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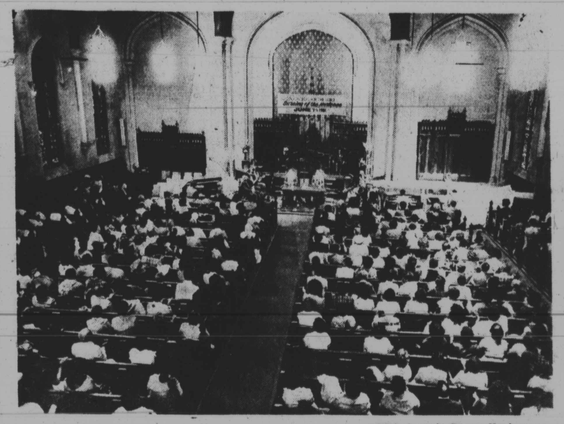
THE LIVING CHURCH

New Psalmist has mid-week workers worship service



MID WEEK SERVICES are held every Wednesday 12 to 1 p.m. at New Psalmist Baptist Church, Cathedral and Franklin Streets, where the Rev. Walter Thomas is pastor. Hundreds of citizens who work in the downtown area are shown attending the services.

AFRO photos by Roman Hankewycz

By Pam Widgeon
AFRO Staff Writer

There was testifying, singing, shouts of "amen" and hand clapping at the mid-week workers worship service at New Psalmist Baptist Church, Cathedral and Franklin Street, where the Rev. Dr. Walter Thomas is pastor.

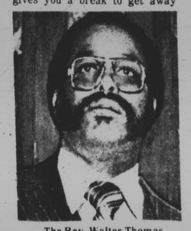
Noon day services have been held at the church every Wednesday for an hour since September. More than 800 people from all walks of life have been attending the service.

The Rev. Thomas told the AFRO the purpose of the mid-week workers service is to give people "a spiritual uplift to pull them through their work week. A lot of people work on Sunday and can't make it to services."

The minister said the Wednesday service also gives people "a spiritual shot in the arm." Rev. Thomas feels that there is a need for the service and it is for the working people, the retired and the unemployed.

Ms. Geraldine Smoot, an employee at the Metro West Social Security building, has been attending the Wednesday services since September.

"I go because it is food for my soul and it is very inspirational. It gives you a break to get away from work and fellowship with other Christians and be with the Lord," said Ms. Smoot.



The Rev. Walter Thomas

Ms. Alma Gray, a member of St. Cecelia Catholic Church and an empployee at Social Security said the mid-week service helps her deal with every day life and work. "By the middle of the week, we all need a spiritual uplift. The service is very uplifting and it makes you appreciate what you have."

Rev. Thomas stated that there is no dress code for the service. James Alston, a deacon at New Psalmist and a bus driver with MTA said that the service has helped him to have a bending ear to the public.

Dressed in his uniform, Alston, along with other members of the church who spend their lunch hour at the service assist in collecting the offering as people leave the service.

Following the services, Mrs. Margaret Small and Mrs. C. M. Tarrant, members of the church were seen giving a sandwich, cup of coffee, and cookies to workers who had to return to their jobs.

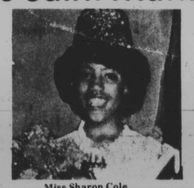
NEW PSALMIST BAPTIST — A group of Social Security employees are shown entering the church for the Wednesday noon day service, where people from all walks of life have been seen

Sharon Cole is crowned Miss Saint Matthews

There were tears, smiles and excitement at the Miss St. Matthew United Methodist Church pageant that was held recently at the church.

It was a tough decision for the judges to decide on who would become Miss St. Matthews. After seeing the eight contestants who were 12 and 13-years-old singing, dancing, playing the piano, doing recitations and even a drum selection.

Miss Sharon Cole was crowned Miss St. Matthews and Vanessa Deyampert winning first runner-up and Nicole Davis won for best talent.



Miss Sharon Cole

Other contestants were Jill Little, Sharron Cole, Katrina Wyatt, Adrianne Jones, Melissa Carter, Monave Warren. This was the first year for the pageant and it was coordinated by Mrs. Alease Weems and Mrs. Marguerite Dingle, who served as emcee.

The judges were Ken Royster and B. Billy. The Rev. St. George I. B. Crosse is pastor of Saint Matthews United Methodist Church.

Morgan's gospel choir honors Dr. Thomas Dorsey

Members of Morgan State University gospel choir will sponsor a salute to Dr. Thomas A. Dorsey on Nov. 14, 7 p.m. at the Hilton Hotel downtown. Proceeds from the affair will be given to the choir.

Dr. Dorsey is known as the father of gospel music and composed over 400 gospel songs. His most famous compositions include, "Precious Lord," "Standing Here Wondering and Peace in the Valley."

