

NORTH AMERICAN
REGIONAL

VOICE

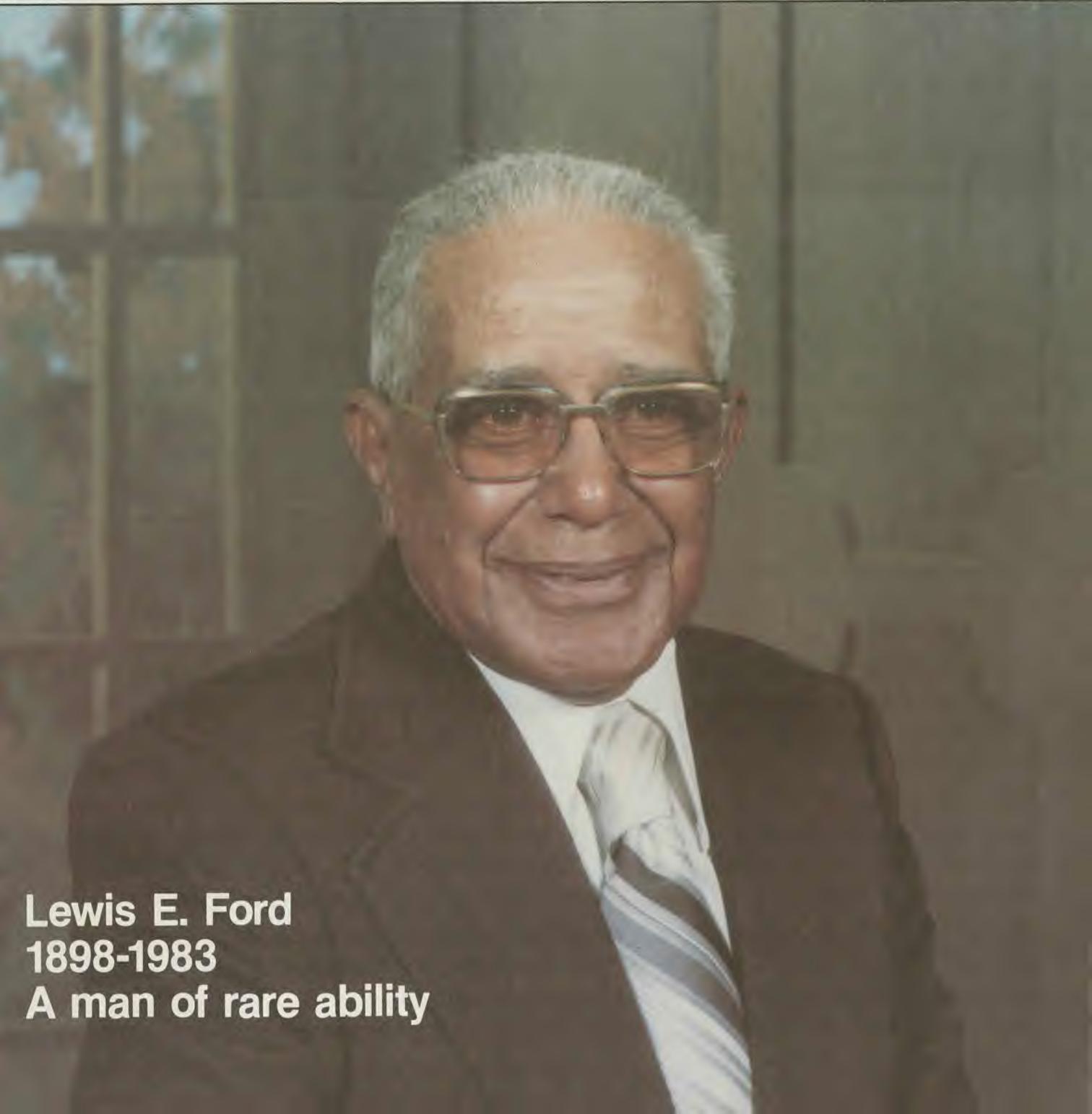


OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NORTH AMERICAN REGIONAL CONFERENCES OF
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

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Lewis E. Ford
1898-1983

A man of rare ability

COVER STORY

LEWIS E. FORD, 1898-1983

He was a man of many parts, a master of diverse skills, and in his lifetime he dedicated them all to the service of his Lord. Striding with a heavy gait across Lake Region's Cassopolis campground, he could nearly always solve its knotty mechanical problems. But he was equally at home at the administrator's desk, in the accountant's chair, on the electrician's circuit, in the plumber's shop, or among the physical therapy tables and cabinets of the nearby hospital.

Lewis Earl Ford, the son of Richard and Emma Etta Rollins Ford, was born in Vincennes, Indiana, September 28, 1898, the year of the Spanish-American War. His father, a cement contractor, and a native of Grayville, Illinois, was of Negro and German ancestry. His mother, born in Vincennes, Indiana, was part French and Indian.

In 1898 the life expectancy of black Americans was a mere 34 years, a fact calculated to emphasize health education and health care commitment in minority communities throughout the nation.

Ford's mother became a Seventh-day Adventist following an evangelistic tent meeting held in Springfield, Illinois, where her husband fulfilled construction contracts. His father joined the Adventist Church some years later.

It seemed logical that their children should attend nearby Beechwood Academy at Bogstown, Indiana, and Wabash Valley Sanitarium at Lafayette, Indiana. Harry Ford completed the nurse's course there and was sent by the sanitarium to Chicago to study X-ray. The younger Lewis Ford went to Hinsdale and there completed the nurse's course.

Harry Ford, with additional knowledge of X-ray at Purdue University and in the U.S. Army, installed X-ray equipment, first at Wabash Valley Sanitarium and later at Hinsdale Sanitarium outside Chicago.

Lewis Ford was married to Edna Powell of Corydon, Indiana, in 1924. She has been for 59 years his most loyal supporter. Their son, Richard, has lived in California for a number of years.

The Ford brothers held positions at Hinsdale for 17 years and when Mrs. Nellie Druillard turned over Riverside Sanitarium to the General Conference in 1936, they were the logical persons to lead out in this pioneer enterprise. Harry Ford was asked to be the sanitarium manager and Lewis Ford was invited to take charge of physical therapy. But in an institution trying to survive a great financial Depression, Lewis Ford tended the hospital's vegetable garden, transported patients to and from the train station, maintained equipment, picked up supplies in town and on weekends promoted the hospital among churches and before campmeeting audiences. His wife laundered hospital linen without compensation, using their own washing machine.

When his brother died in 1938, Lewis Ford was made the hospital manager, a position he held for six years. By this time Riverside was attracting prominent people from all over the nation. Among the clients were Congressman Oscar DePriest and Mrs. DePriest from Chicago, Congressman Arthur W. Mitchell and Mrs. Mitchell, also from Chicago, and Mrs. Mary McCleod Bethune of Washington, D.C.

When Oakwood College desperately needed a business manager, Lewis Ford consented to help in that institution. He served Oakwood from 1944 to 1952. When South Central Conference was seeking a treasurer, he later responded to their call, holding that post from 1952 to 1966, when he retired. He moved to Cassopolis in 1977 and has greatly aided the Lake Region Conference with his expertise in keeping the camp's machines and equipment in running order.

