THE LIVING CHURCH

Baptist ministers sponsor James Cleveland

'Prince of gospel' rocks the Civic Center

By Pam Widgeon
AFRO Staff Writer

The prince of gospel had 5,000 Baltimoreans clapping, foot patting and shouting "amen and hallelujah" at the Civic Center on Friday, March 9.

The Rev. James Cleveland headed a gospel extravaganza sponsored by the Baptist Ministers' Conference of Baltimore in cooperation with Commercial Truth Productions.

The Rev. Cleveland had the audience rocking in their seats as he sang such favorites as "Lord Do It For Me," "Everything Will Be Alright," "I Don't Feel No Ways Tired," "He Shall Feed His Flock Like A Shepherd."

These were just a few of the songs performed by the 46 - year - old Rev. Cleveland. Not only did he sing, but he preached a brief sermon between songs.

He told the ministers and guests, "Stop pushing people out of the church . . . Don't just live and die and don't touch anyone. Don't just be saved and satisfied. Touch somebody and tell them God is real."

It was like being at a revival service. The audience responded with loud shouts of "amen" and "praise the Lord." Rev. Cleveland is also known for his compositions, arranging and musicianship.

He has inspired hundreds of groups and choirs and has recorded more than 35 albums.

Mrs. Pauline Wells Lewis and Mrs. Mary Clayburn served as emcees for the evening.

Local choirs who also participated were the O. J. C. Inspirational Choir of Mount Moriah, the Rev. Arthur J. Bem, pastor.

Imani Messengers of Bethel AME where the Rev. John R. Bryant is pastor; combined choirs of Gillis Memorial Christian Community Church who gave the Baptist Ministers' $125 for their food project. The Rev. Theodore Jackson Jr. is pastor.

(Continued on Page 11)

GREATEST GOSPEL SINGER — The Rev. James Cleveland has written some 300 gospel songs, recorded 70 albums and has a total of nine gold albums to his credit. The 46-year-old minister was at the Civic Center March 9 for a gospel program sponsored by the Baptist Ministers Conference.

HAND CLAPPING — Guests who attended the gospel show March 9 at the Civic Center seem to be enjoying the show as they joined in singing with the Rev. James Cleveland, "I Don't Feel No Ways Tired."

HIGH ON THE SPIRIT — Thousands of the audience participants at the Friday night James Cleveland benefit show were overcomed with the holy spirit.

Couple writes book of inspirational verses

"Inspirational Readings" is the name of a new book that was compiled by Dr. and Mrs. Oberlin (Chandler) Perry, longtime active members of Leadenhall Baptist Church in South Baltimore.

Dr. and Mrs. Perry stated that it took almost three years to produce the book. The couple says in 1976 they noted that their church had a shortage of responsive reading materials and in the weekly readings, the people found it difficult to participate because of the shortage.

After searching through the Bible the Perrys made a collection of 150 readings. As a Christmas present, 475 books were presented to the church in December, 1976.

The book was received with enthusiasm by church members and friends and the couple hopes to reach citizens who are in need of words of inspiration.

The authors of "Inspirational Readings" feel the most effective medicine for a troubled mind or depressed spirit is prayer combined with meditation.

Dr. and Mrs. Perry stated, "Clergymen of all religions are certain of this fact. Psychologists are equally certain that the most beneficial results of any activity are obtained when the individual participates in the action."

The authors have put together a group of Psalms, other passages from the Old Testament, selections from the gospels and poems for responsive and unison reading by both individuals and congregations.

Dr. Perry is a former elementary school teacher and became a counselor in junior high schools in 1960. He also served as an educational psychologist in the testing division and was a teacher of adult education for 12 years.

He is now the director of Christian Education at Leadenhall Baptist Church, where the Rev. Eddie Wilson is pastor. He is completing a four year course at Howard University School of Religion, working toward his Master of Divinity degree.

Mrs. Perry has been a dressmaking teacher for 25 years at a vocational high school. She has been active in teaching and administrative positions at Leadenhall Baptist Church and also finds time to work in many community organizations and national charities.

LEADENHALL MEMBERS — Dr. and Mrs. Oberlin W. (Chandler) Perry, long time active members of Leadenhall Baptist, are the authors of a new book called "Inspirational Readings."

Bethel kicks off Free Child campaign

By Sue Williams

The Missionary Department of Bethel AME Church will officially kick off its "Free A Child" campaign March 18 as it hosts an event which is expected to draw children from all over the city of Baltimore.

