THE LIVING CHURCH

AFRO SPECIAL

Christian Practioneer prays to restore ruined lives, hopes

By Bettie B. Thompson

Arrested for smuggling cocaine, a fugitive from the FBI for jumping bail and fleeing the country, the young man was desperate when he called Edwin Leever of Winter Park, Florida, for help.

Is Leever a criminal lawyer, or an underworld trouble-shooter? No. He's a Christian Science practitioner; and he agreed to pray.

To pray? Yes, says Mr. Leever in his upcoming lecture here. His many years in the Christian healing ministry have convinced him of the practicality and dependability of what he calls spiritual prayer. "You can turn to God and find help that can rescue you from a ruined life. No matter what seems to have caused it, there is hope," he says.

In fact, the practitioner believes that God's help is more than a hope — it's a promise. And he's visiting the District at the invitation of the local Christian Science congregation to talk about "God's Promise: A Life Restored, Not Ruined." The lecture is open to the public — no admission charge — and will be held at Seventh Church of Christ, Scientist, 2122 Jackson Street, NE., at 3 p.m. Sunday, April 27.

According to the lecturer, the teachings of Christian Science — which he says are based on the Bible and the life and works of Christ Jesus — show that it isn't enough simply to beg God for assistance — as in the case of the frightened smuggler.

He says true deliverance involves 'spiritual regeneration of thought ... letting the Christ (God's Word in action) take over thought and wipe out any lies about God's creation." This process of Christian redemption might take shape as an honest reformation from sin or even as a change in one's most fundamental misconceptions about God. And it gives individuals such as the smuggler the moral courage to responsibly face up to past misdeeds.

The practitioner says he has witnessed God's restorative power in many areas of human life. On Sunday, April 27, he will relate what happened to the frightened smuggler. He will also elaborate on the power of spiritual Christianity to heal not only sin, but also disease and even severe financial difficulties.

Before entering the public practice of Christian Science healing, Mr. Leever spent 12 years in the business world, including five years working on the first manned space program as an engineer. He is married and lives with his wife in Florida.

Christian women weekend slated at Shiloh

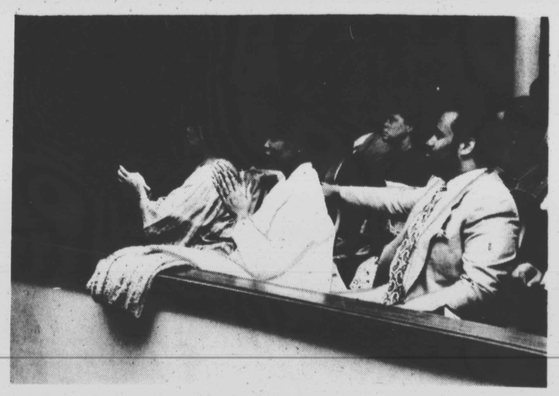
The Women of Shiloh Baptist Church has announced that their Women's Day Weekend, this weekend will be under the theme, "Women Networking for Community Development."

The weekend begins with a symposium — TEEN PREGNANCIES! SUCCESS STRATEGIES FOR YOUTH-AT-RISK at 7 p.m., Friday, April 25, 1986 at the Shiloh Family Life Center at 9th and P Streets, NW.

This event will offer an evening of dining and thoughtful exchange with key community and civic leaders. Guest panelists include: Councilmember Wilhelmina Rolark, Dolores Carpenter, Patricia P. Grant, Judge Norma H. Johnson, Dr. Eloise Curry, Susan Kidd, Joyce Ladner, Mrs. Jackie Walton Sadler, Phyliss Etheridge Young, and Social Services Commissioner Audrey Rowe.

The Women's Day Services on Sunday will continue to highlight the serious problems which confront our community. The 7:45 a.m. Service will feature Rev. Lola Singletary and Ella Pearson Mitchell will speak at the 10:55 a.m. Service.

