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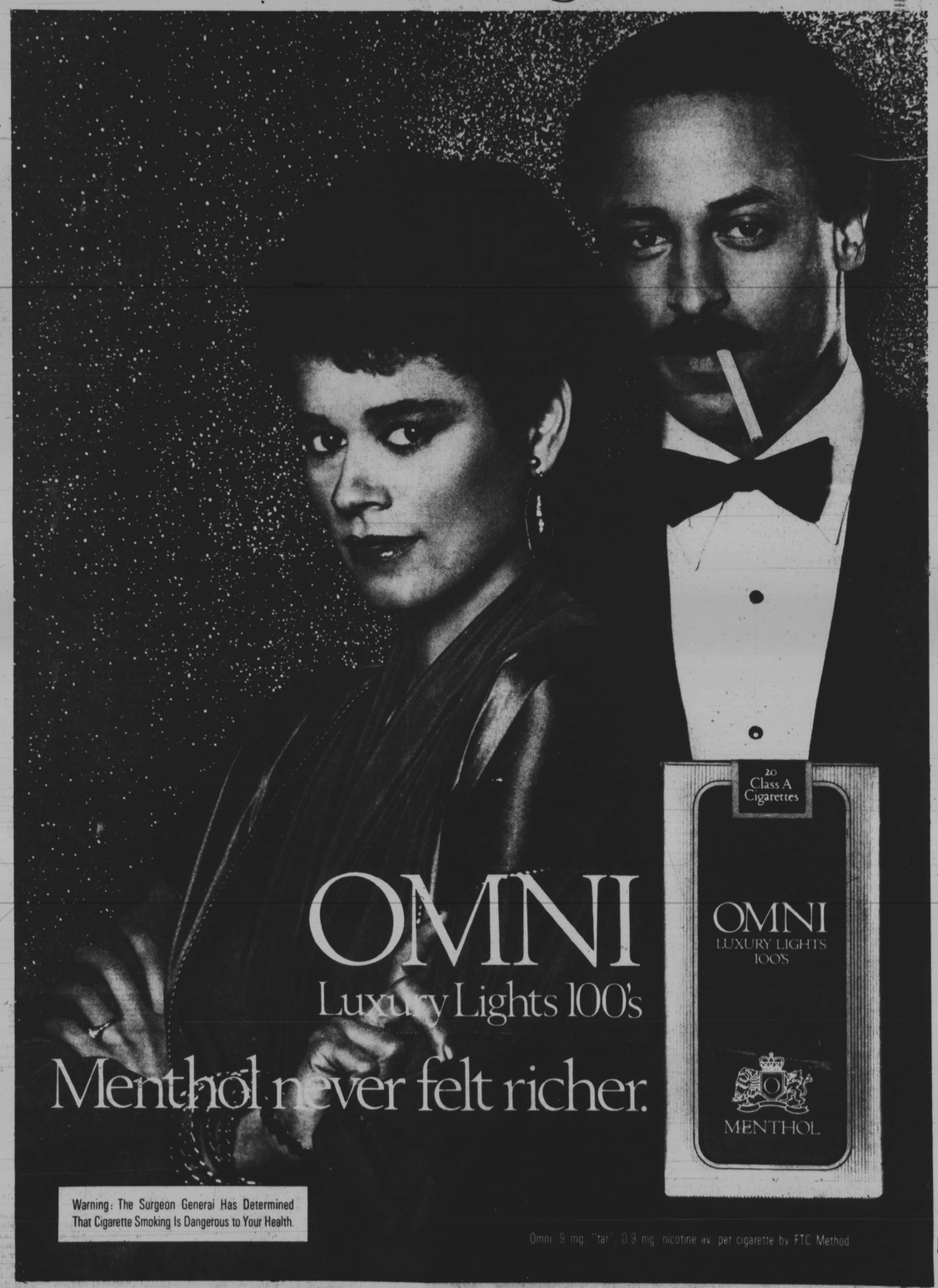

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THE LIVING CHURCH

Adventists told: 'No time for giving way to Satan'

Delegates to the 1981 annual council of Seven-day Adventists met in Washington, D. C. last week and were told on the opening night, "This is the time for Adventist leaders to express confidence and faith in the message God has given this church."

Neal C. Wilson, world president of the 3.8 million member denomination, went on to say," It is no time for uncertainty or hesitation, nor for giving way to Satan's subtle sophistry and cunningness."

