

NORTH AMERICAN  
**REGIONAL**

**VOICE**



OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NORTH AMERICAN REGIONAL CONFERENCES OF  
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

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**Quaintance Young,  
Miss Oakwood's  
UNCF**



## COVER STORY



Mrs. Edna L. Williamson, Principal, North-eastern academy.

### UNCF—OAKWOOD'S TWO MILLION DOLLAR BENEFACTOR

The United Negro College Fund is the second largest contributor to Oakwood College, second only to the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. In 1978 Oakwood received \$215,515 from UNCF. Each year the amount increases. The first year Oakwood became a member of the fund it received \$79,870.19. During the years of our membership we have received \$2,059,681.13 from this source.

Oakwood alumni and the student body of the college have an opportunity to augment the amount given to their alma mater by supporting the UNCF during its annual campaigns.

The National Alumni Council and the National Pre-Alumni Council Conference meets this year February 7-9 in Detroit, Michigan at the Renaissance Plaza Hotel. Oakwood College will send its queen to this conference and alumni leaders from around the country will be present.

The National Pre-Alumni Council is the body representing the students of the 41 member colleges. Each college has a Pre-Alumni Council on campus. These councils together form the National Pre-Alumni Council. Last year the students in the pre-alumni councils raised over \$300,000 on their campuses.

The purpose of the National Pre-Alumni Council is to stimulate the

interest and participation of students in the progress of UNCF and to preserve and further loyalty and fellowship between member institutions of UNCF, their faculties, staff, students, and alumni.

In furtherance of its purposes, the National Pre-Alumni Council: a) encourages individual contributions to UNCF; b) gives maximum assistance in raising funds during the annual campaigns of UNCF; c) assists the National Alumni Council in its goals to encourage young people to attend UNCF institutions and to become aware of the need for social and professional growth; and d) stimulates an awareness among college students of the need to become active members in their respective Pre-Alumni Councils.

One of the highlights of the annual National Alumni and National Pre-Alumni Council is the Coronation in which Miss National UNCF is crowned. This honor is conferred on the college queen representing the student body which has raised the largest per capita contribution. Traditionally, the Coronation was held on Friday evening but this event was changed to Saturday night in deference to Oakwood College and its queen. Miss Brenda Spraggins, Oakwood's first UNCF queen, won this coveted honor and was crowned Miss National UNCF at the National Alumni Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana in 1969. Last year's queen was Miss Darla Van Putten from Pine Forge, Pennsylvania. The Pre-Alumni Council campus campaigns give students an opportunity to share a part in increasing the contributions which will come back to their campuses through the annual UNCF appropriations which are used for student scholarships, faculty post-graduate study, and building improvement. During last year the per capita giving for the winning colleges were:

1st place—Texas College	\$40.95
2nd place—Bishop College	40.64
3rd place—Houston-Tillotson	.....24.40
4th place—Wiley College	24.39
5th place—Philander-Smith	.....22.14

Miss Texas College was crowned Miss UNCF. This year Oakwood's Queen is Quaintance Young, from, Chicago, IL.

Several other trophies and awards are given during the Coronation. They include: 1) Miss UNCF Trophy and

trophies to her four runner-ups based on the highest per capita campus giving; 2) the George Hightower Attendance Trophy which goes to the queen representing the college having the largest student attendance at the conference; 3) the UNCF Contribution Award Trophy presented to the queen of the college where the student body raised the largest amount of money during the campus campaign; 4) the Samuel D. Liedesdorf Award given Miss UNCF by the New York Office; and 5) an Award is given to each Queen participating in the Coronation.

The UNCF Inc. gave \$200,000 to the member colleges during 1944, the year it was founded by Dr. Frederick D. Patterson, former President of Tuskegee Institute. In 1978 this amount had grown to over 16½ million dollars which was distributed to the member colleges.

What better investment do we have than the investment of education for our precious youth and the development of better faculties and better physical plants in our institutions.

GIVE TO THE UNITED NEGRO  
COLLEGE FUND AND ASSIST  
OAKWOOD COLLEGE—OUR SCHOOL  
FOR OUR YOUTH!!!

### DISTRIBUTION OF UNCF CAMPAIGN FUNDS

The distribution of campaign funds is made in a formula unanimously agreed upon by the presidents of the member institutions: a) 50 percent of the proceeds are divided equally among all member colleges; b) 40 percent of the proceeds are divided on the basis of a five-year average of income from gifts, grants and endowments; and c) 10 percent of the proceeds are divided on the basis of a five-year average enrollment of each member college.

### "A MIND IS A TERRIBLE THING TO WASTE"

The United Negro College Fund conducts annual national fund raising campaigns in order to raise money for operating expenses of 41 predominantly black colleges and universities.

All UNCF member schools are private, fully-accredited, and four year institutions (three offer graduate degrees). UNCF schools are a vital asset to this country. They help break the cycle of poverty by preparing black men and women to become self-sufficient.

Student enrollment totals 48,000.

They come from 50 states and 62 countries. Because many UNCF students come with educational and financial disadvantages, more than 60 percent require financial aid—their families earn less than \$5,000 per year. Many of the parents must work long hours or two jobs in order to support their son's or daughter's education. The majority of students major in Education, Business and the Social Sciences, but many of the schools offer degrees in Chemistry, Engineering, Physics and Mathematics and a few in Computer Science.

Nearly 20 percent of the students go on to the best graduate schools in the country.

Only through a college education can these students move into the mainstream of American life and provide effective leadership to their communities and the nation.

There is absolutely no discrimination because of race, creed or color at any of the UNCF schools. Faculties have always been biracial, student bodies are becoming more so.

UNCF schools must rely heavily on your support because of the lack of wealthy alumni, limited endowments, low tuition, and minimal student fees.

Through the use of volunteers, UNCF seeks contributions from individuals, corporations, foundations, organizations, and alumni.

Specifically, your UNCF gift will increase scholarship and student aid programs, supplement salaries for faculties and staff (Salaries of full professors at member colleges average approximately 25 percent below the national average.), expand curricula offerings in the field of business, economics, medicine and communications, add new teaching and laboratory equipment, and increase research facilities and library services.

#### UNCF Member Colleges

Atlanta University, Atlanta, Georgia  
 Barber-Scotia College, Concord, North Carolina  
 Benedict College, Columbia, South Carolina  
 Bennett College, Greensboro, North Carolina  
 Bethune-Cookman College, Daytona Beach, Florida  
 Bishop College, Dallas, Texas  
 Claffin College, Orangeburg, South Carolina  
 Clark College, Atlanta, Georgia  
 Dillard University, New Orleans, Louisiana  
 Fisk University, Nashville, Tennessee

Florida Memorial College, Miami, Florida  
 Huston-Tillotson College, Austin, Texas  
 Interdenominational Theological Center, Atlanta, Georgia  
 Jarvis Christian College, Hawkins, Texas  
 Johnson C. Smith University, Charlotte, North Carolina  
 Knoxville College, Knoxville, Tennessee  
 Lane College, Jackson, Tennessee  
 Lemoyn-Owen College, Memphis, Tennessee  
 Livingstone College, Salisbury, North Carolina  
 Miles College, Birmingham, Alabama  
 Morehouse College, Atlanta, Georgia  
 Morris Brown College, Atlanta, Georgia  
 Oakwood College, Huntsville, Alabama  
 Paine College, Augusta, Georgia  
 Paul Quinn College, Waco, Texas  
 Philander Smith College, Little Rock, Arkansas  
 Rust College, Holly Springs, Mississippi  
 St. Augustine's College, Raleigh, North Carolina  
 St. Paul's College, Lawrenceville, Virginia  
 Shaw University, Raleigh, North Carolina  
 Spelman College, Atlanta, Georgia  
 Stillman College, Tuscaloosa, Alabama  
 Talladega College, Talladega, Alabama  
 Texas College, Tyler, Texas  
 Tougaloo College, Tougaloo, Mississippi  
 Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee Institute, Alabama  
 Virginia Union University, Richmond, Virginia  
 Voorhees College, Denmark, South Carolina  
 Wilberforce University, Wilberforce, Ohio  
 Wiley College, Marshall, Texas  
 Xavier University, New Orleans, Louisiana

#### Distribution of Funds to Oakwood College from United Negro College Fund, Inc.

1965	\$79,870.19
1966	70,135.06
1967	83,271.88
1968	103,284.00
1969	115,479.00
1970	115,771.00
1971	146,761.00
1972	152,982.00
1973	149,024.00
1974	154,962.00
1975	163,240.00
1976	182,101.00
1977	188,984.00
1978	215,515.00
1979	(partial report) 138,301.00

Total amount Oakwood College has derived from UNCF since school has become a member: \$2,059,681.13.

Edna Lett Williamson  
 Executive Board Member  
 National Alumni Council of UNCF, Inc.

## GIVE TO THE UNITED NEGRO COLLEGE FUND

# PUBLISHER'S PAGE

## ARE OPPONENTS OF BLACK UNIONS OSTRACIZED AND CONDEMNED?

*Editor's note: "Occasionally we hear from those who charge the leaders of the thrust for black unions with un-Christlike treatment of those who oppose them. The letter that follows is one leader's reply to such a statement and expresses the general attitude of the editors of the Regional Voice."*

Dear Friend:

Your comments regarding strife among the brethren reflect the genuine concern of the Christian lady that you are. Regrettably, however, the matter has not been accurately represented to you. It is true that black union proponents have, in active ways, expressed displeasure with some of the opponents to this request. While these expressions of displeasure have been interpreted by them and some others as reprisals, because of their opposition, they are not; they are rather attempts to protect black work from the opposition of brethren whose activities review as:

1. Self-serving—(a desire to exercise control in black conferences even though they are no longer actively involved at that level).
2. Unethical—(some of them, in an effort to get their point across against black unions, have actually interfered within a local conference territory attempting to influence church members against the wishes of their president and other local conference leadership).
3. Unnecessary—(in our opinion, our black brethren in the General Conference are "world" leaders or "national" leaders and, as such, have no specific relationship to black work and should not, except as members of a local black church, interfere with the specific plans and statements and efforts of local leadership).