Global Sunday, according to Mrs. Cecelia Williams Bryant, is an international event, designed to create an awareness of the seriousness and the need to help children of African descent all over the world. Bishop Frederick Talbot, the Guyana High Commissioner to the Caribbean, will be the main speaker. The African Children's Dance Company from New York City will perform, as well as a 100 - voice children's choir, featuring children from the city. An international harambee will follow the service which begins at 11 a.m. at the Masonic Temple, 1206 Eutaw Place, with foods from different parts of the world.

Diplomatic representatives from Washington, New York and Baltimore will be in attendance. Thomas W. Chapman, president of Provident Hospital, will also participate in the service.

"We want not only adults to attend this service," says Mrs. Bryant, "but we want them to bring their children."

The Year of the Child, proclaimed by the United Nations, has the potential for effecting many changes, but those changes should come about as the result of children and their parents working together, with an awareness of what they are doing and why, she says.

The theme for the Free A Child" campaign is "Tomorrow's Tomorrow: A New Heaven, A New Birth." The children are the future of the world, according to Mrs. Bryant, and if the world tomorrow is going to be any better tomorrow, we have to help our children today.

GOSPEL EXTRAVAGANZA — The Mighty Clouds of Joy will be at Walbrook Senior High School, Clifton Avenue and Edgewood Street on Sunday, March 18, 4 p.m. The group was recently named the best traditional soul-gospel performers. Members of the group are Pau Beasley, Johnny Martin, Joe Ligon, Richard Wallace and Elmore Franklin. Mayor Schaefer has proclaimed March 18 as the Mighty Clouds of Joy Day in Baltimore. Other groups participating are The Jackson Southernaires, The Bells of Joy and the Dynamic Keys of Faith.

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The Rev. Franklin returns $2,007 gift to the church

By Elizabeth M. Oliver

Silver, crystal, candles, flowers, a huge cake and an overflow of beautifully dressed guests made the St. Martin's Church of Christ banquet at the Cross Keys Inn Sunday, March 11 an elegant affair.

The occasion marked the 16th anniversary of the church and the pastor and founder, the Rev. F. H. Franklin and his birthday.

Highlight of the event came with the presentation of a coal fashioned from $2,007 by the Rev. Mary E. Williams, the church mother, who spoke of the humility of the pastor and his many considerations of the poor and needy of the city.

The show-like garment was covered with $100, $50 and $20 bills, the sum total of which the Rev. Franklin immediately returned to the church to go toward the building fund.

The Mahalia Jackson Home now under construction next to the Madison and North Avenue church is for homeless persons "regardless of race, age or religion." It is named for the Rev. Franklin's close friend, the late singer Mahalia Jackson, whom the press described just before the March on Washington as consulting with the Rev. Franklin and Dr. M. L. King for his "I Have A Dream" speech.

Miss Jackson frequently appeared at concerts here when St. Martin's was located on Orchard Street.

Among other banquet presentations was that of Brother Mike, a retired Army officer, who announced the opening of the $100,000 St. Martin's Church Endowment Division at Advance Federal Savings and Loan through his personal deposits.

COAT OF MONEY — The Rev. F. H. Franklin received a garment fashioned from $2,007 in bills as a birthday gift and then returned it to the church treasury.

Prophet J. D. Jackson gave a check for $100 and the church received an AFRO citation commending its taking first place in the AFRO 1978 Church of the Year Contest. Among its other accomplishments was the AFRO 1978 Clean Block effort in the North-Madison Avenue neighborhood beautification under direction of Brother Mike.

The Rev. Samuel T. Redd, the prominent mortician, recalled in his speech how the Rev. Franklin had helped him and his family of six children many years ago when they were in need.

The Rev. Redd, who had been hospitalized a few days before with a serious kidney ailment, also reported how much improved he felt, and remained throughout the banquet with his wife and two sons.

The dinner was also highlighted by the presence of the Rev. Franklin's longtime friends and associates who came from distant states, the Rev. Arthur L. Godden, House of Jeremiah, Detroit, Mich.; the Rev. Rebecca Siler, St. Martin's Church, Dallas, Texas; L. V. Johnson, First Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn.; Dr. Charles Kennedy, dean of political science, Lewis University, Lockport, Ill. the main speaker who was introduced by the Rev. J. C. Bates.

