

# NORTH AMERICAN REGIONAL

# VOICE



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SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

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**1983 Literature Sales Exceed \$3,000,000**

## COVER STORY

### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SEVENTH ANNUAL LITERATURE EVANGELIST RETREAT

by Stephanie D. Johnson

"He that observeth the wind shall not sow. He that regardeth the cloud shall not reap." Those divinely inspired words have for centuries given men the impetus to go forward when defeat seemed inevitable.

Undoubtedly, the courageous World War I hero Marshall Foch of the French army was stirred by these words. Michael Manley in his book, *A Voice at the Workplace*, writes about Marshall Foch's experience. It was one of the darkest times in the history of modern France. "With the Germans at the very gates of Paris, Foch remarked to his general staff that his left flank was in full retreat, his right flank in danger of encirclement and his centre smashed. He said: 'J'attaque (Attack)!' As good as his word, Foch ordered a general counter-offensive, saved Paris and altered the history of the world."

So it is true of the approximately 500 literature evangelists in attendance at the Seventh Annual Literature Evangelist Incentive Retreat held December 27-31, 1983, in Tampa, Florida.

In a world where all seems lost, during the most crucial time in earth's history, they are attacking the enemy and ultimately will triumph! They might have taken a safer course or retreated to an other-worldly sanctuary, but they have instead chosen to step out and reach the unreachable, to minister to those living on the periphery of society, to care for those men and women infected with the diseases of our time—materialism, secularism and humanism.

One can see the truth of E. G. White's words, "Never did men achieve greater results for God and humanity than may be achieved in this our day by those who are faithful to their God-given trust." One is stirred by the courage of women who travel down lonely highways entering new territory to present the printed message. One recognizes the protection of their guardian angels when they hear of the encounter of two young colporteurs with a demon-possessed man. One is inspired by little children who stand on street corners, in shopping centers or



C. E. Bradford

wherever they can meet people to share the printed word.

Once again the words of the prophetic E. G. White ring true, "All over the world men and women are looking wistfully to heaven. Prayers and tears and inquiries go up from souls longing for light, for grace, for the Holy Spirit. Many are on the verge of the kingdom waiting to be gathered in." As a result, in 1983 hundreds were added to the household of faith by the literature evangelists.

#### Recreation and Spiritual Revitalization

For the colporteurs who canvass in frigid winter and blazing summer, rising early in the morning and returning late at night, the literature evangelist retreat is a special time, for it provides recreation—a picnic, boat rides, sightseeing and fellowship.

Through music, especially the mass choir directed by Gail Murphy, and the spoken word, the colporteurs are called to come aside, rest from their labors and receive spiritual revitalization. Among the speakers were: M. C. Van Putten, president of the Allegheny East Conference; H. L. Cleveland, N.A.D. regional coordinator for the 1000 Days of Reaping, and Robert Smith, manager of the periodical department of the Review and Herald.

At the old-fashioned prayer meeting held on Wednesday night, Pastor Sandy Robinson, publishing director for the Oakwood College Literature Evangelists Training Center (L.E.T.C.), was the guest speaker. This three-hour prayer meeting was special because colporteurs had the opportunity to give testimonies.

Holy communion on Friday night was also very special. The guest speaker for

that service was Pastor S. H. Cox, president of the Central States Conference. For Sabbath services the guest speaker was Pastor C. E. Bradford, vice president of the North American Division.

#### Black Conferences Report \$4,314,941.55 in Sales

The climax of the retreat came on Saturday night at the banquet. It was here that each publishing director made his report and presented trophies and awards to the literature evangelists.

Lake Region led all the black conferences. Pastor T. S. Barber, publishing director, reported \$900,000 in sales from his regular colporteurs, \$189,504 from the student program, and 267 souls.

The Allegheny East publishing department came in second. Its publishing director, Pastor Noah Beasley, reported \$838,741.75 in sales and 318 souls.

Next came the Allegheny West Conference. Pastor Robert Lewis, publishing director for the conference, reported \$448,000 in sales and 80 souls.

The Northeastern Conference made a giant leap forward, coming from last place in 1982 to fourth place in 1983. Pastor Clarence Richardson, publishing director, reported \$415,736.95 in sales and 27 souls.

In fifth place was the Southwest Region Conference. Pastor James Marshall, its publishing director, reported \$312,265 in sales and 101 souls.

Oakwood's L.E.T.C. was next, under the directorship of Pastor Sandy Robinson, reporting \$265,250.75 and 50 souls. The South Central Conference followed, led by Pastor Stephen Ruff, who reported \$259,656.03 in sales and 103 souls.

South Atlantic came in ninth place. Pastor R. T. Smith, publishing director, reported \$229,738.05 in sales and twelve souls.

Southeastern Conference, also under the directorship of Pastor Smith, was next, reporting \$137,049.01 in sales and four souls.

Finally, Central States, under its newly appointed director, Pastor Danny Milton, reported \$130,000 in sales and 35 souls.

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When a man is gloomy, everything seems to go wrong; when he is cheerful, everything seems right!

Proverbs 15:15

## PUBLISHER'S PAGE



Don H. Boger directing the mass choir at the Allegheny West camp meeting.

### MUSIC AND WORSHIP

by Don H. Boger

"Fear God, and give glory to Him; for the hour of His judgment is come, and worship Him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters" (Rev. 14:7).

To give glory to God is to reveal His character. However, before any Christian can properly give glory to God, he must have a clear and positive understanding of the meaning and importance of worship. The word "worship" is a contraction of an old expression in the English language, "woerth-scribe," denoting the ascription of reverence to an object of superlative worth. A more theological definition of worship is given as follows: "A creature act by a redeemed man, toward God, His creator, whereby his will, intellect and emotions gratefully respond to the revelation of God's person expressed in the redemptive work of Jesus Christ, as the Holy Spirit illuminates God's written Word to his heart."

To worship is to quicken the conscience by the holiness of God, to feed the mind with the truth of God, to purge the imagination by the beauty of God, to open the heart to the love of God, and to devote the will to the purpose of God.

The Christian church has a two-fold scriptural function to perform: leading and instructing believers in their worship and understanding of God, and proclaiming and challenging the unsaved with the tenets of the Gospel that determines one's eternal destiny.

Praying and praising are two of the most important activities of worship. Yet the Scriptures have more to say about our praise than even our prayer life. Praise is taught to be one of the believer's spiritual sacrifices (Hebrews 13:15). However, the Bible exhorts that both of these spiritual activities must be Spirit-controlled and exercised with understanding. (I Corinthians 14:15).

Christianity, in contrast to all other religions, is meant to be joyous. A spiritual church is a singing church. A service in which the congregation is passive, inactive and unmoved is powerless and ineffective. Music serves as the bridge from the human senses to the soul. In general, music serves as an audible expression of the basic emotions common to all humanity. Emotions and sentiments such as joy, mirth, sorrow and tenderness find their complete response in music.