Concerned women, parents and community leaders are invited to join the Women of Shiloh for a weekend of Christian networking and for a serious review of alternate solutions to the community crisis of teenage pregnancy.



ALL WHO ATTENDED enjoyed the program at the Lyric Theatre during the One in the Spirit revival crusade held for five evenings last week. The final program was held on the night of Friday, April 25.

AMONG THE MANY items on sale during the crusade was a wide variety of religious books including those shown above.

Israel prevents Black Hebrews from participating in march

By Randolph R. Payton
AFRO Staff Writer

The Israeli government prevented 1,500 members of the Original African Hebrew Israelite Nation of Jerusalem from conducting a planned march from the town of Dimona to Jerusalem Tuesday to protest the detention of 46 of their members last Thursday, according to confirmed reports from the State Department and the Israeli Embassy.

According to Yosef Yaakov, Consulate General at the Israeli Embassy, the Black Hebrews planned to "go up to Jerusalem and besiege the Prime Minister's house." He said that Police patrols were blocking the roads from Dimona preventing the demonstration.

However, the Black Hebrews insist that the Israeli army has evacuated the other residents of the town and has the town surrounded by the army.

The U.S. State Department has been contacted several times to confirm these reports. They confirmed that some activity was taken place in Israel between the Israel government and the Black Hebrews, but did not elaborate on the situation by press time.

However, according to David Johnson, spokesman for Congressman Mervyn Dymally, (D-CA), the Black Hebrews have not confronted the police and the police withdrew on Wednesday.

Dymally, who has been helping the Black Hebrews to attain their rights in Israel had advised the group not to continue their march. "He advised them that they don't have the political strengths to confront the police forcefully," said Johnson.

According to him, the Israeli police stopped the march just as it was starting up. "If the march is conducted it will be dispersed as of any other group in Isarel," said Yaakov.

Last Thursday, 46 men, women and children belonging to the Black Hebrews were surrounded by 250 Israeli police while they were picking oranges in Ricavoke, Israel and arrested.

Yaakov said they are being charged with illegally being in the country and not having a work permit. A group, who he did not name, has applied to have them deported, he said.

According to Johnson, the Black Hebrews claim that they are Jewish people. However, the conservative elements within the government deny that claim. And after being in the country for more than 17 years, the group has not been given the rights that other Jewish people have — the right to work.

"They say no work permits. How do they expect us to take care of our families?" asked the leader of the Black Hebrews Rabbi Ben Ammi.

Since the Black Hebrews have taken up residence in Israel, they have been experiencing a lot of opposition from religious leaders in that country, according to Ammi.

"They are opposed to the fact that the Ancient Israeli were black people," Ammi pointed out, "secondly, those who will deliver and establish the new world order will come from the ranks of black people. This is more than they can bear."

Meanwhile, members of the Black Hebrew community here in the U.S. held demonstrations in front of the Israeli Embassy and the White House to draw attention to the Israeli government's actions against them.

In addition, the 32 Black Hebrews currently on trial in U.S. District Court on charges of violating various statues under the Racketeering Influence and Corrupt Organization Act (RICO), maintain that the U.S. is collaborating with the Israeli government in their persecution.

"This is the first time in the history of the United States, that an entire religion and its leaders have been put on trial," according to Lewis Myers, Jr. the attorney for Warren Brown, (AKA Prince Asie), the leader of the Black Hebrews in the U.S.

The Billy Graham Crusade

To some it conjures up the past

By Zachary D. Smith
AFRO Staff Writer

The Billy Graham Crusade has been a breath of spiritual fresh air for the hundreds of worshippers, both black and white, who have participated in the events at the Washington Convention Center this week.

In Washington's black community the crusade has been supported by a host of prominent clergymen including Rev. Ernest Gibson, Rev. Henry Gregory, and Rev. Frank Tucker—despite the fact that for many blacks the name Billy Graham conjurs up recollections of a time when white evangelists refused to support the black church in its struggle for civil rights.

