The Black Caucus: 'We cannot lead alone'

After 11 years on Capitol Hill as a Caucus, we have the experience, the expertise, and the seniority, and we're ready. As a part of Black America's leadership family, we're ready to lead!

With four chairmen of standing Committees of the House: Rep. Glus Hawkind, (D-CA) chairman of House Administration; Rep. Lou Stokes, (D-OH.), chairman of the Ethics Committee; Rep. Parren Mitchell, (D-MD.), chairman of the Small Business Committee, and Rep. Ron Dellums, (D-CA) chairman of the House District Committee, we're ready to lead.

With seasoned veterans like Rep. Charles Rangel (D-NY) moving up on Ways and Means, and Rep. Shirley Chisholm (D-NY) moving on up on Rules, and Rep. William Clay (D-MO) moving on up on House Education and Labor, we're ready to lead.

'We have no permanent enemies, no permanent friends, just permanent interests'

The Caucus is not just talking that talk about leadership; we're ready to walk-the-walk. We're ready to walk-the-walk with a constructive alternative to the Reagan policies that would give the American people a balanced budget now, $2 billion more in tax relief now, a strong national defense now, jobs and private business development in America now.

And this is not true of our Constructive Alternative Budget because we say it; we say it because it's true. It's true that we can eliminate deficit spending by taking the unproductive rich off tax welfare. It's true that we can balance the budget by putting the now unproductive poor to work on jobs in the private sector by targetting our tax relief to the smaller, more innovative businesses or our nation that produce 58 percent of the jobs in America.

It's true that America can have a strong national defense without billions of dollars in wasteful, inflationary, and extravagant spending on exotic weapons systems like the MX Missile that bleat our deficit and threaten our entire economy with high interest rates, high unemployment, and high rates of failure among the small businesses of our nation. These things are true of our Constructive Alternative Budget not because we say it; we say it because it is true.

Those of you who have studied our Constructive Alternative Budget know that the Democratic Study Group was right: our alternative, does indeed "take the boldest step of any proposal...to deal with the federal deficit, and offers the largest and fairest tax cut of any of the proposals before the House." We're Ready to Lead!

But we cannot lead alone.

I want, therefore, now to give four messages to four groups in our society.

To Political Leaders

My first message is to the two major political parties in our country: The Democrats and the Republicans. The conduct of your federal elected officials over the first nine months of 1981 has reminded us of the much quoted adage that "the Republicans ignore us and the Democrats take us for granted." It reminds us also of the Principle often quoted by our colleague, William "Bill" Clay: "We have no permanent enemies, no permanent friends, just permanent interests."

Our permanent interest is in policies that pass the moral test of government in terms of how they affect the young, the elderly, the handicapped and the needy. Our permanent interest is in the full participation of Blacks and other disadvantaged minorities in the economic, political, and social life of our nation.

Our permanent interest is in full employment and balanced growth policies that will restore American business, industry and labor to world competitive status and enable us to resume our help to those who can not fully help themselves.

To both the Democratic and Republican parties we say, join us in the pursuit of these permanent interests.

To the Democratic party we say do not expect blind loyalty from Blacks who have been voting Democratic for candidates for public office who have on the record voted against those interests, and abandoned the soul of the basic principles for which the Democratic party stands.

To the Republican party we say you cannot expect to attract Black voters away from the Democrats, and to your party with empty rhetoric only. If you want us; come get us. You can't get us with a program that promises 13 million new, full paying jobs in the private sector but does not deliver them. So come get us with some jobs and economic development in the Black community.

You can't get us with a program that promises a balanced budget, but gives us huge deficits, high interest rates, and crumbling housing, automobile and small business enterprises. Come get us; but you won't get us with $1.7 trillion military budgets, or with a $220 billion tax give away to the rich, or with $241 billion in cuts in human needs programs.

Now, before the members of either party says "we don't need you," I want to say one more thing. We know the arithmetic of our political power in key elections in this Nation, and come November, 1982, we're going to send you a message. We may have to let down some Democrats and lift up some Republicans in Congressional Districts that our votes have kept Democratic for decades, but we are determined to send a message.

We may have to bring down some Republicans and lift up some Democrats to keep you Republicans from gaining control of the House, and if that's what it takes, we're going to send a message next year.

The message is "Democrats, don't take us for granted anymore;" and "Republicans, ignore us at your own considerable risk in your quest for power in our nation." We'll be voting next year on how you vote this year, beginning with the Voting Rights Act Extension.

