The living church

New events and personalities in the Metropolitan Baltimore regilgious community

Enon continues to promote Christian living

For 85 years, Enon Baptist Church has stood as a gleam of light upon the masses seeking to save the lost.

The Rev. Arthur Jerome Payne served as pastor of Enon for 53 of the 85 years and was ministering to the needs of the congregation and community.

In May 1976, the Rev. Payne retired as pastor of Enon but is still active at his church and in the community as pastor emeritus.

Enon Baptist is located at the corner of Edmondson Avenue and Schroeder Street.

Today, the Rev. Porter W. Phillips Jr. is pastor. He has been pastor of Enon since June 1976 and has done a tremendous job of expanding the church program.

One of the latest is the Open Door, Enon's Gospel Coffee House. It is a specialized ministry that strives to reach out and bring the young adult into the church.

The Open Door is also a mission of the church to confirm and deepen the faith of those who belong to the church and to influence others who do not hold membership in the church.

Another annual affair held at Enon since the Rev. Phillips has been pastor is the Martin Luther King Memorial fair, sponsored by the Board of Christian Education and the annual Youth Day.

"The People of Enon Celebrate 85 Years of Togetherness" is the theme for their 85th anniversary.

Members will observe their anniversary on May 21. The Rev. Phillips will be speaking at the 11 a.m. services, and special guests at the 5 p.m. services will be the Rev. Marshall Shepherd Jr., of Mount Olivet Tabernacle Baptist Church in Philadelphia, Pa., along with his members and choirs.

Special features at the anniversary services will include recognition given to the oldest organization of the church and members with more than 50 years of services.

Fifty-year members and those who have belonged to Enon from 25 to 49 years will also be honored.

Since the Rev. Phillips has been pastor, the church membership has also increased.

Enon was organized in May 1893 at Park Avenue near Dolphin Street in the St. Peter Episcopal Chapel.

The late Rev. Jones Watkins was called as pastor. The church grew under the leadership of the Rev. Watkins, and the chapel became too small and could not hold the members in attendance.

In 1906 the church voted to build a new building. The congregation met in various churches. Services were then held in the lecture room while the rest of the building was completed.

(Continued on Page 17)

1946 AFRO FILE photo shows worshippers crowded in the front of Enon Baptist Church as the Rev. Arthur J. Payne conducted Altar Prayer. The rites were then held every third Sunday at the church.

Mrs. Betty Johnson is devoted to her church and community

Mrs. Betty Johnson

"I cannot reach out enough to the less fortunate. I am Baptist-born."

Speaking from her office at City Temple of Baltimore Baptist Church, where she is employed as a secretary, Mrs. Betty Johnson made the above statement.

Mrs. Johnson, who greets her guests with a smile, is a jubilant Christian woman who is devoted to her church.

A singer, leader mother and former school teacher, Mrs. Johnson is presently serving as president of the Woman's Auxiliary of the United Baptist Missionary Convention of Maryland.

The organization meets monthly at the Maryland Baptist Center School of Religion at 1434 McCulloh St.

Mrs. Johnson, who says she has always wanted to be a secretary and do missionary work, states that she "loves people."

The Women's Auxiliary of the United Baptist Missionary Convention of Maryland is to unite missionaries in Maryland in their Christian responsibilities, to strengthen the relationship and understanding among local missionaries, the Young People's Department and district associations.

The organization's goals are to encourage individual participation and missionary concern such as clothing the naked, visiting the sick, the prisons, feeding the hungry and giving a helping hand to the stranger in need.

Myth and reality

The role of a minister's wife

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the second part of a two part series on the role of a minister's wife.)

By Minnie Washington

Society had deluded the minister's wife, just as children had been deluded into being "Good for Goodness sake" with the santa myth — but here was one minister's wife who was not willing to settle for the rigid structure of a societal myth.

I began to question the validity of the myth, and like many of you, I was awakened to the truth - knowing that it was good! Ministers' wives as a whole, began to question the myth prodded by the emphatic statement by Jesus, "Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

She sought her freedom with a question "Lord, what will thou have me to do?" The new woman was emerging.

