# THE LIVING CHURCH

DEACON ELSTON PALMER, a member of First Baptist Church in Cherry Hill was seen at Community Baptist Church July 20, when members marched to their new church. Deacon Palmer presented the church with a check for $50 from the deacon board of Cherry Hill Baptist.

## Community Baptist members march to church they built themselves

There was standing room only July 20 at Community Baptist Church in Jessup, Md., when members and friends marched into their new church that was built by the men of the church.

The Rev. Robert T. Hurte, pastor of the church for 13 years, stated, "Once we decided we would build our own church, all of the members made pledges. Some pledges were as high as $2,000 and were all paid in six months.

"There were no fund raising activities. We believed God would give to us and we would give back to him. We thank God for this building today. He made it possible for us to build our church."

For three years and three months, the men of Community Baptist Church and several men who live in Jessup, worked from 10 to 17 hours a day on the church.

The two story brick structure is now worth $400,000 and will be worth more once the basement area is completed, said Rev. Hurte. The sanctuary has a seating capacity for 400. There is also the pastor's office, board room, church office, choir rooms, nurses and ushers room and two bathrooms located on the first floor of the church.

Rev. Hurte says the entire church is air conditioned and when the lower lever of the church is completed, there will be a multi purpose room, a kitchen, baptisimal room and two bathrooms.

While the men would be working at the new church on Saturdays, Rev. Hurte stated the women of the church would prepare meals at the old church that is now being torn down and the space will be used for a parking lot.

Community Baptist is located at 7344 Cedar Ave. The old church located across from the new church was also built by the members when the late Rev. J. G. Washington was pastor.

Rev. Hurte succeeds the Rev. John Dean, who was the former pastor of Community Baptist. The 48-year-old minister says, "If it had not been for the men of the church and men who live in the community, we would have spent thousands of dollars.

"The carpet was installed by William Coffey, a member of the church and part of the electrical work was done by Joseph Phillips, also a member," said Rev. Hurte.

William Brown, who is employed as a truck drive and a member of the church, was known as the "handy." Brown told the members of Community Baptist in 1976, "With the help of the Lord we can build the church in three years." He told the AFRO, "We don't owe any banks money and I am proud of the church." He said the men of Community Baptist also built the steeple for less than $400.

Deacon Arthur Dunlap, chairman of the Deacon Board; Deacon Berkley McGee, chairman of the building committee; Deacon Henry Mouzon and Deacon Lewis Moore were among those members seen working at the church every Saturday.

RIBBON CUTTING — Members of Community Baptist Church watch Deacon Berkley McGee cut the ribbon before entering the new church. Shown (from L) are the Rev. Robert T. Hurte, pastor, Deacon McGee and the Rev. Walter Paige, pastor of Faith Baptist.

SPECIAL HOUSE OF WORSHIP — Community Baptist Church, 7344 Cedar Ave., in Jessup, Md., was built by the men of the church. Members marched to their new church July 20. The Rev. Robert T. Hurte, pastor says the church is paid for.

AFRO Photos by Mark Gail

## 16,000 Jehovah's Witness seen at district convention

More than 32,000 Jehovah's Witnesses from the Baltimore-Washington area gathered at the Capital Centre in Landover, Md., recently to hear an outstanding four-day program on the theme of "Divine Love."

The local congregations of Jehovah's Witnesses were among persons assembled and Bennie L. Bivens, presiding overseer of a local congregation, was chairman of the convention from July 24-27.

The speaker for the final session, W. J. Martin, of Brooklyn, N. Y., spoke on the subject, "Why Will a Loving God Exact Vengeance?" The theme was "Mankind has abused his home and is about to pay the price for his selfishness and indifference."

The news was received attentively by an enthralled audience. Persons from all stations in life were in attendance including the young, elderly, handicapped, persons from foreign lands, and family groups. All, however, conducted themselves in an orderly peaceful manner throughout the four day sessions of each weekend.

Organization was an outstanding aspect of the convention with each section of the program beginning and ending on time. Among the features of the spiritual education program were symposiums, Bible lectures, special personal experiences, three fullscale dramas and delightful spiritual music throughout. Practical counsel was given on such diverse topics as disciplining children, caring for the sick and elderly, preaching and teaching our neighbors, and putting up with one another in love.

The feeding of those in attendance was done efficiently in that as many as 16,000 were fed in less than two hours.

