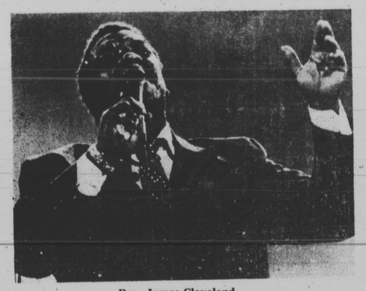
Religion In Modern Life

Area receives noted visitors this week

Gospel great Rev. James Cleveland and human rights activist Dick Gregory will be among guests visiting area churches this week.



Rev. James Cleveland

Activist Dick Gregory will be the featured speaker this Saturday, January 12, at a Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration Ceremony to be held at St. John A.M.E. Church, 810 N. Carrollton St., beginning at 3 p.m. Admission is $5.

Other guests expected will be Pastor John R. Bryant (Bethel A.M.E.) and several city and state officials including Councilman Kweisi Mfume.

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Singer Rev. Donald Vails of Detroit will be at New Psalmist Baptist Church on Sunday, January 13, 5 p.m. along with the D.C. Chapter of the Rev. James Cleveland Gospel Music Workshop Choir of America, Kenneth Louis and Phase I and Henry Davis and Company. Admission is free.

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Rev. James Cleveland will be at Gillis Memorial Christian Community Church, 4016 Park Heights Ave., on Tuesday, January 15, 8 p.m along with the Thonepp Thornes Trio, Roland Joe Smith, Deacon Tommy Roberts and Rev. Marie Walker Robinson. Admission is $6.

For further information about any of the events, interested persons are encouraged to contact sponsoring churches.

Dick Gregory

Ministerial election results almost same as last year

Rev. Alfred C.D. Vaughn, pastor of Grace Memorial Baptist Church, was unanimously re-elected as president of the prestigious Baptist Ministers' Conference this week.

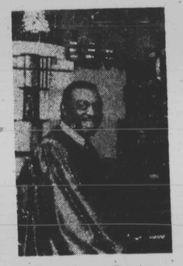
Joining in re-election ceremonies was Rev. Douglas I. Miles, pastor of Brown's Memorial Baptist Church, who was given his second chance unanimously as president of the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance (IMA)

Elections this week also found Rev. Claveron Burston, owner and operator of Upward Way Church Supply stores and pastor of Mt. Hattin Baptist Church, the new president of the United Baptist Ministers' Evening Conference of Baltimore and Vicinity (UBM)

Other officers elected to the board of IMA include Rev. Sidney Daniels, 1st Vice President; Elder W.E. Howell, 2nd Vice President; Rev. Richard Kelly, secretary; Rev. Mamie Williams, treasurer; and Rev. Rev. Hollie Reeves, Provident Hospital Chaplain. Rev. Kelly is the only officer serving a first term.

Other UBM officers elected are Rev. Curtis Williams, 1st Vice President; Rev. Thomas Batte, 2nd Vice President; Rev. Willie Green, recording secretary; Rev. Claudette Britt, asst. recording secretary; Rev. Frank Bell, treasurer; Rev. Clifton Freeman, financial secretary; Rev. Melvin Tuggle, Sunday School commentator; Rev. Howard Dawson, news commentator; Rev. Fletcher Miller, assistant news commentator.

Rev. Douglas Miles



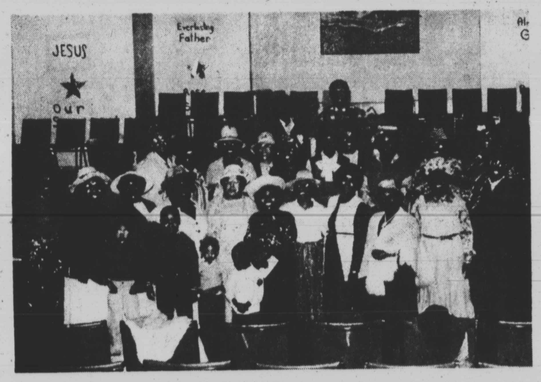
Rev. Claveron Burston

Rev. Sidney Daniels

Rev. Alfred C. D. Vaughn

Officers for the Baptist Ministers' Conference were not available at AFRO presstime.

United Drama Guild of First United Church sponsors comedy



Members of the cast of "The Slabtown District Convention" pose for a pix.

The Drama Guild of First United Church of Jesus Christ, 5150 Baltimore National Pike, will be presenting Nannie Burrough's play "The Slabtown District Convention" on Saturday, January 19 at 7:30 p.m.

The play is a satire on the black church, focusing specifically on some of the personalities that make or break a church's ability to function productively.