In referring to church events during the past 12 months, President Wilson said the devil has tried "to discodrage the members by sowing seeds of discord and suspicion, but that membership in the church here in America and overseas is definitely on the increase. He referred to first hand information received recently from Europe, South America, Australia and Africa as unmistakable proof of this.

More than 300 Adventist officials from the U. S. and other countries around the world spent seven days discussing and approving numerous agenda items that will affect the church's immediate and long range goals.

Among the many topics that were up for approval or amendment were the expansion of the church's prison chaplaincy program, the future investment of church funds, the printing of new church humnal, clarification and interpretation of divorce and remarriage, the placing of information concerningt legal use of the church's name.

Prior to this annual council some 200 educators, pastors and administrators spent three days discussing two basic concepts the inspiration of the Bible and academic freedom.

According to Dr. Richard Lesher, director of the denomination's Biblical Research Department, "Seventh Day Adventists view the Bible as the word of God, written by men who were inspired by the Holy Spirit to reveal the characted and purposes of God for this world.

Because the Holy Spirit spoke through each individual authorkr, there is a unity in the Bible. This unity makes the Bible its own interpreter."

Lesher pressed his point by concluding, "These two facts permit the student to compare passages throughout, the Bible, on the same subject and in so doing arrive at an accurate interpretation of scripture."

Dr. Charles B. Hirsch, who heads the church's worldwide education program, summarized the concepts involving academic freedom when he said, "It is generally conceeded in both secular and religious educational circles that absolute academic freedom is not possible. Therefore, Adventists believe that academic freedom must be balanced by academic responsibility."

Hirsch went on to say, "since a church related educational institution also has an academic right to maintain its own distinctive personality and objectives, an Adventists teacher acknowledges his responsibility to conform to his church's basic beliefs as well as the aims for its educational program when he accepts employment in such an institution.

Union Memorial Methodist has a new minister

The Rev. Dr. Leonard R. Felton was recently appointed by Bishop D. Frederick Wertz to serve as pastor of Union Memorial United Methodist Church, Harlem and Warwick Ave.

Prior to his new appointment, Dr. Felton was pastor of Van Buren United Methodist Church in Washington, where he served for four years.

A native of Norfolk, Va., he is a graduate of Morgan State University and received his master of divinty degree from Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington and was conferred the doctor of divinity from Jameson Bible Institute in Philadelphia.

His ministry extends beyond the pulpits in Maryland and Washington. He has worked as a counselor in the criminal justice system, a counselor for drug addiction and alcoholism.

In addition to his pastoral duties, he writes and performs gospel and contemporary music. He is a member of the National Black Pastors Conference, Black United Methodist Pastors and was honored as one of the outstanding men of America by the Jaycees in 1980.

Dr. Felton is married to Emogene Hopkins of St. Louis, Missouri and is the father of two daughters Felicia and Diana.

The Rev. Dr. Leonard R. Felton

Church of Christ seeks community workers

The Rev. Dr. Roy L. Clark, former lecturer with the Department of Communication Arts and Sciences at Howard University says, "Churches today are too far removed from the socio-economic, educational and political problems that plague mankind."

The 53-year-old minister of Church of Christ and Man United believes that living a loving, caring, productive and responsible life is far more important than observing rituals, "testifying and quoting the Bible to prove what a good Christian one is."

Rev. Clark says churches should answer the needs of its members and surrounding community. As a community outreach church, Rev. Clark has acquired three abandoned buildings that were donated to the church to be used for church and community related activities.

Rev. Roy L. Clark

Some of these planned activities and services are parsonage church offices, community outreach center, low cost housing units, day care center, adult education, senior citizen and youth centers and job training programs.

"We are seeking anyone with experience in any aspect of the building trades. We are not in any position to pay wages at this time," said Rev. Clark.

The minister is looking for an electrician, plumber, roofer and others who would be interested in volunteering their services. If you are interested in working with the church call 243-7631 or 889- 6121.

Baptist convention hears Mayor Barry

By Cynthia P. Rawlins

"He's cast his lot with the lowly. Marching arm in arm and shoulder to shoulder with them in their misery. The fields of Mississippi should be proud.

That's how the Rev. Jerry A. Moore characterized the person and actions of D. C. Mayor Marion S Barry during an introduction to the delegates of the Baptist Convention of D. C. and Vicinty last week. The attendance was few, but the occasion mighty.

Moore had nothingbut praise for his political comrade. "He's lent himself to every problem of every man and willing to walk with kings and sit with beggars," he said.

As the mayor stood before the religious body, he mused, "with all that's going on in thscity, we still have a great city. I try to be a good mayor," he explained.

