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**Afro-American
Music Congress
—Nashville, TN**



COVER STORY

LIFE EVERY VOICE AND SING Highlights from the Congress of Afro-American Religious Music

by Stephanie Johnson

The idea of a Congress of Afro-American Religious Music took shape in the mind of its originator, Elder Shelton Kilby, Director of Music Ministry Department for South Central Conference, two years ago.

Being a pianist, composer, arranger, conductor and lecturer, he felt a need to organize a congress of interdenominational musicians to restore and perpetuate Black sacred music in the worship service.

After much fasting, prayer, consultation and planning, his dream became a reality. The first annual Congress of Afro-American Religious Music was held February 5-8 at the Tennessee Performing Arts Center, Nashville, Tennessee.

Musicians from various denominations and Seventh-day Adventist musicians and music lovers from all the Black Conferences, the Pacific and North Pacific Union and overseas were in attendance.

February was chosen because it is a month set aside to commemorate the achievements of Afro-Americans. Elder Kilby felt this time would "invoke feelings of pride, hope and dedication to restore and perpetuate our musical heritage."

The congress performed its task beginning with the Keynote address on Wednesday night by Dr. C.E. Boddie, President emeritus of the American Baptist Theological Seminary, Nashville, TN.

On Thursday and Friday, lectures focused on the historical and musical interpretation of Black sacred music. Dr. Beverly Vaughn, Professor of Music at Stockton State College, Pomona, New Jersey laid the foundation in her presentation, "Historical Overview of Pre-Slavery Music."

Dr. Vaughn pointed out that music played an important role in African society. In fact, it accompanied every activity of their lifestyle before slavery. In Africa musicians were held in high esteem. This love for music was carried to America. It is one of the slaves' God given gifts that time, environment, nor slave master could efface.

Dr. Mellone Burnim, Professor of Ethnomusicology at Indiana State University, continued to weave the history of Black

sacred music with her discourse, "Inter-relationship of Negro Spirituals and Gospel Music." The Negro spiritual originated in the 18th century rural South. These songs expressed the yearning and hope of deliverance from slavery. Gospel music, according to Dr. Burnim, did not represent a break with the Black musical heritage rather it was a new dimension of expression of a musical continuum.

GOSPEL MUSIC—Blacks Contribution to Sacred Music

Gospel Music was born in the 20th century in the Urban North during the Great Migration in 1915. Millions of Blacks left the South for the industrialized North, after centuries of living in the oppressive South. They looked upon the North as the promised land. With their environment and prosperity came a new expression of music.

Although Blacks left the South, they did not leave behind their traditions, culture or religious practices. Entire churches were transplanted.

Gospel music went through three periods:

1) **Transitional Period**—1900-1930, C.A. Tinley, Methodist Minister, singer and songwriter typified this period. The music of this period was highly repetitious and improvised. Gospel music still sounded like spirituals as is apparent in Tinley's songs, "Stand by Me", "We Shall Overcome", and "We'll Understand It Better By and By".

2) **Traditional Period**—Chicago was the center of the traditional period with Mahalia Jackson and Thomas Dorsey bringing Gospel music from storefront churches into mainstream denominations.

Thomas Dorsey, who wrote among his other songs, "Precious Lord, Take My Hand", was the son of a Baptist minister who became a proficient jazz and blues musician.

When he began to write sacred music, he didn't discard the blues and jazz notes. His music was not accepted by mainstream denominations because the pastors viewed the music as sinful.

He first went from church to church to demonstrate his music, because during this time a songwriter only wrote the words not the music, but was often refused or deliberately overlooked.

So he would get Mahalia Jackson to demonstrate his music on a street corner. People would listen and buy his music. He also met with difficulty in finding a publisher. So he began to publish his own

music. In the 1930's, he created the National Convention of Gospel Choirs and Choruses, an organization established to improve Black Music.

3) **Contemporary Period**—This period originated in 1969 with Edwin Hawkins', "O Happy Day". It is characterized by greater complexity of arrangement. Among the premiere exponents of this musical trend is Andre Crouch, James Cleveland, etc.

Dr. Burnim summed up Gospel Music as a means of promoting "cultural pride and self-esteem, it is a means of worship and praise." Oftentimes it is dramatically opposed, polar opposites of western music.

"Not accidental, not because Blacks were unable to do anything else but because they chose to identify themselves in this way based on their historical past.

"Gospel music is a dynamic form of religious expression created by Blacks, for Blacks . . ."

Musical Guidelines — Motive, Function and Appropriateness

Church musicians are often confronted with what is appropriate for church. Are anthems and hymns more appropriate than gospel music? Elder Kilby answered this query by setting down three points that will aid the musician.

Motive—What is the reason for this song? Is it going to glorify God or self? I Corinthians 9:19, like Paul, we must be "made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some."

Function—What is the purpose? Is the music compatible to the sermon? Phillipians 4:8,9 should be the criteria. "Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just . . ."

Appropriateness—A person may be innocent in their motive and not be blameless in function.

A gospel artist may take a Top 40 hit and substitute the lover's name for Jesus. This is not appropriate. Listeners cannot identify this as sacred music, their minds wander back to the pop song. Phillipians 4:8,9 is the measuring stick when it comes to appropriateness.

Dr. Garland Dulan, Chairman of the Behavioral Science Department at Oakwood College, examined "Future Perspective Into Sociological Trends in the Black Church". He suggested that the Black Church should not only focus on temporal concerns, but spiritual matters as well.

The Black Church must recapture its historic relationship to the community. It "must once again become the soul of Black people." He concluded his presentation by stating, "History will bless us for leading the fight for all men. Not just freedom but opportunity, not just legal equality as a right and theory, but equality as a fact in practice. This can never become a reality unless we place our agenda for action, a plan for purpose of action, this the goal and perspective of the Black Church today."

Dr. Margaret Douroux, composer, arranger who is presently in the process of establishing a Gospel Music Foundation in Los Angeles, focused on the Integration of Sacred Music into the "Black Experience" and "Interpretation of Black Sacred Music."

"Each generation," Dr. Douroux pointed out, "brings a new entity that to the sacred music, but the entity that never changes is the dimension that worships the Lord."

Dr. Douroux, the writer of many sacred songs among them "Give Me A Clean Heart" stressed throughout her lecture that the "study of God's word (was) most essential" if one is going to write gospel music. All of her songs are based on the word of God. "I teach Gospel music as an extension of God . . . I don't know how you can teach a song without the word of God."

She stressed the importance of being prepared. "Gospel music has its own presentation," she said, "but (it) does not distract from requirements of preparation. Gospel music is perceived by some as an illegitimate form of music because most people have not found the urgency to make it a form of music that everybody can share. It has not been written down and in most cases it has been notated by white publishers.

Dr. Douroux cautioned musicians to, "evaluate the lyrics rather than the rhythm. . . You can choose a song for rhythm and has no lyric message at all and have nothing but rhythm. And you can get rhythm at your favorite neighborhood bar. When you want to witness and glorify God, you need to focus on the message, rhythm is coincidental."

Walking Forward By Looking Backward

Elder Kilby, "A Theology of Music", showed how people of color impacted on the 2300 Day prophecy. He began briefly by tracing the development of sacred music.

A.D. 800-1400—Plain song development performed by priest. Also, the origin of the Gregorian Chant.

A.D. 1400-1500—Renaissance/Reformation period laid the foundation for western church music.

A.D.1500—Slavery introduced to the western world.

A.D. 1517—Martin Luther denounces the corruption of the papacy. He introduces congregational singing.

A.D. 1693—Negro slaves began singing hymns and songs they learned from their protestant masters.

A.D. 1702—The Great Awakening, religious revival in America. Slaves were also touched by this revival. They learned to sing songs from their white master, but refused to sing them according to the style of their master. This was also the era of great hymn writers, John Wesley, Issac Watts, etc.

A.D. 1798—End of papal supremacy.

A.D. 1844—Great Disappointment, God did not return to earth but rather began the Investigative Judgement. Kilby pointed out that God could not come in 1844 because slavery still existed in America, the British still ruled India.

He encouraged musicians to broaden their focus beyond 16th century papal inspired music. He described this musical paralysis "as walking forward by looking back." He warned musicians not to subject potential members to a music that did not glorify Christ for the most part.

He encouraged them to reach people on their musical level. "I am suggesting," Kilby said, "that we've got to do as the Psalmist says, if there is not any music around, we've got to write a new song, and the new song has got to be palatable . . . If it means you have to write it in a horizontal style so be it . . . If you've got to do it in vertical style so be it."

"Gospel music," he continued, "must be communicated in whatever style necessary that folks may know of Christ and His soon coming."

Among the other guest lecturers were: Xavier Butler, pastor of the Riverside Chapel, Nashville, Tennessee, who discussed the Black Church and worship; Walter Arties of Breath of Life, presented a film and music; Thomas Cain of Broadcast Music, Inc., a non-profit organization that collects royalties for songwriters and publishers, focused on the business side of music in his presentation, "Songwriting, Publishing and Copyright."

Bobby Holmes discussed "What is Jazz?" Mrs. Diane Poe, artist in residence and professor of music at the Baptist Theological Seminary, Nashville, Tennessee and Dr. Bobbie Jones, syndicated television artist and founder of New Life Singers, Inc. of Nashville were among the panelists participating in the Music Forum. Pastor Joe Grider of Jackson, Mississippi was the daily devotional speaker.

On Sabbath morning more than 2000 were in attendance as Elder J. Paul Monk, President of Central States and a concert pianist spoke on "Too Soon to Celebrate." The Sabbath service, in fact starting with sunset Friday night, a rich array of musical talent was presented, among them the Oakwood College Choir, under the direction of Dr. Eurydice Osterman.

A distinct work is assigned to every Christian.—Southern Watchman, Aug. 2, 1904.

Music, Music, Music

In addition to the lectures, every night — Thursday, Friday and Saturday, the Congress presented a concert. It was a smorgasbord of musical types — soloists, choirs, quartets, instrumentals, performing contemporary gospel, anthems, spirituals, etc. Thursday night was a horizontal concert, this is the style of music in which man witnesses to his fellow man about the goodness of God. This music takes on a very contemporary beat and is often accompanied by drums and bass guitars. The performers were: Clifton Davis, Bob Bailey, Bobby Jones, and Eddie Williams and Company.