Lewis Ford passed quietly to his rest on Friday, June 24. He leaves to mourn his loss his widow, Edna Ford, of Cassopolis; his son, Richard Ford, of Los Angeles, California; his sister, Frederica Frazier, from Youngstown, Ohio; three nephews: Harry Ford, Jr., of Alexandria, Virginia; Dr. John R. Ford, of San Diego, California; and Robert Hill of Chicago, Illinois; great nieces and nephews, and a host of other relatives and friends.

PUBLISHER'S PAGE

MEDICAL STUDENT GIVEN SPECIAL HONOR

Georgetown University, a Roman Catholic institution, broke 184 years of

tradition when Patrick Ethan Craey was awarded his medical degree on Friday, May 27, in a special awards ceremony.

The Reverend Timothy S. Healy, S.J., president of Georgetown University, explained that Patrick Craey was a Seventh-day Adventist whose religious convictions led him to elect not to attend the graduation services for 200 medical students at John F. Kennedy Memorial Center on Saturday, May 28. He also stated that this was unprecedented in the history of the university and that the faculty applauded Patrick for adherence to his beliefs.

Before conferring the degree, Mathew F. McNulty, Jr., Sc.D., chancellor of the medical center, said that during the five years Patrick attended Georgetown University, he consistently demonstrated his religious convictions. It was for this reason, and also the request of his fellow medical students, that he was afforded this unusual privilege.

The more than 600 students, parents and friends present in Gaston Hall cheered as Patrick received his diploma. He smiled as he left the podium, stopping to embrace a fellow student in the aisle.

Patrick was nominated to the National Medical Fellowship (NMF) as an outstanding black medical student at Georgetown University for 1983. He is a graduate of Loma Linda University in physical therapy and will be doing his residency at Howard University in Washington, D.C., in emergency medicine.

He summed it all up by exclaiming, "I thank the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob for this opportunity to witness for my Saviour."

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CLASSIFIED AD

FAMILY PHYSICIAN WANTED: Board certified (preferably residency trained) family physician needed to join young solo family physician with extremely busy practice in Benton Harbor, Michigan. Fifteen minutes from Andrews University in Berrien Springs. Many churches and good church schools in area. Contact Lynn S. Gray, M.D., AAFP, 1989 Lasein Drive, St. Joseph, MI 49085 or call (616) 429-2274.

The Editor's Desk

RETIREMENT FUND TO BE RESTUDIED

A recent study of the death pattern of blacks versus whites who are recipients of the denomination's retirement fund revealed that, from 1978 to 1983, the number of blacks who passed away totaled 23 while non-blacks numbered 1,205. The reason for this vast difference is because only a small number of blacks are recipients from the fund. The total stands at approximately 130 blacks versus approximately 9,000 non-blacks.

Regional conferences and churches of the North American Division contributed over \$2,800,000 to the fund in 1982, which is 6.25 percent of the total placed into the fund, while the percentage of workers from those churches and conferences who benefit from it stands at approximately 0.0144 percent. Black leaders have pointed out this disparity and have requested that the church give serious study to correcting their retirement assessments from black organizations.

HANSON PLACE SILVER ANNIVERSARY

Brooklyn's Hanson Place SDA Church, established in October of 1958, will celebrate its silver anniversary October 14-16.

A committee chaired by Vera S. Grant has been formed to organize the celebrations, which will begin with a Friday night service and culminate in an oratorio to be presented by the church choir on Sunday evening at Bishop Laughlin High School.

Grant says that "I would like to see every department of the church give strong support to this venture so the celebrations could be successful and memorable."

Invitations are being sent to former members of Hanson Place and Grant would therefore like anyone who knows the addresses of these members to make this information available through Pastor Albert Pierre or Lloyd Goodridge at the Hanson Place church, 88 Hanson Place, Brooklyn, New York 11217, or phone 789-0711.

SUNSET CALENDAR

	Aug. 27	Sept. 3	10	17
Boston, Mass.	7:27	7:15	7:03	6:51
New York City	7:37	7:25	7:13	7:01
Buffalo, N.Y.	7:59	7:47	7:34	7:22
Atlanta, Ga.	8:10	8:01	7:51	7:42
Miami, Fla.	7:45	7:38	7:31	7:23
Charlotte, N.C.	7:58	7:48	7:38	7:28
Birmingham, Ala.	7:19	7:10	7:01	6:51
Jackson, Miss.	7:32	7:23	7:14	7:05
Memphis, Tenn.	7:34	7:25	7:15	7:05
Louisville, Ky.	8:20	8:10	7:59	7:48
Detroit, Mich.	8:16	8:04	7:52	7:40
Chicago, Ill.	7:33	7:21	7:09	6:57
South Bend, Indiana	7:27	7:16	7:04	6:52
Minneapolis, Minn.	8:00	7:47	7:34	7:21
St. Louis, Mo.	7:39	7:28	7:17	7:06
Kansas City, Mo.	7:57	7:46	7:35	7:24
Denver, Co.	7:39	7:29	7:17	7:06
Little Rock, Ark.	7:42	7:33	7:23	7:13
Dallas, Texas	7:59	7:50	7:41	7:31
New Orleans, La.	7:29	7:21	7:12	7:03
Albuquerque, N.M.	7:40	7:31	7:21	7:11
Oklahoma City, Okla.	8:05	7:55	7:45	7:35

Add one minute for each 13 miles west; subtract one minute for each 13 miles east.

ALLEGHENY EAST



The Conquistadores, members of the first Spanish Pathfinder club in Allegheny East, stand at attention during the candlelight dedicatory service conducted by Pastor Danny Davis, A.Y.S. director for the conference.

SPANISH PATHFINDER CLUB ORGANIZED

The first Spanish Pathfinder club in the Allegheny East Conference was formally inducted in Wilmington, Delaware, in May of 1983. The Conquistadores Club from the Templo de Los Angeles Spanish church is under the direction of Frances Melendez assisted by Veronica Lopez.

What a heart-warming experience it was to see each new Conquistador light the candles of commitment and hear the official welcome into the sisterhood of Allegheny East Conference Pathfinder clubs by Pastor D. L. Davis, conference Pathfinder director.

Merwyn Arms, Allegheny East Pathfinder coordinator, and Eugene Morris, Delaware Valley area coordinator, also participated in the welcoming of the Conquistadores. Pastor Jose Melendez was present to experience this history-making day. The induction services were held at the Sharon Temple SDA Church in Wilmington, Delaware.

Presently, the Conquistadores have pledged to raise \$200 by August to help in the \$10,000 fund-raising program to renovate a recently purchased building into a church. This new organization has been a tremendous uniting agent in the Spanish church.

Jose Melendez
Pastor

TRINITY TEMPLE ACADEMY HOSTS LADIES' WEEKEND

Women of the Trinity Temple SDA Church in Newark, New Jersey, held a "Ladies' Weekend" in May in Trinity Temple Academy in Hillside, New Jersey. The theme for the weekend,

"The Role of the Christian Woman," was approached from various angles by several speakers. Topics included: characteristics of a Christian woman as defined in the Bible; budgeting and home management; living with your spouse; my children and I; and loneliness.