The woman who was not content to be a shadow, but a part of her husband's ministry. The Scriptures responded automatically to this new woman, "In these last days, I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh. . ." The minister's wife came to grips with the fact that the tiele she bore as minister's wife, was not a credential for heavenly residence.

She realized that her husband's name was not equal to the name of Jesus, nor did it have the power to elevate or escalate. She began putting things in their proper perspective.

The new minister's wife who has arisen walks beside her husband. She has seen Deborah ride into war with Barak, and says Why can't I? She saw Mary take time to sit at the feet of Jesus, and asked, Why can't I?

The new wife who has arisen is no longer just interested in pots and pans as was Martha, but she demands some time in the service of the master.

The myth is fast evaporating because the new minister's wife is grasping fast the fact that time must be redeemed for Christ, and he needs every available source to be used in his service.

Souls saved at youth crusade

God is not dead. He is very much alive. Just ask anybody at Greater Refuge Temple Church of God In Christ, Monroe and Frederick Avenues. They just finished their First Annual Youth Crusade, Friday, April 30.

During the two - day crusade the Lord blessed the church in a mighty way. The Crusade began on Friday evening with workshop entitled, "Christian Feminine Awareness," conducted by Mrs. Agnes Ott of Antioch College. She was followed by an inspiring service with the Rev. Sis. Alfreda Wiggins as guest speaker. The title of her message was "Will the Real Jesus Please Stand Up."

The service began Saturday with noonday prayer. It was followed by a series of workshops: Enoch Pratt Christian Books, Basic Percussion, Basic Sewing, Professionalism and Careers. Techniques of Evangelism, and the Sound of Music.

Following these workshops participants took to the streets for door to door witnessing. The youngest witness for the Lord was ten years old, the oldest was thirty. They stood on the corner signing songs and giving personal testimonies. Participants also passed out literature, asked people if they knew Jesus and invited them to their services. The response was both good and bad. They met with some open hospitality and some kind hearts.

Jesus said, "If they hate you, remember they hated Me before you."

One little white girl was so touched from the evangelism that she came back to church that night.

The devil got into her friends and when she came out they tried to fight her. She hadn't done anything to them, she just went to church. Some of the members of the congregation walked her home and told her to be encouraged.

She didn't let that episode stop her either, for Sunday morning she was in service, with her mother! It so beautiful to see them sitting out there, two white faces among many blacks.

Saturday evening service was also rich. Elder Randy Gaines from Holy Temple COGIC, Bowie, Md., was guest speaker. His topic was "Let My Soul Live."

Sunday morning found everyone high in the spirit. After fasting and praying they were ready for a holy ghost good time, and they had it. The very fine pastor, Elder W. T. Green of New Bethel Church, Washington, D.C. brought the morning message. It was "Hang In There, God's Got You Covered."

Members and guests had a special consecration and ordination service for Elder Logan in the afternoon. Dinner was served and included anything and everything imaginable from chitterlings to meat loaf.

Sunday night was the grand finale featuring the famed voices of The King Chorale Ensemble. They sang the church happy off of their feet with "There's a Bright Side Somewhere." They were in the holy dance for about 30 minutes, prophesizing and speaking in tongues.

Jesus said, "In the last days, I will pour out my spirit on all flesh . . ." and he certainly did just that.

(Continued on Page 17)

Metro church briefs

The Women's Chorale of Memorial Baptist Church, Caroline and Preston Sts., will observe its anniversary on May 7, 5 p.m. at the church.

The Rev. P. Smith, associate minister of First Baptist Church will be the speaker. The Rev. Angus A. Smith is pastor of Memorial Baptist.

The 45-voice Chancel Choir of Grace United Methodist Church, Charles Street and Belevedere Avenue, will sponsor a concert on May 7, 4:30 p.m. at the church.

The Senior Choir of New Hope Baptist Church, 856 Harlem Ave., will sponsor a banquet on May 14, 4:30 p.m. at Eastwind, 9000 Pulaski Highway. Ms. Dora Eaton is president of the choir, the Rev. James J. Fuller is pastor of New Hope Baptist Church.

Members of the Jones Tabernacle Young Adult Choir, 2100 Baltimore St., will celebrate their 10th anniversary on May 7, 5 p.m.