Message to White America

The second message that we send is to White America. Simply put, that message is this: "We may have come over here in different ships, but we're all in the same boat now." The people who are being, and will be damaged by the misguided policies that are being implemented by the President and the Congress today are not only Black people. Most of the people being denied meaningful tax relief are white; most of the people suffering from the enormous deficit fostered by wasteful military spending with its resultant high interest rates, high unemployment, and small business failures are white.

White America, Blacks are not the enemy and busing is not the issue. White America, take another look at the Constructive Alternative we have fashioned to address the challenge of these times, and then join us in a coalition of mutual respect and cooperation to balance the budget, bring down high interest rates, high inflation, high unemployment, let us revitalize the American economy.

Let us assure you, White America, that the Administration's assumption that we can solve all our problems by "getting the poor off our backs" and "protecting ourselves against the Russians" is a faulty assumption. Our problems internationally do not lend themselves to military solution. They are social, economic, and political; and to address them we must fashion diplomatic, social, economic, and political initiatives such as we called for in the Congressional Black Caucus Constructive Alternative Budget.

What government ought to be doing domestically is not abandoning its responsibility to care for, defend, and protect the poor, but targeting its budget and tax policies to benefit those businesses and industries which produce jobs for Americans in world competitive enterprises. Our present policies do not do that.

What we ought to be doing internationally is not providing massive military aid to oppressive regimes around the world; but providing development aid to nations like Zimbabwe so that Prime Minister Robert Mugabe can build roads from the chromium mines to the sea, so that we can buy it, sail it to Detroit, and make a car that goes a longer way to empty than Datsun.

Hear us, white America!

Corporate America

Our third message is to business and corporate America. We want you to know that we are painfully aware that the President and now the Congress are greatly reducing our economic options in the public economy. They are directing us to carve out for ourselves a place in the private sector.

We are not unhappy with that option. We know that five out of every six jobs are in the private sector. But it has been the cruelty and abuse of our basic rights by that very private sector that has given us little choice but to turn to the public sector for employment and opportunity; it has been our only real option.

Our forebearers were given full employment by the private sector to plant in our community. We just don't seem to be able to get a grip on this thing. I think time is running out. If something isn't done soon, some of our finest minds will be crippled for life. These youngsters, Lord, are our future, isn't there something you can do?

We had a talk show, something called "conversation Radio", which was a first in our community. It was really good and the talk show format was an educational process for our community. We knew this format would have a hard time from white clouds because anytime we talked about proportionate share of the $140 billion a year we spend with you in our Black banks, savings and loans and insurance companies. We need you to make available your venture capital to the creative genius of Blacks who are ready to lead in the fields of science and technology, marketing and distribution, health, education and labor.

We need you and you need us! To business and corporate America we say don't listen to those at the command posts of political power who counsel you that we multiply your wealth by dividing labor from management, and government from the people. We need one another. Join with the Black leadership family in fashioning a coalition of mutual respect and cooperation between business, labor, and government that alone can again make us world competitive in the economy of the globe.

To Black America

Our fourth and final message is to Black America. We appealed to the teachers our national Black religious organizations to assume their rightful place in the Black leadership family as the moral and spiritual leadership of our people, and of our nation.

We did so because we realize that our strength as a people is in our spiritual and intellectual unity. I want to remind you that we did not meet the challenges of the 1950's and 1960's because we were reading some little red book by Mao Tse Tung. We didn't get free because Black people had studied somebody named Karl Marx.

We got free because a Black woman (Rosa Parks) who had gone to church all of her life decided that she was tired of singing "I'm a child of the King" on Sunday and not acting like it on Monday through Saturday.

So she sat down on a bus one day; and when she sat down a Black spiritual leader endowed with a liberal dose of intellect - named Martin Luther King Jr. - stood up in a church one cold winter night and asked a teeming crowd of Black people who had assembled to assess the condition of the dry bones of a dream deferred. And when he asked, "Can these dry bones live?", somebody stood up and said "Yes, Reverend.

We met the challenge in the decade of the 60's and as Goethe has reminded us: "What we have inherited from our fathers we must earn again for ourselves else we will lose it."

All of this we achieved in the 50's and 60's because we realized that our strength is in our own spiritual and intellectual unity.

