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THE LIVING CHURCH

Wilbur Waters school promotes religious education

Dr. Dolores Brooks, director of the Wilbur H. Waters School of Religion Inc., in the 3800 block of Forest Park Ave., and pastor of Holy Grace Memorial Temple Community Church, said the purpose of the school is "to promote religious education and to prepare individuals for Christian service."

The Rev. Dr. Theodore C. Jackson Jr., pastor of Gillis Memorial Christian Community Church was the guest speaker at the third commencement on June 4. The graduation was held at New Carmel Star Baptist Church.

Eight students received degrees and 41 students received certificates. Dr. L. Brown is president of the conference and the Rev. Harold Slaughter is vice president of the conference.

The school was founded by the late Dr. Edward M. Revels honoring the late Dr. Wilbur H. Waters, founder of the National Association Council of Community Churches of America and Elswhere, Inc.

Dr. Brooks, who is also a teacher at Calloway Elementary School said, "Our endeavor is to bring individuals to a personal acceptance of Jesus Christ as saviour and Lord, to help Christians grow in grace and in knowledge and in equipping Christians for more effective service through the grace and power of Jesus Christ."

The Brooks Tutorial program is academically oriented to instruct in the GED program of education and to aid in scholastic achievement of children and adults in the areas of language, arts, mathematics and social studies.

Students who received degrees were the Reverends Sa-Lee Robinson and Sylvester Short, bachelor of divinity degree; Dr. Eddie Montgomery, doctorate of minister; Rev. Leander Brown doctorate of divinity;

Also, Alverta Montgomery and Sally Yancey, masters of Christian education; Sallie Thornton, bachelor of humanities; Mrs. Thornton is known as the mother of the National Association of Council of Community Churches of America and Elsewhere Inc.

Alfred Snowden received his bachelor of letters. Undergraduates receiving certificates were the Reverends Donnell Jones, Alan J. Sloane, Flora McNair, Moses A. Campbell, Gregory C. Turner.

Outreach students receiving certificates were Carolyn Branch, Bertha L. Faircloth, Rev. Brenda M. McBride, Mary Smith, Lenora Powell, Kermit Augustus, Fletcher Williams, William G. Morton, Carolyn Wilson, Lula Mae Wilson, Geraldine Randall, Mary Turner, Francis Pratt,

Also, Carrie B. Moore, Yvette Wilson, Charissa Wilson, Angela Pittman, Desarie McKinney, Carolyn Slaughter, Mary Tripp, Marcia H. Salmon, Hattie Johnson, Pearl Meade, Gloria J. Craig, Beverly Alston, Catherine Bright, Adolph Young.

Also, Joe McLean, Alma Graves, Rev. Hoard Jackson, Rev. Theodora McLean, Ruth Tolover, Robert Harper, Perine Harper and Phyllis Moore.



GRADUATES AND OUTREACH STUDENTS of Wilbur H. Waters School of Religion, Inc. and Brooks Tutorial College attended the third commencement on June 4 at the school. Dr. Dolores Brooks is director and Dr. Howard Queen is dean of the school.

23,000 attended four day Jehovah's Witnesses convention

As more than 23,000 people lifted their voices in song, new adherents to the faith were baptized June 12 in ceremonies conducted at RFK Memorial Stadium.

The occasion was a highlight of the four day district convention of Jehovah's Witnesses held June 10 to 13 in Washington. The services were conducted by Donald Johnson and the theme was "Ordained as Ministers of the Kingdom."

Johnson said the candidates were making a decision that would alter their life. "You could not have made a more important and beneficial decision in your life. Your baptism signifies something about your recent history. It signifies that you have acquired accurate knowledge and appreciation of God and his son," said Johnson.

Johnson pointed to the changes in their lives, moral and religious. "You have learned how one should use the life, ability and vitality God gives and regret not having done so before."

The ceremonies were simple and dignified. Without ritual the baptismal candidates entered the water of a portable swimming pool and were completely submerged beneath the water. More than 200 men and women were baptized. The main speaker for the four day meeting was R. L. Thompson. He said wars have been fought for it and millions have died for it. Yet, he said, real freedom includes much more. There is a tremendous need for relief for the suffering of the human family.

"For mankind to be free in the fullest sense of the word," he said, "We have to be rid of the bondage of imperfection, sickness, and death."

Thompson stressed that many felt the scientific achievements of recent years would solve all problems and bring genuine freedom. Pointing to the undesirable aspects attached to this advancement, Thompson said man possesses weapons of sufficient force to destroy the human family.

He said scientific achievement helped conquer many diseases but left others rampant. He cited cancer, heart disease and VD. Discussing other results of the "scientific age," Thompson pointed to the great inventions of the past century, many of which were adapted to military use in a massive armaments build up. He mentioned the automobile and airplane.

"Have the advances in scientific fields such as in agriculture brought freedom from grinding poverty and hunger?" he asked.

Citing war as the greatest threat to freedom, Thompson said of all countries of the world, only one third have any semblance of democracy.

Thompson said world military organizations require more and more sophisticated equipment and fire power. He said spending rose to more than $500 billion last year. "That's over $15,000 every second," he said.

"And consider too," he said, "that just one atomic bomb devastated the city of Hiroshima. Today the nations have enough nuclear weapons to wipe out over a million large cities, and there aren't anywhere near that number of cities."

Thompson said whatever progress has been made scientifically, it has not set mankind free from the things which make people subject to exploitation, suffering, poverty, sickness and death.

