For All We Know

By Elizabeth Oliver
City Editor

Lt. Col. Frederick D. Gregory, the astronaut, flew in from Johnson Space Center, Houston, last night and is staying with his mother Mrs. Nora Gregory, sister of the famed blood bank scientist, Dr. Charles Drew.



ASTRONAUT LT. COL. FREDERICK D. GREGORY

While in the Baltimore area he is the guest of Mrs. B. B. Drew Price of Columbia and the 22 young men from Baltimore, Columbia and Washington, The Bobtillions, Col. Gregory who is destined to go into space in 1984 is also the guest of Mrs. Charlene Drew Jarvis of Washington who was a recent candidate for DC mayor and his aunt, Mrs. Lenore Drew of Columbia, Dr. Drew's widow.

The First Bobtillion ever held in the nation takes place tonight (Friday) in the Rayburn Building banquet room on Capitol Hill with Astronaut Gregory and members of the Congressional Black Caucus as special guests.



CONG. PARREN J. MITCHELL commencement speaker

Mrs. Vincent R. (Ruteena) Blake's group is the sponsor.

Dr. Fred Oliver of Columbia and Glasco Ryales, photographer met Astronaut Gregory at National Airport Thursday night. The Bobullion will be covered live in Washington by all national TV and CNN international TV, the AFRO and the Columbia Flyer.

Congressman Parren J. Mitchell is the Commencement speaker for Virginia Seminary and College. Present at the mid - May event will be the governor of Virginia and five black mayors; the honorary degree candidates and graduates. Cong. Mitchell will receive the honorary degree of Learned Doctor of Laws.

135TH ANNIVERSARY

Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church has an all - day celebration Sunday as it marks its 135th anniversary and dedicate the newly restored building at Madison Avenue near North Avenue. The church which dates back to 1848, fifteen years before the Emancipation, was established so that slaves might worship in their own way. Rev. Reginald Daniels is pastor.

Mr. and Mrs. Annie Pigott Freeman, 84, of Spokane, Washington is here for the funeral of her daughter, Mrs. Margaret Pigott Koger who died Wednesday at Hopkins Hospital. Mrs. Ann Pigott Dearing, sister of the deceased Mrs. Koger and wife of Attorney Tucker R. Dearing also announces that Mr. Dearing is home from the hospital and greatly improved. For information on the Koger funeral friends may call the Joseph Russ Funeral Home.

The Md. Assoc. Ministers Wives and Ministers Widows will hold a seminar April 23 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Sheraton Inn, Orleans and Broadway, with courses on Coping With Street People and Coping with the Trauma of Death. Registration is $5. All ministers wives are invited. Call Mrs. Ernestine Hill, 444 - 8825 or Mrs. Cora Crawley — 366 - 4666.

St. Matthews Methodist Church's Guiding Light Circle celebrates its 33rd Anniversary Sunday, April 17 along with Family and Friends Day. Services are 11 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. with Bruce Hawkins and Mrs. Myrna Powell speakers. Rev. St. George Crosse is pastor. Martha Dent, president, Alease Weems and Evelyn Patterson, co - chair.

Attorney Juanita Mitchell is the speaker at the 1 p.m. Prayer Luncheon tomorrow, Saturday, April 16, at Sharp Street Methodist Church Social Hall.

BROCKINGTON WEDDING

Major McNeal and Gladys Brockington announced the marriage of their son, Dr. McNeal Brockington III to Miss Debora Yevette Deaderick of Nashville.

The ceremony was performed at Berean Baptist Chapel, in Nashville, Dr. Sid Smith officiating.

The bride is a graduate of North High School, Tennessee State University and the University of Tennessee Center for the Health Sciences.

She is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and the American Physical Theraphy Association. She was a registered physical therapist at Donnelson Hospital in Nashville.

The bridegroom is a graduate of Baltimore City College and Lincoln University. He received his M.D. from Meharry Medical College and is presently an intern at Hurley Medical Center in Flint, Michigan.

The elegant love ceremony uniting Miss Deaderick and Dr. Brockington was performed under the theme of "This Day I Will Marry the One I L Will

The Bride was a vision in white chiffon and lace gown with the lace bodice, sleeves and mandarine collar. She wore a white lace hat with chiffon veil. The groom was resplendent in an ivory colored tuxedo trimmed in ivory satin with ivory accessories.