A cast well over 25 execute the tempers needed to scold a "Miss Crabtree" or calm a "Miss Scrouge."

Often labeled as one of the funniest Christian productions, "The Slabtown District Convention" is every bit likened to any Christian convention witnessed.

There are worship services, district reports and seminars that all make actions relatable to a religious veteran.

Directing the play is musician Esther Saunders Faulkner who heads the Guild at First United.

Mrs. Faulkner insists that there is a lot to be learned from a production of the sort, focusing on the many messages delivered through extemporaneous speeches by conventioneers.

"You cannot help but learn a lot," she says. "A lot of the material will make you stop and think. It made us stop and think, and I am sure there are characters with personalities that we all can relate to.

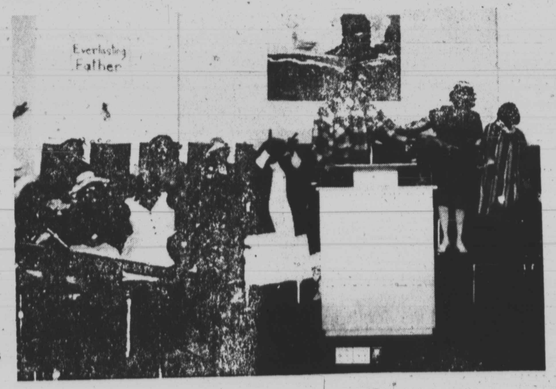
"It is funny observing these scenes in a play that we know can very well apply to a number of members right in our own churches. I think at the end, this will be an enjoyable experience as well as an informative one."

The Slabtown Convention takes place in a little fictitious town called Happy Hollow. It is the 10th annual session of the meeting and is presided over by the Rev. Napoleon Socrates Stepand-Fetchit.

Names in the play are obviously meant to fit the personality of each character and are, in themselves, contributory to the play's humor.

While the characters in the play frequently insult the intelligence of another, they do offer real and viable suggestions for dealing with crises for any organization or auxiliary leader.

Bishop Monroe R. Saunders is the pastor of the church. Admission is $6.



A SCENE FROM PLAY "THE SLABTOWN DISTRICT CONVENTION" focuses on Rev. Stepin Fetchit telling the gospel like it should or should not be.

Metro Church Briefs

Refuge Way of the Cross

Refuge Way of the Cross Church of Christ, 43rd St. and Old York Road, will have a revival throughout the rest of the month beginning 7:30 p.m. nightly with Bishop Leroy H. Cannady, Sr. as the featured speaker.

Bethel A.M.E.

Christian Singles of Bethel A.M.E. Church, 1300 Druid Hill Ave., will be sponsoring a bowling party on Saturday, January 5, 7 p.m. For more information call Martin at 433-8969.

Northeast A.M.E.

Beginning Sunday, January 6 and continuing, free problem cigarette smoking treatment needs assessment and referral will be sponsored by the Northeast A.M.E. Congregation, 1111 E. Coldspring Lane, immediately following 11 a.m. worship service.

Mt. Pleasant Baptist

Rev. Clifford M. Johnson, pastor of Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, will be the featured speaker at Ray of Hope Baptist Church on Friday, January 11 for the celebration of the church and pastor's anniversary. On Sunday, January 13, Rev. Linwood Robinson of Greater Harvest Baptist Church will be the 4 p.m. speaker for the occasion. Ray of Hope is located 3000 Parkside Drive.

St. Matthews

Missionaries of St. Matthews Gospel Tabernacle Apostolic Faith Church, 1907 Rosedale St., cordially invite you to join in their first revival service beginning Wednesday, January 16 through Friday, January 18 at 8 p.m. nightly and ending on Sunday, January 20 at 7:30 p.m. Guest speaker will be Elder William A. Thomas, Sr.

Refuge Way of the Cross

The film "Burning Hell" will be Friday, January 18 at the Refuge Way of the Cross Church of Christ, East 43rd and Old York Road, 6:30 p.m.

—AREA OBITUARIES—

Harry A. Bryan

Funeral services we held on Saturday, December 22, 1984, for Harry A. Bryan at the William C. March Funeral Home. Burial was held at the Maryland Veterans Cemetery on Monday, December 24.

Bryan was the son of Riddle Mae and George K. Bryan, Sr. He was born on August 30, 1932 in Chester, PA.

He was educated at the Booker T. School in Dover, DE. He married the former Geraldine Morris.

Bryan made numerous friends wherever he went and he will sincerely be missed by everyone who knew him.

He is survived by his wife Geraldine, three daughters, four sisters and eight brothers.