Absent were the Rev. John W. Dowell, Miracle Temple Baptist Church, Washington, D.C. and noted singer Sammie Cheatham, Chicago, who sent congratulatory telegrams. Singer Floyd Liggins, who told of his rehabilitation through the efforts of St. Martin's Church, replaced Cheatham.

The Rev. Vincent Taylor, St. Martin's associate minister, gave invocation. The Rev. Bates presided. Other speakers were Evangelist Esther Mellette, Mother Jackson, Brother Mike, The Rev. Mrs. Williams, L. V. Johnson, Bishop Davis and The Rev. Gondin.

The St. Martin's church officers and department heads are:

Executive Administrator, The Rev. J. C. Bates; Church Clerk, Miss Karen Robinson; Chairman of Financial Committee, Mrs. Willa M. Robinson; Chairman of Trustees, Mrs. Emma Whitaker; Youth Pastor, The Rev. Jimmy Baldwin;

Church Mother, Mother Sarah Jackson; Chairman of Advisory Board, Brother Michael; Mass Choir President, Miss N. L. Beard; Prophetic Board President, The Rev. Edward Baldwin; Musicians, Charles (Rickey) Ellis, Donald Carter, The Rev. William Duney;

Youth Choir director Anthony Miles Williams; Mass Choir, Mrs. Doris Smith;

Ministers Staff President, The Rev. Mary E. Williams;

Ushers President, Mrs. Ann Pendexter;

Pastor Aid President, Mrs. Mable Johnson;

Youth Advisor and Nurses, Miss Aleatha Ford;

Youth Department President, Kim Ford;

Sunday School and Mission, Mrs. Elmarie Belden;

Altar Staff President, Craig Ford;

Altar Staff Mother, Mrs. V. Dixon;

Choir Mother, Mother C. Ford;

Anniversary Committee The Rev. John C. Bates, chairman, The Rev. Mary E. William, Co-Chairman, Miss Kim, Ms. Aleatha Ford, Mother Carlyon Ford, Ms. Mable Johnson, the Rev. Jimmy Baldwin, Miss Kim Ford, Ms. Anita Campbell, Ms. Emma Whitaker, Ms. Willa M. Robinson, Ms. Connie Whittington, Ms. Ann Pendexter, Edward Mitchel and Mrs. Virginia Ewell.

Rev. Mary E. Williams

Rev. J. C. Bates — Montez Parker

—Rev. Cleveland

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Also, the D.C. Chapter of Gospel Music, Samuel Ray Revival Choir, Morning Star Baptist Church. The Rev. Samuel Ray is pastor; Chancelor Ensemble Choir of Wayland Baptist, the Rev. Darneal Johnson is pastor. Several other choirs also performed.

Rev. Cleveland told the audience he believes in making a "joyful noise" and told the guests to join him in singing and clapping their hands.

As the audience and choirs joined in singing, "I Don't Feel No Ways Tired," one man yelled, "Hallelujah, the Lord is good."

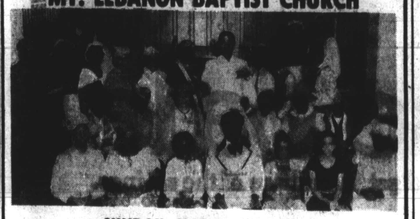
The Rev. Vernon Dobson is president of the Baptist Ministers' Conference. The Rev. Alfred C. D. Vaughn asked the guests to join hands when giving the closing prayer.

From the three hour gospel program will be used for the "Churches Pantry For The Needy."

Rev. Samuel Ray, chairman of the project, says "People who are in need of food will be able to go to a church in their area and get food." A church in each area of the city will have a pantry room for the needy.

However, the ministers are still having meetings concerning the project and have not decided on what churches will have a pantry room.

MT. LEBANON BAPTIST CHURCH



SUNDAY, MARCH 18, 1979
10:00 A.M.—Church School
11:00 A.M.—Guest Preacher
Dr. J. Deelis Roberts
Howard University School of Religion
3:30 P.M.—Flower pageant, Sr. Choir No. 1
6:00 P.M.—MEET THE AUTHOR CELEBRATION
A Repeat Performance by Popular Demand a Dramatization of The Book
REDEMPTION IN BLACK THEOLOGY
by Rev. Dr. Olin P. Moyd
Rev. Dr. Olin P. Moyd, Pastor

SHARP ST. MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Dolphin and Etting Sts.
SUNDAY, MARCH 18, 1979
9:30 A.M.—Church School
11:00 A.M.—Morning Worship
ALL ARE WELCOME
Rev. John W. Zeman, Minister
Rev. Arthur White, Assistant Minister