At a recent early bird service held at Shiloh Baptist Church an associate pastor there explained that the black church and the Billy Graham organization shared a common interest in the celebration of God.

Many black ministers are supporting the crusade, according to the Shiloh preacher, because it is the Christian thing to do.

Still some black ministers have been wary of becoming involved with the Billy Graham Crusade because of a philosophical aversion to evangelism or a concern that Graham has been too slow to speak out on such contemporary black issues such as Apartheid and the treatment of blacks and the poor under the Reagan Administration.

Among those who have been skeptical of the Billy Graham Crusade are reportedly Rev. Lawrence Jones, dean of the Howard University Divinity School and Rev. Clarence Long, pastor of Greater Scripture Baptist Church.

"I hope the churches here can join hands and become brothers and sisters in other areas of ministry," he said. "Because of the unique influences of this city, the eyes of the world are on Washington . . . It is my prayer that this Crusade will touch every level of Washington—from the inner city to the suburbs," he added, carefully avoiding in reference to the White House.

But even as the eyes of the world are on Washington, the eyes of many black people here will be on Billy Graham, whose crusade will close with a final meeting on Sunday, May 4, at RFK Stadium at 4:00 p.m.

Metro Church Briefs

Christian Memorial Church

The Men of Christian Memorial Church are sponsoring a Mother's Day Banquet on Sunday, May 11 at 3 p.m. The affair will be held at The Forum, located at 4210 Primrose Ave. off the 5800 block of Reisterstown Rd.

Christian Memorial's Rev. Catherine Cole will be the speaker, along with the Dynamic Melodaires of Baltimore as a special feature.

Donation is $15 per person. For further information, call 669-2857 or 342-4838.

Ray of Hope Baptist Church

The Annual Spring Revival of the Ray of Hope Baptist Church will begin the week of Mouday, May 5 through Friday, May 9 at 7:30 p.m. The speaker for the week will be Rev. Alfred Jackson, pastor of Fishing Creek Baptist Church, York, SC. Everyone is welcome to come and share in these uplifting services. Rev. Charles M. Franklin is pastor.

Shiloh Christian Community Church

We want to share our great joy with you!!! Shiloh will have a Saturday School--Christian Training Union! God through our pastor Jimmy Baldwin is instructing us to spread his word so that we may have a fuller relationship with God through his son Jesus Christ! We are truly excited by the daily word that God has given unto us for his instructions.

Our first session will be held on May 3 at 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. It is our Kick-Off Session and the theme is "Fellowship, Fund and Feasting."

We are learning something new. The Bible has been around a long time, but there is a freshness to be shared.

Old St. Paul's Church

On Sunday, May 4 there will be a Celebration of Hymns at Old St. Paul's Church at 4 p.m. There will be a dedication of the 1982 Hymnal. There will be an Old/New Fashioned Hymn Sing to introduce the new hymn book and to sing hymns old and new.

At 5 p.m. the program "Words and Music" with Graham Roberts and Yvonne Roberts from Yorkshire, England will be presented.

Hillsdale Chatsworth United Methodist Church

Hillsdale Chatsworth United Methodist Church will celebrate its anniversary with special activities beginning with Founder's Day on Sunday, May 4 at 3 p.m.

Choirs from Union Memorial United Methodist Church will be in attendance and Bishop Joseph Yeakel, bishop of the Washington area, will be guest speaker. Everyone is welcome.

Perkins Square Baptist Church

Come and be blessed at a Spiritual Enrichment Seminar, sponsored by The Women's Day Committee at Perkins Square Baptist Church, 2500 Edmondson Ave. on Saturday, May 10 from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Seminar courses include, "God's Women and their Role in the Church," "Positive Reenforcement for Young Christian Women," and a music worship--"A Song in Every Heart."

Donation is $7. For more information, call the church.