Practical application of information was given during "The Cinderella Hour" in the form of facials, body massage, exercise, foot care and hygiene.

This initial effort in bringing the women together for a time of learning, sharing, discussing and understanding was organized and conducted by Frances Mitchell and Connie Hood. Transportation was also provided for senior members.

Those who attended commented that "this has brought us closer together." Another member stated that she had neglected herself for so long that the "sesame seed facial made her feel so alive." Other comments included: "I learned how to handle my money." "I will treat my mate better." "I can understand my children and their needs much better now."

The weekend concluded with a fellowship breakfast after the morning devotion. The church is anticipating an annual repeat of this function.

Connie M. Hood
Communication Secretary



Left to right at the rostrum are: Harold Lee, pastor; W. O. Coe, president of the Columbia Union Conference; Brian Carter, local elder; and M. C. Van Putten, president of the Allegheny East Conference.

THE NEW CHURCH OF THE ORANGES

One of the fastest growing churches in the North American Division recently conducted a week-long official opening.

Representatives of the civic, business and religious community, along with the former owners of the Temple, were present on the opening Sabbath for the formal presentation services. Meade Van Putten, president of the Allegheny East Conference, made the formal presentation.



Allegheny East Conference officials B. W. Mann, treasurer, and M. C. Van Putten, president, present a check for \$30,000 to a smiling Pastor Lee as the conference appropriation to the church.

Nightly services were held between two special Sabbath programs. Speakers for the services included: W. O. Coe, Columbia Union Conference president; B. L. Archbold, former president of the Inter-American Division; Wintley Phipps, Samuel Meyers, Samuel Thomas, Walter Pearson, C. D. Joseph and Luther Palmer.

A membership growth of over 500 percent in a period of five years made it necessary for the former East Orange SDA Church in East Orange, New Jersey, to search for a new building. In 1978 the church had a membership of 55. Today it has reached nearly 300.

The pastor and elders had an extremely difficult time trying to house the congregation. They had almost given up hope when one of the members remembered seeing a church building she felt would be excellent for their congregation.

This building was then occupied by three Jewish congregations. Although some of these congregations wanted to keep the church, Pastor Harold Lee was able to persuade the congregations to sell. The building itself has been appraised at 1.5 million dollars, but they were able to purchase it for only \$570.

After a series of miraculous events, which included making a deadline that saved them from high taxation, they were finally able to occupy the church. The building is fully able to accommodate the total program of the church. There are sufficient Sabbath school rooms, along with rooms for a library, Community Services, a day-care center and a banquet room with excellent kitchen facilities.

While church members have been refurbishing the church, they have not forgotten their "mission." Since the arrival of their pastor in May of 1980, they have had a springtime evangelism festival in which Brian Calter, a layman, preached nightly. Twenty-three people were baptized. They established the Metropolitan

Bible Institute. Before the end of 1981 the church raised \$110,000 toward the church building, and in 1982 an evangelistic meeting was held, from which 65 people were baptized. This brings the membership to 282.

With the assistance of the Columbia Union's revolving fund, they have been able to refinance their original loan. The present plan calls for the loan to be paid off in three or four years.

Plans for the future include the opening of a day-care center in addition to the regular evangelistic program in progress.

Owen Troy
G.C. Communication Department



A crowd gathers in front of the new Church of the Oranges for opening day ceremonies.

NEWARK YOUTH RECEIVES HONOR

A certificate of appreciation was awarded to Kevin McKnight of the Trinity Temple SDA Church in Newark, New Jersey, during the spring youth week of prayer conducted by Pastor Ronald Edmonds of the Neptune-Pleasantville, New Jersey, district. McKnight was also a recipient of an award from the State of New Jersey Science Teachers Association and special recognition was given him by the mayor of Irvington, New Jersey, for winning first place in the Cherry Blossom Poetry Contest.

Kevin represented New Jersey in the 1981 Oratorical Contest and received second place in the Allegheny East Conference. Presently a sophomore at Northeastern Academy in New York, Kevin plans to attend Oakwood College to study accounting and computer science.

Connie M. Hood
Communication Secretary

HEALTH/TEMPERANCE DAY OFFERING

Sooner or later either your life or the life of someone you love will be changed because of intemperance. Drugs and chemical abuse are exploding into a national epidemic, even in the Adventist church. Alcohol-related traffic accidents are the leading cause of death among teenagers today.

There's nothing worse than a teenager's death. It hurts because you know how much that young person had left and now he or she is gone. But teenagers are not the only ones affected by intemperance. Many adults in the prime of life have not learned to be temperate with their emotions, thoughts, food or themselves.

Today there are more prisoners outside jails than those confined in prisons . . . prisoners of appetite and intemperance. Positive programs of education are needed to counteract this trend.

Mrs. White makes two striking statements: "Christ gave His life to purchase redemption for the sinner. The world's Redeemer knew that indulgence of appetite was bringing physical debility and deadening the perceptive faculties so that sacred and eternal things could not be discerned. He knew that self-indulgence was perverting the moral powers, and that man's great need was conversion, in heart and mind and soul, from the life of self-indulgence to one of self-denial and self-sacrifice." *Temperance*, page 105.

"In connection with the presentation of spiritual truths, we should also present what the word of God says upon the questions of health and temperance. In every way possible, we must seek to bring souls under the convicting and converting power of God." *Temperance*, page 237.

Think of all those around you who need your help, both in and out of the church. October 15 is the annual Health/Temperance Offering Day in your church. Your liberal gift will help open the prison doors to many who are trapped in the jailhouse of intemperance. Don't say it can't happen to you or someone you love. It can, unless you work, pray and give again.

Dr. DeWitt S. Williams

BONITA WALLACE HONORED AT TESTIMONIAL DINNER

Bonita Russell Wallace was honored by her church, friends and associates on March 13 with a beautiful testimonial dinner at the Cole Manor Community Room in Springfield, Ohio.

Wallace was given recognition for her faithful service of 41 years as treasurer of the South Fountain Avenue SDA Church in Springfield. She has also served as church organist, Bible worker, Sabbath school superintendent and in various other offices, which she executed with the highest degree of ethical integrity.

She was married to the late professor Charles Wallace, an outstanding musician in the Springfield community.

This joyous event was enhanced by the expertise of Jack Buster, the master of ceremonies, who kept the program flowing and spiritual. Buster has worked with Wallace as assistant treasurer and is now the church treasurer.

Richard Mills, vice principal of Springfield South High School, was guest speaker for the program. He was introduced by his father, Pastor Edwin Mills, who gave a very stirring talk on his son's accomplishments in the world as well as the church.

All were inspired by the speaker as he challenged each one to dare reach the heights in God's work as Wallace had done.

Many gifts, resolutions and congratulatory messages were presented to Wallace and, to her surprise and delight, several musical renditions and recitations were given by friends and members of the church.

This was a very happy occasion for Wallace because many friends from different parts of the country came to see her honored and wish her well.

