

# LIFE & FAITH / COMMUNITY

## CHURCH BRIEFS

### Series on 'Eating Ethically, Eating Locally'

An upcoming Adult Education three-part series of classes, "Eating Ethically, Eating Locally," will explore the political, social, economic and health issues surrounding the foods we eat everyday. Sponsored by the Caring for Creation ministry at Hope Church, the series will take place 9:40 a.m. Sundays, May 2, 9 and 16.

The schedule:

May 2 and 9 — Screening and discussion of documentary, "Food, Inc." During each class, the class will view 30 minutes of the hour-long documentary. Teresa Heinz Housel, assistant professor of Communication at Hope College, will then lead discussion about the issues raised by the film portion shown. The film's slogan is: "You'll never look at dinner the same way again."

May 16 — Eating locally

and the "Eat Local Challenge" Movement. Guest speaker Anna Bonnema, mentoring director for the natural sciences at Hope College, will speak about her interest in local foods that was sparked by Jamie Oliver, a British healthy food advocate with a passion for teaching people to cook simple, fresh, and healthy food at home. Bonnema will share several simple, fresh, and local recipes that you can make at home.

Hope Church is located at 77 W. 11th St.

### Idema hosting book discussion

Rev. Henry Idema will host a discussion on the book "The Painted Veil" at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday at Grace Episcopal Church, 555 Michigan Ave. Copies of the book

will be available for \$10.

The film "The painted Veil" will be shown on the following Wednesday, May 5. The movie starts with refreshments at 5:30 p.m., and pizza and the movie begin at 6 p.m., followed by discussion. For more information, call (616) 396-7459.

### 'Great 90 Days' is theme of hymn festival

"The Great 90 Days: From Lent to Pentecost" is the theme for Sunday's second annual hymn festival to be held 3 p.m. at St. Francis de Sales Church, 195 W. 13th St.

All are welcome. Robert Batastini will lead and narrate the approximately 90-minute festival.

For more information log onto [www.stfranchisholland.org](http://www.stfranchisholland.org) and click on "hymn festival" located under "Worship."

### Methodist Church hosting Earth Day event

First United Methodist

## SERVICE NOTES

**Mitchell J. Bouwkamp** of Holland has been promoted to the rank of Specialist in the Michigan Army National Guard. Bouwkamp is a combat engineer, with the Augusta-based 1433rd Engineer Company (SAPPER). He has been a member of the Michigan National Guard for two years.

**Joseph W. Renkema** of Holland has been promot-

ed to the rank of Specialist in the Michigan Army National Guard. Renkema is a Combat Engineer, with the Augusta-based 1433rd Engineer Company (SAPPER). He has been a member of the Michigan National Guard for two years.

Navy Seaman Apprentice **Luke A. Larsen**, son of Shelly and Peter Larsen of Holland, was recently promoted to his

current rank upon graduation from recruit training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

Navy Seaman Apprentice **Eli C. Knotts**, son of Linda Knotts of Holland and Kevin Knotts of Pekin, Ill., was recently promoted to his current rank upon graduation from recruit training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

## Seaborn

From A8

then you are constantly reminded about the statistics of divorce. Soon doubt and indecision start taking residence in your mind. The fields of "what ifs" are blooming everywhere around you and you start to doubt whether your self-assurances can mow them down. Although you'd never considered it before, a pre-nuptial agreement starts to make sense because at this point your mind is starting to resemble the mush you ate for breakfast.

What got me thinking about this is that I heard the other day about a new

someone even recites an "I do" there are already parameters in place if the marriage fails. I'm not talking about guidelines that suggests who has to clean the refrigerator and who has to maintain proper oil levels in the car. This is a legal document that spells out who is going to get the refrigerator or the car should the marriage dissolve. It's like putting the cart before the horse by having a divorce agreement signed and ready before anybody books the hall, orders the flowers, or slathers icing on the cake.

The problem is that people are just too quick to call it quits if they stop liking the way their spouse parts their hair or

with everything you had prior to the wedding. Although, I don't think that agreement includes self-esteem, trust, or confidence levels prior to the marriage. Those can't even be split 50/50 in the divorce agreement.

That's the problem with all this paperwork that people have created to protect themselves. It doesn't protect their heart. It's one of the most important commodities in the marriage and yet it doesn't even make it in as a line item. It's just discarded in a pile of goods that has no monetary price tag but has a greater value than gold. The heart just gets relegated to a rack and marked "as is."

I believe that if people

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