Thompson added that religion had failed to unify people or nations. "If a religion teaches truth," he said, "it is elementary that its members should at least not kill one another. What kind of truth, what kind of brotherhood would that be?"

He said, "History shows that people of the same religions of this world have regularly slaughtered one another in time of war by the millions just because they lived in different countries. At times," he said, "people of the same religion even kill one another inside the same country in civil uprisings or revolutions."

Discussing the solution to the problems, "Thompson said divine intervention is the only answer "God's rule," he said.

Thompson said the kingdom of God mentioned in the "Lord's Prayer" is mankind's only hope.

He added, "Thus, when God's heavenly kingdom takes over all of earth's affairs, God's will is going to be done on earth as it is in heaven. That kingdom will take out of the way all systems of human rule that have proved so.

"God is not going to reform or covert this world," said Thompson. "It is far beyond recovery. Hence, God is going to destroy the entire wicked system of this world. He concluded by saying God's kingdom will restore to the earth peace, health and life. He said it is man's only hope.



REDEMPTION CHOIR members of Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church can be seen filming the drama Redemption In Black Theology on Sunday, June 20, 6 p.m. at the Reisterstown Road Church. The Rev. Dr. Olin P. Moyd is pastor. AFRO Photo by Roman Hankewycz

Metro church briefs

The Rector's Guild of Holy Trinity Church, Lafayette and Wheeler Avenue will sponsor an evening with Father Linwood Garrenton on Sunday, June 20, 6:30 p.m. at the Forum, 4210 Primrose Ave. Father Garrenton will be leaving the church on July 1 for a new assignment at Christ Church in Rochester, N. Y.

Ronald Blayne Collins, assistant manager of the Washington and Maryland District Amoco Oil Company, will be the prayer breakfast speaker on Saturday, June 19 at New Shiloh Baptist Church, Fremont Avenue and Lanvale Street. The Rev. Dr. Harold A. Carter is pastor.

The Reservoir Hill Community Association will sponsor a gospel show on June 27, 5 p.m. until 9 p.m. at John Eager Howard Elementary School, Linden Avenue and Lennox St.

The Male Chorus of Israel Baptist Church will be in concert on June 20, 4 p.m. at Calvary Baptist Church, 3911 Garrison Blvd. James Fleming is president and the Rev. Lorenzo Graves is pastor.

Members of Friendship Baptist Church will have a flea market on June 26, 12:00 until 4 p.m. 346 Denison St. The Rev. William McCoy Jr. is pastor.

The Rev. Dr. Edmond D. Meade pastor emeritus of Israel Baptist Church, Preston and Chester Street will be honored on June 19, 7 p.m. at the church. The Rev. Dr. H. Walden Wilson is pastor of the church and Mrs. Louise A. Goode is chairperson.

The Gospel Chorus of City Temple Baptist Church will sponsor a parents appreciation day luncheon and play on June 26 at the YWCA, 128 Franklin St. The Rev. William W. Payne is pastor, Ray Sutton is group leader, Annette Hart, assistant group leader and Delores Y. Royster and Betty Pettigrew are coordinators.

The United Male Chorus will be presented in a concert on June 20, 7 p.m. at Mt. Calvary Freewill Baptist Church, 1607 Oliver St. The Rev. Daniel Green is secretary, J. Armstrong is president and the Rev. Robert E. Farrow is host pastor.

The United Methodist Women of Lewin United Methodist Church, 4820 Reisterstown Rd., will present the Men's Mission Choir of Asbury United Methodist Church of Annapolis in concert on June 27, 4 p.m. Florine Fuller is sponsor, Lillian Luttrell is president and the Rev. Alfred E. Statesman is pastor.

A Children's Day program will be given on June 20, 4 p.m. at Ray of Hope Baptist Church, 3000 Parkside Drive. The Rev. C. M. Franklin is pastor.

Rally Day will be observed on June 20, 4 p.m. at New Fellowship Christian Community Church. Among choirs singing will be All Saint's Gospel Choir, Naomi C. Durant Gospel Choir, Dominions of Pentecostal Holiness, Martha Lee Elvoid Soloist New Fellowship Choir.

The Mahalia Jackson Missionary Unit of Bethel AME Church, Druid Hill Avenue and Lanvale Street will sponsor a Christian Art festival on June 26, 12:00 until 6 p.m. The Rev. John R. Bryant is pastor.

Men and Women's Day will be observed on June 27, 11 a.m. at Union Baptist Church in Turner Station. The Rev. William E. Johnson is pastor. Mrs. Betty Johnson will be the 11 a.m. speaker and the Rev. Robert Farrow of Mt. Calvary Freewill Baptist Church is the 4 p.m. speaker.

Family and Friends Day will be observed on Sunday, June 20, 5 p.m. at Grace AME Church, 67 Winters Lane. The Rev. Kenneth Steward is pastor.

Mt. Lebanon members film their first drama

The Rev. Dr. Olin P. Moyd, pastor of Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church, 2320 Reisterstown Rd., wrote a challenging and exciting book, "Redemption In Black Theology."

Examining redemption, as reflected in black history and black folk expression, it presents a dynamic responsive outline of redemption which says to black people that God reveals himself to different people in different places at different times and in different ways.

One month after its inception, Mrs. Lydia A. Brown, former chairperson of the Board of Christian Education, was greatly inspired to put the book into drama form, using the multitalented members of the church as the cast.

Both the book and the drama have been widely acclaimed.

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