Our message to Black America, to borrow from Leroi Jones, is this:

"Now is not the time for slave stupid, murder mouthing of white folks, or for putting down "knee grows." It is not a time for pompous declarations of "I am blacker than thou," or for rhapsodies on the beauty of blackness. It is not a time for fantasizing "instant revolution," or for seeking manhood in the barrel of a gun."

But now is the time to organize ourselves at every level of Black life in America to provide pragmatic leadership not only for Black America but for all America.

Whether you are a Black in business, labor, civic, fraternal or professional activity; whether you are engaged in religious, civil rights, community action, education, youth or elderly services, there is now a plan of action by which we may coordinate our struggle to provide our people, and this great but confused nation of ours, with the wise and statesman like leadership that these perilous times require.

What is that plan? You've heard it often enough by now. It is time to organize ourselves to do four things:

1. First, to Defend against assaults on policies that have improved the quality of life for Black Americans. Our effort to save the Voting Rights Act is an instructive example of the Black nation in Defense.

2. Second, we must take the Offense by shaping and implementing policies that will improve the quality of life for people throughout our nation and our world. The Constructive Alternative Budget of the Congressional Black Caucus is an instructive example of offensive leadership to revitalize our faltering economy at home, and to promote peace with justice abroad.

3. Third, we must organize ourselves into an action alert communications network that spans at least the 110 Congressional Districts where Blacks are at least 15 percent of the voting age population. If Richard Viguerie and the New Right can reach quickly and directly 25 million people through their central computer over here in Arlington, Virginia, then certainly, working together, we can reach all the members of our national organizations when they need to move on our agenda, through a central computer located herein Washington and maintained by the Caucus.

4. Fourth, we must reach out in coalition with whites, Hispanics and other minorities whose interest in a strong and working America coincide with ours. However, despite an effective organization plan for ourselves, we can't do it alone. We need one another. As Martin Luther King Jr., once said:

"We are all caught up in a network of mutuality, wrapped in a single garment of destiny, and what affects one of us directly, affects all of us indirectly.

I can't be what I ought to be until you are what you ought to be. You can't be what you ought to be until I am what I ought to be. This is the inter-related structure of reality."

Black Caucus ready to lead

The Rev. Walter E. Fauntroy, the District of Columbia's non-voting delegate to Congress, was the featured speaker earlier this year at the closing banquet of the National Urban League's convention in D.C.

The fiery Congressman inspired the thousands of listeners with an inspiring oration in which he declared that with their ever-increasing knowledge and responsibility on the Hill, members of the Congressional Black Caucus, of which he is this year's chairman, are "ready to lead."

Cong. Fauntroy was invited to deliver the address by Vernon Jordan, who gives up leadership of the National Urban League December 31. As he leaves office, we reproduce on this page the message which he exhorted Rev. Fauntroy to give to the nation.

Bring down high interest rates, high inflation, high unemployment, let us revitalize the American economy

Government ought not to be abandoning its responsibility to care for, defend and protect the poor

Lord, the New Year looks bleak for many of your people!

By Lillian Wiggins

Dear Lord, we talk each year about this time. The new year is fast approaching and while I am not sorry to see the old year roll out I am not happy about what I see in the future as a result of what was taking place at year end.

You know I thought, around this time last year, we were really going to shape up. We talked about the displacement of so many black residents from the District of Columbia; we talked about the many financial institutions that would not lend money to black applicants who wanted to purchase homes in the District of Columbia; we talked about the pressures put to bear on "our" elected officials and we talked about the lack of voter education in the District of Columbia.

Would you believe that since that time there has not been much of a change. We are steadily being discriminated against but in a subtle way. Lord, the way in which this is happening is so clever. I know you know all about this matter and I am cognizant of the fact that you have said many times "The Lord Helps Those Who Helps Themselves," but I really wonder if my people know what you mean. If it is not asking too much can I pray that you show them a clearer vision of what you mean?

You see, it's like this - - some believe that there is no need to help themselves - that you will provide no matter what. As a result some truly believe that they are really integrated. They have no problem spending their money where they want. Our community is now a plastic card society and the interest rates are killing many of their spirits and playing havoc with their budgets. There is no opportunity to save and food is so costly now that by the time many of us pay the rent, purchase the food, pay school fees and pay the absorbant utility bills, there is nothing left.