The best man was McNeal Brockington Jr., father of the bridegroom. Mrs. Japho Hardin, sister of the bride, was matron of honor.

Many Friends and relatives accompanied the Brockington's to Nashville for the wedding. The long trip was made in the comfort of a luxurious executive bus.

One of the after wedding highlights was a dinner hosted by the parents of the bridegroom for the group at the world famous "Cajun's Wharf."

To top off the evening Baltimoreans were invited to the beautiful home of Dr. and Mrs. Louise Daniels (long time friends) where they received Southern hospitality at its best.

VUU weekend events attract 3,000 here

14 honorees feted at reception; choir concert fills Meyerhoff

A total of nearly 3,000 Baltimoreans and guests from nearby states were present Saturday and Sunday for the Virginia Union University weekend events. First came the reception at Coppin State College, a closed event honoring the 1982 Distinguished Service Award recipients.

The 14 honorees from all walks of life were formally presented by the sponsors, the VUU Miles W. Connor Chapter Alumni Chapter of Baltimore with Harlow Fullwood Jr. president.

The evening also saw the special honorees cited. (Awards were given Sunday):

Miles W. Connor Chapter

1982 Honorees

Alumnus of The Year — Dr. Benjamin F. Smith, professor, Morgan State University.

Clergyman of The Year — Rev. Herman R. Ford, Sr., pastor, Fountain Church.

Principal of The Year — Samual R. Billups, Walbrook Senior High School.

Coach of The Year — Robert P. Wade, Paul Laurence Dunbar Sr. High School.

Student of The Year — Karen Robinson, Milford Mill Sr. High School.

Student Finalists — Kim E. Burns, Western High School; Bryan P. Anderson, Milford Mill Sr. High School.

1983 Miles W. Connor Chapter Souvenir Journal Dedication — Susan S. Jones, principal, Edmondson Sr. High School.

The VUU president, Dr. David Shannon and his wife who journeyed from the Richmond campus were also presented and received gifts for the college, $1,000 from Fountain Baptist Church, Rev. Herman A. Ford Sr. pastor and Dr. Matthew Silver, $500, Concord Baptist Chapter.

The gala bouffet featured many other awards and announcements including the $500 life NAACP membership for the chapter and the cake sale for the Baltimore Blue Chip Program for jobs for youth.

President and Mrs. Fullwood presided along with Osborne Payne, the McDonalds Corp. owner who is a VUU trustee.

The Sunday 5 p.m. concert by the famed Virginia Union University Choir witnessed the Meyerhoff Symphony Hall filled to capacity for the performance under Dr. Odell Hobbs, conductor.

Guest choir was the Virginia Raynor Memorial Choir of Concord Baptist Church, Baltimore.

Ricardo Hall and Milton Marriott accompanied the VUU Choir with Karen Savage, Martin Brown, Jonathan Mitchum Sharlene Smith as soloists.

Standing ovations and extended applause saluted the choir's rendition of both classics and Spirituals.

Highlight of the intermission was the awarding of the distinguished Service Plaques and awards to the 1982 Honorees.



Ryales Photos

MRS. OSBORNE PAYNE, wife of the VUU trustee, presents a bouquet to Mrs. Harlow Fullwood Jr., chapter president's wife.

Distinguished Service Awards

Floraine B. Applefield, director — Baltimore's Best Program.

Rev. James L. Bell, pastor Timothy Baptist Church.

Com. Frank J. Battaglia — Baltimore Police Department.

Fr. Maurice J. Blackwell, pastor — St. Edward's Roman Catholic Church.

Dr. Thelma B. Cox, asst. Supt. — Baltimore City Public Schools.

Rev. George A. Crawley, Jr., pastor — St. Paul Baptist Church.

Dr. Flossie M. Dedmond, retired dean — Coppin State College

Rev. Benjamin S. Foust, pastor — St. John AME Church.

Samuel S. Jenkins, 33 — Deputy Grand Master, M.W. Zerrubabble Grand Lodge, A.F. & A.M., Inc.

Lenny Moore, member — N.F.L. Hall of Fame.

A. Paul Moss — Board of Regents University of Maryland.

John R. Steadman, sports director — The News American.

