THE LIVING CHURCH

Sharp Street Methodist looks back on its history

COMMITTEE MEMBERS who attended the opening of the history room at Sharp Street Methodist Church on Oct. 7, shown from left, are Reginald Ricks, the Rev. John Wesley Coleman, Mrs. Zella T. Washington, Mrs. Edna Rawlings, Mrs. Louise M. Dennis, Mrs. Bernice W. Watson and Thomas J. Wilcox.

AFRO photo by Mark Gail

Over the years Sharp Street Memorial United Methodist Church has influenced the lives of men and women who as leaders have left an impact on the community of Baltimore and the world community.

This month, members of the church are celebrating Sharp Street's heritage. Following the 11 a.m. service on Oct. 7, the Rev. John Wesley Coleman, cut the ribbon for the opening of the history exhibit room located in the community house.

William Booker will be the speaker on Odt. 14 at the 11 a.m. services and a special tribute to Clarence Mitchell Jr., is scheduled for Oct. 21. Homecoming Sunday will be observed on Oct. 28, with dinner being seryed following the morning service.

The history of Sharp Street Church as a separate black congregation dates from 1787. The members purchased its first parcel of land in 1802 and was the direct outgrowth of Baltimore's earliest Methodism.

Free blacks built the first church on Sharp Street in South Baltimore. This church served the black community both free and slave. It became a shelter for carrying out the program of the black community.

In 1898 a new church was built in northwest Baltimore to which many of its members migrated. The congregation built a new church on a lot purchased on thecorner of Dolphin and Etting Streets, where the church is now located.

The ground breaking ceremony was held on Feb. 9, 1898 and the cornerstone was laid on March 24, 1898. The building was occupied Oct. 15, 1898.

Sharp Street today is now concerned with the role of a religious instituion in a value free society. Programs are designed to reemphasize christian involvement, stimulate activities that relate to the youth, document the church heritage and make the church a definite and functioning part of the community and the people it serves.

Records reveal that the meetings which resulted in the establishment of the N.M. Carroll Home for the Aged were in the lecture rooms at Sharp Street. The first classes of the Centenary Biblical Institute that later developed into Morgan State College were also held there. The Mount Auburn Cemetery located in the Westport area of the city is owned and operated by Sharp Street.

Program committee members are Mesdames Dorothy M. Doughtery, Charlotte Harper, Tamara Mackell, Louise Dennis, Edna Rawlings and Anna Bennett.

Also, Earl M. Dougherty, Lloyd Dutton, Frank B. Butler, William: Ross Jr. and Sam Wilson. Records and history committee members are Mesdames Dorothy M. Doughterty, Delores Ali, Esther Williams, Louis Louise Dennis, Charoltte Harper, Theodosia Stokes, Anna Bennett, Edna Rawlings, Zella Washington, Bernice Watson, Madeline Hammond, Margaret Ross.

Also, Earl M. Dougherty, Bernard Whitting, Frank B. Butler, William Gibson and Sam Wilson.

AFRO photo by Mark Gail

LEARNING HER ROOTS — Nicolette G. Gantt, eight-year-old member of Sharp Street Memorial United Methodist Church, is shown reading an article on her great-great grandfather, the late Rev. Dr. McHenry J. Naylor in books on display in the history room of the church.

A minister speaks out

By REV. WALTER S. THOMAS

The gentle breezes of summer are now giving way to the gusty winds of fall. The vacation season has come to an end and now we must embark upon new avenues of witness and work. The hour has come for a renewing of our minds and a recharging of our spirit.

The prophet Jeremiah sounded an alarming word to his people in the seventh century B.C. when he cried, "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved." Too often, the laxity of summer becomes the indifference of fall and we fail to put our lives in creative streams of worthwhile Christian enterprise.

Indeed, what is needed in our churches and our communities is a renewed zeal to carry out the mandates of our Lord. We must heal the brokenhearted, set at liberty the captive, preach the good news to the poor and to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord. In order to accomplish this task, we must mobilize all of our resources and add them to our enchored faith in the power of God.

The winter of work awaits us for we must seek to serve the Lord and announce his word even when it seems that so many have lost hope and are living in the cesspools of despair.

