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2004

The Oldtimers' Grapevine, Volume 14 (January - December 2004)

William K. Fox Sr

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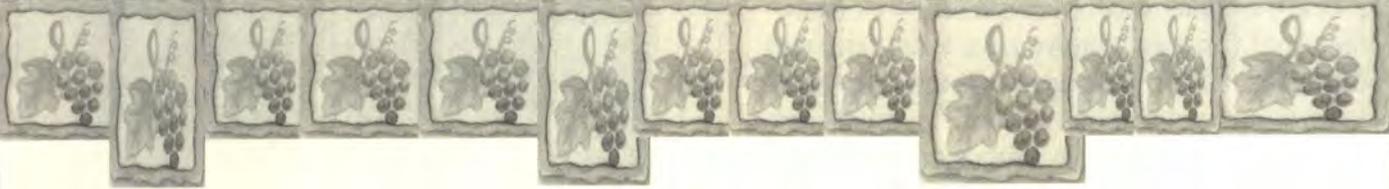
The Oldtimers' GRAPEVINE

January/February '04

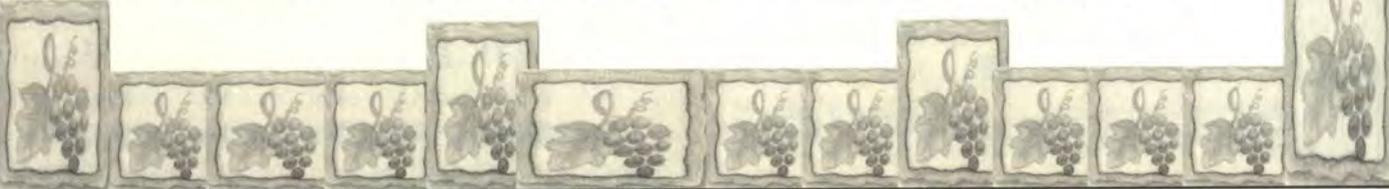
Volume 14, Issue 1

"I will be the same when you are old and gray, and I will take care of you. I created you. I will carry you and always keep you safe."

Isaiah 46:4



*In observance of the Thirteenth Anniversary of
The OLDTIMERS' GRAPEVINE NEWSLETTER
this edition features articles by members of the Board of
Directors and excerpts from lead stories of the past.*



An interview with founding editor Dr. William K. Fox, Sr. by Board President, Ernest J. Newborn on THE MISSION AND FUTURE OF THE OLDTIMERS' GRAPEVINE

EJN: As we mark the thirteenth anniversary of the OLDTIMERS' GRAPEVINE, it seem fitting to reflect anew on the newsletter's mission and future. Your creative and visionary leadership gave birth to the publication. To what extent is the purpose being fulfilled?

WKF: When a crude four-page issue of THE OLDTIMERS GRAPEVINE was mailed first class in February 1991 to about 100 church friends and former associates for their response it proposed a five-fold purpose. The purpose included 1-enhancement of communication and sharing of mutual experiences; 2-conveying a holistic view of aging and health; 3-being an advocate for seniors to become a support and loving, caring community; 4-giving honor and dignity to the lives of those included in For Whom the Bell Tolls; and 5-highlighting opportunities for the maintenance of a high quality life style and service in retirement.

Since Oscar Haynes succeeded me as the editor of THE GRAPEVINE in January 2001 OLDTIMERS' issues have had mounting success in achieving these objectives.

EJN: Is there a need for refinement of the purpose?

WKF: There is ample need for the OLDTIMERS' GRAPEVINE increase in circulation within a year five to ten-fold. The concept of potential readership can be expanded if OTG staff reflects on the vast possibilities of web sites and E-Zine publishing, why not an organ like the OLDTIMERS' GRAPEVINE? Technical resources and guidance can be secured on the Internet to assist staff in doing this.

EJN: What are some challenges and opportunities ahead?

WKF: The OLDTIMERS' GRAPEVINE mission should never become tainted with politics in church or society. Its purpose is grounded in Jesus, the Christ and the enhancement of Christ's Church. This is a challenge OLDTIMERS' should always keep in focus. The early issues referred to it being an independent newsletter. We meant then, and I'm sure, that we have a full faith and dependence upon God operating through individual, voluntary donations of church related senior citizens. There was to be a focus on African American members and their associates who relate to the general welfare of the church and the vision of the National Convocation and other racial, ethnic church structures. Wholeness and togetherness in Christ are the watch words of such an environment. I know of no church related magazine or newsletter within the bounds of the Christian Church (DOC) that has publicly declared this a fundamental part of its mission.

EJN: What additional comments would you like to share?

WKF: The OLDTIMERS' GRAPEVINE, under Oscar Haynes' sacrificial leadership, continues to manifest the wholeness and togetherness in Christ by the content of its copy and multiracial readership and financial support. This could be increased through E-Zine publication.

A highmark of the John Foulkes' NCCC tenure as the administrative secretary, was the establishment of a Convocation website. The OLDTIMERS' could have its own web site but also on selected matters, relate to the Convocation (and General Church) website and any other web site on the internet which advocated OLDTIMERS' objectives.

Recent happenings in the General Church involving strategic African American Disciples of Christ leadership underscore the importance of access to channels for free expression and prophetic utterance. At the moment, this is not a major thrust of the OLDTIMERS", but current times and emerging challenges may require it to become a major priority. The times may soon require a major E-

Zine publication, untangled from the institutional structures of church, but devoted solely to that.

EJN: On behalf of past, present and future OT readers, thank you and Mrs. Fox for your continuing interest, guidance and invaluable support.



Bill and Reubena Fox



Ernest J. Newborn

A CALL FOR NEW LEADERSHIP!!!!!!

***Mrs. Odetta Redd, Chairperson of
the Nominating Committee for the
National Convocation of the
Christian Church (DOC) invites
individuals wishing to nominate
persons for the Convocation Board
to immediately forward names to:***

***ODETTA REDD
Nominating Committee
National Convocation
Christian Church (DOC)
130 E. Washington Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204-3645***



Harvey & Sybel Thomas

A TRIBUTE TO
THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(Disciples of Christ)

I am blessed to be a part of the Christian Church (DOC). Beginning with my local church, Park Manor Christian, I have found such a spiritual bond of love and support to guide me in my Christian journey. I learned much from the Pastors and wise Lay Leaders. I received encouragement from the CWF with a strong acclamation from the Congregation, to get involved in the Illinois Region. The late, beloved, Rosa Page Welch paid my fee for the first CWF Quadrennial Assembly, where I met so many talented, embracing women who presented Worship and Study, as a means of bonding women together in the service of God. This led to more participation in the wider Church.

I have been privileged and honored to serve on the Board of Trustees of The Disciples Divinity House of The University of Chicago, The Illinois/Wisconsin Regional Board, the ICWF Executive Committee, the General Board, and a number of General Unit Boards. I have rubbed shoulders with many dedicated Christian Lay people, Regional Ministers, General Ministers, and Presidents of General Units. There was no sense of hierarchy but one of collegiality. No, I do not say our church is perfect. I have encountered racism, competition, and clashes in all manifestations of the Denomination. But I believe, as Paul says, "(we) press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus." Philippians 3:14

I see evidences of the Church's passion for justice in the work of the "Anti-Racism, Pro Reconciliation Team and in the efforts to grow *True Community, a Deep Christian Spirituality* and a trust toward *Christian Unity* among the various Denominations with Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. Thanks to the Oldtimers' Grapevine which keeps us in touch with one another. To God be the Glory!

Sybel

God's Present Purpose To Fulfill

The living Christ today calls for brave men willing to commit their total life energies to the divine/human partnership of mutual love and trust necessary to sustain God's continuing creative process.

God's present call for humankind is to return to the continuing creative process He put in motion "in the beginning." In love and trust He endowed each of us with a unique creative genius. His love enables us to decide how we will influence the direction humankind will take and He trust us to be courageous and creative in those decisions.

We can continue ignoring the signs of God's judgment on our consumptive life styles, but His Gospel reveals the urgent call for men alert enough to name the signs of the times and strong enough to take the creative risks necessary to open the future to its unlimited possibility.

The courage to expend ourselves for God's purposes is ours when we hear the promise made fact in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The freedom to act comes as we are touched by Jesus and told "Get up. Don't be afraid." The promise, the fact, and the touch can give each of us the determination "God's present purpose to fulfill."

Harvey

Presented at SESSIONS '79 Disciples Men,
Purdue University, June 11-15, 1979

FEAR IN THE AUTUMN YEARS

by Ruth P. Hobbs



The world today is brim -full of anxieties, unrest, frustration, and indecision. For some time now, crime has been one of our greatest fears, and it seems to be taking a toll on our youth.

The availability of guns is a mystery, especially when youth who have access to guns live in the house with a parent or parents.

It is so disturbing when we citizens, have to fortify our surroundings with multivaried protective devices. The shadows of night dictate and limit our activities and our media is saturated with violence which keeps us prisoners in our environment.

Presently, another fear has crept into our lives ... the fear of terrorism. As the clock ticks daily, it pays all of us to be acutely aware of the encouragement of the Psalmist, "Be strong and take heart." The Lord is still our light in darkness that swirls about us and our salvation from whatever threatens us. Despite this world's oppression, turmoil of wars, and deprivations, we must trust in the Lord and commit our ways to Him.

Wisdom grows with age and it breeds understanding. In our golden years, many opportunities surface where we can be of service. As we witness the family life of many young adults fast deteriorating, we as seniors should take every opportunity possible to help shape the lives of those with whom we come in contact.

Many youth would not be delinquent if the parents would be instrumental in giving proper guidance. Good parents nurture spiritual values in their children's lives including exposing their own imperfection and brokenness. They teach their children the tenets of faith — verbally, visually, and metaphorically. They know and use the power of stories in making faith come alive. They gently guide their children into understanding spiritual truth. They do what they can to give their children positive experiences with the church, to portray God's love as well as His wrath, and to show the Christian life as the adventure it can be.

It is amazing how productive our lives can be in our "golden years", however may we remember to God be the glory!

A TRUE SERVANT OF GOD LEADER

Robbie Chisholm, a member of Heritage Christian Church, is a leader who excels with mild-mannered diplomatic skills. He has served the Christian Church (DOC) on the congregational, regional and general levels.

Robbie served as Moderator of his congregation, Moderator of the Capital Area Region and on the General Board for 16 years. He chaired the regional search committee that missed calling the late Dr. John Compton as Regional Minister by one vote. One of his greatest joys, he claims, was to have served on the committee on the General Board that was chaired by the late Rev. King



Glenn Helme, Oscar Haynes, & Robbie Chisholm representing the Capital Region at the General Board in 1976

TRIBUTE TO RUTH ELLINGTON

by Geraldyn Holt



(From Recognition Service, Centennial Christian Church, St. Louis, MO. This contribution comes from her daughter, OTG board member, Norma Ellington-Twitty.)

Thinking back through the years it seems almost unbelievable that Ruth and I have known each other over 50 years.

I came to Centennial with my deaf daughter when she was about 4 years old. Believe it or not, I was not very outgoing. I wanted my daughter Sheila in Sunday School and of course, I came with her each Sunday. Some of the first people I met were Ruth and Norman Ellington. They were especially nice and I thought these people are so nice to new comers. They reached out to me and soon I became involved in Sunday School, Church, and the Young Adult Group.

Ruth and I attended workshops taught by Mrs. Oneida Reed and Miss Bessie Chandler. We worked with vacation bible school under Mary Washington. We attended stewardship workshops 3 Sundays of each year.

I soon realized that Ruth was not just friendly and nice to me, a newcomer, but Ruth was friendly and warm and a nice person. In all the years teaching Sunday School I learned valuable lessons from Ruth. In all those years I never saw Ruth frown or act negatively toward any child. She accepted all children as if it was a privilege to have them. This included smart, not so smart, economically deprived and privileged, quiet and timid, or children with behavioral problems.

There was only one problem with Ruth, no

child ever wanted to leave her class and it was OK with her for them to remain. My grandson Waymon was in her class for about 5 years and I don't know how long Malkia White stayed there.

When I think of Ruth and her relationship with children I am reminded of the chapter in the Bible: 1st Corinthians 13 (paraphrased excerpts)

If I had the gift of being able to speak any other languages without learning them and could speak in every language there is in all of heaven and earth, but didn't love others I would only be making noise!

If I had the gift of prophecy and knew all about what is going to happen in the future, knew everything about everything, but didn't love others what good would it do.

Even if I had the gift of faith so that I could speak to a mountain and make it move, I would still be worth nothing at all without love.

If I gave everything I have to poor people, and if I were burned alive for preaching the Gospel, but didn't love others, it would be of no value whatever.

Love is very patient and kind, never jealous or envious, never boastful or proud, never haughty or selfish or rude. Love does not demand its own way. It is not irritable or touchy. It does not hold grudges and will hardly even notice when others do wrong. It is never glad about injustice, but rejoices whenever truth wins out. If you love someone you will be loyal to him no matter what the cost. You will always believe in him, always expect the best of him, and always stand your ground in defending him.

All the special gifts and power from God will someday come to an end, but love goes on forever.

There are three things that remain - faith, hope and love, and the greatest of these is love.

FORTY-FOUR YEARS OF SERVICE TO GOD AND COUNTRY

by Roland Huff

When I moved to Jacksonville, FL and joined Riverside Avenue Christian Church, our pastor said, "I want you to meet Charlie Bennett, long-time member of this congregation and Congress-



man for 44 years." I thought to myself... How do I call a man of such prominence 'Charlie?' But that was the way he was introduced to me and that was the way he was known by hundreds of constituents.

Charlie died September 6, 2003, at the age of 92. Hundreds attended a memorial service at Riverside Church for one who had given so generously to his country. Then on November 6, his ashes were interred in Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors.

"Charlie" lived a long and illustrious life. He was a fighter for just causes, yet he was a very humble man with a high code of ethics. He received a law degree from the University of Florida and practiced in Jacksonville.

In 1941 he became a member of the State House of Representatives and announced in 1942 he would run for Congress, but withdrew to enlist in the army. He served in New Guinea and the Philippines and was awarded the Silver Star, Bronze Star and the Combat Infantry Badge. While in

the army he contracted polio and the rest of his life used a cane or a wheelchair. He was discharged with the rank of captain.

He began his career in the U.S. House of Representatives in 1947. Early in his career he refused his veterans disability benefits and voted against congressional pay raises, refusing to accept them when they were approved. He is reported to have never missed a legislative session in 44 years, and was once brought to the congressional floor by ambulance.

Congressman Bennett initiated legislation that put "In God We Trust" on all printed currency, and added "Under God" to the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. He led the house to approve a code of ethics and supported the 1965 Voting Rights Act. In 1967 he helped establish a permanent House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct. He was denied membership on the committee when it was organized but was later added and eventually became chairman. He will be remembered for co-sponsoring The Americans With Disabilities Act, and cleared the way for providing federal aid for building schools.

I am thankful I was privileged to know "Charlie," and I hope after reading this you will feel thankful for having had such a committed leader in Congress for 10, these many years.

ISSUES OF THE OLDTIMERS' GRAPEVINE IN REVIEW
 13 YEARS!
 THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES !

Vol. I No. 5

October-November 1991

FIRST BLACK MODERATOR



Louisville, KY -Walter D. Bingham, gifted pastor of Third Christian Church for three decades, and a distinguished leader in the district, regional and general church, was honored in a full day of celebration March 3, 1991. Pastors, choirs, and members in sister congregations joined Central Church leading preaching, singing, feasting and fellowship to spiritualize an historic affair.

