Black ministers discuss role of church in '80s

Approximately 30 black ministers from 18 states and the District of Columbia met in the nation's capitol last week to cogitate, mediate, and plan ways to facilitate the roles of the black church in the crises facing black people in this country.

The Rev. Kelly M. Smith, head of the National Conference of Black Churchmen were key convenors of the planning session along with Rev. Benjamin Hooks of the NAACP and Rev. Walter E. Fauntroy, delegate to congress from the District of Columbia.

Bishop Nathaniel Linsey of Washington, D.C. summed up the feelings of the clergy when he said, "Our charge is to rally our people to a new level of organized love to meet the forces of hate and repression in the 80s."

Dr. Lowery said the ministers would meet again in Washington in early December after conferring with other national black church leaders.

The ministers heard analyses of critical areas of government by Rev. William Gray, U.S. Congressman from Pennsylvania, and Fauntroy led a discussion on establishing a black church network.

The group will develop an agenda in consultation with a black leadership forum and seek to meet later with president-elect Ronald Reagan. The clergy resolved to offer the Reagan, Adminstration support and cooperation in any effort to resolve the unemployment crisis in the black community and vowed that any efforts to wipe out affirmative action and roll back hard-earned rights of black and poor people will meet with vigorous opposition.

The ministers committed themselves to a "Moral Initiative" that will press for human rights.

100TH ANNIVERSARY — Members of Grace United Presbyterian Church, who were seen at the anniversary celebration held recently at Blue Crest North, shown are members of the Owens family. Front row shows from:

AFRO Photo by Roman Hankewyez

left Charles Owens Sr., Mrs. Viola Owens, Mrs. Sarah Taylor, Miss Lillie Ross. Second row shows from left, Charles C. Owens, Mrs. Lewis Richardson, Miss Diane Owens, Mrs. Edith Marshall and Cyrus Marshall.

Apostolics hold meet

PETERSBURG — The Virginia State Convocation of the Church of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ of the Apostolic Faith, Inc. the Honorable Bishop Floyd Hill, president, recently ended their annual convention in this city at Holiday Inn and Refuge Temple Church.

The three-day program, consisted in part of an educational session, committees appointments and reports, Deacons and Ministers Wives guilds, an hour of prayer session, Elder Miss and social devotions, presentation of awards and banners, presentation of gifts, offerings and tokens of appreciation, song selections by the Virginia State Missionary choir, Sunday School classes and the Women Council.

Two of the themes at the meeting were A Battle of the Brain with several individuals and organizations from churches participating and "He That Glorifieth Let Him Glory in the Lord."

Some 200 officers, members, and guests of the church were on hand to attend the meetings and sessions, held in the Crater Rooms, Holiday Inn, downtown, at the Refuge Temple on Boydton Plank Road in Petersburg and in Virginia Hall auditorium on campus at Virginia State University.

Officers elected and re-elected to lead this State Church body for the next several months are as follows:

ABYC — Minister Keith Manual, president; Sisters Nadine Taylor, vice-president, Connie Stevens, recording secretary, Ava Martin, corresponding secretary; Vincent Wyche, chaplain and Harold Wright, sergeant at-arms.

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS — Bishop Hill, president; Bishop Algenor Johnson, W. P. Meyer, district elder; Ministers Keith Manuel and Albert R. Starling, supt. of Sunday School, Billy Stevens, choir director, Harold Wright, sergeant-at-arms, Vincent Wyche, chaplain and Deacon C. Harrison.

MISSIONARIES — Mother Betty Helm, president Sister Cora Twitty, vice-president; Rosa Heath, recording secretary; Berdie Hargrove, corresponding secretary, Margaretta Goode, treasurer and Odell Willord, chairlady for ushers.

SUNDAY SCHOOL — Minister A. R. Starling, supt., Elder G. W. Parham, asst. supt.; Sister E. Geters, recording secretary; sister Judy Vash, corresponding secretary; Deacon O. Hill, treasurer; deacon R. Burch, sgt-at-arms and Deacon C. Harrison chaplain.

Women's conference to help females "realize potential"

The chairperson of the upcoming "Behold the Woman" conference, which will be held at the Convention Center next month, said the conference will be a "one of its kind ecumenical experience".

