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Handy Reusable Plastic Container
½-gal. cont. 1.99
SUPER SPECIAL

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Swift Premium Canned Hams
3-lb. can 7.59
5-lb. can 11.99
SUPER SPECIAL

USDA Grade A
Giant Food Large Eggs
dozen ctn. 69¢
SUPER SPECIAL

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Giant Food Chunk Tuna
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100% Pure
Giant Food Mayonnaise
BONUS SPECIAL
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Morton Casserole
Macaroni & Cheese
BONUS SPECIAL
8-oz. pkg. 59¢

Fresh
California Asparagus
lb. 99¢

WE WILL BE
CLOSED EASTER SUNDAY
So that our associates may enjoy the holiday.
WE WILL BE OPEN REGULAR HOURS EASTER MONDAY.

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or Carrot Cake 3.5-oz.
4.5-oz. pkg.
Reg. 1.29
64¢

Chicken, Shrimp or Meat & Shrimp
Chun King Egg Rolls
7.25-oz. pkg. of 12
Reg. 1.19
59¢

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The Living Church

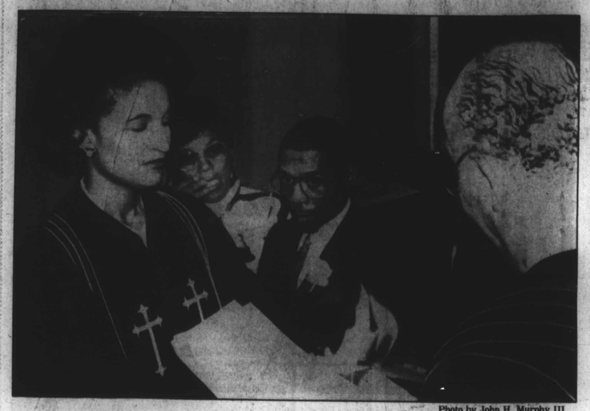

Photo by John H. Murphy III

The historic Oak St. AME Church, 2311 N. Howard St. held its mortgage burning service on Sunday, March 27. Pictured left to right are Rev. Vashti McKenzie, the pastor; trustees Desney Wheeler and Clarence Carter and Bishop John Hurst Adams.

Oak St. burns mortgage

Historic mortgage burning ceremonies combined with the celebration of Palm Sunday, March 27 at Oak Street A.M.E. Church, 2311 N. Howard St. where the Rev. Vashti McKenzie is the pastor.

Presiding over the mortgage burning and delivering the morning sermon was Bishop John Hurst Adams, presiding prelate of the Second Episcopal District.

"I'm so glad to be back at Oak Street," he said at least five times. The audience applauded generously.

"God can transform tragedy into victory," he said. "If you wait, it will come by sooner or later. He rewarded tragedy of Good Friday... and the same Jesus you killed is alive and well. God by his grace divine can transform tragedy."

In the actual burning of the mortgage Bishop Adams said "We believe this church is a simple expression of your love to God and for the African Methodist Episcopal Church. With gratitude and thanksgiving in our hearts, we give God the praise. Let not this accomplishment, however, be the end of all your strivings, but let it mark the beginning of greater service for the church..."

Trustees who participated in the ceremony were Richard Burrell, Willard Hayes, vice-chairmen; Desney Wheeler, Mary Wynder, Amee Ameliera Horne, Tucker Mosby, Gerald Mason, Joseph Bell and Clarence Carter.

Oak Street A.M.E. Church at 2311 N. Howard Street was founded 90 years ago by Bishop Handy along with John W. Beckett, John Hurst (later Bishop Hurst), Jacob Bowser, Daniel G. Hill, John W. Norris and Charles Bourne, April 8, 1897 for $700.

This mortgage was paid off on July 31, 1900. By 1905 the members had completed renovation and building of the sanctuary. In 1957, a new dining hall and Sunday School was erected. In November, 1976, most of the church was destroyed in a tragic fire.

In 1977, the church was restored and took on a mortgage commitment of $25,000, with Timonium Federal now Vermont Federal. In the past two years, under Rev. Vashti McKenzie the faithful members of Oak Street increased their mortgage payments to $1,500 a month.