Dr. Bingham catapulted into the lime-light of general church life in 1972 when he became the first African American Disciples of Christ to be elected moderator of the Christian Church (DOC). This avid student of theology and church polity earned degrees from Taladega College, Howard University, and honorary doctorates conferred by Christian Theological Seminary, Drury College and Transylvania. A major contributor to his success has been his wife, Dr. Rebecca Bingham.

Vol II No. 1

January-February 1992

OLDTIMERS ARE FEATURED AS "LIGHT OF THE WORLD" CELEBRATES ITS 125th ANNIVERSARY

Indianapolis, IN - The 3,000 plus member Light of the World Christian Church launched a year-long observance of their 125th anniversary November 24, 1991.

A reception was highlighted with a drama which lifted up the anniversary theme: "Celebrating Our Past and Liberating Our Future." Dr. T. Garrott Benjamin, Jr., Senior Pastor, has led this fast growing congregation since 1969.



Rich Miller/The Indianapolis News

ABOVE ARE ONWARD CHRISTIAN SOLDIERS- Their accumulative memberships at Second (Light of the World Christian) Church total 278 years. Left to right, Emmett Dickson, member since 1931; Elizabeth Enix, 1924; Johnnie Blue, 1964; Mary C. Farmer, 1929; and Charlseda Wilcox, 1929.

MYERS CHALLENGES JARVIS CHRISTIAN COLLEGE HONORS



Dr. S. S. Myers and Mrs. Martha Myers of KC, MO received special honors during 1993 May Commencement at Jarvis Christian College.

Hawkins, TX - Impressive commencement ceremonies at Jarvis Christian College, May 8, 1993, were led by President Sabetha Jenkins, which included honoring Dr. Sere S. and Mrs. Martha Myers, retired ministerial couple of Kansas City, MO.

A seminar which addressed the subject: "CHARTING A NEW COURSE: DEFINING THE PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE" was moderated by Oscar Haynes of Washington, DC. Dr. Myers provided a background statement which prompted responses from panelists Effie Burford and Emmett J. Dickson, both of Indianapolis, IN and Claude O. Maples, Romine CC- Dallas, TX.

Mrs. Martha Underwood Myers, graduate of Southern Christian Institute, received a Lyric Award at a special luncheon, and Rev. Dr. Sere Stayce Myers received a "Doctor of Humane Letters" degree. Also featured and honored was Melba Moore, recording artist and actress of New York City.

JANICE NEWBORN TO JOIN HUSBAND IN RETIREMENT

Indianapolis, IN -

It will be a long way from Janice R. Newborn's senior high school graduation in Youngstown, OH and a bachelor's degree in music education



from Youngstown University to December 31, 1994, and retirement from being the administrator of the Office of Disciples of Women in the Division of Homeland Ministries.

After 16 years as a quiet but earnest Christian lady committed to quality service in the General Office of the Christian Church (DOC), Janice was given an outpouring of honor and respect with a special program of recognition during the 1994 International Christian Women's Fellowship Quadrennial June 22-26 at Purdue University. Her husband, Dr. Ernest J. Newborn, Sr., retired in 1992 from the office of administrative director for the Reconciliation Fund in the Christian Church (DOC).

AFTER 85 YEARS MISSIONS BUILDING CLOSING

Indianapolis, IN – Retired Missions Building staff have been asked for in-put on a “Service of Closure” at Missions Building, January 30, 1995. The building has served as the International Center for coordinating the work of the Christian Church (DOC) for 85 years. Rev. Dr. Peter Morgan, director of worship for the general church, was appointed to develop a special service.

Retirement came to Marilyn Hotz, Missions Building service, Christian literature; Byron Rose, seven years serving Missions Building staff; Virginia McHenry, business manager. Death came to Rosa Page Welch, January; William (Bill) Starn, March; Lewis Deer, June; Harrell A Rea, July; Wisteria Spencer Reid, July; Leola Lee Fugate, August; and Jean Long Dillinger, September.



Retirement of Church Unit Presidents Point to Progress & 21st Century Chal- lenges *by William K. Fox, Sr., Editor*

Within the next twelve months presidents Richard R. Lance of the National Benevolent Association, Lester D. Palmer of the Pension Fund of the Christian Church (DOC) and James M. Seale of the Disciples of Christ Historical Society will retire. As these dedicated church leaders retire, the challenge continues.



NBA President Richard Lance and wife, Janice, with NBA Board of Directors President Titus James on the right from Wichita, KS. Lance retires in 1996.

The nature of the times motivated the National Christian Missionary Convention to devise the MERGER DOCUMENT which set forth the joint intention of both Black and White Disciples of Christ leaders to guide the church toward functioning as one body in the service of the one Lord and Savior.

THE PARENTAL ROOTS OF A. O. JACKSON

Most readers will have special interest in the parental roots of Alvin O. Jackson, the current Senior Pastor of the 7,800 member Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church in Memphis, TN, who will become the Senior Minister of National City Christian Church, Washington, D.C., in April, 1998.



"The Jacksonian background" rests upon left to right, Queen Esther Jackson, the mother, Tina Brown Jackson, the wife, Alvin O'Neal Jackson, the husband and center piece, Cullen O'Neal Jackson, "the future," and Clyde Jackson, the Papa.

The early formation of the Alvin O. Jackson saga has specific relationship to his becoming a vital force in the effective witness of the historic Memphis congregation since 1979 and now, the first African American minister to be called as the Senior Pastor of National City Christian Church (DOC).

GRAPEVINE

Operations Strengthened

Raymore, MO - The OLDTIMERS' GRAPEVINE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF ITS PRESIDENT, Sere Stacy Myers of Kansas City, MO, convened in August 1998 to elect Mrs. Sybel Thomas of Chicago, IL, a lay church leader and practicing accountant, as the vice president, and Ms. Linda McKnight, an active member of the Christian Church (DOC) and former General Church unit employee, as the Financial Secretary/Treasurer.

Dr. Ernest J. Newborn, Sr. of Indianapolis, IN, a retired Administrative Director of the General Church Reconciliation Fund, and a faithful member of the founding OLDTIMERS' board, was approved as the Associate Editor. Newborn has performed since the inception of the OLDTIMERS' GRAPEVINE in 1991. Mrs. Thomas has been a reader and donor to the GRAPEVINE during every year of its existence.

Volume IX Issue 1 January-February 1999

Signal Events in 1998 Involve Senior Citizens

*Cornelius W. and Alpha P. Arnold, veteran retired minister and public school teacher, of Los Angeles, CA ini-



tiated a Scholarship Fund related to the scholarship fund effort of the central office of the National Benevolent Association in St. Louis, MO in February 1998.

(Continued on page 11)

*National Convocation Liberation Award recipients during the 15th biennial session of the NCCC in Lexington, KY August 6-11, 1998, were veteran senior citizens K. David Cole, Sybel Thomas, and William (Bill) Hannah (since deceased).

*Sere Stacy Myers of Kansas City, MO, retired minister, real estate broker, and national denominational church leader, was honored by the Myers Family and friends on his 100th birthday September 25, 1998.

Volume IX - Issue 6 November - December 2000

Founding Editor/Mgr. OLDTIMERS' Wm. K. Fox, Sr. "Passes Torch" to Prominent Disciples Church Leader



Oscar Haynes, Washington, D. C., joins Reubena M. S. and William K. Fox, Sr. in Raymore, MO for an on site review of the mission and operations of the OLDTIMERS. Haynes and the Foxes are veteran associates in the work of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Raymore, MO- This issue is the last for the founding editor/manager. **BYE, BYE FOR NOW . . .** I'm breaking off after nine years of privilege of monitoring the coming and going of some very wonderful people. I'm really not going very far. January 1, 2000 I will be aligned with Dr. Sebetha Jenkins and the Jarvis Christian College Olin Resource Staff as the volunteer Coordinator for the Black Disciples Heritage Project lodged in the archival collection of the College.

Vol. No. X Issue No. 1 January-February 2001

Prominent Churchwoman Eulogized

Mrs. Zellie Madie Simpson Peoples, former treasurer of the National Christian Missionary Convention, and the Black Disciples Ministers' Wives of the National Convocation, was eulogized in services at Light of the World Christian Church in early January, 2001.



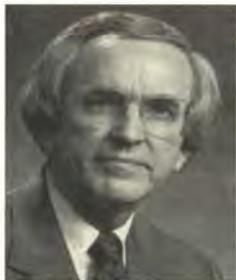
Mrs. Peoples, widow of the Rev. Robert Hayes Peoples, distinguished Disciples pastor, graduated cum laude from Jarvis Christian College in 1929. She was a 1932 cum laude graduate of Texas College, Tyler, TX, and recipient of the National Convocation Bicentennial Award for a lifetime of distinguished humanitarian service to the church, community and world.

DEAR READER

It is with mixed emotions that I begin this journey of Editor/Manager of The OLDTIMERS' GRAPEVINE NEWSLETTER. Excited because I again have the opportunity to pursue one of my first loves, and less enthusiastic when I realize I am following in the footsteps of the Rev. Dr. William K. Fox, the creator of this newsletter.

Oscar Haynes, Editor

Denomination Mourns Loss of Kenneth L. Teegarden



The Christian Church (DOC) has been deeply saddened by the death of Rev. Dr. Kenneth L. Teegarden, who died at his home in Fort Worth, TX at the age of 80.

Dr. Teegarden retired in 1985 as the denomination's general minister and president. His first assignment at the general headquarters in 1965 was staff executive for the restructure process. He did much of the conceptualizing of the new structure for the denomination and was a relentless promoter of it. He served the maximum two six-year terms as GMP, 1973 to 1985.

Volume 13, Issue 1 January/February, 2003

GOD'S EARTHLY VOICE HUSHED

"We have lost a Bible preaching minister declared Col. Charles E. McGee on the death of

Dr. K. David Cole, his former pastor at Swope Parkway United Christian Church in Kansas City, MO. This



prominent African American leader was president of the National Convocation and Moderator of the Christian Church (DOC) in the United States and Canada.

It was January 7, 2003, in a Chatsworth CA hospital room that David's name was called. It had to be the Lord's voice as proclaimed in the lyrics of the Negro Spiritual, "Hush, Hush Somebody's Calling My Name." His victory over a long valiant struggle with cancer was over.

Reader's Comment

Corner



To our friends Joan and Oscar—
"Thanks, as always, for the informative and interesting O.T.G.V." Our love, Bill & Mary Helen.

Dr. William & Mrs. Mary Helen Blackwell,
Brandywine, WV

"Dear Oscar & Joan, I am happy to receive the Oldtimers' Grapevine. It let's us know what is going on in the Christian Church. I was proud of the article about Sotello Long's Installation and Charles Dickerson's concert."

Beverly Smith, Tazewell, VA

"It was great to receive the Grapevine yesterday. Please add to the Oldtimers' Grapevine mailing list these Disciples men and after receiving copies they will learn more about The Christian Church (DOC). 'The best kept secret in the USA & Canada.'" Your friend and Brother in Christ.
Roscoe Dickerson, Cleveland, OH

"Oscar & Joan, what a blessing you two are to so many, especially to us." Bill & Ann.
Dr. William C. & Mrs. Ann Howland,
Arlington, VA

"Oscar, Keep up the good work."
Charles B. Barr, Cameron, MO

"Oscar, many thanks for a great job!"
Rev. Joseph & Winnifred Smith,
Indianapolis, IN

"Thanks Oscar, for the informative Grapevine. The lady (Joan) who represented you at the booth in Charlotte was a blessing to all."
Don & Shirley Brewer, Arvada, CO

DISCIPLES NEWS ROUND-UP

Indianapolis, IN – Dr. William J. Nottingham, retired president of The Division of Overseas Ministries, was honored at the Martin Luther King, Jr. observances at University Christian and Faith United Christian Churches, on January 19, 2004.

The award, Drum Major for Justice, was presented by Rev. Julia Brown Karimu, Mission Personnel Executive, (DOM).

Brandywine, WV – Rev. Dr. William & Mrs. Mary Helen Blackwell, celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary by renewing their vows with close family members to bring a happy ending to 2003. The celebration was held at the King's Arms Tavern in historic Williamsburg, VA.- Rev. Dr. Wayne Bell, who performed their ceremony in 1953, performed the vows once again, for this memorable occasion.

Indianapolis, IN – Marilyn Hotz, retired staff of the General Assembly Bookstore from 1958 to 1994, recently completed 36 years of prison ministry and received a life time award from her sponsor, PACE/OAR, a United Way organization. Marilyn's attendance at the General Assembly in Charlotte, NC, was the 29th consecutive Assembly of the Christian Church (DOC) that she has attended.

Raymore MO – Rev. Dr. William K. and Mrs. Reubena Fox, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary the latter part of

December, 2003. Guests enjoyed the evening with New Year's Eve caps, hats, visors, noise makers, and a toast with sparkling grape juice served in throw away plastic champagne glasses. Dr. Fox is founder of the Oldtimers' Grapevine Newsletter and retired Associate General Minister and Administrative Secretary of the National Convocation.

Indianapolis, IN – Rev. Dr. Raymond E. Brown, retired Executive of Church Extension, is the fourth recipient of Disciples Home Missions' Distinguished Leadership Award. In presenting the award, President Arnold Nelson, Jr., said "Raymond E. Brown has dedicated the largest part of his life to this church. Many times he has contributed leadership to DHM".

The first recipient was Bruce Cotton, an executive and layman from Lexington, KY; the second was Sandra Bryant, executive director of Peoples Christian Center, Los Angeles, CA; and the third was Charles Gaines, dentist and layman from Arlington, TX.

Baltimore, MD – Julia Drew Caldwell, granddaughter of Rev. David & Mrs. Kris Caldwell, and daughter of Michael and Deborah Caldwell, a miracle baby, celebrated her second birthday on February 7th, 2004. David is senior pastor of First Christian Church, Baltimore, MD, and former trustee of the Disciples Historical Society. Her parents are both elementary school teachers.

Indianapolis, IN – Art Hanna, who has served as president of the Pension Fund of the Christian Church (DOC) for seven years, has retired. His successor is Jim Hamlett who's a former executive staff member at Church Extension.

Washington, D.C. – “Sainthood” was one of the many tributes presented Rev. Virginia Taylor at a dinner celebrating her 14 years of ministry at National City Christian Church (DOC). She served as an Associate for Christian Education since September, 1989. Her retirement followed that of her husband, Rev. Dr. Richard Taylor, former regional minister of the Capital Area Christian Church.

The bestowal of unofficial “Sainthood” by Senior Pastor Alvin O. Jackson, was part of a beautiful send off with a glorious worship service and gifts that included a generous monetary gift from the congregation. The Taylor's are making their retirement home in Glen Allen, VA.

Roanoke, VA – Rev. William Lee, pastor of Loudon Avenue Christian Church, will be the leader for the Men's Regional Retreat for 2004. It will be held at the Wakefield 4-H Center near Petersburg, VA. The theme will be “Spiritual Gifts Produce Spiritual Growth.” Further information is available on the website (www.disciplesmenva.org).

Indianapolis, IN – Rev. Effie Blair observed the beginning of her 28th year of ordination into the Christian Ministry the end of January, 2004. The three people she remembers greatly influencing her in the call to ministry are: Dr. Joseph E. Blair, Sr., Dr. Emmet J. Dickson, and Rev. Robert Glover. University Christian Church, Houston, TX, was her ordaining congregation.