Mrs. Maggie W. Sheppard

Funeral services were held on Monday, December 24, for Maggie Willis Sheppard at the William C. March Funeral Home.

Mrs. Sheppard was born on March 9, 1889 in Cumberland County, Virginia to Louisa Bonaparte and Carey Willis.

She came to Baltimore in 1917 and later married Junius Sheppard.

In her early adulthood, Mrs. Sheppard was a member of the Mt. Zion Baptist Church. Later, she joined the St. Paul Freewill Baptist Church.

She is survived by her four children, Dorothy Saunders and Anderson, Junius and Milton Sheppard and one sister, Julia Ellis of Hartford, Connecticut.

Mrs. Estelle McAllister

Memorial services were held on Thursday, December 27 for Estelle McAllister Simms at the Fellowship Pentecostal Church of America, Inc. Burial was held in King Memorial Park.

Mrs. Simms was the daughter of Rosie and Samual Johnson. She was born on July 15, 1929 in Baltimore, Md. She was educated in the Baltimore City public school system.

She was a member of the True Fellowship Pentecostal Church of America.

She leaves to mourn her husband, four sons, Leroy, Tyrone, Eugene and Tony, three daughters, Roselee, Linda and Lenora and four sisters.

Ralph West

Ralph West, a 40-year resident of Baltimore City, died Saturday night, December 21, at his home in the 1900 block of Mosher St. He was 70-years-old.

Born December 21, 1914 in Orangeburg County, S.C., he had been employed locally at the P. Ffam Cement Finishing Company.

Funeral services were Thursday, December 27 at William C. March Funeral Home. Burial was at the Mount Zion Cemetery.

Mr. West is survived by one brother, Leroy West; four sisters, Dasher Floyd, Jernell Minus, Malisha Bratcher and Nora West.

Mrs. Ellen Robinson

Mrs. Ellen Robinson, one of six children born to Samuel and Fannie Easley in Halifax, Va. on July 29, 1891, died on Saturday, December 22.

She had attended public schools in Halifax. Later she married Johnnie Robinson, also of Halifax.

A faithful church member and a deaconess, last rites were held for her at Miracle Temple S.D.A. Church on Thursday, December 27. Burial was at the Mt. Auburn Cemetery.

She is survived by two daughters, Annie Easley and Evelyn Robinson; brother, Samuel Easley; 16 grandchildren, 35 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

Mrs. Martha J. Alston

Mrs. Martha Jane Alston, daughter of Thornton and Mary Jackson, died on December 23 after a lengthy illness. She was born December 13, 1923 in Mount Hope, W.Va.

Her education was received at Mt. Hope Duboys High School.

Employment was held in Baltimore City for a number of years.

Marriage came to Robert Alston.

Funeral services were Thursday, December 27, at William C. March Funeral Home. Burial was at the Baltimore National Cemetery.

She is survived by one son, Francis Green; sister, Mary Cuppens; four grandchildren.

Mrs. Fannie Williams

Funeral services were held on Sunday, December 23, 1984 for Fannie E. Williams at the Eastside Baptist Church. Burial was held on December 24 at the Baltimore Cemetery.

Ms. Williams was born on November 4, 1922 in Person County, North Carolina. She was the daughter of James And Elizabeth Williams.

She graduated from the Roxboro Training School in Roxboro, North Carolina. She worked for the Lincoln Memorial Nursing Home until 1968.

Ms. Williams was an avid churchgoer and an active member of the Eastside Baptist Church where she served as a member of the Senior Choir and the Pastor's Aide Board. She will be greatly missed by everyone who knew and loved her.

She is survived by one daughter, Thelma J. Owens, one son, John O. Williams, two sisters, Mabel Brandon and Mollie Ferges and one brother, Clem Herman Williams.

Mrs. Lela McDaniels

Memorial services were held for Lelea McDaniel on Saturday, December 22, 1984 at the Kingdon Hall-Jehovah's Witnesses. Burial was held at the Loudon Park Cemetery.

Mrs. McDaniel was the eldest child of Eliza and James Henry Martin. She was born on February 10, 1903 in Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina.

She was educated in the Roanoke Rapids public school system and later moved to Baltimore.

She was married to Jack McDaniel.

In 1969, Mrs. Daniel became one of Jehovah's Witnesses.

She is survived by two sons, George and Jack, one daughter, Mrs. Gloria Pompey, one granddaughter, Lelea Lewis, four brothers, Melton and Clennie Martin of Washington, DC, David Martin of New York, and Cecil Martin and two sisters, Mrs. Sally Long of Louisiana and Katherine Hopper of Baltimore.

Walter Robinson, Jr.