Joan Louise Wharton, chairperson, said this week that the conference will call on women from all over the world to be what God has called them to be.

"There is a need for women to realize that they should not, nor do they have to, settle for less than what they are," Wharton said. "Too many women don't know who they are and what they can do."

"Behold, which is being sponsored by the Missionary Department of Bethel AME Church, will be held January 16, 17 and 18 at the Convention Center.

Wharton said that part of the reason for the conference was a commitment made by the Missionary Department.

"We have committed ourselves to a life-long struggle to build a better society through creating better women, she said. She added that as women become more sure of themselves they are able to make stronger and better contributions to their respective communities.

Women who realized who they were and who were thus able to contribute to this society included Harriet Tubman, Sojourner Truth, Mary McCleoud Bethune and a late Bethel missionary, Mrs. Margaret Finch, who died late last year.

"Through talking about their struggles...the struggles of some archetypes of black womanhood, we hope to inspire other women to realize their potential as well," Wharton said.

"Behold" will officially open January 16 at 7:30 p.m. with a Harambee, featuring Dr. Herschell Challenor as the keynote speaker. Challenor is a researcher and educator from UNESCO, United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization.

Men's Day observed at Union Baptist

Dr. Leon Wright, professor of the New Testament at Howard University School of Religion, Washington, D.C. was the guest speaker recently for Men's Day at Union Baptist Church, where the Rev. Vernon Dobson is pastor.

For more than 30 years, Dr. Wright has been professor of the New Testament. Dr. Uthman Ray Jr., an active member of Union was chairman for Men's Day.

Dr. Ray stated, "We are dedicated as a church to a servants role so that the needs of people will dictate where we are and what we're doing at any given moment in history.

"Our role may change, but our purpose never wiff. At Union, we are committed to the praise of God through worship, the service of God through humanity."

Following the morning service, the Men's Day committee sponsored an afternoon of music "C'est Magnifique," featuring The Union Ensemble. The Rev. Baxter L. Matthews is pastor emeritus.

Harlow Fullwood Jr. appointed VUU board

Police agent Harlow Fullwood Jr., was recently elected to the Virginia Union University Board of Trustees. He is employed as a supervisor with the recruitment field operations of the Police Department.

He becomes the first law enforcement officer to serve on the board in the history of Virginia Union. He is a graduate of Virginia Union University and was a former Little All American and All CIAA tackle and guard at the school.

He has been employed with the Police Department for 16 years. Selecting Fullwood to the board, his supporters described him as a "model of excellence in the home, church and community."

Harlow Fullwood Jr.

Ministers talk about health care services

The Constant Care Community Health Center had a fellowship buffet recently for the ministers and doctors of the health center. The purpose of the fellowship was to initiate a thought provoking discussion on the issue of health care and the church.

In recognition of the fact that the church has made many unique contributions to the delivery of health care services, Constant Care invited the ministers to join with them in a team effort to improve the quality of health services.

Ministers who attended were the Reverends Ronald Braxton, Stanley Butler, William Calhoun, John Wesley Coleman, Reginald Daniels, Dennis Golphy, Aldos Higgins, James Johnson, William E. Johnson, Arthur Jones, William Rivers, Bishop Monroe E. Saunders, Imam Ronald Shakir, Elder Cornelius Showell, Joseph M. Showell.

Also, the Rev. George Stansbury and the Rev. Dr. Walter Thomas. Other interested persons from the religious community included Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Moody, Mrs. Thelma Cook, Mrs. Blanche Reed, Clarence B. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Tremaine Joel, Majory Crawford, Melia Shorter, Hakim Ali and Mrs. Cherry Winston.

Doctors present were Doctors Samuel R. Owings, Aida Conejero, Virginia Mercado, Henrietta Hestick, Sushina Sidh, Adrian Dixon, Shomarka O. Keita, Healy LeCator, Bernetta Davis, Erica M. Lazaro and Eliza J. Taylor.

Miss Carolyn Showell, researcher at Constant Care and coordinator of the event said "Without question the fellowship was a huge success. Many innovative ideas, constructive suggestions and genuine commitments were made to the task of delivering total health care.

"More important, a solid foundation was laid for the increased cooperation between ministers and doctors in this mutual task.