"In January, 1987 they decided to pay the balance of $22,484, in 15 months. The women of the church set a goal of $10,000 to liquidate the mortgage and on Women's Day, March 20, raised $12,534.65.

The Women's Day Committee included Gloria Reddon, chairperson; Bertha Fowlkes, co-chairperson; Diane Brandon, secretary, Angelique Mason and Sarah Wims, treasurers; and Gloria Knight, chaplain.

Women's Day speakers were Rev. Patricia Matthews, Northeast A.M.E. Congregation at Morgan State University at 11 a.m. and Rev. Ann Farrar Lightner, Mt. Calvery A.M.E. Church, Towson at 3:30 p.m.

Women's Day Kick-Off Service was held Sunday, Feb. 7 with the Rev. Alfreda Wiggins, pastor of Christ Edmondson United Methodist Church, speaking on "My God Shall Supply Your Needs". Rev. Vivian Castain, Wright's A.M.E., Elkton, Md. spoke on "God's Women" at the Friday, Feb. 12 Women Only Enrichment Service.

Rev. Carroll Linda Fields, St. John A.M.E. Church, Pocomoke City, Md. spoke on "God's Women" at the Feb. 13 Women's Day Prayer Breakfast. Women's Day Joy Night Service chaired by Vivian Carter with Earnestine Hayes and Desney Wheeler featured choirs and soloists from throughout the city on March 4.

Sunday, March 13 was 100 Christian Women for Christ with Rev. Debyii Sababu-Thomas, of St. James A.M.E. Church, Havre de Grace, Md. speaking on "I Can Do All Things Through Christ".

The second annual All Night Service with the theme "Saved, Sanctified and Filled with the Holy Ghost" had as speakers and teachers on March 18, Min. Maxine L. Wallace, Bethel A.M.E.; Rev. Juretha Joyner Maiden, Bethel A.M.E.; Rev. Eugie Tindal Watkins, pastor of the Love and Peace United Christian Fellowship Church; Rev. Adella Holt, Director of Women's Resources and Development, Bethel A.M.E.; and Min. Minnie P. Cutler, of the newly founded Agape Fellowship A.M.E. Church. A Prayer Breakfast was held at dawn following service. Sis. Angelique Mason was chairperson, Sisters Gloria Knight, Avis Wallace, Earnestine Hayes and Desney Wheeler were members of the committee.

April has been set aside as a month of celebration.

A WORD OF HOPE

Maxine L. Wallace
Church News Editor

"For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received; how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third ay according to the scriptures." I Corinthians 15:3,4

History records that more than 2,000 years ago a man named Jesus who was born in the City of David to a man named Joseph and a woman named Mary.

For not only is there a biblical account, but other historical sources verify the fact that Jesus actually was born. He did die the death of the cross.

But who is this man called Jesus? Some say He is just a prophet. Others say He is the only begotten of the Father, but he the Father and the Holy Ghost are not one.

Peter said of Jesus, "Thou art the Christ; the Son of the living God.

A song writer said His name is Jesus . . . the righteous Son of God . . . the lily of the valley . . . the bright and morning star.

But who do you say Jesus is? The Bible says that God is love. When God gave His Son Jesus He gave the greatest love gift since the beginning of creation.

And so it is that Jesus really did walk on this earth just like you and I. For the Bible tells us that the Word became flesh and dwelt among us.

And while Jesus was actually physically here on earth with the creature man, the bible says that He healed the sick, He raised the dead, He loosed dumb tongues . . . He opened deaf ears . . . He gave sight to the blind . . . He cleansed the leper . . . and the list goes on.

Jesus said Himself that He came that we might have life and that more abundantly.

Yet His work was not over after He healed the woman who had an issue of blood . . . His work was not over after He raised Lazarus from the dead . . . His work was not over after He preached the sermon on the Mount . . . His work was not over after He fed the 5,000.

For jesus came into this world . . . He dwelt among men . . . but only for an appointed time. For God had already planned the purpose for which Jesus should be conceived by the Holy Spirit and born to the Virgin Mary.

For man needed a Saviour. Man needed someone to save Him from his sins. And so God sent Jesus. Sin is anything that blocks us from serving God and letting Him have full reign in our life. The Bible says that all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. Therefore, when God gave Jesus, He gave Him for each and everyone of us. God loves us no matter whom we are, where we live, or how we look. God loves you.

