John Wesley Methodist banquet crowns the Bicentennial year

800 witness historic occasion as church marks 163rd birthday

By Elizabeth M. Oliver

John Wesley United Methodist Church now at 3202 W. North Ave., began in 1813 in a carpenter's shop at Sharp and Montgomery Sts. Last Saturday in a brilliant banquet at the Lord Baltimore Hotel, the church's Organizations United marked the 163rd birthday. Some 800 guests attended the event which crowned all Bicentennial occasions.

Among speakers reviewing the unusual history were Toastmaster Leroy Morsell, Mrs. Odessa Gross and the pastor, the Rev. Dr. J. Lloyd Garrison who noted, "the church grew up with the nation."

The banquet sponsors were headed by William D. Parrish, chairman. Guest speaker was the famed minister, Dr. Frederick G. Sampson of Detroit who urged young and old members and the listeners to remember the history of the church and the race, celebrate with happiness and rise to greater heights.

Receiving standing ovations and frequent applause, the Rev. Dr. Sampson recalled the suffering of the slaves and their unprecedented movement to freedom through the Underground Railroad. Praises were echoed by the throng as he told how the people who longed for freedom used music as a medium of communication, singing their secret messages "Steal Away," "Swing Low Sweet Chariot," "Wade in the Water" from plantation field to plantation field.

He likened the steadfast slaves to a cactus plant he once saw in a desert, bent but unbowed.

The inspiring message was reflected in greetings from many guests including Congressman Parren J. Mitchell, State Senator Clarence Blount, Mayor Schaefer's representative, Ted Trimble; Elizabeth M. Oliver of the AFRO; Del. Troy Brailey, Michael Peay, Edward Snowden, Bethlehem Steel and Mrs. Margaret Conway who introduced Dr. Sampson.

Also reflecting the theme of the historic event was the music with Mrs. Julia D. Calloway, longtime music teacher at the piano; Mrs. Annie Hopkins who said the Lord's Prayer; the Young Adult Choir in an unusual arrangement of "America;" Miss Linda Scott whose solo was, "O Freedom;" Mrs. Hopkins' "Lead Me, Guide Me" and the final "Lift Every Voice and Sing" by the audience. The Rev. Dr. Garrison gave invocation and benediction.

Noteworthy was the presence of the International Longshoremen's Union and many visiting churches of all denominations; 1199 E Union members; Mrs. Susie Harris and guests celebrating her retirement from 33 years at Hopkins Hospital; church parents and their children. Mr. Parrish received a standing ovation as he was praised as having "a heart as big as the ocean and touching the needy and helping others." A souvenir journal contained photos and story of John Wesley's remarkable history.

CONGRESSMAN PARREN J. MITCHELL and famed guest speaker, Dr. Frederick G. Sampson of Detroit are shown in AFRO staff photos by

Roman Hankewycz with the banquet chairman and wife, Mr. and Mrs. William D. Parrish.

ORGANIZATION OFFICIALS—Mrs. Gladys Norris, Miss Linda Scott and Miss Barbara McKnight.

THE ELEGANT AFFAIR had a double-tiered head table which held some 100 participants and special guests in brilliant array to set the pace for the gala Bicentennial Celebration.

HEAD TABLE GUESTS—(L to R) Mrs. Annie Hopkins, Mrs. Johnnie Mae Stevenson, Mrs. Elsie Brown, Mrs. Pearl Wallace, Miss Viola Moore and John D. Paylor, all members of the sponsoring Church Organizations United of John Wesley. (RIGHT PANEL) Mrs. Odessa Gross, who gave church history and theme of the occasion; Mrs. Janie Harrington, assistant pastor; Mrs. Alease Garrison wife of the John Wesley pastor, the Rev. Dr. J. Lloyd Garrison.

AFRO staff photos by Roman Hankewycz

MORE GUESTS—Del. and Mrs. Troy Bailey, Leadenhall Baptist; Mrs. Mary Clayborn, Radio 1400; Mrs. Frances Robinson German, Union Memorial Baptist; John Wesley Church Toastmaster Leroy Morsell; Maryland F[illegible]ident Dr. C. C. and Mrs. Alexander; Bethlehem Steel [illegible]ve Edward and Mrs. Snowden.

Frederick businessman suffers great loss in flood

JOHN W. LEE'S Men's Shop suffered most in the disaster the storm poured on Frederick, Md. Saturday. In photos by Benny Phillips, AFRO photographer, Mr. Lee is shown hosing off the mud. The interior store picture shows damage to shoe and clothing is total. Charles Brown attempts to restore shoe by shoe. FAR RIGHT photo shows Main Street as it looked Tuesday afternoon, four days after the tragedy struck.

Mr Lee's own story

A year after the end of the Second World War, John W. Lee, a native of Frederick County, Md., opened a high-style men's fashion shop on Market St., in the heart of Frederick City.

Last Saturday morning the 30-year-old business which Mr. Lee and his wife had spent building was literally washed away in the historically vicious flood which swept through Western Maryland in an unprecedented fury, last weekend.