Columbus, OH – Rev. Dr. LaTaunya Bynum, pastor of Broad Street Christian Church, is a recipient of a Sabbatical Grant for Pastoral Leaders Program from the Louisville Institute in Kentucky. Her project title is “From Inertia to Invigoration: How Congregations Find New Life.” Rev. Bynum is a former staff member of Homeland Ministries and a member of the Board of Greenwood Cemetery, Nashville, TN.

Decatur, GA – The Rev. Dr. Cynthia Hale, pastor of Ray of Hope Christian Church, will be one of the keynote speakers at a church leaders training event March 23-25, 2004, at the Upper Arlington Lutheran Church, Mill Run Campus in Hilliard, OH.

The theme of the conference is “Global Positioning for the Soul. And the goal is to coach innovative ways to multiply Christian mission in America.

THE POET'S CORNER

JOHN RICHARD FOULKES

My Friend

His life is explicitly fragrant with truth.
His thoughts, words and smile portray perpetual youth.

His glance, handshake and stride are all secure.

He walks with a purpose to faithfully endure.

I've known John now for twenty-three years.

He remains a constant friend to me, and to all his peers.

He's always the same among the great or small.

He never makes a difference in others,

No nary-a-one— not a'tall.

How my little family loved/loves to open our door
for John to enter with smiles and hugs galore.

One night when he came the date had really been mixed-up.

My husband appeared perplexed, seemed ready to hide, maybe duck..

I needed to change the bed, run the sweeper and dust

But John had reached Nashville and called for us.

He was at the Trinity Lane Shell Station off I-65.

He needed Norman to come lead him
to our little family hive.

I squinted at Norman as I pulled out clean sheets.

LaMont grabbed the sweeper
and Lynette a dusting fleece.

Norman mumbled "I'm sorry" for his mix-up of the date,

quietly exited through the door
for it was already rather late.

Me and the children had hurriedly put things ACE;
we soon heard the car's motor as it returned to its place.

And then there was the sound of friendly shuffling feet

As they walked across the deck to enter and to greet.

John, in his warm and playful manner asked
"Should I come in - or leave - and come back agin?"

:Naw, we answered, everything's cool,"

we knew the procedure and we knew the rule
for our dear friend, John, is a rare and priceless jewel.

One more thing that needs to be said,
it's about the hats he wears on his head.

Whether the off-white Cassidy, the black or the brown;
where his hats are concerned there's no fooling around.

He's serious about his hats- he never lends.

But he's even more serious about his family and his friends.

[Written Thurs., November 20, 2003]

From heart to heart,
May Reed



Greenwood Cemetery hosts a Funeral Directors Banquet each December. This year we honored Rev. Dr. John R. Foulkes who has stepped into retirement. Dr. Foulkes has faithfully served the Disciples since 1979 as Administrative Secretary of the National Convocation and Associate General Minister and President of the Christian Church (DOC) in the United States & Canada. A poem (in this issue), a plaque, a prayer, songs, hugs and many well wishes were extended to John that evening of December 15, 2003. Relatively little-for one who has done so much, for so long, and so well for so many....Thank you John.

**IN HONOR OF
DR. JOHN RICHARD FOULKES**

For having faithfully served as

Administrative Secretary

Of the
National Convocation of the Christian
Church
(Disciples of Christ)

Since 1985 and remaining dedicated
to providing friendship

and

Outstanding leadership among the
Board of Directors of Greenwood Cemetery
1979—2003

As you step into retirement,
We, the Board, Staff
and
General Manager, Dr. Norman Reed,

Say
With love, and our blessings,
"THANK YOU!"

OVERHEARD

Mother: Son, I want you to begin packing all your things, for we are leaving here to live in America.

Son: (Kneeling by the bedside to say his prayers.)
Good-bye God, we're going to America.

Submitted by board member Ruth Hobbs



**FROM THE DESK OF THE
OLDTIMERS' GRAPEVINE**

Dear Friends:

My heart overflows with thanksgiving as I look back over the past three years and the opportunity to share precious moments with you through the *OLDTIMERS' GRAPEVINE NEWSLETTER*. This is a ministry truly blessed by God.

The blessings began with Rev. Dr. William K. Fox when he was moved by Almighty God to begin this ministry. The publication was also blessed by those who accepted the responsibility of providing leadership on the Board of Directors. Over the years the readership has grown from the original 100 to now more than 600. To God be the glory!

My special thanks to the originators for your faith in passing the torch to me. I also thank my son, Oscar, who developed the new masthead, my wife; Joan, who has complimented my editorial expertise and supplied computer and writing skills; my daughters: Donna, who committed countless hours of computer and production skills that have been key in the Grapevine's growth, and Kim, who provides health information for the wholeness of the mind, body, and spirit. A very special thanks to the *GRAPEVINE'S* Poet-in-Residence - Mrs. May Lindsay Reed, of the Poet's Corner for touching our spirits with rhythmic words.

To be sure, it has been a struggle financially but the blessings have been many. Thanks be to God that your gifts have been sufficient for the cost of the last several issues. We are blessed to have discovered Discount Newsletter Printers, a firm of integrity and the love of God, in Woodbridge, VA.

We love every one of you and thank you for having faith in us. With each issue our hope for the future grows brighter and brighter.

Oscar and Staff

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRECIOUS GIFTS



Mrs. Ruth P. Hobbs, Jackson, MS; Zella M. Hunter, Tulsa, OK; Mrs. Mayme C. Garner, Cincinnati, OH; Mr. Frank & Mrs. Rubena Adams, Chicago, IL; Dr. Alvin O. & Mrs. Tina E. Jackson, Washington, D.C.; Ms. Mabel Metzger, Indianapolis, IN; Dr. William C. & Mrs. Ann Howland, Arlington, VA; Dr. James C. Suggs, Carlsbad, CA; Dr. Louis & Mrs. Carolyn Brown, Huntsville, AL; Mrs. Mary J. Thomas, Washington, D.C.; Mr. Dwayne & Mrs. Beverly Bell, Nashville, TN; Mrs. Jackie Compton Bunch, Columbus, OH; Mr. Charles B. & Mrs. Martha Barr, Cameron, MO; Mrs. Lucille Stark, Silver Spring, MD; Mr. Robbie N. & Mrs. Louada Chisholm, Silver Spring, MD; Mr. Dallas W. & Mrs. Jeane Hoadley, Fairfax, VA; Mrs. Ruth D. Heimer, Indianapolis, IN; Mr. Arthur K. Longfellow, Pikesville, KY; Mr. Joseph & Mrs. Winnifred Smith, Indianapolis, IN; Rev. Robert & Mrs. Lois Chambless, Raymore, MO; Mr. Bruce E. Tilsley, Arvada, CO; Mr. John & Mrs. Odetta, Redd, Martinsville, VA; Mr. Don & Mrs. Shirley Brewer, Arvada, CO; Mr. Roscoe Dickerson, Cleveland, OH; Dr. Thomas J. Liggett, Claremont, CA; Mr. Harold H. Horn, Fullerton, CA; Mr. Robert C. & Mrs. Berlena Brock, Seattle, WA; Mrs. Louise Griffin, Washington, D.C.; Dr. Enoch W. Henry, Jr., Palestine, TX; Rev. Glenn & Mrs. Charlotte Shoemaker, Raymore, MO; Mrs. Kathryn N. Range, Columbus, OH; Mrs. Jackie Stockton, Martinsville, VA; Rev. Sotello & Mrs. Dee Long, Summerville, S.C.

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FOR WHOM THE BELLS TOLL



Washington, DC -- A Memorial Service for Judyth Ann Douglas, former Division of Overseas Executive for the Christian Church (DOC) were held at Peoples Congregational United Church of Christ, January 2, 2004, with Rev. Dr. A. Knighton Stanley, Senior Minister, presiding.

Well known for her ability to create and manage an organization's administrative structure, Ann is fondly remembered for her leadership in the struggle for civil and human rights. From 1967 to 1976, she was on the staff of the Interreligious Foundation for Community Organization (IFCO) becoming its Executive Director in 1972. In 1972, along with Dr. Dorothy Height, Leon Sullivan, and Mary Walker, she was one of the incorporators of the National Black United Fund, a Black philanthropic institution that has been instrumental in creating reform in work-place charitable giving, which has provided millions of dollars in grants and technical assistance to over 3,000 community-based organizations and institutions.

Ann left IFCO in 1976 to become the Latin American and Caribbean Executive Director for the Division of Overseas Ministries. She recruited and supervised the Division's staff in six countries, traveling extensively to provide field support to them.

In 1987, Ann joined the faculty at the University of California. She was the Research administrator for the University's General Internal Medicine Investigative Clinic. Almost three years later, she resigned and moved to the Nations' Capital where she became the Administrative Assistant for Peoples Church. She updated and strengthened the church's administrative structure and operation and provided oversight and management of the members' and public's use of the church facilities.

The homegoing service included such notables as, Sweet Honey In The Rock, Bobby Felder Ensemble, Rev. Meri-Li Bomar Douglas, her brother; and two sisters, Helen Toni Douglas and Adisa Douglas. The Eulogy, "Holy Waste" was delivered by Dr. Stanley.

Kansas City, MO - Homegoing Services for Dorothy M. Colson Sweatt, former church organist at West Paseo Christian Church as well as Director of Religious Education and Church Secretary, were recently held at Swope Parkway United Christian Church with Senior Minister, Rev. Dr. Margaret N. Roberts, officiating.



This accomplished pianist and well-known accompanist also served as organist for First AME Church in Kansas City, Kansas and Central Christian Church of Kansas City, MO. She was director of the Youth Department and Director/Pianist of the Children's Choir at Swope Parkway until 1990. Mrs. Sweatt held numerous positions at the local and regional levels of the Christian Church.

Words of Comfort and Victory for this dedicated servant of God were given by Dr. Roberts. Other participants in the celebration service were: Rev. Karen Yount, Budd Park Christian Church; Rev. James Blair; Carolyn Grider, Raytown Christian Church; Rev. Janet Chapman & Dr. William K. Fox, Raymore Christian Church.



Hyattsville, MD - A Celebration of Life for Marion S. McIntosh, prominent Speech Correctionist, was held at University Christian Church on February 16, 2004, with Dr. Marshall Dunn, Senior Minister, officiating.

Marion, a native Washingtonian, was a teacher in the public school systems of Prince Georges County, MD and Washington, DC. She also taught speech and English for the U.S. Department of State after retiring from the District School system. She was a dedicated leader of the Christian Church, serving as elder at Michigan Park Christian Church and later at University Christian Church. Marion was also the first African American woman elected Moderator of the Capital Area Region.

What is Cancer?

When some healthy cells start to develop abnormally and begin to grow out of control, they can become cancer cells. This causes growths or *tumors* to form. Tumors can be *benign* (not cancer) or *malignant* (cancer). Malignant tumors can invade and destroy healthy tissues and organs. Cancer cells can metastasize (spread) to other parts of the body and form new tumors.

Tips to Reduce Your Risk of Cancer

- Don't Smoke
- Limit your intake of fat (no more than 20 – 30% of total calories)
- Eat high fiber foods (at least 5 servings of fruits and vegetables per day)
- Get regular health check-ups
- Exercise every day for at least 30 minutes
- Limit your time in the sun and use sun block when you go outside
- Pay attention to the changes in your body
- Have screening test on time
- Limit your alcohol intake

Cancer Screenings

- *Colon and Rectal exams* starting at age 50 years, stools should be tested for blood every year. Your doctor should also choose one of these screening methods as well:
 1. a sigmoidoscopy every 5 years
 2. a colonoscopy every 10 years
 3. a double contrast barium enema every 5-10 years

A rectal exam should be done along with whichever method is chosen.

- *Mammography* – Women between the ages of 40-49 should have a mammogram every 1-2 years. Women aged 50 and older should have one done every year.
- *Prostate Exam* – Men over the age of 40 should have a digital rectal exam every year. Men over 50 need a prostate specific antigen (PSA) blood test every year.
- *Pap Test* – All women who have been sexually active or who are 18 years or older should have pap test every year.

Types of Cancer

Lung Cancer – is the leading cause of death from cancer in both women and men. Most lung cancer is caused from smoking. Women who smoke are 12 times more likely to get lung cancer than women who have never smoked. Second-hand smoke also increases your risk of lung cancer.

Lung cancer has many signs:

- A persistent cough that won't go away
- Sputum streaked with blood
- Chest pain
- Repeated attacks of pneumonia or bronchitis
- Hoarseness
- Shortness of breath
- Fever
- Wheezing

If you smoke, stop smoking to help prevent lung cancer. Once you stop, your cancer risk from smoking begin to decrease right away.

Watch for Reducing Your Risk of Cancer- Part II in our next edition.

Kim Atwater is a nurse in the ambulatory surgery center at Kaiser Permanente, Kensington, MD.

The Oldtimers'

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The Oldtimers'

GRAPEVINE

May/June '04

Volume 14, Issue 3

*"The Lord openeth the eyes
of the blind: the Lord raiseth
them that are bowed low: the
Lord loveth the righteous:"*
Psalm 146:8 KJV

Native Washingtonian Disciple Defeats Racism

James "Pat" Daugherty, life-long member of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) was honored May 11, 2004, during the 50th Anniversary

Commemoration of Brown vs. Board of Education for being the first and notable African-American to be elected to the Montgomery County, Maryland Board of Education.



Pat's tenure on the board was 1970 to 1974. This native Washingtonian moved to Montgomery County, a thriving suburb of Washington, DC to pursue employment opportunities, as well as other community benefits. He had contributed outstanding community leadership before he began his four years of service in this high profile elected position. The lengthy ceremonies were attended by most of the education leaders over the past 50 years. Also present was his devoted wife, Dorothy and Derek, one of their four sons.

The ceremonies included dialogue between current members of the Board of Education and Superintendent Sharon Cox, on fulfilling the promise of Brown and addressing the challenges that lie ahead.

Videotaped vignettes and verbal comments of former board members revealed the struggles the county went through in advancing integration throughout the school system.

What is also significant is the fact that Pat was also the first black elected school board member in the State of Maryland, as well as Montgomery County, and he has been recognized as an outstanding spokesman for minority groups. He was the first to lead the campaign for student representatives on the board.

Mr. Daugherty's Christian journey started at the age of three at Twelfth Street Christian Church (DOC). His grandmother, Mrs. Rosa Williams, was among those members who started Twelfth Street in the early 1900s. After moving to Montgomery County, he became an active associate member of Heritage Christian Church where Rev. Ben "Chuck" Manning is pastor.

While campaigning for the school board position, Mr. Daugherty, a retired Deputy Equal Employment Opportunity Officer with the Public Health Service, said there were several incidents of "subtle racism", but he was the top vote getter of the eight candidates. He said he rarely mentioned race, he campaigned on his personality and issues.

DISCIPLES NEWS ROUND-UP

60th Anniv.
Claremont, CA – Dr. Lester G. McAllister, noted historian, author and pastor, will reach his 60th Anniversary of Ordination in Christian Ministry on June 25, 2004. Twenty-five of his close friends, including, Rev. David Caldwell of First Christian Church, Baltimore, MD, joined him in an early celebration the first weekend in June. “His knowledge and understanding of the history of the Disciples Church is unsurpassed,” declared Rev. James M. Seale, retired president of the Disciples Historical Society. The life of this world traveler is beautifully told in the 1994 publication of *Just As I Lived It.*, truly, 122 pages of excellent reading.