4. Misdirected—(those black General Conference brethren who did have specific responsibilities toward blacks grossly mistook their roles. Instead of representing the opinions of those black leaders who reported to them, such as black presidents, they took to their superiors in the General Conference their own private opinions and actively tried to sabotage the efforts of the black leaders who they were supposed to be representing).

We, of course, respect and fully subscribe to freedom of speech and the right to dissent, but we do not appreciate interference within our conferences and we cannot sit idly by while some attempt to undermine the influence of local conference leadership. We believe that brethren can disagree and still have genuine fellowship, but we find it difficult to trust and work with individuals whose motives and actions approximate the above. Furthermore, we believe it not un-Christlike to structure working relationships so as to avoid, as much as possible, giving to such brethren opportunities to interfere or conflict with our attempts to lead the people in ways that we think are best for the program which we most closely represent.

Of course, the fact that you received the wrong impression reminds us again of the need for wider communication of accurate information. The *Regional Voice* is an attempt to care for that lack and we hope via this and other means we can provide you and our other sisters and brothers around the nation a genuine balance of opinion.

Finally, we see it as tragically ironic that this whole business of who speaks for whom and to whom is an issue of the black work that is solvable only by the implementation of the very plan that divides our opinion—black unions. Because our white conferences and churches have such a logical vehicle for expression of opinion in organizing their work, they can avoid the problem that we are now undergoing. What we're asking for is not separation from the brethren, or division, but an organization of the division which is inherently with us because of the existence of black conferences and the type of cultural diversions which we have as a significant minority in America.

# THE EDITOR'S DESK



*The Dallas Metroplex Chapter  
of the  
Oakwood National Alumni Association  
requests the honor of your presence at its  
Evening of Dinner and Entertainment  
in the Dallas Sheraton-Grand Ballroom  
Southland Center (2117 Live Oak St.)  
Saturday, April the twenty-sixth  
Nineteen hundred and eighty  
at eight-thirty o'clock in the evening*



Featuring: "THE THIRD WORLD PLAYERS"  
and Fashion Show

*\$20.00 Per Plate  
R.s.v.p.*

*(214) 943-4491*

*Table for eight \$160.00  
Black tie affair*

## SUNSET CALENDAR

	March 21	28	April 4	11
Boston, Mass	5:57	6:05	6:13	6:21
New York City	6:08	6:16	6:23	6:31
Buffalo, N.Y.	6:28	6:36	6:44	6:52
Atlanta, Ga.	6:50	6:55	7:00	7:05
Miami, Fla.	6:32	6:36	6:39	6:42
Charlotte, N.C.	6:36	6:42	6:47	6:53
Birmingham, Ala.	5:59	6:04	6:10	6:15
Jackson, Miss.	6:13	6:18	6:23	6:27
Memphis, Tenn.	6:13	6:18	6:24	6:29
Louisville, Ky.	6:56	7:02	7:09	7:15
Detroit, Mich.	6:46	6:54	7:02	7:10
Chicago, Ill.	6:04	6:11	6:19	6:27
South Bend, Indiana	6:58	7:06	7:14	7:21
Minneapolis, Minn.	6:27	6:35	6:44	6:53
St. Louis, Mo.	6:13	6:20	6:27	6:33
Kansas City, Mo.	6:31	6:38	6:45	6:51
Denver, Co.	6:13	6:20	6:27	6:34
Little Rock, Ark.	6:21	6:27	6:32	6:38
Dallas, Texas	6:40	6:45	6:49	6:54
New Orleans, La.	6:12	6:16	6:21	6:25
Albuquerque, N.M.	6:19	6:24	6:30	6:35
Oklahoma City, Okla.	6:43	6:48	6:54	7:00

Add one minute for each 13 miles west; subtract one minute for each 13 miles east.

# THE CONFERENCES IN ACTION



Denver Pathfinder Club.

## OUTSTANDING YEAR FOR PARK HILL PATHFINDERS

During the last six months of the year, 1979, the Roho Rafikima Pathfinder Club participated in some exciting activities under the direction of Lonnie Webber, Pathfinder leader for the Denver, Colorado Park Hill Church.

Their schedule began with a "Survival Class" taught by Earl Tate. The course consisted of twenty-four hours of field instruction and six hours of intensive classroom work. The Pathfinders learned to make beds out of pine needles. Surprisingly the beds were quite comfortable.

Twenty-one Pathfinders participated in a Bike-A-Thon recently on a beautiful warm autumn day. The Bike-A-Thon project was instituted to raise money for the trip to Eden Valley which was the next activity.

Located just a day's ride from Denver, is beautiful Eden Valley in the snow-covered mountains of Loveland, Colorado. The Roho Rafikima Club members spent four days in the valley learning about God and nature. On Sabbath morning 21 of the 33 Pathfinders were in full dress uniform for club inspection. The day was spent in exchanging stories about the love of Christ and how nature reveals this love to his children. It became quite common to see deer and rabbits leap away as Pathfinder members made their way through wooded areas of the valley. This Sabbath day was truly a blessing in the Lord.

Horseback riding can be tremendous fun. It is also dangerous. The Lord protected nineteen of our Pathfinders as they spent one morning last fall riding horses for pure enjoyment. The evidence of God's watchful care came home to us as we listened to the story of

a young lady who was injured seriously when the horse she was riding fell dead. We thank God to this day for his protective care.

The Pathfinders decided to add to their program of activities several places of entertainment which included the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, the bumper car raceway, and miniature golf.

The plans of Roho Rafikima would not be complete without our outreach activities. Eight of our Pathfinders were always in full dress uniform for church service every sixth Sabbath to be used as ushers. Halloween night was not a time just to trick or treat, our Pathfinders collected 171 canned goods, valued at \$100. The cold evening activity was made bearable when the Dorcas Society served hot chocolate and donuts when everyone returned. In December the Pathfinder club contributed \$200 to the Park Hill Ingathering Campaign.

Ricky Webber  
Junior Counselor

## CENTRAL STATES TO SET UP CRAFTSMEN'S GUILD

Dear Members:

One of the goals of Central States is to set up a Craftsmen's Guild to help our conference build churches and improve the campground, and to build a close bond of fellowship among those who join in these projects. We believe there are men and women like you who would be willing to give two or three days a year to help us. We want to get your name so that when we are ready to move we will not have to waste precious time obtaining it.

We are not looking for only professional craftsmen, but for men and

women who are willing to work, learn and enjoy fellowship. The only way we can build churches and the campground is with your help.

If you have any questions feel free to call us, and thank you for considering being a part of this program. We will send more information after you send in the coupon below.

Our motto for this program is: "Building now for eternity—for the people had a mind to work."

The name of this program is: "The Hammerite and the Hittite."

S. Haywood Cox, President  
Central States Conference of SDA

### CENTRAL STATES CRAFTSMEN'S GUILD Work Intention Form

Desiring to participate in helping build churches and the campground, I submit the following:

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
area code

STREET \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

AGE (check one) 14-18\_\_\_; 19-25\_\_\_;  
26-40\_\_\_; 41-60\_\_\_; over 60\_\_\_.

CONSTRUCTION WORK EXPERIENCE:  
Carpenter\_\_\_; Concrete\_\_\_; Electrical\_\_\_;  
Sheetrock\_\_\_; Plumbing\_\_\_; Painting\_\_\_;  
Heating\_\_\_; Other \_\_\_\_\_

I have, and will bring my own tools to perform the work checked above:

Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

If under 18 years of age, parent's signature is required:

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date signed \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:

Central States Development Office  
5737 Swope Parkway  
Kansas City, Missouri 64130

— 0 —

He 'gives to every man his work.' Each has his place in the eternal plan of heaven. Each is to work in cooperation with Christ for the salvation of souls. Not more surely is the place prepared for us in the heavenly mansion than is the special place designated on earth where we are to work for God.

*Christ's Object Lessons*, pp. 326, 7

## MESSIAH IS PRESENTED AT CITY TEMPLE

A 100-voice choir under the direction of Cass Hudson presented Handel's *Messiah* at the City Temple Church in Detroit, Michigan. The performance was in recognition of the International Year of the Child. The choir was inter-denominational and inter-racial. Host for the *Messiah* was Craig Jackson, Minister of Music at City Temple.

The afternoon concert drew a full house with many having to stand.

Guest musicians included Delores Davis, soprano; Ruth Dansby, contralto; James Moore, tenor; Van Fore, bass; Frank White, organist; and Alvin Waddles, pianist.

The entire congregation joined in singing the *Hallelujah Chorus* for the grand finale.

Phenicie Thomas  
Communication Secretary

## STRAFORD BEGINS 1980 WITH CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION

New Year's Eve found nearly 400 members and visitors at Straford Memorial Church of Chicago, Illinois engaging in a musical candlelight communion service with Elder T. M. Kelly rendering a sermon in music accompanied by John C. Handy on the piano.

Upon arrival, the worshippers were ushered into the service of humility. At the close of this service, Elder Kelly led the congregation to feel their need of a Savior with the song, "Poor Little Lost Lamb." He sang of Jesus' sacrifice and humility with the song, "He Could Have Called Ten Thousand Angels."

The gift of Jesus was pointed out along with His abiding love when the songs "Jesus the One," "Marvelous Grace," and "Follow Me" echoed throughout the congregation. The attention was then turned to the trials one must bear when he sang, "Don't Spare Me Anything." To be assured that God is always in control, Elder Kelly rendered "He Giveth Again."

The congregation was then divided into sections as the elders and deacons gave each person an opportunity to testify to God's goodness during 1979. Prayer partners were formed to thank God for His tender mercies during the 1979 year.