Proclaiming good news to a people whose news now is bad news is no easy task. It requires a steadfast tenacity and an enduring confidence in the rightfulness of our mission. I am reminded of one of the old spirituals that speaks to our dilemma. "Sometimes I feel discouraged and feel my work is in vain, but then the holy spirit revives my soul again."

The mark of our calling is that we are a people who can and will endure. Our strength is not based upon the color of our skin, rather our endurance is dependent upon one who labored on a cross and defended death, hell and destruction. Sometimes events, circumstances and even people drive us to worry about the value of our efforts. Yet, our God speaks to us in a way we clearly understand, telling us to labor valiantly in spite of all obstacles.

I believe in my heart that much of the negativity we must deal with and the apathy that we often face is because there exists in our age a sincerity gap. People need to know that those who profess an unshakeable faith in Jesus Christ will not be shaken by the forces they face in this world. In other words, if we can take it we can make it. Rome was not established by one day's labor; the task before us is equally as demanding.

If we continue to be unmoved by apathy and dedicated in spite of indifference, there will arise a day when men and women "will see our good works and glorify our father in heaven." They will then come running saying "What must I do to be saved?"

The acceptability of our credentials as Christians will be determined by the sincerity in which they are presented. We can bring many to the love of God and the challenge of Christ if we struggle to endure and strive to succeed. In the next 30 days, let us not be detered, but let us be determined.

Metro Church Briefs

$1,500 PLEDGE — Mrs. Sarah Lamb, president of the United Nurses of Various Churches and Mrs. Dorothy Wardlow are shown presenting a $500 check to Carroll H. Hynson Jr., assistant vice president of public relations and Development of Provident Hospital. The $500 was a payment on their $1,500 pledge to purchase a dialysis cycler for the nursing department of the hospital.

Homecoming at Waters

Homecoming and the 136th anniversary of Waters, AME Church, 417 Aisquith St., is being observed this week. Members of the church sponsored a gong show featuring youth and young adults in a display of many talents on Oct. 10 at the church.

Today, Friday, the spiritual portion of the celebration will begin with a one night soul revival featuring the Rev. Tony Muse and his gospel choir. The Rev. Leon Hall of Bethel AME, Easton, Md., will be the 11 a.m. speaker on Sunday, Oct. 14.

A gospel concert featuring the Imani Singers of Bethel AME Church, Druid Hill Avenue and Lanvale Street and the Gospel Choir of Payne Memorial AME is scheduled for 3 p.m. The Rev. John W. Duckette is pastor.

Trinity Baptist Church, 1601 Druid Hill Ave., will hold its annual revival Oct. 22-26, 7:30 p.m. at the church. The Rev. Dwight C. Jones, pastor of First Baptist Church, Richmond, Va., will be the speaker. The Rev. William C. Calhoun Sr., is pastor.

SPEAKER — Miss Essie Hughes will be the 11 a.m. speaker for Women's Day at Providence Inspirational Baptist Church, 850 Edmondson Ave., on Oct. 14. Mrs. Sylvia Cooke Martin is chairperson and the Rev. Clifton E. Freeman is pastor.

The Women's Day committee of Morning Star Baptist Church, 1063 Fayette St., will sponsor the Volunteer Choir of Richmond, Va., in concert on Oct. 14, 7 p.m. Mrs. Marva Kenny is chairperson. The Rev. Samuel Ray is pastor.

Sunday, Oct. 28, the Rev. Ms. Cynthia Jones will be the 11 a.m. speaker for Women's Day. Dinner will be served following the morning service.

Central Baptist church women, 2035 Baltimore St., will sponsor a play, The Devil's Funeral on Oct. 13, 8 p.m. at the church for the benefit of Women's Day. The Rev. Dr. Montague J. Brackett is pastor.

The appreciation committee of John Wesley United Methodist Church, North Avenue and Bloomingdale Rd., will have its annual banquet honoring 15 members on Sunday, Oct. 14, 6 p.m. at Blue Crest North on Reisterstown Rd. Edward Alston is chairperson, Ms. Louise Holley president and the Rev. Calvin P. Crosson is pastor.