The local church is God's ordained agency for accomplishing his earthly purposes today. These purposes are (Acts 2:41-47):

1. *Worship for believers*, a recognition of the infinite worth of God with appropriate proclamation of that worth. True worship can never be passive and inactive—it demands a personal response.

2. *Evangelism for unbelievers*, the proclamation of the basic Biblical truths that affect one's eternal destiny with the urging for a personal conversion decision and commitment to such truth.

3. *Edification for believers*, teaching and exhorting (encouraging) one another (Colossians 3:16; Ephesians 5:19).

Music does not exist as an end in itself within the church program, but rather as one of the most important means of helping local congregations to achieve the above stated purposes.

A principal function of the music ministry is to enhance the beauty and dignity of the worship of God, to provide times for congregational/lay participation in a service, thus encouraging an active, unified congregation rather than merely an audience of spectators. One great function is to provide the proper setting for the spoken Word. Music and the spoken Word should be mutually reinforcing. Together they can do better than either can do separately.

God Himself is the originator of music and has placed in man alone the ability to understand, develop and appreciate this sublime gift. Man then has the

choice of using this gift for the glory of God and the ennoblement of his fellow men or for his own mere pleasure and often for the debasement of his fellow men.

Congregational singing is the most important form of music in a Christian church. The importance stems from the root that singing together personalizes Christ for everyone. The entire music program in a local church—e.g. graded choirs, special groups, etc.—should be built on a foundation of enthusiastic and meaningful congregational singing.

Various objectives of congregational singing are to provide the means of unifying a group of individuals by making a common channel for each one to join together in worship, prayer and praise, to teach and reinforce spiritual truths and to provide individuals with an outlet for expressions for personal soul attitudes and experiences which often are difficult to state in one's own words. Utilizing music in worship, there should be a conviction that something spiritually important can be accomplished in our lives by congregational singing. "It is good to sing praises unto God, for it is pleasant and praise is comely" (Psalm 147:1).

In conclusion, the main premise of true worship is to direct praise and adulation to God. This intent is very vital to the motive of the music ministry in attempting to praise God. The entire wish of the music ministry should be directing all thoughts of the congregation to God; not on himself/herself, but on the One who makes all worship possible.

There is a real problem in the Christian church. This problem tends to eliminate true worship in many congregations. The worship leader, be it the minister of the word or the minister of music, in an attempt to make his or her ministry a personal one—that which comes from personal experience—unwittingly draws attention in the service away from God to themselves. It is imperative that all thoughts, praise and adulation go to God. Otherwise, you do not have a worship service, but a man-praising experience with little spiritual significance.

Remember, any service worthy of God is worthy of giving our best. Whatsoever ye do, do it all to the glory of God.

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Beauty, unaccompanied by virtue, was a flower without perfume.

# The Editor's Desk

## REGIONAL WORK IN NORTH AMERICA SHOWS GROWTH DURING 1983

When the leaders of the Regional Conferences and departments of the unions gave their annual reports of the work in their various sectors of the North American Division, significant growth in all phases of the work was realized in spite of the economic crunch that has overtaken this largest minority group. The baptisms totaled more than 10,000 for the year. It was interesting to note that all of the conferences' combined funds spent for evangelistic crusades in all fields was just over \$1,000,000. One of the sister conferences of the division spent this much and more in its field for evangelism. The total membership now stands at 150,439 in the United States.

The total tithe income for 1983 reached an all time high of \$41,146,092 which was a \$5,535,724

gain over the previous year. The total gain in tithe income for the entire division stood at \$15,297,781. The Regional Conferences were blessed with one-third (1/3) of the entire gain for the entire North American Division. The Regional Conferences and church members will be surprised to learn that the black membership of the United States paid more tithe into the church than any other division outside of North America.

Literature evangelists of the Regional Conferences (Pacific Union figures not available) reported \$4,314,941.55 in literature sales during 1983. This is the largest in the history of the church.

The black leaders of the church have this conclusion concerning the blessings in growth during 1983. Evangelism through the blessing of the Lord. "We must continue to do the work to which we have been called—tell the message of God's saving love." To God be the glory!



*Pastor and Mrs. Calvin E. Moseley, Jr., celebrated their fiftieth anniversary ceremony. At left is their daughter Barbara Warren and daughter Harriet Keith on the right.*

## C. E. MOSELEYS CELEBRATE 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Dr. Calvin Edwin Moseley, Jr., and Mrs. Harriet Frances Slater Moseley celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary at a ceremony performed by Pastor C. E. Ward on June 15, 1983, at the Oakwood College church in Huntsville, Alabama.

Dr. Moseley chaired the religion department and served in various capacities at Oakwood College from 1934 to 1951. In the fall of 1951 he began work at the General Conference, where for two years he was associated with Pastor G. E. Peters in the regional department and continued as general field secretary. He retired from the General Conference in 1972.

The Moseleys have two daughters, Harriet Keith and Barbara Warren. The Moseleys have lived in Huntsville, Alabama, since May of 1972.

## SUNSET CALENDAR

	March 27	April 6	13	20
Boston, Mass.	6:04	6:15	6:23	6:31
New York City	6:14	6:26	6:33	6:41
Buffalo, N.Y.	6:35	6:47	6:55	7:03
Atlanta, Ga.	6:54	7:02	7:07	7:12
Miami, Fla.	6:35	6:40	6:43	6:46
Charlotte, N.C.	6:41	6:49	6:55	7:00
Birmingham, Ala.	6:04	6:11	6:16	6:21
Jackson, Miss.	6:17	6:24	6:29	6:34
Memphis, Tenn.	6:17	6:25	6:31	6:37
Louisville, Ky.	7:01	7:10	7:17	7:23
Detroit, Mich.	6:53	7:04	7:12	7:20
Chicago, Ill.	6:10	6:21	6:29	6:36
South Bend, Indiana	7:05	7:16	7:23	7:31
Minneapolis, Minn.	6:34	6:47	6:56	7:05
St. Louis, Mo.	6:19	6:29	6:35	6:42
Kansas City, Mo.	6:36	6:47	6:52	6:59
Denver, Co.	6:19	6:28	6:36	6:43
Little Rock, Ark.	6:26	6:34	6:39	6:45
Dallas, Texas	6:44	6:51	6:56	7:01
New Orleans, La.	6:16	6:22	6:26	6:30
Albuquerque, N.M.	6:24	6:32	6:37	6:43
Oklahoma City, Okla.	6:48	6:56	7:01	7:07

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

**YOU CANNOT  
MISS  
OAKWOOD  
HOMECOMING  
APRIL 20-22  
1984**



Ethel and Ephraim Gavers.