Cass Hudson directs the Detroit choir in its performance of Handel's *Messiah*.

The holy service of communion was then begun with Elder Charles W. Drake, III, pastor of Straford Memorial Church, presiding.

During the passing of the bread and wine Elder Kelly told in song how "God Specializes" and urged each to want to know "More About Jesus." Then in quiet solemnity, he warned the congregation of the "Judgment Day."

Elder Drake closed out the service by lighting a candle and inviting each of the officers for 1980 to join him and dedicate themselves to the service of God for the ensuing year.

It was a most beautiful sight as each officer lit his candle as a testimony to God to accomplish a greater work in the coming year.

Virginia Starks  
Communication Secretary

## FAMILY MONTH AT BEACON OF JOY

The month of November was dedicated to families at the Chicago, Beacon of Joy Church.

The Taylor families led out with the Sabbath School program. During the divine worship hour, Roy Parham, of Andrews University, spoke on the topic, "Where Were You, God?" Holy communion was then conducted by candlelight with each family participating as a unit.

The following Sabbath, Dr. Norman Miles and family, of Andrews University, conducted a family seminar. The topic for the 11 o'clock service was entitled "Love." In the afternoon such topics as "A Happy Marriage," "Basic Steps for Love and Sexuality—Where Did They Come From?" and "Duties of Wives and Husbands to Each Other and Their Children" were discussed.

The third Sabbath of November was shared with Horace L. Jones, Sabbath School and Lay Activities Director of the Lake Region Conference. He spoke on "The Peculiar People," examining what a Christian was in Daniel's day and what a Christian should be today.

The Sabbath ended with Isaac Palmer, Treasurer of the Lake Region Conference, bringing to Beacon of Joy "Principals of Family Finance."



The Leroy Jackson family as they partake in the family Communion Service.

The last Sabbath of November found T. A. Boyd, pastor, speaking on "The Uncondemning Christ."

The afternoon program featured Grace Dorsey, a student of Oakwood College, in concert. The program was shared by Demetrius Jones of Chicago, Illinois, The Chicago Independence Boulevard Church Choir and the Beacon Quintet. The church was filled to capacity.

As the month ended, every family of Beacon of Joy had participated in the church program.

Clora B. Warren  
Communication Secretary

## PRINCIPALS COUNCIL MEETING

On January 9 and 10, the principals of all the Lake Region Conference schools convened in Inkster, Michigan for their annual principal's Council Meeting under the direction of Reginald D. Barnes, Education Director. The principals shared accomplishments of their various schools and discussed methods of dealing with problems that were common to all schools.

During the two-day discussion, emphasis was placed on preparing students for taking tests and analyzing test results as well as rewriting the conference policy books.

Stephanie Galloway  
Correspondent

## CHRIST IS THE ANSWER CRUSADE

The Bible tells us that no man takes a light and hides it under a bushel, but puts it on a candlestick that it might give light unto all. The Bible declares emphatically that Jesus is the Light of the World.

The Christ Is the Answer Crusade Team was used as a light to shine in the midst of darkness in the cities of Indianapolis, Indiana; Chicago, Illinois; and Detroit, Michigan. Those who attended the crusade services can testify that a candlestick was held high in order to draw attention to the Light of the World by the passing throngs.

Thank God for such ministers as Elders R. Bellinger, J. D. Simons, J. C. Wray, J. D. Parker, J. P. Lewis, and B. Browne who have faith in His Word as their fortress.



*Christ Is The Answer Crusade Team.*

Under the leadership of Evangelist Robert C. Connor, the crusade team went forward in faith. The theme song of the meetings expresses the feelings of the people that attended the crusade services.

"There's a sweet, sweet spirit in this place,  
and I know that it's the spirit of the Lord.

There are sweet expressions on each face,  
and I know that they feel the presence of the Lord."

In spite of the terrible weather many nights, when the opening hour arrives, seats were filled. Present were friends, church members, and visitors. Torrential rains fell upon the "candlestick," but the light refused to go out, and hundreds heard Jesus proclaimed by him. Subjects such as "Is God Particular," "The World's Darkest Crime Since the Crucifixion," "The Dragon and the Woman," "The Spirits of Spiritism," touched the hearts of the listeners. The words of Jesus are true. "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, I will draw all men unto me." (John 12:32)

As a result of the three crusades conducted by the Christ Is the Answer Crusade Team during last year, (1979) 558 persons were baptized. The year before, (1978) the team was blest of God to baptize 606.

The Christ Is the Answer Crusade Team is a going team for a coming Christ, preaching the gospel as it is to men and women where they are. Robert

C. Connor is the Evangelist, Leroy Logan, Cloie Logan, Catherine Bland, and Shirley Smith are the Bible Instructors. This team of dedicated workers have the full support of the Lake Region Conference.

Thank God for such persons who have the vision and courage to support Christ Is the Answer Crusade Team. Surely those faithful ones who were baptized will gather around the throne of God, casting their crowns before their Lord and exclaiming that Christ is indeed the Answer.

## ANDREWS UNIVERSITY BIENNIAL OFFERING

*by Sandy Doran*

Ambition is a powerful word when applied to Christian service. And there is no lack of it among college graduates from the regional conferences. Many are currently enrolled as seminary and graduate students at Andrews University, studying to become professionals in various fields.

Rafus McCullough, a 1978 graduate of Oakwood College, came to the university last fall after interning in the Detroit City Temple church for a year. "I find the classes here not only interesting, but extremely practical," he says. "I think there's a real advantage in being able to relate the theoretical knowledge I'm getting in classes to what I experienced in the field."

Working in the bakery at Apple Valley Market—Andrews' international food store, Rafus defrays tuition expenses while balancing his studies with manual labor. "I like my work," he says. "It provides a change of pace."

Marcus Harris, a 1979 graduate of Oakwood, is also enrolled in the theological seminary on the Andrews campus. Says Marcus, "I'm particularly impressed with the classes I've taken in the church ministry department. They have really opened up my thinking and sharpened my exegetical skills."

And students pursuing the master of divinity degree in the theological seminary aren't the only ones from the regional conferences benefiting from post-college training at Andrews. Graduate students like Hermine and Maurice Jordine, Jerome Joseph, and Constance Maxime are also finding the value in continuing their studies within the denomination.



Rafus McCullough.

In fact, a glimpse at students in the seminary and graduate school reveals such attitudes as expressed by Rafus and Marcus to be typical of more than just a few. Students like those from the regional conferences display an enthusiasm—a desire to learn and then to serve—which is of unique benefit to our denomination. For this reason, Andrews University offers financial help to qualified individuals from around the world through scholarship and endowment funds.

On March 22 members of the regional conferences will have an opportunity to help graduate and seminary students by contributing to the Andrews University biennial offering. All the money given will strengthen scholarship funds, going solely to assist graduate-level students.

It is for those individuals who have accepted the biblical challenge of developing their talents to the fullest that such monies are needed. It is one thing to have the ability to accomplish much; yet quite another to dedicate the time and energy into a life of service. In the words of Michelangelo's teacher—"Talent is cheap. You can find it anywhere. Dedication is expensive. It will cost you a lifetime."

With the funds provided by people from all of our local conferences in North America, Seventh-day Adventist young people are enabled to begin this lifelong commitment.

## BLACK SEMINARIANS ATTEND HISTORIC FIRST BLACK PASTOR'S CONFERENCE IN DETROIT

Eight black seminarians from Andrews University attended the first annual Black Pastor's Conference held in the prestigious Radisson Cadillac Hotel in Detroit, Michigan. It was the first time in history that black pastors from all over the country crossed denominational lines and came together to examine the plight of black people in North America. The theme of the conference was, "The Black Pastor: Priest and Prophet".

According to the conference organizers, there exists an urgent need to establish a cohesive thrust on the part of the black church to deal creatively and redemptively with the many ills which beset black people on both the national and the international scene. Within the black church there are many pastors who deeply desire a heightened vision of a wholistic understanding of the gospel. Within the ranks of black pastors are some of the most knowledgeable professionals, trained and experienced in every aspect of black life.

Among the topics discussed at the conference were: "The Black Church: Headquarters for Community Organization and Creative Social Intervention," "The Black Church: Catalyst for Political Empowerment and Self-Determination," "The Black Church: Vehicle for Total Liberation," and "The Black Church: Instrument for Healing and Wholeness."

Scheduled speakers included: Vernon Jordan, Executive Director of the National Urban League; Dr. Kelly Miller Smith, Associate Dean of the Vanderbilt School of Theology; Dr. Gayraud S. Wilmore, Professor of Black Church Studies and Director of Black Church Studies Program, Colgate Rochester Divinity School; Dr. Jesse L. Jackson, President of P.U.S.H. Inc.; Dr. Joseph Lowery, President of S.C.L.C.; former U.N. Representative Andrew Young; U.S. Representative from the District of Columbia Walter E. Fauntroy; Attorney L. Clayton Jones; and several prominent guest preachers.

Lester Parkinson  
Correspondent

## NORTHEASTERN



Bill McCreary, New York City Channel 5 Black news personality.

## NOTED JOURNALIST VISITS YOUTH SOCIETY

At a special youth seminar held at Ephesus SDA Church in New York City, featured speaker Bill McCreary of Black News—Channel 5 urged Black youth to enter the communications field.

He spoke of the need for more positive black role models in the media, especially television, since it is "one of the most powerful media in the world." He said that although it is tough to get in, it is not impossible. He counseled those interested in the field to "get those credentials." He suggested a Master's in Communications and a heavy background in English. "Know the great poets," he said, "so that you can draw upon them when doing a story."

Mr. McCreary also encouraged the entire audience to write letters of protest and approval to the F.C.C. (Federal Communications Commission) and to the stations regarding television programming. He emphasized the fact that these documents (letters) play a major role in determining what is seen on television.