Md. Jr. Miss Competition

The 1981 Maryland Junior Miss Competition will be held on December 6, at 7:30 p.m. at the Poly-Western High School Auditorium.

The purpose of the competition is to encourage and recognize the positive attributes of young women. The Maryland competition is part of a national competition seeking the girl who best exemplifies those qualities which are admired in an American high school senior.

The winners of 13 local competitions from all over the state will be vying for the honor of winning thousands of dollars in scholarship money and the chance to go to the national finals in Mobile, Alabama.

The selection is based upon scholastiv achievement, poise, appearance, youth fitness and performance in the creative and performing arts. The emphasis is on the all around qualities of the girl.

This years contestants are:

Lisa Grimes, Frederick County; Sally Startzman, Washington County; Gail Guger, NW Baltimore County; Cheryl Dungan, Carroll County; Kimberly Johnson, Bowie; Tricia Bolt, Latham; Zoki Robinson, Montgomery County; Kelly Kirwan, Pasadena; Susan Fox, Salisbury; Nancy Nolvothy, Howard County; Michele Ritter, Northpoint; Jennifer Johannesen, Calvert County; Christine Poindexter, Charles County.

The public is invited to attend. Tickets are $4.00 each will be available at the door. For further information call 833-4774.

THE GREATER CHURCH OF DELIVERANCE
1701 HOMESTEAD ST.
BALTO., MD. 21218
Pastor
Morris E. Tucker
WHERE GOD IS WORKING MIRACLES!!
Sunday School 10:00 A.M.
Sunday Morning Services 11:30 A.M.
Communion First Sunday
1:30 P.M. Bible Class and Tarry Services
Wed. 7:30 P.M.
Friday Evangelistic Services 7:30 P.M.
Hear Our Broadcast Fridays 12:05 P.M. Over WANN 1190 On Your Dial Annapolis, Md.
For Prayer and Counseling (301) 243-6474 OR (301) 243-8421

ARE YOU WORRIED? NEED MONEY TO PAY YOUR BILLS, AND ENJOY THE HOLIDAYS? ARE YOU OR YOUR LOVED ONES BOUND BY THE DEMON SPIRIT OF ALCOHOLISM? DRUGS? WITCHCRAFT? LET US SEND YOU SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO USE THE SCRIPTURES TO GET THE DEVIL OUT OF YOUR LIFE IN DEC. REMEMBER WHAT JESUS SAID IN JOHN 14:5. SEND $5.00 DONATION TO HELP WITH EXPENSES. IF YOU HAVE NO MONEY WRITE ANYWAY, OR SACRIFICE WHAT YOU CAN. WE WANT TO HELP YOU!!
GOD BLESS YOU,
"THEE PRAYER BAND"
P. O. BOX 5297
BALTO., MD. 21224

Mrs. Santa needs your help

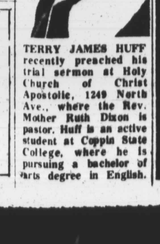
PERKINS SQUARE BAPTIST CHURCH
2500 EDMONDSON AVE.
CORNER OF WARWICK
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1980
Gospel Chorus Day
8:00 A.M.—Early Morning Worship Sermon By the Pastor
9:15 A.M.—Church School and New Members Class
10:30 A.M.—Open Heart Service
11:00 A.M.—Morning worship Sermon By The Pastor
Organizational Heads
6:00 P.M.—BTU and New Member
REV. RICHARD OGLE 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 U. Wilson, Rector
Mr. A. Maurice Murphy, Organist
The Public Is Cordially Invited To Attend

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

Sunday, December 7, 1980
Eight and Eleven O'Clock
"Silent Fire, Something Within"
MR. CHARLES R. WILSON, Preaching
O Thou the Central Orb —Charles Wood
Raise, Shine! —John Work, arr.

MORTICIAN — Carlton Douglass was recently elected as the district governor for district two of the National Funeral Directors and Morticians Association. He represents Maryland, Washington, Virginia and Delaware.



TERRY JAMES HUFF recently preached his trial sermon at Holy Church of Christ Apostolic, 1249 North Ave., where the Rev. Mother Ruth Dixon is pastor. Huff is an active student at Coppin State College, where he is pursuing a bachelor of arts degree in English.

