THE LIVING CHURCH

Annual prayer service held in Druid Hill Park

Nearly 1,000 citizens from all walks of life attended a spiritual weekend of events July 27-29 that was sponsored by the We Need Prayer Headquarters.

"God Is What You Need Today" was the theme for the three day services. A prayer breakfast was held at St. John's AME Church on July 27 with the Rev. Dr. Walter S. Thomas, pastor of New Psalmist Baptist Church, as speaker.

Following the breakfast, the annual altar call in Druid Hill Park was held with the Rev. John R. Bryant, pastor of Bethel AME Church, as the main speaker. The Rev. Mrs. Antoinette Phillips, founder of the headquarters, led the huge crowd of worshippers to the park from the Gilmor Street headquarters.

"It was like a family picnic," said Mrs. Viola Smith who attends the services every year in the park. Families were seen with their lunch, porch chairs, blankets and cool drinks.

Music was provided by the Altar Call Band members, Roland Smith, Raymond Wise, Edward V. Phillips Jr., Harwian Scott and Thomas R. Roberts, director.

The Rev. Phillips described the weekend as a "soul saving spiritual weekend." She stated, "Most of the people who were in the park on Saturday never come to church. They were exposed to the word of God all day Saturday, and some of our radio stations taped a portion of the services."

Del. Larry Young served as chairman of the services, and Mrs. Eria McKinnon and Mrs. Leah White were chairmen of the breakfast. Charles Stevenson and Nathaniel Hawkins were chairmen of the spiritual gospel concert held at Gillis on July 29 where there was standing room only.

Ministers and community leaders who participated in the services were the Reverends Samuel Lupico, Ruth Young, William Johnson, Amanda Williams, Monroe Saunders Jr., Michael Thomas, James Wooten, Timothy Lofton, Benjamin F. Ball, Alfred C. D. Vaughn, Harold Carter, Theodore C. Jackson Jr., Olin P. Moyd, Agnes Alston, Ruth Cummings.

Also, Mrs. Evelyn Lambson, Lillian Evans, the Rev. Laura E. Stevenson, Gertrude Thompson, Susie Peters, Victorine Adams, Lillian Cornish, Roscoe Herring, Reba Bell, Earla McKinnon and other community leaders.

The We Need Prayer headquarters is located at 912 Gilmor St. and is open daily for those in need of prayer. The Rev. Phillips stated, "My mother, Mrs. Mary E. Hawkins, had a prayer room on the second floor in our home when she was living and believed in having prayer."

While recuperating from a stroke, the Rev. Phillips said she had a vision and "visualized people singing and praying." This is when she decided to have services in the park, that have been successful for the last four years.

"The majority of the money for expenses comes out of my disability check. The object is not the money but to tell people God loves you and we should come out and worship him," said the Rev. Phillips.

Mayor Schaefer attended the services and proclaimed July 28 as Alta Call Day. The Rev. Phillips also received a citation from the mayor for her outstanding services to the community. Many citizens have been blessed because of the great ministry the Rev. Phillips has been doing for four years.

IMANI MESSENGERS of Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, Druid Hill Avenue and Lanvale Street, was one of the local choirs singing on July 28 at the annual altar call in the park.

AFRO photos by Mark Gail

MOM AND DAUGHTERS — Mrs. Eleanor Bryant-Graham and Kia and Chere Graham were among hundreds of citizens who attended the all day prayer services in Druid Hill Park.

THE RESPONSE — Inspired worshippers seem to be enjoying the gospel music and sermon they heard last Saturday. Shown from left are Mesdames Marguerite East, Audrey Salter, Joan Early and Patricia Smith.

ANNUAL ALTAR CALL — A group of teenagers were seen reading their Bibles on July 28 at the fourth annual altar call in the park. Shown from left are Larry A. Jackson, Sarah E. Brown, Kathleen Dinkins and Dominique Sanford.