At the end of his talk he responded to several questions from the audience which included a communications class from Hunter College. Mr. McCreary said that he saw a need for more "intimate sessions such as this" so that the people could be informed and educated regarding the wide spectrum of the Communications field and its powerful impact on each individual!

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A person shows what he is by what he does with what he has.



## CENTENARIAN HONORED

America was only 104 years old. The Emancipation Proclamation was 17 years young. The Civil War had ended only 15 years earlier. Edison's incandescent lamp and Albert Einstein were year-old babies. Rutherford B. Hayes, nineteenth President of the United States, was in office. Modern cars, trains, radio, TV, cameras, etc., were still future.

Into this world, on January 5, 1880, Henrietta Parks was born in Eastland, Georgia.

Sister Anna Lee Sutton, a Seventh-day Adventist Christian, loved the Advent message so much that she shared her faith with her friends, Mrs. Parks and Mrs. Coffee. But her friends moved many miles away, and were now living in New York City.

When Mrs. Sutton met Elder A. R. Goulbourne, she asked him to get in touch with Mrs. Parks and her daughter.

Elder Goulbourne contacted Sister Rosa Lee Jones, Bible Instructor Emeritus at the Ephesus Seventh-day Adventist Church in New York City.

Sister Jones agreed to conduct Bible studies with Sister Parks and her daughter. Following about a year of Bible studies, both ladies were baptized on February 14, 1971, by Dr. C. B. Rock.



Henrietta Parks, 100 years of age, honored.

## ONE OF THE OLDEST BLACK SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CELEBRATED HER 96TH BIRTHDAY

Mrs. Edith Jones, of Hackensack, New Jersey, a member of the First Seventh-day Adventist Church, Englewood, New Jersey celebrated her ninety-sixth birthday.

Sunday, November 11, 1979 she quietly observed her ninety-sixth birth-

day at her home with Vernon, her son, and friends. Mrs. Jones is deaconess emeritus of the First Church, Englewood-Teaneck, New Jersey in the Allegheny East Conference.

Mrs. Edith Jones joined the Prairie Avenue Seventh-day Adventist Church of Chicago, Illinois in 1921. She had attended that church many times, many years before. Mrs. Jones says that she loved the church when she first visited it, but decided not to join until 1921. She also says that not once has she ever regretted becoming a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Before joining the Seventh-day Adventist Church, Mrs. Jones was a member of St. Suttles All Girls Jazz Band. She can still tell you about her experience of seeing the great French actress, Sarah Bernhardt. Mrs. Jones and her husband had many friends in the theater and often entertained such personalities as Bricktop, Bill Robinson, and Bert Williams.

Mrs. Jones was introduced to the Adventist message in Chicago the year 1911. Born in Madisonville, Ohio, then a suburb of Cincinnati, in 1883, she lived there until her move to Chicago in 1911. After living in Chicago for some time, she met one of her former neighbors and a childhood playmate who had also moved to Chicago. These friends had become Seventh-day Adventists after moving from Madisonville to Chicago. They invited her to visit a Bible Class conducted by Elder W. D. Forde and Mary Graham, Bible Worker. Elder Forde is the father of Ms. Zilda Forde, retired Bible Worker for the Northeastern Conference, now living in Chicago. Mary Graham is the mother of Elder Charles Graham and Avice Graham, both workers in the Lake Region Conference.

Mrs. Jones remembers attending her first tent meeting during World War I. She also remembers very vividly a young woman with whom she was to become very close friends, who was playing the piano and conducting song service simultaneously. After the tent effort ended, this young lady left Chicago to attend Oakwood College in Huntsville, Alabama not knowing that years later after marriage, and a career as a great singer, and a mother of two lovely daughters, she would return to Oakwood College as Mdme. Alyne Dumas Lee, head of the Voice Department and board member for the Huntsville Opera Company.

Mrs. Jones stayed close to the arts. After her baptism by Elder Nunez, Elder G. E. Peters came to Chicago from Jacksonville, Florida and built a new church. The name was changed from the Prairie Avenue Church to the Shiloh SDA Church. At Shiloh, Mrs. Jones became a member of the Shiloh Seventh-day Adventist Symphony Orchestra. In 1932 she moved to New York City where her husband became the director and pianist for the famous N.B.C. radio quartet "The Southernaires". She attended the Ephesus SDA Church in New York at that time.

In the year 1957, Mrs. Jones moved to Hackensack, New Jersey where she joined the First Church of Englewood. She has remained a faithful member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Vernon Jones

## HARLEM TO HAARLEM

A group of forty-five excited young men ranging in age from nine years to twenty years and their director, accompanied by an entourage of eight musicians, four parents, a tour director, medical doctor, two nurses, a board member, and the director's mother and sister along with two WABC-TV newsmen boarded a KLM 747 bound for Haarlem, Holland. The flight departed after this unique singing group known as the Boys Choir of Harlem gave a half hour Christmas concert in the International Arrivals Building at JFK Airport in New York City. A portion of the program was aired over network TV.

In 1967 a young member of the Ephesus Seventh-day Adventist Church, Robert Bowman, organized and directed a number of little boys of the church into a choir called the Ephesus Boys Choir. At a later date, a graduate student of Manhattan School of Music, Walter Turnbull, became the director. In order to broaden the scope of the choir, Mr. Turnbull opened membership to the community. What evolved is the current group of over 60 young men, The Boys Choir of Harlem, Inc. (BCH).

In a few short years, the BCH has become widely known for the excellency of their musical performances. Their repertoire includes such widely divergent numbers as the "Gloria" by Vivaldi sung in Latin, and "Soon and Very Soon" by Andrae Crouch, and several original works by contemporary



*The Boys Choir of Harlem.*

black musicians written especially for the BCH. The choir performs numbers in French, Latin, German and an African dialect.

The organization of the BCH has a staff housed in office space provided by a major Community Church, the Church of the Intercession. A complete program of cultural development is provided to each member of the choir. Such activities as Day and live-in Summer Camp, tutorial service in Math, Reading, Theory and Sight Reading lessons are examples. The musical excellency of the choir is a direct result of the craft and education of the director, Walter Turnbull, a PhD candidate, who is also a professional singer. At the jeopardy of his personal career, he works full time with the choir for little pay and sometimes with no pay. The BCH has become the love of his life. Turnbull is a member of the Ephesus SDA Church located in Harlem. Five other members of the Board of Directors of the BCH are Adventist. They are: Elder Edwin J. Humphrey, Edward Phipps, George and Camille Howard, and Horace Turnbull. Several prominent citizens are also Board Members. Many of the choir members are Adventists and attend school at either RT Hudson Elementary School or Northeastern Academy.

The Harlem, U.S.A. to Haarlem, Holland Goodwill Christmas Tour is the culmination of many, many hard hours of rehearsals and performances necessary to present this group to the

musical world where it has become known and respected. They have sung in many well-known places far outside the community and in front of some very important people including the First Lady, Mrs. Rosalyn Carter. The tour will introduce the choir to the European Community. They will perform in front of royalty appearing at some of the most prestigious musical houses and churches in Holland, France, and England.

The \$100,000 required to make this tour possible has been contributed by firms and individuals in the United States and Europe. The parents also had the responsibility of raising some of the money needed.

In a ceremony at City Hall, the Mayor of the city of New York, Mayor Koch, proclaimed the period from Tuesday, December 18 to January 4 as Boys Choir of Harlem Goodwill Tour Days in honor of the famed choir. Koch said it was fitting in this International Year of the Child for the group to participate in a "Harlem-to-Haarlem" cultural exchange program, bringing their musical ensemble to their namesake in the Netherlands.

The choir is available for concerts and appearances. Contact the choir at 560 West 155th Street, New York, New York 10032, Walter Turnbull, Director. By telephone, call 212-690-3333.

Grace Phipps



*A new first family at the Mt. Vernon SDA Church, Pastor W. S. Lee, Jr., seated, while some church officers stand in background. Pastor Lee has succeeded Pastor Baptiste who is now the secretary of Northeastern Conference of SDA. May God richly bless the Lees as they administer in His service.*



*"After 25 years young Bobby and Miriam did it again!!" Robert and Miriam Murray of the Mt. Vernon SDA Church renewed their vows. It was their 25th wedding anniversary. She is youth choir director, and well beloved by all who know her. May God continue to bless them throughout the endless ages of eternity.*



*Lay Activities leader, Sister Mavis Hall (right), join goal reachers of the 1979 Harvest In-gathering Campaign, who help to make it possible for the church to reach its goal.*

Our heavenly Father has a thousand ways to provide for us of which we know nothing. Those who accept the one principle of making the service of God supreme, will find perplexities vanish and plain paths before their feet.

—Ministry of Healing, p. 481

# PICTURES OF INTEREST



Queen Delores Sims, a former UNCF Queen from Oakwood College.



Pastor W. S. Lee, Jr. (Mt. Vernon), along with first elder Webber using newly installed pool in the Mount Vernon Church.



President Rock attends the UNCF Inter-Alumni Council President's Dinner in New York City.



Elder Lee Paschal, National Alumni Association President, receives a plaque from Edna L. Williamson and Pecola Lester, officers of the New York Inter-Alumni Council of UNCF.



Juniors in training take up offering at Lighthouse Tabernacle in Brooklyn.



Oakwood College's Miss UNCF, Darla Van Putten—1978.



Douglas Pitters (front row, left) sings lead to "It's Amazing," with the Ephesus (New York City) Childrens Choir.

This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

—Joshua 1:8



*Pictured are 43 centurions who raised \$100 or more during Ingathering.*

**PLANK-IT-DOWN DAY AT DURHAM, NC**

During the Ingathering Plank-It-Down Day in the Durham Church, the church members reported \$8,434.43 in one report. There were twelve team leaders. Miss Kathryn Crump was the leader of the group who raised the highest amount, \$2,137.00. Miss Crump, individually, raised the highest amount of all, \$1,000.00. The church rewarded her with a trip to the General Conference Session in Dallas—all expenses paid.