Guided tour for blind

The Smithsonian Institution's National Portrait Gallery and the D.C. Public Libraries' Deaf Action Week program will present a highlight tour featuring the Haptic Gallery and portraits of Helen Keller. The tour will commence at the Portrait Gallery's information desk on Dec. 6 at 1 p.m. Interpreters will be provided.

NUTTER Funeral Home
3032 W. NORTH AVE.
W. 7-6655
W. 7-7618
"A SERVICE WHICH INSPIRES CONFIDENCE"

BACHMAN TAILORING CO.
233 W. Baltimore St. • 2nd Fl •
Baltimore, Maryland
752-2187
DELIGHT YOUR MINISTER WITH A QUALITY GIFT FOR CHRISTMAS
• PULPIT ROBES
• CLERGY SUITS
• CLERGY TOPCOATS
• CLERGY SHIRTS
• CLERGY CAPES
Specializing in Gifts for the Clergy
YOUR CHRISTMAS GIFT STORE

JUST OPEN
OUR NEWEST
LEXINGTON LADY
MONDAWMIN MALL LOWER LEVEL
VIS IT OUR OTHER FINE LOCATION
105-107 WEST LEXINGTON MALL DOWNTOWN
THE SIZE... THE PRICE... THE LADY...
This store was created for the size 10 to 20, Tall & Half size women. We are here to provide our customer with a wide selection in the latest fashions in your size at a reasonable price.
FREE GIFTS WITH ANY PURCHASE
• FREE UMBRELLA WITH PURCHASE OF $20.00 OR MORE
FREE GRAND DRAWING
• $200 WORTH OF MERCHANDISE
1st PRIZE $100.00
2nd PRIZE $ 75.00
3rd Prize $ 25.00
Glittering Nights
SATIN QUILTED ORIENTAL JACKET
Black only
Sizes 5-15
38-44
Regular $29.98
EVENING SKIRT
Black, White, Navy
Sizes 30-40
18.98
Sizes 10-18
16.98
SEQUIN TRIM GOWN
Turquoise, White, Navy.
Sizes 10 to 18, 14½ to 24½.
50.98
CHURCH AND GROUP ORDERS WELCOME AT A DISCOUNT

Orchard Street Church: American landmark

Despite almost 10 years of effort, there has still been little action to save the old Orchard St. Church, located in the 500 block of Orchard St.

The church was originally slated to be a black museum, but fundraisers over a ten-year period have failed to produce the $75,000 in community funds needed to make the dream a reality.

Mayor William Donald Schaefer has given the backers of the proposed museum until Dec. 31 to come up with the monies. Some $200,000 in state funds, along with city money, has been earmarked for the project, but none of the money can be released until the committee to preserve the church produces $75,000.

With only a month left to produce, Marguerite Campbell, a former mayor's assistant and a community activist, has assumed control of the project, and says she is working feverishly towards realizing the goal of the committee.

"The church is the only black institution in that area which is still in its original condition," said Mrs. Campbell. "We owe it to our children to provide them with living examples of our history."

Mrs. Campbell pointed out that Seton Hill, where the church is located, was once a hub of the black community, but now bares little resemblance to its former elegance.

Neighbors near the church have complained of the deteriorating condition of the building, which is located near a cluster of modern apartment houses. They claim that the church, reputed to have been built by slaves, has become a haven for rats and derelicts.

The city administration has plans to convert most of the church into apartments, with a small section reserved for a black museum, but Mrs. Campbell feels that such a plan ignores the true nature of the project.

"We want to recapture our history by keeping as much of the building intact as possible," said Mrs. Campbell.

(AFRO Photo by Mark Gail)

SINAI WORKER DISPLAYS her displeasure with hospital administrator Leonard Marcus by wearing a picture of him on her chest. Helen Wyche, a 10 - year Sinai employee, said she is willing to stand on the picket line "for as long as it takes."

—Strike

Continued from page 1

"But I don't care how long we're out," said another Sinai worker. "I can't afford this, but I'll be damned if I let the hospital take advantage of us."

Helen Wyche has worked at Sinai for the past 10 years. She talked quietly, glancing at the hospital from time to time as she spoke.