We were further honored by the presence of Pastor John Mack, treasurer of the Allegheny West Conference, who came to convey best wishes from Conference President Harold Cleveland and his staff.

Joel Johnson, pastor of the Springfield SDA Church, assisted by his wife Alicia, created the huge money bill bearing the likeness of Mrs. Wallace and the 41 years in dollar signs. This piece of original art was a unique gift in itself. Pastor Johnson also gave the closing remarks and prayer of dedication.

May God's love ever shine on Wallace as she continues to work and serve her Lord.

E. Cleveland

FAITH ACADEMY

Families with children may live on the campus and also find work in nearby cities to support themselves. Located in the country at Vandiver, Alabama. Dr. J. Price Pearson, president. Mailing address: 2233 Arlington Avenue, South Birmingham, Alabama.

CENTRAL STATES

PRESIDENT COX SPEAKS IN DES MOINES

The Philadelphia church of Des Moines was recently honored by the presence of the president of the Central States Conference, who spoke on "Sharing the Miracle."

Pastor S. Haywood Cox mentioned that we need a repentance for our lukewarmness (as far as offices we hold in the church and the work we do for the church). We have to become above-average workers and overcome our lukewarmness. We also need to repent of our lack of desire to see men saved.

"Sharing the Miracle" demands a new certainty. We need a new confidence in the Lord, the church and its leadership. We must not allow anything to keep us from "Sharing the Miracle."

Sharon Tate
Communication Secretary



Pastor S. H. Cox shares a miracle at the Philadelphia church in Des Moines.



Pastor and Mrs. G. H. Taylor.

TAYLOR HOLDS WEEK OF PRAYER

The spring week of prayer was conducted by Pastor G. H. Taylor, Sr., stewardship and Sabbath school director of the South Atlantic Conference. Each evening Taylor led the congregation into a deeper and wider study of the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy.

Taylor also told of his conversion and how he was blessed by God for his trust in His keeping power. Accompanying Pastor Taylor during his stay in Denver was his wife, Everlyn.

Ivory Chalmers
Communication Secretary

YOUTH IN ACTION

The Youth for Better Living II participated in the St. Louis Annual Annie Malone Underprivileged Children Parade. The youth decorated their van with a banner displaying their motto: "Youth for Better Living . . . Life or ?" More than 200 flyers were distributed announcing the upcoming rally on drug abuse that was to be held at the Forest Park Zoo.

Clarence Hodges, director of units on health, was the keynote speaker at the rally, along with Chaplain Randy Moore of the St. Louis Detention Center.

Pastor M. A. McCleary of the Park Avenue church hosted the program. Marie Thomas, Michael Horton, the Flemon and Gibson brothers of Berean, Nathan Hall, the Etherals of Northside, along with poet Zacary Keys, and a representative from Alcoholics Anonymous of St. Louis, highlighted the event with their talents and experiences.

A local television station later interviewed youth leader JoAnn Farmer and treasurer Elizabeth Hamilton of the group as to how much impact the group had in the community.

CRUSADE HELD AT PHILADELPHIA CHURCH

In keeping with the pilot church program, the Philadelphia church of Des Moines recently ended a five-week crusade with one baptism and twenty interested persons with whom the pastor and a team of lay workers are studying with the hope of another baptism soon. The church has a goal of 30 that it is working and praying to reach.

Sharon Tate
Communication Secretary



Pastor Edwin Hyatt.

WEDDING

On Sunday, June 12, 1983, a host of friends and relatives met at the Reid Memorial SDA Church in East St. Louis, Illinois, to celebrate the uniting in marriage of Marian Darlene Kirk and James A. Penny.

Marian is the second daughter of Mildred J. Kirk, who lives in East St. Louis, and the late Augustus Lloyd Kirk. James is the first son of Robert L. and Mamie D. Penny, who live in St. Louis, Missouri, and attend the Northside SDA Church.

The wedding ceremony was performed by the bride's brother-in-law, Pastor W. S. Lee, Jr., of Stockton, California, and Pastor B. T. Rice of St. Louis, Missouri. The ceremony was brought to higher heights as James and Marian gave expressions of love to each other in the presence of 400 people in word and song. The couple was attended by 24 relatives and friends in the wedding party.

Marian and James will reside in Kansas City, Missouri. We are praying that God will richly bless their new life together.



The Kirk-Penny wedding party.



Walter Arties, producer for the *Breath of Life* television program, gives a benefit program for the Capitol City School.

ARTIES CONCERT BENEFITS SCHOOL

Walter Arties, producer of the *Breath of Life* television program, gave a benefit program in the Broadripple High School auditorium in Indianapolis, Indiana, for the Capitol City Elementary School. He was accompanied by Myrona Matthews Haynes from California.

Others appearing on the program were the Echoes of Faith, the Capitol City church youth choir, soloist Nathaniel Holland, Praise, and Jacquelyn and Samuel Williams.

Nikki Okletree and Rhonda Holland presented plaques to both Walter and Myrona on behalf of the school board. Arties was given the opportunity to meet and talk with members of the board, friends and other guests at a reception held in the home of Elline and Burks Holland. Elline is chairperson for the school board. Jerry Lee, pastor of the church, and Edwin Davis, principal, were on hand to offer their support.

A DIFFERENT KIND OF CHILD CARE

"Don't drink alcohol. Don't drink beer. Keep your body healthy all through the year" chant youngsters at the Children's Center For Social Change, a non-profit child care institution operated by members of the Sharon church in the Lake Region Conference. Serving preschoolers in Inkster, Michigan, the center offers several unique features.

This is no ordinary child care program. It was one of the first centers to be licensed by the state of Michigan to teach drug prevention to preschoolers.

In this age of substance abuse, when in nearby Detroit gangs such as Young Boys, Inc., exploit children through the trafficking of drugs, it's good to know there is a day-care center where children are taught to beware of narcotics, liquor, cigarettes and other detriments to health and well-being.

Unlike many other early childhood programs, which place heavy emphasis on academic training, this center works on the child's well-rounded development, an approach endorsed by scientific and educational research. One non-Adventist father stated, "My child can learn the A-B-C's anywhere. I'm more concerned about his spiritual growth. That's why I'm sending my son back to your center and my first grader to a Christian school." A nature- and Bible-based curriculum developed by educators at Loma Linda University is being used in the instructional program. The majority of Kindergarten graduates enroll at nearby Peterson-Warren Academy.

The Children's Center For Social Change is also licensed to serve meatless meals. In addition, no artificial flavors, junk food, glucose sugar, pastries or white flour are used. Instead of garlic salt, this center uses whole, fresh garlic. In place of fruit drinks loaded with sugar, pure apple juice is served. Even the oatmeal eaten for breakfast is ground fresh at the center. For snacks the children are given nutritious foods like nut-raisin-apricot mixes, peanut butter on crackers and tomato juice with brewer's yeast added.

A well-balanced, home-cooked meal is prepared daily that usually includes a lettuce and tomato salad and freshly baked corn bread. A commercial bread-making machine was recently acquired and will be utilized not only to feed the children whole grain bread, but also to provide bread to the public.