## E. E. GAVERS SHARES HIS STORY

When just a little boy going to the market with my mother, I saw people coming out of a church, the women dressed in white clothes. I asked my mother, "Who are all these people coming out of church on Saturday?"

"Today is the day that they go to church to worship God," my mother said. "They are Seventh-day Adventists—they worship God on Saturday, the Sabbath."

I was born on March 27, 1901, in Jamaica. After graduating from high school, I left Jamaica and spent a year in Cuba. I left there for New York in 1920. The next five years I spent working at odd jobs, including on a ship which traveled to South and Central America and the West Indies.

I left New York for Washington, D.C., making my home with Mr. and Mrs. John Corbett. During the next six years I visited the Ephesus church, which was then located at 6th and N streets. From there I went to Buffalo, New York, where I became a member of the Seventh-day Adventist church after living at the parsonage with the pastor and his wife. They encouraged me to become a literature evangelist.

I spent ten days at Union Springs, New York, where I was instructed in the canvassing work. I began to work in the Buffalo area in 1932.

I spent ten years working for the Potomac Conference. I then lived for six months in Baltimore, Maryland, where I met Ethel Clayton. After a short acquaintance, I contacted Pastor F. Phipps, who instructed her for about a year. We were married in February of 1938 and became members of the Ephesus church, which is now known as Dupont Park. For ten years my wife was an assistant secretary in the Sabbath school.

The literature ministry has been a joy to me. In addition to literature evangelism, I spent eighteen years at the Receiving Home for Children, serving the last ten years as chaplain of that institution.

I believe that the literature work is ordained of God. It is the work that the Lord would have His people do because of its importance. If there is one work more important than another, it is that of getting our literature before the people to lead them to search the Scriptures. How happy I will be in that great morning if someone walks up to me and says, "It was you who showed me the way."

E. E. Gavers  
Retired Literature Evangelist



Pastor R. W. Newman, director of trust services for the Allegheny East Conference aids in the organization of the new Williamsburg, Virginia, church.

## SDA CHURCH OPENS IN WILLIAMSBURG

After the retirement of her husband, Helen Williams, a faithful member of the Calvary church in Newport News, Virginia, decided to move back to their home town of Williamsburg. She and another family traveled the distance between Newport News and Williamsburg each week to Sabbath services and prayer meetings. It was their dream that one day a church would be organized in this little but historic city.

A. S. Wagner, pastor of the Newport News church, began holding studies in Williams' home until he was transferred to another district. This interruption seemed to shatter her dream, but the desire and hope continued to grow.

Shortly thereafter, the conference sent Pastor W. C. Scales, Sr., to Virginia to serve as a field evangelist for the state, with Richmond as his headquarters. He made contact with Mrs. Wil-

liams and resumed the weekly Bible classes in her home, also distributing the Real Truth Bible Courses.

He was later joined by a dedicated layman and newly baptized member of the Richmond church, Tim Lewis, who began to flood the area with Real Truth Bible cards. The weekly classes continued and about this time St. Clare Phipps was asked to pastor the Newport News church and decided to have Sabbath services in Williamsburg as well.

Williams and her husband Bossie (who is not a member) extended their hospitality by continuing to open their home to this small band of believers. The dream continued and was now reaching fruition. The Allegheny East Conference authorized Scales and Phipps to organize the small group into a company. This took place in April of 1982 with five charter members. Taking the name Mount Calvary, they became part of Pastor Phipps' district.

Phipps thought it wise to capitalize on the groundwork laid by Tim Lewis and others and conducted a three-week series in the Masonic Hall with good results. Some went to the Newport News church, but eight were added to the Williamsburg group. With six letters of transfer and the five charter members, the membership of this "baby congregation" stood at nineteen at the end of 1982.

In January Pastor Scales, Sr., now retired, assumed the leadership of the Mount Calvary congregation. In August they were able to obtain a representative building. Sacrificial giving helped members to refurbish with paint, new pews, wall-to-wall carpeting, a public address system and a gravel driveway. Friends from fellow churches and the surrounding community donated time, talents and means. In seven short weeks the task was completed and God had transformed a small country church into a neatly arrayed sanctuary.

In October a Real Truth Revival was held with evangelist W. C. Scales, Jr. This resulted in seven more individuals being added to the church.

December 3, 1983, marked the culmination of the dream. On that date the church in Williamsburg officially became the "Mount Calvary Church of Seventh-day Adventists" with a membership of 35.

Karen Chappell Brown  
Associate Communication Secretary



*Roosevelt Williams, a layman, conducted an evangelistic crusade in Kansas City, Kansas.*

### LAYMEN CONDUCT CRUSADE IN KANSAS CITY

Members of the Maranatha SDA Church in Kansas City, Kansas, held an evangelistic series during the latter part of 1983. The meetings were held each night of the week except Thursday.

The crusade speaker was Roosevelt Williams, a dedicated local elder. The theme song, "Sweet, Sweet Spirit," was conducted each night by Genevieve Slaughter and Quinzell Wooden, the song leaders. At the conclusion of the series, eight persons were baptized.

Anna Slaughter  
Communication Secretary

### NEWS NOTE

During the last quarter of 1983, Pastor Carter, the Sabbath school, personal ministries and inner-city director for Central States, made a complete sweep of the conference from Colorado to Iowa to Kansas, carrying out the responsibilities of his departments.

### GREAT PLAINS FEDERATION HELD IN IOWA

Rain and fog surrounded the city of Davenport, Iowa. Nevertheless, Adventist youth from Lincoln, Nebraska, Omaha, Nebraska, and Des Moines, Iowa, came to participate in the first federation hosted by the Calvary church in Davenport.

G. F. Webb, pastor of the Calvary church, was the speaker for the Friday evening service. Pastor Webb spoke on "Consider Thy Ways," the theme for the federation.

During the divine worship service, G. H. Jones, pastor of the Bethesda church

in Lincoln, Nebraska, and the Allon Chapel church, Omaha, Nebraska, also challenged the audience "To Be Restored."

Music for the midday service was provided by the United Federation Choir under the direction of Lauren Griggs, a member of the Calvary church. In spite of the terrible weather, a wonderful evening was had by all at the Davenport YMCA.



*D. R. Milton, newly appointed publishing director for Central States stands with Dr. S. H. Cox, president of the conference.*



*Barbara Roby, top sales person.*



*D. R. Milton addressing publishing members.*

### CENTRAL STATES PUBLISHING REPORT

The Central States Conference publishing program is on the move.

Under its new publishing director, Pastor D. R. Milton, the program made significant gains during the last half of 1983. The top salesperson for 1983 was Barbara Roby, and the top soul-winner was Wanda Sims, with fifteen people baptized. Overall, total sales were \$130,000 with 31 souls baptized.