St. Louis, MO – The Division of Higher Education, one of the eleven general units of the Christian Church (DOC), is changing its name this summer to Higher Education and Leadership Ministries. The name change was approved by the board at its meeting April 30 to May 1, 2004, in St. Louis, MO.

Washington, D.C. – Rev. Dr. Robin Hedgeman, pastor of Bethany Christian Church, Cleveland, OH, visited her home church, Twelfth Street CC in early June for the memorial services of her aunt, Mrs. **Thelma Turner**, a life long member of the congregation. The eulogy was given by Rev. Mary Brown Oliver, Interim Pastor.

Indianapolis, IN – Mrs. Wanda Bryant Wills, an active member of Light of the World Christian Church, Bishop T. Garrott Benjamin, Jr., pastor, has been

named Executive Director of the denominations’ Communication Ministries.

Mrs. Wills, a specialist in marketing and public relations, will be responsible for leading the planning, development and implementation of strategic communications. She is the Programming Co-Chair for the Public Relations Society of America – Hossier Chapter.

Craig Scott Coleman, grandson of one of the founders of Twelfth Street Christian Church, Washington, DC was installed as Pastor of Page Sanctuary Church of God in Christ on March 27, 2004 in Oklahoma City, OK.



Craig, a native Washingtonian, began his religious journey at Twelfth Street Christian Church where his grandfather William C. Bowie, was an elder and founder. He is a graduate of Mackin High School. Following graduation he received an award to participate in a research practicum at Walter Reed Army Medical Center along with an academic scholarship from Boston University. His mother Alice Coleman, and brother James are still active members of Twelfth Street Congregation.

After moving to Oklahoma he met Dinna Montague who later became his wife. Out of this union God has blessed them with five children and seven grandchildren.

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

In 1977, Craig experienced salvation during a 21-day consecration by Sister Ethel Susong at Page Sanctuary C.O.G.I.C. under Pastor W.A. Smith, and has maintained his membership there for 27 years.

Lucent Technologies has opened doors for Craig by enabling him to return to college where he is majoring in Counseling Psychology. He will graduate in December, 2004.

Columbus, OH – Rev. Dr. Lataunya Bynum, Pastor of Broad Street Christian Church (DOC) has been appointed Chair of the Search Committee for the next General Minister. Rev. Bynum, active in the National Convocation of the Christian Church (DOC), solicits the prayers of all members as the committee begins its awesome task.

Jamestown, PA – Mrs. Brenda Etheridge, ICWF President, has been chosen to be the CWF Luncheon Keynote Speaker at the Pennsylvania Regional Assembly, June 26, 2004. She will share news of her recent trip to India. She will also lead a workshop on the many resource opportunities available to all women of the church for spiritual development and mission.

Lexington, KY – Rev. Dr. Jack Sullivan, Regional Minister of the Christian Church (DOC) in the Northwest was the Commencement Speaker for the 138th Commencement Ceremony of Lexington Theological Seminary. Dr. Sullivan is a 1986 alumnus of LTS and former STEEM student for National City Christian Church and Twelfth Street Christian Church, Washington, DC.

Stone Mountain, GA – Funeral services for Jeanette Carolyn Anderson Thomas, 101-year-old grandmother of Rev. William T. Chaney, Jr., were held on April 26, 2004.

Her service was a celebration of 101 years of life with her poetry read, students witnessing to her influence in their lives, grandchildren singing, and her church family remembering her legacy.

PROMINENT CHURCH LIBRARIAN RECEIVES DOCTORATE



Dr. Giley Nixon Griffin was honored by her alma mater, Jarvis Christian College, Hawkins, TX, with an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters Degree on May 1, 2004, during Spring Commencement Exercises.

Dr. Griffin is a 1950 graduate of Jarvis, where she earned the Bachelor of Science Degree with a major in Sociology and a minor in English. Jarvis President, Dr. Sebetha Jenkins conferred the Honorary Doctorate.

This dedicated church leader served on the staff of Jarvis for more than 10 years in the positions of Assistant Dean of Women, Professor of History and Librarian.

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

She was employed by the Dallas Independent School District for more than 25 years as an elementary, middle and high school librarian. Dr. Griffin received the Master of Science Degree in Library Science from Atlanta University in Atlanta, GA.

Dr. Griffin is a member of Romine Avenue Christian Church, Rev. Claude O. Maples, Senior Minister, and Associate Member of Corinth Christian Church, Kilgore, TX, where her husband, Rev. Dr. James O. Griffin is pastor.

Her many leadership positions include: President, Christian Women's Fellowship, Romine Christian Church; President, Department of Church Women, Christian Church in the Southwest (Texas & New Mexico); President of the Ministers Wives, National Convocation; Board of Trustees, Disciples of Christ Historical Society; Chairperson, International Christian Women's Fellowship Nominating Committee and representative of the Christian Church in the Southwest - The Woman-to-Woman Worldwide Mission Event to Brazil in 1996.

Dr. Griffin has authored two books: *Texas Christian Missionary Fellowship of the Christian Church (DOC) Southwest Region-A Historical Prospectus, 1914 - 2000*, and *Faith Keepers: African-American Women Leaders in Texas - 1846-2000 in the Christian Church (DOC)*.

Disciples Historical Society President Retires

The Rev. Dr. Peter M. Morgan, President of the Disciples of Christ Historical Society, Nashville, TN, was honored by nearly 200 colleagues, family and friends during a retirement celebration on May 30, 2004, at Woodmont Christian Church in Nashville.



The guest list read like a Who's Who in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Master of Ceremonies was Dr. Richard L. Harrison, Jr., Society Board member and Pastor, Seventh Street Christian Church, Richmond, VA. The fast paced program of praise and banter was divided into four chapters. They covered his Calling & Preparation; first call to the Pastorate, (Marion, Iowa Christian Church); his call to a General Unit, (Homeland Ministries), and his call to the Presidency of the Society.

His outstanding achievements include the creation of Linnhaven, a multi-million dollar residential/service agency for mentally retarded adults; his creation of the popular evangelism program, "The Order of Andrew"; and his strategic contribution to the Chalice Hymnal while on the staff of Homeland Ministries.

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

His leadership of the Society since December, 1995, included his wife Lynne who was first a volunteer and over the last five years served as Director of Operations. His achievements include the implementation of an advanced library, archival technology, greater visibility of the Society through the publication of the newsletter "We're History!", through the video "History Alive!", the new internet site and Dr. Morgan's public speaking appearances.

The next chapter in the lives of Peter and Lynne is to reside for several months in communities which are of cultural interest to them and to do church-related volunteer work. Their first stop is Washington, DC, and National City Christian Church. They will complete the work started by Historian Hilda E. Koontz, who died at the age of 93 on February 23, 2004.

**Midway Christian Church,
Martinsville, Virginia Calls
New Pastor**



Rev. Dr. Carolyn Browning was installed as Pastor of Midway Church of Christ (DOC) on Sunday, April 25, 2004. The installation sermon was delivered by Rev. Dr. Kenneth Davis, Pastor of Mt. Olive East Christian Church, Martinsville, VA, and Moderator of

the Piedmont District Convention.

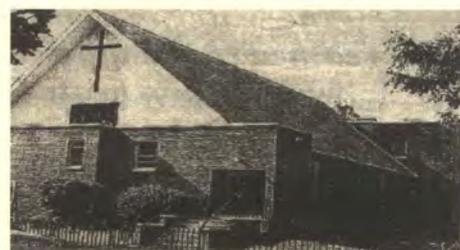
Dr. Browning, a native of Brooklyn, NY, grew up in Tazewell. She is a graduate of Tazewell Public Schools and received her BS degree in Business Administration from Bluefield College.

She received her MBA and her Ed.D from East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, TN, and her PhD from Southwest University in New Orleans, LA.

Dr. Browning was ordained in 1996. She had served as Associate Minister at Midway Church of Christ, North Tazewell. In addition to serving North Tazewell, District 1, she also serves the region of the Christian Church (DOC) as a supply minister, evangelist, Bible teacher, and as a Certified Christian Counselor (American Association of Christian Counselors).

Other clergy assisting in the installation services, were Gary Lyons, First Christian Church (DOC), Princeton, WV; Michael Stump, Tazewell Christian Church (DOC), Tazewell, VA; Chris White, Clifffield Christian Church (DOC), Clifffield, VA; and Gerald Stacy, First Christian Church (DOC), Richlands, VA.

Washington, DC-Twelfth Street Christian Church (DOC), under the leadership of Rev. Mary Brown Oliver, Interim Pastor, will celebrate 90 years of witness and mission in the Nations Capital the entire month of October.



**Fred and Mary Nall's Granddaughter
Wins Miss Miami Beach, USA and
Competes For Miss Florida, USA
Crown In July**



Lynsey Coburn, recently crowned Miss Miami Beach, USA, will be seeking the title of Miss Florida, USA, July 6-10 in a statewide televised pageant.

Lynsey, daughter of Sandra Coburn of Orlando, FL, is a native of Ashland, KY. She is the granddaughter of prominent Disciple leader, Fred and Mary Nall of Ashland. This 19-year-old beauty was the youngest certified make-up artist in the Merle Norman Cosmetic Chain at age 15. Lynsey is a professional model who has been accepted into the International Academy of Design and Technology and will be pursuing further study in Fashion Design and Merchandising.

**THE VACATION DEAL OF A
LIFETIME !!!!**

OLDTIMERS' GRAPEVINE readers can now vacation in beautiful MONTEGO BAY, JAMAICA for an un-believable rate of \$1,250.00 per week.

This offer is from Mr. Leaford Williams, owner of Fort Leaford Villa, a sumptuous resort nestled in the Ironshore Estates located on the edge of the Ironshore Golf & Country Club overlooking the Caribbean Sea.



The Villa accommodates six persons comfortably. It is staffed by a cook, butler and housekeeper to assure the comfort of the vacationers. The regular rental is \$3,000 during the high season and \$2,000 during the off season. For further information and reservations check the website at: WWW.FORTLEAFORDVILLA.COM



The Villa owner is a Retired Foreign Service Officer of the U.S. Department of State and author of *Journey Into Diplomacy*, a book dedicated to all Americans whose progress has been hindered by racism. A portion of each booking will go to the building fund of his home church, Michigan Park Christian Church, Washington, DC, Rev. Dr. Delores Carpenter, Pastor.

the poet's corner

It's Raining

[When I was a little girl]

On a hot, rainy, summer day
when the sun was
shining bright and all shimmery,
I would think
'oh how beautiful!'
The rain, wet and refreshing,
was so nice;
wet, wet, wetter than most anything
and better than a bath
cause you didn't have to
take time to soap a cloth.
I would slip off my shoes and go
walking in it.
I liked the way the soft, goeey mud felt
squishing between my toes.
It was really fun and you
wouldn't have to wash your feet
because the rain cleaned them off.
I would hold my head back
to feel the rain
splattering on my face,
trickle down and tickle the
back of my neck.
I would get soaked through and through
and would have great fun
splashing in most every puddle I'd see.
The sun so bright would begin
burning me
and I'd run and run and
feel free as could be.
Life should always be as sweet and
pleasant as my
childhood, rainy summer days.

Written Wed., January 15, 2003
May F. Lindsey Reed
[Non-fiction]



reader's comment CORNER



Dear Oscar, Thanks for all of
your good work! It's good to
have some of the Oldtimers
network right here in Claremont!!"
Sincerely, Lois T.
Lois & Rhodes Thompson, Claremont, CA

Dear Oscar, "Enclosed is a little check for
the cause. We appreciate being on the list
of subscribers as you and Bill before you
provide information that we don't other-
wise know about. Thank you for your
dedicated service to our church."
Sincerely, Robert
Robert & Diane Steffer, Paris, KY

Dear Oscar, "Congratulations on the fine
service the Oldtimers' Grapevine Team is
providing" Sincerely, Bess
Bess R. Terry, New York, NY

Oscar, "Keep up the good work. The
Grapevine keeps me informed of friends
and I am honored to believe you are one of
them." Sincerely, Wade
Attorney Wade Rubick, Indianapolis, IN

Oldtimers' Grapevine,
"Congratulations and thanks for your
creation and distribution of this vital
publication. Enclosed is another little check
to help with costs. In God's love, G.
David
Rev. G. David Shreeves, Martinsburg, WV

OLDTIMERS' HEALTHVINE

Reducing Your Risk of Cancer Part III

Skin Cancer

Skin cancer is the most common type of cancer in the U.S. It is also the easiest type of cancer to prevent. Your risk is increased if you have a family history. There are 3 main types of skin cancer:

1. Basal cell
2. Squamous cell
3. Melanoma

Most times, basal cell and squamous cell cancers are cured once they are removed. Basal cell and squamous cell cancers appear as pale, wax-like, pearly bumps or red, scaly patches.

Melanoma begins with small, molelike growths. These growths get bigger, change color, and get darker. They are generally irregular in shape and often bleed easily. Melanoma is the leading cause of death from skin cancer.

Warning signs:

- A change in the color or size of a mole
- Scaliness, oozing, or bleeding
- Itchiness, tenderness, or pain in or by a bump or mole
- A sore that does not heal

To help prevent skin cancer, avoid being in the sun between 10am and 4pm. When you are outdoors, use sun block, even when it is not sunny. Sun blocks are rated by SPFs (Sun protection factors). The higher the SPF number, the more protection it gives.

Breast Cancer

Breast cancer is the second leading cause of death from cancer among women. But if detected early, breast cancer can be treated with good results. Watch for these symptoms”

- A lump, thickening, swelling, dimpling of the breast

- Irritation of breast skin
- Nipple distortion, retraction (pulling inward), or scaliness
- Nipple discharge or bleeding, pain, or tenderness

*Mammography and self-breast exams are imperative on a routine basis.

Breast exams should be done on a monthly basis. Mammograms should be performed every 1-2 years for women aged 40-49 and yearly after age 50.

Cervical Cancer

Diseases of the cervix can develop over time into cancer. Dysplasia is a benign condition of the cervix, but can be treated with good success. Invasive cancer is when the disease moves deeper into tissue layers and spreads to other organs.

Cancer of the Endometrium

The endometrium is the lining of the uterus and cancer here occurs most often in women between 60 and 75 years of age.

Signs and Symptoms

- Any bleeding after menopause
- Abnormal bleeding or discharge between periods.
- Prolonged or heavy bleeding during periods

Kim Atwater is a nurse in the ambulatory surgery center at Kaiser Permanente, Kensington, MD.

FOR WHOM THE BELLS TOLL

Not on DB

Tougaloo, MS – A celebration of the life of Clyde Cullen Jackson, noted educator and churchman, was held in the Woodworth Chapel of Tougaloo College on April 10, 2004. As a teenager, Clyde left home to attend Southern Christian Institute and later Jarvis Christian College. He completed his undergraduate work at Alcorn State University, Lorman, MS and went on to earn his Master's degree in School Administration from Jackson State University, Jackson, MS.



Mr. Jackson, father of Rev. Dr. Alvin O. Jackson, Senior Minister of National City Christian Church (DOC), Washington, D.C., began his career as an educator in Jasper County, MS where he served as teacher and principal from 1949 to 1954. In 1954 he moved his family to Sunflower County where he served as teacher, principal and mentor to many students for nearly two decades.

It was also 1954 when Mr. Jackson joined the Indianola Christian Church (DOC) which was the beginning of his Christian service in the Mississippi Delta. He faithfully attended Church and Sunday School which he viewed as essential to his ministry as Deacon, Elder and Sunday School Superintendent. After retirement from the Sunflower County school system, he and his wife, Queen Esther, joined Christian Chapel Christian Church at Port Gibson, MS where he resided until his death.