"The union coverage is near total," she said. "What the hospital would offer us is not nearly as much. With the union we get 26 weeks disability, free prescriptions, eyeglasses. There's no way the hospital can give us as much."

She looked angry as she remembered that the hospital administrator, Leonard Marcus, had been on the roof earlier in the day waving to the strikers.

"He's the reason we're out here," she said, pointing to the picture of him she had on her chest. "I just want everybody to know what we're dealing with."

A union official, Dan North, said that a union member told him that with the union benefit fund, she had been able to send her 11 year old daughter to summer camp for free, and when she had surgery, she had only had to pay $42 of a $4,000 bill.

"There would have been no way I could have the time without the union fund," she reportedly said. The mother of five children, she believes in the fund as her way to a better life. She only makes $214 a week, before taxes.

The employees, it would seem, have a lot at stake in this negotiation outcome.

But hospital administrators feel the employees are being purposely misled by the union, and explained their position and why they feel an urgency to understand more about the fund and what is actually going on.

"We have no opposition to the fund," said Helen Shaw, director of public relations and development at Provident Hospital,

"The issue is not that we want to destroy the fund, as the union has suggested, nor do we want to substitute or take away any benefits that the union's fund offers.

"What we do want to do," she continued, "is to have access to records that show where the excess money the hospitals have paid into the fund, is going."

"We don't want to kill the fund," said Shaw. "We think it's good. But we need to know what we're paying, and to whom."

The National Health and Welfare Fund offers employees comprehensive medical, dental and optometric care, and also allows employees to send their children to summer camp for three weeks, free of charge, and to receive academic scholarships for their children.

Shaw's comments came in the wake of intense developments this week as area hospitals battled with union officials over key economic issues.

Johns Hopkins and Sinai hospitals formed picket lines early this week, with angry employees vowing to stay on the lines until they get their demands. The AFRO talked to several pickets at Sinai who said they would stay out "for however long it takes."

But while the employees have taken a stance in support of the union, hospital administrators say the key issue—namely, the whereabouts of the excess money being paid into the fund—has been and is being masked.

Administrators say they merely want to see union records that show how much money they have paid into the fund and how much has been given back to the employees.

If hospital contributions have exceeded benefit return to the employees, administrators say they simply want to reduce their contribution to equal the return, not dissolve the fund entirely.

"Is the excess money going to our employees, or is it going somewhere else?" asked Shaw.

"We have asked the union to provide us with experience data and have yet to receive it. All we want to see is a breakdown of the money we spend. We don't want to pay money into the fund to support other employees in other states as well as our own. We are not obligated to do that."

Leonard Marcus, vice president of Sinai Hospital, voiced the same concerns.

Marcus said his suspicions about the fund were raised when he began working at Sinai in 1976.

At that time, he said, the hospital was paying 7.5 percent of all payroll wages into the fund. During the course of a month, the union asked for an increase of one percentage point, or 8.5 percent to be paid into the fund, which the hospital agreed to.

And when a negotiating session convened in November of that year, union officials asked for yet another increase, from 8 percent to 10 percent.

"I just wondered why such an increase would be necessary when we had just increased the contributions to the fund," he said, "so in the course of that negotiating session, I asked the union for records that would show us where the money was going."

According to Marcus, union officials balked, and did not in fact turn over the records until the eve of an impending strike.

"I was shocked," Marcus said, "I found overpayments of 20 to 30 percent." Marcus contends that as of now, the hospital pays anywhere from $150,000 a year in over overpayments. He wants to know why.

"When I saw those figures in 1976, I had to start wondering about the whereabouts of the money," he said, but despite repeated attempts to obtain accurate experience reports and data on the excess money and what it is being used for, he says he has been given the run-around

"The first time we asked for the records, the union told us they didn't have any. The second time we asked, we were told that disclosure of the records would be too costly.

"Now," Marcus said, "they are giving us this thing about confidentiality."

Marcus says that he speculates that the money is being used to keep sister hospitals in New York and other cities in the fund pool. Those hospitals, plagued by severe economic problems, cannot afford to pay the requested 10 percent.

Marcus contends that he only suspects that that situation is the case at this time, and he feels disclosure of the financial records would answer his questions.