It operates rent-free in a modern, hexagonal, air-conditioned building designed for small children with a fenced, equipped playground in the midst of a city housing project.

Open year 'round, the center admits 2½- to seven-year-olds. During the summer, older children are invited to join the fun. For the amazingly low cost of \$1.00 per week per child, 40 children attended the last eight-week summer program, which included crafts, health awareness, field trips and a reading program, filmstrips and two meals per day.

The Children's Center For Social Change is dedicated to uplifting families and providing a "home away from home" for children. The weekly fee is adjusted to the budget of each family and many have been helped who could pay very little. The Department of Social Services has sent several neglected children to this center for care.

"Dear Jesus, thank you for my mother, thank you for my father and thank you for me," prays five-year-old Nathaniel, one of the housing project children who is learning at the center and developing a friendship with Jesus. It was for children like him that this center was established.

Mary Thomas and Verla Coleman, co-founders of the center and members of the Sharon congregation, praise God for this faith venture in loving and caring for His little lambs.

VISITORS DAY AT HYDE PARK

Visitors Day at the Hyde Park SDA Church was a beautiful success. James C. Wray, personal ministries director for the Lake Region Conference, was the guest speaker. Fifty guests were present to enjoy the day.

Guest of honor for the day was Pastor Joseph Wells from the Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church in Chicago. This pastor is fulfilling God's command to "feed my lambs." His church is responsible for feeding more than 5,000 people each week who are without food. During the holiday season this number doubled.

Wells has copies of the *Conflict of the Ages Series*, which were presented to him by the Hyde Park church.

STANSIL-TYSON WEDDING

Renada Aletha Stansil and Anthony Tyson were married on June 12, 1983, in Maywood, Illinois. The ceremony was performed by Pastor Edward Avinger.

Renada is the daughter of Mrs. Ceola Palmer of Maywood. Anthony is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Alonza Tyson, also of Maywood.

The couple are making their home in Clarendon Hills, Illinois, where Renada is an R.N. at Hinsdale Hospital's intensive care unit. Anthony is an accountant for the Allstate Insurance Company.

Renada is the Primary Sabbath school teacher and Anthony is the Earliteen teacher at the Maywood church.



Dr. Jesse Bradley, guest speaker for Ladies Day at the Christian Fellowship SDA Church in Brooklyn, New York.

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CELEBRATES LADIES DAY

On May 7 the Christian Fellowship church of Brooklyn, New York, paid homage to the women of the church. Although it was Mother's Day and was celebrated as such in previous years, it seemed appropriate to include all women, regardless of whether or not they had children.

Veronica LaMar, wife of Pastor James LaMar, Sr., coordinated the event. Dr. Jessie Bradley of Connecticut was the guest speaker.

The message was entitled "A Tree of Life." Dr. Bradley admonished parents, especially mothers, to train their children to respect and honor God, as well as respect the elderly, their peers, their fellowmen and certainly themselves. In essence, children should respect all men.

Much emphasis was placed on speech. Too many times, noted Dr. Bradley, our children do not know how to speak properly. We as parents, she related, ought to teach our children the value of good speaking. She encouraged parents not to wait until their children reach adolescence to begin training them, but to do so in the formative years, when they can best be molded.

Dr. Bradley's message focused on three main institutions: home, church and school. Special attention was given to mothers in the home regarding their role in making the home attractive for their husbands and children.

The relationship between husband and wife was also a great concern. Husbands and wives, she said, should cultivate a loving and Christlike relation-

ship to set an example for their children and others. She also stressed the importance of education, a vital part of the lives of young blacks. "The sky should be the limit."

The A.Y. program was in pace with the morning with mothers being the focus of the program. Kathleen Weekes was honored as "Mother of the Year" by the A.Y. department while the same honor by the Sabbath school department went to Esther Harris, Beatrice Smith and Isaan Johnson.

Paula B. Reid
Correspondent



Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Jules, A.Y.S. leaders for the Hebron SDA Church in Brooklyn, New York, receive trophies from Pastor T. Baker, conference youth director, for their outstanding A.Y. society.

BSI FEDERATION DAY

On April 23 the Brooklyn/Staten Island Adventist Youth Federation held its second annual Federation Day at the Bethany Baptist Church in Brooklyn, New York, with more than 1,000 people in attendance.

On that day, members of the federation discovered the various musical groups and soloists in the area. Several of these groups were the Celestial Sounds, Hebron Youth Choir, The Quartones, Brooklyn Temple Youth Choir, Ralph Williams, Jr., Angelic Hosts and Patricia Naar.

The guest speaker was Pastor Ronald Oden of the Capital City SDA Church in Albany, New York. His sermon was entitled, "Give Me Five." In the Bible, the number five denotes grace, an important ingredient in the lives of our youth.

During the A.Y.S. program, Pastor Trevor Baker, Northeastern's youth director, had the distinct pleasure of presenting trophies to Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Jules, A.Y.S. leaders for the Hebron church in Brooklyn, New York. Their society was named Adventist Youth Society of the Year and the A.Y. Society with the most baptisms in 1982.

CHURCH MEMBER STANDS FOR SABBATH

Gregory Garner, a member and deacon of the Calvary SDA Church in Bridgeport, Connecticut, put his religion first.

Below is the text of a newspaper article that was published in the *Bridgeport Post* in September of 1982:

"One of the three minority firefighters who were to have joined the force next month has declined the job because his religion came first.

"Gregory Garner, 28, bowed out because he learned the job would include working two Saturdays out of eight and switching work schedules was inconvenient.

"Garner, a Seventh-day Adventist, observes the Sabbath from sundown Friday to sundown Saturday, and he said he would rather refuse the job than break the Sabbath.

" 'The Sabbath is the Lord's day,' said Garner, who has a wife and three children. When he first interviewed for the job, Garner said he was told switching duties for Saturday would not be a problem. He found out, however, that he could only switch duty 24 times a year and, after that, he would have to pay for someone to work for him out of his own pocket.

"Additionally, he learned he had to switch with someone of his own classification, which meant one of the eight new firefighters joining the force. After talking with the firefighters on the force, Garner decided it would be better for him not to take the job.

"Garner did express disappointment at not becoming a firefighter.

" 'I really wanted the job, but my religion came first,' he said.

"He said he pursued the job of firefighter because he wanted to be in a position where he could help people. The job pays \$8,000 less than what Garner makes now as a spinning lathe operator at Avco Lycoming Division.

"Taking Garner's place on the force will be Ronald Christy, another of the minority firefighter candidates who passed the needed tests."

Church members and the pastor, John B. Harris, wish Gregory Garner, his wife Geneva, and their three children God's blessing and guidance as they continue to live and work for the Master.

David Edwards
Religious Liberty Secretary



Noel Dean Williams and Shontielle Elize Marsh.

YOUTHS KILLED IN ACCIDENT

A dark cloud of mourning mingled with tears of sadness and joy came over the Atlanta, Georgia, segments of the South Atlantic Conference and Nassau in the Bahamas when word was received that two promising young people were killed in an automobile accident on Saturday night, May 14, in metropolitan Atlanta.