This personable teacher was a wonderful example of compassion, tolerance and service for people. He leaves his family with a legacy of faithfulness and commitment.

Mr. Jackson will be kept in loving memory by Mrs. Queen Esther Mace Jackson, his wife of 55 years, his son Dr. Alvin O. Jackson and his wife Tina Jackson, three daughters—Ms. Mavis Y. Anderson, Mrs. Claretta J. Sullivan (Walter), Dr. Loretta Jackson-Williams (James), six grandchildren and countless friends.

The family has established a Clyde Cullen Jackson Educational Endowment at Tougaloo College. The plan is to add to it each year and use the interest to support a deserving student at Tougaloo and continue Clyde Cullen's commitment to education.

OVERHEARD

Grandma's Letter

Dear God:

Today I'm really feeling my age, so I pulled out this funny letter and I want to share it with you.

Dear Granddaughter:

One would think I'm a frivolous old gal but actually I'm still a conservative grandmother who just happens to be in a relationship with five most unlikely gentlemen.

As soon as I wake up, Will Power helps me get out of bed. Then I visit John. Charlie Horse comes along, and when he is here he takes a lot of my time and attention. When he leaves, Arthur Ritis shows up for the rest of the day. He doesn't like to stay in one place long, so he takes me from joint to joint! After such a busy day, I'm really tired. Ben Gay soothes my aches and pains so I can drift off to sleep. What a life! Oh yes, some people think I'm flirting with Al Zymer. But I'm not. I'm trying to keep him as far away as possible.

Love, Grandma.

OLDTIMERS' GRAPEVINE

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AUGUST 6-10, 2004

The OLDTIMERS' GRAPEVINE Staff invites you to visit us at our booth during the 18th Biennial Session of the National Convocation, Christian Church, (DOC), August 6 – 10, 2004. This event offers you the opportunity to meet the staff, and members of the board.

Come and share some of the less publicized news of the National Convocation and pick up back issues of the newsletter you may have missed. We look forward to visiting with you and supporting the Convocation and our newly appointed Administrative Secretary, Rev. Dr. Timothy M. James.

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The Oldtimers'

GRAPEVINE

July/August '04

Volume 14, Issue 4

"Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for He hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee." Hebrews 13:5 KJV

THE NATIONAL CONVOCATION GOES TO INDIANAPOLIS

The General theme was ***"New Day * New Way," Equipping God's People To Lead.*** It was based on Isaiah 43: 18 – 19. Those in attendance believed the Lord was doing something new not only within the National Convocation, but the Christian Church in general. Bishop T. Garrott Benjamin, Pastor of Light of the World Christian Church, one of the host congregations and center of two key events, delivered the keynote address during the **All Convocation Banquet**. It is estimated that more than 600 persons gathered in the new multi-million dollar structure for this event. Another highlight was the awarding of the **Liberation Award by Dr. Tim James to Rev. Dr. John R. Foulkes**, recently retired Administrative Secretary of the Convocation.

Dr. James, recently appointed Executive Secretary of the National Convocation and Associate General Minister & President, reported there were 675 delegates to this year's Convocation. He was pleased with the spiritual emphasis and the peace experienced in the business sessions. There was a spirit of love that permeated throughout the five days. "We believe strongly that it's time for a resurgence of spiritual growth in this nation, declared Dr. James.



One of the Nation's most prominent clergy women and entrepreneurs, Rev. Dr. Delores Carpenter, was installed as president of the National Convocation of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) during

the 18th Biennial Session August 10, 2004, in Indianapolis, IN.



Dr. Carpenter, Pastor of Michigan Park Christian Church, Washington, DC., is the fifth female president of the Convocation, which is the voice of the African American membership of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Her goal for the 19th Biennial Session in Detroit, MI is to preach to at least 1,000 attendees in the Motor City.

Another goal is to see members of the Convocation lead the denomination in becoming a tithing church.

The several ventures of Dr. Carpenter include the organization of a fellowship designed to assist in the training of future black Ministers of Music. It is administered by the African Heritage & Cultural Institute of America which was founded by Dr. Carpenter. She is the visionary and general editor of the successful African American Heritage Hymnal. She is also founder of Project Promise, a campaign to collect new and used shoes for the people of Kenya. She will be leading a delegation to Kenya on December 28, 2004 to share in the distribution of at least one container of shoes for Kenyans.

Project Promise International is a faith-based 501-c (3) nonprofit organization established in Maryland to improve the quality of life in depressed communities in the U.S. and Africa. Persons interested in traveling to Nairobi, Kenya with Dr. Carpenter should send a deposit of \$125.00 immediately.

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

Checks should be made payable to British Airways, c/o Romelle Arnold, 2107 Wagon Trail Place, Silver Spring, MD 20906.

A most historical revelation of the National Convocation of 2004, is the fact that three of the key positions in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) are filled by African American Women. They are Charisse Gillette, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Christian Church; Rev. Dr. Lataunya M. Bynum, Chairwoman of the Search Committee for the next General Minister & President of the denomination and Rev. Dr. Delores Carpenter, President of the National Convocation of the Christian Church.

Convocation Pixs



Youngest attendee at the 18th Biennial Session of the National Convocation was the one-year-old grandson of Rev. & Mrs. Kenneth Davis, pastor of Mt. Olive East Christian Church, Martinsville, VA shown with Beverly Smith of Tazewell, VA.



Caught in the lens of the OTG photographer were Dr. Samuel Hylton, retired pastor of Centennial Christian Church, St. Louis, MO; popular lay-woman from Louisville, KY, Mabel Lewis and OTG Editor, Oscar Haynes (L to R).



Caught enroute to a business session was Rev. David A. Vargas President of the Division of Overseas Ministries.

Reader's comment CORNER



Dear Oscar, "The Grapevine spreads the news about the persons whose lives mean a lot to the church and who are dear to us personally.

Keep up the good work." Wayne
**Dr. Wayne H. Bell, President Emeritus,
Lexington Theological Seminary,
Lexington, KY**

Dear Oscar, "I must take time out to congratulate you as well as to thank you for your ingenuity and creativity in the development of our Oldtimers' Grapevine. It is quite unique and serving an invaluable purpose among our Christian Church Community," Leaford

**Leaford C. Williams, Elder: Michigan Park
Christian Church, Washington, D.C.**

Oscar, Thank you! I really enjoy this" Laura
Dr. Laura Hobgood-Oster, Georgetown, TX

"God bless you Oscar for the faithful work you and your family are doing! Sincerely, Giley Griffin.

**Dr. James O. and Dr. Giley Nixon Griffin,
Dallas, TX**

Newborn Joins Lawyers Club Celebration



June 17, 2004, the Lawyers Club of San Diego, CA, celebrated the 50th anniversary of the landmark decision: ***Brown Versus Board Of Education*** with a special guest who graduated with a Masters Degree in Ministry from Howard University that same day. The *Rev. Dr. Ernest Newborn*, is the retired Administrative

Director of Reconciliation, Church Finance Council, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Dr. Newborn provided the personal view and Ninth Circuit Appellate Judge Margaret McKeown gave the legal view on how this key decision by the Supreme Court changed the face of public education in the United States. Dr. Newborn received his undergraduate degree from Tennessee State University. After leaving Howard University he moved to Canton, OH where he worked as an elementary school teacher and pastor of Faith United Christian Church.

At the stroke of a pen, the Supreme Court did what was right but to change the hearts and minds of people was much more difficult. Dr. Newborn recalled the difficulty for him personally because he “knew his place” in the segregated world. He had to read the sign “right”, sit in the back of the bus, look for the “colored” drinking fountain, and go in and out of the rear door of the restaurants. He had to stand in line at the store until all the whites had been served and was not allowed to try on clothing before purchasing.

Dr. Newborn was asked to do what he could as a minister and educator to promote educational opportunity. He accepted the challenge and worked in promoting racial diversity. He was credited with raising over \$8 million to support social justice and eliminate racism and poverty. He served as president of the Marion County Branch of the NAACP and member of the Ohio State Civil Rights Commission. He fought for equal rights on multiple fronts, including efforts to ensure that **“Urban Renewal” did not mean “Negro Removal,”** as it often did and remains so to this day. He was the first African American teacher in a white school. He and his family lived through some difficult times, including a cross burning on their front lawn.

Dr. Newborn and wife Janice have a daughter and son and both are lawyers. Daughter, Mary Jo Wiggins is a member of the Lawyers Club and a professor at University of San Diego School of Law.

Judge McKeown is a graduate of Georgetown Law School, Washington, D.C., and first woman partner of Perkins Coie Firm in Seattle, Washington. She served as a White House fellow in 1980-81 and was president of the Federal Bar Association and Washington Women Lawyers.

100 YEARS WITH SAM PUGH



“Fortunately, Sam Pugh is one of my favorite topics. He is truly one of God’s soldiers. He has been a very important part of my faith journey over the 18 years I have served at Downey.” Sheryl Tuvell, Secretary, Downey Avenue Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Indianapolis, IN.

On Tuesday, June 5, 2004, Samuel F. Pugh, poet, pastor, editor and writer, celebrated his 100th birthday with 400 of his friends and family at his home at Robin Run Village, Indianapolis, IN. The party was hosted by his son, Atty. Larry Pugh and daughter, Kathleen Ericson, Sacramento, CA.

Rev. Effie Blair, a Robin Run neighbor, stated that at 99, Rev. Sam said, “I’m 99 and feeling fine.” When asked to top that he replied, “If you by chance hear a clap of thunder, you can all shout, ‘today Sam has made a hundred!’”

This servant of God is a graduate of College of the Bible, which is now Lexington Theological Seminary. At an early age he served congregations in Washington State and California, but due to the Great Depression he took a job with the Northern Pacific Railroad loading boxcars to supplement his meager salary.

Better days followed when a call came from First Christian Church, Sacramento where he served as senior minister. It was “a happy time” he reported as records showed he received 745 persons into membership during the seven years of his pastorate. He became well known for his poetry. He still writes poetry and volunteers two to three times a week to read poetry to the children at Robin Run.

He is a retired editor of the World Call Magazine. Sam shared that one the highlights of his life came when he visited every Disciples’ Mission Station over a three-month trip around the world for the magazine.

He honored the Oldtimers’ Grapevine Newsletter with a book of his poems. We delight in sharing with you, our readers, the epilogue:

“Come Walk With Me”

Years ago, when I was a boy in Missouri, I used to gather black walnuts in the autumn woods. When I crushed the green walnut hulls with half a brick, then dug the hard nut out to dry, my hands were black with stain. But the winter flavor of those delicious kernels made it all worthwhile. Now, decades later, I realize that everything I’ve touched, every place I’ve been and every person I’ve met has left some imprint on my life. Some experiences were so strong that they changed my viewpoint, my attitude, my convictions, and my way of living – like walnut stains.

Sam

DISCIPLES NEWS ROUND-UP

Washington, DC

Gethsemane Mission Year, June, 2004 at National City ended on a high note as the guest speaker, Dr. Fred Craddock & host pastor Dr. Alvin O. Jackson enjoyed a relaxing moment. "Dr. Craddock is one of the 12 most effective preachers in the English speaking world." Newsweek Magazine



New York, NY — Rev. Raiford Samuel Wheeler, Pastor of Park Avenue Christian Church, East Orange, NJ, has been elected Moderator of the Northeastern Region of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Reverend Wheeler, a community activist in East Orange, has provided leadership which has led to housing for low income residents. In the last few years, Park Avenue Church has grown from less than a dozen to several hundred. He has been highly praised for his effective leadership by Rev. Lonnie Oates, Co-Regional Minister.

Indianapolis, IN — The following named clergy have been elected officers of the Black Ministers Fellowship for the next two years. The election was held at the 18th Biennial Session of the National Convocation.

The officers are: Eric Brown, President, Columbus, OH; Susan Street-Beavers, Vice President, Indianapolis, IN; Virzola Law, Recording Secretary, Memphis, TN; Joseph Brown, Financial Secretary, Ridgeville, SC; and Jesse Jackson, Fellowship Representative to the Convocation Board, Oklahoma City, OK.

Butler, PA —Phil Conyers, the new Regional Moderator of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Pennsylvania, steadfastly believes God ordered his steps, because of the events on his journey from assistant pastor of Park Manor Christian Church in Chicago, IL to Pastor of Oak Hills Christian Church, Butler, PA.

The experience of his call to Oak Hills reminded Phil of his own ordination. "I was sure that I would visit many other churches before I would be extended a call, even though I had asked God to order my steps," he recalled. "It had been the theme for my ordination, based on Psalm 119:133 which reads 'Order my steps in Thy word; and let not any iniquity have dominion over me.'"

Indianapolis, IN — Rev. Dr. William Edwards, Associate General Minister and Vice President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) has been named the new regional minister in Ohio. He will assume some of the responsibilities November 1, 2004.

There is excitement in the region which boasts of such strong leadership as: Rev. Dr. Toni Bynum, Rev. Dr. Robin Hedgeman, Rev. David Foster, Thomas Barnes, J. Thomas Johnson, Reuben Thomas, and Rev. Brittany Barber.

Chicago, IL—Harry Ratliff, Vice President and Senior Financial Advisor at Merrill Lynch, is one of three of the newest members to join the Board of Trustees of The Disciples Divinity House of the University of Chicago.

Mr. Ratliff, an elder at Centennial Christian Church, St. Louis, MO, has served on many local, state and national boards, including the Mid-County YMCA, the American Diabetes Association, Tougaloo College. He is also Investment Advisor to Greenwood Cemetery of Nashville, TN.

Hawkins, TX — Dr. Sebetha Jenkins, President of Jarvis Christian College was recently married to Charles Brooks of Tyler, TX. Expressions of congratulations may be sent to Dr. Sebetha Jenkins Brooks, President, Jarvis Christian College, P.O. Box 1470, Hawkins, TX 75765-1470.

Los Angeles, CA — Sandra Bryant, Executive Director of All Peoples Christian Center, recently received the 2004 Urban Shepherd Award which is annually given by the Los Angeles United Methodist Urban Foundation. This award recognizes those who initiate and support signs of hope in the city of Los Angeles.

Phoenix, AZ — Bruce L. Jones, former Arizona Regional Minister and Latin America missionary, died May 30, 2004 in Phoenix after a lengthy illness. He is survived by his wife, Enid, a former missionary.

Washington, DC— Rev. Joan Bell-Haynes, Associate Director of The SpiritHouse Project; a social justice organization; was elected at the 18th Biennial Session to the office of Secretary of the National Convocation for the period of August 2006 to August 2008. She also recently joined the boards of: Bethany House, a retirement complex in Rockville, Maryland; Disciples Justice Action Network (DJAN); and Gethsemane Mission Year, Washington, D.C.

THE VACATION DEAL OF A LIFETIME !!!!



OLDTIMERS' GRAPEVINE readers can now vacation in beautiful **MONTEGO BAY, JAMAICA** for an un-believable rate of **\$1,250.00 per week**.

This offer is from Mr. Leaford Williams, owner of Fort Leaford Villa, a sumptuous resort nestled in the Ironshore Estates located on the edge of the Ironshore Golf & Country Club overlooking the Caribbean Sea.

The Villa accommodates six persons comfortably. It is staffed by a cook, butler and housekeeper to assure the comfort of the vacationers. The regular rental is \$3,000 during the high season and \$2,000 during the off season.

For further information check the website at: WWW.FORTLEAFORDVILLA.COM. For reservations contact Mr. Williams at 202-529-6312 or you may call Rev. Bell-Haynes at 202-398-8989 to help facilitate any inquiries.