Friday featured a vertical concert, this is the style of music known as high church, where man looks up to communicate with God. The artists were: Brian Jones, Gail Murphy, Shelton Kilby, Duane Hamilton, Edwina Humphrey, Walter Arties, Breath of Life Quartet and the Aeolians.

Saturday night was a horizontal concert. The artists performing were: A Special Blend, Cordell Newton, Alwyn Nesbitt, Victor Brooks Jr., Reality, Wintley Phipps, Gail Murphy and Co., Warren Smith and Glory, Alliance, Tracy Wright, the Jim Palmore Group, Debbie Steele, the AARM Mass Choir, and Richard Smallwood Singers.

One thing is certain, each attendee left with a greater appreciation for Black sacred music that may prove to spark a revival throughout the Black Seventh-day Adventist Church.

POLISH MAGAZINE DEFENDS ADVENTIST MINISTER

The inscription defacing the poster in Warsaw, Poland, commissioned by the Seventh-day Adventist Church to announce the evangelistic crusade featuring Elder Walter L. Pearson, Jr., proclaimed, "The idea is to smash Catholicism!" The following day, someone tore the picture of Elder Pearson's head off the poster. The national Polish magazine *Perspektywy* rallied to Elder Pearson's defense in an article entitled, "Adventures of an Evangelist," in which they decried the actions of those who felt threatened by a minister simply sharing his convictions in a land with a great tradition of toleration.

Posters plastered throughout the city of Warsaw had heralded the arrival of Elder Pearson, pastor of the Berean S.D.A. Church in Atlanta, Georgia, and the third black minister ever to preach in Poland. Members of the Warsaw S.D.A. Church flooded the city with handbills, personally inviting their predominately Catholic neighbors to attend the meetings.

Capacity crowds turned out to hear Elder Pearson preach the Adventist message during the month-long revival last October. At many of the meetings it was standing room only in the 300-seat sanctuary, with people sometimes even spilling out into the hallways. Over 70 percent of the attendees were non-Adventist.

The Holy Spirit moved upon the hearts of the people leading many to accept the God-given truths Elder Pearson shared. One gentleman, after hearing the sermon on tithing, decided to give some money he had saved to purchase warm clothing in preparation for Poland's chilling winter months to God for back tithing. The next day when he arrived at work, his employer asked him to meet with him in his office, a most unusual request which usually signaled negative action. However, when his employer met with him, he gave him a new coat. Elder Pearson was assured that this was not a common practice for employers in Poland.

An especially moving experience for Elder Pearson was the response of people whose lives and heritage had been emersed in the Catholic church. "These people seemed to be touched emotionally just by the fact that we are into Jesus

Christ and the relationship with Him. You've got to understand that their relationship with Christ is at least once removed, and possible more because they believe that you must go through the priest and through Mary to reach Christ," Elder Pearson explained. "When I began to talk about reaching Christ directly on your knees in prayer, there were many people who were touched to tears."

But for others, the ties that bound them to the Catholic church were unbreakable. Elder Pearson recalled an evening when an elderly woman who appeared to be in her mid-seventies approached him with tears in her eyes. She said, "Pastor, I cannot become a Seventh-day Adventist. I am too old. But I want you to know that you're telling the truth. The Holy Spirit told me that what you say is the truth." Even after Elder Pearson attempted to convince her that it was not too late to change, her final answer was, "No, it's too late for me. I must remain in what I am." Some rejected the message and openly challenged Elder Pearson. When the Sabbath doctrine was presented, a group of young people stood up during the meeting, and one of them shouted, "You are lying!" However, they willingly sat down when Elder Pearson asked them to.

During the month-long crusade, Elder Pearson and Elder Wlodzimierz Pilch, pastor of the Warsaw S.D.A. Church, daily visited with people who were interested in the meetings, with those who had decided to be baptized, and with others who had been studying in baptismal classes but were still wavering. Elder Pearson also conducted an evangelism seminar for ministerial students and Bible workers who were studying at the Adventist Polish Seminary in Podkova Lesna. A question and answer period followed each of the evangelistic meetings.

Elder Pearson freely preached the Word of God in a socialist country that has given Pastor Lyko, the secretary of the Polish Union, the opportunity to be an instructor at the government sponsored Academy of Theology in Warsaw. Pastor Lyko comes in contact with each student who enters the Academy. A set of Adventist Commentaries is also a part of the Academy's library.

At the end of the meetings, 12 persons who had been studying the doctrines of Adventism in baptismal classes were baptized. Over 70 others joined the baptismal class. Elder Stanislaw Dabrowski, president of the Polish Union, expects that

God will bless the church in Warsaw with well over 100 new believers as a result of the meetings conducted by Elder Pearson.

HELL DISAPPEARED AND HAPPINESS CAME

by Eugene Hamlin

"I was afraid of Hell," said Dana DeRoche, "but when I became an Adventist that fear disappeared."

DeRoche bought a Happiness Digest from Sue Draper—a member of the Federalsburg, Maryland, Adventist Church. The seventeen year old girl read the condensed version of Steps of Christ. The love of God portrayed in the digest started to ease her fear of hell. She responded to a coupon in the pamphlet that invited her to write the Adventist Information Ministry for the New Life Bible Guides.

DeRoche's letter was among the one hundred thousand calls or letters that A.I.M. processes each year.

A.I.M. Chaplain Carl Hinds—now a pastor at the West Philadelphia Adventist Church—was impressed with her letter. Hinds and other seminary students respond to letters like DeRoche's. They write a letter or call the interested person. A.I.M.'s mission is soul winning. It also gives experience to students as they work as chaplains. Hinds called DeRoche.

She was surprised and pleased that Hinds would call long distance from Berrien Springs, Michigan, to see if A.I.M. could do anything else for her. Hinds took a few minutes to get acquainted with her. After she felt comfortable with him, he asked how God fit into her life. She wasn't happy with her church—it didn't have a family atmosphere. The members weren't close to each other. Hinds asked if DeRoche would like to visit an Adventist Church. She said yes. He gave her the address and phone number of the Federalsburg, Maryland, church.

Several weeks later, DeRoche visited the church. Pastor Thomas Hughes met her at the church entrance—he made her feel at home. A Revelation Seminar was starting soon, so Hughes invited her to attend. She accepted.

"DeRoche was a good student," Hughes said. "She filled out all the seminar material. In addition, she completed all thirty-four lessons of the New Life Bible Guides." The pastor baptized her at the conclusion of the seminar.

DeRoche found Christian fellowship in her new church. The members made her feel like a part of the family. Her Sabbath

School class went skating. She became good friends with the pastor's two daughters.

Chaplain Hinds kept in touch with her. DeRoche earned money for a college education in Florida. At the end of the summer, she came back home. "I missed my new church family. It's good to be back."

Welcome home.

Eugene Hamlin is an A.I.M. Communications intern.

ALLEGHENY EAST



Children conduct worship at Dupont SDA Church. Christopher Bailey speaks during the Divine hour.

CHILDREN LEAD OUT IN DIVINE WORSHIP

Eight children led out during a recent Divine Worship Hour at the Dupont Park Church in Washington, D.C. They were introduced with a brief biographical sketch presented by pastor Harold L. Lee. This sketch told about each child's career aspirations. This was DuPont Park's First Annual Children's Day.

Seven-year-old Christopher Bailey led the congregation with a sermon entitled "Trust". It took into account the feelings of young Isaac as he so dutifully followed the guidance of his ever faithful and trusting father, Abraham. Chris put aside his notes and made an appeal to the young and old to join the mighty army of Christ. Sixteen children answered this call.

The program featured Lonika Wagner, six year old granddaughter of Associate Pastor Alonzo Wagner, singing "My Heavenly Father Watches Over Me".

Other children who participated were Iris and Jason Craig, Deborah Jacks,



Musicians and music lovers taking part in the first annual Congress of Afro-American Religious Music, held at the Tennessee Performing Arts Center, Nashville, Tennessee.

SUNSET CALENDAR

	April 25	May 2	9	16
Boston, Mass.	6:37	7:45	7:52	8:00
New York City	6:46	7:54	8:02	8:09
Buffalo, N.Y.	7:09	8:17	8:24	8:32
Atlanta, Ga.	6:53	7:59	8:04	8:09
Miami, Fla.	6:34	7:38	7:41	7:44
Charlotte, N.C.	7:04	8:10	8:16	8:21
Birmingham, Ala.	6:25	7:31	7:36	7:41
Jackson, Miss.	6:37	7:42	7:47	7:52
Memphis, Tenn.	6:41	7:46	7:52	7:58
Louisville, Ky.	7:28	8:35	8:41	8:47
Detroit, Mich.	7:26	8:33	8:41	8:48
Chicago, Ill.	6:42	7:49	7:57	8:00
South Bend, Indiana	7:37	7:44	7:52	7:59
Minneapolis, Minn.	7:11	8:20	8:28	8:36
St. Louis, Mo.	6:47	7:53	8:00	8:06
Kansas City, Mo.	7:05	8:12	8:19	8:25
Denver, Co.	6:48	7:55	8:02	8:08
Little Rock, Ark.	6:49	7:54	8:00	8:05
Dallas, Texas	7:05	8:10	8:14	8:20
New Orleans, La.	6:33	7:38	7:42	7:47
Albuquerque, N.M.	6:47	7:52	7:58	8:04
Oklahoma City, Okla.	7:11	8:17	8:23	8:28

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

Trenita Williams, Akin Turner, Marcus Brown, Wayne Marshall, Bryant Goodin, George Bogans and Vennard Wright.

The two-week-old choir was directed by Mrs. Catherine Wagner.

Members of the congregation expressed their appreciation.

Joan P. Lewis
Communication Secretary



Gwendolyn Norwood.

TWO NEW SECRETARIES

Two office secretaries recently joined the office staff of the Allegheny East Conference.

Mildred Gill is employed in the Personal Ministries, Family Life and Community Services Departments and Gwendolyn Norwood serves in the Stewardship and Sabbath School Departments. Both ladies are experienced in their fields.

Mildred Gill has had specialized training as a Medical/Dental Receptionist and holds a Certificate in this field from the Bryman School in Atlanta, Georgia. In addition, she holds current Illinois and New York Practical Nurse Licenses. Since 1972, Mrs. Gill has worked as a Nurse Office Manager for several doctors. Presently, she is working toward an Associate of Applied Science Degree with a Medical Secretary major. From June, 1979 until her present appointment, she was employed as a secretary to the Youth Department of the Lake Region Conference.