Hon. Robert B. Watts, Judge — Supreme Bench of Baltimore.

Hon. Verda F. Welcome — State Senator. — EMO



AT THE RECEPTION — $500 check goes to VUU president, Dr. David T. Shannon, from Dr. Matthew Silver, pastor, Concord Baptist Church; Agent Fullwood, the chapter president and VUU trustee and Police Commissioner Battaglia; Mayor William D. Schaefer, City Councilman Michael B. Mitchell and Mrs. Marguerite Campbell.



HONOREES — Dr. Flossie Dedmond, Dr. George Crawley, Dr. Thelma B. Cox, Fr. Maurice Blackwell, Police Commissioner Frank J. Battaglia, Rev. James Ball, Mrs. Florine B. Applefield.



MORE HONOREES — Sen. Verda Welcome, Judge Robert Watts, Paul A. Moss, Lenny Moore, Samuel S. Jenkins, Rev. Benjamin S. Foust.



CITATIONS FOR THE YEAR — Mrs. Dorothy Wright, Edmondson High counselor; Robert F. Wade, Dunbar, coach; Samuel R. Billups, principal, Walbrook; Rev. Herman Ford, clergyman; Dr. Benjamin F. Smith, alumnus; Susan S. Jones, principal, Edmondson; Student finalists, Bryan P. Anderson, Milford Mill High; Kim E. Burns, Western High; Student of the Year, Karen Robinson.

The LIVING CHURCH

Black seminarians hold annual conference

The National Conference of Black Seminarians held its fifth annual session on the campus of the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta recently.

The theme of this year's activities was "The Black Minister and the Community."

The N.C.O.B.S. was started in 1979 by a group of black seminarians from across the United States who gathered to address their common concerns and devise a statement of purpose by developing a communication system among black seminarians that would make education a part of the on-going struggle for freedom.

They also decided to work with others in the areas of politics, society and economics to have collective input for meaningful change into those structures. On the individual side, they sought ways to empower black seminarians to liberate themselves so that they could keep in close contact with the black community and relate their education to the black experience.

In this year's session, the conference goals were to sensitize seminarians to some views that the community has towards ministers to develop strategies which give more adequate response to the aspirations of the community and to strengthen the N.C.O.B.'s national structure through planning sessions.

There were approximately 300 seminarians attending the conference and there was a rigorous schedule of lectures, seminars, and panel discussions to provide overviews on various aspects of this year's theme. Also, several worship services were held throughout the conference to provide spiritual uplift and enlightment.

Highlighting the conference were a host of well known speakers and leaders. Leading an impressive list of contributors were Dr. Noel Erskine, associate professor of Theology and Ethics at Candler School of Theology, Emory University; Dr. Riggins Earl, ITC professor; Rev. Dr. Barbara King Black, founder and minister of the Hillside Chapel and Truth Center, International; Dr. Charles G. Adams pastor of the Hartford Memorial Baptist Church; Rev. C. T. Vivian, chairman of the Board of the National Anti-Klan Network; Dr. Luther Smith, Assistant professor church and community, Candler School of Theology, Emory University and Rev. Carolyn McCrary, ITC instructor in pastoral care.

Kelly Miller Smith Jr., the national chairman of the N.C.O.B.S. said that this year's conference was a success because the participants committed themselves to transcending the lines of communication which have in the past created barriers between the people and the educated clergy. Smith said that the N.C.O.B.S. will meet next year at the Colgate Rochester Divinity School Crozer Theological Seminary in Rochester, New York.



SPECIAL AWARD — Cederick Hailey, lead singer of Little Cederick and the Traveling All Star gospel singers, recently received an award from Rep. Parren J. Mitchell. The award was presented to Cederick at the Easter Sunday gospel show at the Civic Center. He is the youngest person to record a gospel album with Pearl Record Company.

Young people's impact on church is crucial

By Eddie King

"Young people have a great impact on the church of today and will continue to have in the church of the future," said Rev. Duane Simmons, an associate minister at Christian Unity Temple where Dr. Maude Coleman is the pastor.

Rev. Simmons has been instrumental in attracting more young people to the church. He feels that his most effective drawing device is just living the life.

In his somewhat unorthodox approach is his ability to communicate well and relate first-hand with many youth experiences. Many feel that he produces an atmosphere much more compatible to their needs than sometimes older members of the church.

