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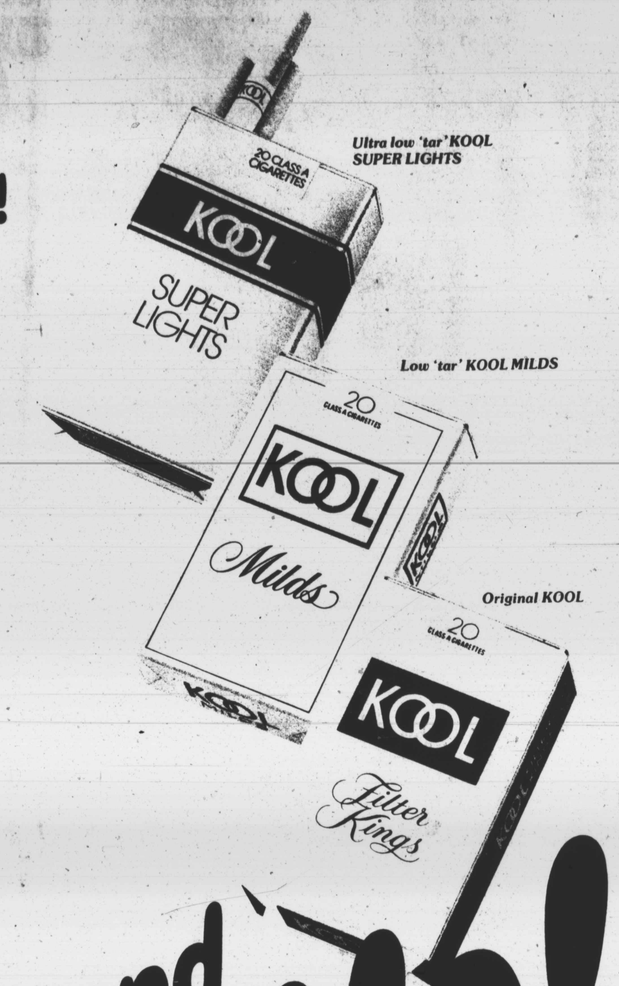

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Super Lights Kings, 7 mg. "tar", 0.7 mg. nicotine; Milds Kings, 11 mg. "tar", 1.1 mg. nicotine av. per cigarette by FTC method; Filter Kings, 16 mg. "tar", 1.3 mg. nicotine av. per cigarette, FTC Report Jan. '80.

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THE LIVING CHURCH

Grace Presbyterian marks 100th anniversary

AFRO Photos by Roman Hankewycz

CHAIRPERSON — Mrs. Charlotte Colbert Mebane, chairperson of the Centennial steering committee is shown at the banquet with the Rev. William T. Peters Jr., pastor of Grace United Presbyterian Church.

Nearly 600 members and friends of Grace United Presbyterian Church attended a banquet Nov. 9 at Martin's West as the culminating activity of their centennial anniversary.

The affair was held at Martin's West with Ernest B. Johnson serving as toastmaster. Certificates of appreciation were presented to 54 members who have attended Grace for more than 50 years.

The Rev. William T. Peters Jr. is pastor of Grace and Mrs. Charlotte C. Mebane was chairman of the steering committee. Following dinner, guests stood and raised their champagne glasses to a champagne toast as they repreated the centennial theme, "A Century of Christian Service."

The oldest member who received a certificate was Mrs. Catherine Shorts, who has been a member of Grace for 85 years. Mesdames Viola Owens, W. Grant Owings Sr., Reba H. Smith, Grace Taylor, Elizabeth Cotton, John L. Berry and Samuel R. Owings Sr., have been members of Grace for more than 70 years.

Other honorees who received certificates and have been members of Grace for more than 50 years were Mesdames Mamie G. Barber, Grace Burkett, Abdella J. Campbell, Emma L. Davis, Ethel J. Day, Mae M. Dyson, Frances T. Eubanks, Catherine W. Greene, Mabel Weaver Holsey, Vivian Hollingsworth, Annette Colbert Johnson, Charlotte Colbert Mebane, Gwendolyn Mickle, Delmas Milbourne.

Also, Mesdames Alice Davis Payne, Beatrice G. Pitts, Beatrice Reesby, Sadie V. Reynolds, Catherine Royston, Mary Scott, Ethel J. Smith, Elizabeth Taylor, Ruth Walker, Lillian R. Webb, Katrine N. White and Edna G. Johnson.

Other honorees were Earl Bundara, Alfred L. Woolridge, Louvinia Wilson, Agnes R. Williams, Arthur J. Ryan, Joseph Brewington, Abdella J. Campbell, Richard Cooper, Milton A. Dugger, Robert Ferguson, Richard F. Fry, Roland Henson, John S. Holt Sr., Charles Jones and Robert R. Owens.

The church received a citation from Governor Hughes and Mayor Schaefer and a silver plate was presented to the church by Quentin Lawson, who represented the mayor.