The Women's auxiliary to the United Missionary Baptist Convention of Maryland will sponsor its second annual banquet Oct. 18, 7 p.m. at La Fontaine Bleu, 3107 Erdman Ave.

The Lula S. Richardson Courtesy Guild of Enon Baptist Church, Edmondson Avenue and Schroeder Street will sponsor a play, "This is Your Life," on Oct. 14, 4 p.m. in the A.J. Payne Christian Center. The Rev. Porter W. Phillips Jr., is pastor and the Rev. Arthur J. Payne is pastor emeritus.

Members of the Gospel Choir of Mount Calvary Star Baptist Church, 1725 N. Milton Ave., will celebrate their 19th anniversary on Sunday, Oct. 14, 4 p.m. R. Thompson is president and the Rev. Ronnie Fleming will be the 5:30 p.m. speaker on Oct. 14, for the second anniversary of the Nurses Unit of New Refuge Deliverance Holiness Church, 2045 Monument St. The Rev. Naomi C. Durant is pastor of the church.

CONCERT — The men of Knox United Presbyterian Church, Preston and Eden Streets, will present Ms. Dorothy Lofton Jones in a concert of sacred music on Sunday, Oct. 14, 5:30 p.m. at the church.

INSTALLATION SERVICES for Father Maurice Blackwell will be held Sunday, Oct. 14 at the 11 a.m. mass at St. Edward's Catholic Church, Lafayette and Poplar Grove. Father Blackwell becomes the first full time pastor of his race in the archdiocese. He succeeds Father Joseph M. O'Meara.

The men of Knox United Presbyterian Church, Preston and Eden Streets, will present Ms. Dorothy Lofton Jones in a concert of sacred music on Sunday, Oct. 14, 5:30 p.m. at the church.

The Rev. Ronnie Fleming will be the 5:30 p.m. speaker on Oct. 14, for the second anniversary of the Nurses Unit of New Refuge Deliverance Holiness Church, 2045 Monument St. The Rev. Naomi C. Durant is pastor of the church.

The men of Knox United Presbyterian Church, 1300 Eden St., will present Ms. Dorothy Jones in concert on Oct. 14, 5:30 p.m. for the benefit of Men's Day. The Rev. Lonnie J. Oliver is pastor and Ollie Smith is chairperson for Men's Day.

The women of St. Paul United Methodist Church, 1000 Saratoga St., will observe Women's Day on Oct. 28. Their theme is "Progressive Women for a Better Tomorrow." The Rev. Earline Houston of Grace AME Church will be the 11 a.m. speaker and dinner will be served following the morning service. The Rev. Miss Diane Gwynn of New Metropolitan Baptist Church is the 3:30 p.m. and Mrs. Irene Burton is chairperson.

Annual Women's Day events

"The Role of the Christian Woman in Home and Missions," is the theme for Women's Day at Faith Baptist Church, Bond Street and Ashland Avenue. The Rev. Dr. Walter E. Paige is minister.

Rev. Paige will be preaching at the 8 p.m. services and Mrs. Bessie H. Mason, first vice president Women's Auxiliary-United Baptist Missionary Convention is the 10:45 a.m. speaker. At 3 p.m. Dr. Aurelia Downey, president of Nannie H. Burroughs School will speak and a special salute to women is scheduled for 6 p.m.

The Women's Day Chorus directed by Mrs. Bettye Mickle with Miss Beulah T. Mills and John R. Faidley will be singing on Sunday.

A prayer breakfast will be held at the church on Saturday, Oct. 13, 9 a.m. with Mrs. Barbara J. Whipple, church clerk speaking on the theme "Prayer — the Key to God's Resources."

Mrs. Celia E. McLeod is program chairperson and Mrs. Rosalie Williams is president of Women's Day.

The Women's Day committee of Morning Star Baptist Church, 1063 Fayette St., will present the Volunteer Choir from Second Baptist Church in Richmond, Va., in concert on Sunday, Oct. 14, 3:30 p.m. Women's Day will be observed Oct. 28 at Morning Star. The Rev. Samuel Ray is pastor, Mrs. Marva Kenny is chairperson of Women's Day, Larry Bland is director of the choir and the Rev. Odie Brown is pastor of Second Baptist Church.