Rev. Simmons, 22, has been preaching since he was 9 years old. He is known throughout the East for his forceful but graceful delivery that demands the attention of every available ear.



Rev. Duane Simmons

A senior English major at Morgan State University, he feels that young ministers are often neglected and crushed by the voices of experience. For they (young ministers) tend to detour from the rigid traditional role of the good preacher and teacher.

"Paul found it imperative to illustrate the importance of every individual to the church," said Rev. Simmons. "Through an analogy St. Paul compared the church family to a human body where each part depended on the other as we as Christians must do."

"Duane is an inspiration to the family," said Helen Simmons, his mother. "I thank God for having blessed me with such a gift," she said. On Sunday, April 24, Rev. Simmons will be at New Pilgrim Baptist Church, 629 Washington St., at 3:30 p.m. for Youth Day services.

Today In Christ

The Word:

Isaiah 30:5 - "For thus saith the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel: IN returning and rest shall ye be saved; in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength...."

Ephesians 3:16-18 - "That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the Inner man; That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height..."

No is a perfectly legitimate answer. Both being able to say no when the occasion warrants, and being able to effectively handle being told so are necessary skills to focus upon and develop. TODAY...IN CHRIST.

I am reminded of any number of old sayings that speak to the above. "...Spreading yourself too thin," "...Trying to do so many things, that you're unable to do any of them well," and so forth.

Satan is a formidable enemy - a culprit, cunning, slick and arresting. He will use any means and opportunity necessary or available to tie your hands up, and render you either ineffective, or less effective than you could be as a servant of Christ.

Oh, Satan won't try anything obvious on you. He's too smart for that, and knows you are too. So, instead, he'll try to take (and will - if you let him) advantage of the willing spirit to serve that is so evident in God's people - those chosen by Him, those eternally grateful for all that He's done for them, those who count it a privilege to serve. And so 'yes' to this and 'yes' to that until you've 'yes'-ed yourself into a corner, where you find that you're stuck - too busy to do anything well. Seeing this, old Satan's grin stretches from ear to ear. Part of being effective, I'll say again, is knowing how to say no, and when God is better glorified by doing so.

There is, of course, a lot more to be said in conjunction with this. For example, how Satan strokes our egos, and often (even without our being aware of what's taking place) turns that "spirit to serve" into a "spirit to self." Oh, come on now-you know what I'm talking about!

Then, too, there's being on the receiving end of a 'no.' So many folks who are so capable and completely competent everywhere else, just don't handle being told 'no' well at all. I've seen tantrums thrown and confusion caused on teams, among work staffs, in public places, and - yes - in the church among the "Saints," all because of 'no' and you know that makes the enemy grin! But more about these in a later column. They are a report in themselves.

Please don't misinterpret what's been said here as a call to inactivity, or a call not to serve. It is not. It is, rather, a call for prayful a watching as well as praying that you will be able to serve, not less, but better! Praise the Lord!

Cultural Arts committee of Union Baptist presents David Hurd in concert

The Cultural Arts Committee of Union Baptist Church will present David Hurd in a recital on Sunday, April 17, 6 p.m. at 1219 Druid Hill Avenue.

Hurd was the only organist to reach the finals of both the improvisitation competition and the organ performance competition held in conjunction with the 1977 International Congress of Organist in Philadelphia.

Hurd is organist and assistant professor of chorch music at tbe Episcopal Church's general theological seminary in New York. He is a graduate of Oberlin College and has pursued gradoate work at tbe Manhattan School of Music and the Univesity of North Carolina. Wbile in North Carolina, he served as instructor in organ, assistant cbaPel organist and diyinity scbool organist at Duke University.

He is also a composer of church music and a member of the Standing Commission on Church Music of the EPiscopal Church.

Hurd has performed widely in the United States and in 1980 was a featured artist at tbe national convention of the American Guild of Organists held in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

How to get church news in the AFRO

For coverage of any church events, mail your announcemnts to Ms. Pam Widgeon, religious editor, 628 N. Eutaw St., Baltimore, Md. 21201 or call 728-8200 Monday through Friday afternoon.

There is no charge for news or photographic coverage. Publication of any church news is contingent upon factors of time and news space available and organizations from all religious denominations, as space permits.