And the Bible says that Jesus died for our sins. The only sufficient sacrifice to redeem fallen mankind was the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ.

But Jesus said no man takes My life . . . but I lay it down. Jesus willingly went to Calvary's Cross for us.

And the Bible says that He was crucified. Because some feared Him, because they did not understand Him, because they did not like what He stood for . . . and because of ignorance, they crucified Him . . . They drove nails through His hands and feet . . . They placed a crown of thorns on His head . . . they spat on Him and mocked Him and called Him everything but a child of God. They crucified my Lord . . . And Jesus hung on the cross . . . in agony . . . suffering . . . bleeding. He could have come down . . . But He didn't . . . He endured the anguish and the pain, just for you and me.

Then later that evening after He had said it is finished . . . after He had said Father into thy hands I commit my Spirit . . . after He had hung His head and died. They laid Him in a tomb. They, no doubt, thought they had gotten rid of this Jesus.

But I'm so glad tht early one Sunday morning, He rose from the dead. Death couldn't hold Him. He conquered sickness, death and the grave. Jesus rose with all power in His hands.

And because He lives our life is worth living . . . we can have a new hope . . . We can have a new peace . . . We can have a new joy . . . We can have a new life. Greater love hath no man than this, than a man that would lay down His life for a friend.

Rev. and Mrs. C. C. Alexander enjoy their meal. Rev. Alexander is the pastor of Eastside Baptist Church and the chairman of the F.R.E.D. banquet committee.

F.R.E.D. banquet benefits home for the aged

By Marjorie R. Green

The concerned United Baptist Missionary Community throughout the State rallied this month in support of the Fund Raising Expansion, Development (FRED) committees Annual Benefit Banquet.

The banquet, which was first conceived by the late Mrs. Estella Dobson in 1973, is a means by which the Baptist community expresses their continuing support for the Maryland Baptist Home for the Aged and its residents who in their declining years are unable to help themselves.

The home located at 2801 Raynor Avenue was established in 1920.

In January, 1970, shortly after a fire damaged much of the property, the Trustee Board under the auspices of the United Baptist Missionary Convention of Maryland, appointed a committee to renovate and expand the facilities.

The committee, chaired by the late Reverend Lorenzo Graves, Jr., was at that time known as the Fire, Renovation, Expansion Drive (FRED) committee.

In January 1978, the Convention held an Open House in celebration of the completed expansion and renovations that cost nearly $300,000.00.

Today the home is a completely modern facility, equipped with the latest in health aids and is available to anyone in need of a place to call home regardless to race, religion, creed or ethnic background.

This years Benefit Banquet took place at the new lavishly decorated Martins West on Dogwood Road. The Rev. Dr. Charles E. Boothe, a native son of Baltimore and pastor of the Mt. Olivet Baptist Church in Columbus, Ohio delivered a soul searching address. His theme "Living In Occupied Terrority" was based on Acts 12:5-8.

His message clearly outlined the longevity of a dream that lingers long after the dreamer is gone. His first illustration was that of Joseph who was sold into slavery but the dream that was very dear to him came to life in a few short years that followed when he became the second man in charge of all of activity in the country bf Egypt,

He recalled with sadness, the death of John Fitzgerald Kennedy in November of 1963. "Even though his life was snuffed out on the streets od Dallas, Texas, his dream lives on." That dream, he said, came to life and fruition in the administration of Lyndon Baines Johnson who was responsible for the most massive civil rights act this country has ever known — The Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965."

In view of the fact that Ronald Wilson Reagan vetoed the Civil Rights Bill which was recently submitted to him by the United States Congress, Boothe voiced a plea that a clear message be sent to the President that in spite of all that he might be able to do to cease our continued claim for recognition in this country, "dreams still live on!"

He further stated that "In April of 1968, they snuffed out the life of our black Moses, Martin Luther King, Jr.

There are those who think that because his silver tongue of eloquence has been hushed that his dream likewise is buried, but how erroneous and how untrue; for the dream lives on today and because of that, we are able to look with joy at a Jesse Jackson who runs for the Democratic nomination of President of the U.S. and whether he wins or not is unimportant — What is important is that God has brought us to a significant point in history.