Pictured are the 43 Centurions who raised \$100.00 or more in the Ingathering Crusade. Miss Crump, the winner, is pictured front row center with hat; Elder R. A. Sloan, pastor, is second row right.



*From left to right: Joyce Hanner, Dorothy Hanna, Mrs. Taylor, and Elder G. H. Taylor.*

**MRS. HANNA HONORED FOR 17 YEARS OF SERVICE**

Mrs. Dorothy Hanna was presented a plaque for 17 years of dedicated service as Superintendent of Sabbath School for the Oakland SDA church in Florence,

South Carolina. The speaker for the divine worship hour was Elder G. H. Taylor. The audience was inspired and uplifted as they listened to the sermon.

Thirteen persons received certificates for completing the Sabbath School

Teaching Course. On Sabbath evening a Stewardship workshop was conducted by Elder Taylor, and Mrs. Taylor conducted a Sabbath School workshop for teachers and interested persons for the Junior Division.

## VETERAN PRINCIPAL STILL TRAINS YOUTH

Aldonia Joyner is a very unpretentious woman of dignity, poise, professionalism, and knowledge which are undisputable marks of success. I have been greatly impressed with her activities as I observed her methods of managing the Jacksonville-Ephesus Junior Academy. However, it was not until I read the story in *The Florida Times-Union Jacksonville Journal* by staff writer Elaine Morgan that I realized the quality of leadership in the Jacksonville school. In the summer of 1978 the pastor of the church, Elder I. L. Harrell asked if the Education Department of South Atlantic could use her to take over the school and train a younger person to assume the principalship in the future. In the fall of 1978, Mrs. Joyner became principal of Jacksonville-Ephesus Junior Academy in Jacksonville, Florida.

Here's what the *Journal* wrote: "Mrs. Joyner, 70, began taking piano lessons when the Downtown Florida Junior College campus first began offering them, but she did not know she was destined to become a television celebrity. Since then, she has appeared on local television commercials hundreds of times to illustrate the fact that even a retired school principal is not too old to learn new tricks."

"In 1974, Mrs. Joyner retired from the

public school system after 35 years of service, 33 of which were in the role of principal. This is the longest known tenure as a principal in the Duval County public school system."

"Mrs. Joyner was named 'EVE' in the area of education during the Florida Publishing Company-sponsored annual event in 1975. The honor was given mostly for Mrs. Joyner's work of improving Black schools during the 1930s and 1940s when racial segregation was strictly enforced and Black schools, especially those in rural Arlington, were isolated from the main part of the educational system.

"Mrs. Joyner's first job as a teacher in 1938 was at the small Chaseville school, and she was appointed principal two year later. Appalled by what she termed the 'unbelievable poverty' in the Arlington Black community, Mrs. Joyner immediately went to work to turn her school into a community center offering help and resources to Black families. She risked losing her job to bring 12-year-old unwed mothers back to school; managed to get the first federally reimbursed lunchroom in any Duval County Black school; talked the county nurse into opening a clinic in her area to treat active tuberculosis and other illnesses; and took children on their first field trips, asking parents to go along since most of them were as culturally deprived as the youngsters.

"After she found a family of 17 living

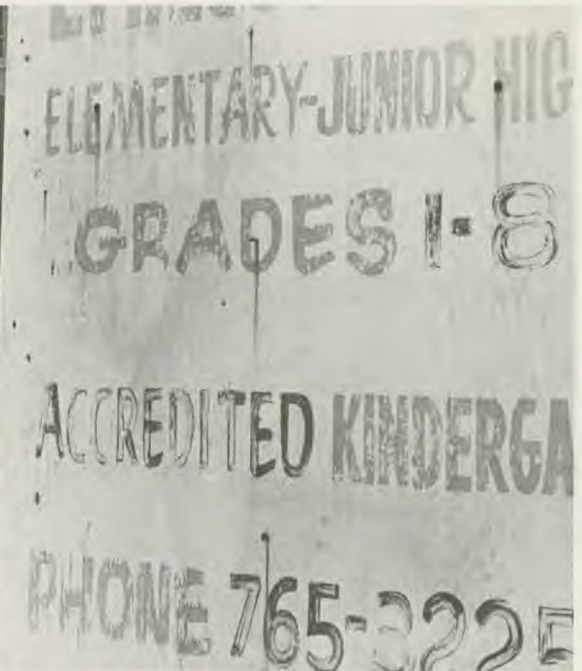
in a three-room house and sleeping on the floor, Mrs. Joyner taught the children to build dressing tables and beds. Eventually, her school had a canning operation, student-cultivated garden, school supply co-op, post office and grocery store.

"Mrs. Joyner became notorious for taking straps and paddles out of classrooms so teachers could not use them. She never believed in corporal punishment, going instead by her own slogan: 'Appeal to their pride, not their hide.'

"At one time, Mrs. Joyner recalled, she had a real problem with enrollment because so many Black parents were fibbing about their street addresses in order to get their children listed as being in Mrs. Joyner's school district. I was told that her school became the show-place of the county to the point that when the school officials wanted to show dignitaries a well-run school, they took them to Mrs. Joyner's school.

"Eventually, Mrs. Joyner did post-graduate study at Columbia University, and she recalled that professors were so astounded when they read about her school, and saw photographs of it, that they invited her to lecture, and exempted her from final examinations. They told her, she remembered, that she was making Black history while they were only studying and talking about it."

Elder S. E. Gooden



Aldonia Joyner going about her activities as principal of the Jacksonville-Ephesus Jr. Academy.

## CHATTANOOGA UPWARD CLIMB

When Dr. Patrick E. Vincent was assigned to pastor the Eighth Street SDA Church of Chattanooga, Tennessee, many of the members felt that here was another young pastor who would come to spend a few years with them and then move onward to "greener pastures." In the mind of the young pastor, were plans for the up-building of the work in East Tennessee. His first move was to raise a tent, and conduct an evangelistic cam-



*Dr. Vincent and Sister Simmons thank the Lord for the accomplishment.*

paign. Many souls were won to Christ and members were added to the church. Next, he guided his congregation in a drive to erect a new church school facility which would cost more than \$200,000.00. Within a year the building was up, eighteen months later, paid for. Many of the membrs felt that this would never be accomplished for they had been working on the project for many years. The Lord sent an answer to their many prayers in the person of Dr. P. E. Vincent, His servant. Following the guide in the Spirit of Prophecy, and having built the school, the pastor now led his members in the building of a Temple for the worship of the living God—a new church facility. In less than eight months



*Dr. Vincent and Brother Shoemate rejoice as they speak of heaven's blessings in Chattanooga.*



*The members of Chattanooga celebrate at the opening of their new church building.*

of planning and working, this project became a reality and the members moved into their new church building in October 1979.

The Lord has really blessed the efforts of this Christian leader as he has labored in the East Tennessee district. During his tenure, one of his laymen moved to a nearby city and conducted an evangelistic crusade. As a result of this crusade, a new congregation was begun in East Cleveland, Tennessee. We are praying that Dr. Vincent will continue to let the Lord use him in a mighty way as he has done in the past.



*Pastor Orlando Rudley of Greenwood, Mississippi preaches with fervor at his new post.*

### ELDER ORLANDO RUDLEY JOINS SOUTH CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Elder and Mrs. Orlando Rudley of Los Angeles, California have accepted an invitation to serve as district leader in the Greenwood, Grenada, Belzoni, Indianola, Mississippi areas. Elder Rudley has already announced plans for evangelistic expansion throughout the district.



*Robert Smith, associate periodical manager for the Review and Herald.*

### SOUTH CENTRAL SON WORKS WITH THE REVIEW

Elder Robert Smith of Chattanooga, Tennessee is now the Associate Periodical Manager of the Review and Herald Publishing Association in Washington, D.C. Elder Smith began his ministry as a Literature Evangelist in Chattanooga along with his brother, Theodore Smith, who is now Publishing Director for the South Atlantic Conference.

Elder Smith has served as Associate Publishing Secretary of the North-eastern Conference and Publishing Director of Allegheny West Conference before accepting the position as Associate Publishing Director of Columbia Union. For the past two years he has served as Assistant Manager of the Review and Herald Publishing Association. Elder Smith's son, Pastor Robert Smith, Jr. is the Associate Publishing Director for Allegheny West Conference.

## MRS. YOUNG OLDEST MEMBER IN SOUTH CENTRAL

Mrs. Hattie Young of Birmingham, Alabama is a retired Literature Evangelist who has witnessed many prophecies fulfilled since she first became a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Mrs. Young is now over one hundred and eight years of age and still has the hope that Jesus will soon come for His people. Pictured with her are: Dr. C. E. Dudley, President of the South Central Conference and Dr. Mildred P. Johnson and Mrs. Juanita Jenkins, Bible Instructors for the conference.



Mrs. Hattie Young at 108 years old.

## WORK EXPAND IN KENTUCKY

Hopkinsville, Kentucky is a new area in this state where the Lord has graced the efforts of a man of faith and blessed another new congregation to come into being. Pastor William Gilliard, the son of a Methodist minister in South Carolina heard and believed the teachings of Adventism as they came from a South Atlantic Evangelist. He requested membership into the church and immediately proceeded to Oakwood College to study to become a minister of the church. Although he had completed two or three years in the school of engineering at Tuskegee Institute, he felt the voice of God calling him to the gospel ministry.

Upon the completion of his ministerial preparation, Gilliard was unable to get an internship from the church. The South Central Conference offered an opportunity to work in a new "Infiltration Evangelism" program in Kentucky. He accepted the challenge. A new congregation has come into being. We salute Pastor and Mrs. William Gilliard for a job well done. Mrs. Gilliard's father is also a minister, he pastors a Baptist church in the Carolinas.