Metro Church Briefs

The Youth for Christ Choir will be singing at the Refuge Way of the Cross Church of Christ, 43rd Street and Old York Rd., on Aug. 5, 3:30 p.m. Maurice Johnson is director; Mrs. Cheryl Cannady is president, and Mrs. Donna Johnson is pianist.

Jimmy Baldwin will be the speaker Aug. 4, 7:30 p.m., at Maryland Church of God In Christ, 5100 Denmore Ave. Bishop T. R. Young is pastor.

The Christian Women's Mobilization Task Force will sponsor Mobilization Mandate Women's Day with PUSH on Aug. 4, 10 a.m. at 3608 Mohawk Ave.

The Holy Ghost Inspirational Choir of Refuge Way of the Cross will sponsor a trip to Kings Dominion on Aug. 25. For ticket information call Miss Annette Newman, 876-6875 or 239-7269.

Members of Berean Baptist Church will honor their pastor, the Rev. John Lunn, Aug. 4, 7 p.m., at a banquet being held at Morning Star Baptist Church, 1063 Fayette St., in the multi-purpose room.

The Raymond Kelly Junior Guild of Harlem Park Community Baptist Church, 612-18 Gilmor St., will sponsor a trip to Atlantic City on Aug. 4, 6:30 a.m. The Rev. Raymond Kelly Jr. is pastor.

St. Katherine's Episcopal Church women will sponsor their fourth annual sidewalk sale on Aug. 11, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Pressman and Division Streets.

Dinners will be sold, fresh garden vegetables, toys and games for children.

The Rev. Ms. Willie Taplin Barrow, special assistant and deputy for special programs of Operation PUSH, will be the keynote speaker on Aug. 4 at Park Community Church Center, 3608 Mohawk Ave. The all day affair is being sponsored by the Christian Women's Mobilization Task Force and Mrs. Cecelia Bryant is chairperson.

The Rev. Dexter Wise, pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church, Providence, Rhode Island, was the speaker for the annual breakfast sponsored by the Redeemer's Palace Inc., on Aug. 2. The Rev. Willie E. Ray is director of Redeemer's Palace.

Members of Rising Star Baptist Church will sponsor a banquet on Aug. 4, 6:30 p.m., at the Holiday Inn downtown. Anthony Bull and Coria Lee are chairmen.

St. Martin's Churches of Christ Inc., 2114-30 Madison Ave., will hold its annual convention in Baltimore Aug. 12-15. Father P. H. Franklin, founder and pastor of St. Martin's, will serve as host.

A musical will be held at the church on Aug. 12, 8 p.m. and registration is scheduled for 9 a.m. Aug. 13 with communion and consecration services at 10 a.m.

The official opening session is 12:00 Aug. 13 and worship sessions will be held at 8 p.m. Workshops will be held at the church on Aug. 14, along with the ladies business session. The youth business ssession will be Aug. 15 at 2 p.m. and youth worship session at 8 p.m. Aug. 15.

The Missionary Society and Organ and Piano Committee of Simmons Memorial Baptist Church, Pennsylvania Avenue and Cumberland St., will have special services at their church on Sunday, Aug. 5 at 3:30 p.m. The Rev. Morris Johnson, associate minister of First Emmanuel Baptist Church, will be the speaker for the Virginia Day services.

The Rev. Levin B. West will be the 11 a.m. speaker Aug. 5 at Mount Ararat Baptist Church, Longwood and Gwynns Falls Parkway. The Rev. Samuel Redd is pastor.

The Rev. Dr. M. M. Jefferson Jr. is the speaker on Sunday, Aug. 5, at Garrison Boulevard United Methodist Church. The Rev. Roscoe C. Williams is pastor.

The Rev. Dr. Walter S. Thomas, pastor of New Psalmist Baptist Church, will be the speaker Aug. 5, 3 p.m., at Green's Baptist Temple, 1214 Broadway. Members of Green's Baptist will march to their new church home on Sunday at 10 a.m. The Rev. Dr. J. Webster Green is pastor.