1984 promises to be an outstanding year as all Central States literature evangelists pull together for God.

D. R. Milton  
Publishing Director

### COMMUNITY GUEST DAY AT CALVARY

B. T. Rice, pastor of the Northside church in St. Louis, was the guest speaker for Community Guest Day at the Calvary church in Davenport, Iowa.

The 42-member youth choir accompanied Pastor Rice and provided music for the entire day. Mrs. Predmore was the community person honored at this special occasion.

A lovely fellowship dinner followed the divine worship service.

Rosa Smiley

### CHURCH OFFICERS' MEETING

The conference administration and departmental directors conducted a meaningful church officers' meeting in the St. Louis area recently. Participating churches were Berean, Northside, Kinloch, Kirkwood, Charleston, Sikeston, Caruthersville and Park Avenue.

All newly elected officers were inspired to give God 100 percent of their time, talents and efforts as they prepared to serve the church during 1984.



*Wanda Sims, top soul winner.*



T. S. Barber, publishing director for the Lake Region Conference.

## 24 TONS OF BOOKS

The literature evangelists of the Lake Region Conference are very grateful to have an opportunity to present to the readers of the *Regional Voice* the report of sales and missionary work for 1983.

The report is as follows: 61,867 pieces of literature given away; 62,659 Bible correspondence school enrollments; 1,639 persons taken to church; 936 former SDAs contacted and invited to church; 26,270 homes in which prayer was offered; 1,393 Bible studies given; 267 baptisms from literature evangelist contacts; \$929,832 in total deliveries as of December 23, 1983; 167 students in our magazine scholarship program; 70 total scholarships; and \$189,504 in total student deliveries of magazines and small books.

Reports show that the Lake Region publishing department purchased 48,025 pounds of books, or more than 24 tons in all.

With this report in mind, the publishing director, along with the associate leaders of the Lake Region Conference publishing department, literature evangelists and students can only say, "To God be the glory; great things He has done."

T. Samuel Barber  
Publishing Director



Pastor and Mrs. L. G. Cox.

## NEWS NOTES

Leon Cox, pastor of the Ephesus church in New York City, and his wife Blanche were special guests at the Shiloh church in Chicago. Cox is a former pastor of Shiloh and he was in Chicago recently to help church members bring to a close the celebration of the Year of Jubilee, the 75th anniversary of the church.

Calvin B. Rock, president of Oakwood College, was special guest speaker for the Twin City Scholarship Banquet held recently in Minnesota. Victor Cancel, president of the scholarship association, along with Pamela McKinney, vice president, Maxine Austin, secretary, Helen Adair, treasurer, Lester Collins, public relations director, and other members work hard each year to provide scholarships for students who attend church school in the Twin City area.

Royce Mentor, pastor of the Pontiac-Saginaw, Michigan, district, was guest speaker recently at the Sharon church in St. Paul, Minnesota. Mentor's sermons for the special weekend centered around how mankind communicates with God.

In December the Haughville church of Indianapolis moved into its own building on North Pershing Avenue. Richard Washington, pastor, delivered the sermon during the divine worship service. At the conclusion of the sermon, the church building was dedicated to God. The renovation of the structure was done by members Nicholas Joseph and James Pilot. Moral and financial support were received from members of the Haughville church and sister churches Capitol City and Eastside.

Phillip Prime, a member of the Eastside church in Indianapolis, recently conducted a week of prayer for the Haughville church, also in Indianapolis. At the close of the series of sermons, a fellowship dinner was prepared for the entire church family in the home of Phillip and Cynthia Prime.

Youth from the Sharon church in St. Paul, Minnesota, were in charge of the divine worship service during Youth Day. Special speakers were Robert Thomas, Maria Thomas, Shirilita Breese, Lanette McKinny and Reggie Thomas. The topics gave emphasis to the youth of today. The main speaker was Shirilita Breese.

## GETHSEMANE HOSTS HOMECOMING SABBATH

The Gethsemane church in Danville, Illinois, gave a special invitation to members who had been blessed by God during 1983 to be present on their special homecoming Sabbath.

The Sabbath school department's theme for the day was centered around ways to experience the love of God throughout the entire year.

Emmanuel Foxworth, pastor of the Dowagiac-Cassopolis, Michigan, district, was guest speaker for the divine worship service. His sermon was entitled, "Where Do We Go From Here?"

The Adventist Youth hour had a special theme, "The Homecoming." This meeting brought together a number of members who had not been present at church in quite a while. Children from the cradle roll and primary Sabbath school departments participated in the afternoon program.

Members from the Terre Haute, Indiana, and Champaign, Illinois, churches helped make the day a very special occasion.

Debra Murphy  
Communication Secretary

## MORE IN '84

Members of the Sharon church in Milwaukee, under the leadership of Pastor Auldwin Humphrey, were able to start the new year on a high for Christ during the Sabbath school hour.

Since this was the first Sabbath of the year, Superintendent Alby L. Boon, along with all of her co-workers, dedicated themselves to soul-winning and in-depth teacher training with emphasis on Jesus Christ. Another of their goals is to contact the community around the church.

Members and guests who attended the morning worship hour witnessed the ordination of two local elders, Edward Bryant and Lovernia Byers, as well as four deacons, Raymond Bell, Wallace Bright, Curtis Cherry and Anthony Kelly. Pastor Humphrey emphasized the responsibilities involved in these offices.

Along with these special events, one person was baptized into the family of God and Sharin' News, Sharon's newsletter, was presented to the church. The Sharon church in Milwaukee is definitely striving for more in '84.

Yvonne B. Harvey  
Communication Secretary



Literature evangelists of the Northeastern Conference.

## NORTHEASTERN'S PUBLISHING DEPARTMENT REACHES NEW HEIGHTS

By Stephanie D. Johnson

Keith Reid, a vibrant, committed, industrious young man, symbolizes the caliber of men and women who are now entering the ranks of literature evangelists in the Northeastern Conference.

After praying for an avenue in which to work in God's ministry, Reid was led to enter the literature ministry in December of 1982. When he made the decision to leave his position as a sales engineer for the DuPont Chemical Corporation, the largest chemical company in the world, his friends and colleagues questioned his sanity, since he received an annual salary of \$31,000 plus a \$1,500 monthly expense account and a company car.

His friends predicted that in a short time he would return to DuPont. They had no real understanding of the depth of his commitment to God's work. A year has now passed and God has richly blessed him. At the colporteur retreat he was named Northeastern's Literature Evangelist of the Year, having book deliveries of \$36,000. He is the area leader for District 5 in northern New England, which is comprised of Hartford and New London, Connecticut, and Springfield, Massachusetts. Due to the workings of the Holy Spirit and Reid's diligence, there are now twenty literature evangelists serving full-time and part-time in Hartford.