Mrs. Gill is married to Elder Conrad Gill, Principal of Pine Forge Academy. They are the parents of two sons and one daughter.

Gwendolyn Norwood is a graduate of Columbia Union College in Takoma Park, MD with a major in Elementary Education and a minor in Library Science.

She has been employed in the library of Columbia Union College and Pine Forge

Academy. She also worked as a teacher in the Pennsylvania Conference. Mrs. Norwood was formerly employed in the Allegheny East Conference as printer's assistant and secretary and later as secretary to the president under the administration of Elder L.R. Palmer.

Just prior to returning to Allegheny East, Mrs. Norwood was employed in the Employee Benefit Division of Aetna Insurance since 1982, receiving upgrading every year until the present.

Mrs. Norwood is married to Ernest Norwood and they have three daughters.



Mildred Gill.

MIZPAH TRIPLES INVESTMENT GOAL

The Mizpah Church of Philadelphia had set \$500 as its investment goal. Thelma Smith, Investment Leader, reports that this goal set by the Sabbath School council, was more than tripled by the investments of the Sabbath School classes as well as by personal investments.

All kinds of projects were undertaken including appetite control, jobs, education, self-denial and good health.

Wilma Sampson, a Public Health student at Temple University invested her grades. She has received mostly A's since she started this project. In addition she was nominated to receive an Achievement Award and be listed in the 1986 edition of "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges." In her biographical sketch she mentions her affiliation with the Seventh-day Adventist Church. She is planning to attend graduate school in September and will continue with her investment project.

Five-year old Rickey Richards had collected "on-time" buttons that his father received every time he arrived on time for Sabbath School. Rickey invested in good



Thelma Smith, Investment Leader.



Left to Right: Wilma Sampson, Temple student; Thelma Smith, Investment Leader.

behavior in church. For every time he was successful, he would pin an "on-time" button on one of his father's ties and contribute \$1 to investment. On Investment Day, he had a tie full of "on-time" buttons.

William Linthicum, Mizpah pastor, expressed his pleasure and says that the church plans an even greater success story for next year.

Ruth Wilkerson
Communication Secretary



Elder George L. Braxton.

BRAXTON CELEBRATES TEN YEARS AT WEST PHILLY

George L. Braxton recently celebrated his tenth anniversary as the pastor of the West Philadelphia congregation, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. During the morning service a gift of thanks was bestowed upon him and afterwards he enjoyed a "thank you" dinner.

Under his leadership, West Philly has doubled its membership and is still growing. Braxton led the church from a small converted house at 55th and Haverford into the present sanctuary.

On February 22, he swelled the membership further by baptizing 12 more people. Two of them came into the church as a direct result of the church's soup kitchen. This long running service was also initiated by Elder Braxton.

He says "the Lord is not finished with us" and "the struggles are not yet over." He is looking forward to the finishing of his church, his retirement and the Lord's soon coming.

Mark Frog Harris
Communication Secretary



Kimberly Grant: first prize winner at the Annual Baby Contest, Nov. 24, 1985.

BABY CONTEST AIDS ACADEMY

The Kings Daughters of Berea Temple, Baltimore, Maryland, raised a grand total of \$2,274.61 at their Annual Baby Contest held on Sunday, November 24, 1985, to help defray the operating costs of Baltimore Junior Academy.

Some of the little participants marched boldly to the platform, some required coaxing by parents, but all stood tall and fearless as their pictures were taken. Kimberly Grand and Justin Stanley left no doubt that they are both destined for Hollywood's "Academy Awards".

Kimberly Grant, daughter of Armada and Michael Grant was awarded 1st prize for her enormous contribution of \$759.76.

Other participants in the event were: Stephanie & Terrell Barrett, Diona Brown, James Clayburn, Anthony Felder, Anthony Mitchell, Durall Scott, Keith Simms, Jr., Christina & Justin Stanlen and Stephen Tucker.

SDA'S PARTICIPATE IN POST OFFICE OPENING

Pine Forge, Pennsylvania has a new post office building. IN fact, it is the first post office ever built in the tiny village that is home for the Allegheny East Conference and Pine Forge Academy.

The Pine Forge post office has a history that goes back more than 100 years. However, the present structure has a history unlike all others.

There was some opposition to building a new post office building in Pine Forge. The Allegheny East Conference and the Pine Forge Academy officials had to rally behind the Pine Forge community to ensure that it would be built.

The opening ceremonies included speeches by the Honorable Gus Yatron, a member of the U.S. House of Representatives from Pennsylvania, along with representatives from the U.S. Postal Service and the Board of Supervisors of Douglass (Berks County) Township.

Elder W.W. Fordham, who spearheaded the support rally, also served as the Master of Ceremonies.

Elder M.C. Van Putten, President of the Allegheny East Conference gave remarks on behalf of the conference community.

Samuel Darby, Jr., vice principal of Pine Forge Academy represented the academy staff.

Perhaps the most moving contribution to the opening ceremonies was the singing of "American the Beautiful" by the Pine Forge S.D.A. Elementary School.

Allegheny East Conference and Pine Forge Academy are two of the largest users of the post office.



Robert H. Trainer presents Estate Whole Life Insurance Policy to M.C. Van Putten, co-chairman of Pine Forge Academy Board of Trustees. Left to right: B.W. Mann, Conference Treasurer, M.C. Van Putten, Robert H. Trainer, Conrad Gill, school principal and Dennis Keith, Allegheny West Conference Treasurer.



Mrs. Geraldine Handy presents Conrad Gill, academy principal with her Estate Whole Life Insurance Policy valued at \$25,000 at maturity.



Children from the Pine Forge SDA Elementary School sing for the Post Office opening.

PINE FORGE ACADEMY RECEIVES TWO ESTATE WHOLE LIFE POLICIES

Mrs. Geraldine Handy, widow of Robert L. Handy, former dean of boys and Farm Director at Pine Forge Academy gave the academy a special gift. It was an Estate Whole Life Insurance Policy valued at \$25,000. The policy premiums are paid for by Mrs. Handy. The policy matures at her death.

Mrs. Handy has been a staunch supporter of Pine Forge Academy since its beginning and has her life and heart wrapped up in its progress. She was also honored last summer as a member of a select group of supporters who had contributed at least \$1,000 to the academy during the 1984-85 school year.

Also presenting the academy with an Estate Whole Life Policy was Robert H. Trainer, an insurance agent for Prudential which underwrites the policies. Trainer presented a policy of \$10,000 to the academy officials. He has been a friend of Pine Forge Academy since it began in 1946.

Estate Whole Life Policies are a unique way to give a lasting financial gift to the academy.

Conrad Gill, Academy Principal was on hand during the special ceremony to receive the gifts. Also present were M.C. Van Putten, Allegheny East Conference President and Co-Chairman of the Pine Forge Academy Board of Trustees and Dennis Keith, Treasurer of the Allegheny West Conference and member of the Academy Board of Trustees.

R.L. Booker, Director
Communication Department

DUPONT PARK HOLDS REVELATION SEMINAR

Mrs. Lois Miller, Conference Bible Worker for the Washington D.C. Area, recently conducted an eight week Revelation Seminar at the Dupont Park Church in Washington.

Although the only advertising was done by word of mouth, the average attendance was 35. As a result, ten decisions were made for Christ.

The lessons on Revelation were presented through slides and lectures.

Following the graduation, ten were baptized.

Joan P. Lewis
Communication Secretary

MINISTER ARRESTED CONDUCTING CHURCH SERVICE

On a recent Sabbath the citizens of Philadelphia, a city historically identified with liberty and religious freedom, witnessed an ominous event.

Charles Cheatham, pastor of the Ebenezer Church of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, was just a few minutes into his Sabbath morning sermon when there occurred a loud knock on the sanctuary door. Deacon Allen White rushed to the door to investigate the disturbance.

To Mr. White's amazement, he discovered the sheriff with his deputy there. They had an arrest warrant for the pastor. A stunned congregation watched as the two men walked to the front of the church, presented Cheatham with the warrant and proceeded to arrest him. Amid cries of protest he was led away in handcuffs. The choir sang "Work for the Night is Coming" to calm horrified church members who witnessed this spectacle.

Later Cheatham, an ordained minister for many years, was arraigned before Judge Charles Williams for holding worship services on Saturday mornings in violation of recently enacted Sunday blue law ordinances.

Standing before a hushed court, still handcuffed and representing himself, Pastor Cheatham stated that he was carrying out the conviction of his beliefs by continuing to hold worship services and ministering to his congregation on the seventh day Sabbath (Saturday), as given by God in the Bible, and not the first day sabbath (Sunday) legislated by man.

Cheatham went on to say, "It was foretold that a day such as this would come when ministers of the gospel and individuals who worshipped God in truth would be persecuted to the point of even having their church buildings padlocked, and their very lives placed in jeopardy."

Judge Williams heard all of the defendant's arguments and then adjourned the court for deliberation. Upon resumption of the trial, the judge pointed out that guidelines on Sunday blue law violations left the interpretation of these laws to the discretion of local judges. He further emphasized that he was keenly aware of the erosion of religious liberty over the years by a publication entitled "Liberty", a magazine he had been receiving for some time from an unknown source.

At that point the verdict was handed down. Judge Williams ordered all charges against Cheatham dropped. To the relief

of all, the defendant was released from custody and immediately returned to his pulpit.

The events reported above were of a dramatic presentation highlighting Ebenezer's Religious Liberty Campaign. The play was conceived, written and directed by Mrs. Edith Fareira, Religious Liberty Secretary. Mrs. Fareira presented the play without prior announcement, which added to the realism. Church members and visitors were informed as the play unfolded and they were shown in a graphic way what will soon happen to our religious freedom.

Also appearing were: James Winston as the sheriff, Wayne Bethel as the deputy and Elizabeth Jackson as narrator.

Henry Deacon
Communication Secretary

RICHMOND CHOIR PRESENTS CHRISTMAS CONCERTS

In the middle of December, the Ephesians, under the direction of Mr. Laddie P. Bell, Jr. of the Ephesus Church in Richmond, Virginia, drew an exceptionally large audience at the Regency Mall as they rendered Christmas music for shoppers.

A few days later, the Ephesians sang Christmas music for the American Institute of Banking, Virginia Chapter during their breakfast meeting at the John Marshall Hotel.