Many of your older residents are eating food less than desirable. Many of them are without heat, water and electric. Some of these things have always been taken for granted by your people. Who would have ever dreamed that in the District of Columbia in 1981 they would have their water bills so high that the city would turn off water for lack of payment of the bills? Much of this situation is not the fault of the people who are suffering.

A couple of years ago we began receiving bills which indicated that the water and sewage had not been charged to these residents for several years. They told us that they were playing catch-up in so many words. That the city had not been keeping up with the water bills and now that they were the residents would have to suffer. Lord, many of these bills are out of sight and it has been only that some residents have been told that they could make part payment on these bills. What I can't understand is why should we, as residents, be penalized for something government didn't do when they were suppose to do it?

Then there are the gas bills. Most of heat by gas, you know, and the charges are far out. Now there is something for prime time usage, surcharge and actual usage. Sometimes the surcharge is more than the actual usage. Many of us don't even bother about turning on our gas until we absolutely have too. Those wood and kerosene stoves are marvelous. When used properly, taking all of the necessary precautions, they can make a difference and the fuel is real reasonable.

Some frown on this supplemental heat but I see nothing wrong with it if people follow the directions and do absolutely what they are suppose to do. Many of the homes in our city are like big barns and no matter how reasonable you try and be with the thermostat the house is still cold. If one keeps the heat on 75 degrees in these big barns their gas bills will be enormous. And believe me Lord they have no problem turning off your heating supply. Of course this is a winter-time problem and one which is easy to rectify in time. We do have some long standing problems which don't seem to be as easy to find a solution to.

I believe that you made all of us in your image but really Lord, some of your creations yet believe they are better than others. I know you did not intend it that way - it just happens when some have more than others and some forget they were made the way they are for a purpose. I just can't believe that you made black people because you ran out of white clouds. They tell me that from the white clouds you were satisfied making man because to you white was not a color - and when dark clouds rolled around, because of rain, you continued your work and this is when a difference in man was apparent. To you there was no difference but little did you know that when man was finally in charge on earth he would use this dark cloud to discriminate against your creations.

Now, it's hard to make some of your dark clouds realize that they are just as good as the next cloud, that there is nothing inferior about them, that all of us were put here for a purpose, that all would have to come before you for judgement: that all would die when you were ready for them and no man controls life and death although great strides have been made scientifically.

I despair when I see some of the younger clouds of color denying their heritage. They have been told, for so long, that dark clouds were sinful that they actually believe this garbage. Too some extent, Lord, I blame their Parents. As parents we cannot shield our children from what they are. We can encourage them to pursue excellence; to make a place in this society for themselves: to reach out and touch and build from a solid foundation. Never let them try to be someone else. That person they are trying to be may have a darker future.

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I know you realize, Lord, that dope, prostitution and black on black crimes are running rampant in our community. We just

Dope and black-on-black crime

Dark clouds have no bootstraps

Will you help those who help themselves?

someone or something tends to educate the dark clouds, it's usually short lived. Gee, Lord, we were learning about foreign affairs, finances, how much we spent in the consumer market, plays, stock markets and communications in general. Folk in our community glued themselves to this talk show format the entire day. Of course some took a break for "One Life to Live" and "All My Children." I like "General Hospital," myself. My favorite personality, Birney McCaig came on at 2 p.m. so it was on with the radio the same time Luke and Laura were making life exciting on General Hospital.

—Metro Church Briefs—

The Ministerial Alliance of Maryland will present an Emancipation Proclamation Celebration Friday, Jan 1, 11 a.m., at First Baptist Church of Guilford, 7304 Oakland Mills Rd. Dr. Joseph Lowery, national president of Southern Christian Leadership Conference, is the guest speaker. Music will be rendered by the Emancipation Community Mass Choir under the direction of Rev. Evora Robinson.

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Pentecost Baptist Church will worship with Mount Lebanon Baptist Church, 2320 Reisterstown Rd., Jan. 3, at 3:30 p.m. Rev. Dr. Olin P. Moyd is the pastor.

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A combined New Year's Eve service of Strawbridge United Methodist Church, St. Marks United Methodist Church and Centennial United Methodist Church will be at Centennial United Methodist Church, 1029 E. Monument St., Dec. 31, at 10 p.m. Rev. Harold E. Palmer, Jr. is the pastor.