There was sadness because of the crushed spirits and shattering of great expectations crucified on the cross of tragedy, and joy because of the pure, honest and sincere lives of these two youths which generated a strong hope of meeting them in the hereafter.

Shontielle Elize Marsh, age nineteen, was a close relative of Anna Knight, a pioneer of Adventist education in the Southern Union as well as a missionary in India and recipient of the Distinguished Medal of Honor from the General Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Shontielle was born in Los Angeles, California, on December 30, 1963, to Elliott Marsh, a prominent building contractor in Atlanta and director of personal ministries at the Berean church, and Dorothy Marsh, who was recently elected to succeed Katie Settle as president of the Atlanta chapter of the National Oakwood College Alumni Association.

Shontielle, a graduate of Georgia-Cumberland Academy, had completed her freshman year at Oakwood College in Huntsville, Alabama, and her sophomore year at Spelman College in Atlanta.

Noel Dean Williams, age eighteen, was the son of Dr. and Mrs. Robert Williams, who, after a number of years of preaching the gospel as a pastor-evangelist in Jamaica, decided to return to school, where he added the second dimension—medicine—to his ministry. Robert Williams is a distinguished physician and minister in Nassau in the Bahamas.

Noel was born in Little Rock, Arkansas, on May 19, 1965. He completed his high school education at the Seventh-day Adventist academy in Nassau and was attending college in Atlanta.

The families of these two young people had accepted their friendship heartily and were nurturing and guarding it closely. The church community viewed them as a model couple.

They were part of the nucleus of 85 persons who formed the newly organized church in Decatur, Georgia, on April 23. Noel was not only the director of the stewardship department of the new church, but also a deacon. Shontielle was associate temperance secretary, Sabbath school teacher and choir member. They left choir rehearsal and were on their way to a concert in downtown Atlanta being given by a group of Adventist artists, including Wintley Phipps and Clifton Davis. The concert was a benefit performance for a new community service center in Atlanta.

Noel leaves to cherish his memory: his devoted parents, Dr. and Mrs. Robert Williams, M.D.; three brothers, Brian D. Williams, M.D., of El Paso, Texas, Robert C. Williams, D.D.S., of Guadalajara, Mexico, and David M. Williams, M.D., of Laredo, Texas; one sister, Dollis Williams of Decatur, Georgia; the immediate family of Shontielle Marsh and a host of relatives and friends in the U.S.A., Bahamas and Jamaica, West Indies.

The tragic and sudden passing of Shontielle left an aching void in the hearts of: her parents, Elliott and Dorothy Marsh; her junior sister, Ayako; her maternal grandfather, Oree Knight of Los Angeles, California; paternal grandparents, Erasmus and Ethel Marsh of Niles, Michigan, and Portland, Oregon, respectively; the immediate family of Noel Williams; a number of uncles and aunts; and a host of other relatives and friends.

BLACK LEADERS MEET IN ATLANTA

Approximately 200 black ministers from all over the United States met in Atlanta May 16-18 to report their exploits for the *Message* magazine campaign. The largest out-of-town delegation came from the Northeastern Conference in New York City along with their president, G. R. Earle, and treasurer, Stennett

Brooks. This conference, with approximately 25,000 members, reported 16,000 subscriptions—the largest total from any conference.

During the three-day retreat, the men had a chance to fellowship, discuss problems of common concern, play awhile and hold a banquet on Tuesday night, May 17.

The total number of subscriptions to *Message* magazine was reported as 58,000. At the banquet, Pastor R. L. Woodfork, a field secretary of the General Conference, congratulated the pastors for what they had done and the efforts they had put forth. However, he informed them that a total of 75,000 subscriptions must be reached to keep *Message* afloat. The men promised to return to their fields and raise those needed.

ATLANTA AREA PASTORS FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON

The Atlanta Metro Area SDA Pastors Association fellowship was enhanced by the luncheon provided by the South Atlantic Conference. This was the final pre-summer meeting. The monthly schedule will resume in September.

The benefit of such fellowship for 25 or more area pastors was crystalized when Dr. Don Jacobson called the first meeting in 1981. He became the first coordinator, with Pastor C. D. Henri as his teammate. At the final pre-summer meeting of 1982, Dr. R. E. Tottress and Pastor Dave Dobias were elected coordinators. Their successors were due to be elected during the May 10 meeting. However, Tottress and Dobias were commended and drafted to continue for the term of 1983-84.

Fellowship in general, calendar clarification and coordination of schedules, collective angles of outreach and impact, enrichment arrangements at centers of note such as the Interdenominational Theological Center with its various seminaries, Emory University with Dr. Craddock, and seminars by specialists all prove broadening with collective witnessing at such occasions.

A yellowjacket sting to the allergic chairperson for the law for the clergy committee necessitated the postponement of the May 10 presentation on wills, estates and legacies and federal income tax considerations for the clergy. Cascade complex is due to host the September meeting.

NEWS NOTE

On May 26 a survey committee from the General Conference and the Southern Union visited the South Central Conference to survey its operational programs, procedures and progress. The financial position of the conference was also reviewed. The administration received compliments and suggestions for improvements from the committee.

Members of the survey committee included: C. Bradford, R. Woodfork, F. Jones and W. Murrell of the General Conference; A. C. McClure, W. D. Sumpster and J. H. Whitehead from the Southern Union; S. Cox, G. Earl and W. Jones, Southwest Region Conference president; and C. E. Dudley, F. N. Crowe and Earlene Madison, all of the South Central Conference. The survey was very helpful, according to the South Central administration.



The new church/school building in Hattiesburg, Mississippi.

CHURCH/SCHOOL BUILDING OPENED IN HATTIESBURG

Pastor W. O. Freeman and the Hattiesburg, Mississippi, congregation had cause for celebration during the month of March when they were joined by members of other congregations and friends throughout the conference on the opening Sabbath of their new church/school building. Dr. C. E. Dudley, the conference president, was the speaker.

The building is a 10,000-square-foot structure which will house both the church and the school. It is a two-story masonry structure located on a six-acre plot of land just one mile from historic Carey College.

The uniqueness of this building is that Pastor Freeman, his sons and members did most of the work themselves. The structure is valued at approximately \$400,000.

A. Harper, one of the charter members of the church, gave a detailed account of the church's journeyings since its beginning.

Pastor Freeman has also constructed new buildings for other congregations in his districts at Columbia and Gulfport, Mississippi.



WHERE IS HE NOW?

Ezra Watts, a former student at Oakwood Junior College and a member of the male chorus in those days, took up teaching when he left Oakwood. After moving to a number of different places, he returned to his home state of Mississippi and is presently living in Hattiesburg.

He was smitten with illness after returning, but is greatly improved. Remember him in your prayers.



OAKWOOD CHURCH BURNS MORTGAGE

The Oakwood College church burned its mortgage in a jubilee of sermons and songs on the weekend of May 6.

In its 87-year history, the church has had sixteen pastors, but this is the first church building it has ever had. The total cost of the structure was \$1,367,720.77 (excluding the religion complex, which sits across the breezeway and was built jointly with the church).