A third performance during this season was a four-part Christmas Candlelight Concert at the Ephesus Church, where Elder Oliver E. Cheatham is pastor. The music included excerpts from "The Messiah" by G.F. Handel. Soloists were: Sheila Bell, Junetta Gant, Elisha Lee, Katherine Lee, Oletta Phanord, Shohn Scott and Ruth Whitehead.

All three performances were followed by standing ovations.

FRENCH CHURCH HOLDS PRISON MINISTRY

The newly established Jerusalem Church, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, a French-speaking congregation, recently observed Prison Ministry Day. Isaac Powell, first elder of the Mizpah Church of Philadelphia was the guest speaker.

Powell's sermon "I was in Prison and You Visited Me" was translated by Marie Livy.

Thirteen new people signed up to become a part of the Philadelphia Prison Ministry Team, which now brings the total of active workers to 110.

CENTRAL STATES



Preston Baker, high school winner of the poster and cartoon competition in the conference Temperance Contest.

NEWS CAPSULES FROM PALACE OF PEACE CHURCH

Alfred Frye was re-baptized on February 8 at Palace of Peace Church, Colorado Springs, Colorado. He received orders assigning him to Germany and needed the outside help of the Holy Spirit to keep him strong and spiritually alert while away from his family. There is a possibility that his family will join him, later. He felt that he needed to be drawn closer to the Lord and after a period of introspection was convinced that this was the course that he should follow.

On February 22 Cynthia Madison, along with the majority of the members, performed a skit/play. The skit/play was to remind us of how far we have come and that this should always be foremost in our hearts and minds—with God being paramount. The skit/play was in seven small parts. Hampered, somewhat, by the smallness of the church, the members, even the youngest and oldest, had a part and portrayed the characters very well. There was even *cotton* to pick. A hearty amen to Miss Madison and her crew (church members), as they used this most effective medium to honor Black History Week.

Roy G. Morgan
Communications Secretary

YOUTH WINS ART COMPETITION

Preston Baker, age sixteen, son of Morsie and Janice Cole, captured the highest award for the poster and cartoon competition in the annual Central States Conference Temperance Contest, held in Omaha, Nebraska, February 22. Preston is a student at St. Louis Junior Academy,

St. Louis, Missouri. Congratulations Preston!!

The Bible Answer Crusade aired Sundays 9:00 a.m. until 9:30 a.m., over radio station WGNU will hold its third annual Celebration at West Presbyterian Church, St. Louis, Missouri, May 2, 3. Everyone is invited. Radio host, James R. Barrett; radio hostesses, Edna M. Bosman and Marion Sharpe.

C. Daniels Johnson
Communications Secretary

LINWOOD'S YOUTH WINNERS IN TEMPERANCE CONTEST

The Temperance department of Linwood Blvd. Temple, Kansas City, Missouri, under the direction of Ulricka Seales, sponsored and promoted the 1986 Temperance Contest for young people between the ages of thirteen and twenty-one. Winners in the local church run-off and Federation were: Furman "Pucky" Fordham, Ronald "Sparky" Garnett, Etta Canady, Reginald Dixon, Rafael Frye and Leslie Miller.

Trophy winners at the Omaha conference finals were Ronald Garnett for his poster depicting the difference Christ makes in the life — college category; and Furman Fordham for an oration against alcoholism — high school category.

Carolyn Monk
Communications Secretary

The printed word of truth is to be translated into different languages, and carried to the ends of the earth.—Testimonies, vol. 9, p. 16.

CHURCH INVESTMENT PLAN YIELDS \$2,600

With the able and enthusiastic leadership of Ms. Lessie Griffin, Linwood Blvd., Kansas City, Missouri, raised \$2,600 for Investment in 1985. Ms. Griffin inspirational example involved a sacrificial project. By saving the cost of new hat purchases, she was able to give \$250. Elder Vivian Roofe, an eighty-two year old senior citizen, baked and sold bread, raising \$250. Mr. Walter Williams, a church deacon, gave weekly to Investment, beyond his tithe and other offerings, \$800. Ms. Griffin challenges Linwood to 100% participation in 1986.

Carolyn Monk
Communications Secretary

LAKE REGION



Straford Memorial Choir.

STRAFORD IN ON THE MOVE ...

Saturday night, November 30 was a very special evening at Straford Memorial Seventh-day Adventist Church. With standing room only, the Straford Choir presented a Saturday Nite Sing entitled, "Give Thanks" conducted by Helen Essex, choir director.

The surprise feature of the evening was an appreciation given for Helen Essex who has given superb service over eleven years to the choir. The participants on the program were: Jacqui Christopher; The Jim Palmore Singers; Clora Warren; Claudia Moses; Jerome McGruder and the pastor, Jerry D. Lee. Long stem roses were presented to Helen along with a special plaque and check from the church. She received a standing ovation. After the appreciation program, the Straford Choir gave an outstanding performance in song. There were friends from all over the country at this gala affair and at the end of the sing, a reception was held on the lower level of the church.



(L to R) Karen Allen, MC, Helen Essex, choir director and honoree, and Eloise Wagner, coordinator.

STRAFORD MEMORIAL

Exercise is an important component of temperance that will keep your body in a better position to be totally used by God. Straford believes in I Cor. 6:19, "that the body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own."

"Life At Its Best Aerobics Class/Seminar" had two components. The first 20 minutes was devoted to the following topics of interest by Juanita Johnson, temperance leader; Stress Management, Nutrition, Positive Self-image, Eating Out, Energy Foods, and Menu Planning. After the thought provoking lesson study, the class was ready for a one hour workout with Pam Wright and Eloise Wagner. With mind and soul in tact the class was ready to go out into their Master's Vineyard.

BETHANY CHAPEL CONSECRATES NEW CHURCH

The weekend of January 3-4, 1986 marked the end of an era of worship (1934-1986) for the Bethany Chapel church at 425 Park Ave., Elkhart, Indiana.

The entrance into the new church edifice located at 1900 13th Street, was celebrated with three services. The opening service commenced Friday evening, January 3, 1986. Elder Marcus Harris, the pastor of Berean church, South Bend, (and former pastor of Bethany Chapel) presented an uplifting and timely message entitled "How Can We Sing a New Song in a Strange Land."

After a vibrant Sabbath School lesson taught by Elder Mack Woods, the divine worship service culminated. R.C. Brown, Executive Secretary for the Lake Region Conference, secured the presence of the Holy Spirit and proceeded to create an atmosphere conducive to His presence with his message entitled, "The Three Angel's Message".

Following a delicious dinner prepared for everyone in attendance and served at the local Y.M./Y.W.C.A., the consecration service convened. Dr. C.D. Joseph, President of the Lake Region Conference enticed and challenged those present to let their finite being operate within the infinite power of God through his message entitled, "Finite and Infinite".

Throughout the services, spiritual musical selections were rendered by various individuals, groups and choirs. Other

special guests present included the Rev. John Carter, Pastor of the St. James AME Church, along with his choir, The Inspirational Singers, of Elkhart, Indiana; Mayor James Perron of Elkhart, who presented Marcellus T. Robinson, pastor of the Bethany Chapel, with a proclamation from the city of Elkhart; and many former members and friends of the church.

To Pastor and Sister Marcellus Robinson goes much commendation for the untiring service they have given and are giving toward the upbuilding of God's plan in the church and in the community.

LAKE REGION HOLDS 18TH TRIENNIAL SESSION

On March 23, the eighteenth business session of the Lake Region Conference was held at the Pioneer Memorial Church in Berrien Springs, Michigan.

For the benefit of the constituents who were not able to attend the session, we would like to share with you the highlights from the President's report and a report of the newly elected officers, departmental personnel and members of the Conference Committee.

To the delegates of the eighteenth conference session, I say, Christian greetings and Maranatha. It is a distinct privilege and challenge from heaven itself for us to be chosen by our Heavenly Father to participate in His directive to finish His work. It has been 40 full years since this organized group of Adventist believers began its journey and efforts to do its assigned task of proclaiming and inviting. Here we are four decades later and we still have a very long way to go. Yet, when we view the history of our journey from the perspective of our resources, I do believe that we would have to agree that, "We have come this far by faith."

Let us review together a few of the valleys that we have traveled. We have experienced the deep valley of economic recession here in the Midwest like no other place in our country. Unemployment impacted on our homes and sent our abilities to support vital operations of our conference to an all time low. The recession combined with inability to find new employment has forced families in our midst to give up hope in sending their children to the schools of our conference. The enrollment in our school has been on a steady decline over the past years. This pattern is being experienced in schools all over our land. The future when seen from the view point of human ability does not encourage us; but there is a promise

that accompanies every effort that we make under the guidance of God, it says, "Lo I am with you all the way."

We have faced the valley of sky rocketing health care cost over the past three years. Our conference has operated under its own health care plan. We had experienced relative success with the plan until the cost of medical care began to increase much faster than we could produce funds to reimburse. The medical payout over the past three years exceeded \$500,000 on just three cases of illness. We owe this to our employees and we will never abandon their care but the cost factor has created a valley for us.

The cost of operating our school system has been a valley experience. This crisis is not unique to our conference alone and I am quite sure that we have not seen the end of the tunnel yet. Over the last three years, the conference has expended over \$500,000 beyond its budget in trying to help our churches keep the doors of its schools open. This effort to save our schools has been a herculean one that has placed constant demands upon our resources. We have repeatedly sought solutions to this problem only to find ourselves hurt again.

We cannot, however, abandon the task of providing Christian education for our children. We must continue, to work for a rational and orderly approach to an equitable solution to the problems we face in education while we participate in all the financial programs of our church.

Reports from the school of government at Harvard University states the following: "Poverty and unemployment rates for Blacks are at their highest level of the past 1964 period. Real income has been declining and is also at its lowest point in the past 15 years. The purchasing power of the average Black family is \$2,000 less than before the recession. Black family income in 1984 in constant dollars was \$1,500 less than it had been 15 years earlier in 1970. 'This says to us that equity and excellence are educational imperatives.' Education is the preparation for the future; it is imperative that we know our goals. Demographic goals show that by 1995, 40% to 60% of the school population graduating into the work force from high school will be Black and Hispanic." Will ours be trained of the Lord?

All the journey of the past three years has not been in the valley. We have indeed been to the mountaintop. We began this three year period with a membership of 17,195 and our net growth over



Bethany Chapel consecrates new church.

the last three years has carried us beyond the 19,000 membership mark. This represents sound growth in our conference of 2,682 and to this we remind you it was, "This far by faith."

