Kelly Hill

SINGLE PARENTING

YOU DON'T HAVE TO SPEND CHRISTMAS ALONE

'Tis the Season to be Jolly! That may be easy for you to say, but what about those unfortunate parents who will be spending Xmas alone.

You don't have to. There are a lot of things going on both here in Baltimore and Washington. There are numerous parties to get in tune with right in your own local neighborhood. Most of your local Happy Hour spots will be having Xmas parties.

There is the D.C. Connection for Singles, The Singles Center in Columbia, MD the Downtown Hyatt, Pikesville Hilton Inn, Maryland Singles at the Holiday Inn Cromwell, and of course, Black Single Parents Without Partners. You can get the phone number from your local directory.

If you can't make any of those happenings, try cutting down your own Xmas tree. Invite some friends over and have a warm cozy evening.

For those who may feel depressed on Xmas day, invite your friends over for a Xmas-Eve bash. This can be with an intimate friend or with a group.

How about making your own homemade decorations, such popcorn strung together to trim around the tree. Have a friend help you. Have a tree trimming party.

On Xmas eve, for those who like a little quiet there are Xmas Eve Church masses all over Baltimore. At other area churches they will have Xmas activities.

If you don't have custody of your children, and you know you won't be able to spend Xmas day with them, try planning for the weekend. Most of the local theaters have Xmas movies and Peter Pan is in town.

On Saturday, December 15, Black Single Parents as a group will attempt to master the skill of cutting down our own trees. If you are a member and have not been contacted call 466-5554.

Locations for cutting down your own are: Anne Arundel County, 255-2683; Howard County, 465-2565; Glenwood Gardens, 442-2100; Howard County YMCA, 387-4388 and Montgomery County, 387-4555.

Have Fun!

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Scenes from Me De So Dinner-Dance-Christmas Party

MRS. MABLE YOUNG (L) greets Mrs. Bernice McDaniels during the Me De So Wives Christmas Dinner-Dance-Party hosted Saturday, Dec. 1 at La Fontaine Bleu, Erdman Ave. Guests enjoyed dancing to the tunes of the Dennis Fisher Band. Me De So Wives president is Mrs. Mildred Campbell. Chair for the Christmas Dinner-Dance-Party was Mrs. Louise Owens.

ENJOYING A WHIRL AROUND THE DANCE FLOOR are Mr. and Mrs. Nathaniel Jackson.

EXCHANGING LIVELY PARTY BANTER are (from left) Bea Wright and Merita Stokes.

ALL GLAMOUR are (L to R) Gloria Massey, Elizabeth Morton and Gwen Hilton.

—More Partyline

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Sparrows Point Country Club for more than 250 relatives and friends.

The honoree arrived by limousine and joined in the Receiving Line with her daughter, Ruby Mae Kirton of Xenia, OH; Howard Patterson and his wife Helen, Theodore and his wife Sylvia.

Cocktail music was provided by the talented Statham Family, longtime friends of the Pattersons, Calvin Statham and his sisters, Clara Green and Betty Coleman, all Baltimore County music teachers.

Immediately following dinner a special video presentation with music on monitors throughout the dining room recalled the honoree's life in Sparrows Point.

Other highlights of the evening included a special toast by her only grandson, Chavis Patterson, a Senior at Tufts University, as he presided over a six-tiered Birthday Cake.

Mavilyn Statham accompanied by her husband, Calvin, dedicated a moving rendition of "I Believe" followed by the singing of Happy Birthday.

Her granddaughters, Angela Patterson, a senior at Wake Forest University, and Devy Patterson, a freshman at Duke University, performed an original skit recounting many of their grandmother's admonitions.

To round out the evening, Mack Statham and his son, Robert, entertained in a special piano duet including music from "Cats" and "Rachmaninoff Concerto No.4."

The 90 year old honoree elegantly thanked her many friends and relatives for sharing this special occasion.

Acting as hostess were her other granddaughters, Madeline Kirton, a junior at Wright State University, Dayton, OH; Vikki Kirton, a social worker at The Martin Luther King Hospital, Los Angeles, CA; Tina Patterson, Assistant Property Manager for McClean Gardens.

The spectacular event was orchestrated by yet another granddaughter, Gina Patterson, Assistant Program Director-MCTAP, of Baltimore's CEBO.

After fond farewells, Mrs. Patterson was whisked away by her waiting chauffeured limousine after a night to remember.

Among the out-of-town guests were Virginia Williams and Joan Foxworthy of Xenia, OH; Marie Williams of New York; Michele Prough of Lake George, NY; Bernard Carter of Los Angeles, CA, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Flood of Mount Holly, NJ; Dr. and Mrs. Cornelius Lewis of Petersburg, VA., Mrs. A.P. Tureaud of New Orleans, LA., Mr. and Mrs. Robert Curbean of Richmond, VA and Dr. Hamill Jamabadesa of Hampton, VA. The remainder of the guests hailed from the Baltimore - Washington Metropolitan areas.