The present insured value of the church is \$2,350,000. The building was completely paid for 65 months and 23 days after the ribbon-cutting ceremony. It was built to seat 2,850 persons. The

April membership was 1,676 and student enrollment at the college was 1,262, making a total potential worshipping family of 2,938. It's just the right size.

The Oakwood College church started with sixteen members on November 7, 1896. The head of the Bible department for the school served as pastor of the church until the late 1950s, when the conference assigned a pastor for a few years, then discontinued the practice until Dr. C. E. Dudley was elected president of the South Central Conference. He decided that the college church should have its own pastor and church building. In 1962 a building fund was started. Fourteen years and four pastors later, the present building was started in 1976, under the pastorate of E. C. Ward.

Its architecture presents capturing beauty with its stained glass windows, three-tiered rostrum, walnut wood finish and plush carpet and cushioned pews.

On Friday night, after music by Oakwood's Singing Men, George Powell, communication director of the Southern Union, introduced the speaker, A. C. McClure, president of the Southern Union. The international Cathedral Choir, under the direction of Dr. Rosa Hadley, furnished more music before the sermon.

The weather was clear on Sabbath morning as worshippers made their way to Sabbath school. In the mission history by Jannith Lewis, the mortgage-burning occasion was remembered. The personal ministries leaders, James Dykes, Sandy Robinson and Jonathan Roach, brought to the front young people who had witnessed divine miracles and souls saved.

The worship service started as usual with the organ prelude, choir processional, ministerial introit, doxology, invocation and music by the Oakwood College choir. It was then that Pastor Ward, with stewardship directors Dr. Ruth Faye Smith and Dr. Douglass Tate, tried to remember all who had a leading role in making the mortgage burning possible. Twenty-seven people in the church, conference and community were mentioned and honored with plaques and words of appreciation.

When the presentations were over, and Ward had made his speech of appreciation to all, the church treasurer stepped to the microphone and called for Mrs. Ward to join her husband on the platform. After recalling briefly the toils and sacrifices that the pastor had made,

the treasurer, L. C. Jacobs, Jr., presented to Pastor and Mrs. Ward the keys to a new car. For the first time, Ward was speechless. He was pastor of the year for the South Central Conference and declined the trip to the Holy Land that went with the honor. His heart and mind were set on getting the church finished and filled with loving members working and waiting for the coming of Christ.

Dr. C. E. Dudley, president of the South Central Conference, gave the sermon. The mortgage was burned in the afternoon. Participants in the morning service included Marcellus Breach, organist, Harry Dobbins, Calvin Moseley, Mayor Joe Davis, Dr. Henry Bradford, Jr., Dr. Homer McCall, Dr. Richard Morrison, Dr. Leon Frazier, Isaac Palmer, R. E. Tottress, D. A. Walker, D. B. Reid, B. Reaves and Melyn Mounter.

The afternoon service participants included Falerie Washington, Adell Warren, Douglass Tate, I. J. Johnson, A. C. McClure, C. E. Dudley, F. N. Crowe, L. C. Jacobs, Ruth Smith, C. Miller, C. E. Moseley, musical groups, members and friends of Oakwood.

PEOPLE IN TRANSITION

Pastor Richard Bell of the New Heights church in Jackson, Mississippi, has accepted a call to pastor in California.

O. E. Rudley, former pastor of the Greenwood, Mississippi, district, has been transferred to pastor the New Heights church in Jackson, Mississippi.

Pastor C. E. Monroe of the Morristown, Tennessee, district is transferred to the Greenwood, Mississippi district.

Dr. Joseph Dent, director of the education department of the South Central Conference, accepted a call to be principal of the academy in Los Angeles, California, where his father once taught.

Nathaniel Higgs, principal of Oakwood Academy, has accepted a call to be the director of education of the South Central Conference.

SOUTHEASTERN

OBITUARY

Odessa Watson Smith, the youngest of sixteen children, was born May 6, 1901, to the late Mr. and Mrs. Dave Wat-

son at Upper Township, South Carolina.

She moved to Florida in 1906 and married Thomas M. Smith in 1923. She was the mother of nine children: Alma, Elizabeth, Thomas, Forest, Richard, Frances, Eager Price, Sherlene and Carrie. Five preceded her in death.

In 1931 she moved to Tampa, Florida, and became a member of the Mt. Olive AME Church in West Tampa.

She is survived by two sons, two daughters and one adopted daughter: Thom, Eager Price, Sherlene, Carrie and Judy; one brother, C. J. Watson of Sebring, Florida; one sister, Rosa Davis of Palmetto, Florida; a devoted granddaughter, Felicia, and her husband, Claude; a special niece, Eunice Liberty of Miami, Florida; two daughters-in-law, Juanita and Santa; twenty other grandchildren; twelve great-grandchildren, many nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.



Odessa Smith.

SOUTHWEST REGION

NEW CHURCH IN ALBUQUERQUE

A second church in Albuquerque, New Mexico, was organized in January.

For years the work has languished on the west side of Albuquerque. With the addition of some new members and the support of the elder members, the Unity SDA Church was born with 26 charter members. W. G. Downes is the pastor.

Doris Jones
Correspondent

NEW CHURCH ORGANIZED IN BELLAIRE

The first Sabbath in April marked the organization of the Bellaire SDA Church

in Houston, Texas, with 35 believers in a subdivision of the southwest area of Houston.

There was a question whether the church should wait until employment was secured, but the believers realized that "the just shall live by faith" and the organization proceeded. Since that time many unemployed have found jobs. This is the seventh church established in Houston. E. W. Weithers is the pastor.

Doris Jones
Correspondent



Members of the new church organized in Bellaire with E. W. Weithers, pastor.



Pastor E. W. Weithers is excited over \$4,000 given by members for this special occasion.

SHEFFIELD CHURCH ACQUIRES NEW HOME

On May 21, members of the Sheffield SDA Church in Houston, Texas, held services in a beautiful, newly acquired edifice that will accommodate more than 300 persons. The service featured a sermon by Pastor E. W. Weithers and music from the 35-voice youth choir.

The Sheffield church has been part of the Southwest Region for the last three years. During this time they have made rapid strides. Few congregations in the southwest have accomplished as much in such a short period of time.

Charles Stevens
Correspondent



W. C. Jones, president, spoke at the divine worship.



Seven visitors join the church following the president's message.



The Sheffield SDA Church in Houston, Texas.



A youth choir of 35 voices presented music for this special Sabbath.

OAKWOOD COLLEGE

HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA



Dr. Eva B. Dykes, center; at left is her nephew; at right is her niece. The background painting depicts Dr. Dykes receiving her Ph.D. degree in 1921 at Radcliffe College.

DYKES LIBRARY CELEBRATES TENTH ANNIVERSARY

The Eva B. Dykes Library of Oakwood College was dedicated on April 22, 1973. A tenth anniversary celebration and National Library Week observance were held during the week of April 25-29 at the library.

Dr. Eva B. Dykes, professor emeritus of English, was honored in a ceremony to climax the week's activities. Dr. Calvin B. Rock, president of the college, gave a tribute to Dr. Dykes and presented her with a corsage on behalf of the library staff.