PERKINS SQUARE BAPTIST CHURCH
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SUNDAY, MARCH 18, 1979
BAPTIST TRAINING UNION DAY
8:00 A.M.—Early Morning Worship Sermon By the Pastor
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 PASTOR
5:00 P.M.—6th Annual Installation Service of the Inter-denominational Church Ushers Association Incorporated. Usher Madeline Lathe, Chairperson, Usher Jessie L. Brown, State President.
6:00 P.M.—BTU and New Members Class
All Are Welcome
REV. RICHARD H. OGLE IV, Pastor

REV. OGLE

PENNSYLVANIA AVE. AME ZION CHURCH
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SUNDAY, MARCH 18, 1979
THIRD SUNDAY LENT
11:00 A.M.—Worship Sermon by Dr. Marshall H. Strickland
Theme: What The Christian Church Really Is!
Music by Zion Echoes, Men and Women Choruses
A Friendly Welcome To All
DR. MARSHALL H. STRICKLAND, Pastor

ANNUAL MEN'S DAY
SUNDAY, MARCH 25, 1979
At
Mt. Pisgah C.M.E. Church
1034 N. Fulton Avenue
Corner of Riggs Ave.
9:30 A.M.—Sunday School
10:30 A.M.—Prayer-Devotions
11:00 A.M.—Regular Morning Worship Services
Speaker: The Honorable PARREN J. MITCHELL, U.S. Congressman, House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.
Music by the Mt. Pisgah Male Chorus
4:00 P.M.—Financial Reports
4:00 P.M.—Concert
The 24 Voice Chorus of St. John's Church, Columbia, Md., Md. orch.
Everyone is Invited To Attend
Mr. Emmitt Pope, Chm.
Mr. Thomas Mickie and Mr. Samuel Simington, Co-Chrm.
Dr. J. Allen Sabb, Minister

HARLEM PARK COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH
612-18 N. Gilmor Street
FIFTH FOUNDERS DAY
Sunday, March 18, 1979
Morning Services— 11:00 A.M.—Speaker Rev. Dr. Baxter Matthews, Union Baptist Church.
Founders Day Fellowship Dinner immediately following morning service.
Friday, March 30, 1979
ANNIVERSARY BANQUET
at the Holiday Inn (next to Martins West)
7:30-8:00 P.M.—Reception
8:00 P.M.—Dinner
Banquet Speaker
Rev. Vernon Dobson, Pastor, Union Baptist Church
Subscriptions $15.00 each
Mrs. Bernita K. Conaway, Chairperson
(For further information call 323-3668
Sunday, March 25, 1979
WOMEN'S DAY KICK-OFF SERVICE—11 A.M.
Mrs. Bessie Mason, Speaker
Mrs. Barbara Kelly, Chairperson
Mrs. Lucille Dorsey, Co-Chairperson
Rev. Raymond Kelly, Jr., Founder and Pastor
All Are Welcome!

EASTSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH
2519 E. Preston St.
ANNUAL MEN'S DAY
SUNDAY, MARCH 18, 1979
9:30 A.M.—Sunday School
11:00 A.M.—Worship
Guest speaker Rev. David Jordan of Green Bay, Virginia
3:30 P.M.—Guest Speaker
Rev. David Jordan and Company from Virginia
Mr. Charles Williams, Chairman
Mr. Andrew Miller, Co-Chairman
We invite all
REV. C. C. ALEXANDER, Minister

St. James Episcopal Church
Lafayette Square
Baltimore, Maryland
SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES
8:00 A.M. Holy Communion
9:00 A.M. Holy Communion and Sermon
9:00 A.M. Church School
11:00 A.M. Choral Eucharist Sermon
The Reverend Donald O. Wilson, Rector
Mr. Maurice Murphy, Organist
The Public Is Cordially Invited To Attend

DOUGLAS MEMORIAL COMMUNITY CHURCH
"The People of the Way"
Lafayette and Madison Aves.
MARION CURTIS BASCOM, D.D. Minister
James S. Hammond Minister of Music
SUNDAY MARCH 18, 1979
Rev. BASCOM, Preaching
On Becoming The Persons We Ought To Be
"Brother Jam's Air" (Psalm 23) — Gordon Jacob, Arr.
Where Shall I Go? — John Work, Arr.
"There Is a Balm In Gilead" — William Dawson, Arr.

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