Among those who extended greetings on Sunday were Mrs. Wanda Schloeder, an assistant to the governor; Sen. Clarence Blount, the Rev. Dr. Robert T. Newbold Jr., the Rev. Dr. Hugh Bean Evans, Rev. Dr. Herbert Valentine, and the Rev. Dr. T. Guthrie Speers.

The centennial celebration started in January with a prayer breakfast at the Regency Terrace, with the Rev. C. Andre Kearns, pastor of Trinity United Presbyterian Church.

Other activities held as part of the anniversary celebration were a musical festival featuring LeRoy O. Dorsey and Movement Arts Parasol, the Paul Laurence Dunbar Chamber Singers in concert, an ecumenical service of worship with eight denominations participating, world communion Sunday and a service of praise and sacrament.

Men who have served as pastors of Grace are the late Rev. Charles Hedges, Frank Edward, William Edward Williams, John T. Colbert, Robert T. Newbold Jr., and Rev. Peters who is now serving as pastor.

Under the leadership of Rev. Peters, the new church was built at Greenspring Avenue and Banister Road. Grace was formerly located Dolphin and Etting Streets.

During the period of May 1977 to December 31, 1979 members of Grace contributed over $11,545 to their denominational major mission fund. In keeping with its sense of stewardship and mission, the congregation during the years 1979 to 1980 increased its current operating budget from $33,500 to $54,000 and its benevolence budget from $7,805 to $13,400 while continuing to meet its mortgage commitment.

Banquet and centennial committee members were Lonnie W. Green, chairperson; Mesdames Gloria B. Hagan, Florence Henderson, Nellie Moore, Beatrice Pitts.

Also, Mesdames Charlotte C. Mebane, Beatrice A. Mayo, Elizabeth C. Taylor, Dorothy Atkins, A. Vivian Hollingsworth, Rachel S. Adams, Audrey J. Pinderhughes, Ida G. Milbourne, Alfred L. Woolridge, George B. Lancaster, Arthur J. Ryan, Edward Blanchard, George Carroll, Roland Henson, Eugene Prettyman and Rev. Peters.

WOOLRIDGE FAMILY members Sunday at Martin's West shown from (L) are Mrs. Janet Woolridge, Ms. Stephanie Woolridge and Alfred C. Wooiridge, one of the honorees who has been a member of the church for 50 years.

50 YEAR MEMBER — Mrs. Grace Burkette has been a member of Grace United Presbyterian for 50 years. She is shown with her daughter, Mrs. June Chapman and son-in-law, Joseph Chapman.

ACTIVE MEMBERS OF Grace United Presbyterian Church who have been members of the church for 50 years seen at the banquet were Mr. and Mrs. John (Ida) Berry. The honorees received a certificate of recognition.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS who helped plan the year long celebration shown from (L) are Mesdames Florence G. Henderson, Beatrice G. Pitts, Gloria Hagon and Nellie Moore.

Over 90 men join Bethel

Over $24,000 was raised by the men of Bethel AME Church in their 1980 Men's Day activities, $6,000 of which was given to Morgan State University, and $2,000 to the Anna Mae Hunter Home for the Blind.

Of the money given to Morgan $2,000 was specified to be used for WEAA, the campus radio station, and the remaining $4,000 for scholarships.

Bruce V. Hinton, chairman of the 1980 Men's Day Committee, expressed "celebration in his heart" for the financial victory this year, but stressed to the congregation that there was a far more important victory to be remembered.

"Since this campaign began in August," he said, "over 90 men joined the church, and 77 of those gave their lives to Christ."

Hinton said that "that is the real victory" of the campaign, and thanked his own wife, Marilyn, for having brought him to Christ, through her prayers.

"I was pretty far away from the Lord," the owner of the Carob Contracting Company said after the evening service," but she stuck by me, through her prayers, and I can say that I have been a changed man ever since."

As part of the activities for Men's Day, weekly Bible studies were held by Hinton himself, well-attended by both employed and unemployed men who seemed to "have a thirst for the Word and for the improvement of their spiritual lives."

Rev. John R. Bryant, pastor of Bethel, said that he knew Men's Day this year would be successful when he saw men going to church in the middle of the week to be "fed" by the word.

The spiritual element of both Men's and Women's Day at Bethel has become even more important than the financial element, following the philosophy of the church that souls coming to Christ will build a church better than any monetary sum.

Hinton, himself a relatively new member of Bethel, said that the experience of being on the Committee was challenging for him and for many of the participants.

"Many of us were dealing with this thing for the first time," he said, "on all levels. It was hard to know what would be effective and what would not."

He also said that not knowing all the time how the church structure worked was difficult at times.

"We got through it, though," he smiled, "with the Lord's help. Fund raising activities this year included a jog-a-thon at Druid Hill Park, the selling of school supplies at the beginning of the school term, a banquet and a gospel concert.

The men exceeded their $20,000 goal by $4,000, and treasurer Sweet said that the initial report was "partial," with the final figures to come later in the week.

GRACE PRESBYTERIAN members seen at the Centennial anniversary celebration shown from (L) are: Mrs. Katerine E. White, daughter; Mrs. Katerine N. White, mother, who received a certificate of recognition and Mrs. Florence Carter.

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