Funeral services for Walter Robinson, Jr., retired Johns Hopkins Hospital employee, were Thursday, December 27 at William C. March Funeral Home. Burial was at the Baltimore National Cemetery.

Mr. Robinson received his education in Baltimore City Public Schools. At 18, he became employed with the Baltimore Brick Company and later retired from Johns Hopkins.

He served four years in Burma Bay, India in the United States Army.

He married Ruth Robinson.

Mr. Robinson died after a short illness on December 23.

He is survived by his mother, Irene Robinson; brother, Edward Robinson; sister, Helen Venable; four daughters, Loretta Nelson, Vanessa Jenkins, Rhonda Brown and Angie Robinson; three sons, Stanley Robinson, Dennis and Malcom Brown; 25 grandchildren and 15 great-great-great grandchild.

John L. Hargrove

Memorial services were held for John L. Hargrove on Sunday, December 23 at the William C. March Funeral Home. Burial was held on Monday, December 24 at the Arbutus Memorial Park.

Hargrove was the son of Esau and Laura Hargrove. He was born on March 17, 1941 in Manson, North Carolina. He was a graduate of Carver High School in Baltimore.

He is survived by his mother, two brothers, Walter and Edmond, and two sisters, Virginia Hargrove and Lillie Hall.

St. Mark's
United Methodist Church
St. Thomas Virgin Islands Fling
July '85
8 Days-7 Nights
$550
Deposit $25.00 Due Jan. 30
For More Information Call 542-0355 or 66

Jessie Bumbry

Jessie Bumbray died on December 18 after a lengthy illness.

Born August 22, 1880 to Fanny and John Bumbray of Baltimore, Mr. Bumbray attended local publich schools. He later owned and operated a successful moving and hauling business.

He was married to Marjorie Jackson Bumbray.

Mr. Bumbray's funeral services were held Thursday, December 27 at William C. March Funeral Home. Burial was at the Mount Zion Cemetery.

He is survived by one son, Jessie Jr.; eight grandchildren, 11 great grandchildren and one great great grandchild.

Prior to his illness, he had been a long-time member of Macedonia Baptist Church.

Harry Kinlaw

Henry Kinlaw, a retired Western Maryland Railway Coal Pier employee died December 21 at the John L. Deaton Home.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, Dec. 26 at William C. March Funeral Home. Burial was at the Mt. Auburn Cemetery.

Son of Arthur and Ethel West, he was born December 8, 1921 in Simpson, S.C., having received his early education and early religious training in a small Baptist church in the town.

He came to Baltimore as a young man in 1939, got a job as a crane operator at the Bethlehem Steel Company and worked there for four years.

In 1943, he began working at the Western Maryland Railway Coal Pier at Port Covington, Md. and remained for 26 years, retiring in 1970.

Mr. Kinlaw was married to Dorothy Long on July 2, 1947.

He was a lover of sports and billiards.

He is survived by his wife, Dorothy Kinlaw, son Chistopher, brother Henry West; sister, Lillie West.

Mrs. Alice Lee Copes

Memorial services were held on Thursday, December 27 for Alice Lee Copes at the William C. March Funeral Home. Burial was held at Dee's Chapel Cemetery in Horntown, Va.

Ms. Copes was the daughter of Alena and James H. Copes. She was born on December 4, 1941 in Accomack County, Va. She received her education in Accomack County Public Schools.

At an early age, she moved to Baltimore. She was employed by the Lowery Nursing Home and was a member of the Macedonia Baptist Church, Pocomoke City, Maryland.

She is survived by two brothers, William James Copes, Sr., of Pocomoke City, MD., and Hargis Fletcher of Baltimore, two sisters, Catherine Fields of Baltimore, and Delois Singleton of Pocomoke City.

Lott Carey Convention sends $100,000 to Ethiopia

According to Dr. Wendell C. Somerville, executive secretary treasurer, the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention has forwarded directly one hundred thousand ($100,000.00) dollars for the relief of the thousands of sufferers in Ethiopia.

The funds were received by the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention from its members and friends as of Dec. 31, 1984.

Dr. Somerville further states that since Jan. 1, additional funds have been received by the Lott Carey Headquarters Office in Washington, D.C. for the crisis in Ethiopia. Dr. Somerville states further, that all of these funds are forwarded without any cost to churches, or the several donors.

Currently, the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention has one hundred thirty-three (133) Missionaries in Guyana, India, Nigeria, and Liberia; and all of these workers are paid through the end of Jan. 31.