Guest soloist will be Ms. Carlene Dixon. Among choirs participating will be the Baltimore Fellowship Choir, James Peterson Singers, Young Adult Choir of Maryland Church of God In Christ, Gillis Memorial Christian Community Young People's Choir and the Young Adult Choir of Friendship Baptist.

James Cain is president, the Rev. Ms. Cynthia Jones is director and the Rev. Arthur E. Jones is pastor.

Myrna Powell, members and friends of Ebenezer Baptist Church will pesent a recital "Thus Far We've Come, A Black Experience," at New Trinity Church, 2100 Edmondson Ave., on May 13, 6 p.m. for the benefit of Women's Day. Mrs. Sylvia F. Wright is sponsor, the Rev. M. D. Norton is pastor.

The Gold Leaf Circle of Emmanuel Christian Community Church, 1210 Lanvale St., will present Purcell Taylor in recital on May 21, 4 p.m.

The Social Security Chorus composed of 60 voices, with Ms. Patsy Cornelius conductor and Ms. Beatrice Jindra, accompainst, will sponsor its spring concert May 12, 6:30 p.m. at the Multi Medical Center, 7700 York Rd.

Women's Day will be observed May 21 at the 12:30 p.m. mass at St. Peter Claver Catholic Church, 1546 Fremont Ave. Mrs. Marguerite Campbell will be the speaker.

The courtesy committee of Morning Star Baptist Church 1063 Fayette St., will present Mrs. Sharon Johnson in a recital on May 7, 3 p.m. The Rev. Samuel Ray is pastor, Mrs. Ruth Beverly, co-chairman, Mrs. Nadine Morse, president.

The United Methodist Women of Mount Winans United Methodist Church, 2501 Hollins Ferry Rd., are sponsoring a trip to Hawaii Aug. 10-18.

For additional information call Mrs. Deellear Royster, 944-5606 or Mrs. Blanche Powell, 466-6673.

The Sanctuary Choir of Berean Baptist Church will sponsor a play on May 13 at Northwestern High School, 6900 Park Heights Ave., for the benefit of its building fund. Mrs. Lucille P. Bergman is director, the Rev. John A. Lunn is pastor.

The young adults of St. Bernadine's will sponsor a spring disco on May 6, 10 p.m. at St. Bernadine's Hall, 616 Mount Holly St.

Mini revival May 10-12 at Union Baptist Church

A three-day mini-revival service will be held May 10-12 at Union Baptist Church on behalf of Women's Day.

Rev. Dr. John R. Bryant

Union Baptist is located at 105 Main St., in Turner Station, where the Rev. William E. Johnson is pastor.

He was appointed pastor in 1975 and succeeds the late Rev. Carlton Cook. The Rev. Johnson was formerly assistant pastor at Timothy Baptist Church.

The Rev. Dr. John R. Bryant, pastor of Bethel AME Church at Druid Hill Avenue and Lanvale Street, will be the speaker.

Services will begin at 7 p.m. with music by Union Baptist and community choirs. Mrs. Eleanor Bowden is chairperson.

"The Missing Dimension in Spiritual Growth" is the theme for the June 25 Women's Day.

Mrs. Wanda Dobson will be the 11 a.m. speaker and a concert featuring Mr. and Mrs. Horace Parker will be held at 3:30 p.m. Dinner will also be served on June 25 at the church.

Mid-week services will be held each Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. at the church with various ministers speaking.

The Rev. Theodore Jackson Jr. will be the speaker on May 14, 7 p.m. at Union Baptist. The Rev. Raymond Johnson is junior minister of the church.

Officers of the church are Ms. Eldeen Lett, Ms. Shirley Collins and Ms. Maureen Godsey, assistant clerks. Frank E. Seivers, chairman of the Deacon Board; James R. Allen, chairman of the Trustee Board and John Carrington and Charles C. Bowden, co-chairmen of the Trustee Board.

Family to honor Dr. Kerr

By Louise Kerr Hines

The Kerr family will honor Dr. Thomas Henderson Kerr Sr., May 7, 4 p.m. at Heritage United Church of Christ, 3106 Liberty Heights Ave. The occasion will be the 90th birthday celebration of Dr. Kerr. He is a retired pharmacist who operated his own store at 723 George St., from July 19, 1919 until March 18, 1960.