GUEST SPEAKER at Ebenezer Baptist Church Missionary Day was the Rev. William Worsley (C) of Holy Trinity United Holiness Church. Among those greeting the visiting minister were the Rev. Clarence Poole, Ebenezer pastor; Mrs. Lottie Brown, the Rev. Worsley, Mrs. Dorothy Ransom, Melvin Parrish, deacon and William Powell, trustee (L to R).

Minister speaks out

Fighting 'structural racism'

By Rev. Walter Thomas
(Editor's Note: The Rev. Thomas is pastor of New Psalmist Baptist Church at Cathedral and Franklin St.)

I feel especially moved on what seems to be an issue of major concern.

Everyday as I ride through this "monumental city", I am appalled at the increasing numbers of persons of working age whose sole occupation is that of aimlessly walking the streets of Baltimore.

Without a doubt, unemployment is on the rise and the productive power of our black community is being crushed and stymied.

What frightens me, however, is the system's way of cancelling the efforts made by the Civil Rights Movement of the 50s and 60s. Yes, we do still battle the vicious sharks of institutional racism which continue to make perilous the waters of success and prosperity.

Rev. Walter Thomas with minister speaks

However, the early civil rights movement taught us the signs of this form of racism and give to us weapons for our warfare. We now face another equally deadly form of racism.

I call this form structural racism. This means that people are being structured out of the productive lives of society.

Our youth go out for jobs and cannot pass qualifying exams. It is not always that the exam is too hard, rather their education was not structured to have them equipped to pass the test.

We need to recognize that this form of racism is far more deadly and devastating than any form we know. Our children are not being prepared to take a meaningful place in society. We must structure the learning and experiences for our families and guarantee them that they will be included in this "American life."

We cannot expect schools to fulfill this task by themselves. They need the combined concern of parents, church and community. We must take an active role in the lives of others, or we will face bitter consequences.

What will be the result if we don't? My answer is riots and rebellion. When everything is denied a man, he does not value his life or the lives of others.

Therefore, let us make real the gospel songs and help somebody just as we would our Christ. Instead of structural racism, let's build structured communities.

United Church Ushers hold 60th Jubilee Convention

By Paulette Y. Hammond

The National United Church Ushers Association of America (NUCUAA), in celebrating its 60th annual diamond jubilee convention, concluded a successful week of activities at the Philadelphia Sheraton Hotel Saturday.

Some 1,500 delegates who attended the installation banquet on Friday, honored one of the oldest members of the association, Annie Grant, 86, who has been ushering for 64 years. In spite of her age, Mrs. Grant still ushers at Allen AME Church in Philadelphia.

Sitting in a chair on a raised pdium surrounded with flowers, Mrs. Grant told the group, "I thank each and everyone of you — my fellow ushers, officers, — for what you have done for me. I look at us as a small family and haven't regreted a moment of the years I have spent ushering.

"I have tried to do God's will," continued Mrs. Grant, choking back the tears, "but I can't do much now because my eyesight is failing." Mrs. Grant told the group that she hopes to see them at the convention in Milwaukee next year.

The 3,100 delegates and visitors who gathered in the city of Brotherly Love during the week also honored former executive director Roy Wilkins, who has been a civil rights activist for more than 45 years. Wilkins, who could not attend because of surgery, sent a letter to the church ushers, extending his deepest appreciation to the organization for honoring him and expressed regrets is not being able to attend.

Michael Myers, assistant director of the NAACP accepted the plaque on behalf of Wilkins.

In other events, the Interdenominational Church Ushers Association of Pennsylvania hosted their 8th annual benefit luncheon-Fashion Show for the church ushers on Sunday.

Phyllis Hunt, secretary of the fashion show and luncheon committee, presented an award to Alda E. Thompson of the Sickle Cell Anemia Foundation.