The 58th annual Women's Day will be celebrated Oct. 14 at St. Paul Baptist Church.

Pope brings message of Christ

Pope John Paul II preached a message of commitment to Christ when he spoke last week at the National Shrine before a gathering of religious women.

At a morning prayer service which began the last day of pontiff's American tour, he told the crowd of more than 5,000 nuns that "poverty, chastity and obedience, "which he called "the essence" of religious consecration, "deepens your personal commitment to Christ."

The pope called upon the religious women to express "a greater public witness to the Gospel" in their personal lives and through the church's religious institutions, such as the Catholic schools.

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Two dynamic forces are operative in religious life "continued the pontiff," — your love for Jesus. . . . and his love for you." The Pope was interrupted several times during the speech with rounds of applause.

An underlying theme in the Pope's speech was the need for women to practice faithful obedience to the church; calculated apparently to offset rising dissatisfaction among women about his decision not to allow women into the ministry.

Most of the women present were enthusiastic about the speech, and discounted protests by some nuns to the pope's policies as not being representative of the majority.

Regarding the wearing of religious habits, the Pope said, "It is not unimportant that your consecration to God should be manifested in the permanent exterior sign of a simple and suitable religious garb."

Despite the church's adherence to its traditional stands on abortion, birth control as well as women priesthood, the pontiff stressed that women "shall always fulfill an important place in the church."

The Pope, whose Polish name is Karol Wojtyla, urged the women to strive for the "aim of religious life," which he said is to render praise and glory to the Most Holy Trinity.

"There is no greater service you can give," he said," there is no greater fulfillment you can receive."

First Congress on Church, Afro-American Culture set

The First Congress on The Church and Afro - American Culture will be held at the Peoples Congregational United Church of Christ on Saturday, Oct. 13, from 9:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

The theme for the Congress is "The Cultural Mission of The Black Church: The Church as Source, Resource and Disseminator of Afro - American Cultural Forms."

The keynote address which will set forth the purpose of the Congress and the theme will be given by Dr. A. Knighton Stanley, minister of Peoples, the host cnurcn and longtime supporter of black art and artists.

The Congress will feature four workshop sessions comprised of panels of distinguished Afro - American Artists and Writers. The four workshops are Afro-American Sacred and Secular Music; Afro - American Literature, Oral and Literate Tradition; Afro - American Theatre - Public Media; and Afro - American Visual and Plastic Arts.

The Congress is planned for the benefit of pastors, minister of music, Sunday School directors and teachers and all of those responsible for program planning for children and youth.

Dr. Eleanor Traylor, professor at Cornell University and literary critic and chairperson of the Peoples Heritage Committee says "This is the year of the child. We are all concerned about our young; they are our future.

Panel on African art rescheduled

Because of Pope John Paul's visit to Washington, the panel on the "Influence of African Art on the Art of the Caribbean" was rescheduled for Sunday, Oct. 21, at 2 p.m., at the Smithsonian Institution.

The deadline for craft class registration has been extended. Registration for Fibers and Basketry and Quiltmaking ends Oct 13. Fees will be prorated accordingly. To register, call the Education Department. 547 - 6222, extension 42.

Baldwin to be honored at Peoples

WASHINGTON

A special tribute to James Baldwin, author and essayist, will be held at the Museum of African Art on Friday, Oct. 12, at 8 p.m.

Returning to Washington as guest of the Peoples Congregational Church, 4704 13th St., N.W., Baldwin will also be featured personality at their Heritage Week events.

Baldwin's tribute will take the form of a champagne buffet and excerpts from his plays, novels and also excerpts performed by the Rep, Inc. one of Washington's theatrical groups. The tribute is also a benefit for the Rep Company Theatre and First World Magazine.

Baldwin will be guest speaker for 11 a.m. services at the church on Sunday, Oct. 14.

Other events in the Heritage Week celebration include the First Congress on the Church and Afro - American Culture on Saturday, Oct. 13, from 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and a performance by Wilma Shakesnider, soprano and a native of Washington, at the Sunday, Oct. 14 a.m. service.