We are able to claim that we have come this far by Faith leaning upon the Lord. You may kill the dreamer, but it is impossible to kill the dream."

Other program participants were Rev. C.C. Alexander and Dr. Betty Johnson, co-chairpersons; Rev. Arthur E. Jones Rev. Roy B. Johnson, Rev. Ernest Humphrey and Dr. Olin P. Moyd, president, UMBC; Dr. Ida M. Redd, president, Women Convention; Hon. Troy Brailey, Mrs. Mary Conway, soloist and Mrs. Conway, soloist and Mrs. Celia McLeod, musician. Mrs. Bessie H. Mason was program chair.

Committee members include Hattie Lilly, Richard Harris, Rosie Keene, Inez Young, Daisey Gilliard, Helen Benton, Minnie Crafton, Lillian Cates, Olivia M. Jackson, Mary Harrington, Chessie Brailey, Herman Johnson, Rev. Dr. Walter E. Paige, Rev. Nathaniel Love Olivia W. Jackson, Lila Dinkins and Margaret Spence.

Metro church briefs

Black Catholic revival to be held

The Archdiocese of Baltimore will sponsor a second Black Catholic Revival on April 25, 26, and 27, at the Basilica of Assumption, corner of Cathedral and Mulberry Sts. Services are scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. each evening. Revivalist for the occasion is Sister Thea Bowman, F.S.P.A., Ph.D. Sister Thea, recently featured on "60 Minutes," is nationally recognized for her extraordinary talents as educator, musician and spiritual leader. The theme for the revival is "In Times Like These We Need A Savior." Everyone is welcome. Contact Mrs. Gwaltney, Church of Saint Cecilia, 624-3600.

Spring concert debut for local choir

The New Inspirational Choir of Adams Chapel AME Church will give its debut concert, Sunday, April 10, 3:00 p.m. at the church, 3811 Egerton Rd. corner of Garrison Blvd. and Egerton Rd., near Liberty Heights Ave.

Although the choir has sang in service at several churches throughout Maryland and in Delaware, this is the group's first concert in its six year history.

The choir is under the direction of Rodney Waters, Sr., an experienced musician in the Baltimore area. Rev. Robert M. Pritchett, Jr. is the pastor of the church. A donation will be lifted. Call the church at 542-6200, 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Hampden United Methodist worship at Sunrise

On April 3, a ecumenical sunrise worship service will take place in front of Hampden United Methodist Church in Roosevelt Park in Hampden at 7:00 a.m. the laynote speaker will be Commissioner Andrew S. Miller, the national commander of the Salvation Army in the United States. Commissioner Miller is a dynamic speaker and the community is greatly honored to have such a noted individual to preside at this service.

All denominations are invited to attend this service. Call the Salvation Army at 366-4894.

Trinity Baptist sponsors a dinner theatre

Trinity Baptist Church, 1601 Druid Hill Avenue is sponsoring A Dinner Theatre presenting God's Trombones, Friday, April 8, at 6:30 p.m. Contact Ms. Claudette P. Moore after 5 p.m. at 358-0133 or Trinity Baptist Church office at 728-0797 daily from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Local church combats AIDS/drugs

Bethel A.M.E.'s Freedom Now Ministry, one of the first local church led efforts to combat drug and alcohol abuse, has taken a first step again with its recent conference, "AIDS and Drugs: The Black Church's Response."

Held at Bethel, the conference combined the effort and energy of ministers, church members, community workers and politicians to try to develop ways to deal with a health crisis which is particularly devastating to the Black Community and which has already exceeded the impact of polio on the overall community.

There are three reasons why Freedom Now took the leadership role according to Min. Lillian Streeter. One is that 40 percent of black men contract AIDS through the use of shared needles. The connection with drug use is clear. The second is that AIDS is devastating to the black family. 52 percent of all reported AIDS cases in children under 13 are black. Who can stand against this most devastating epidemic except the Black church?

Keynote speaker for the conference was Leon West, executive director of the Congress of National Black Churches.

The CNBC is a national consortium of more than 100 black churches of various denominations

(Continued on page 16)