In his greeting to the 109th annual session of the convention, Barry quoted from the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. "It's midnight in the social order," he said. "Surely as we meet, it's midnight."

Barry spoke of the working people who have been deprived of social services and of the rich becoming richer. "We need the churches to open up their doors, said Barry.

In closing the Mayor reminded the congregation, "no matter how high you get and what title people may call you, you need prayer.

Metro church briefs

The Baltimore Baha'i community has started its fall series of free film showings On Saturday, Oct. 31, a special film will be shown and a fellowship hour held at 7:30 p.m. On Nov. 8, 12:00 the Maryland district of Columbia Baha'i Youth committee will provide a taped talk.

These activities will be held at the Baha'i Center, 5301 Gwynn Oak Ave.

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Eugene Belt will present an organ recital at Brown Memorial Church, 1316 Park Ave., on Sunday, Oct. 25, 4 p.m.

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The women of Mount Ararat Baptist Church will observe its 72nd Women's Day. The Rev. Dr. Samuel B. Redd is pastor and the church is located at Gwynns Falls Parkway and Longwood St. Mrs. Cecelia Bryant will be the 11 a.m. speaker and Mrs. Minnie Robinson is the 4 p. m. speaker.

Mrs. Dorothy Richardson is chairperson; Mrs. Louise Lassiter, co-chairperson and Mrs. Ida M. Redd is honorary chairperson.

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The Sanctuary Choir of Providence Baptist Church will be presented in concert on Oct. 25, 3:30 p.m. at 1401 Pennsylvania Ave. Jeffrey Heckstall is director and the Rev. Marcus G. Wood is pastor.

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Men's Day will be observed Oct. 25 at Fountain Baptist Church, 1215 Monument St. The Rev. William Lee, pastor of Loudon Avenue Christian Church in Roanoke, Va., will be the 11 a.m. speaker.

The Rev. H. Beecher Hicks Jr., pastor of Metropolitan Baptist Church in Washington is the 4 p.m. speaker. Maurice W. Coleman Jr., is chairman; Alvin Bagley is co-chairman and the Rev. Herman A. Ford is pasor.

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The O. St. Clair Franklin Male Chorus of Ames Memorial United Methodist Church, Carey and Baker St., will sponsor Joy Night on Oct. 23, 7:30 p.m. Special guest will be the Rev. Tyrone Griffin of Fellowship Church of Christ. Dennis Weems is president and the Rev. O. St. Clair Franklin is pastor.

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Pentecost Baptist Church will observe its 65th annual Women's Day on Oct. 25. Evangelist Nina Pender of Christ Temple will be the speaker. Mrs. Juanita Givens will be the 3:30 p.m. speaker. The Rev. Charles E. Fletcher is pastor; Mrs. Virginia Dawson is chairperson and Mrs. Almetia Williams is co-chairperson.

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The Rev. Eugene Williams of Houston, Texas will be presented in concert on Oct. 24, 7 p.m. at Fowler's United Methodist Church, 816 Bestgate Rd. The program is for the benefit of Men's Day on Oct. 25. The Rev. David Fitchett of Springfield Baptist Church in Washington will be the 11 a.m. speaker. The Rev. Lawrence E. Sherman is pastor.

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Women's Day will be observed on Sunday, Oct. 25 at Sharon Baptist Church, Stricker and Presstman Street. The Rev. Cynthia Jones of Jones Tabernacle Baptist Church will be the 11 a.m. speaker. Mrs. Mary Ward is chairman; Miss Clara Lancaster is co-chairman and the Rev. Dr. James L. Moore is pastor.

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Annual Men's Day will be celebrated on Oct. 25 at Knox United Presbyterian Church, Eden and Preston Street. Dr. Herbert Edwards will be the 11 a.m. speaker and the Rev. Leroy Fitts is the 5 p.m. speaker. Colon F. McNeill is chairman and the Rev. Lonnie J. Oliver is pastor.

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Members of Zion Universal Church of God will observe their third anniversary on Nov. 7. A banquet will be held at the church, 1208 East Lanvale St., at 6 p.m. The Rev. R. F. Tatum is pastor.

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Bill Sturgis and Friends will be singing at Harlem Park Community Baptist Church on Sunday, Oct. 25, 4 p.m. 612 Gilmor St. The Rev. Dr. Raymond Kelly is pastor and founder.

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The Gospel Choir of Mt. Zion Methodist Church will celebrate its first anniversary on Oct. 25, 3 p.m. Mabel Bailey is president and the church is located at 3050 Liberty Heights Ave.