The Villa owner is a Retired Foreign Service Officer of the U.S. Department of State and author of *Journey Into Diplomacy*, a book dedicated to all Americans whose progress has been hindered by racism. A portion of each booking will go to the building fund of his home church, Michigan Park Christian Church, Washington, D.C., Rev. Dr. Delores Carpenter, pastor.

THE POET'S CORNER

A Child

I like to run! I like to play!
 I like to be happy!
 I like to be gay (keenly alive).
 But sometimes I sulk – I Sit and stare
 and I get real mad and I don't care.
 I make mean faces
 and frown and frown,
 and I don't even want
 my best friend around.
 Then Mom says
 "Go to your room and take a rest."
 I kick and pout and spoil the test...
 that's to see if I've learned
 to be at my best.
 I lie on my bed facing the wall;
 oh how I feel so very small –
 I don't like being by myself at all.
 Now what had made me act so rotten?
 Gee! by gosh, I've quite forgotten.
 Well it doesn't matter now
 but just the same,
 I'd like to find someone else to blame.
 I slip off my bed and
 touch lightly the floor;
 I open so softly to look out my door.
 I sneak down the hall to
 peep in the kitchen;
 if Mom catches me
 she'll say I'm a vixen.
 I tiptoe lightly across the floor;
 I lean and stretch to try and see more.
 I feel a soft and gentle hand
 but it startles me so
 on my bottom I land.
 I look up in Mom's face and
 she's smiling at me;
 she's just the best Mom ever you see
 and she'll never stop loving me
 however I may be.



May F. Lindsey Reed
 Written March 1, 1977

FOR WHOM THE BELLS TOLL



Washington, D.C.- A celebration of the life of Anthony "Tony" Q. Millner, much-loved layman of Twelfth Street Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) was held on June 7, 2004 with The Rev. Mary Brown Oliver, Interim Pastor, officiating.

The death of this 45-year-old dedicated lay leader was due to a heart attack which was a devastating blow to family and friends. He was Chairman of the Property Committee and co-chair of the 2003 Homecoming Committee with his bride-to-be, Deacon Tracie Powell.

As a youth growing up in church, Tony sang with the Brooks Ensemble, the youth choir, and he was a thespian with the Twelfth Street Players drama group. He filled the role of the sheriff in the classic play "Purlie." This production was so financially successful that one of the charitable organizations receiving monies from it was Afri-Care.

Tony is survived by his parents, David and Hattie G. Millner, New Carrollton, MD; his fiancée, Tracie Powell; Hyattsville, MD; his aunts, Nannie Mae Fuller, Axton, VA, and Jannie G. Booker, Greensboro, NC; his uncles, Obe Gravely, Benjamin Gravely, Harold Gravely, Thomas Millner and Joseph Millner, all of Martinsville, VA and a host of relatives and friends.

Springfield, IL Rev. Dr. Donald F. Clingan, veteran Disciples Church leader died the latter part of March. He served the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) for 46 years as an ordained minister. Five of those years were with the Division of Homeland Ministries and he had 15 years on the national staff of the National Benevolent Association. (NBA).

Dr. Clingan was a national interfaith consultant on ministry with the aging, serving congregations and regions of Protestant, Roman Catholic and Jewish faiths. He was the founding executive director of the National Center on Ministry with the Aging, sponsored by NBA and Christian Theological Seminary. Dr. Clingan, a World War II veteran, co-authored "*Aging: God's Challenge to Church and Synagogue*", and authored "*Aging Persons in the Community of Faith.*"

He is survived by a wife, Jacqueline Stephenson, a son, Stephen of Oakley, Utah; a daughter, Jane Reynolds of Springfield; and a brother, Mel of Carefree, AZ.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRECIOUS GIFTS

Patricia Clark, St. Louis, MO; Rev. Kenneth Davis, Martinsville, VA; Rev. Marcus Leathers, Washington, D.C.; Mrs. Jacquie Clingan, Springfield, IL; Dr. Paul A. Crow, Jr., Indianapolis, IN; Beth M. Hailstock, Cincinnati, OH; Dr. Giley & Dr. James Griffin, Dallas, TX; Rev. Glenn & Mrs. Charlotte Shoemaker, Raymore, MO; Ovara O. Miller, Kansas City, MO; Dr. Laura Hobgood-Oster, Georgetown, TX; Dr. Wayne H. Bell, Lexington, KY; Dr. & Mrs. Samuel W. Hylton, Jr., St. Louis, MO; Dr. Alec & Mrs. Alice Langford, Indianapolis, IN; Mr. James & Mrs. Dorothy Daugherty, Silver Spring, MD; Ralph & Mrs. Jean Keller, Raymore, MO; Robbie & Mrs. Louada Chisholm, Silver Spring, MD; Rev. Dr. Betty Lancaster-Short, Washington, D.C.; Mr. Leaford & Mrs. Bertha Williams, Washington, D.C.; Mrs. Muriel Nolan, Burtonsville, MD; Mrs. Toni Ross, Washington, D.C.; Donna Taylor, Washington, D.C.; Randa Stone, Cincinnati, OH; Anthony C. Ivey, Nashville, TN; Rev. Sam Pugh, Indianapolis, IN; Sara Harwell, Nashville, TN; and

OVERHEARD

"When I press my forehead with my finger, it really hurts," a patient complained to his doctor. "And when I do the same to my cheek, it's also painful. Even if I press on my stomach, I suffer. What can it be?"

Stumped, the physician sent the patient to a specialist.

The man returned to his doctor the following week. "What did the specialist say?" the doctor asked.

"I have a broken finger."

OLDTIMERS' HEALTHVINE
Kim Atwater is on vacation. Her health article will resume with the September/October Issue.

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The Oldtimers' GRAPEVINE

September/October '04

Volume 14, Issue 5

"The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and they that win souls are wise"

Proverbs 11:30

SPECIAL EDITION-A TRIBUTE TO FOUNDER: "DR. WILLIAM K. FOX, SR.

In recognition of his founding of The OLDTIMERS' GRAPEVINE NEWSLETTER, his 10 years as Editor-Manager, and his life-long outstanding leadership of church and community this is a Special Edition of the OTG Newsletter honoring the recently deceased Rev. Dr. William Kappen Artis Fox, Sr. The newsletter will return to its regular publication schedule with the November/December issue. Due to two periods of hospitalization the target date of this issue could not be met.

Born in Beloit, Wisconsin on September 25, 1917, William Kappen Artis Fox, was born to the Rev. George J. Fox and Nettie Artis Fox, an elocutionist and pastor's wife. As a young child, he was raised in the church by his father, who was pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Milwaukee, WI.

William lost his father at the young age of three. This however, did not affect his becoming greatly influenced by the writings, music, talents, interests and accomplishments of both parents. At an early age he became a dedicated servant-leader who loved God, his family, his church family and the community.

William was blessed with two biological brothers and was greatly influenced by his older brother, Thomas, and his step-father James a believing and courageous mother. William met Jesus through life and a sensitivity to the presence of God in the midst of life and struggle," he shared with friends. He took great strength from his father's sermons, poems and songs preserved by his mother and shared with her son, reported his pastor, Rev. Dr. Rick Rintamaa, Raymore, MO.



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This youngster was one of a few African American students attending predominantly "white" public schools. His grandfather was a slave in the south, who either was granted or bought his freedom and eventually owned his own business as a garbage collector. Young William was educated at North Division High School in Milwaukee, WI, where he excelled in his academic studies, track and football.

Life began anew after high school. In 1936, William left Wisconsin for Nashville, TN where he resided with his Uncle William and Aunt Elizabeth (a local teacher). while attending Tennessee State A & I College. He worked as a waiter and dishwasher to pay for his education. A member of the football team, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity and the Dabaleer Club, William graduated with distinction in 1940.

Accepting his call to the ministry, he was ordained at Lea Avenue Christian Church in Nashville where Dr. Meryl Epps, history professor, supported and guided William like a son. William left Nashville to continue his education and in September, 1940, received a Bachelor's of Divinity degree from The Disciples Divinity House of University of Chicago Divinity School. He was the first black student to live in the Divinity House.

In 1961, Rev. Fox became a Lilly Fellow and moved to Indianapolis, IN to attend Christian Theological Seminary and Butler University where he received a Master's Degree in Divinity specializing in Church Administration and Planning. He was later honored as a distinguished Alumnae by CTS, received an honorary Doctorate from Tougaloo College in Mississippi and accolades from Jarvis Christian College Hawkins, TX. and the University of Chicago Divinity School.

Past professional services include employment at Southern Christian Institute, Edwards, MI as a teacher and field services director among town and country churches, dean of men, college chaplain and instructor in social studies at Tennessee State College (now a university), Nashville, TN; and senior pastor at Lea Avenue Christian Church, Nashville, Centennial Christian Church, St. Louis, MO; Summit Christian Church, Dayton, OH. Dr. Fox was appointed Executive Secretary of the National Convocation and Associate General Minister & President of the Christian Church in 1972. He was a leader not only for the African American community but for the entire church.

Ecumenical church service included a directorship of special studies via a Lilly Endowment grant while on the staff of Church Planning Committee of the Church Federation of Greater Indianapolis, IN; and Assistant General secretary of the New Jersey Council of Churches, East Orange, NJ, servicing four departments.

During the sixties at the height of the civil rights struggles, he left his position with the state council of churches to become the executive director of a community organization he had helped form called the

Tri-City Citizens Union, Inc. of Newark, NJ. It sponsored a pioneer rehab housing development called Amity Village- one of the first metro demonstrations in rehab housing combined with community development.

Dr. Fox met Miss Reubena Mae Stultz, the love of his life, in 1941 at the National Convention of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). He proposed to her at the next convention in 1942 in Kansas City, MO and on December 30, 1943, the couple was married in her home church, Fayette Street Christian Church in Martinsville, VA. They made their first home in Jackson, MS where both were members of the faculty at Southern Christian Institute

Rev. & Mrs. Fox are the proud parents of two adult children, William K. Fox, Jr, and Mrs. Katherine Artis Fox Cunningham. William Jr and his wife Judith reside in Vancouver, WA, and daughter Katherine lives with her husband Gerald Cunningham in Indianapolis, IN.



Dr. Fox will be remembered by many members in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). He served as interim pastor of Christian Churches in Chicago, IL and Jackson, MS as well as Christian Churches in the Kansas City area, including Central Christian Church. He and Mrs. Fox were members of Light Of The World Christian Church, Indianapolis, IN; Park Manor Christian Church, East Orange, NJ; Downey Avenue Christian Church, Indianapolis, IN, and Raymore Christian Church, Raymore, MO.

Like Paul, this beloved pastor traveled to many places. In his life story the map begins in Wisconsin. His schooling took place from Tennessee to Chicago to Tougaloo to Indianapolis and beyond. His international travels touched 17 locations around the globe. His service reached to Virginia and New Jersey, Indiana and Kansas, MS and...well, like Paul the list is based on writings and it could be much longer as we all know, declared Pastor Rick Rintamaa in his meditation.

Speaking from Acts 26:16, Rev. Rintamaa stated "this faithful servant moved and breathed the will of the Lord every day. He never hesitated to "get up and go" even perhaps when it was inconvenient or cost him to sacrifice. There was always a willingness to rise up in response to God's call and serve faithfully where he was sent. The places where he served were changed by his presence, and his wisdom and his gentle encouragement, perhaps even his form and sure faith as he proclaimed loudly and assuredly the love for God and for those he served.

"I grew in my understanding of Jesus through association with those who were committed to him; through long study of his Word; through struggle and uneven practice of his teachings." Is there any doubt in your mind that then, in 1974, Bill wrote down the list of primary activities through which his faith was fostered: Association with others committed to the faith, study of the Bible, and daily practice of the faith even when it was difficult? Written in the middle of his service life, he captured the kernel of his faithfulness and explained it clearly."

Dr. Rintamaa shared how Dr. Fox "bore witness to God's love" by accepting the hard task of sharing the faith and proclaiming the glory of God through the church. "He stood in many pulpits and spoke eloquently every time of the power of the spirit that filled his own life"

He concluded with declaring Bill Fox was "knocked" down now and then by the power and word of the Lord, just like Paul was on the road

to Damascus. but like Paul, he "got up and went" in the next moment, empowered and blessed yet again by the touch of the Master.

The Testimony of A Timothy

When I received word that my dear friend and mentor was gravely ill I was also informed that he wanted me to participate in this memorial service.

I am reminded of the Apostle Paul's words to the church at Corinth in which Paul writes about Timothy as his "beloved son and fellow laborer in the gospel." I want to share some personal reflections on the life and witness of my mentor.

In 1947 I enrolled as a student at Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN. I had not met William K. Fox, Sr. before I chose to register for his history class. That decision and experience changed my life forever.

For more than 50 years he has been my friend and mentor. He introduced me to the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). I was baptized by him. He officiated at my ordination and my wedding. As a mentor and spiritual father, his influence on my life and ministry is second only to God. With respect to our relationship, an appropriate metaphor is that of the sun and the moon. Just as the moon is a reflection of the sun, in many respects my life and ministry is a reflection of his influence on my life and ministry.

Following my first year in seminary I spent the summer living with the Fox family and serving as student minister with Centennial Christian Church in St. Louis. That was a great learning experience.



In the years that followed I dedicated myself to emulating my mentor, even to seeking a life mate comparable to Mrs. Fox. There is no doubt that after 48 years I feel that my life partner in ministry has measured up to the Fox high standards. Janice and I also wanted to be parents of two children of which we could be proud but have given up any expectation of matching my mentor's thirty-one grandchildren.

I suppose the 1983 "Bicycle ride for reconciliation" was our most memorable single shared experience. Fox and I planned and directed the bike ride from our denomination's general office in Indianapolis to San Antonio, TX (in connection with the General Assembly). We solicited financial contributions from persons who shared our concern for combating racism and poverty. Together we traveled 1,300 miles and raised \$12,000. (Fox celebrated his 66th birthday during the ride and I was 56 years old.)

I do not know the author of the following but they are appropriate for this occasion;

Four things a man must learn to do,
If he would keep his record true;
To think without confusion clearly,
To love his fellowman sincerely,
To act from honest motives purely
To trust in God and heaven securely.

WILLIAM K. FOX, SR, IS REMEMBERED FOR:

Thinking clearly
Loving sincerely
Acting from honest motives purely
Trusting in God and heaven securely.

**Rev. Dr. Ernest J. Newborn, Board
Chairman, Oldtimers' Grapevine**

"A Man for All Seasons"

As I sat with family, colleagues and friends in a memorial service for the late Dr. William K. Fox, Sr., at the Raymore Christian Church on October 9, 2004, I attempted to put into words my appreciation for Dr. Fox, his life, his ministry and the contributions he made not only to his church but also to humankind. First of all, he was a good man, husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather. He took these responsibilities seriously.

My relationship with Dr. Fox began when I succeeded him as pastor of Centennial Christian Church in St. Louis, MO. He was courteous, gracious and most helpful.

Dr. Fox always impressed me as a multi-talented person who approached his responsibilities with energy, enthusiasm and commitment.

This is why I have referred to him as a "*Man For All Seasons*".

During his professional career, he performed on the following levels with great distinction:

1. He was a beloved and able pastor.
2. He was a creative writer and journalist.
3. He was a distinguished scholar and teacher.
4. He was a competent administrator.