As the first blacks in business in Western Maryland, the Lees alone suffered about $46,000 worth of damage to the store, which in the words of the owner, carries "everything from head to toe" for the man who aspires to be well-dressed and always at the height of sartorial trends.

"I went to work Saturday," said Mr. Lee this week, "but I couldn't get through to the store because of the water. I waited until the water had subsided. Then I approached the store. The water was six-feet high inside the store. There was so much water pressure that the front door of the store was wide open. Well, there was nothing we could do. We boarded the store. This is the first time that we have had such a storm as this in the history of Frederick."

And that leads to the problem, not only for Mr. Lee, but for all the other merchants along Market St.: none has any flood insurance.

* * *

"We have plenty of fire insurance," says Mr. Lee, "but I know that almost none of the merchants along here has any flood insurance."

But he is undaunted. He expects to have the business back in shape in time for the busy Christmas season. He wants to be open by Dec. 1.

* * *

Mr. Lee is optimistic. The governor has declared the area an emergency. Federal officials have been on-hand inspecting. Mr. Lee is sure he will qualify for emergency funds from the federal government.

And even on top of all this, there is something good to talk about. The 61-year-old businessman said there has been so much goodwill among the residents and eighbors in the tow

Friends have been generous to Mr. Lee with substantial loans to help him get his business running agai

Life has been good to the Lees.

Both the Lees work in the store with the two part-time assistants.

John Lee decided to go

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Awards banquet set to honor Jackie Robinson, baseball, great

JACKIE ROBINSON honors after death

CONG. ANDREW YOUNG gpest speaker

The Citizens Awards Dinner Committee will honor Jackie Robinson, posthumously, at the fifth annual banquet.

The committee thought it fitting and proper to pay tribute to this great American in this Bicentennial year.

The affair will be held Saturday, Nov. 6 at 6 p.m. at the Baltimore Hilton Hotel, Fayette and Hanover Streets.

Honorable Andrew Young, (D) Congressman from Georgia, will be the guest speaker.

* * *

Mrs. Rachel Robinson will attend the dinner and receive the award for her late husband. Some of Jackie's former teammates will also be present.

This will be the first tribute in memory of Jackie Robinson since his untimely death.

Jackie was inducted into Baseball's Hall of Fame in 1962. The subscription for this affair is $15 per person (tax deductizle). All proceeds from the affair will be donated to charity.

For further information, please call 727-3200 or 523-5205.

Chairmen — Troy Brailey William Boucher, III.

Vice-Chairmen — Frederick O'Neal, Brooks Robinson.

Secretary — Dominic N. Fornaro.

Treasurer — Howard R. Owen.

Honorary Chairmen — Governor Marvin Mandel, Mayor William Donald Schaefer, Hon. Charles McC. Mathias, Hon. Parren J. Mitchell, Hon. Paul Sarbanes, Samuel T. Daniels, John H. Murphy III, Dr. Shirley Clinton, Rev. C.C. Alexander, Rev. Alfred C. Vaughn, Dr. Cecil C. Vaughnn, Dr. Chester L. Wickwire, Thomas M. Bradley, Raymond H. Clarke, Sam Lacy, Robert Stephens.

Hontrary Vice-Chairmen — Hon Verda F. Welcome, Judge David T. Mason, Judge Mary Arabian, Judge Rita Davidson, Judge Harry A. Cole, Judge Marshall A. Levin, Judge Solomon Liss, Judge Albert L. Sklar, Judge Robert B. Watt, Judge Robert F. Sweeney, Judge Solomon Baylor, Dr. Cleveland A. Chandler, John Hauswald, Travis Vaulx, Dr. Eddie R. Wilson, Jr., Dr. Charles Watts, Jr. William Watts, Herbert B. Cahan.

BANQUET COMMITTEE

Hon. Rosalie S. Abrams, Hon. Victorine Q. Adams, Hon. R. Charles Avara, Vernon Bailey, Herbert Belgrad, Esq., Hon. Clarence W. Blount, Karl Boone, Rev. M.J. Bracket, Norman Brailey, Pauline Brooks, Hon. W. Emerson Brown;

Dr. Willard L. Bulger, Joseph Bush, Marguerite Campbell, Hon. Benjamin L. Cardin, Mary Clayburn, Rev. Willard L. Clayton, Hon. Joseph A. Chester, Joan E. Cooper, Hon. Gerald J. Curran, Hon. J. Joseph Curran, Rev. Reginald J. Daniels, Hon. Walter R. Dean, Flossie Dedmond;

Daniel Denby, Ivory L. Dennis, Rev. Vernon N. Dobson, Charles H. Dorsey, Esq., Leroy Dyett, Hon. Raymond A. Dypski, Georgine Edgerton, John B. Ferron, Melvin Fox, David

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Want to volunteer in campaign effort?

By Vera M. Dorsey

(1) Looking for something to do after school? High school or college students call 728-1167, 675-2885 and volunteer for canvassing.

(2) Want to do your fair share for the campaign? Volunteer and help distribute material on street corners, door to door, food markets, car windshields and intersections.