An award was also given to the Rev. Joseph DeBerry for OIC (Opportunities Industrial Center), a program which places emphasis on job training.

Rev. DeBerry is administrative assistant to Rev. Leon H. Sullivan, pastor of Zion Baptist Church in Philadelphia and founder of OIC. Last year, NUCUAA gave $5,000 to the National Negro College Fund, and $5,000 to the NAACP.

The Public Relations Department, chaired by Alma C. Hawkins, honored the "golden age ushers," on Monday afternoon. Louella Johnson, 88, of New Orleans, La. was the oldest usher in attendance. To be a golden ager, ushers have to be more than 60 years old.

Maryland reported the largest number of golden age ushers at the convention, followed by Washington, D.C. with the second largest.

The Vicie Juran Flower Pageant Calendar Queen contest, sponsored by the Jr. and Young Peoples Department and the Young Adult Department was held during the week. Rhoda Scott of Chicago, Illinois was crowned the flower queen for the junior department for 1979.

The grand total for the birthday calendar of the young adult department is $10,674. Wisconsin, for the third time, is first place winner, raising a total of $4,441; California, second place winner, raising a total of $2,252; and Pennsylvania raised $1,157 for third place.

The junior department presented a plaque to Denise Palm, Mr., national president, in appreciation for her service as national junior president.

G. Alvin Taylor of Ohio, past national chairman of the George T. Grier School of Ushering, was also honored during the school's ushering program, Wednesday.

The ushers participated in daily workshops from 7 - 9 a.m. to improve and learn professional ushering techniques. Twenty one signals center around the work of the ushers.

At the end of a convention week, ushers graduate and are given diplomas. This year, some 1,415 ushers received diplomas. The state of Ohio, was named the winner for 1979, with 96 points and the highest number of graduates (289).

The William H. Davis Honor Club of NUCCUAA, awarded its medal of Honor to Ms. Alice Jones of Chicago, Ill. for having made the greatest contribution to the growth of the national during the year. Each state presents a nominee who is judged by a point system on attendance, status and service. The member having the highest number of points over 200 will receive the Medal of Honor.

During the week, long convention delegates made a pilgrimage to Marion Cemetery to the graveside of Elijah A. Hamilton, the founding father. NUCUAA was first organized in 1910, in the city of Brotherly Love. Blanche Dabbs Jackson, chaplain, led the group in prayer at the gravesite, and the Rev. William C. Strother, Jr. of Philadelphia delivered the eulogy.

Elizabeth Mosley, national historian, told the group at the gravesite that "We must never forget the founder, because if we do, we lose sight of our purpose." Mosely urged unity, love and togetherness among the ushers.

Apporximately 50,000 members from across the nation make up the National United Church Ushers Association of America. Its purpose is to encourage and develop high ideals of service and leadership among laymenserving as ushers in local churches.

Robert Allen of Chicago, Ill. serves as the current national president and Lewis J. Martin of Inglewood, Calif. serves as chairman of the Board of Directors.

Stanley stints in Jamaica

The Division of Overseas Ministry of the Disciples of Christ and The Board for World Ministries of the United Church of Christ, have financed an international exchange program which has enabled the ministers of two-widely separated parishes to trade pulpits and parishoners for two months this summer.

The Rev. Clinton Smith of Jamaica, West Indies, will pastor Peoples Congregational Church through Aug. 25. The exchange began in early July.

Dr. A. Knighton Stanley, the senior minister of Peoples, has assumed Rev. Clinton's duties as circuit minister to two churches in Jamaica.

Rev. Smith has been a minister for 14 years. He is a graduate of the United Theological College of the West Indies, formerly the Union Theological Seminary.

UTCWI is an ecumenical seminary which trains divinity students of many denominations, including the Disciples of Christ, Rev. Smith's denomination.