Macedonia Social Committee is sponsoring a "Friendship Rally" to be held at Macedonia Baptist Church, 718 W. Lafayette Ave., on Sunday, Jan. 17 at 3 p.m. Rev. James E. Sturdivant of Washington, DC is the guest speaker. City Councilwoman, Victorine Adams, D-4th, will be among the special guests. Rev. Willard L. Clayton is pastor.

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Evangelist Esther Melcher will celebrate her birthday and deliver the guest sermon at 'We Need Prayer Headquarters', 912 N. Gilmore St., Friday, Jan. 1 at 8 p.m. Rev. Mary Antoinette Phillips is the pastor of the church.

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Ministerial Alliance of Maryland presents a tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Friday, Jan. 15, 11 a.m. at Full Gospel Tabernacle Church, 14340 Fredrick Rd., Cooksville, MD. Rev. Dr. Martin McKinney, pastor at St. Mark United Methodist Church of Dorsey, MD is the guest speaker. Rev. Dr. John Holland is the host pastor. Program chairman is Rev. Dr. Samuel Moore, co-chairman, Rev. Johnnie Evans, and Rev. John L. Wright is the president.

The Greater New Hope Baptist Church, 2720 W. North Ave., beginning Jan. 3, will have its first musical jamboree at 6:30 p.m., featuring the original star G.G. Robert Edmonds. Other guest groups invited include the Stars of Grace, the Coles Singers, the Lyric Specials, and the Butler Singers from Greater New Hope; the Millernets and Pattie Miller, recording - artist; Mildred Stimpson and Company, Bernice Aikens and Aktones Gospel Singers and the Griffith Specials. Other services scheduled that day include preaching by Rev. Dr. Leonard E. Hicks, the pastor of the church, at 11 a.m. and a supper and guest sermon by Dr. Walter Thomas of New Psalmist Baptist Church at 3:30 p.m. In addition, other guests include, Elizabeth Waters and Rev. Alexander Waters, Emma Elders and the Lyric Specials and Monica Mayer. The public is invited to attend.

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Mount Lebanon Baptist Church will worship with Bethel A.M.E. Church, Druid Hill Ave. and Lanvale St., Friday, Jan. 8 at 7:30 p.m.

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A financial aid workshop sponsored by Congress of Christian Training will be held at Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church, Sunday, Jan. 10, at 3:30 p.m.

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A celebration in honor of Dr. Martin Lutner King, Jr., sponsored by Coppin State College will be rendered at Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church, Monday, Jan. 11 at 7:30 p.m.

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For coverage of any church events, mail your announcements to Ms. Pam Widgeon, religious editor, 628 N. Eutaw St Baltimore, MD 21201 or call 728-8200 Monday through Friday.

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There is no charge for news or photographic coverage. Publication of any church news is contingent upon factors of time and news space available and organizations from all religious denominations, as space permits.

—Area Obituaries—

Cassie Daughtry, long shoreman, dies

Funeral services for Cassie L. Daughtry Jr., 49, were Monday, Dec. 28, 1981 at William C. March Funeral Home. Burial followed the next day at Cedar Hill Cemetery.

Mr. Daughtry, who died Dec. 24 after a long illness, was the son of the late Ollie Bell and Cassie Daughtry. He was born July 29, 1932 and was educated in Baltimore City public schools.

After leaving Dunbar High School, he enlisted in the armed services where he served in Germany as a military policeman. Mr. Daughtry was honorbly discharged from the service in 1953.

He married Grace Helen Zanti and from that union their son, Anthony was born. He was employed by Baltimore Contractors Inc. as a longshoreman and retired in 1980.

Mr. Daughtry was a member of The First United Church of God and attended Mt. Calvery Holy Temple.

He is survived by his wife, son, mother, three brothers, Eliott, John Henry and Cornelius Franklin; three sisters, Ella Crudup, Martha Lee Richardson and Darlene Rodgers, a granddaughter, and a host of relatives and friends.

Maude Lawson

Funeral services for Maude Lawson were Dec. 28 at Bethel A.M.E. Church. Burial was at Baltimore National Cemetery.

Mrs. Lawson was born in Newton Grove, N.C., Sept. 8, 1906. She was the youngest child of the late Lester and Ida Cole.

She lived for a short time in New York, before moving to Baltimore. Mrs. Lawson was a member of Bethel A.M.E. and served on its Usher Board.

She is the widow of the late Joseph Lowell Lawson. In 1966, Mrs. Lawson retired from Parks Sausage Co.