"Men Working Together for the Cause of Christ" is the theme for Men's Day at First Baptist Church on Oct. 25. The Rev. John Harvey Jr., associate minister of Wayland Baptist Church, will be the 11 a.m. speaker and music will be by the V. T. Williams Male Chorus.

Corey Brooks, pianist and Miss Adrian Nicholson will be presented in concert. William Morto- is president

The male chorus of Simmons Memorial Baptist Church will celebrate their anniversary on Oct. 25, 7:30 p.m. at Pennsylvania Avenue and Cumberland St. Samuel Johnson is president; Carter Robinson is secretary and director and the Rev. William King is pastor.

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Evangelist Esther Melcher will be the Women's Day speaker on Oct 25, 11 a.m. at Garden of Prayer Baptist Church, 728 Collington Ave. The Rev. Mrs. Agnes Fields is the 5 p.m. speaker. Mrs. Shirley Cole is chairman and Mrs. Brenda McClain is co-chairman. The Rev. George Hurtt is pastor.

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Homecoming services will be held at Sharp Street Memorial United Methodist Church on Oct. 25, at the 11 a.m. service. The Rev. Joseph Stemley will be the speaker and dinner will be served following the morning service.

At 5 p.m. Morgan State University Choir will appear in concert. The Rev. John Wesley Coleman is pastor. Sharp Street is located at Dolphin and Etting Street.

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Sunday, Oct. 25 will be Women and Men's Day at the Church of the Holy Covenant, 560 Broadway. The theme is "Together in Christian Fellowship."

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The Maryland Suburban Mass Choir will be presented in a concert at St. Bernardine's Catholic Church, 3812 Edmondson Ave. on Oct. 25, 5p.m. The Rev. Evora Robinson is the founder and director.

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The Ladies Aid of Zion Lutheran Church will have their sour beef supper on Oct. 28 and 29, 4 to 7 p.m.

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Members of St. Pius Catholic Church, 521 Schroeder Street will have their harvest ball on Oct. 31, 8p.m. in the church hall. The Rev. Joseph Benintende is pastor.

New Mt. Zion Baptist honors four new deacons

Friends and members of New Mt. Zion Baptistist Church, 817 Mount St., recently honored four active members of their church at a luncheon.

The theme for the luncheon was "We've Come This Far By Faith" and Mrs. Ventrice Bethea was the chairperson.

Speaking of the honorees, Mrs. Bethea stated she had a vision about four men who have attended New Mt. Zion and been very active at the church for more than 25 years.

The honorees were Deacons Carlton Peterson who has served as chairman of the Deacon Board for 20 years. John McCoy, a member of the church for 40 years and former chairman of the Deacon Board. Also, Deacon Thomas Harrington, church clerk for 27 years and Deacon David McCoy, minister of music, who started playing music for the Junior Choir when he was nine-years-old.

The Rev. David Harrington, son of Deacon and Mrs. Thomas Harrington was the speaker. His theme was "A Strong Pillar on a Solid Rock."

Among others who participated on the program were Rev. Russell Groves, Mrs. Bessie Askew. Music was by members of Simmons Memorial Male Chorus and Ron Clark was the guest soloist. The honorees received a plague from the church for their dedicated service. Mrs. Rose Nollie was co-chairperson and the Rev. Joseph L. Davis is pastor.

HONOREES — Four active members of New Mt. Zion Baptist Church, 817 Mount St., were recently honored for their outstanding church work. Shown are Deacon David McCoy, Deacon Carlton Peterson, Deacon John McCoy and Deacon Thomas Harrington.

Women's Day activities held at Wayland

"Christian Women United Exemplifying God's Love," is the theme for the 71st annual Women's Day at Wayland Baptist Church, 3200 Garrison Blvd. The Rev. Darneal Johnson is pastor.

As part of their Women's Day activities, the women of Wayland sponsored a fashion show and luncheon recently at the church. A day long workshop and retreat will be held at the church on Nov. 7, where the women will discuss phases of women's life and activities.

The Rev. Agnes Alston, associate minister of Gillis Memorial Christian Community Church, 4016 Park Heights Ave., will be the speaker for revival services 7:30 p.m. Nov. 9 - 13 at the church.

Women's Day will be celebrated on Nov. 15 and Dr. H. Marie Robinson will be the 7:45 a.m. speaker. Mrs. Patricia A. Russell will be the 10:45 a.m. speaker and dinner will be served following the morning service. At 3:30 p.m. the women of Wayland will have their annual musical program.