### Enormous Gifts and Talents

Among those involved in the publishing

ministry are Denise Dolland, a former marketing assistant for Research Services of New York City and the wife of the former Grenadian ambassador to the U.N. She has established a special ministry working among the Sunday churches in metropolitan New York and Long Island.

Anthony Blanc, a Haiti-born sculptor, musician and linguist, serves as the French coordinator for the publishing department.

Ligia Mack is the Spanish coordinator. Her task, almost identical to Blanc's, is to work among the millions of Spanish-speaking people in metropolitan New York.

William Golson serves as area leader for District 6 in southeastern New England, Albany, New York, and Bridgeport and Stamford, Connecticut. Golson is a strong, hard-working and persistent man. In 1983 he had the second largest total of deliveries in the conference—\$26,000.

Marvin Goodman, presently residing in Bridgeport, Connecticut, has the gift of winning and influencing people. This gift led him to enter the publishing work in August of 1982. Today he is the area leader for District 4, western New York—Syracuse, Rochester, Buffalo, Utica, Binghamton and Niagara Falls.

The publishing work has been strengthened and revitalized by men and women of enormous gifts and talents. One cannot forget the wealth of experience and ability Pastor William Morris, associate publishing director, has brought to the work. Before assuming his present position Morris served as pastor of the Mount Carmel church in Syracuse, New York.

Leonard Harris, also an associate publishing director, is firmly committed to the work. He has encouraged many colporteurs to try new methods of spreading the gospel.

Annie Richardson, by profession a social worker and counselor, serves as advertising coordinator for the department. Her task is to develop and market sales and services for the department in the community sector. She is involved in a number of short- and long-range projects, including a plan similar to Amway and Tupperware to sell books and magazines. She is also coordinating a plan to involve Pathfinders, youth groups and school-age children in selling magazines.

Her greatest contribution to the work may be the loving support she gives to her husband, Pastor Clarence Richardson, publishing director for the Northeastern Conference.

### Divine Strength and Human Effort

Richardson has served as publishing director for little more than a year, but during this time the work has grown by leaps and bounds. It is amazing what divine strength combined with human effort can accomplish.

When Pastor Richardson assumed his duties in the fall of 1982, reported sales totaled \$183,000. This year sales came to \$415,736.95.

### Church Rallies Bring Positive Responses

Pastor Richardson looks forward to the day when every member of the conference will become a literature evangelist. His motto, "full time, part time, any time, some time," has paid off. In 1982 the number of full-time colporteurs was six and fifteen were part-time. In 1983 the number was increased to 30 full-time and 35 part-time.

Also in 1983, the publishing ministry added 50 souls to the household of faith. Richardson pointed out three factors that led to this phenomenal increase: spiritual preparation, recruitment and training.

It is a known fact that unless a colporteur's life is spiritually in tune with God, it is impossible for him to succeed. The work of a literature evangelist, especially in large metropolitan areas, requires great courage, strength and perseverance. These gifts are acquired only through a continued and sustained relationship with God.





*Publishing leaders of the South Central Conference.*

## SOUTH CENTRAL PUBLISHING REPORT

1983 was a banner year for soul-winning for South Central's literature evangelists, as they were responsible for introducing 128 persons to this message.

The South Central Conference had the greatest student program last summer, with students from Oakwood College and other South Central Conference schools participating. The youths were responsible for more than \$40,000 in deliveries of truth-filled literature.

The grand total report is as follows:

Souls	128
Tracts	10,540
Bible Correspondence	
Enrollments	171
Interested Persons Attending	
Church	95
Former SDAs Contacted	98
Bible Studies Given	1,147
Baptisms	128

### District Sales:

Benjamin Cone—	
Mississippi	\$ 76,844.10
Lyndon Rowan—	
Tennessee	67,753.38
Alabama	53,025.32
Kentucky	62,033.23
Total Sales	\$259,656.03

The South Central Conference Publishing Department and its team of literature evangelists have set their goals for another banner year in 1984.



*The Aeolians of Oakwood College sang for the ASL meeting on Sabbath, October 22.*

## A.S.I. MEETS IN ALABAMA

Chessie Harris, founder of the Harris Home for Children, received a standing ovation from the crowd attending the annual national convention of the Adventist Laymen's Services and Industries (A.S.I.), which met this year in Lake Guntersville State Park near Huntsville, Alabama, October 19-22.

"She's a living miracle," declared one man excitedly as he reviewed Harris' sickness this year. She was joined by her husband, George Harris, as she read the plaques to the crowd in the Goldenrod II convention room.

She gave a moving report of how she received five white children from a social worker. The home was overcrowded. Harris stepped out by faith to buy more than \$50,000 worth of property next to her Home for Children, and she had no money. God moved on the hearts of those who had money, and the property was purchased and prepared for children. The audience's eyes were filled with tears as she told her story.

Fred Ramsey gave a rousing report of the unusual activities of the "Re-Creation Unlimited," an organization where volunteers go into the recreation areas of the nation and, through recreational activities, lead people to love and respect Christ.

Richard Bland had a stirring report of the "United Prison Ministries" in the Alabama area. Hearts were touched and once again the audience's eyes were filled with tears.

When Pastor Neal Wilson, president of the General Conference, stood, his face and voice showed deep emotion as he said, "I saw many tears this morning." He then quoted *Steps to Christ*, page 58: "God's promises are like fragrant flowers." He complimented the A.S.I. and its members and officers for their devotion and dedication to the Lord and their unique efforts to witness and help to carry the gospel to all the world.

President Wilson said that he just might invite some members of A.S.I. to take over the morning devotion and perhaps a Friday night meeting at the General Conference session.

E. C. Ward, pastor of the Oakwood College church, gave the devotionals for two mornings. In one he challenged the group to "Think bigger than 1,000,000 souls won by the next General Conference meeting." Ward suggested that

if all would act on faith, millions would be added to the church before the next General Conference session.

President Neal Wilson underlined the challenge of winning more than 1,000 per day, but pointed out that it took the church 50 years to reach its first million. To add one million in five years is an act of faith, he pointed out.

Loise Johnson of Huntsville brought her unique vegetarian foods. Dr. J. Pearson of Birmingham had a booth for Faith Academy, Andre and Heather Wilson came to represent the Country Life Health Food Cafeteria and Store, Charles and Gladys Terrell represented Terrell's Bindery and Print Shop in Nashville. The South Central Conference has at the present five members of the A.S.I. which is more than any other regional conference.

A.S.I. members took a tour of the Harris Pine Mill, the Huntsville Rocket Center, the Harris Home for Children, and Oakwood College, including radio station WCOG. The Aeolians gave an hour-long music program.