Dykes was the first black woman in the United States who completed the requirements to receive a Ph.D. degree, which was conferred upon her in 1921 from Radcliffe College. She is esteemed and admired greatly for her contribution of service as an outstanding educator. She provided academic excellence as a dynamic teacher at Howard University, Oakwood College and other institutions. Dykes taught English and literature for more than 50 years.

Cash awards were presented to three students who won the library photography contest, conducted as a feature during the week, by Ruth Swan, media librarian. Audley Chambers, Stephanie Peterson and Karen Palmer won the first, second and third prizes.

Certificates were presented to Oakwood faculty members and students who had been especially good users of the library during the academic year. Persons thus recognized were Frances Bliss, Phillip Evelyn, Phillip Nixon, Ruth Swan, Adell Warren, Ruth Davis, James Melancon, Mervyn Warren, Henry Wright, Nigel Barham, Sylvia Barnes, Bernard Benn, Oliver Davis, Larry Hasse, Gregory Mims, Benjamin Reaves, Claude Thomas, Jean Reaves, Donald Vanterpool and Florence Winslow.

A special certificate of appreciation was presented to Dr. Jannith Lewis, library director, for her 28 years of dedicated service as head librarian of the Oakwood College library.

NCATE ACCREDITATION FOR OAKWOOD COLLEGE

On June 21, 1982, Oakwood College received notice that the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) had unanimously voted full accreditation of all teacher education programs submitted for approval.

NCATE represents one of the most prestigious forms of institutional accreditation at the national level and expands employment opportunities for teacher education graduates both in this country and overseas.

The council extended maximum (ten-year) approval to Oakwood College as a result of a highly successful site review March 1-3. In addition to receiving "pass" ratings on all 81 criteria reviewed, the college received a special citation for "high quality programming" and for its holistic view of "educating the whole being through the harmonious development of the physical, cultural, intellectual, mental and spiritual faculties."

**REMEMBER
THE
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OFFERING
August 13,
1983**

Victory Lake

nursing
home
center



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Pastor Farrell Jones, volunteer chaplain for Victory Lake Nursing Center, speaks to the congregation.



Arthur Bolling introduces the activities for the afternoon.



Pastor F. Jones presents a copy of Acts of the Apostles to Ms. Barnaby, a nursing home patient.



Nursing home patients and visiting friends.

COMMEMORATION DAY FOR VLNC SABBATH SCHOOL

On Sabbath, June 11, the Victory Lake Nursing Center extension division Sabbath school commemorated its sixth year of service to nursing home patients.

The anniversary began with a noon luncheon which was followed with a program presented by the children's division of the Trinity Temple Sabbath school in Poughkeepsie, New York. Approximately 100 persons were in attendance.

Ms. Barnaby, a patient at the nursing home and a staunch supporter of the extension division, was given a bouquet

and a copy of *Acts of the Apostles* by Farrel Jones, pastor of the Trinity Temple SDA Church. Arthur Bolling, an elder at the church, served as master of ceremonies for the Commemoration Day program.

In 1973, the VLNC extension division was organized by Rosalle Morse. This division operated for one year. In 1977 it was revitalized and lasted for two years. In 1980 the deacon board of the Trinity Temple SDA Church in Poughkeepsie, New York, re-organized the Sabbath school, which has continued until now.

Every Sabbath morning more than fifteen people gather in the chapel of the Victory Lake Nursing Center. Sabbath

services begin with a rousing song service at 9:15 a.m., followed by Sabbath school. At 11 a.m. the patients return to their rooms for medication and lunch. At 2 p.m. they return for the divine worship service.

During the week Jones serves as a volunteer chaplain for the Victory Lake Nursing Center and conducts a Bible class for patients on Tuesdays.

This Sabbath school outreach program is sponsored by the Trinity Temple church in cooperation with VLNC and its activity director, Joyce Riddick.

Stephen Williams
Correspondent

IN THE NEWS

Mary McCoy, president of the Ellenville, New York, chapter of the N.A.A.C.P., was honored by the Ellenville SDA Church during its Community Guest Day.

The Ellenville church and the Newburgh church in Newburgh, New York, held joint week of prayer services April 26-30. Ronald Oden, pastor of the Capital City church in Albany, New York, was the speaker. The worshippers met April 23-26 at the Newburgh church. From April 27-30 the prayer services were held at the Ellenville church. Pastor J. Smith serves as minister of both churches.

Two new persons were baptized during a two-week crusade March 13-27 at the Shiloh SDA Church in Brooklyn, New York, conducted by Franklin Rodney. John F. Guy serves as the pastor of the church.

NEW BETTER LIVING CENTER OPENS

On Sunday, April 24, Pastor R. B. Hairston, president of the South Atlantic Conference, officially opened the third Better Living Center in the metropolitan Atlanta area.

The new center, directed by Pastor Harry Williams, is located in the East Lake Meadows Housing Development and shares an apartment with the Tenant Association's Community Center, which is directed by its president, Eva Davis.

Pastor Ward Sumpter, inner city director of the Southern Union, Pastor Joseph Hinson, conference director, Pastor E. W. Moore and Dorcas ladies and other Adventist leaders also were present.

After the opening ceremonies, refreshments were served and the public toured the offices, kitchen, library and counseling room and food and clothing storeroom. The facilities are clean, attractive and accommodating for service.

The Better Living Center has long-range as well as immediate plans to meet family needs. The objective is to add to family stability. Some services they offer are: family health counseling, juvenile programs and counseling, job reference and health services.

The population of the East Lake Meadows Housing Development is ap-

proximately 6,000 persons, making it an ideal situation for an organized family uplift program to instill dignity, self-respect and self-sufficiency to the community.

E. W. Moore

OBITUARIES

Odis D. Smith, son of the late Ella and Emmett Smith, was born in Lee County, North Carolina, on March 1, 1929, and passed away on March 26, 1983.

He gave his life to the Lord in 1961 and later went to Oakwood College, where he studied theology. After graduation, he received a call to South Atlantic, his home conference. He pastored in Florida, Georgia and Laurinburg, North Carolina.

He left to mourn his loss: his wife, Carrie Thornton-Smith, formerly of Durham, North Carolina, and a host of relatives and friends.

Beverly Irvin-Baker, the youngest daughter of William and Corinne Baker, was born in Gary, Indiana, on November 1, 1944, and departed this life on April 22, 1983.

During the years at home after high school, she worked and married Willie Irvin. They both went to Oakwood College and completed their degrees in 1973, after which she accepted a call to teach church school in the South Atlantic Conference. She continued her faithful service where she was loved and highly regarded by parents, students and colleagues until 1981, when illness forced her medical retirement.

She leaves to cherish fond memories of her: her husband of fourteen years, Willie Irvin; her parents, William and Corinne Baker; two sons, David and Devon, all living in Huntsville, Alabama; one brother, William; one sister, Jackie Williams of Gary, Indiana; a grandmother, Marcella Jones of Champaign, Illinois; one niece, four nephews, nine aunts, three uncles and a host of other relatives and friends.

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Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.

Colossians 2:8

THE NORTH AMERICAN REGIONAL VOICE

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