C. E. Dudley, President, congratulates Pastor William Gilliard at new church organization in Hopkinsville, Kentucky.



Worship Place at Hopkinsville, Kentucky.



Jackson, Mississippi church opening services audience overwhelming.

## JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI OPENS NEW CHURCH

Hundreds of people jammed into the New Heights SDA Church on January 12, 1980 to help the Pastor and members celebrate the opening exercises of the new church home. Elder Richard Bell spoke of the challenges and blessings that had been realized during this construction. The Lord has led all the way. The new building seats approximately six hundred people, it has a day care center, many classrooms, meeting rooms and office facilities. The building is a part of the ten acre tract of land where a new school building will be erected. There will also be a home for senior citizens built on this land.

## TWENTY-FIVE BAPTIZED IN LAY EFFORT

Lay efforts in Knoxville, Tennessee has sparked a new congregation on the east side of the city. Mr. and Mrs. Wilbert Sims and family along with other members have been studying the Bible with several interested persons in the University of Tennessee area. Before many of the twenty-five persons who are now members of the church were baptized, they had already begun to work for the advancement of the truth among their friends. Elder F. S. Hill is the minister.



East Knoxville's new congregation.



Pastor R. Bell, Elder B. Cone with builders and financier for the church project. Pastor Bell is second from left and B. Cone far right.



Elder R. Bell presents a copy of Great Controversy to local financier.

## AWARDS DAY HELD IN FRANKLIN, TENNESSEE

Pastor Roland Hill had a memorable day when the churches of his district came together for one glorious district day celebration after the Franklin Church had reached its first birthday. When the groups came together, awards were given to Dr. and Mrs. L. Rudy Broomes and family for their pioneering in the work that brought the Columbia, Tennessee congregation into being about four years ago. Mr. and Mrs. J. Amos and family were given awards for their supportive roles and evangelism thrusts in helping to strengthen the work there. Mr. John Brown, of Nashville, Tennessee, was given an award for conducting a lay effort in the city of Franklin, Tennessee which led to the establishment of the first church there. A new building is presently under construction.



Some of the descendants of the Lee family and their friends return for church opening at West Point, Mississippi.

## ADVENT MESSAGE RETURNS TO MISSISSIPPI

During the early days of the Advent message among the Black people in the South, James Edson White came to West Point, Mississippi and baptized many people. Soon the work came to a standstill when the members moved away or died and the building where church services were held was burned.

The children of the pioneers were glad to know that Elder Lewis Blackwell had gone back into West Point, Mississippi and conducted an evangelistic crusade. A new church building was erected. Many of the people returned to their hometown to join in with the celebration to the new church opening. This time they are determined to stay. Pictured here is the Lee family who were some of the early pioneers.



Dr. and Mrs. L. Rudy Broomes and family cited for evangelism in Columbia, Tennessee.



Mr. John Brown, lay evangelist of Franklin, Tennessee receives appreciations from Pastor Roland Hill for his blessings in the new church organization in Franklin, Tennessee.



Mr. and Mrs. J. Amos and family of Columbia, Tennessee congratulated by their pastor, Roland Hill.





Pastor W. Humphrey was welcomed as the new pastor for the Natchitoches District. He was received graciously by his congregation. Mansfield church officers and visitor, Pastor Humphrey, third from the left.



It has been a year since the organization of the Mansfield church and to witness the zeal, the missionary spirit of this recently organized group was a sight to behold. The group is in the process, under the direction of Mr. Mac Fuller, of delivering Bible lessons to the community every Sabbath. This, a seed sowing program and also the field for a harvest of souls. We look encouragingly at this church and others who are doing likewise.



Eric Burton, Stephane Gray, Gabrille Bernard and John Gregory—President of Genesis Movement.

Another highlight of the Bellfort Service was the ordination of three young men who have proven themselves worthy to hold the office of a Deacon. It was a sacred service, when they were ordained as leaders in God's church. 1980 should be a blessed year for the interest manifested in a program that will expand the growth and progress of the conference. Pictured left to right: Mr. and Mrs. David Logan, Mr. and Mrs. Julian Sylvester, and Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Davis.

## WEDDING FOR LORRAINE THOMAS AND DENNIS RICKS

Miss Lorraine Thomas, who has served the church for twenty-two years, in the Central States, and Allegheny East Conference (Pine Forge Academy) was wed Thanksgiving weekend at Bethesda church, Baltimore, Maryland.

Lorraine held to her conviction that the Lord meant what he said by admonishing the believers against marriage to a non-believer. She consented to be the bride of Dennis Ricks, a building contractor, of Hammond, Louisiana. Lorraine's family supported her in her decision and a beautiful ceremony with 16 bridesmaids and over 1,000 persons present. This sacred ceremony conducted by W. C. Jones, President, Southwest Region Conference assisted by her grandfather, O. J. Hayman, presiding Elder of the AME Church. "How true it is that the Lord withholds no good thing from them that serve Him."

Dorris Jones



Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Ricks wed Thanksgiving weekend in Baltimore, Maryland.

What a thrill it is to listen to the beautiful music rendered as an act of worship. We thank the Lord for those persons who are willing to enhance the worship services. Mrs. Myrna Burnside, Director of the Genesis Movement chorale and President Gregory of the Houston (Bellfort) church came up with a unique idea sponsoring a contest among teenagers on the theme, "Why I Am a Seventh-day Adventist." After much deliberations three young people were selected and awarded trophies.



Margaret Collins, a dedicated officer of the Roswell, New Mexico church, is being interviewed at one of the church officers meetings. She has been a member of the church for twenty years and has served in many areas of the church. Not only does she hold various offices in the church but she is a Registered Nurse for the state of New Mexico. She was recently selected as one of the Outstanding Young Women of America by the National Organization of Community Affairs from Washington, D.C. She is a mother and also serves as consultant and instructor in promoting better health for the public school system in Roswell and surrounding communities.





*Enter to learn;*

*depart to serve.*

## DO WE STILL NEED OAKWOOD?

Not infrequently we hear the question of why, in an age of integration and inflation, do we still need Oakwood College—or, for that matter, any other black college or university? That there was a time when black higher education was needed, few will disagree; but, why now? Aren't these duplicate facilities? Are not these schools vestiges of segregation? Could we not, as a nation, as a church and as parents and alumni, spend our money more wisely by eliminating the black school? These are logical and relevant questions and deserve honest answers. What follows, then, is a frank attempt to address this pertinent issue. Why do we still need black higher education?

**1. Cultural Relief.** Most black students graduate from predominantly black high schools. In Washington, D.C. 96% of all public school students are black; Detroit—82%; Atlanta—90%; and the pattern is similar around the country. Of course, the vast majority (80% at Oakwood College) of students at black colleges come from these black high schools. Many of these students are simply unprepared for the dual shock of academic and cultural change inherent in moving from a majority black school of learning to a large majority white institution of education. Studies show that while some blacks are able to survive the sudden change of scenery, for most social trauma and academic pressures are definitely reduced by matriculation on black college campuses.

**2. Tutorial Programming.** It is a fact that a disproportionate number of blacks bring to college certain academic gaps or deficiencies. These are the result of inferior facilities and instruction at the primary and secondary levels. The majority of white colleges seldom seek to address this problem in a programmatic way. All black colleges do. In fact, it is the perennial challenge of black colleges to stimulate the superior student (and we have many) while, at the same time, overcoming the deficiencies of the academically deprived. At Oakwood, for instance, we employ approximately \$500,000 per year in such remedial projects.

**3. Financial Assistance.** The fact that black median family income, which

was 61% of white family income in 1979, is now only 59% (according to a recent Atlanta Constitution report) illustrates another glaring need of black collegians which black colleges address in special ways. Not only are tuition and fees lower at black colleges, but scholarships and work programs form a larger percentage of student fee payments than in our sister institutions.

**4. Leadership Opportunities.** In most instances the black minority student who rises to leadership on a non-black campus is a supertalented individual. Where blacks are a distinct minority leadership experience is not easily afforded the average individual. However, on black college campuses, clubs, singing groups, class and dormitory units, among other student organizational functions, offer scores of leadership opportunities. Thus, a large number on the campuses can—and do—gain valuable opportunities in preparation for leadership in the broader community and church service which lie ahead.

**5. Role Models.** Another singular benefit offered by black colleges is example. Young people who attend these schools have the unique opportunity of regular association with a wide variety of successful black adults whose achievements inspire and motivate in ways not provided by association with teachers and administrators of other ethnic backgrounds.

**6. Counseling.** Closely allied to the latter point is the fact that many black youth need and receive, on black campuses, a quantity and quality of advice and counseling not to be expected elsewhere. Who can better counsel our struggling and often perplexed young people than black pastors, chaplains, professional counselors, deans, etc., who have literally sat where they (students) now sit?

**7. Preservation of Culture.** Yet another viable reason for their continuation is the function of black colleges as collectors, documenters and preservers of black American heritage. Since these campuses have, for generations, served as the matrix of black intellectual and social development, and since most of them (including Oakwood College) were born during the beginnings of black independence in America, their historical records and folklore provide an accurate

and necessary portrayal of black American heritage.

**8. Job Preparation.** Black schools such as Oakwood add to the usual formal preparation needed for a diploma in a particular discipline the further dimension of psychological relevance. In other words, we graduate not just nurses, teachers, preachers, social workers, etc., but individuals in all of these and other professions whose orientation toward the black mystique gives them a distinct functional advantage for service for the very area of society where most will live out their careers. So, we have not just a nurse, but a nurse who is able to employ along with the techniques of the formal discipline a warm psychological understanding of the black experience.

**9. Social Scale.** As is abundantly clear in the case of Oakwood College, social ties at black schools are of special value. As a result of our wide enrollment our young people meet thousands of other youth from around the country and around the world. Not only do they benefit in a general way from this breadth of cultured contact, but they form many enduring relationships (including opportunities of choice of life partners) on a scale and at a depth of interaction which is truly unique.