WO-BE-CO MEET AT WORLD TRADE CENTER

It was a beautiful Sunday afternoon when members, relatives and friends of Wo-Be-Co (Women Behind the Community, Inc.) met at the World Trade Center recently.

They were greeted by Essie and Wendell Sutton, Wendell, a volunteer at the Center, led the group on a tour, giving an excellent presentation on the history and growth of Baltimore.

Wo-Be-Co is the community service organization that honored Judge Joseph C. Howard (and member Carolyn Howard) when the World Trade Center first opened. Wo-Be-Co was the first black organization to use the center.

After the tour the group strolled across the inner harbor to the Hyatt Regency for dinner in the Skylight Room. The talk centered around their program for the year and again welcoming two members — Verna Jones and Phyllis Nelson.

Attending this rewarding activity were Mary and Charles Robinson, Sara and Kenneth Jergins, Marion and Alphonso Scarborough, Vera and Jerome Dorsey, Essie and Wendall Sutton, Gwendolyn Howard, Carolyn Holmes, Phyllis and Robert Nelson, Verna Jones, Amy and Charles Taylor, Barbara and Owen Lee, Connie Lowe, Cardrienne and James Griffin, Julia Winbourne and Shirley Kane.

Wo-Be-Co continues to serve the community. They provided a financial contribution to Constant Care Community Center's recent holiday party.

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These are just some of the guests Battimore is in touch with on WBAL Radio's BLACK JOURNEY with Rev. Bernard Keels and Richard Rowe

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Religion In Modern Life

On the corner evangelism: Is it effective?

By Eddie King
AFRO Religion Editor

"Bless you ma'am."

"The Lord loves you."

"Bless you in the name of Jesus"

"Jesus really is your savior."

And the quotes increase, usually by at least 10 within a 60-second increment in which evangelists of a different sort stand on street corners proclaiming their gospel.

Some have been at it for years and others only a day, but all itching to reach some conscience, some deep commitment. The faiths vary, the Gods—characteristically the same; the methods of delivery—congruent; the styles, versatile.

The prevalence of street corner evangelists in downtown Baltimore is hard not to notice or, in many instances, hard not to hear. From uses of enlargened megaphones to carefully toned instruments, small crusades, ranging from self-contained services to group Bible teachings, compete for just one listening ear to the cause.

In spite of the dedication of these unique ministers who brave the cold, the snow and some even the rain to deliver their message, there is a great deal of resistance—enough to make one wonder how effective is on-the-corner-evangelism.

Some interpret street preachers as tyrannical hustlers attempting to impose their beliefs while others view them as reverent and impressive ambassadors of God.

"I just think they ought to keep it in the church," said Clay Turner of the 2500 block of Ruscombe Lane. "There is nothing wrong with it, but I'd go to church if I wanted to hear it. I could say I'd just keep walking and ignore it, but I think I have a right not to hear it at all."

"I just do not see anything wrong with it at all," insists Laura Martin of the 600 block of Fremont Ave. "They just might reach someone. Gosh, is it effective. If only one person is reached, that's good. That one person could be committed to something else,

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A SONG OR TWO will do just as well, according to musician Avery Montgomery who has been playing on the streets of Baltimore for more than 20 years.

DRIVING HER POINT is Evangelist Minnie Wooten to an interested passer-byer on corner of Howard and Lexington Streets.

(AFRO Photos by Paul A. Greene)

Bishops in Baltimore

The International Bishops' Conference is bringing one of its prestigious chapters to Baltimore City headed by Bishop Isiah Hill, pastor of First Baptist Church in Backriver, Md.

The conference will hold its first meeting at Zion Baptist Church, Caroline and Lanvale Sts., on Monday, December 17, 7:30 p.m.

An organization of 12 city ministers of various denominations will meet for one hour, discussing controversial issues relevant to the times.

After the discussion, the group will initiate possible stances and solutions as is appropriate and begin to construct a plan by which the various denominational groups can work together and operate by that plan.

The main thrust of the ministries is not to accumulate large sums of monies just to "set on it", according to Bishop Hill, "but to let monies flow to and through each ministry."

The 12 ministers interviewed and selected for the conference will not be named until next week, but the Bishop says he is working coherently with the members to be.

Bishop Hill did say that some of the local ministers who will be in the conference are presently overseeing congregations in not only this city but Florida, England and other states.

On December 16 through the 20, a crusade will be sponsored at First Baptist Church, a crusade carefully planned with seminars, rap sessions and services, educating people about the new area organization.