A special highlight of the convention was the baptism which took place both Saturdays and 298 people made public declaration of their dedication to Jehovah to do his will in preaching and disciple making work.

Using his Bible, Martin said the earth was created by God but man has polluted air, water and soil now threatening all human life. Examining Bible history Martin said the world suffered destruction in the days of Noah for the same reasons when a massive flood destroyed mankind

There will be 103 four day assemblies held throughout the United States until Aug. 15. There are approximately 333,000 Jehovah's Witnesses in the United States and over 2,000,000 in the world. As a result of these conventions all of them are able to reflect on God's loving deeds toward mankind and appreciate the incomparable God of love.

## Metro church briefs

Members of Mount Lebanon Baptist Church, 2320 Reisterstown Rd., will have their annual bazaar on Aug. 9, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The bazaar will feature a magic show, ceramics, plants, white elephant table and refreshments will be on sale.

There will also be community service information booths from WEBR radio, Antioch University and many more. Mrs. Hazel Davis is chairperson, Mrs. Shirley M. Simmons and Mrs. Doris Washington are cochairpersons. The Rev. Dr. Olin P. Moyd is pastor.

The first formal worship service will be held at Christian Life Fellowship Baptist Church, 8136 Liberty Road on Aug. 3, 11 a.m. The Rev. Stanley M. Butler, pastor will be preaching at the 11 a.m. services.

The senior citizens of Ray of Hope Baptist Church, 3000 Parkside Dr. will have special services on Sunday, Aug. 10 at 3 p.m. The Rev. Dr. Charles M. Franklin is pastor.

The General Assembly of the Churches of God and Saints of Christ will convene at Christian Unity Temple, 3900 Groveland Ave. on Aug. 4. Bishop S. N. Glover is senior bishop and Evangelist J. Johnson is pastor.

A musical will be held Sunday, Aug. 31 at New Refuge Church, 2015 Monument St., Roland Atkins is president and Bishop N. Durant is pastor.

The nurses of Leadenhall Baptist Church, 1021 Leadenhall St., will celebrate their first annual Nurses Day on Sunday, Aug. 3, at 3:30 p.m. Mrs. Isadora Smallwood is president; Mrs. Edith Adams is chairperson and the Rev. Dr. Eddie R. Wilson Jr., is pastor.

The men of Simmons Memorial Baptist Church will sponsor the Truetone Gospel Singers in recital on Aug. 7, 8 p.m. for the benefit of Men's Day.

A rally sponsored by the family day committee of First United Church of Jesus Christ, 5100 Edmondson Ave., will be held Aug. 3, 4:30 p.m. at the church. Del. Troy Brailey and the Rev. Mrs. Elinor D. Powell are chairpersons.

We need Prayer Headquarters, 912 Gilmor St., will sponsor their fifth annual altar call in Druid Hill Park on Saturday, Aug. 2 at Swann Drive off McCulloh Street.

The Rev. Dr. Harold A. Carter, pastor of New Shiloh Baptist Church will be the 10 a.m. speaker and the Rev. John R. Bryant, pastor of Bethel AME Church is the noon speaker.

Other ministers and gospel groups will also be participating in the all day services scheduled to start at 9 a.m. until 6 p.m.

THE REV. ST. GEORGE CROSSE is now pastor of St. Matthews United Methodist Church, 410 East 23rd St. He was transferred following the Baltimore Washington Conference of Methodist Churches. Rev. Crosse is married to Mrs. Delois B. Crosse and the father of two daughters, Karin and Lires Crosse.



INSTALLATION SERVICES were held recently at Mount Olive Baptist Church in Towson for the Rev. Bennett Donnell. He is the new pastor of Remnant Baptist Church at 2000 Chase St. Rev. Donnell is the former recording secretary of the Baptist Associate Minister's Fellowship in Baltimore.

CHURCH NURSES HONORED — The United Nurses of various churches were recently honored by Provident Hospital, Inc., for their continuous support of the missions and goals of the hospital. The group recently purchased a kidney dialysis machine for the hospital. Shown from (L) are Thomas W. Chapman, president of the hospital presenting a certificate to Mrs. Dorothy Wardlow, executive director and Mrs. Reba Morris, president of the group, while board member Bishop Monroe R. Saunders looks on.