**10. Productivity.** While the percentage of black collegians who choose black colleges is only 25% of blacks who go to college, total enrollment in black colleges is increasing. This, of course, is because more blacks are going to college. (Blacks now comprise 11% of the college market compared to 6% in 1969.) What is significant, however, is that these schools who enroll 25% of the market graduate 75-80% of blacks who do finish college. In other words, it works. Attrition is less and performance is greater in black schools—and that, after all, is our reason for existence.

Integration? . . . well, yes, if by that you mean desegregation. It is necessary and it is a track which we must vigorously pursue; but, integration de jure has not wiped out the massive demographic patterns of America's segregated and re-segregated lifestyle. This reality continues to produce a nation within a nation and the citizens of that inter nation (black America) can well use black colleges as a point of transition from isolation to mainstream.

Inflation? . . . yes. It's real and it's frightening. But since all God's commands are enabling and since He commands that all His children be taught of the Lord—and since Oakwood College is the only alternative of its kind for so many of the challenges and needs of black Adventist youth, He can and will preserve and expand both our resolve and our capacity.

This report is an overview of various aspects of the Admissions and Records Office for the fall quarter of the 1979-80 school year.

by R. Malcolm, Ph.D.  
Assistant Dean and Director of Admissions  
and Records

## I ACADEMIC CLASSIFICATION AND SEX

CLASSIFICATION	FEMALE	MALE	TOTAL
FRESHMEN	312	228	540
SOPHOMORES	175	137	312
JUNIORS	117	111	228
SENIORS	81	107	188
SPECIAL	16	10	26
UNCLASSIFIED	5	2	7
	706	595	1301

## II ENROLLMENT BY DEPARTMENTS

BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE	102
BIOLOGY	146
BUS. ADMIN. AND ACCOUNTING	182
BUS. EDUCATION AND SEC. SC.	56
CHEMISTRY	36
EDUCATION	92
HEALTH AND P.E.	24
ENGLISH, COMM., MOD. LANG.	44
HISTORY AND POLITICAL SC.	27
HOME ECONOMICS AND NUTRITION	30
MATHEMATICS AND PHYSICS	24
MUSIC AND MUSIC EDUCATION	27
NURSING	90
RELIGION AND THEOLOGY	249

## III ENROLLMENT BY REGIONAL CONFERENCES

The college hereby acknowledges the strong support of the Black conference and the Pacific Union in terms of finance and the student population representing each area. Below are the enrollment figures for the Fall quarter 1979 for the Pacific Union and the eight Black Conferences.

CONFERENCE	ENROLLMENT 1979
ALLEGHENY EAST	101
ALLEGHENY WEST	68
CENTRAL STATES	40
LAKE REGION	118
NORTHEASTERN	208
PACIFIC UNION	52
SOUTH ATLANTIC	175

SOUTH CENTRAL	169
SOUTHWEST REGION	39

Note: In some instances students did not indicate their conference. International students account for just over twelve percent of the total enrollment.

## IV ENROLLMENT BY STATES

The student population also represents 41 states. Those with the highest figures include:

Alabama—237; California—87;  
Connecticut—22; Florida—58;  
Georgia—57; Illinois—59; Maryland—39;  
Michigan—39; Mississippi—30;  
Missouri—23; New Jersey—36;  
New York—184; North Carolina—40;  
Ohio—58; Pennsylvania—36;  
South Carolina—21; and the  
Virgin Islands—23.

## V INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Students from other countries represent twelve percent of the enrollment. This year, Jamaica leads with 42. Bermuda, Trinidad, Canada and the Bahamas are also well represented. Oakwood also maintains a strong contingent of students from various sections of Africa. In all, twenty-four foreign countries are represented on campus.

## VI DEGREES CONFERRED 1970-1979

YEAR	NUMBER
1970	65
1971	94
1972	94
1973	124
1974	136
1975	172
1976	138
1977	124
1978	166
1979	186
TOTAL	1299

The total degrees, diplomas, and certificates issued for the decade was 1,299. This is significant when compared with the grand total since 1909—3,001. The sharp increase in 1975 was due to a large summer class of 45 candidates. The new decade is expected to be even greater. The 1980 class should approximate 200 graduates.

Note: We thank you for your prayers and tangible concern for the program at Oakwood—the place where "loveliness keeps house!"



S. D. Meyers, Associate Director, Stewardship Department.

## 1980—GENERAL CONFERENCE STEWARDSHIP YEAR

That which lies at the foundation of life is recognition of God as creator and owner of all. This ownership stems from His creatorship, sustaining power and His redemption of all that was lost.

The spirit of Lucifer, that of self aggrandizement and covetousness is inherent in man. One need not teach a child to want the largest portion or another child's toy. This spirit comes "naturally." Paul calls it a carnal nature.

As we look about us, this spirit seems to have become the accepted way of life, "Get all you can," "can all you get," "sit on the lid." The more you look out for "number one," the wiser you are thought to be. The businessman of Luke 12 is looked upon as a wise investor and a man of vision. The profits are rolling in. Good planning dictates that he tear down the small, full to the brim, barns and build larger ones. The disease of "myitis (MY fruit, MY barns, MY goods, MY soul) overwhelmed him and caused him to lose sight of the fundamental fact of life, that God owns all. God called him "a fool" and says, so are all who lay up treasures for themselves and are not "rich toward God." "Take heed and beware of covetousness."

The church of the living God and its members are prospering. The spirit of covetousness resides in the human heart and it is a dangerous spirit, for one of the ten decalogues forbids it. Covetousness is sin!! We see this ugly sin even in the church for some departments want the largest offering, the most time, the most prominent place and the greatest exposure.

The purpose of the Stewardship and Development Department is to keep

every member of the church conscious of the presense of covetousness and alert to its insidious presense, to train us and give us the opportunity to be "rich toward God" by giving more time, more talent, more treasure to God. I emphasize to God because our gifts of time, talent and treasure should not be given to things, that is to the church, or to the Sabbath school, or to the campground, or to the sick and needy, but to God!! The road of giving to things can be endangered by many things, for instance, our being recognized for giving, our gift being appreciated, etc. When we give to God we are not concerned about being appreciated or recognized by men.

Just as Elijah pricked the conscience of ancient Israel and called them to a decision, so the Department of Stewardship and Development exists to keep us aware of the tenth commandment, the sin that comes to church, covetousness. As the opportunity to "worship" God with our tithe and offering it is so easy to think of our own needs and not be "rich toward God!!"

One of the best known experiences of the Bible is that of Job, a wealthy man of God whom God permitted Satan to test. The question was whether Job "loved God for naught" or because of what God did for him. We all know the suffering Job endured, the loss of all earthly possessions, even his health. The secret of Job's ability to stand for God under the most severe circumstances is one that we would do well to learn. He recognized the ownership of God. He recognized the concern of God for each individual and their needs. This is fully borne out by Job's testimonies when he said, "Naked came I out of my mother's womb and naked shall I return thither: The Lord giveth and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord. "Though He slay me, yet will I trust in Him."

That God will grant us the wisdom of Job to trust Him to the utmost and to use our time, talents and treasures to His Glory and to the hastening of His coming, is my prayer.

Samuel D. Meyers  
Associate Director, Department  
of Stewardship and Development  
General Conference

## DILLETT'S NEW BOOK IS PUBLISHED

Have you ever wondered why the Lord allowed you to live on this earth? Have you ever wondered if there is a purpose for your existence?

Elder Eric S. Dillett, a pastor for many years in the Lake Region Conference, has recently completed a book entitled, "Why Were You Born?" It has recently been published and will soon be on the market.

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## MY PHILOSOPHY OF LIFE

Realizing that God is my Creator and Saviour, I know that I can do nothing of myself, but that all that I have and will accomplish in this life, I owe to His power.

Knowing that the hour of Christ's coming is very near, it is my desire to be ready to meet Him in peace, and to do all I can to inform others of this fact, and lead them to the joy of His salvation.

It is my purpose to represent Christ in all that I do—in day to day actions, and interactions with those about me. To do all that I can to help others to rise up to higher, loftier heights in their life's experience—not looking for recognition of any kind, just feeling the surging joy, and happiness that is radiated from the person helped. Following the example of the Master, I want to live to bless others.

—Lillie Johnson

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If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day: and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord, honorable: and shalt honor him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words: Then shalt thou delight thyself in the Lord; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

—Isaiah 58:13, 14



With other Seventh-day Adventist leaders looking on, Elder C. E. Bradford is greeted by President Jimmy Carter.

## BEFORE KINGS AND PRESIDENTS!

During the recent Annual Council, Dr. R. L. Reynolds, General Conference liaison for Congress, arranged for a group of us to visit President Carter at The White House. Our group was composed of Dr. Reynolds; B. E. Leach, president of Southwestern Union; H. Z. Shiroma, executive director of Washington Adventist Hospital; N. C. Sorensen, president of Walla Walla College; W. H. Wilson, executive secretary of the North American Division Health Services Board; K. H. Wood, editor of *Adventist Review*, and myself.

We were met and warmly welcomed by Mr. Louis Martin, special presidential aide for minority affairs. Dr. Reynolds immediately asked Mr. Martin if the President would accept a gift of some of our books for his library and also if it would be in order for us to have prayer at the end of our visit. He assured us that in both instances this would be acceptable.

Mr. Martin led us into a private room, where we waited for the President. In a few moments the President came in and was introduced to me. I in turn presented our group. We were able to

talk briefly about the work of Seventh-day Adventists, and Elder Wood gave him a copy of the latest *Adventist Review*. It was my privilege then to present to the President a copy of *The Desire of Ages* for him, *Patriarchs and Prophets* for Mrs. Carter, and a set of *The Bible Story* for his daughter, Amy. The President expressed deep appreciation for these gifts and for the *Adventist Review*. He also commended Seventh-day Adventists for the wonderful work that "you are doing in spreading the word of our Saviour." Mr. Martin then gently reminded Dr. Reynolds that we should not forget the prayer. The President readily agreed, and we bowed and asked Heaven's blessings upon him and his stewardship.