The year 1983 found us concerned about housing several of our unhoused congregations. We have seen the hand of God move in providing for us a new church in Evansville, Indiana, under the leadership of Alfonzo Greene; a new church in Berrien Springs, Michigan, under the leadership of Dr. Caleb Rosad; and a new church in Elkhart, Indiana, under the leadership of Marcellus Robinson. A new church home was purchased for the Dowagiac congregation under the leadership of Emanuel Foxworth. Along with the above-mentioned new churches, God has blessed us with land and money to build a new church for our Beacon of Joy congregation in Chicago this spring. Our Burns Avenue church in Detroit has purchased a city block of land and plans for building are nearing completion.

One of our latest additions to the sisterhood of Lake Region churches, Mount Clements, Michigan, has purchased a beautiful building and land to house the congregation. Our Haughville church in Indianapolis, Indiana bought and remodeled a building into a lovely place for congregational worship. This was done primarily by our lay people there, led out by Brother Julius Taylor, Brother Nicholas Joseph and Brother Eugene Sapp. During this triennium, the following churches have been organized: Southfield, South Shore Spanish and Kenosha Spanish.

Our church in Peoria, Illinois, under the leadership of Pastor Samuel Thomas, Jr., has completed its inside finishing work and is now a place of beauty. The church was originally constructed under the leadership of Hosie Hatchett.

Our conference office is now representative of our message in appearance. Completely renovated inside and improved outside, our headquarters is a pleasant place to introduce business relationships to Adventism. Our campground has been the site of new cabins and is now near the time when we can begin assembling our log-styled youth craft building for our campers. In Detroit, our Peterson-Warren Academy has undergone over \$100,000 worth of renovation. The gym, library, heating system along with a new parking lot were all a part of the facelift.

In Chicago, all financing is completed and work on a new shopping center costing \$10,800,000 has begun. The center is

leased to nationally named lessors and the potential income from this project will help to liquidate the cost of an academy in Chicago and provide an additional support system for our educational needs.

Looking back, over the past seven years, God has brought us through housing for His people at Spanish Northwest, Chicago, Illinois; Logan Square, Chicago, Illinois; Bethlehem French, Chicago, Illinois; Evanston Church, Evanston, Illinois; Battle Creek, Michigan; Danville, Illinois; Conant Gardens, Detroit, Michigan; Flint, Michigan; Gary West, Indiana; Lansing, Michigan; Maywood, Illinois; Peoria, Illinois; South Bend, Indiana; Evansville, Indiana; Hyde Park, Chicago, Illinois; Decatur, Illinois; East St. Louis, Illinois; Elkhart, Indiana; Eastside, Indianapolis, Indiana; Jeffersonville, Indiana; St. Paul, Minnesota; Peoria, Illinois; Haughville, Indianapolis, Indiana; and Berrien Springs, Michigan. In all, over the past several years God has blessed us with housing 24 congregations. We must say, "This far by faith."

We pause to express a very special word of appreciation to Mr. and Mrs. Otis Rupright of Lafayette, Indiana, members of our sister conference in Indiana, for donating to our conference three churches, Danville, Illinois; Peoria, Illinois and Elkhart, Indiana. Thank you Brother and Sister Rupright.

God has blessed us in our efforts to develop a medical ministry in our large cities. At Hyde Park Community Hospital in Chicago, we now have a complete Adventist administration:

Mr. Jon Gepford, President
Mr. William Taylor, Vice President
Mr. Samuel Turner, Esq., Vice President, General
Ms. Veronica Bender, Vice President, Nursing
Elder Harvey Kibble, Chaplain and Public Relations

This triennial period has seen a complete turnover in departmental responsibilities. I must thank everyone of them for the very fine cooperation they have given me. They are all fine men with exceptional gifts and deserve our continued support.

We grieve the loss of our brother, Reginald Barnes. He served this conference from 1968-1985. Under his capable leadership our academies gained accreditation. Because of his dedication to upgrading the teaching staff, most of our teachers are certified and have received masters degrees.

Finally, brothers and sisters, we must remain committed to a common goal of using our financial and human resources to their fullest extent to bless our church. I appeal to you for a structural process of coming closer to the trained clergy and workers and by our side stand with us, kneel with us, pray with us and work with us. We need one another. We are all sons and daughters of God who want good things for our Maker here on earth. We can reach our goals and challenge the problems. They won't all go away for we "wrestle not against flesh and blood." The future is one of change. By the grace of God, we can anticipate it and invent the future with His power.

With God as our leader, there is no reason to be surprised by His power to provide and lead. We have seen the valley and like wise men and women we know that those things that hurt, instruct. With God we welcome the future, remembering that soon it will be the past; and we respect the past, remembering that it was once all that was humanly possible. The mountain of tomorrow's challenge looms in view—but we need not fear tomorrow when we have come this far by faith.

Office and departmental secretaries who were elected by the constituents of the Lake Region Conference are as follows:

Charles D. Joseph, President
Richard C. Brown, Executive Secretary
Linwood C. Stone, Treasurer
James David Parker, Personal Ministries, Sabbath School, Community Services
T.S. Barber, Publishing, FHES
Ivan Van Lange, Education Superintendent
Leon Simmons, Adventist Youth, Temperance, NSO
Fred E. White, Ministerial
Samuel Flagg, Stewardship, Religious Liberty, Wills and Legacies
Vivian Joseph, Communications

The Lake Region Conference Executive Committee is comprised of the following: C.D. Joseph, R.C. Brown, Sr., Linwood Stone, Carlton Campbell, Jerome Davis, Robert Douglas, Ronald Bell, Efrain Perez, Frederick Risker, Charles Drake, III, Robert Willis, Festus Valentine, Leroy Logan, Paul Musson, Jose Joseph, Marguerite Dixon, Mayble Craig, Anthony Lewis, Royce Mentor and Werner Lightner.

Vivian Joseph
Communication Director

NORTHEASTERN

NORTHEASTERN CONFERENCE HOLDS ANNUAL DEPARTMENTAL COUNCIL

During the dates of February 16-19, Northeastern Conference held its annual Departmental Council in Albany, New York. Departments represented were: Sabbath School, Personal Ministries, Communications, Religious Liberty, Stewardship, Temperance, Church Growth, Publishing and Education.

According to Elder A.E. Morgan, coordinator of the council, Sabbath School and Religious Liberty Director for the conference, the purpose was, "to bring the departments together so that each person could clearly understand the function of each department." He also stated, "... by instruction and proper training the delegates could return to their churches and ... train and instruct others."

Each morning began with "Melodies of Praise and Thanksgiving," which was a half hour devoted to songs and testimonies. A powerful devotional message by Elder Richard Barron, Associate Director of Church and Campus Ministries for the General Conference, invigorated everyone each morning for the full day ahead.

Elder Thomas Ashlock, Associate Director of Church Ministries North American Division, explained the concept of the caring church in a presentation entitled, "The Way the Nose Points". He pointed out that, "witnessing is something you do as you go ... but outreach is something you go to do."

Following the joint sessions, the delegates attended seminars for specific training in their particular office. The Sabbath School seminars were conducted as follows:

1. Superintendents, Cornerstone Connection: Elder Thomas Ashlock; Elder Stuart Tyner, Editor, CELEBRATION Magazine
2. Earliteens, Juniors: Mrs. Lola Harrison, Northeastern Conference Accounting
3. Primary, Cradle Roll, Kindergarten: Mrs. Velma Brown, Teacher, Springfield, MA
4. Adults: Elder Roy Lawrence, Hartford, CT
5. Vacation Bible School: Mrs. Roslyn Ashmeade, Teacher, Hanson Place Elementary School

6. Secretaries: Elder E. Parchment, Director, Sabbath School & Personal Ministries Departments, Atlantic Union

7. Membership Superintendents: Elder C.L. Brooks, Associate Director, Church Ministries General Conference

The Religious Liberty seminar was led out by Elder Gordon Engen, Associate Director of the Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Department of the General Conference.

Superintendent of the Department of Education for Northeastern Conference, Mrs. Joycelyn Johnson, conducted the seminar session for the Education Secretaries.

Ms. Kyna Hinson, Associate Editor of MESSAGE Magazine, instructed the Communication Secretaries in the Communications seminar.

Retired Stewardship Director for the General Conference, Elder W. Starks, conducted that department's seminar sessions.

Elder Clarence Richardson, Director of the Publishing Department of the Northeastern Conference, directed the publishing seminar.

Mrs. Helen Galloway of Jamaica, New York, instructed the receptionists on their various duties.

Personal Ministries Director of the Allegheny West Conference, Elder James Best, led out in the personal ministries seminar.

Dr. Ernest Plata, a specialist in Cancer Research, presented three interesting and very informative lectures; one explaining the medical values of meditation and the faith factor, another the use and misuse of drugs, and the last entitled "The Optimum Diet".

After a day of much concentration and learning, the program for the evening gave the delegates a chance to relax and enjoy themselves. Monday evening, special guests for the Albany community, including Pastor Alfred O. Siegal, of the Loudonville Presbyterian Church; Dr. Jasper Steel, Director of the Methodist Diocese for the Albany area; combined choirs from the Capitol City Seventh-day Adventist and Israel African Methodist Episcopal churches, presented "A Salute to America" in word and song. Tuesday evening, Elder C.L. Brooks of the General Conference, led the audience in a thrilling round of hymns that have recently been added to the Adventist Hymnal.

An appetizing fellowship luncheon was served on Wednesday afternoon to close out the council. Elder L.G. Newton, North-

eastern Conference President, and Elder S.H. Brooks, Conference Treasurer, spoke to the delegates and encouraged them to put the knowledge they had obtained into practice at their various churches. Elder Morgan then thanked all for attending, said farewell, and wished them a safe trip home.

Debbie Wilson
Correspondent



Pastor John S. Nixon at the Hanson Place Church.

HANSON PLACE WELCOMES NEW PASTOR

On February 1, Elder John S. Nixon was installed as the eighth pastor of the Hanson Place Church, Brooklyn, New York. Helder Harold W. Baptiste, Executive Secretary of the Northeastern Conference, introduced Pastor and Mrs. Nixon and family and Mrs. Emelda John, church clerk, gave the official welcome on behalf of the members.