Officers of the A.S.I. are: Harold Lance, president, and Aaron N. Brogden, secretary. A. C. McClure, president of the Southern Union, gave the opening message. Kenneth H. Livesay is the executive secretary and treasurer. More than 300 businessmen and professionals are now members of A.S.I.

Maranatha Flights International is a division of A.S.I. They have built churches and schools in many parts of the world. Under M.F.I., 22 students went to the island of Dominica in the West Indies and built twelve homes in four days. M.F.I. builds churches in one and two weeks.

A.S.I. is inviting any professional and/or business persons or organizations to join the joyous march of living and witnessing for Jesus.

I. J. Johnson  
A.S.I. Secretary  
of South Central Conference

# OAKWOOD ALUMNI HOMECOMING APRIL 20-22



Southeastern health van serves the community in Fort Lauderdale.

### HEALTH CLUB SPONSORS COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

The health club of the Mt. Olivet SDA Church in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, had an exceptional year. A number of special community activities were held.

On the first Sabbath of each month, lunch was prepared and all visitors were invited to stay and participate. The meal was simple, attractive, tasty and nutritious.

The health leader then took the opportunity to lecture on the importance of a simple, natural diet. Each visitor was given a package containing exercise and caloric charts, a magazine and a health tract.

The local health department provided a dental hygienist, who checked children for cavities and gave instructions on how to brush properly. Cooking classes on the preparation of healthful meals were also taught.

The temperance parade and health fair were the highlights of the department's activities. The church gave full support to each venture and each department contributed.

### CHURCH OPERATES FOOD CENTER

The Elim Seventh-day Adventist Church in St. Petersburg, Florida, is a service-oriented church offering several teaching and benevolent opportunities to the public.

The church operates a community services program for those in need. On Tuesdays and Sundays, from 10 a.m. to

12 noon, the church offers clothes, food and household items to the community.

The Elim community services program, under the leadership of John C. Johnson and Dessie Allen, served as a government surplus food distribution center, giving away hundreds of pounds of cheese, butter, rice and other foods to thousands of poor people living in St. Petersburg.

The church operates the Elim Jolly Time Day Care Center and Kindergarten for children two to five years of age as another community project.

### THREE CHURCHES ORGANIZED IN SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE

The Jerusalem SDA Church in Miami, Florida, was organized with 135 members by President J. A. Edgecombe on December 17, 1983.



Dessie Allen, community service leader of St. Petersburg, Florida, in clothing distribution unit.

This fellowship of French believers stands as a monument to the efforts of Pastor Nathaniel Myrthil, personal ministries and Sabbath school director for the Franco-Haitian conference, who conducted the evangelistic meetings. Nearly 100 souls were baptized in Miami as a result of this effort supported by the Zion French church.

David McCalla, interim pastor for three French-speaking congregations, was responsible for arranging the organization and housing of this congregation in the Westminster Presbyterian Church. Roland Brise now pastors this church and Philadelphia.

In Avon Park, the Ridge Area SDA Church was organized by Pastor D. A. Walker, secretary-treasurer of the Southeastern Conference. Edward Ashley, elder of the church, spearheaded the efforts to see a church in that community. The church began with fourteen charter members.

Pastor and Mrs. David Steward of the Plant City church began working in the Thonotassassa area by distributing food baskets and clothing and doing other community service activities. This church was also organized by D. A. Walker on December 17.



President J. A. Edgecombe (standing fourth from right) with pastors Roland Brise and David McCalla at organization of Jerusalem SDA Church.



*Pastor Mack Wilson, the newly appointed pastor of the Ephesus church in New Orleans, Louisiana, shakes hands with the local elder Milan Jones who served as interim pastor. His wife Jeraldine looks on.*

## EPHESUS WELCOMES NEW MINISTER

Pastor Wilson is a native of Southampton, Bermuda. He received a B.A. from Columbia Union College in Takoma Park, Maryland, and an M.A. from Andrews University. He has pastored in Maryland, New Jersey and Bermuda.

He has also served as a departmental director in Sabbath school, ministerial and publishing areas. He has contributed to the organized work in a number of ways. He built a beautiful church in Maryland, hosted a TV program for five years in Bermuda and actively engaged in a successful soul-winning ministry.

Wilson is married to the former Jeraldine Fitzgerald, a school teacher. They have two children, Mack, Jr., 16, and Melinda, 11.



*The newly constructed Memorial SDA Church in Mansfield, Louisiana.*

## NEW CHURCH CONSTRUCTED IN LOUISIANA

The Memorial church in Mansfield, Louisiana, was organized in November of 1978. Pastor E. L. Howard had a vision that Mansfield was ready for the harvest. He pitched his tent on the corner of Johnson Street. From this effort four converts accepted the message. They were Johnnie Young, Jennie Brown, Beverly Young and Roberta Erwin.

A few Adventists from the Philadelphia church in Shreveport transferred their memberships to lend moral support to the new converts: Haynes Fuller, McLawrence and Velma Fuller, Timothy and McLawrence, Jr., Addie, Mercy, Ida, Rhonda, Larry, Pat, Mark, Roger, Darlene Fuller and Clifford Graves.

In 1979 Pastor Howard baptized five more converts. The leadership changed to Pastor Warren Humphrey in 1980 and he baptized three. He also acquired three acres of land for a new building. Even after the Humphreys left, they sent funds for a new building.

On the first Sabbath of July in 1982, the third pastor came on the scene: J. R.



*Left to right: Mr. Marlboro, personal ministries leader for the Memorial church, Mansfield, Louisiana, stands at the entrance of the newly constructed church with Mr. McLawrence Fuller, member and contractor, responsible for the construction of the church and Pastor S. Walters.*

Doggette. He and Pastor S. Walters held another tent effort and baptized 22 new converts before Doggette left for Andrews University. Walters remained to pastor the Mansfield church. Now they have their own building after renting for more than five years.

Some features of the new building include central air conditioning and heat, a pastor's study, three classrooms, a fellowship hall, earth-tone colors for cushioned pews and carpeting, and a seating capacity of 250.

The church spent \$35,000 for this structure. Much labor was donated and materials given. Upon completion, this structure is now valued at \$125,000.



*Literature evangelists N. Jackson, J. Sylvester, J. Marshall, W. C. Jones and B. Lewis are congratulated for sales of \$312,000 in 1983. Not pictured is J. Ragnauth.*

Thanks for the foresight of McLawrence Fuller, a local contractor and elder of the Mansfield church.

Velma Fuller  
Reporter

## SOUTHWEST REGION REPORTS SALES AND SOULS FOR 1983

For the past six years the publishing directors of the nine black conferences have met in Florida for their annual retreat. The meetings have consisted of spiritual refreshing, relaxation and fellowship.