# Hiram Grand Lodge participates in Little Ark cornerstone laying

By Betty Mizes

Despite Saturday's 90-degree weather, members of Hiram Grand Lodge of Masons turned out in full regalia to participate in the cornerstone laying ceremonies for Little Ark Missionary Baptist Church.

This is the handsome, two-story brick structure at 1210 E. North Ave., where the pastor-founder is the Rev. Matthew Marcus.

The church is unique, in that it is completely air-conditioned, providing a special room for young mothers who may witness and hear services and nurse their babies.

In addition, the half million structure, rebuilt in 1977, was financed, designed and built by black business people. Some $240,000 mortgage monies were made available by Advance Federal Savings and Loan.

The building was designed by black architect, Ed Taylor. The contractor, also a black-owned firm, was Springdale Construction, headed by Clarence Gross.

The main auditorum, seating over 400 persons is alive with bright red side panels, rugs, chairs and pews. Impressive is octagonal window above the choir loft.

The outdoor services conducted by Hiram Grand Lodge were led by Grand Master John V. Thornton. He recited the solemn rites and one by one, other officers read from the ritual or recited special portions. Appropriate songs were sung during the rites.

At the conclusion, the Masonic participants, joined with church officials in placing historic papers in the cornerstone.

Sealed in a brown envelope were 45 pennies, representing each year of church's age; the first mortgage for $23,000 which the church secured to build its first church from Advance Federal (then in the rear of the present site);

Also, preserved for posterity, were names of charter members and their families, the Rev. Mr. Marcus, Sinclair Foster and his wife, Lizzie; and the Rev. and Mrs. Lonnie Payne and family.

Names of the church's officers were also included. They are: George Brown, chairman, deacon board; and deacons, Tony Moore, Nehemiah Teasdale, Andrew McNeil, Reginald Trusty, Percy Alston, Conrad Johnson, Otha Harmon, and the late Junius Perkins and Elijah Pompey and Prince Dean.

Also, Trustee Chairman Willie Williams, and trustees, James Heard, Herman Johnson, Wilbur Giles, Zanes Cyprus, John Wilson, Matthew Marcus Jr., Preston Hancock, John Banks;

Also, Mary Giles, secretary; Mary Dutton, financial secretary; Clementine Henson, church clerk.

Also in the cornerstone were a list of members of the church's present auxiliaries, a copy of the two-page printed program and a list of previous locations of the church.o

Little Ark was organized in 1935, by Rev. Mr. Marcus, a former member of Mt. Sinai Baptist. It first worshipped in a building at Bond and Fayette Sts. in East Baltimore.

Other officers of Hiram Grand Lodge participating in the cornerstone laying: Deputy Grand Master Columbus McNeil, Senior Grand Warden Lloyd Cure, Junior Grand Warden Claude Lamb, Grand Treasurer James L. Moseley, Assistant Secretary Gassaway Carter.

Grand Architect David Tanner, Grand Senior Steward Herman Bobbitt, Junior Steward Herman Lee.

Grand Senior Deacon Harvey Carrington, Junior Deacon Winston Hall, Grand Lecturer James D. Elliott.

Special Deputy Grand Master, Jacob Canty Past Deputy Grand Master Samuel N. Bunn and Grand Chaplain Willie Harris.

Honorary Grand Architect William T. Powell, Sumter, S.C., was also here. So was former Grand Worthy Matron Helen Benton.

Prior to the outdoor services, a formal worship was conducted in the main auditorium, with music by the church choir. Mrs. Pearl Mitchell presided.

The sermon was by the Rev. Alfred C. D. Vaughn Grace Memorial pastor, who is head of the Baptist Conference and Baptist Clergymen.

During this service, the congregation participated in the litany. Sample dedication lines: "For a building of which Jesus Christ is the Chief Cornerstone, the pillar and ground of the truth, we lay this cornerstone..."

In addition to Mrs. Mitchell, other members of the cornerstone committee were: Mesdames Magaline Brown, Earleen Cypress, Sarah Gorham, Bertha Hancock, Mrs. Ardeller Wheeler, chaired the building fund committee.

## Family week observed at First United

Family week workshops were held this week at First United Church of Jesus Christ, 5150 Baltimore National Pike. Bishop Monroe R. Saunders is pastor.

Workshops were held every night at 7 p.m. Among topics that were discussed this week were Christian Nurture of Children. Mrs. Joan Alston and Mrs. Shirley Carrington were teachers.