Some years ago, I reflected on my father's life — how in his dedicated, quiet, kindly way he had endeared himself to the community. Long before the urban planning agencies conceived the community center concept, Kerr's Drug Store in many respects met that need.

More than a merchant and druggist, my father served as the "Drug Store Doctor" on whom old and young relied for actual and psychological first aid. His wife of 63 years, the late Mrs. Geneva L. Kerr called him a missionary.

"Doc," always smiling, soft-spoken, was also the neighborhood "income tax man," business consultant, arbitrator, confidant, "banker," employer, letter writer, teacher, story teller and friend to all. Kerr's Drug Store was the local center of information for many neighborhood happenings.

To me, my father's life has personified "Christianity in action." Years ago, at my request, he explained his creed this way:

"I believe in a deity. The existence of God is manifested in what I see, hear and feel. How can I best serve Him has always been food for thought. The decision to worship Him was reached long ago, and due to deliberation has evolved this, my cred:

"First, to have no other God before me; and secondly, the application of the 'Golden Rule,' doing unto others, as I would have them do unto me.

"The consummation of this desire could not be accomplished very well, or in fact, not at all without a working partnership with God. So, with this union, I have endeavored this idea out in my life's work.

"Serving God does not necessarily mean so much outward expression of loud acclaim, lamentation, exclamation, exhortation, accompanied by various contortions of the body to the discomfort, and even annoyance, of others who may be trying to serve and worship him in a more quiet, and perhaps dignified way.

"Serving God can often be exemplified in one's work. Any task and accomplishment, certainly requires the guidance and help of the Heavenly Master. In my daily tasks, I rely on His aid, knowing, and believing, any degree of assistance to others came through Him.

"For 40 years, my job was to dispense medicine for the alleviation of pain and suffering. On each occasion, giving the best for the least was my policy, always with sincerity of purpose, and hope for relief embodied, those I am serving are to use.

"The gray stone building was completed at a cost of $12,000 and located at Park Avenue and Dolphin Street.

The Rev. Watkins suffered a stroke in 1917 and the Rev. J. H. Green of Patterson, N.J. was elected as assistant pastor in February 1919 and made the regular pastor on April 4, 1919.

The Rev. Payne was appointed as pastor in March 1923 and installation services for him were held May 6, 1923.

New auxiliaries were then organized in the church and in December 1941 the church purchased the Brantley Baptist Church at Edmondson Avenue and Schroeder Street.

Members moved to their present location on Jan. 17, 1943 and the church was paid for and dedicated free of debt.

The Arthur J. Payne Christian Center was dedicated in 1968. The center houses new offices, a library, choir usher rooms, classrooms and an all-purpose room.

Many ministers have been trained at Enon during the Rev. Payne's pastorate. They are now serving at various churches in the city, state and other areas of the United States.

From 1966-1969, the Rev. James E. Thomas III served as co-pastor of Enon. Local, state and national organizations have held meetings at Enon and the Baptists Ministers Conference holds their weekly meetings at the church.

—Souls saved

(Continued from Page 16)

The church is very proud of this endeavor and it was a great success. Approximately 400 people passed through the doors during the Crusade. Souls were saved! The church membership was increased and God's name was magnified as never before.

The members of the Temple have a lot for which to thank God. He brought them a long way. A long time seemed to past where the congregation was wandering in the wilderness, much like the children of Israel. Greater Refuge has only been in this present edifice for about two months. Prior to this time, they shared the Holy Nativity Church on Garrison Boulevard and Edgerton Road. "We had to leave there because they said, we worshipped too loud," said member Beverly Johnson.

They then went to the corner of Fulton and Penrose Avenues to share the church home of the Mt. Olivet Church. They had to wait until their service was over and couldn't begin their service until 1:30 p.m. Some of the members were discontented and left the congregation. But for the faithful few who stuck it out, God has blessed them above measure.

They can now say, "My soul looks back and wonders, How I Got Over."

"Without a vision, the people perish." And so the congregation thanks pastor, Elder Ernest W. Nelson. It's not always easy being a leader.

The church will be holding Baptizing Services on Mothers Day, Sunday, May 14, 7:30 p.m.