Mrs. Lawson is survived by her daughter, Ida Angell, two sons, James and William Wright; four grandchildren, a great grandson and a host of friends and relatives.

Jazz rites for noted drummer

The drums of one of Baltimore's premier jazz players were silenced Saturday, to be silenced forevermore.

James W. "Jimhmi" Johnson died of cancer after a three year battle with the disease. He was 46.

About 30 people, musicians, family and friends, gathered at the Phillips funeral establishment in the 1700 block of North Monroe St. Monday to ease the sad time together.

"To the very end he always believed he was going to play his drums again," Ruby Glover, a local singer said referring to Mr. Johnson's determination.

About 100 people attended funeral services at the Union Memorial Church on Tuesday night. The services included live jazz played by friends of Johnson, surrounding him with music in death as he had been in life.

"He requested it. He did not want it to be a sad affair," Freddie Thaxton, another local musician said.

Jimhmi Johnson was born in Baltimore in 1936 and began playing at local clubs after he finished high school in 1954. Not content with only a high school diploma he continued his studies, recieving a degree in physical education from Morgan State University, studying music at the Julliard School for Music in New York City and receiving a degree in music from the Community College of Baltimore.

Mr. Johnson remained in New York for several years after studying at the Julliard, playing the music clubs at night with such legendary figures as Sun Ra and Lonnie Liston Smith, and moonlighting days at the post office.

He returned to Baltimore in 1977 and cancer was discovered in his lung a year later. He remained active after the removal of a tumor, touring Europe a year later, and playing in local clubs such as the Theater Project on Preston St.

As his health deteriorated in the last six months he was cared for by Nancy Ridgeway, a close friend.

He is survived by his son, Eric W. Johnson; two sisters, Sarah M. Johnson and Doris Street, and by several nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Lula Haynes dies in Baltimore

Lula Mae Haynes, a member of Bethel A.M.E. church, died on Wednesday, Dec. 23, 1981. Funeral services were at William C. March Funeral Home, Sunday, Dec. 27,1981. Interment followed at King Memorial Park.

Mrs. Haynes was born on April 18, 1930 to Naomi and George Hudson in Roper, North Carolina. She came to Baltimore in 1935 and was educated in the Baltimore Public Schools.

She was a graduate of Cortez Peters Business Schools and employed at the Social Security Administration until beset with illness in 1965.

Mrs. Haynes married a merchant seaman, the late Robert Moore Haynes in 1953.

She is survived by one daughter, Joycelyn Yvonne Haynes; a mother and stepfather, Naomi and Roger Fenner; three brothers, Robert, Joseph and Roger, Jr.; two sisters, Marion and Linda; one aunt, Odell Green; one uncle, George Hoggans, and a host of cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

Anthony Thompson, student, dies

Funeral services for Anthony Pedro Thompson, 20, were Monday, Dec. 28, 1981 at All Saints Catholic Church.

Mr. Thompson, the son of James and Janet Thompson, was born in Baltimore Jan. 13, 1961. He died Dec. 22, 1981.

He was a member of All Saints Catholic Church and attended New Shiloh Baptist Church.

Mr. Thompson was a graduate of Baltimore Polytechnic Institute. He attended the Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Florida.

He is survived by his parents, a brother, Schawn, three sisters, Gwendolyn, Rosalyn and Kimberly and a host of relatives and friends.

Lawrence Thompson

Funeral services for Lawrence Thompson, Sr., 64, were Monday, Dec. 28, 1981 at Sinai Baptist Church. Burial followed at the Baltimore Cemetery.

Mr. Thompson, who died Dec. 24, 1981, was born in Carlisle, SC, on Nov. 27, 1917 to Mr. and Mrs. Ruben Thompson.

In 1945 he was discharged from the U.S. Army with honors after serving three years and receiving the Good Conduct Medal, World War II Victory Ribbon, and the European African Middle Eastern Service Ribbons. He joined the Army in 1942.

Mr. Thompson entered trade school in 1950 and earned a diploma in brick masonry. In 1952 he began working at Bethlehem Steel Shipyard where he retired after 27 years of service on Jan. 31, 1981.

He was married to Marguerite Mildred Thompson nee Smith.

Mr. Thompson is survived by his wife; his mother, Agnes Tucker; a son, Lawrence Thompson, Jr.; two daughters, Agnes M. Holmes and Barbara Ann Thompson; a sister, Essie White and a host of grandchildren, nieces and nephews and other close relatives and friends.