Reservations are required for the Baldwin Tribute and the Congress. Interested persons may contact Ms. A. Butler at 829 - 5811. Dr. Eleanor Traylor is chairperson of the Peoples Heritage Committee. Dr. A. Knighton Stanley is the church pastor.

PROMOTED

Argeon J. Walker, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Walker, 815 Emerson St., N.W., recently was promoted to Army specialist four while serving as a motor pool member in the 534th Military Police Company at Fort Clayton, Canal Zone.

AN ELEGANT AFFAIR
YOU MUST ATTEND
Celebrate with Payne Memorial AME Church (this far and further by faith) — see and hear Mr. John Murphy, AFRO-AMERICAN, Congressman Parren J. Mitchell, and many other distinguished guests.—Featuring T.V. newsman Al Sanders as toastmaster. Date Friday, Oct. 19, 1979 at 8:00 P.M. at the Martin's Champagne Room, 2701 W. Patapsco Ave.—Delicious Dinner, soothing music—Donation $17.50
For ticket information please contact Mr. Mervin Randall,
945-8650
Lois Smith, Program Chairman
Rev. J. F. Hodges, Gen. Chairman
REV. W. P. MITCHELL, Pastor

Morning Star Baptist Church
1063 W. Fayette St.
"The Witnessing Church"
Church and Community Evangelizing Service
Saturday, October 13, 1979—7 p.m.
Evangelist—The Rev. Odie Brown
Second Baptist Church, Richmond, Virginia
Everyone is invited to share this Evangelizing Service
And bring a neighbor
The Samuel Ray Revival Choir, The Iona Rhodes Fellowship Choir and the Mass Choir will sing
Horace Peter Ray, Organist
Special Music—Mrs. Mary Brown
Sunday, October 14, 11 A.M. Worship Music by
The Samuel Ray Revival Choir and the Iona Rhodes Fellowship Choir
Sermon—The Rev. Leon Scott,
Associate Minister
Morning Star Baptist Church
Dinner will be served after Morning Service
The Women's Day Committee of Morning Star Baptist Church Presents
The Volunteer Choir
Second Baptist Church, Richmond, Virginia
in concert
Sunday, October 14, 3:30 p.m.
Mr. Larry Bland, Director
Rev. Odie Brown, Pastor
EVERYONE IS INVITED
Mrs. Marva Kenny, Chairperson
Women's Day Committee
REV. SAMUEL RAY, Pastor

FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH
"The Praying Church"
Bond Street and Ashland Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21205
OBSERVES
ANNUAL WOMEN'S DAY
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1979
THEME: "The Role of the Christian Woman in Home and Missions"
ORDER OF SERVICE
9:00 A.M. EARLY MORNING WORSHIP
Rev. Walter E. Paige, Preaching
9:15 A.M. CHURCH SCHOOL
Member Orientation Class
10:45 A.M. Worship
ADDRESS: Mrs. Bessie H. Mason
First Vice President
Women's Auxiliary United Baptist Missionary Convention
3:00 P.M. WORSHIP
SPEAKER: Dr. Aurelia Downey
President
Nannie H. Burroughs School
Washington, D.C.
6:00 P.M. BAPTIST TRAINING UNION
Mrs. (Trustee) Lillian Wright
Directress
SALUTE TO WOMEN
With music the entire day by the Women's Day Chorus under the direction of Mrs. Bettye Mickle with Miss Beulah T. Mills and Trustee John R. Faidley, accompanists.
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1979 9:00 A.M.
WOMEN'S DAY ANNUAL PRAYER BREAKFAST
Theme: "Prayer — the Key to God's Resources"
Speaker: Mrs. Barbara J. Whipple, Church Clerk Faith Baptist Church
ALL ARE WELCOME
Mrs. Celia E. McLeod, Program Chairperson
Mrs. Rosalie Williams, President, Women's Day
Dr. Walter E. Paige, Minister

Our feet shall stand within Thy Gates, Oh, Jerusalem
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PERKINS SQUARE BAPTIST CHURCH
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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1979
COMMUNION SUNDAY
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1979
"CALLING WORKER DAY"
8:00 A.M. Worship
Sermon by the Pastor
and Holy Communion
9:15 A.M.—Church School
New Members Class
10:30 A.M.—Open Heart Service
11:00 A.M.—Morning Worship
Sermon By The Pastor
and Holy Communion
3:30 P.M.—Rev. John R. Bryant
Pastor of Bethel AME Church, Choir and Congregation will worship with us.
6:00 P.M.—BTU and New Members Class
Church Officers Night
REV. RICHARD H. OGLETREE