City Temple of Baltimore Baptist Church

On Sunday, May 25 at 4 p.m. the Restoration and Planning Corporation of the City Temple of Baltimore Baptist Church will present 150 ladies in white and 150 men in black, at which time, Evangelist Eva Sapp, a renown gospel singer, will give a recital of beautiful gospel music. Please plan to join us and be among our special guests.

Rev. Carter may file new appeal in sex harassment case

By Art Carter

In the wake of statements and comments made by the principles and their supporters at a church service held in Baltimore on Apr. 20, the Rev. John P. Carter may appeal the recent decision in his case to the United Methodist Church's Judicial Council.

The Council is the next highest church unit that can hear appeals from the appeals committee of the Northeastern Jurisdiction which heard arguments in the case in Philadelphia on Apr. 1.

The committee upheld the conviction but reduced the Rev. Mr. Carter's suspension from three years to 25 months, to expire on June 30, 1987.

The appeals court also struck down the requirement that Rev. Carter make a public confession of guilt and undergo counseling, DECLARING it exceeds the authority of the trial jury as set forth in the UMC Book of Discipline.

The Rev. Mr. Carter, 36, was found guilty last September of violating the order and discipline of the United Methodist Church. The charges stemmed from sexual harassment charges brought by five women. He was found not guilty on the sex harassment counts, but convicted of violating church discipline which was related to the alleged sex harassment.

The women, two whites and three black, had worked with Carter or sought employment on projects he directed as a staff member of the Baltimore Conference Council on Ministries.

A conference committee probed the complaints of the women prior to filing formal charges which resulted in a week-long Church Trial last September.

PLAN NEW APPEAL — The Rev. John P. Carter, second from left, with his lawyer, Rev. Irvin Lockman of Baltimore, left; Rev. Franklin L. Williams, retired minister, second fom right, and Rev. Levi Miller, former District superintendent, listen to speakers at the recent press conference on the Carter decision held at Sharpe Street United Methodist Church in Baltimore. Indications at the conference were that Rev. Carter will file a new appeal in the so-called sex-harassment case.

All of the women testified at the trial, and Rev. Carter took the stand and vehemently denied the charges. The jury of 13 elders of the church, eight women and five men, found Carter guilty on the violation of church discipline count and ordered a three-year "public confession of guilt" and counseling at his own expense.

The Rev. Carter and his staunch supporters then carried the case to appeal, and charged that the trial had been "tinged with racism."

The recent Baltimore service at the Sharp Street Memorial UM Church was described as "a prayer vigil for racial justice." It was attended by more than 50 persons including Carter; his lawyer, the Rev. Irvin C. Lockman, and the Rev. Frank Williams, retired minister of the Asbury UM Church in Washington.

The Rev. Carter again declared his innocence of the church charges and stressed that he had been "a victim of gross injustice." He was further quoted as saying:

"Justice is not immediate, if it takes months, or a year, that isn't important. If I give in, that will just give our foes more of an opportunity to destroy the rest of us."

He also indicated that he would file an appeal with the Judicial Council, but no date has been announced as to when such an appeal will be made.

The Rev. Mr. Williams and other ministers who have supported Carter from the beginning of the case was quoted as saying that the reduced sentence was "still unsatisfactory."

Either side may appeal to the Judicial Council on the basis of errors of law, and Miriam H. Jackson, church counsel, has been quoted as saying the church may appeal to the Judicial Council.

She pointed out that the appeals court upheld the guilty verdict, "but what might be appealed is the jury's authority to attach points to the penalty in an attempt to remedy the situation, an action the church side considered "rehabilitative."

According to the church's official newspaper, The Circuit Rider, a report in January by the conference council on finance and administration list trial costs already paid by the annual conference as more than $47,600.

The question of racism at the trial was explained by Robert K. Sweet of Rumford, R.I., president of the appeals committee which heard the charges in Philadelphia. He indicated that "the (trial) record was not free of racism but we did not feel it was strong enough to reverse the finding of guilty."