Liza Mauney, 54, dies

Funeral services for Liza Mauney, 54, were Saturday, Dec. 26, at William C. March Funeral Home. Interterment was in Baltimore Cemetery.

Mrs. Mauney died Dec. 22, 1981 after a long illness. She was born July 8, 1927 in Chase City, Va. She was daughter of the late James and Katie Mayo.

She attended Chase City schools and after her marriage to the late Harold Mauney, she made her home in Baltimore.

Mrs. Mauney is survived by three children and two sisters.

Larry Shell

Funeral Services for Larry Shell Sr. were Sunday, Dec. 27, 1981 at St. Paul Freewill Baptist Church. He was buried in Cedar Hill Cemetery.

Mr. Shell was the son of the late Jim and Hattie Shell. He was born in Lawrence, S.C. and died Dec. 21, 1981.

He was a member of Center Rabum Baptist Church in Lawrence. He moved to Baltimore in 1945 and attended Strangers Friend Baptist Church. He later joined St. Paul Freewill Baptist Church.

Mr. Shell is survived by his wife, Inez; three daughters, Addie Carter, Juanita Evans and Bernice Jetter; a son, Larry E. Shell Jr.; three sisters, Nannie K. Shell, of South Carolina, Lula Mae Boston of South Carolina and Minnie Ruff, of Ohio; two brothers, Vlary Shell of South Carolina and Dock Shell of North Carolina, 23 grandchildren, seven great grandchildren and a host of relatives and friends.

Rebecca Brown, South Carolina native, dies

Funeral services were Sunday, Dec. 27, 1981 for Rebecca Brown, 59, who died Tuesday, Dec. 22, 1981. The service was at First Mt. Olive Freewill Baptist Church and burial followed at Maryland Veterans Cemeterv.

Mrs. Brown was born Jan. 11, 1922 in Columbia, SC, to the late Teddy and Jannie Favor. She was educated in the public schools in South Carolina.

In 1942 she met and married James Oscar Brown and came to Baltimore in 1946.

She was employed by Read's Drug Stores for 25 years when she retired in 1971. Mrs. Brown also was employed at Leon's Pig Pen for eight years.

Mrs. Brown is survived by her husband; one son, Thomas Favor, Sr.; one daughter, Mabel Parker; five grandchildren, Anthony Parker, Thomas Favor, Jr., Pamela Parker and Zenobia Favor; two great - grandchildren; one daughter-in-law and one son-in-law.

George Jones, WW II veteran, dies

Funeral services for George Russell Jones, 71, were Monday, Dec. 21, at Elizabeth L. Phillips Funeral Home. Burial followed the next day at Crownsville Veterans Cemetery.

Mr. Jones was the son of the late Rev. John Jones and Vina Jones. He was the fifth of nine children and was born Feb. 18, 1910 in Dinwiddie County, Va.

He married Carrie Chapman Jan. 18, 1963 and was a member of Macedonia Baptist Church.

Mr. Jones served in the United States Navy during World War II. After the war, he worked at Maryland Shipbuilding & Drydocking for several years before joining Revere, Copper & Brass where he was employed 18 years.

Before his retirement, he worked as a part-time cab driver. Mr. Jones enjoyed fishing, gardening.

Mr. Jones is survived by his wife; a son, Billy Ross Jones, of Baltimore; one brother, Robert C. Jones of Baltimore; three sisters, Margaret M. Richardson of Baltimore, Hattie M. Jones of Brooklyn, NY, and and W. Clara Powe of Baltimore; and a host of relatives and friends.

Lucy Blue El

Funeral services for Lucy F. Blue El, 84, were Sunday, Dec. 27, 1981 at William C. March Funeral Home.

Mrs. Blue El, daughter of the late John and Esabelle McCoy, was born April 8, 1897 in North Thumblin County, Va and died at Provident Hospital Thursday, Dec. 24, 1981.

She received her education in Virginia and came to Baltimore, Md. where she met and married Arthur Blue El. They became members of the Morrish Science Temple of America in 1934.

Mrs. Blue El is survived by one son, Thomas Blue El, one daughter, Louise Wills; a grandson, Ronnie; and three granddaughters, Joyce, Sheila and Ula; one great grandson, Anthony and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Audrey C. Morton honored by friends

Almost 300 hundred people gathered at Friendship Baptist Church, Saturday Dec. 12, 1981, to pay tribute to Audrey Coleman Morton.