58th Annual Women's Day
(St. Paul Baptist Church) and the
41st Union Women's Day
with the
Memorial Baptist Church
31st and the Alameda
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1979
11:00 A.M.—Special Sermon
Pastor Crawley
Subject: — "Christian Women in the Struggle for Domestic Peace"
6:00 P.M.—Features: Mrs. Pauline C. Reed,
Vice-President of the Ministers Wives
Dean of the New York Progressive Convention
Assistant to the Progressive National Baptist Convention
Special Music—Memorial Women's Ensemble
St. Paul's Women's Chorus and The Fortune Family
Mrs. Cora P. Crawley, President
GEORGE A. CRAWLEY, JR., D.D., Pastor
(Note: Park on City College's Lot in Front of the Church)

To-Be-In
Fri., Oct. 12, 1979
If any question
Call 367-4565
Cynthia Gwynn
"Let God Be Praised"
Prededicatory Week
of
Central Baptist Church
2035 West Baltimore Street
October 15-19 Service 7:30 P.M.
Monday DR. LYNDSAI PITTS
First Mt. Calvary Baptist Church
Tuesday REV. WILLIAM R. RIVERS
New Bethlehem Baptist Church
Wednesday REV. HOWARD QUEEN
Pleasant Hope Baptist Church
Thursday REV. LORENZO GRAVES
Calvary Baptist Church
Friday DR. EDGAR L. WILLIAMS
Second New St. Paul Baptist Church of Washington, D.C.
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1979
Dedication of Our New Christian Education Center
11:00 A.M.
Dr. Matthew R. Silver
President of
U.B.M. Convention of Maryland
4:00 P.M. Dr. Olin P. Moyd
Pastor Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church
ALL ARE WELCOME
DR. M. J. BRACKETT, Pastor

DOUGLAS MEMORIAL COMMUNITY CHURCH
"The People of the Way"
Lafayette and Madison Aves.
MARION CURTIS BASCOM, D.D. Minister
James S. Hammond
Sunday, October 14, 1979
Eight and Eleven O'Clock
Marion C. Bascom, Preaching
Dear Lord and Father of Mankind — David Williams
All People that on Earth Do Dwell — Nancy Roberts
Give Me Youc Hand — John Work, arr.
Cantique de Jean Racine — Gabriel Faure

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42nd ANNIVERSARY PROGRAM
Senior Usher Board
CONCORD BAPTIST CHURCH
5204 Liberty Heights Avenue
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1979
3:00 P.M.
Mrs. Joyce Currie, Chairperson
Mrs. Marjorie R. Green, President
Rev. M. R. Silver, Pastor

SHARP ST. MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1979
9:30 A.M.—Church School
11:00 A.M.—Morning Worship.
ALL ARE WELCOME
Rev. John W. Coleman, Minister
Rev. Arthur White, Assistant Minister

Prompt, Efficient, Considerate Service
VERNON R. BAILEY
Successor to
George G. Kelson Funeral Home
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669-7585 523-1520

St. James Episcopal Church
Lafayette Square
Baltimore, Maryland
8:00 A.M. Holy Communion
9:00 A.M. Church School
10:30 A.M. Choral Eucharist Sermon
The Rev. Donald O. Wilson, Rector
Mr. A. Maurice Murphy, Organist
The Public Is Cordially Invited To Attend

PENNSYLVANIA AVE. AME ZION CHURCH
"The Church of the Burning Heart"
Corner Pennsylvania Ave. and Dolphin Street
LAYMEN'S DAY
11:00 A.M.—Worship
Guest Speaker
Music by Sanctuary Choir and Young Adult Choir
1:30 P.M.—Fellowship Meal
3:30 P.M.—Church School Program
4:30 P.M.—Roll Call of Captains
A Friendly Welcome To All
DR. MARSHALL H. STRICKLAND, Pastor

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