Metro church briefs

Metropolitan Community

Metropolitan Community Church of Baltimore, 211 Wilson St., is offering a Christian Education Series exploring the Biblical basis for Christian social action and how to meet human needs here in Baltimore from 6-7:30 p.m. On January 30, a discussion on gay-lesbian civil rights and the response to the religious right. For further information, call 523-6363 Mon. - Thurs., 12-5 p.m.

St. John A.M.E.

The Churchwide Music Committee of St. John A.M.F. Church, 810 N. Carrollton Ave., is sponsoring noted soprano Annette Houston in recital on Sunday, February 17, 5 p.m. $5.

Miss Christian Teen

Miss Christian Teen Pageant will be held at the Baltimore Convention Center on March 9. For further info. call Gloria Temple, 687-4905.

St. Mary's Seminary

Clergy, Laity concerned and the Education Committee of the Progressive Economic Development Corporation will present a seminar-panel discussion on liberation theology as it concerns women, blacks and Third World countries on Saturday, February 23, 7 p.m. at St. Mary's Seminary, 5400 Roland Ave.

Myerhoff Symphony Hall

Virginia Union University Choir will be in concert on March 10 for Trinity Baptist Church, 1601 Druid Hill Ave., at the Meyerhoff Symphony Hall.

Requiem
For Brother Martin
Work for Chorus and Orchestra
by
Rev. Charles Walker, Conducting
A Startling Performance
In Memory of
Dr. Martin Luther King
Franklin Plaza
16th and Race Sts.
Philadelphia, Pa.
January 15, 1985
8:15 P.M. Awards
Tickets $5, $10, $15
Ticketron John Wanamaker
Call 648-3928

Nearly $50,000 raised for African famine relief

Local American Red Cross Chapters have raised over $50,000 to support League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies' relief efforts in drought-ravaged Africa.

These efforts are part of a multi-million dollar national fund-raising campaign launched late last year by the American Red Cross.

The League, which has been in Africa for over 50 years, is working in 14 of the most severely affected counties, including Ethiopia, Mali, Mauritania, Sudan and Senegal.

It will need almost $70 million to carry out feeding, medical and long-range food production programs in 1985 targeted to help children, pregnant and nursing women and the elderly.

Over 185 million people are in danger of starving to death in 27 African countries struck by long-term drought conditions, complicated by civil war and economic troubles.

The Red Cross estimates that only $4 will help feed a starving child for one month while $24 will feed a family for one month

Financial contributions can be sent to: American Red Cross African Famine Relief; P.O. Box 19512; Washington, DC 20036.

St. Bernadine

Mrs. Alease Gray is sponsoring a trip to New York to see "Mama, I Want To Sing" on April 27 for the benefit of Women's Day at St. Bernadine's Roman Catholic Church, 3812 Edmondson Ave..

(METROPOLITAN SPIRITUAL)
CORNERSTONE CHURCH OF CHRIST
4239 Park Heights Aenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21215
LOGAN KEARSE, D.D., LL.D., S.T.D., Founder and Pastor
and
INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT, METROPOLITAN SPIRITUAL CHURCHES OF CHRIST
SUNDAY, JANUARY 13, 1985
10:50 a.m. ..... Morning Worship
Dr. Kearse, Preaching
8:30 p.m. ..... Evening Worship
10:05 p.m. - 11 p.m. - Broadcast Service over WITH, 123AM
"ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE TO THEM THAT BELIEVE"

ST. JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH
LAFAYETTE SQUARE
The Clergy
The Rev. Donald O. Wilson, D.D., L.H.D., Rector
The Rev. Robert T. Ford, III, D.D., Deacon
Mr. Maurice Murphy, Mus.D., Choirmaster-Organist
SUNDAY, JANUARY 13, 1985
9:00 A.M. Family Service—Church School
8:00 A.M. Holy Communion
11:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist Sermon
The public is cordially invited to attend.

MORNING STAR BAPTIST CHURCH OF CHRIST
"The Witnessing Church"
1063 West Fayette Street
SUNDAY, JANUARY 13, 1985
8:00 A.M. — Prayer and Spiritual Healing Service
9:00 A.M. — Church School
9:50 A.M. — Church/Community Hour
10:50 A.M. — Morning Worship
MUSIC The Anthem — "Fear Not O'Land"
The Spiritual — "My Soul Been Anchored in the Lord" — Johnson
Preaching — "Choose Life" — Dr. Ray
3:30 P.M. — The Lottie Henry Nurses Unit Anniversary
Wednesday, January 16, 1985, 7 P.M. Martha W. Preston Bible Class and Prayer Service. Preacher, Reverend James Yelity.
DR. SAMUEL RAY, PASTOR

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