In his first sermon to the Hansonians that day, Pastor Nixon told the congregation, "We accept this assignment today with this understanding—We are working toward the end of the world and the coming of our Lord and Savior ... We fully expect to learn much from this congregation. We come today with faith, forgiveness and an eye to the future. My family and I have decided that we are going to believe in everyone of you as Christians and sons and daughters of God ... We believe our Lord is coming soon. We believe it with all our hearts. And that will be the foundation of all our plans and all our actions as we work together here at Hanson Place."

The welcome continued in a more information setting on the evening of Feb-

bruary 8 during a program entitled, "This Is Your Life — This Is Our Life". The program emceed by St. Aubyn Edwards, was presented in two parts. The first part, "This Is Your Life" was a slide presentation prepared and narrated by the writer and showed Pastor Nixon from babyhood through the most important events of his life and ministry.

During the second part of the program, "This Is Our Life", narrated by Mrs. Ruby Williams, the leaders of the church's departments were introduced to the Nixons. Much creativity went into this segment of the program as department leaders said or did things which indicated the departments they represented. The entrance of Mr. and Mrs. Deaconate Board evoked much laughter. The board was represented by Mr. Claude Jones and Mrs. Sherma White, dressed as a bride and groom. In place of a floral bouquet the bride carried an arrangement of white towels.

Floral presentations to the Nixons were made by Patricia and Debbie White.

Later, as members gathered in the church's dining room for a delicious meal, Pastor and Mrs. Nixon delighted the audience by sticking the beautifully decorated "Welcome" cake.

Pastor Nixon, a native of Brooklyn, has been pastor of the Berea Church, Boston, for the past five years.

Pastor Nixon is a graduate of Oakwood College and Mrs. Nixon a graduate of Atlantic Union College. They are the parents of three children, John, Paul, and Clarice.

Maureen O. Burke



Pastor and Mrs. John Nixon being welcomed by church clerks Emelda John (R) and Missilene Edwards (L).

DISTINGUISHED CITIZENS HONORED

As part of their commemoration of Black History Month, the Berea Church of Boston, Massachusetts presented awards to two outstanding members of the community on February 22.

One award went to Bruce C. Bolling who on January 6 became the first black city councillor to be elected President of the Boston City Council. Mr. Bolling also made history in 1981, when he became the first black City Councillor elected in Boston in ten years and the second to serve in that capacity in the history of Boston City Government.

Professor James E. Hubbard, Jr. of Massachusetts Institute of Technology was the recipient of the other award. Dr. Hubbard is noted for his research work in Acoustics and the control of large space structures. He received a U.S. patent for a unique device which controls excessive vibrations in spacecraft.

Both guests expressed sincere gratitude for the inspiration they received from the church. As Mr. Bolling put it, "It is always a humbling experience to be honored by your own. I was also inspired by God because I could not do this work by myself."

Gemna A. Williams



Honored guests posed with the pastor and the head elder before the presentation. They are (from left to right): Prof. James E. Hubbard, Pastor Michael Bernard, Mr. Bruce C. Bolling and Elder Convelle Morton.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH INSPIRES YOUTH

Beginning with the first Adventist Youth Society for the Hope SDA Church, Hartford, Connecticut, meeting in February Dr. Donald Blake, AYS Sponsor, spearheaded several inspiring programs in honor of Black History Month.

During the introductory program, historical facts about the origins of Negro spirituals were presented by Dr. Blake and M. Hanna Wright. Dispersed among the facts were lively spirituals sung by guest soloist Kitson Richardson of Faith SDA Church, Hartford, CT; and Gladys Sharp and Betty Fisher, both members of Hope Church. The true spirit of the songs could be felt as the soloists remained seated in the congregation and sang from the heart. To enhance the program, Kim Minott led the congregation in a rousing round of old time spirituals.

The following week, the featured guests were Mr. Lenzy Wallace and Mrs. Adrienne Baughns-Wallace. Mr. Wallace, a University of Hartford music professor, counseled the young people about their climb up the mountain of life. He illustrated the point with a card brought from his desk. He warned the youths that there will be those who would discourage them and state that they couldn't do it. He raised the card and read its message, "You can do it, if you will!" In closing, Mr. Wallace repeated, "Don't give up."

Mrs. Adrienne Baughns-Wallace captivated the audience. She is a former news reporter from Hartford's Channel 3 News, but now works on Channel 11 in New York City. Mrs. Baughns-Wallace told about the pressure she felt as a professional Black person. She advised the young people to strive for policy making positions to circumvent being pawns in the hands of others. She related how her conscience and morals were sometimes in direct opposition to her work assignments. She urgently pleaded with the youth to excel and reminded them of their responsibility not only to themselves but to their communities. This very inspiring AYS meeting ended with a question and answer session.

CHURCH LEARNS SIGN LANGUAGE

It was the 13th Sabbath program, June 29th, at the Mt. Carmel SDA Church, Syracuse, New York that they did it! The Primary Class was ready and eager to do it. Yes, they sang "Jesus Loves Me" before, but this time it was to be different . . . this time they were going to sing it in Sign Language for the deaf.

The enthusiasm spread and soon after the Adult Sabbath School was singing and signing the chorus of "Wonderful Words of Life".

Sabbath, December 28th saw the Juniors singing "Silent Night" their first Christmas Carol to be signed.

Where is all this enthusiasm going? We don't know, except as the Lord leads. Perhaps there is only one deaf person for us to reach. Perhaps we'll have need for a deaf Sabbath School class!

Not only are they having a good time learning, but they are learning the third most-used language in the U.S. Doesn't that tell us something? Yes, it tells us there are many, many deaf to reach with God's last message.

Perhaps they are not the first hearing-church to use sign language. No matter. It's fun, and the signs have meaning. Try this:

1. Face palms together.
2. With right middle finger reach over and touch left palm.
3. With left middle finger reach over and touch right palm.

This sign means 'Jesus'—pointing to His pierced hands.

Now, put palms together, then spread them open as a book. This is the sign for 'book'. Next, do both signs together and you have 'Jesus' 'Book' or Bible. See, already you know three signs!

Hopefully, this article will inspire you to master sign language. Ask your librarian for a book to help you get started.

Here are some books: "Sign Language for Everyone"—Cathy Rice; "American Sign Language"—Martin Sternberg; "The Perigee Visual Dictionary of Signing"—Rod Butterworth. Sesame Street also has a good book.

Floyd Slocum
Instructor



Pastor Rupert W. Young says goodbye to Hanson Place members.

YOUNGS LEAVE HANSON PLACE

On Saturday evening, February 1, at a farewell function attended by several hundred friends and well-wishers, the congregation at the Hanson Place Church, Brooklyn, New York, said farewell to Pastor and Mrs. Rupert W. Young and family. The Youngs have served the Hanson Place congregation for the past five years.

During the well-planned program, which was emceed by Lincoln Blackwood, the members paid tribute to the Youngs in



Pastor and Mrs. Rupert Young receiving gift from Jean Levy.

song, poetry, drama, as well as with the presentation of gifts and flowers.

Dwight Carnegie, assisted by Louis Straker, Lloyd Scott and Emelda John presented a gift on behalf of the church family. Following this part of the program, well-wishers gathered in the church's dining room to socialize with the Youngs and to express their personal good wishes.

Pastor and Mrs. Young have been called to continue their ministry at the Mt. of Olives Church in Brooklyn.

HOPE CHURCH HOSTS STEWARDSHIP WORKSHOP

On February 19 Elder Hector Mouzon, Stewardship Director for Northeastern Conference, conducted a three day two-week workshop at the Hope Seventh-day Adventist Church in Hartford, CT. His objective was to re-educate the congregation about its return of tithe and offerings. Elder Mouzon carefully explained the meaning of systemic benevolence. He emphasized the point that it is the orderly and regular returning to God the tithe and offering. He then explained the following points:

Systematic benevolence,
a) is a principle conceived by God; b) increases our faith; c) enables all to participate fairly; d) keeps the heart channel open to divine influence; e) will fill the treasury of God; and f) works like magic.

On the last Sabbath of the workshop, members of the Hope Church committed themselves to this God-ordained plan of total management of their lives.

LAYMAN HOSTS LOCAL TELEVISION PROGRAM

Elder Garnett Riddick of the Trinity Temple Seventh-day Adventist Church in Poughkeepsie, New York, hosts a weekly television program entitled, "The Word of Truth". The hour long telecast has been airing for about 7 years, sponsored by local business persons.

The program's original title, as stated by Elder Riddick, was, "The Lesser Light Gospel Program", and aired over both television and radio. Riddick says he tries to introduce the community to practical religion.

"The Word of Truth" can be seen every Sunday morning on Channel 10, Poughkeepsie Cable.

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Better is a dry morsel with quiet than a house full of feasting with strife.—Prov. 17:1—RSV

SOUTH CENTRAL

BLACK HISTORY MONTH COMMEMORATED AT JORDAN

On February 8, 1986, the Black History Committee of the Jordan Street Church, Pensacola, FL. sponsored a program entitled "The Black Experience: A Reflection".

The program featured commentaries from three persons who experienced the Black movement first hand. The format of the presentation was: featured speakers, audience participation, and questions and answers. The panelists were: Mrs. J.W. Carrol, Mrs. Nancie Harris, and Mr. Johnnie White. Their combined ages totaled nearly 275 years.

Each panelist gave stories of actual happenings in their lives. The moving life experiences carried the audience from Kingston, Jamaica, through the southland, to the northern cities and back to the new south.

Mr. White, born March 3, 1875 in Jamaica, came to this country at the age of 12 and started to work in a cafe in Miami. He stayed there until the owner and his wife died. Then White moved to different areas of Florida until he settled in the Pensacola area in 1904. He has witnessed many changes, but feels that there are still lots of improvement needed. He attributed his long life to the "Goodness of God", and added that it is important to treat people right, and be happy. Mr. White lives alone now, and does his getting around by bus. He was married for 53 years and has 14 children. He does his own cooking and will not accept help from senior citizens organizations as long as he is able to do for himself. He was an inspiration to all and especially to the youth of the church.

Mrs. Carroll gave stories of the conditions of Blacks in the Pensacola area, where she was born, educated and still lives. She related stories about the education system in which she taught for many years. She now serves as a substitute teacher. She told how the Blacks always received the used books and equipment from the white schools, but the quality of education was better then because of the dedication of teachers and the attitude of the students and parents. The teachers took more time with students, visiting homes and staying after school with the students to help them learn and develop character, she stated.



Participants on Black History program at Jordan Street Church (from left to right): Mrs. J.W. Carroll, Mr. Johnnie White and Mrs. Nancie Harris.