Hottie Colbert Brown dies

Hetti Colbert Brown, daughter of the late Leaf Salvatore and Mrs. Gillie Green died on April 15.

She was born on January 27, 1904 in New York City and was educated in Hopewell, VI.

Mrs. Brown married the late Bernard Colbert. They had five children.

In 1935 Mrs. Brown moved with her family to Baltimore, where she became a member of the Shiloh Baptist Church and was active in the Flower Circle, Serving Circle, and Ladies Auxiliary.

She married the late Jesse Brown.

Mrs. Brown is survived by her sons, Hoarsell, and Joseph Colbert; a stepson, Buddy Brown; a daughter, Teresa Thyberg; 14 grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren, and other relatives and friends.

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Time: 7:30 p.m. nightly
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with Rev. James Fuller
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Evangelist - Teacher - Counselor - Pastor
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8:00 A.M.....PRAISE & SPIRITUAL HEALING SERVICE
8:45 A.M.....CHURCH SCHOOL
10:00 A.M.....SERVICE OF BAPTISM
11:00 A.M.....MORNING WORSHIP/HOLY COMMUNION
MUSIC THE ANTHEM: "Come, Come Ye Saints".....arr. J. Spencer Cornwall
THE SPIRITUAL: "Ride On, King Jesus".....arr. Walter Ehret
BRO. JAMES R. PETERSON, DIRECTOR
PREACHING: "The World Is On Fire".....Pastor Ray
Wednesday, May 7, 7 P.M.Martha W. Preston Bible Class — Revelation 20th Chapter
REVEREND DR. SAMUEL RAY, PASTOR

ST. JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH
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The Clergy
The Rev. Donald O. Wilson, D.D., L.H.D., Rector
The Rev. Charles L. Taylor, M.A., M. Div., Assistant
The Rev. Robert T. Ford, ED. D., Deacon
Mr. Maurice Murphy, MUS. D., Choirmaster-Organist
SUNDAY, MAY 4, 1986
8:00 A.M.....Holy Communion
9:00 A.M.....Family Service — Church School
11:00 A.M.....Choral Eucharist and Sermon
The public is cordially invited to attend.

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Dr. Marion Curtis Bascom, Minister
James S. Hammond, M. Music
Juanita Hall Davis Organist
SUNDAY, MAY 4, 1986
8:00 and 11:00 Services
8:00 a.m. — Marion Curtis Bascom, Sr.
11:00 a.m. — Chaplain Hallie Reeves, Preaching
MUSIC
8:00 a.m. — Create In Me a Clean Heart, O Lord — Carl F. Mueller
11:00 a.m. — Dear Lord and Father — C. Hubert H. Parry
Communion Hymn - I Come With Joy To Me My Lord — Arr. Austin Lovelace

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Friday, May 2, 1986 at 8:00 p.m. there will be a Praise-Worship Service of spiritual talents. Elder Melvin C. Green will be the speaker.
Sunday, May 4, 1986
9:00 A.M. Sunday School (All Ages)
10:30 A.M. Live Radio Broadcast WYST 10:10 A.M. Dial
11:00 A.M. Divine Morning Worship Service
Sermon by Elder C. Green
4:00 P.M. We will have a Grand Pr..e-Worship Service to God in ho..oring the man of God, on his 85th birthday Celebration and Service. The entire membership, community, family, and friends will gather to proclaim "Jesus"
"To God Be the Glory, Praise the Lord"
Elder C. Green, Founder & Pastor

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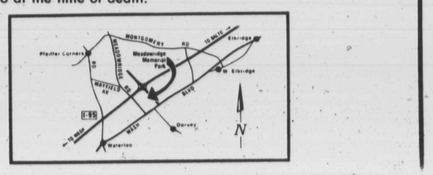

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