REV. A. K. STANLEY
(On exchange pulpit duty in Jamaica)

In Jamaica, he pastors Kingsgate Church and Kintyre Church. With his here are his wife, Shernette and his two sons, Lon, age nine and Kurt, age six. Peoples Church is at 4704 13th St. N.W. Sunday services begin at 10 a.m.

Rev. Smith has many favorable comments about Washington, D.C.

"This is my first trip to the United States," he noted "And I am most impressed. I was first impressed by Peoples' physical facilities and the many good uses to which they are put.

"Then, as I got out into the community, I was pleased by the many conveniences available and the prices asked for them. In Jamaica, inflation makes things very expensive.

"THE LITTLE WONDERS," a gospel group, will be singing at Catonsville Community College on Aug. 12, 4 p.m. The group was organized in 1941 and are well-known radio and television performers. They wil be joined in the outdoor concert by other traditional folk musicians.

LET NOTHING DESTROY YOUR HOPE IN CHRIST

Persevere in your prayers, by participating in our 12:10 Noon Weekday Mass, offered for your dear intentions.
5:00 P.M. Holy Hour, Every Thursday, spent in prayer for the sick and the unemployed, and in ONE of NINE Novena Services held every Monday and Tuesday.
SPECIAL BLESSING of the sick INDIVIDUALLY, every Monday after 3:30, 4:30 and 7:00 P.M. Novena Services.
LOURDES WATER, imported from Lourdes, France, especially for the sick is available in the rectory at all times.
WEDNESDAY, August 15th, Feast of the ASSUMPTION, Holyday of Obligation. Masses: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11:10, 12:10 Noon and 5:30 P.M. Every Mass will be celebrated in 30 minutes.

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AUGUST 5, 1979
Youth Usher Day
8:00 A.M.—Early Morning Worship Sermon by Rev. Cleveland Mason
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 Rev. Cleveland Mason From New Shiloh Baptist Church
5:10 P.M.—4H and New Members Class
Organizational Heads Night
All Are Welcome
REV. RICHARD H. OGLE IV, Pastor

St. James Episcopal Church
Lafayette Square
Baltimore, Maryland
8:00 A.M. Holy Communion
9:00 A.M. Church School
10:30 A.M. Choral Eucharist Sermon
The Rev. Donald O. Wilson, Rector
Mr. A. 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, August 5, 1979
Eight and Eleven O'Clock
Marion C. Bascom, D.D., preaching
Roll, Jordan, Roll — R. Nathaniel Dett, arr.
Greater Love Hath No Man — John Ireland
If We Believe That Jesus Died — John Goss

PENNSYLVANIA AVE. AME ZION CHURCH
"The Church of the Burning Heart"
SUNDAY, AUGUST 5, 1979
HOLY COMMUNION
11:00 A.M.—Meditation and Communion
Communion by Dr. Marshall H. Strickland.
Music By: Zion Echoes, Gospel Choruses I and II

SHARP ST. MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
SUNDAY, AUGUST 5, 1979
9:30 A.M.—Church School
10:00 A.M.—Morning Worship.
ALL ARE WELCOME
Rev. John W. Coleman, Minister
Rev. Arthur White, Assistant Minister

Announcement
REV. LEVIN B. WEST
Of Newark, N.J.
Will Preach at the
11 A.M. Morning Service
SUNDAY, AUGUST 5, 1979
AT
Mt. Ararat Baptist Church
Longwood St. and Gwynns Falls Pkway.
All are welcome
Rev. Samuel B. Redd, D.D., Pastor

Garrison Blvd. United Methodist Church
(Formerly Orchard Street Church)
Garrison Blvd. and Alto Road
Sunday, August 5, 1979
9:30 A.M.—Sunday School and Fellowship Bible Class
11:00 A.M.—Morning Worship
Sermon: Dr. M. M. Jefferson, Jr., Minister of the First United Methodist Church, Inglewood, Calif.
Roscoe C. Williams, Minister
Kelly L. Jackson, Assistant
Norman H. Hudgins, Lay Leader

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