Mrs. Nancie Harris, 93 years old, gave experiences about living in Pennsylvania most of her life. She said, it is often thought that Blacks in the north didn't have struggles like those in the south, which isn't true. The struggles were just not on the surface. When she retired from work in the Publishing Department to Pensacola, she went to school and received her high school diploma at the age of 86. She is currently enrolled at a local college where she is working on a higher degree.

Examples such as these caused hope and determination to burn in the hearts of all. The young people in attendance were awed by the terrible struggles described. They realized the freedoms taken for granted have not always been offered to Blacks, but living in faith, and struggling on, anyone can make it.

Pastor T.L. Hemingway praised the efforts of the Black History Committee. The chairpersons were: Mrs. Deborah Williams, and Ms. Kathleen Jones, and their assistant Mrs. Aletha Hendrieth. Earl Jones Sr. served as commentator for the event.

OLD YAZOO CITY CHURCH STILL STANDS

At the end of the last century, James Edson White journeyed in to the state of Mississippi to carry the message of the coming of the Lord to the Black people of

the Southland. One of his stops included Yazoo City. Here he erected a church and school building, which still exists to serve the community there. A few persons are still around who can reflect on the history. The original bell that was used during the Sabbath School services is still there. Pastor Sargent Simms, the present pastor seeks to establish another school in the rural area of that city which will continue to help the church to serve humanity in the state.

LE'S LEARN AND GROW

The summer of 1985 prepared the students at Temple Gate, Selma, AL for an outstanding school year. They were involved in a Literature Evangelism Campaign sponsored by the South Central Conference under the leadership of Alfred Miller of Birmingham, Alabama.

The students carried literature to the cities of Selma, Montgomery, and Birmingham. While witnessing, they were earning money for Christian education. But, more than that, they were developing discipline and character strength that would help them through the school year and would reflect in good grades and happy parents.

The student with the highest sales was Hosea Purifoy, who sold over 850 books. The other students who participated in the program and whose work was commendable were: Janice Lee, La Keesha

Purifoy, Jamaal Venter, Darnell Acoff, Garfield Powell Jr., Wenona McDaniel, Eric McDaniel, James Purifoy and a few others. As a result of their labor, over 25,000 contacts were made and some 6,000 small books were sold. A large amount was received in cash and in scholarships.

The students at Temple Gate in Selma, AL are enjoying the ability to study, concentrate and direct themselves in classroom and at home. They are presently planning for another summer of witnessing for Jesus. Their teacher and Superintendent feel that the time spent in such witnessing is having a far reaching effect on the students.

COOKING CLASSES ADD VARIETY

The first of a series of six cooking seminars scheduled for the third Sunday of each month was held on January 19, with almost one hundred persons in attendance. Sponsored by the Medical and Temperance department of the Oakwood College Church, the seminars are geared towards people who wish to learn more about healthful cooking, as well as those who wish to add greater variety to their cuisine.

Co-directors of the seminars are Grace McLeod, R.N. and Ruth A. Warren, R.N. Both have had wide experience in the field of health, and have directed earlier cooking seminars for the Oakwood Church.

The first seminar focused on tofu, the amazingly versatile vegetable protein which has been a staple in parts of Asia for 2,000 years, but has only in recent years been appearing in many American supermarkets (usually in the produce section). Also known as "bean curd," tofu is made by curdling the mild white "milk" of the soybean, and can easily be made at home. As Mrs. Warren pointed out in her opening remarks, tofu provides a pleasing combination of high nutrition, low economy, and culinary creativity.

It is inexpensive, high in protein, low in calories, fats and carbohydrates and cholesterol-free. Recipes include: main dishes, breads, soups, salads, salad dressings, dips, and even desserts.

Special guest speaker and demonstrator was Mrs. Ron Maxen from Farm Soy Dairy, a manufacturer of tofu and tofu products. She demonstrated a sumptuous cheesecake topped with pineapple. Mrs. Maxen and the co-directors responded to the audience's questions on home prep-

aration of tofu and related interests. Mrs. McLeod demonstrated tofu's versatility and ease of preparation in a pimento dip, scrambled tofu, and tofu swiss steak.

Other participants in the tofu seminar were Dr. Ruth Faye Davis, Chairperson of the Oakwood College Department of Home Economics, who gave the welcome and devotional at the beginning of the session, and Mr. Artis Sidney, manager of Garden Cove Produce Center, who displayed a variety of tofu products available in his store — frozen burgers, frozen wieners, canned toppings, and ice cream were some of the more unusual products.

Towards the end of the session, door prizes were awarded, and all attendees enjoyed tasting six or seven different tofu dishes. Altogether, the seminar was a great success, and larger audiences are expected for subsequent sessions.

Lela M. Gooding
Communication Secretary

SOUTH CENTRAL HOSTS FIRST NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AFRO- AMERICAN RELIGIOUS MUSIC IN NASHVILLE

Hundreds of participants from all of the Regional Conferences of the NAD, the Pacific and North Pacific Unions and from overseas converged on Nashville, Tennessee to attend the First Afro-American Religious Music Congress. The dates were February 5-8, 1986. The director and producer was Pastor Shelton Kilby, the minister of music for the South Central Conference. Because of the nature of the conference, it developed into a non-denominational meeting with a number of other persons from other denominations in attendance.

A concept relating to music and the Black experience was the burden that was born and developed in the mind of Pastor Kilby that brought these groups together. His words to the congress were: "... lest we forget the progenitors of the 'cause', we must re-establish and redefine the pure ethnic strains of hope in Negro spirituals, pure gospel music and adapted Protestant hymns, we must not forget that the struggle still continues."

The Congress of Afro-American Religious Music provided a feast of historic aesthetic and cultural information with added performance of old and new music.

Some of the facilitators for the meetings and discussions were: Dr. C.E. Boddie, president emeritus of American Baptist Theological Seminary - Nashville, Tennessee, Dr. Beverly Vaughn, Professor of

Music at Stockton College in Pamona, New Jersey, Dr. Margaret Doroux, Minister of Music of the Baptist Convention, Los Angeles, California, Dr. Garland Dulan of Oakwood College, Mrs. Diana Poe, artist in residence and professor of music at the American Baptist Theological Seminary, Dr. Bobbie Jones, syndicated television artist and founder of the New Life Singers, Inc. of Nashville, Tennessee as well as Pastor Shelton Kilby, the director of the congress.

Seminars were held each day following the devotions and the evenings were laced with musical concerts both 'vertical' and 'horizontal'. Artists came from across the nation to participate in the meeting. The meeting was not a congress beamed only to Seventh-day Adventists but to people from all walks of life.

J. Paul Monk, the president of the Central States Conference of S.D.A. and concert artist in his own right, gave the Sabbath message at the time of worship. His was a challenge to the attendees that this is not the time for celebration yet; there are better days ahead. A goodly number of church and college groups supplied music for the service.

Afro-American music helps to give a vision of from whence we have come, where we are in 1986 and our possibilities for excellence during the days that lie ahead. The congress was held at the Tennessee Center for the Performing Arts in Nashville, Tennessee.

MT. CALVARY CHURCH HAS ANNUAL 'VOW-RENEWING' BANQUET

Twenty-five couples attended a 'Vow-Renewing' Banquet that was given in their honor by Mr. and Mrs. A. Stevens of the Mt. Calvary S.D.A. Church in Huntsville, Alabama. The date was February 15, 1986. The meeting is held annually for the church and community. Some of those present have been married for over fifty years and joyously pledged themselves to each other to continue the relationship 'until death do them part'.





Mrs. Etta M. Dudley, wife of Dr. C.E. Dudley, gave a heart-searching address on 'finding, and holding each other's love, confidence and respect as the years go by.' Dr. Dudley gave the charge to the group and reviewed their vows with them.

Dr. and Mrs. Franklin S. Hill, Sr. serve as the spiritual leaders for the congregation there. Music for the evening was supplied by Professor Cleveland Tivy of Huntsville and a children's Stringed Ensemble from Oakwood College conducted by Mrs. N. Higgs.

E.E. CLEVELAND SPEAKS AT NEW COVENANT CHURCH

The room was full at the New Covenant Church in Memphis, Tennessee, when the preacher of 43 years came to the podium.

"I'm expected to bring you the Word," he said slowly, "And I do have the Word." The congregation grinned and chuckled as the world famous evangelist and scholar, Dr. E.E. Cleveland introduced his sermon on "THE GOSPEL ACORDING TO MOSES."

At the start, Cleveland eased into his message, quoting a few scriptures. Noticing the scrambling of fingers and the rapid movement of pages, he told the audience to look the scriptures up later. "Before I'd fool you," he uttered with the Cleveland laugh, "I wouldn't fool with you."

Cleveland, who got his message across with statements full of wit and humor, spoke of the five great laws during the times of Moses (natural, health, civil, moral, and ceremonial), and he showed that Jesus was associated with Moses through it all.

"You'd better be careful how you handle Moses," he cautioned. At the close, Pastor Roland Hill (whose father, Elder F.S. Hill grew up with Cleveland in Chattanooga, TN) joined Cleveland when the doors of the church were opened, and three went down the aisle as the church rejoiced.

Carolyn D. Gause
Correspondent

SHELTON E. KILBY III BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Shelton E. Kilby, III was born in Washington, D.C. As a music practitioner he has developed an array of talents. He studied piano at Howard University and Columbia Union College under Dr. Neil Tilkens and Ms. Alfreda Grant. He later studied orchestration, arranging and twentieth century composition at Los Angeles City College. His degree in Music Administration is in progress at Antioch University West. Additional studies include piano with Inga Murdoch, (Ida Oberstein Germany); symphonic conducting with Lawrence Christianson (California State Northridge); and orchestration with Dr. Albert Harris (colleague of Dimitri Shostacovich).

His professional accomplishments are reflections of his skills as pianist, composer, arranger, conductor, and lecturer. He authored the Gospel Baroque concept (a fusion of gospel and classical form) and recently presented an original composition SONATA FOR MARTIN at the Cochran Art Gallery in Washington, D.C. In addition to numerous recordings and television credits his work includes motion picture credits. He scored the sound track for "Harvest", a religious drama film that won the *Religion in Media Award* for best religious drama, 1981. He co-authored the Neo-gospel concept for Polygram Records as is performed by Wintley Phipps and Paradise.