Mrs. Muriel Richardson and Mrs. Deborah Claxton were teachers for the workshop on Working and Mothering.

The Single Parent Christian Families was discussed Wednesday with Mrs. Dolores Russ, Mrs. Jean Payne and Mrs. Carrie Barnes teaching.

Other topics to be discussed are Sound Financial Planning for Christian Families, John M. Lewis, teacher; Growing Old Gracefully in the Christian Home, Mrs. Ruth B. Mickens, teacher; Cooperation and Understanding taught by Mrs. Alberta Saunders and Mrs. Lois McMillan.

Also, Teenagers Problems, Mrs. Bessie Spence teacher and The Youth Growing UP Gracefully taught by Mrs. Winsome Saunders.

A family rally sponsored by the family day committee is scheduled for Sunday, Aug. 3, 4:30 p.m. at the church. The theme is "The Year of the Family." Prizes will be given to the largest family, oldest couple, oldest member of a family. The rally will be held on the lawn of the church and everyone is asked to bring their lunch. Del. Troy Brailey and Evangelist Elinor D. Powell are chairpersons.

NEW PASTOR — The Rev. Herbert H. Eaton is the new pastor of St. John Baptist Church in Columbia, Md. Shown (from L) following the installation services are the Reverend Edgar R. Reed, Dr. Leon Wright, Rev. Ron Chestnut, Rev. Robert S. Louis, Mrs. Eric R. Eaton, Eric R. Eaton and daughter, Herbert Eaton Jr., Mrs. Delores Eaton, wife of the new minister, Rev. Herbert H. Eaton and Martin Johnson.

## Services held in park Sunday

Brown's Memorial Baptist Church, 2000 Fulton Ave., where the Rev. Douglas Miles is pastor, will have its annual open air worship service in Druid Hill Park on Sunday, Aug. 3.

Sunday school classes will be held in the park at 9 a.m. and Rev. Miles will be preaching at 11 a.m. Services will be held near the park's pavilion, near the park's entrance.

Following services, members and friends of Brown's Memorial will pull out their baseball bats and balls and lunch for an evening of fun and games.

READ THE AFRO

## AFRO CHURCH NEWS


MT. ARARAT BAPTIST CHURCH
3008 Gwynns Falls Pkwy. & Longwood St.
SUNDAY, AUGUST 3, 1980
10:45 A.M. Morning Worship
Guest Speaker
Rev. Levin B. West, Pastor of Grace Reformed Baptist Church Inc. of Newark, N.J.
REV. DR. SAMUEL B. REDD, Pastor

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Rev. Mary E. Williams
Bishop Thomas
Spiritual Counselors

..."We are journeying unto the place of which the Lord said, I will give it you: Come thou with us, and we will do thee good: For the Lord hath spoken good concerning Israel." Numbers 10:29
THE NEWLY ORGANIZED
Christian Life Fellowship
Baptist Church
8136 LIBERTY ROAD
will have their
First Formal
Worship Service
SUNDAY, AUGUST 3, 1980
at 11:00 a.m.
Order Of Worship
11:00 A.M.—Sunday Morning Worship. Message will be proclaimed by the Pastor, The Reverend Stanley M. Butler.
3:00 P.M.—Rev. Ivan Jackson Asso. Minn. of New Shiloh Bapt. Church.
6:00 P.M.—Evening Worship. Rev. Richard W. Green, Choirs and Congregation of the First Baptist Church of Love of Fredericksburg, Virginia will followship with us.
REV. STANLEY M. BUTLER

PERKINS SQUARE BAPTIST CHURCH
2800 EDMONDSON AVE.
CORNER OF WARWICK
SUNDAY, AUGUST 3, 1980
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 Assoc. Minister New Shiloh Baptist Church
REV. RICHARD OGLE
REV. RICHARD 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

SHARP ST. MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
SUNDAY, AUGUST 3, 1980
9:30 A.M. Church School
10:00 A.M. Morning Worship
Rev. John W. Coleman, Minister
Rev. Arthur White, Assistant Minister

DOUGLAS COMMUNITY CHURCH
"The People of the Way"
Lafayette and Madison Aves.
MARION CURTIS BASCOM, D.D. Minister

SUNDAY
AUGUST 3, 1980
Eight and Eleven O'Clock
Rev. Marion C. Bascom
Preaching
There Is A Balm In Gilead
—Dawson, arr.