It has been said that excellence is the ability to perform a common task in an uncommon way. It can be said that excellence was an attribute of Dr. Fox's life and ministry. The will for excellence is a precondition for it.

Dr. Samuel W. Hylton, Jr.
Pastor Emeritus
Centennial Christian
Church, St. Louis, MO



Dr. William "Bill" Fox Develops Hands On Mission Program Jarvis Christian College

Dr. William K. Fox has always been known as a man of vision and action. His involvement at Jarvis Christian College provides a vivid example of vision and action coming together in a manner that has become a part of the history of the College and a true tribute to the commitment of Dr. Fox to be a servant to humankind.

During a visit to the campus in the early 1990's, Dr. Fox conferred with the President and was asked to take a serious look at the campus and share his ideas as to what could/should be done to enhance the campus environment.

After a few days of walking the campus and visiting employees, he presented an idea to President Sebetha Jenkins which called for combining the works of the head, heart and hand. The program was initiated in 1994 as Hands On Mission. The general idea was to invite members of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) to spend a week on the campus volunteering to work on various projects and use the opportunity to fellowship with members of different congregations. This program attracted participants from congregations in Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas and Kansas.

In any given year since 1994, there have been as many as 75 participants involved in campus beautification projects which have included landscaping, painting, electrical repairs and construction of picnic tables that have been widely used throughout the campus.



In 1998, Dr. Fox was inducted into the College's Pioneer Hall of Fame for his dedication and commitment to Jarvis Christian College.

In May of 2005, the Hands On Mission Program is scheduled for May 23- 27, 2005. Friends are being asked to spend a week on campus volunteering, fellowshiping and living out the dream of Dr. William "Bill" Fox in a true experience of committing the head, heart and hands. This past summer, the College celebrated the 10th year of the Hands On Mission Program with a Commemorative 10th Year Celebration Banquet. Due to health Dr. & Mrs. Fox were unable to participate physically, but he prepared an audiovisual greeting.

THE POET'S CORNER

WILLIAM KAPPAN FOX

1917 – 2004

“Well now, who did you say that fellow was?” Bill, Bill Fox, the young Negro Disciples history major who was accepted at the University of Chicago. He was granted a divinity school scholarship. “Wasn’t that around 1940?” Yeh, yeh! “Well now, didn’t they refuse to grant Mr. Fox a House Fellowship which would provide him residence and a stipend at the Divinity House?” Hum mm m, yeh, yeh they did but E. C. and Rosa Page Welch provided him housing during his first quarter. “Well now, did they ever break down and give in?” Yeh, yeh they did. That next year, April 1941, Bill got a call from the Dean himself – Edward Scribner Ames; told him he’d been awarded a House Fellowship. No other Negro Disciple had ever before received a House Fellowship, so this was quite an honor. “Well now, how did the young fellow make out?” Fine, just fine! Fox completed all his studies and received his bachelor of divinity degree in the Spring of 1943. “Un hun, un hun, well sir I’ll say!”

**I was yet unborn when Bill loomed
forward upon the land,**
and God began revealing His majestic
pre-woven plan.

He stood small in stature
but possessed largeness in thought.

God imparted keen wisdom
to both heart and mind He taught.

Bill was a listener, a learner for sure!

He heard the voices instructing

“Heed the Word, let it guide you, it will
help you to endure.”

Parents George and Nettie had raised a
mighty fine young man.

He was bright, he was alert,
firmly on his feet he’d stand.

Hailed from Wisconsin but not there would stay;
matriculated about the country while
learning to make his own way.

He met a lovely young woman who literally
captured his heart.

He married her, Reubena, and a
new life did start.

The world’s been made much better from
the impartation of this soul.

He has reaped now the harvest
for heaven was his goal.



Written Monday, October 25, 2004

(My birthday)

May F. Lindsey Reed

FAREWELL TO DR. WILLIAM K. FOX, SR.

The life of our friend is described in a quote by Charles Kettering and I quote "Nothing ever built arose to touch the skies unless some man dreamed that it should, some man believed that it could, and some man willed that it must." Rev. Dr. William K. Fox provided our church with such leadership, which began with the value he placed on family, realizing this is a gift from God. He strongly believed that because of God's gift of the family to the wider community, life does impart meaning and purpose in our strivings to live creatively and responsibly with each other. To the Fox family we thank you for sharing this giant of a leader with us.

He was a man of humility and quietly moved our church in positive ways in the eradication of racism and sexism, truly living out the second commandment, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." His love to communicate and keep strong the ties of Christian unity and love moved him to publish the Oldtimers' Grapevine Newsletter. One of my greatest honors was to be chosen by my dear friend to assume the editorship of this publication, which brings me great joy.

I humbly bid one who has done much for the upbuilding of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) farewell.

Oscar & Joan Haynes

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The Oldtimers'

GRAPEVINE

November/December '04

Volume 14, Issue 6

"And the angel said unto them, fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

Luke 2:10-11

KJV

Following The Will of God

The Rev. Dr. Alvin O'Neal Jackson, former senior minister of the 8,000 plus membership of Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Memphis, TN, recently resigned as senior minister of National City Christian Church to continue his spiritual journey of *"following the will of God"*.



His goal to lead National City Christian Church into becoming the fulfillment of his dream ended on Sunday, November 28, 2004, when he preached his last sermon as Senior Pastor. The sermon title was "Dare to be the Church, Part II: God Has a Dream" The scriptural reference was taken from Acts 28: 17-31.

Preaching to a near capacity multi-racial, multi-ethnic, multi-cultural congregation Dr. Jackson prophetically declared, "A dream deferred, delayed, derailed is not a dream denied. I still have a dream." After a brief pause he added, "And God still has a dream for National City."

The entire worship service was spiritually driven by every participant. The congregants were in awe at the mastery of the organ by Everett P. Williams, Jr., notable organist from Detroit, MI, in the organ prelude "Ave Maria." Before persons could regain their breath worshippers were overwhelmed by the beauty of liturgical dancers, choreographed by member Jacqueline Horton, to the tune of "Total Praise" by Richard Smallwood.

The 11:00 a.m. worship, which included several denominational, ecumenical, community and interfaith leaders, ended with Mr. Williams doing a medley of Dr. Jackson's favorites.

However, the postlude was not the end, but the beginning of further expressions of love and appreciation for Dr. Jackson and his lovely mate, Tina Jackson. The key speaker for the afternoon luncheon was Rev. Dr. Delores Carpenter, pastor of Michigan Park Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and President of the National Convocation of the Christian Church.

Dr. Carpenter opened her remarks by quoting Douglas Pagels, "I wish you a safe journey on a precious path that will guide you from where you are to where you want to be." She continued, "I have come to thank God that the gospel was proclaimed mightily here. That people of faith found a home here. That the dream of a multicultural ministry was manifest here, and that a great leader passed this way."

To National City Christian Church, Rev. Dr. Carpenter said some of you will shed tears today. Remember, Kahlil Gibran said there must be something strangely sacred in salt. It is in our tears and in the sea. Always remember that we grow by losing and leaving and letting go.

Psalms 71:21 reads, "You will increase my honor, and comfort me once again." She called the crowds attention to the significance that this is the first Sunday of Advent.

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

It is a time of anticipation, waiting, and preparation. May we all cast off darkness and put on the armor of light.



“This Advent Season,” she exclaimed, “I pray that you may be bathed in expectancy, readiness, watchfulness, and the willingness to risk everything for freedom and a new beginning. To my friends and colleagues over many years, Alvin and Tina, you have your brush, you have your colors, paint – paint Paradise, paint it until it lifts us all.”

Dr. Jackson’s pastoral leadership began in Roanoke, VA, at Loudon Avenue Christian Church. It is also where romance led to marriage and 29 years of wedded bliss to lovely Tina Jackson. In 1977 he accepted a call to become the Associate to Rev. Dr. Thomas Benjamin, Jr., Senior Pastor of Light of the World Christian Church, Indianapolis, IN.

The year was 1979 when he accepted the call to Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church, Memphis, TN, a 350-member congregation that grew to over 8,000 members over the next 18 years. Still “following the will of God,” after much prayer and discussion with Tina he felt God was leading him to accept the call of Senior Minister of National City Christian Church and President of the National City Christian Church Foundation.

Dr. Jackson preached his first sermon on Palm Sunday, 1998, at which time he declared “I believe God has used me to give voice to a big, bold, beautiful vision of an inclusive, multi-cultural, multi-racial community of faith.

Under Dr. Jackson’s leadership the congregation was moving toward its stated mission “...an inclusive church family which fully embraces in its life and ministries people of every race, gender, age, culture, economic circumstance, sexual/gender orientation, family configuration, physical or mental condition...”

In his letter of resignation, he praised the congregation for the progress that was made but said, “I remain committed to a vision of a radically inclusive, multi-cultural ministry. But, after 31 years of active pastoral ministry, I feel called to prepare for this work in a different way. I am not sure what form this new ministry will take, but I envision writing, preaching, teaching, mentoring, consulting and discerning how a multi-cultural ministry might be realized in the nation’s capital.”

He continued, “I will continue to call upon the National City Christian Church Foundation, our denominational leaders and others to give support to this vision. I look forward to renewal and reflection as God calls me to a new chapter in ministry.”

During Dr. Jackson’s six years at National City he has welcomed an increasingly diverse membership including more than 430 new members, added a Gospel service, and launched or redeveloped several programs including: a Charter School, domestic mission initiative, youth and children’s ministry, and neighborhood festivals.

Also, Transition into Ministry (a program funded by Lilly Endowment), housing for denominational pastors on sabbatical and new lecture series were developed and designed to support the spiritual growth of those in ministry. The NCCC Foundation Endowment has experienced 160 per cent growth under his leadership.

The Shepherd closed his ministry with a spirit of love and joy, even in his disappointment of experiencing months of vigorous opposition from some congregational leaders, exclaiming “In my leaving, there is a new beginning for you and for me. As we experience again the glorious and glad season of Advent, we are offered anew the gift of the Christ as the occasion for fresh beginnings, deeper adventures of faith, increased exploration of relationships and greater opportunities for servanthood.

Amen

DISCIPLES NEWS ROUND-UP

ELYRIA, OH – “I believe God is calling the Christian Church in Ohio to a new level of ministry. There are two things I wish to ask that you hold in prayer,” declared **Dr. William Edwards, Regional Minister & President**, as the region moves into a new year:

1. A Relocation Implementation Task Force has been appointed to plan the logistics for moving our Regional Office from Elyria to Northern Columbus. The regional administrative staff is most directly affected by the transition.
2. The experience this past summer at Camp Christian opened new possibilities for spiritual faith formation and leader development. I would like to invite the entire region to be involved in a prayerful process of reflecting on your recent experiences at Camp Christian, identifying your learnings from these experiences and offering recommendations about the future.

KANSAS CITY, MO – **Rev. Dara K. Cobb**, daughter of Rev. Joseph & Rev. Susie Cobb of Columbia, SC, has been installed as Associate Minister with emphasis in Christian Education at Community Christian Church, the Rev. Dr. Robert Hill, Senior Minister.

Dara is a native of South Carolina who grew up in a family of ministers. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of South Carolina, and a Master of Divinity from Lexington Theological Seminary, Lexington, KY.

HAITI – “Please pray for the people here in their quest for direction, unity and lasting peace,” was the appeal made by **Rev. Sandra and Daniel Gourdet**, in late December, following a statement an elementary student made: “If Christmas means ‘joy’ and ‘peace’, there will be no Christmas or Santa Claus in Haiti.”

According to Sandra the country of Haiti is undergoing one of its most chaotic phases in its 200 years of history. She said the greatest concern is for Patrick and Francoise Villier. He is President of Global Ministries’ partner organization, National Council of Haitian Churches, which regroups approximately 3000 grassroots churches and

assemblies throughout the country.

His wife, who was robbed at gunpoint December 15, 2004, is principal of the organization’s high school.

CINCINNATI, OH – **Rev. Charles Webb, Jr.**, former Director of Black Ministries in Home Mission (formerly Division of Homeland Ministries), is the interim pastor of Fifth Christian Church, Cincinnati. Rev. William Edwards, regional minister, is working with Rev. Webb and the congregation.

CONGO – A heavy rain storm recently swept through Kinshasha, Congo, causing severe damage to Ndjili 11 church, a Disciples congregation. Week of Compassion immediately responded with a \$5,000 emergency grant to assist with repairs.

The Disciples community in the Congo, which was founded by the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) over 100 years ago, now includes more than one million members.

HAWKINS, TX – **Dr. Claude Walker**, Senior Minister of Community Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and Dr. Vernell Sturns, were recently inducted into the Pioneer Hall of Fame, Jarvis Christian College, Hawkins, TX, during the 11th Annual Pioneer Hall of Fame Celebration.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA/NEVADA – **Dr. Ben Bohren**, known for the Miracle Day Events he organized in congregations around the country while on the staff of National Benevolent Association, began as Transitional Regional Minister & President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Northern California/Nevada on November 19, 2004.

NEW YORK, NY – **Sandra Barnhill, Executive Director/CEO of Aid to Children of Imprisoned Mothers in Atlanta, GA**, was one of the 18 Awardees for 2004 of the Leadership for a Changing World Awards.

The awardees, chosen by a national selection committee from a pool of nearly 1,000 nominations, are individuals and leadership teams tackling some of the nation’s most entrenched social, economic and environmental challenges.

(Continued on page 4)

DISCIPLES NEWS ROUND-UP

(Continued from page 3)

“These awardees are making a difference in communities across the country and are showing us new ways to exercise leadership in challenging times,” said Susan V. Berresford, President of the Ford Foundation.

“I’m proud to be recognized on the national level for the work I do for Georgia families,” said Ms. Barnhill. “Over 17 years AIM has helped more than 10,000 children, safeguarding their futures and our communities. I hope that this award focuses more attention on this critical issue.”

Sandra is an active member of Ray of Hope Christian Church, (Disciples of Christ), in Decatur, GA, where Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Hale is the senior pastor. Ms. Barnhill will receive \$100,000 to advance her work and an additional \$15,000 for supporting activities over the next two years.

HOUSTON, TX – Rev. Norman Fiddmont, retired pastor of Good Shepherd Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Houston, received good news from his doctor in December when he was told he has been cancer-free for three years and the possibility of the cancer re-occurring is dramatically reduced. Norm is the husband of Christian Church Foundation Assistant VP Marilyn Fiddmont.

LOS ANGELES, CA – Rev. Dr. Algie Rousseau recently celebrated his 25th Anniversary in the ministry in the Los Angeles community. The celebration also included the outstanding leadership of his wife, Dr. Sylvia Rousseau in the Los Angeles public school system.

INDIANAPOLIS, IN – Mrs. Lonnie Graves, a life-long Disciple related to the A.J. Hurdle family, has accepted the Merger Staff position in the Office of Disciples Women in Home Mission. Although her duties will be wide range for Disciples Women’s Ministries, her emphasis will be on ministries with the women of the National Convocation.

Mrs. Graves is former administrative assistant to the Northern California/Nevada regional minister. She brings experience in business, communications and publishing to this position.

WASHINGTON, DC – Twelfth Street Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), the first African American congregation in the Nation’s Capital, celebrated her 90th Anniversary during the month of October which highlighted ministries that gave tribute to those God fearing stalwarts who gathered in 1914 to establish a House of Worship where the experience would be the same as their native homes of Alabama & Kentucky.