Send me a copy of your church bulletin and newspaper.

Religious citywide crusade to be held at Civic Center

The Lift Up Jesus citywide crusade will be held April 23, 2 p.m. at the Civic Center. The Lift Up Jesus Ministry is a ministry of Christian fellowship uniting for the sole purpose of reaching the masses with the message of Jesus Christ.

More than 2,000 people are expected to attend. The Rev. Dr. Aaron B. Claxton, pastor of the Church of the Risen Saviour is the Baltimore crusade coordinator.

The Rev. Dr. C. Johnson of Brooklyn, New York will be the speaker. Executive committee members are Elder Allen McDaniel, Apostle William Brown, Rev. Timothy Birkett, Elder Nathan Haughton.

Committee members are Elder Ellison James, Apostle Charles Mason, Elder James Copeland and Elder Willie S. Rouse.

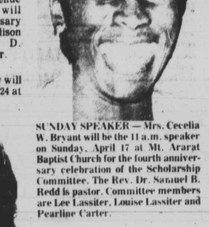
Metro church briefs

A spring rally sponsored by the King Family will be held April 17, 5 p.m., New Christian Memorial Church, 3325 Coton Ave. The Rev. Walter Bronson Jr. is pastor.

The Rev. Anthony Muor United Pentecostal Miracle Church will be the speaker.

Members of Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church will celebrate the ir 135th anniversary on Sunday, April 17, 2110 Madison Ave. The Rev. Herbert D. Valentine will be the speaker.

Deacon and Deaconess Day will be observed on Sunday, April 24 at



SUNDAY SPEAKER — Mrs. Cecelia W. Bryant will be the 11 a.m. speaker on Sunday, April 17 at Mt. Ararat Baptist Church for the fourth anniversary celebration of the Scholarship Committee. The Rev. Dr. Samuel B. Redd is pastor. Committee members are Lee Lassiter, Louise Lassiter and Pearline Carter.

Leadenhall Baptist Church, 1021 Leadenhall St. James Cherry is chairman of the board, Beatrice Winder is president of the Deaconess group and the Rev. Eddie R. Wilson is pastor.

The senior choir of Trinity Presbyterian Church, 3200 Walbrook Ave. will have their annual spring concert on April 24, 5 p.m. Frank Brown is director; Gloria Jones is president and Robert L. Read is moderator.

The Carl Stokes for City Council Committee will sponsor a gospel show on April 16, 7 p.m. at St. Frances Xavier Church, Caroline and Oliver Streets.

The Guiding Light Circle will celebrate their 33rd anniversary on Sunday, April 17. The occasion will also include Family and Friends Day. Alease Weems is chairperson; Evelyn Patterson, co-chairman; Martha Dent, president and the Rev. St. George Crosse is pastor.

A car wash, bake sale and rummage sale will be held on Saturday, April 16 at the Bible Speaks Church, 3302 Harford Rd.



PRAYER BREAKFAST — Miss Weptanomah B. Carter will be the 8 a.m. Saturday, April 16 speaker for the New Shiloh Baptist Church Women's Day prayer breakfast, Fremont Avenue and Lanvale Street. The Rev. Dr. Harold Carter is pastor.



FIRST GOSPEL ALBUM — Ms. Joyce Avery Arnold as recorded her first album. Ms. Arnold is a former school teacher and a graduate of Morgan State University. She is a member of the Baltimore Fellowship Choir and St. Katherine's Episcopal Choir.

Chancel choir members celebrate their anniversary

Members of the Chancel Ensemble Choir of Wayland Baptist Church, 3200 Garrison Blvd., will celebrate their anniversary on Sunday, April 17, 3:30 p.m.

The choir will be singing on April 15, 7 p.m. at the Progressive First Baptist Church, 3220 Garrison Blvd. The Rev. Oscar Brown will be the guest speaker and the Clifford Johnson Choral of Mt. Pleasant Baptist will also be participating. The theme for the anniversary celebration is "Never Say No To Jesus."



CO-CHAIRPERSONS for the annual Women's Day at New Shiloh Baptist Church shown from left are Mrs. Kathleen Bowen and Mrs. Ethel Purdie. Ms. Patricia Morris will be the 6 p.m. speaker for Women's Day on Sunday, April 17. (Photo by Donald Lee)