couple was on vacation when the accident occurred. They are survived by their two sons Paul and James.

Resource Workshop Scheduled

Applications are being accepted for a one-week, small group workshop for nonprofit private and public agencies scheduled for May 2-6 in Rochester.

Trinity Council, Webster Knights of Columbus, sponsors the workshop which is conducted by the Grantsmanship Center of California, a nonprofit training institute. The Rochester session will be directed at developing and improving the funding and program planning skills of participants.

At previous local sessions, some 50 agencies were in attendance, according to the council. Stanley Zawacki, coordinator of the program here, said that it "has been widely acclaimed through the U.S. as one of the best of its kind... (it) will benefit not only the participants; but all of the Monroe and surrounding counties."

The focus will be on each person's organization and its resource needs. Program ideas, funding needs, budget preparation, organizational credibility and literature will be analyzed and refined.

Tuition is \$295 and the class limited to 22 participants. Partial scholarships may be available. Information available from the K. of C., 82 E. Main St., Webster, 14580, telephone 423-4260.

Genesee Settlement Gets Needed Funds

By MICHAEL GRODEN

Genesee Settlement House, a neighborhood social service organization working in Rochester's 16 Ward, received a shot in the arm last week when the United Community Chest announced it would allocate \$291,408 to them in 1977-78.

Peter C. Carpino, UCC communications director, said the only reason Genesee Settlement would not receive the money would be if the current United Community Chest Cross Campaign failed to reach its goal. The campaign began Friday, April 1.

The announcement culminates a nine-month reorganization of Genesee Settlement House.

UCC funds were "temporarily suspended" last April because of alleged mismanagement of funds. UCC officials said that funds would resume when these irregularities were corrected.

In July, 1976 Alphonse E. Tindall was named director of the Catholic Charities sponsored agency. Under his supervision Genesee Settlement began the task of paying back bills and reestablishing programs.

Community Chest gave the agency \$37,000 for reorganization purposes.

Tindall reports that the 1977 grant will be used to establish a "core staff" as well as pay for running the existing programs and maintaining the building at 10 Dake St.

He attributes much of the agency's success to the new 14-member board of

directors who have "worked very hard" to get the Genesee Settlement going and hopes the board will be expanded to 21.

Other plans include a possible relocation "somewhere north of Clifford Avenue," a Day Camp program beginning in July, expanding the area covered by Genesee Settlement as well as continuing programs already underway. Some of these include nursery and grade school activities, programs for teens and senior citizens and family services.

Genesee Settlement also intends to "apply for their own corporate papers." Tindall said this does not mean an end to the affiliation with Catholic Charities. He feels, however, that both agencies would become stronger if Genesee Settlement had legal responsibility for their actions.

Maurice Tierney, director of Catholic Charities, reiterated Tindall's feeling. He said that the proposed incorporation "in no way changes their affiliation."

"The history and tradition of Catholic Charities was the cause of the effect of many agencies like Genesee Settlement," and the relationship will continue.

Tierney added that he felt the restoration of Community Chest funds was "fantastic. It provides great encouragement to the agency and shows that they can do the job in that neighborhood."

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