"We could very possibly be paying the benefits for the employees of hospitals elsewhere," he said, "and while that is noble on the part of the union, that is not our responsibility."

Helen Shaw of Provident agreed, saying that if the Baltimore hospitals were allowed to reduce their payments into the fund, they could feasibly use the money to give the employees something else they need. It is not a question of taking the excess money they would normally put into the fund and using it against the employees, she said.

Marcus said that since his repeated attempts to secure the records have been unsuccessful, the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) has stepped into the matter and has filed a suit against the union for unfair labor practices. That suit, upon its completion, will require the union to turn the records over to hospital management.

But that action won't happen for another year, Marcus said.

"You should see some of the records they have sent us," he said. "The information we have received has had huge, blatant white outs. It just makes you wonder why."

Meanwhile, the employees of the affected hospitals have taken the stand that the hospitals want to replace their benefits, which they receive through the fund, with less desirable benefits from the hospitals themselves.

There was no comment on Shaw's and Marcus' statements at AFRO presstime.

—Murder

Continued from page 1

she began to wonder just how much more would happen. All the money was in the bag. It was time for the robbers to take what they had come for and leave.

But that was not to be the case. As they backed toward the door, ready to make their exit, they said something to Glenn which "Ms. Martin" could not make out. Glenn said something in return, and then the gunmen who had helped himself to the money in the register pointed his gun.

"Glenn said, 'don't shoot, man, please don't shoot me...'" but he never got a chance to finish his sentence. The shot that killed Glenn Harrod was fired.

There was a moment of silence. "Ms. Martin" said that out of the corner of her eye, she could see a young waitress who had been towards the back of the store laying out on a seat in a booth. Two customers who had been eating looked toward the robbers, silently, still holding their food.

The waitress who had first asked the young men if they wanted help looked as though she would faint.

And in the midst of it all, young Glenn Harrod stood near the counter, clutching his body where he had been shot, bleeding profussely.

The men who had fired the shot looked in the direction of "Ms. Martin" (the other man was just an accomplice, she said.) He gazed at her for what seemed to be a very long time. And then he fired at her too.

But the shots missed, and as the men ran out the door, "Ms. Martin" began to move in the direction of Glenn Harrod.

"The look on his face was awful...he was shocked. He whispered, "My God..." but that's all. He didn't have to say it any more. His face said everything."

As she helped him to the floor (he was beginning to fall by this time,) she became aware of the stoic panic that had gripped the store. Nobody moved. Nobody even said anything. She said they needed to find something to keep him warm...and finally somebody started to look for a towel or something.

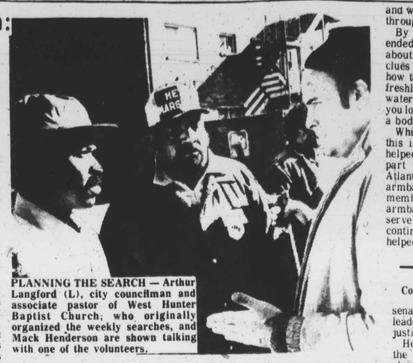
"I called his parents and the police...and I asked people to help me, but everybody was still too shocked. Somebody finally said that his parents' name was in a book

But it was over, really. As "Ms. Martin" looked down into Glenn's face, "Ms. Martin" said she could "see the life draining away from him."

She thought about her own son, how he had been held up once in his job at a local supermarket. Somehow, the Lord had seen fit to spare him from this...

But though her son had been spared, she could feel the horror, the grief, as a mother who had tried to raise children in the way they should go, only to have their lives snuffed out by a robber who seemingly had nothing better to do than to kill somebody.

The whole thing, she thought...just did not have to be.



PLANNING THE SEARCH — Arthur Langford (L), city councilman and associate pastor of West Hunter Baptist Church; who originally organized the weekly searches, and Mack Henderson are shown talking with one of the volunteers.

—Atlanta search

(Continued from page 1)

Widgeon

the gymnasium of West Hunter Street Baptist.

Last Saturday, people dressed in fatigues and other clothes suitable for heavy yard work or a hunt for bodies stood in the church gymnasium.

As volunteers arrived carrying poles, sticks, shovels, flash lights and canes, they were given instruction sheets and an orange band was tied on each persons left arm.