—Enon Baptist

(Continued from Page 16)

LORD

within the hollow of your hands you hold our lives, our hopes and all our needs. For all that you have given us we thank you but most of all we thank you for the gift of MOTHERS.

To ALL MOTHERS, Grandmothers, Godmothers, Mothers-in-law, and Mothers-to-be
WE PRAYERFULLY SAY

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

During the month of May, dedicated to Our Heavenly MOTHER MARY our ...

12:10 Noon Weekday Mass will be offered for ALL MOTHERS, living and departed; WE WILL PRAY for THEM at EVERYONE of our NINE Novena Services held every Monday and Tuesday; and THEY WILL BE INCLUDED in all Thursday Holy Hours 5:00-6:00 P.M.

SEND US TODAY your dear Mother's and Grandmother's names and they will be included in 300 MASSES being offered, at our request, at the Marian Shrines of the World, during this month. NO OFFERING IS NEEDED with the names.

SPECIAL BLESSING of the SICK, individually, every Monday after the 3:30, 4:30 and 7:00 P.M. Services. LOURDES WATER, imported from Lourdes, France, especially for the SICK, is available in the rectory at all times.

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23rd ANNUAL YOUTH DAY
SUNDAY, MAY 7, 1978
THEME:
"YESTERDAY REVISITED, TODAY REALIZED, TOMORROW REVEALED"
9:00 A.M.—SUNDAY SCHOOL
10:45 A.M.—MORNING SPEAKER
MRS. BETTY L. FOYE
SHARON BAPTIST CHURCH
MUSIC FURNISHED BY YOUTH DAY CHOIR
6:00 P.M.—A PLAY ENTITLED "RELIGION: REVISITED, REALIZED AND REVEALED" WILL BE PRESENTED
(THE PLAY WAS WRITTEN BY THE YOUTH OF MT. ARARAT)
Miss Constance Brown, Chairperson
Miss Denice McDuffie, Co-Chairperson
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Mrs. Theresa Peterson, Advisors
Mrs. Ida M. Redd, Coordinator
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3:30 P.M.

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Elder C. Green can be heard each Sunday morning from 10:30 A.M. to 11 A.M. over station W.S.I.D.

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MAY 7, 1978
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By Mathies
11:00 A.M.
"Lift Up Your Heads"
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9:15 A.M.—Church School and new members' class
10:30 A.M.—Open Heart Service
11:00 A.M.—Morning Worship Sermon by the Rev. Mrs. Edna Isaac of Moriah Baptist Church and Baptizing
3:00 P.M.—Rev. Ira Cutler Choirs and Congregation, Metropolitan United Methodist Church of Owings Mills, Md.
6:00 P.M.—BTU and New Members' Class Mini Workshop, "The Bible - What's In It For Me"? *We Welcome You*
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3:30 P.M.—The Olin P. Moyd Club will celebrate their 11th Anniversary
6:00 P.M.—Worship With Gillis Memorial CC Church
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Friday, May 12, 1978
Morgan Christian Center
PROGRAM
9:00 A.M.—Registration and Coffee
9:30 A.M.—Devotions
10:00 A.M.—Address and Discussion Bishop Nichols, "Priorities in Contemporary Preaching" —
12:00 Noon—Luncheon
1:30 P.M.—Address and Discussion Bishop Nichols 'Priorities in Contemporary Preaching" — II
3:00 P.M.—Adjournment
Auspices
The Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance
Morgan State University
Morgan Christian Center
The Howard L. Cornish Seminar Committee

St. James' Episcopal Church
LAFAYETTE SQUARE
THE CLERGY
The Rev. Donald O. Wilson, Rector
Dr. Robert Ford, Deacon
A. Maurice Murphy, Choir Master-Organist
SUNDAY, MAY 7, 1978
8:00 A.M.—Holy Communion
9:00 A.M.—Church School in Guild Hall and Undercroft
9:00 A.M.—Holy Eucharist and Sermon (In Church)
11:00 A.M.—Choral Eucharist and Sermon
The Public Is Cordially Invited To Attend

THANK YOU NOTE
National Home Remodeling Inc. wishes the new Rehoboth Baptist Church many years of Enjoyment and Happiness in their newly renovated home. Thank you Rev. Zollie Wright, Officers, and Members for allowing us to help you beautify the Church.
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