What a joy to witness more than 500 literature evangelists with special guests from the General Conference, such as C. E. Bradford, Robert Smith and Harold Otis from the Review and Herald, and representatives from the Atlantic, Columbia and Southern Union conferences.

The communion service was a spiritual feature of this gathering, and the testimonies and experiences that these workers have witnessed were incredible.

The banquet culminated the activities of the retreat, where all gathered under a colorful setting with delicious food, fun and fellowship to report the year's happenings. Listed is the Southwest Region report for 1983:

### Districts

Ben Lewis, \$99,353.28, Fort Worth, Texas; Nathaniel Jackson, \$73,383.37, New Orleans, Louisiana; James Ragnauth, \$63,174.34, Little Rock, Arkansas; and Julian Sylvester, \$32,178.76, Houston, Texas.

### Top Sales

Carrie Marshall, \$35,092; Rodney and Linda Draggon, \$20,000; Amalia Baker, \$14,000; Rajathi Ragnauth, \$13,000; Mandy Martin, \$12,000; Harry Martin, \$12,000; Paul Bryant, \$11,714.34; Dornella Moore, \$10,919.42.

Pastor James Marshall and his associates are to be commended for the motivation and inspiration they imparted to the publishing work to the sum of \$312,265.01, which puts the Southwest Region in fifth place among the black conferences. Baptisms amounted to 101.

After all the conferences had reported, they totaled over \$4,000,000, which is a record for the black conferences across North America.

Doris Jones  
Reporter

# OAKWOOD COLLEGE



Oakwood College choir.

## MORE THAN A MUSICIAN

There are many different definitions of a musician. One of these is to have skill, taste and artistry in performing or composing music.

Eurydice Osterman is an assistant professor of music at Oakwood College. Of the many talents she has, her ability and skill in composing music shines out above them all. She began composing and arranging music at Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan, where she received bachelor's and master's degrees in music education.

Music is a tradition at Oakwood College. Over the years, the choir has touched many lives during its travels throughout the United States. Osterman has directed the college choir since 1978. The choir has performed on several occasions with the Huntsville Symphony Orchestra. Some of the works performed have been Vivaldi's *Gloria*, Bach's *Magnificat*, Beethoven's *Choral Fantasy* and Dubois' *The Seven Last Words of Christ*.

The most recent performance was April 16 with the string ensemble of the Huntsville Symphony Orchestra as they performed Schubert's *Mass in G*. The community was greatly blessed by this performance. During September, 1982, the choir appeared in concert at the World's Fair in Knoxville, Tennessee. The choir was chosen from hundreds of

applicants throughout the country and was rated "a very select group" by World's Fair personnel.

In 1964, under the direction of Joni Mae Pierre-Louis, the choir was selected to perform at the New York World's Fair. Performing at the World's Fair in Knoxville were groups from elementary, junior and senior high schools, colleges and universities, music academies, community centers, recruitment departments, various clubs and the military.

The choir prepared a patriotic program of music and poetry entitled "America the Beautiful." The themes were: "The Quest" (the longing for freedom); "The Arrival" (the sights and sounds of the new country); "A Special People" (the Negro slave); and "The Challenge" (the success of America dependent upon all people), representing the historical development of America from the past to the present.

Osterman often tells her choir that unless they learn to appreciate and understand the music eras (Baroque, Classical, Romantic and Contemporary), they have not arrived, as far as music is concerned.

There are almost 100 voices combined with praises to God in the college choir. Within the choir are many soloists, trios and quartets. When the choir travels as a smaller group, it is referred to as *Les Chanteurs*. The choir has recorded an album entitled, "Roll, Jordan, Roll."

For two consecutive years, Eurydice Osterman has received an award from Andrews University for her composition entitled "Alleluia," and her arrangement of the spiritual, "Oh, What a Beautiful City." Last year Osterman conducted the Andrews University Singers in their performance of "Alleluia" during the annual Founder's Day program.

Many of the songs the choir sings are composed or arranged by Osterman. She is indeed a talented woman. Her coming to Oakwood College has been an enriching blessing to all. Not only does she teach music, direct the choir and compose music, but she is also an outstanding organist as well as pianist. She has an ear for each voice in the choir. Last, but not least, she herself has a beautiful voice.

The things that make Eurydice Osterman more than a musician are her humble and Christ-like spirit and her ability to get along with other people. These qualities themselves bring the beauty out in her music. What are talents if a person claims all the glory? Voices and musical abilities are of God. Osterman and her choir give the praise and glory to God for all their successes.

When a person allows Christ to lead in her life, despite the circumstances, she will rise and shine out among all others. With this attitude demonstrated in her life, Eurydice Osterman is a musician's musician.

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*Dr. E. Good, in conference with patient's family.*



*Dr. S. W. Park, in consultation with Mrs. Moffitt, head nurse.*



*Dr. E. Good, medical director, with patient.*

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## The Medical Director

### MEETS THE CHALLENGES OF TOMORROW

Institutions, like individuals, experience identity crises at times. Many nursing centers, as well as health care professionals, have had difficulty assimilating the rapid growth of medicine.

Throughout the year, a major emphasis was placed on strengthening working relationships with personnel from all departments. The patient care committee has provided an excellent avenue of communication and information sharing. They are promoting an understanding of joint practice in the nursing home setting.

I firmly believe that the physicians at Victory Lake Nursing Center will remain masters of their tools and that professionalism of the highest order will continue to characterize the medical practice here as it has for the past 11 years.

Edmund E. Good, M.D.  
Medical Director

## IN THE NEWS



*Ephesus church, Lenox Avenue at 125th Street in the heart of Harlem.*

### THE DREAMKEEPERS: EPHESUS BURNS MORTGAGE

In 1930, during the Depression, a small group of Seventh-day Adventists, led by their pastor, the late E. G. Peters, purchased a stately Gothic church on 123rd Street and Lenox Avenue in Harlem, New York. This was the beginning of a dream. Fifteen years later, in 1945, more than 1,000 members had been added to the church.

Ephesus dreamkeepers knew that one day their church would be the home of the largest black Seventh-day Adventist congregation in North America. In 1969, the membership of Ephesus exceeded 2,000. That same year a devastating fire practically destroyed the church.

"Hold fast to dreams, for if dreams die, life is a broken-winged bird that cannot fly," are the immortal words of poet Langston Hughes. They are descriptive of a people who refused to allow the dream of a restored, debt-free church to perish.

The church was restored and completed in 1977 at a cost of \$1,250,000. The acquired mortgage was \$500,000. On April 2, 1977, the dreamkeepers returned to their beloved church home after having worshipped in St. Andrew's

Episcopal Church for eight years. On that Sabbath morning the large Ephesus congregation marched from their rented quarters back to their church home.