We were told that there are precautionary measurers that must be kept in mind at all times. Before leaving the gymnasium, Michael Langford, one of the coordinators said a prayer.

n his prayer he said, "God we ray for te searchers and the families of the missing kids. Teach us to love one another without race, creed or color. Jesus touch the heart of that person or persons who has taken the lives of innocent children."

After the prayer, we left the church and boarded the yellow school buses that were lined up in front of the church There was a sign above the driver's seat that said, "Your children's safety is our business."

Seated across from me was Donald Wardell and Fred, a Doberman pinscher, who also had his orange band tied around his neck. I found myself talking with Fred and patting him on the head. I wanted Fred to know that I was his friend and needed his protection once we were in the woods. When we arrived at the Chattahoochee River, we were given additional instructions by our team leader, Steve Anderson and divided into groups of approximately 15.

We were told to step over a high ramp and walk down the steep hill. I had second thoughts about going on the search and decided to sit and slide down the hill.

Once at the bottom with the other volunteers, we started the search. Carrying a six foot stick, I put on my gloves and started searching with my team. While sweeping through the bushes and hedges, I started poking in the ground and digging in the leaves.

I remembered our leader telling us not to be embarrassed if we found something. He said just yell out. I was looking under logs, piles of leaves and anything that looked suspicious.

I found empty bottles and beer cans and a large freshly dug hole, large enough for a child to be buried. One searcher told me to call our group leader and Fred to the spot.

The rustle and crunch of leaves could be heard as searchers ran to the spot. Using his 26 inch machete, a flash light and shovel, the searchers checked the spot. It was a false alarm.

Our leader said, "The killer would not take time to dig up a grave and would probably throw leaves on top of the dug hole."

Frank Smith, father of 14 children, has been joining the search team every week. He said, "I feel I am contributing my part as a citizen. I will continue to work with the search team as long as they need help.

The Rev. Arthur Langford Jr., coordinator of the search told this reporter, "We will continue our search. None of us can rest until we find the missing children.

The balls, cans, driver's license and other items that were found on the search were turned over to the Atlanta Police Task Force that is investigating the case.

A spokesman for the Police Department said some of the items that have been found on the search could possibly help in clearing up other cases.

The body of LaTonya Wilson, 7, was found on October 18, when the first group of black and white volunteers canvassed wooded areas, vacant lots and buildings looking for evidence. She was found in a wooded area.

Police report one group of volunteer searchers found the body of a man last week, while looking for the missing children. He had not been idedentified.

When we left the Chatahoochee River and he wooded area surrounding the river, we returned to the church, where coffee and pastries were served to volunteers.

A full course lunch is usually served and all the food is donated. However, Langford said because it was a holiday weekend, this time there would be no food for the searchers.

Badham

Continued from Page 1

arrive at the church was Fred Enfield of North Atlanta who was traveling with his companion JR, a dog dig jugs dirt.

"I believe ei that everybody should be involved," said Enfield. "This is an awful thing and it must be straightened out."

By 10 a.m. more and more volunteers arrived at the gymnasium of the church, armed with sticks, poles, shovels and broom handles. The attire ranged from Army fatigues to jeans and ski jackets.

Michael Langford, brother of City Councilman Arthur Langford who originally organized the search called the group to order and began giving out instructions.

The crowd of more than 200 was assembled into teams, averaging about 20 people perunit, the volunteers joined for a moment of prayer and reflection on just how important the task was that they had undertaken.

My team, No. 1, made its way to the yellow school bus waiting outside the church.

The buses were fromNational Bus Lines which provides the transportation for the city's school children. Although the drivers were on strike, they still volunteered their time so that the searchers could be transported to their locations.

Oursearch, location was Bankhead Road in Southwest Atlanta just a few blocks away from the housing project-Bankhead Court.

Our team captain, Steve Anderson is a former Green Beret and works with a group, Cobray International which trains civilians and business people in anti-terrorists training. He was joined by Ed Wandel, director of Cobray. Both had already participated in three searches.

Another member of the team, Ed Williams, also brought his military training to the group. Our search was extremely well organized. I felt like I had already been inducted into the Army and was out on a search and seizure mission.