Mr. Kilby holds membership with the Smithsonian Institute, American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers, the Gospel Music Association, and the National Association of Negro Musicians. He served as music director for the BREATH OF LIFE telecast and Artist in Residence, Garden Grove SDA Church in Garden Grove, California.

He currently serves as Minister of Music and Director of the Department of Music Ministry for South Central Conference of Seventh-day Adventists in Nashville, Tennessee.

INFILTRATIONIST OPENS NEW WORK

In just two years time after he moved into the city of Tunica, Mississippi, the Lord has manifested Himself to the people through the untiring labors of Pastor Alfred Hill, one of the infiltrationists of the South Central Conference. When Pastor Hill graduated from Oakwood College in 1984, there was no conference that was financially able to hire him. Elder C.E. Dudley, the president of the South Central Conference casually challenged him to try opening up a new work in Tunica and Batesville, Mississippi. With the offer, Hill was off and running with a lot of faith and confidence in God.

A building was secured in Tunica and made into a church for worship. The Sabbath attendance is exceeding seventy or eighty weekly and a goodly number of persons have already been baptized. Hill has even been blessed with a sixteen voice youth choir, all are members of the church.

In Batesville, Mississippi, which is approximately thirty-five miles east of Tunica, another congregation has come into being. The membership is approximately twenty-five. Three additional souls were baptized on Sabbath, February 22, one of whom is Pastor Hill's twin brother. Three more persons indicated that they would be in the next baptismal service on the following week. The Batesville congregation has erected a new building for worship and witnesses to the community in an admirable way. Benjamin Grissom and his family are strong lay leaders in the Batesville area. Alfred is very serious about his work for the Lord.

LIST OF SDA BLACK BUSINESS PERSONS SOUGHT

During the South Central Conference Workers' Meeting, Mr. Roger Willis, the President and founder of Amber Carpets, Inc. of Dalton, Georgia gave a challenging presentation on Black Economics. "One of the strengths for the future for Blacks will be to know how," he said, "when and where to spend your money." Presently, a directory that will list all of the Black Business of the church across the NAD is being formulated. Names of the businesses should be sent to the South Central Conference in Nashville, Tennessee.



Elder Henry M. Wright, President of Allegheny West Conference.

GET ON BOARD THE HOMECOMING TRAIN

This was the slogan used to celebrate the third annual Homecoming of the Mt. Sinai SDA Church, Orlando, Florida. This weekend was sponsored by the King's Daughter organization and was held January 17 and 18, 1986.

The weekend featured Elder Henry M. Wright, president of the Allegheny West Conference, Columbus, Ohio. He began the weekend Friday night with the topic "Where God is Comfortable" and ended Sabbath evening with "Mary Had a Baby".

The weekend fellowship ended with a Hawaiian Luau initiated as a "getting acquainted" affair.

SDA STUDENTS HONORED BY THE NATIONAL HISTORY AND GOVERNMENT AWARD COMMITTEE

The Mt. Pisgah SDA Church, Miami, Florida is dedicated to the task of educating its youth. This dedication paid off for three senior students: Lisa Ayoung, Robert Henley, Jr. and Felicia Robinson.

These students of the Greater Miami Academy, Miami, FL were honored by their History/Government instructor to receive the National History and Government Award. This resulted because of their scholastic achievement (GPA). This nomination now affords them the opportunity to qualify as a candidate for one of the United States Achievement Academy College scholarships.

Their names will appear in the 1986 edition of the National History and Government Awards.

Congratulations to the members of the Mt. Pisgah for encouraging their youth towards Christian education.

HEALTH DAY IN FT. LAUDERDALE

Dr. Alpha Omega Curry, clinical psychologist at the Lompoc, California State Penitentiary, Director of Drug Abuse Program, Asst. Program Administrator of the Employee Assistance Program, was the guest speaker for Health Day during the Divine Hour at the Mt. Olivet SDA Church, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.

During the service she gave an overview of the role of the members in treating their bodies with respect and dignity. Then in the afternoon her emphasis was on the church's responsibility to encourage its youth in being united with God and not the drug wards.

As a finale, the audience was lifted by the melodious voice of Joyce McGlory and the incredible execution of Harrison Watkins as he accompanied her on the piano. Mrs. McGlory, who is the Director of Administration for General Mills/New York, related her success story in a 'rags to riches' mode. She admonished the young people to have a strong sense of determination and reminded them that success does not come without hard work. Her very able accompanist, Harrison Watkins, is presently studying at the Manhattan Conservatory of Music in New York City. These two young people certainly epitomize the truism, 'the sky is the limit' when you dedicate your life to Christ.

February will be remembered as one of the highlights of 1986 for the Hope congregation.

M. Hanna Wright
Communications Secretary

YOUTH PARTICIPATE IN LOVE FEAST

Saturday, February 15, was an unforgettable day for the Youth of the Mt. Olivet SDA Church, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. All of the youth united for a Love Feast sponsored by the A.Y. Society. The menu consisted of a variety of fresh fruits and nuts.

This occasion allowed the youth an opportunity to have Christian fellowship together, and then they took time to write all the missing young persons of the church expressing God's love and theirs for them as a friend and member.

This afforded the youth an opportunity to share their faith and witness for Jesus.

DR. E.E. CLEVELAND SPEAKS AT SCLC SERVICE

On January 18, traffic jams occurred from 26th Avenue to 34th Avenue in St. Petersburg, Florida. The event, the third annual Southern Christian Leadership Conference Martin Luther King, Jr. ecumenical memorial services. This event was held at the Bethel Metropolitan Baptist Church.

As this newly built edifice which seats over 1,000 people was packed to capacity, the crowd had the privilege of listening to a world reknowned preacher, evangelist, pastor of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. None other than Dr. E.E. Cleveland.

Dr. E.E. Cleveland spoke to the audience about the two horned beast in Revelation 13:11 and how it stood for the religious freedom and civil liberty in America.

The congregation sat listening attentively throughout the sermon and were amazed at how the power of the gospel worked through this man of God.

T.V. SHOW INVITES SDA AS GUEST

Carol Byrd, wife of Pastor W.C. Byrd from the Mt. Olivet SDA Church in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida was recently featured as one of the guests on a Religious Talk Show, "Horizons of Faith" presented by the National Fellowship of Churches. This show discussed how religion could be an asset in a professional setting when dealing with consoling the bereaved. This 30-minute program was aired on Channel 7 and viewed by South Florida residents on March 2 at 7:30 a.m.

One of the questions asked Carol on "Horizons of Faith" was how is the SDA Church involved in the community and in the helping of the terminally ill? Carol's response was: "many members serve as volunteers helping patients, distributing government surplus food and clothing, and by providing breakfast Sunday mornings at the church.

Carol is a bereavement Social Worker for Hospice of Broward County. She works with terminally ill patients and their families all over Broward County. Her community involvement with Social Agencies and Funeral Directors allows her the opportunity to promote the SDA Church plus keep the church members abreast of available social programs from which they may receive assistance.

IN THE NEWS

NURSING HOMES OPEN DOORS TO TABERNACLE

Pinecrest Convalescent Center is one of three Nursing Homes in the Northeast Miami, Florida area that has opened its doors of welcome to Tabernacle SDA Church, Miami for weekend ministry to its residents.

Members from Tabernacle now have the opportunity to minister to the spiritual needs of this 100-bed facility.

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Municipal Court of the City of Boston for Civil Business

Suffolk, ss Civil No. 086468-A
Home Owners Federal Savings and Loan Association—THIRD PARTY PLAINTIFF

Daisy Harewood, Nathan Peters, Melvyn Davis, Wilfred E. Stoudt, Stennett Brooks, Harold W. Baptiste, James C. Harewood, Beverly Scott, Marie Peters, James A. Morris and Ronald C. Bates—THIRD PARTY DEFENDANTS.

A Civil action has been presented to this Court by the above named Plaintiff.

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon Norman F. Lazarus, plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 4 Feneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston, MA 02109, a copy of your answer to the complaint which is on file in this Court, within 20 days after the final day of publication of this summons. You are also required to file your answer to the complaint in the Office of the Clerk of this Court either before service upon plaintiff's attorney, or within 5 days thereafter. If you fail to meet the above requirements, judgment by default may be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.

Unless otherwise provided by Rule 13(a), your answer must state as a counterclaim and claim which you may have against the plaintiff which arises out of the transaction or occurrences that is the subject matter of the plaintiff's claim or you will be barred from making such claim in any other action.

Witness, Joseph F. Feeney, Esquire, at Boston, the Twenty Seventh day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and Eighty Six.

PAYTEE RETURNS TO THE SECRETARIAT

Lorenzo Paytee was elected to serve as the president of the Southern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists a few weeks ago, but because of health reasons, he has relinquished this post and returned to his old job as the secretary for the conference. Paytee was the first Black to ever be elected to the position of president for this field since its organization at the turn of the century. It is also one of the richest conferences in the world.

OBITUARY OF HANNAH FREEMAN JONES

Mrs. Hannah Freeman Jones, a member of the Hillcrest Church (former Meharry Boulevard) for three generations, passed quietly into her mortal rest to wait the eternal life giver, January 12, 1986. She leaves to mourn her passing, her daughter Martha O. Hardin; a sister-in-law, Elsie Freeman; five sisters, Eliza Beaden, Jimmie Herron, Martha Portia of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Mattie Brown and Dilla Freeman Burt; one brother, Henry Freeman of Indianapolis, Indiana; and other relatives and friends. Her daughter, Martha, who is a musician wrote a poem in her mother's memory entitled, "TO MY MOTHER". Dr. Harold L. Cleveland is pastor, P.C. Winley gave the Eulogy after many ministers and family friends gave memories of mother and her daughter.

CLAYTON PRICHARD TO SERVE AS UNION OFFICER

The executive committee of the Southwestern Union Conference has asked Elder Clayton Prichard to serve as the secretary for that Union. He replaced Bill May who was elected to the presidency of the Texas Conference a few days ago. Elder Prichard was serving as the Personal Ministries director for the Union.

BAPTISM BRINGS SPECIAL JOY TO CHURCH

It was a joyous occasion for the members and visitors who attended the Palace of Peace Church, Colorado Springs, Colorado, on January 25, 1986. Four members: Sarah Mann, Freda McPhearson, Victoria and Leon Verrett, recommitted their lives to the Lord and three persons: Elizabeth Washington, Sharron McConnell and

THE NORTH AMERICAN REGIONAL VOICE

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