Persons from various churches throughout the City of Baltimore and the State of Maryland attended the ceremony. The theme for the evening was "We love and appreciate Audrey."

Among the tributes given Ms. Morton were those by the Rev. Harry Jackson, who baptized her, the Rev. Roosevelt Lunn, Mrs. Savannah Newton, Mrs. Dorsey and the Rev. William McCoy Jr., pastor of the church.

Ms. Morton also recieved a proclamation from Mayor William Donald Schaefer.

She said she was delighted with a "roast" by some of her longtime friends:

Jeanette Austin, Shirley Diggs, Eunice Farabee, John Griffin, Elizabeth Scipio and Mary Winston.

Ms. Morton is gifted with an abundance of musical talents, which she has given unselfishly. She serves as directress of the Voices of Friendship, the Mass Choir and the Combined Choir of Friendship Baptist Church.

Audrey Coleman Morton

She also is a member of the Board of Christian Education and chairs the music committee.

Ms. Morton was a music major at Douglass High School and also studied at the Peabody Conservatory of Music.

Falwell's 'Moral Majority' faltered in 1981

By Craig Sched

LYNCHBURG, VA. — The Rev. Jerry Falwell's many critics had plenty to smile about in 1981.

The founder of Moral Majority, who preaches his message of morality on radio and television stations around the country via the "Old - Time Gospel Hour" locked horns with a sexually explicit magazine and a supreme court nominee and lost.

He also saw his television audience decline, and his preferred candidates for statewide offices defeated.

The most publicized incident involving Falwell occurred in January, when the Baptist preacher's words and picture were splashed in the pages of Penthouse Magazine sandwiched between color photographs of a nude woman and an article on pimps.

Falwell persuaded a federal judge to temporarily stop distribution of the magazine and filed a $50 million libel suit, charging Penthouse would damage financial support for his ministry by making it appear he granted an interview to a "salacious" magazine. Falwell claimed, the magazine brought the material from free - lance writers without Falwell's knowledge.

A federal judge dismissed the law suit in August, chiding Falwell for "trampling" First Amendment guarantees of freedom of speech and the press.

Then Falwell appeared to shoot from the hip when a spokesman for the Moral Majority labeled Reagan's nomination to Sandra Day O'Connor to the Supreme Court a "mistake" and vowed to fight her nomination in the Senate because her past record on issues involving abortion and the Equal Rights Amendment.

After Falwell backed off, saying he would neither support nor oppose Mrs. O'Connor, he discovered she personally abhorred abortion.

The following and influence of Falwell, who in 1980 claimed a major role in the election of President Reagan and the new Republican majority in the Senate, began to be questioned.

Politicians shied away from public appearances with Falwell. After he said he would vote a straight Republican ticket in the Nov. 3 Virginia election, Democrats pulled off the first statewide sweep by either party in 16 years.

A poll showed 64 percent of Americans did not know enough about Falwell to form an opinion of him, while 24 percent had an unfavorable opinion and 7 percent had a favorable opinion.

In late November, the Television Information Office affiliated with networks said the audience for Falwell's "Old - Time Gospel Hour" slipped from roughly 1 million households in May 1980 to 835,000 in May 1981, despite an increase in the number of television stations (392) broadcasting the program.

A Harris Poll showed 66 percent of the public efforts by the Moral Majority — the political lobbying arm of Falwell's ministry — and other groups to pressure television networks to remove shows they considered immoral.

And Falwell was the target of a crescendo of sometimes blistering criticism from conservative patriarch Barry Goldwater, presidential candidate John Anderson, the presidents of Yale and Georgetown Universities, the Congressional Black Caucus, the National Organization for Women, the American Civil Liberties Union and others.

But by year's end, Falwell remained characteristically unperturbed.

"I would just say we've had more friends supporting the ministry than we've ever had," Falwell said (Dec. 9, when asked if he believed his influence had declined. "That's the only tangible I can go by."

Falwell said contributions to his ministry increased from $50 million in the 1979 - 80 fiscal year to $64 million in 1980 - 81, enrollment at Liberty Baptist College reached an all - time high of 5,003 and "we've had more reported conversions to Christ in 1981 (40,000) than we've ever had."

He said 4.5 million families were on the "Old - Time Gospel Hour" mailing list and another 1 million families were members of Moral Majority.