Standing in the crowd that lined the march route on that memorable day were feet of all descriptions, some comfortably shod, others modishly shod. There were feet of old women and men, feet used to the outdoors, strong, flat, square feet that ached easily. These feet contrasted noticeably with the feet of the young, which seemed free from bunions and callouses. Of whatever description, the feet moved together. Above them, the faces shone with happiness, pride and success. The march ended, speech-making over and prayers said, the cry came from the marchers, "Home at last."

Now that the dreamkeepers were back in their church home, they looked forward to that day when the mortgage would be retired. On Sabbath, July 16, 1983, the members of Harlem's Ephesus Seventh-day Adventist Church saw their dream fulfilled. The church mortgage was burned, indicating that the \$500,000 indebtedness was paid.

The divine worship service was most uplifting with music rendered by the Voices of Praise, the youth choir and Edwina Humphrey. The guest speaker was Pastor Charles Bradford, who is president of the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists. He reminded members of the first "beginnings" of the Ephesus church, when a handful of people purchased the building. The "city-folk" laughed and said, "they will never fill it."

Bradford's message focused on I John 3:11, which states that "we should love one another." He said that the final examination for God's people will be but one question, "Did you love your brother?" Then he urged everyone to "let your love reign throughout Northeastern Conference so definitely, so specifically, that the whole world will say, 'There they are, a people who love.'"

Special words of congratulation were also received from John Nixon, former interim pastor of Ephesus from September 5, 1979, through May 17, 1980. Pastor Nixon was very involved with the mortgage liquidation program and several thousand dollars were raised during his administration.

Dr. Leon G. Cox, pastor of Ephesus, led out in the "act of dedication" in

which the entire church reconsecrated itself anew to God and dedicated the "entire building to the cause and service of God."

Participants in the actual burning of the mortgage were Dr. Leon G. Cox, Ephesus pastor, Mervetta Lister, church treasurer, Pastor George R. Earle, Northeastern Conference president, Pastor Luther Crooker, treasurer, Atlantic Union Conference; Pastor Edward Phipps, former building committee chairman, and Wilfred Gooden, present building committee chairman. A quiet sense of deep gratitude to almighty God was felt by those present as the mortgage was burned, leaving only ashes as a reminder.

To close out the ceremonies, Edwin J. Humphrey, pastor of Ephesus during its most difficult days, gave the dedicatory prayer. As he rose to pray, the dreamkeepers in one accord stood as a symbolic act of gratitude to God and the former pastor for outstanding leadership during those days of struggle.

The New Believers Chorus, directed by Rosa Lee Jones, rendered the final act of blessing as they majestically sang, "Bless This House, O Lord We Pray."

Special thanks go to *all* who assisted in the planning of the day, but especially to the many members, friends and conferences (Northeastern, Atlantic Union and General Conference) who were determined to "hold fast a dream," who were determined to see the dream of the Ephesus mortgage burning become a reality.

Caroline Jones  
Communication Secretary

### OBITUARIES

Mildred G. Lomax, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Amos Bell, was born in Meridian, Mississippi. She was the second of five children and lived for 36 years in New York City, where she began her nursing career after graduating from Brooklyn Community College.

It was during an evangelistic effort conducted by Pastor Calvin E. Moseley, Jr., in Meridian in 1938 that she accepted the Lord as her personal Savior. She worked as a colporteur, Bible worker, pianist, church clerk, deaconess and loving friend to many.

Her two husbands preceded her in death: Victor A. Duncan in 1960 and Raymond T. Lomax in 1973.

After moving to Huntsville, Alabama, in 1979, she continued her nursing career and was soon active in the Oakwood College church, serving as a deaconess until her final illness.

This beloved mother, grandmother, daughter and sister leaves to mourn: her mother, Fannie V. Bell of Atlantic City, New Jersey; one uncle, Grover Harrison of Montgomery, Alabama; one daughter, Barbara W. Hearon; four sons, Victor A. Duncan, Michael Duncan, Jerome N. Duncan, II, and Stephen W. Duncan; one son-in-law, David R. Hearon, Jr.; two daughters-in-law, Reta Floyd and Gussie Hawkins-Duncan; seven grandsons, David, Dana, Jonathan, Jeffry and Sean Hearon, Keithron and Justin Duncan; three sisters, Odessa White, Cappitolia Robinson and Aliyya Kareem; one brother, Connie P. Bell; and a host of loving relatives and friends.

On Tuesday, January 10, 1984, at 9:41 p.m., Mildred went to rest in the Lord to await the call of the Life Giver.

0



Annie Sue Gilbert Merideth.

Annie Sue Gilbert Merideth, the fifth child of Burl and Sarah Gilbert, was born, educated and taught school in LaGrange, Georgia. She later met and married James Thomas Merideth. They were blessed with six children.

In October of 1931, she became a member of the Berean Seventh-day Adventist Church, where she had been a "cornerstone" for over 52 years. Her faithfulness to her church included service as children's Sabbath school divi-

sion leader and ardent Ingatherer and 48 years as a dedicated deaconess.

Continuing in the tradition of her home, she nobly assumed the matriarchal and patriarchal responsibilities in raising her children after the death of her husband in 1935.

Merideth, who was affectionately known as "Mama-nee," was a lover of young people and her home became a "house by the side of the road" as they sought her counsel and understanding, as well as her support and encouragement.

She departed this life on Sunday, January 22, leaving to cherish her memory: one son, Pastor James Merideth, Sr., of Nashville, Tennessee; four daughters, Maude Smith of Atlanta, Georgia, Sarah Lester of Columbus, Ohio, Dorris Hill of Nashville, Tennessee, and Irene Bowden of Atlanta, Georgia; three sons-in-law; two daughters-in-law; one brother-in-law; four sisters-in-law; nine grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; nieces, nephews and a host of other relatives and friends.

## LAY WITNESSING BRINGS RESULTS

Ellen Collins, a member of the Calvin Center church in Cassopolis, Michigan, is constantly looking for opportunities to witness about her God.

An opportunity was opened to her when she was contacted by Robert Connor concerning her assistance in some business matters. This contact gave her the opportunity to invite Robert to some evening church meetings. Connor graciously accepted the invitation and also consented to let Collins give him Bible studies.

When the series of Bible studies was completed, Collins invited her Bible student to a church evangelistic meeting being conducted in Dowagiac by Gene Donaldson, a seminary student at nearby Andrews University.

Although Collins worked during the night shift, she sacrificed her rest time during the evenings to accompany Robert to the meetings.

When the invitation to join the church was given, Collins was thrilled to see Connor respond by joining the church. He is now baptized and is faithfully attending the Dowagiac and Cassopolis churches.

Beatrice Hampton  
Communication Secretary

## THE NORTH AMERICAN REGIONAL VOICE

**NORTH AMERICAN REGIONAL VOICE**  
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