(3) Would you like to help in the campaign but can't get out? Volunteer to make phone calls at home; or go over voter list in home office precincts and check for possible volunteers.

(4) Accuracy, not speed, is needed. Volunteer to do some typing.

(5) Are you and your car available for dropping off campaign material, driving a stund car or riding in a motorcade?

(6) Is wallpapering your thing? Volunteer to hang campaign posters.

(7) Do you like office work? Come and volunteer to help us around the campaign headquarters.

(8) Did you always want to be an operator? Volunteer to work with us on phone canvassing.

(9) Want to be a part of the count-down on election day: Volunteer to: (a) cinct captain

(b) transportation to polls

(c) babysitting

(d) runners

Call and say you'll help 7th Congressional District

Field Coordinators

(1) West Side- Carter-Mitchell-Sarbanes Headquarters, Angela Gibson, Sam Riddle, Rodger Neely, 541 Cumberland St., near Pennsylvania, 728-1167 or 1168.

(2) East Baltimore Democratic Headquarters, Toni Jones — 2505 E. Preston St., 675-2885.

Main Headquarters — carter/Mondale, 1114 Cathedral St., 837-7800. State Volunteer Coordinator, Vera M. Dorsey.

Eastside Demo Hdq. opens today

Senator Robert Douglass (D-45th) and officers of the Eastside Democratic Club honor workers who registered the highest number of voters, at the opening of the Carter-Mondale campaign headquarters, Friday, Oct. 15, 5-7 p.m., at 2505 E. Preston St.

The Eastside Demo Club is responsible for registering 9,000 voters during the recent drive. Councilman Clarence (Du)Burns and other elected officials will make the presentations.

AKA parade Oct. 31

The women of Epsilon Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority are launching a massive get out to vote drive.

The major thrust of the sorority will be an AKA caravan, which will travel throughout the city on Saturday, Oct. 30 urging the citizens of Baltimore to get to the poles on Tuesday, Nov. 2, AND VOTE.

Also, on Election Day, the sorority will provide transportation to the polls, call voters to remind them to vote and will offer baby sitting services for the convenience of the city voters.

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Under the direction of the chapter's basileus, Soror Virginia Valus, the GET OUT TO VOTE drive will be coordinated by Sorors Frances Beckles, Claire Dorsey, Flossie Dedmond, Barbara Pettit, and Rhoda Williams.

Artist exhibit to showcase 1977 black arts calendar

A BLACK PORTRAIT PAINTER who resided in Fells Point and did oils for society in early Baltimore is the famed artist, Joshua Johnston. The eldest known person in Baltimore or the United States to reach such distinction, Johnston is honored by having his work on the Baltimore Black Arts Calendar for 1977.

The Maryland Commission on Afro-American History and Culture at 12 W. Madison St., will hold an exhibit Sunday from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. to present the Baltimore Black Arts Calendar for 1977.

The exhibit on display through Nov. 12, will show the works of 12 artists who contributed to the '77 calendar.

The artists who contributed to the calendar include Joshua Johnston, Lawrence Hurst, James Taylor, Frank Brown, Ms. Ruth Taylor and Randall Craig.

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Also contributing were Benjamin Claiborne, Carleton Leverette, O'Neill Hammond, Irving Phillips Jr., Ms. Yvonne Everett and Leroy Taylor.

The Black Arts calendar is published each year by Saint Francis Xavier Church and promoted by Father Henry Offer. Willie Birch is calendar designer and Joyce Scott, consultant.

Women for Carter meet Oct. 19

Members of the Women Voters for Carter 51.3 per cent group announce that the Tuesday, Oct. 19 meeting is open to all persons who wish to join their get-out-the-votedrive.

The group notes that women form 51.3 per cent of all registered voters and their influence in the election and getting citizens out to vote therefore represents the greatest force.

At a meeting Oct. 12 at the home of Mrs. Mary Robinson, 51.3 women for Carter set the Oct 19 event at 7 p.m. at the Campaign Headquarters, 1114 Cathedral St, phone 837-7800.

National 51.3 committee members present were Dr. Juanita Williams and Mrs. Elizabeth M. Oliver who reported on the Atlanta Ga. and Annapolis meetings.

* * *

The Baltimore committee is responsible for getting out and enlisting more members for the local chapter.

Present were Mesdames Salina Marriott, 1st vice-president, Park Heights Community Corp.; Ms. Mereida Goodman, Dr. Williams, Baltimore County coordinator; Mrs. Robinson, Henry McNeil Turner Society, Bethel AME Church; Mrs. Naomi Camper, president, For-Win-Ash Garden Club; Mrs. Vera M. Dorsey, Maryland State volunteer coordinator, Carter-Mondale Campaign, Mrs. Theresa Lewis, member, Henry McNeil Turner Society and Dr. Frances Beckles, AKA Sorority.

Information may be had by phone — Mesdames Marriott — 664-0228; Williams — 944-5640; Lewis — 265-8069; Dorsey — 837-7800; Robinson — 367-8656.

Only **14** days left until election day

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