The basic plan of the group is to let one million dollars flow to and through each ministry. With a $10 million goal set for the program, an event planned for next year is expected to gross one million dollars. No information is being released about the event until next year.

Rev. Isiah Hill

Albertina Walker to be in town

Singer Albertina Walker will be in concert with her Mass Choir on Saturday, December 15, 7:30 p.m., at Jones Tabernacle Baptist Church, 2100 W. Baltimore Street.

Known as one of the most versatile gospel singers in the industry, Ms. Walker is a disc jockey in her hometown of Chicago and has sung with mostly all of the renown gospel artists.

Once a member of the famous Caravans, her album, "Please Be Patient With Me," received the Davitieus award in 1980. Her latest album featuring hit "Spread The Word" is currently one of the highest rated tunes around.

Also on the program will be Milton Bingham, Recording King Choral Ensemble, Young Adult Choir of Southern Baptist Church and the Singing Deacons.

Albertina Walker

Metro Church Briefs

Mt. Lebanon Baptist

Rev. Dr. Olin P. Moyd and congregation of Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church will worship with Fellowship Church of Christ, 1725 Division St., on Friday, December 14, 8 p.m. Senior Choir will render music.

Mt. Pisgah C.M.E.

A Christmas bazaar and spaghetti dinner will be sponsored at Mt. Pisgah C.M.E. Church, Fulton and Biggs Aves., on Sat., December 15, 10 a.m.

Old Landmark Baptist

A candlelight Christmas in song featuring the Combined Choirs of The Old Landmark Baptist Church, 810 N. Broadway, under the direction of Winston R. Gray will be held on Sat., Dec. 15, 7 p.m.

Garrison Boulevard U.M.

Family and Friends Day will be celebrated at Garrison Blvd. U.M. Church, 2504 Garrison Blvd., on Sunday, December 16. 11 a.m. service will feature Rev. Joseph Cater as morning speaker; 3:30 p.m., Rev. Roscoe Williams.

Central Baptist

Children's Choir of Central Baptist Church will be in a Christmas cantata to be held at Macedonia Baptist Church, Lafayette and Fremont Aves., on Sunday, December 16, 2:30 p.m.

Simmons Memorial Baptist

There will be a five choir recital at Simmons Memorial Baptist Church, Pennsylvania Ave. and Cumberland St., on Sunday, December 16, 8 p.m. Featured choirs will be the Original Silver Leaf Singers, The Family Circle, Male Chorus of Southern Baptist, Male Chorus of Simmons Memorial and the Thomas Gospel Choir of Ashbury United Methodist of Severna Park.

Berean Baptist

A candlelight concert will be held at Berean Baptist Church, 5200 Denmore Ave., on Sunday, December 16. For further info. call 367-7116.

Bethel A.M.E.

Class leaders at Bethel A.M.E. invite you to participate in the Total Church Institute to be held December 14 through 16 at the church, 1300 Druid Hill Ave. Speakers will be Rev. Sujay Johnson, Rev. O'neal Mackey, Dr. James Forbes and Dr. John Bryant. Registration fee is $5. For further info. call 523-4273.

Northeast Baptist

Senior Citizens Day at the Northeast Baptist Church will take place on Sunday, December 16, 11 a.m. Church is located 2301 Mayfield Ave.

Grace U.M.

A concert of carols will be presented by the Chancel Choir and solo on Sunday, Dec. 16, 4:30 p.m. at Grace United Methodist Church, 5407 N. Charles St. The program will feature "Fantasia on Christmas Carols" by Ralph Williams and other seasonal music.

Centennial U.M.

Mother's Club of Centennial United Methodist Church, 1029 E. Monument St., will hold a "Help the Needy" dinner on December 16, 1:30 p.m. $2 plus two cans of food for Christmas baskets.

Mt. Calvary Freewill Baptist

United Male Choruses in Fellowship will be in concert on Sunday, December 16, 7 p.m., at the Mt. Calvary Freewill Baptist Church, 1607 E. Oliver St., featuring the Combined Male Choruses of Mt. Calvary, St. Joseph, Sweet Hope, Siloam and Holy Temple Freewill Baptist Churches.

Highway Christian

Missionary Auxiliary of Highway Christian Church, 1100 Homewood Ave., will be celebrating their 27th anniversary on Sunday, December 16, 3:45 p.m.

Mt. Lebanon Baptist

Board of Ushers will be celebrating their anniversary at Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church, Reisterstown Rd., on Sunday, December 16, 3 p.m.

Mt. Pisgah C.M.E.

A night of miracles will be sponsored at Mt. Pisgah C.M.E. Church, 1036 N. Fulton Ave., on Friday, December 21, 7:30 p.m. Pastor Christine Stimpson will be preaching.

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