It was quite a sight to see the President leave the room with an armful of Seventh-day Adventist truth-filled literature. We wondered as we left The White House, What impression did our visit make? The conversation, the prayer, the gift books? In a few days I received a letter from The White House, and a portion of the letter reads as follows:

"Thank you for the personalized books for me and my family. We will cherish these writings by Ellen G. White, and the beautifully illustrated Bible Stories will delight Amy and her friends. We appreciate your thoughtfulness, and send you our kind regards. Sincerely, Jimmy Carter."

The words of Ellen White seemed so appropriate in this setting, "If there is one work more important than another, it is that of getting our publications before the public, thus leading them to search the Scriptures."—*Colporteur Ministry*, p. 7.

"The silent messengers that are placed in the homes of the people through the work of the canvasser will strengthen the gospel ministry in every way; for the Holy Spirit will impress minds as they read the books, just as He impresses the minds of those who listen to the preaching of the word. The same ministry of angels attends the books that contain truth as attend the work of the minister."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 6, p. 316.

May the ministry of angels attend the printed page that we were privileged to share with the First Family of our nation.

# BLACK ADVENTIST BUSINESSES—IN ACTION



*Willie Bethea.*

## **WILLIE BETHEA—THE FUNERAL DIRECTOR WHO BRINGS LIGHT OUT OF DARKNESS**

*By Stephanie Johnson*

For many in New York City who have experienced the trauma of losing a loved one, Willie Bethea, funeral director and co-owner of the Amsterdam Chapel is an angel of mercy. He is not the typical funeral director. He is kind and compassionate, yet lively and personable. His commitment directly affects his business. His main motivating factor for entering the business was "to help others" rather than making a fortune. He feels that if he intentionally defrauds his customers "that he will have to answer to a higher authority." Therefore he gives to his customers rather than takes.

The funeral service is a highly competitive field in New York City. On almost every fourth block you will find a funeral chapel. What is it that sets Amsterdam Chapel apart? There are several factors that have contributed to its success.

First of all, Bethea gives individualized service to each customer. He shows compassion and sympathy. He reminds his customers that "death is not an ultimate end." He employs ministers who preach truth and righteousness rather than death and despair.

Another factor that contributes to the success of his business is his paying of a liberal tithe and offering. In addition to paying tithes and offerings he contributes to many worthy causes. He follows the principle that freely you give,

freely you shall receive. It is because of this principle that if a family cannot afford funeral services for their loved one, Bethea provides a decent funeral for cost.

One important factor is the professionalism and the attractiveness of the chapel. The bereaved will find an immaculate chapel filled with soothing quiet music and the polite concern of its employees which for many brings some relief from their burden.

The most important factor is that Bethea loves what he is doing. His childhood ambition is now a reality. He remembers as a boy, "I had a friend in the business. He dressed so well. . . He always looked pressed. Later, I found out there is a lot of dirty work to be done before you can dress."

The most important factor is that Willie is a workaholic. He loves to work. He is on call twenty-four hours a day. His thrift and industry was developed as a boy in Fayetteville, North Carolina.

He worked his way through Pine Forge Academy (Pine Forge, Pennsylvania) as a farm hand under Robert Handy and finally worked his way up to foreman of the farm.

After completing Pine Forge Academy, he entered Oakwood College in Huntsville, Alabama as a pre-medicine major during the early sixties. His childhood ambition proved more intense. After a year of study he left Oakwood College. He entered the army during the Vietnam War and served with the Thirteenth Airborne Corps as a medical specialist and paratrooper.

After completing his military duty, he returned to New York and pursued his lifetime ambition. During this time he held various jobs to realize his goal. He worked as a porter for Rest Haven Nursing Home and was promoted to a private duty nurse. He worked as a taxicab driver. Looking back on those years the reward proved greater than the sacrifice.

He entered the American McAllister Institute of Funeral Service and intensely studied biology, chemistry, anatomy, physiology and bacteriology. He took courses in cosmetology and restorative arts as well as accounting and book-keeping.

In 1968 he graduated and became an apprentice at Rollenson Funeral Home. After a year of apprenticeship, he established his own business. He ran his own funeral service until 1975 when he entered business with a classmate, Willie Lewis. Mr. Lewis is an ex-laboratory technician who became bored with a routine job and entered the funeral services because of his desire to work with people and the challenge it would offer.

There are two other employees outside of Mr. Lewis and Bethea. They are Ruth Hickman, who works as the receptionist and Raymond Hickman, an apprentice. Their service is known throughout the city; as a result they never advertise. Their customers tell members of their community and business continues to increase.

Mr. Bethea stresses that he never wants his business to grow so huge that he loses personal contact with his customers. In the future he would like to expand his facilities to meet the needs of his customers, yet maintain quality service.

Mr. Bethea was baptized by Elder Franklin S. Hill in Fayetteville, North Carolina in 1958. He has remained faithful throughout the years. Presently, he is a member of the Ephesus Seventh-day Adventist Church where he serves as assistant superintendent of the Sabbath School for the Senior Division and Missionary Volunteer Leader. He is a gifted singer and has dedicated his talents to singing God's praise.

Mr. Bethea's success in the funeral services is because of his Christian principles and business acumen. He has proven to be a shining light to many a disconsolate soul.



*Willie Bethea, left, with Ruth Hickman, receptionist, and Willie Lewis, co-owner.*

# IN THE NEWS

## OBITUARY—THOMAS C. LEWIS

September 3, 1929 - December 25, 1979

On September 3, 1929, a beautiful baby boy arrived in the city of Gainseville, Florida. His name—Thomas C. Lewis, the second son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Lewis.

Thomas was a very friendly outgoing person. He loved people and had many, many friends wherever he resided and was employed. Some called him "Tommy," "Buttons" and "Smash." The family called him Tommy C.

The year 1949, in the city of New York, Tommy met a very lovely young lady in the person of Miss Georgia Mae Ensley. He won her love and affection and in October 7, 1951 they were joined together in Holy Wedlock, in the city of New York.

Tommy, along with his sisters and brothers, were taught the precious promises of God by their grandparents, Elder and Mrs. C. G. Manns. Tommy was a member of the Mt. of Olives S.D.A. Church.

He gave dedicated service to the United States Army for two years.

We thank God for the years he let our brother and husband sojourn with us here. We thank Him for the love and care given to Tommy. We thank Him for the joys, sorrows and disappointments. The lovely smile and sunny disposition we shall long remember.

His last desire was to ride the subway and wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. The Lord granted him this wish Christmas Eve.

He leaves to mourn: a loving wife, Mrs. Georgia Mae Lewis; two adopted children, Joseph and Joshua; two guardian children, Marvin and Gena; eight sisters, Mrs. Leola Phipps, Mrs. Maxine Bethea, Mrs. Vernell Prayer, Mrs. Annette Wilson, Ms. Martha Lewis, Mrs. Mable Clark, Mrs. Joyce Buisson, Mrs. Carol Watkins; three brothers, Elder Joseph Lewis, Mr. Henry Lewis and Mr. Lemuel Lewis; eight brothers-in-law, eight sisters-in-law, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, many cousins and a host of friends.

## OBITUARY

The late Mrs. Celia Jane Hart Abney, the third child of Charles T. and Maria Hart, was born November 23, 1883, in

Chicago, Illinois. At an early age, the family moved to Muncie, Indiana, where she grew up and received her early childhood education.

Mrs. Abney was a devout Methodist, strictly adhering to the tenets of Methodism. Her Christian life was lived trusting in the promises of God. It was while visiting in the home of a Seventh-day Adventist cousin in Logansport, Indiana sometime during the year of 1908 that she gained a knowledge of this wonderful advent message.

Oh the power of a true witness in the home of an Adventist Christian family. Being a seeker after greater light and anxious to do the full will of God, she readily accepted this truth.

Upon returning to her home in Muncie, Indiana, she was anxious to share her new found faith with her dear mother, a devout Methodist, only to discover her enthusiasm for Adventism was not shared by her mother. Befriended and financially supported by a group of white Seventh-day Adventist believers, she was able to attend Oakwood College in 1909. It was there she met her husband Elder Benjamin W. Abney, Sr.

Upon her marriage to Elder Abney, Mrs. Abney faithfully labored side by side with her husband in his heavy evangelistic campaigns and pastoral assignments. As was the custom in those days, like most minister's wives, Sister Abney never received monetary remuneration of any kind. Hers was a labor of love—love for God, love for the message, love for her husband, and love for souls. She was able to successfully merge these duties with those of being an ideal wife and loving, patient mother to the two children born to their union, Elder Benjamin W. Abney, Jr., and Mrs. Celia Maria Abney Cleveland.

Little did she know in the earlier years that she would have the opportunity of accompanying her husband to South Africa for seven years of mission service during the years July, 1931-August, 1938, to further extend her labor of love.

After forty-five years as a co-laborer with her husband and companion of nearly sixty-eight years, at the ripe age of ninety-six, she continued to love and eagerly looked forward to the blessed fellowship and regular attendance at church services, as the weather and health permitted.

Sister Abney proved faithful until she

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COVER CREDIT  
Willie Posey

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fell asleep in Jesus Monday, January 28, 1980, at 2:15 a.m., to wait the Master's Call.

She is survived by a loving and devoted husband, Elder B. W. Abney, Sr.; two children, B. W. Abney, Jr. and Celia Cleveland; a son-in-law, and a daughter-in-law, a grandson, granddaughter, several cousins, and a host of loving friends.

# OAKWOOD ALUMNI HOMECOMING

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