Morgan's Gospel Choir constitutes a wide representation of voices. Last year the choir sung at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. They have also sung at Howard University, Asbury United Methodist Church in New Jersey and in several churches in Baltimore.

Marion H. Spann is the advisor for the choir. Spann is a student minister working as assistant director of Morgan Christian Center. The director of the group is David L. Parker Parker, a graduate of Morgan and a teacher at Hampstead Hill High School.

Dr. Thomas A. Dorsey

Metro church briefs

The men of Union Baptist Church will observe their annual Men 's Day on Sunday, Nov. 15. The theme is "Union Men Strengthening the Family Circle." The Rev. Calvin Morris, professor of religion at Howard University will be the speaker.

The celebration will climax at 5 p.m. with an afternoon of organ music featuring John Miller. Dr. Home Favor, Dr. Horace Judson and Cecil Bray are co-chairmen. The Rev. Vernon Dobson is pastor.

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The ladies of St. Luke United Methodist Church are sponsoring a prayer luncheon on Nov. 7, 11 a.m. for the benefit of Men's Day. The Rev. Alfreda Wiggins will be the luncheon speaker. The affair will be held at the church, Gilmor Street and Riggs Ave. The Rev. James H. Smith is pastor.

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The Baltimore Chapel Choir and the Metropolitan Sanctuary Choir will be featured in a recital on Nov. 15, 4:30 p.m. at Metropolitan United Methodist Church, Carrollton Avenue and Lanvale Street.

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Members of the Usher Board of Ray of Hope Baptist Church will present the Keys of Faith in concert on Nov. 8, 4 p.m. at the church Harford Road and Parkside Drive. The Rev. Charles M. Franklin is pastor.

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The annual camp meeting will be held at St. Paul United Methodist Church on Nov. 8. The Rev. Mrs. Laura Edwards will be the speaker at 4 p.m.

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The women of Nazarene Baptist Church, Harford Avenue and Biddle Street will celebrate their 39th annual Women's Day on Nov. 15. Mrs. Verna Day will be the speaker and the Rev. James Thompson is pastor.

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The Rev. Dr. James A. Everett, pastor of New Shiloh Baptist Church in Turner Station will be the 10 a.m. speaker on Nov. 7 for the special cornerstone laying services. The Rev. Tyrone B. Griffin is pastor.

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The Young People's Department of the United Baptist Missionary Convention of Maryland will present a pageant "Christian Youth, Give Your Talents To God." on Nov. 15, 5 p.m. at 1400 West Coldspring Lane. Hattie Jackson is director, Patricia Leazer, associate director; Carolyn Murphy, president; Bessie Mason, president of the Women's auxiliary and the Rev. Matthew R. Silver is president of the United Baptist Missionary Convention.

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The Courtesty Circle of Shiloh Christian Community Church, Catherine and Lombard Street will celebrate their anniversary on Nov. 15, 3:30 p.m. Bishop Edward Clifford, pastor of New Advancement Pentecostal Holiness Church will be the speaker. Rita Williams is president; Charles Williams, chairman; O'Reda Dabney secretary and the Rev. Dr. George W. Baynard is pastor.

Youth Leadership Conference held at Bethel AME

A youth leadership training conference will be held Saturday, Nov. 7 at Bethel AME Church in Cambridge, Md., where the Rev. Howard L. Camper is pastor.

The theme for the conference is "Building Through Sound Leadership." The purpose is to identify and train leaders and potential leaders to build on the work of others who have studied and worked on youth problems and programs.

It is also intended to enhance the number and kinds of ways that persons and groups of any racial ethnic and socioenomic character are made to feel that they belong and have prospects for educational and social successes as well as religious experience.

Workshop topics are Relationship of the W.M.S. to the Y.P.D. and the Y.P.D. Organization, Communication and Young People, Legislative Issues in the General Church and Program Planning and Evaluation." Committee members are Helen Ayers, Mary Berry, Patricia Boston, William Chapman, Clementine Cheatham, Dolores Davenport, Lauretta Freeman.

Also, Ruth Hall, Carla Henry, Hannah Henry, Joann Henry, Ranata Hawkins, Henrietta Hetstick, India Johnson, Barbara Jones, Angelique Mason, Carolyn Ringgold, Daiquairi Sartor, Rose Smith, Vivian Watson and Andre Yancey.

USHERS MARK 75TH — Members of the Ushers Board of Union Baptist Church in Turner Station observed their 75th anniversary recently. Front row, from left, shows Mrs. Beatrice Dowdy, Mrs. Columbia Foster, David Poole, president; Deacon Charles Bowden, the church's business administrator; Mrs. Mary Mitchell, 77, president emeritus; Mrs. Jackie Bratton, vice president; Mrs. Bessie Portee, Mrs. Vivian Carrington, Mrs. Raenell Austin and her husband, Richard Austin Sr. The Rev. William E. Johnson is minister.

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