## Last rites held for Lewis Williams Jr.

Services for Lewis L. Williams Jr., were held July 23 at Heritage United Church of Christ. Mr. Williams died July 19.

Born in New York, Mr. Williams attended New York City College and transferred to Morgan State University in 1954. He received a degree in business administration from Morgan.

While attending Morgan, Mr. Williams was a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity. He received his master's degree in education from Coppin State College in 1973.

He formerly worked with the Department of Public Welfare. Mr. Williams has served as counselor and consultant for the Harlem Youth Organization, program organizer and counselor at Johns Hopkins Drug Abuse Center and a research associate at Friends of Medical Research.

Mr. Williams was the coordinator of special programs with the mental retardation administration of the Maryland state Department of Health and Mental Retardation for six years.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Geraldine Williams, three daughters, Mrs. Pamela S. Leonard, Miss Patrice L. Williams and Miss Carol E. Williams; one son, Anthony Williams; a granddaughter Tere Leonard; mother, Mrs. Mary Gary Williams; one sister, Mrs. Janet Obene-Frem-Pong.

Funeral services for Frederick Gray, 87, were held July 23 at Metropolitan United Methodist Church. Mr. Gray died July 21. Born in Calvert County, Md., Mr. Gray was a veteran of World War I.

He was a lifetime member of the United Methodist Church and prior to his illness was a very active member at Metropolitan United Methodist Church's Steward's Board.

In addition to his wife, Mr. Gray is survived by a son, Raymond Gray and one daughter, Mrs. Shirley A. West; one sister, Mrs. Mary Walker; two brothers, Pearless Gray of New Rochelle, N. Y. and Leonard Gray; four grandchildren Rebecca West, Joseph West Jr., Gina Gray and Julie Gray.

## Charles A. Rice was a mortician

Charles A. Rice, 74, longtime mortician died July 29 at Provident Hospital. The family will receive friends Sunday, Aug. 3, 6 to 7 p.m. at Ebenezer AME Church, 20 West Montgomery St.

Funeral services will be held at 7 p.m. and Mr. Rice will be buried in Arbutus Cemetery.

Mr. Rice was one of the founding members of the Funeral Directors and Morticians Association of Maryland Inc. Relatives state he also encouraged young men to enter the profession and do well.

Before moving to the 1300 block Eutaw Place in 1971, the Rice Funeral home was located at 661 Barre St.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Estelle Rice, a son, Charles A. Rice Jr., two sisters, Mrs. Laura Frazier and Mrs. Mary Gibson; one brother Clarence Rice and a grandson, Carlton Rice.

## Rev. Crawley elected conference vice-prexy

The Rev. Dr. George A. Crawley Jr., pastor of St. Paul Baptist Church, was recently elected first vice president of the Hampton Ministers Conference.

The Rev. George A. Crawley

He is the first minister from Maryland to be elected to one of the highest offices of the conference in its 66-year history. The Hampton Ministers Conference is the largest interfaith black ministers conference in the nation.

Rev. Crawley is the former president of the Baptist Ministers Conference and a past officer of the state convention. He has been the pastor of St. Paul Baptist Church for 26 years and is one of the founding members of Baltimore Baptist Clergy in Action.

## Mrs. Thelma Lewis dies at home

Mrs. Thelma Mae Carter Lewis, 59, of the 1900 block Barclay St., died July 27 at her home after a lengthy illness.

Services for Mrs. Lewis were held July 31 at Marshall Jones Funeral Home. She is buried in Maryland National Cemetery.

She is survived by her husband, Roosevelt Lewis; one daughter, Mrs. Myra Rose; one son, Wayne Lewis; three sisters, Mrs. Bertha Johnson, Mrs. Carol Carter, Mrs. Catherine Lay; one brother, James Carter and four grandchildren.

The United Council of Christian Community Churches of Maryland and Vicinity will convene in its 17th Annual Session on Wednesday, August 6, 1980 through Sunday, August 10, 1980, at the St. Johns C.C. Church, located at 1208 East Lanvale Street, corner Aisquith in Baltimore, Maryland.

Rev. Benjamin Ball

Rev. Benjamin F. Ball, President
Rev. Tommie L. Jenkins Host Pastor
Bro. James L. Mosley, Executive Secretary

The public is invited to worship services at 11:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. daily.


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