Armed with stick in hand (one that I found as I climbed down a hill in the woods) I began the task of searching the ground

looking for fresh footprints, articles of clothing, jewelery, blood stains fresh dirt or piled up leaves.

I stepped over branches, under bushes, looking for something that might be a clue. I did find a new

box of shotgun shells but it was empty. I immediately called for my

team captain who had instructed us to call out if we found anyth

ing, no matter how silly it seemed.

I learned that my empty box of shotgun shells had probably been discarded by some hunters whose gun shots could be heard as we continued to search.

The nearly three-hour search brought no clues nor dead bodies. At one point, my group found what it believed to be a shallow grave but later turned out to be a pile of dirt left by an uprooted tree.

In case anyone did find something, Donald Waddell with his Doberman pinscher-Fred, w as on hand. While Fred's appearanceppearance was a bit frightening at first, you soon learned that he was a friendly dog and was enjoying himself romping through the woods.

By 1:15 p.m. our search had ended and I had learned more about searching for articles and clues in wooded areas. I learned how to tell if the dirt is has been freshly dug up, which way the water runs during a flood and that you look for white worms if there's a body buried.

While I may never need to use this information in Baltimore, it helped make me feel like a real part of what was going on in Atlanta. I had to wear an orange armband to identify myself as a member of the group and the armband, which I still have, will serve as a grim reminder of a continuing effort by Atlantansow I helped.

—Mathias

Continued from page 1

senator is bent on taking a leadership role on behalf of equal justice and civil liberties.

He did not limit his address to the legislative process, but also slammed the efforts of right-wing special interest groups such as the Ku Klux Klan, Moral Majority and the American Nazi Party.

He labelled such groups "the danger flags which dot the horizon from coast to coast."

Mathias also expressed concern that no immediate counter-offensive of liberal support has been evident in the wake of the conservatives' massive victories in the November elections.

"What worries me is that there has not been the tremendous outpouring of protest that one would hope to hear in a country that prides itself on protecting the rights of the minority," he said.

He compared the current national mood to that which prevailed in Germany during the post-World War I days of the Weimar Republic before Hitler rose to power.

The senator said that few would deny that the basic causes of the Nazi take-over—frustrated nationalism, inflation, cultural malaise and a loss of faith in traditional institutions—are currently present in the United States.

But the veteran of countless civil rights battles and former member of Richard Nixon's "hate list" said that he is prepared to wage combat against the current drift to a repressive right.

"But I beleive these experiences," he declaimed, "also give me the right to speak...those who have been through the fire know best how to damp the flame."

—Reservoir

Continued from page 1

association charging that the administration of the agency is manipulating federal and city funds to the advantage of homeowners and more affluent segments of the community.

But both sides in the dispute may be equally at fault. As a movie character once stated, "what we have here is a failure to communicate."

A worker at the community association recounted the problems she had when she attempted to get residents of the area involved in writing an application for a federal grant.

"The people came in here, didn't know what to do, and so they left without doing anything," she said.

The worker feels that too many original inhabitants of the community who are unversed in grantsmanship or the mechanisms of government have allowed those who are skilled in these areas to formulate policy for the entire community. She feels that one solution to the current divisiveness would be a willingness on the part of the disgruntled residents to learn how to operate within the maze of city, state and federal bureaucratic red tape.

Newer residents in the community, such as the woman who stated at a meeting that she "didn't want to live on a street with poor people," must also shoulder some of the blame for the current divisiveness.

Although the statement was blown out of proportion by some community residents, it only serves to fuel the fires of class animosity which is probably at the root of the problem.

Both sides in the dispute have either refused to talk with the press or have failed to keep scheduled appointments with reporters. Whether that is to their detriment or benefit is not readily measurable, but one thing is certain.

Without any dialogue or communication between the two factions, the office of the Reservoir Hill association will continue to remain empty.

Brutality charge dropped

Howard County police have dismissed brutality charges brought by a man who claimed an officer capriciously beat him last month.

Police Chief Paul H. Rappaport cleared officer Donald Cook after an in-house investigation showed there was no evidence to support the complaint.

Hubert Mason, 21, of Sykesville, said Cook beat him with a nightstick last month after stopping him for speeding along Route 40. Mason, a black, claimed Cook's actions were racially motivated.