The celebration began with an old-fashioned prayer and music service featuring music by members from a gospel group on October 1, 2004, and ended with worship services on October 31, Rev. Dr. Robin Hedgeman, Senior Pastor, Bethany Christian Church, Cleveland, Ohio preaching. Dr. Hedgeman, a Priscilla of Twelfth Street, was accompanied by the outstanding 60+ member choir, Clergy Associates, church officers and members of Bethany. She preached to a standing only crowd.

The service was closed with a tribute to all Priscillas and Timothys of the congregation conducted by Rev. Vertie Powers; Associate Conference Minister of the Eastern North Carolina Association; who is also a Priscilla.

Rev. Dr. Alvin O. Jackson, a close friend and supporter of the congregation, was the anniversary banquet speaker on Friday, October 29, 2004. Attendees expressed joy in his thought-provoking message and music by the National City Christian Church Gospel Choir, under the direction of Valeria Foster.

Other events included : A Bazaar/Block Party that included Face Painting and a cook-out, tributes to the founders of the Bradley Mission Center, a dynamic sermon by Rev. Dr. Delores Carpenter, an Arts Night, a Sunday worship service featuring “More Tenors,” 4 preaching services by Rev. Marcus Leathers, Noemi Mena, Graylan Hagler and Brenda Cardwell, dubbed “Wednesday Night Live With Jesus”, an original play written by member Elder Mary Ann Williams, and a puppet show by Mrs. Carol Manning.



BUSINESS EXECUTIVE CREATES PHONICS PHONE

Dr. Louis Brown, founder of Available Plastics, Huntsville, AL, has introduced to the public the **Phonics Phone**, a simple device that helps elementary school children (K-2) learn to read.



The Candl Foundation is a non-profit organization. It can receive tax deductible donations from individuals or corporations to help children. Gifts can be designated for the purchase of Phonics Phones.

This device was discovered by Dr. Brown and his wife, Mrs. Carolyn Brown a few years ago through the principal of a local elementary school. It helps elementary school children learn to read by clearly hearing the words and sounds (phonemes).

Dr. & Mrs. Brown, founders and key officers of The Candl Foundation, a non-profit, have a great love for children. A few years prior to the Phonics Phone the foundation was the prime sponsor of the children's reading TV show Grandfather Reads. The show, which airs on PBS stations across the country, encourages children to become eager readers.

The non-profit Candl Foundation can receive tax deductible donations from individuals or corporations to help children. Dr. William C. Howland, Jr., retired senior minister of National City Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Washington, DC, is chairman of the board.

Testimonials to the benefits of the Phonics Phones include First and Second grade teachers, Kindergarten, Special Ed, Reading Specialist and Elementary School Principals from nearly every state in the union. In the past three years over 528,000 Phonic Phones have been shipped.

To acquire Phonics Phones and obtain more information please contact Nancy Welsh, Administrative Assistant at P.O Box 18623, Huntsville, AL, 35804 or 1-800-633-7212 or Fax 256-851-7723.



DEAR OTG READER:

Due to the increase in printing and mailing costs and insufficient monetary gifts, the Board has approved going to four issues per year rather than six beginning in 2005. In doing some restructuring our future plans call for a Web Site and possible return to six issues. Thanks for your support. Oscar Haynes, Editor/Manager!

THE VACATION DEAL OF A LIFETIME !!!!

OLDTIMERS' GRAPEVINE readers can now vacation in beautiful MONTEGO BAY, JAMAICA for an un-believable rate of \$1,250.00 per week.

This offer is from Mr. Leaford Williams, owner of Fort Leaford Villa, a sumptuous resort nestled in the Ironshore Estates located on the edge of the Ironshore Golf & Country Club overlooking the Caribbean Sea.

The Villa accommodates six persons comfortably. It is staffed by a cook, butler and housekeeper to assure the comfort of the vacationers. The regular rental is \$3,000 during the high season and \$2,000 during the off season. For further information and reservations contact Mr. Williams at 202-529-6312 or you may call Rev. Bell-Haynes at 202-398-8989 to help facilitate any inquiries. Check the website at:

www.fortleafordvilla.com



The Villa owner is a Retired Foreign Service Officer of the U.S. Department of State and author of *Journey Into Diplomacy*, a book dedicated to all Americans whose progress has been hindered by racism. A portion of each booking will go to the building fund of his home church, Michigan Park Christian Church, Washington, DC, Rev. Dr. Delores Carpenter, Pastor.

FOR WHOM THE BELLS TOLL

PALESTINE, TX -- Rev. Dr. Enoch W. Henry, Jr., in honoring his request, was eulogized during a simple graveside service held at Memorial Cemetery in Palestine, TX, on October 14, 2004. His pastor, Rev. Margaret Clark of Los Angeles, CA, officiated.

This life-long Disciple of Christ Church leader is a member of a family of ministers that received the Shield of Faith Award for giving over 400 years of ministry to this denomination. His brother, Rev. Dr. Kenneth Henry, a graduate of Howard University School of Divinity, a former student associate Pastor at Twelfth Street Christian Church and Retired Professor of Church History at Interdenominational Theological Center, Atlanta, GA, also eulogized Enoch.



Enoch and Mother Henry at 98 years young on Mothers Day 1995

“I am saddened to hear of the death of Dr. E. W. Henry,” exclaimed Rev. J.O. Williams, Associate Regional Staff, Wilson, NC, when he heard the news. “He was, with out a doubt, the most gentle man I ever met. He did a lot to shape my life and direct my ministry.”

There was shock and sadness throughout the Disciples of Christ membership. Rev. Dr. Lataunya Bynum, Search Committee Chairwoman for the next General Minister & President, exclaimed, “He is the pastor who baptized me and I always considered him the most elegant and eloquent preacher I have ever known”

Dr. Henry spent 58 of his 81 years of living in the ministry, having pastored churches in Oklahoma, Kentucky and California. He joined the Division of Homeland Ministries staff in 1971. He was a member of the Department of Church Men and later was Director of Special Congregational Services in the Department of Evangelism and Membership. He served as Secretary for the Piedmont Tri-State Area, and was the first African American President of the Pacific Northwest Region. (California/Nevada & Hawaii)

Dr. Henry, truly a friend to all, is survived by children: Laverne Allen, Dallas, TX; Saundra Jones, Fontana, CA; Felton Henry, Torrance, CA and Forrest W. Henry, Hurst, TX; siblings: Annie Fain, & Ruthye Jackson, Palestine, TX; Carol Boyd, Jacksonville, FL; Mattie Ester, Oakland, CA; Betty J. Cannon and Kenneth Henry, Decatur, GA and Charles Henry, Lubbock, TX. Also numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren and friends.

WASHINGTON, DC – A Celebration for Sheila Denise Brown-Cooper was held at National City Christian Church, on November 21, 2004, with tributes from Patricia Covington, Patricia Godley and Rev. Dr. William C. Howland, Jr., and Meditation by Rev. Dr. Alvin O. Jackson, Pastor.

Sheila, a proud product of the DC public schools: Burrville, Richardson, Amidon, Jefferson, Western High School and the University of the District of Columbia, accepted Christ at a young age and spent an almost continuous fellowship at National City Christian Church.

Following a period of service with the Georgetown University Center for Strategic and International Studies, Sheila joined the professional staff of National City in April, 1984.

(Continued on page 7)

FOR WHOM THE BELLS TOLL CONTINUED

(Continued from page 6)

Due to her physical condition she retired in December, 1995. In her 11 years on staff, due to her special talents and abilities, her role evolved from Secretary to Special Associate of the Senior Minister. She enjoyed the day-to-day efforts on behalf of the church, the congregation, and the Christian communities while serving under the tutelage of its religious head, Rev. Dr. William C. Howland, Jr.



In early adulthood Sheila began having enigmatic muscular-skeletal inflammations in her body which was eventually diagnosed to be Lupus. In the early stages there were periods of remission which made pain bearable but eventually even the use of powerful steroids and pain treatments, the pain was uncontrollable.

Sheila was a fighter. One time in the hospital she shared this sentiment "You know, I really am a tough woman, pretty strong!" Her friends agreed and were awed by the persistence, the resilience and the durable and enduring strength she demonstrated.

On November 7, 2004, Sheila said, "You know, I think I'm going to be released next week, and I honestly don't think I'm going to die." However, in the early morning of November 9, 2004, at the Virginia Hospital Center in Arlington, VA, Sheila quietly gave up her cross for her crown at age 52.

Through her life and legacy, Sheila leaves her mother Vivian, sister Sheryl, brothers Emmett Jr.,

Leonard and Kenneth; three sister-in-laws, Annie, Dietrich and Rhonda; one brother-in-law, Clarence; and a longstanding, enduring and dear friendship with Rev. Dr. Howland and his wife, Ann and a host of relatives, dear friends and co-workers.

JACKSON, MS – Memorial services for Coach Allen Franklin Smith, outstanding quarterback during his playing days for the Jarvis Christian College Bulldogs, highlighted the life of this Native Texan who will long be remembered for his service to his church and his community.

Coach Smith is the first player with the Jarvis Bulldogs to be named an All American. The possibility of his being drafted into the Pros ended when he was drafted into the United States Navy in 1942 and honorably discharged in 1945. Following his graduation from Jarvis Christian College, Hawkins, TX, he received the Master of Science Degree in Physical Education from Prairie View A.& M. University. He did further study at the University of Texas, the University of Georgia, and the University of Southern Mississippi.

The remarkable teaching career of Coach Smith began at Jarvis where he coached football and baseball, served as the intramural director and athletic director. In 1957 he became backfield football coach and head baseball coach at Jackson State University.



(Continued on page 8)

FOR WHOM THE BELLS TOLL CONT.

(Continued from page 7)

Other positions Coach Smith held include: Dean of Students, Dean of Men, head track and golf coach, and campus security supervisor, organizing the first security department at Jackson State.

Notables participating in the Memorial Service included Rev. Cheryl Diane Smith, Arbor Hospice, Ypsilanti, MI; Rev. T. Elias Harris, pastor of Christian Chapel Christian Church, Port Gibson, MS; Ms. Delila Hall, Jarvis Christian College, (Stand-in for President Sebetha Jenkins); Elder William McKnight, Retired Regional Minister; Rev. Russell Myers, Pastor, United Christian Church; Elder Esau Wilson, Mr. Morris Murray, Mr. Anthony Edwards, Mr. Allen F. Smith, Jr., and Mr. Demethous Chambliss.

Coach Smith is survived by his wife, Isabell Marshall Smith; two sons, Bronche (Shirley) and Allen F. (Helen) Smith, Jr.; two daughters, Rosemary (Hermon) Borders and Rev. Cheryl Diane Smith (Dr. William Londo; a sister, Matte Ida Edwards; and three brother-in-laws, McKinley (Lou) Marshall, Floyd Marshall, and Tom (Ollie) Marshall, and five sister-in-laws, Callie Smith, Alberta Adams, Lucille Ferrell, Angie (Robert) Kesee, and Ida (Curtis) Thomas, and 11 grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren and a host of relatives and friends.

OVERHEARD

A neighbor finally invested in a hearing aid after becoming virtually deaf. It was one of the invisible kind.

“Well, how do you like your new hearing aid?”
Asked his doctor. I like it great. I’ve heard sounds in the last few weeks that I didn’t know existed.”

“Well, how does your family like your hearing aid?”
“Oh, nobody in my family knows I have it yet. Am I having a great time! I have changed my will three times in the last two weeks!”

The Oldtimers' GrapeVine congratulates May F. Lindsey Reed on her first published book of poems.

Oscar and I were privileged to be present with May and her husband, Dr. Norman Reed, when the first copies of her book of poems were delivered by Mr. Rodney Diggs, President and Publisher of **LightHouse Press, Nashville, TN.** Mr. Diggs invited us to join with him in prayers of thanksgiving and success for May's first volume of poems.



“May F. Lindsey Reed is a creative artist of great imagination and expression. She gives us poetry that delights the mind and inspires our faith. She captures the everydayness of the human spirit and gives us high holy laughter, awesome praise and thanksgiving for the wonders of God's creation...The Oldtimers' GrapeVine is honored to have May as Poet in Residence... She gives us windows to the Divine in our midst.”

Editors Oscar & Reverend Joan Bell-Haynes
Oldtimers' GrapeVine Newsletter
Washington, D. C.

“...God has given us special creations such as May F. Lindsey Reed who not only fully experience the input of the five senses but, is gifted in language and secure enough to be vulnerable so as to give expression through words—of that which most find hard to fully understand. Go now into deep recesses of the unrecognized gifts of your senses as you experience through this first book of poetry by May—her journey inward and her outward expression of that journey through the magic of words.”

Dr. John Richard Foulkes
Immediate Past Associate General
Minister and President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

READERS' COMMENT CORNER



Oscar: "Keep up the good work. Miss seeing you. We hope things are calmer in the Nation's Capital." Hal
Dr. Harold & Mrs. Evelyn Watkins,
Indianapolis, IN

Oscar: "I was privileged to know 'Bill' Fox ever since he came to Centennial Church in St. Louis. What a wonderful man. Thanks to you and Joan for continuing the Oldtimers' Grapevine." Kathy Glenn & Kathy Helme, Baltimore, MD

Hello Oscar: "Thank you keeping me informed with your wonderful newsletter. I am sincerely appreciative. Keep up the great work." Joy Mrs. Joy Walker, Shreveport, LA

Oscar, "This issue of the "Grapevine" was great. A fine tribute to a great man."
Robbie & Louada
Robbie & Louada Chisholm, Silver Spring, MD

Dear Mr. Haynes: "May I again compliment you on how well you have managed the Oldtimers' Grapevine Newsletter. I always look forward to receiving it and reading about so many of my friends and their whereabouts.

Yes, I realize the stress that it takes to pull everything together so I okay, (even though I will miss it) the reduction of issues." Ruth
Mrs. Ruth Hobbs, Jackson, MS

Dear Oscar: "Please add Charles Secrest, a long time member of National City, to the mailing list. Due to health conditions he now resides in Saulsbury, MD. He called recently to learn the whereabouts of long-age members & friends and I mentioned the Oldtimers Grapevine Newsletter. I would like you to please mail him the Nov/Dec, 2003, issue."

"Also, congrats on Twelfth Street's 90th Anniversary Celebration. A wonderful history and legacy for 12th Street and for Discipleship at large." Cordially & God bless, "Cappy"
Silvio & Ann Cappiello, Kensington, MD

Dear Readers of the Oldtimers' GrapeVine,

You bless me when you read my works and I am grateful. I now have the blessed privilege of presenting to you my first book of published poems:

"Come Sail with Me into A Sea of Poetry"
Poetry, prose, rhyme and verse that has issued from out of my heart. I have been bursting with anticipation and now it has happened. I believe, with all my heart, you are going to enjoy each piece that has bloomed from my seeds of thought.

Thank you's to the Editors, Oscar & Joan Haynes and to Dr. John R. Foulkes whose affirmation of my work is printed on the cover. God bless you real good.

Orders can be made to:

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May Lindsey Reed

THE POET'S CORNER

A Christmas Party Indeed

You're darting and running everywhere,
trying to find that perfect something to wear.

The office party is going to be a blast
and you're thinking, wondering
just how long it'll last. ☺

The boss has said he wants everyone there;

If you have to wear jeans

He! – Doesn't! – Care!

for there's something special
he plans to share.

He's been smiling more these few past days.

We've noticed a change from his
usual ways.

He even held the elevator for
fussy Ms. Podge

And walked straight thru the workroom –
didn't anyone try to dodge;

Said hello right out loud,
gave a little wave to the whole working crowd.

That surely wasn't the boss, said some;

Oh yes! answered a voice with a
clear, cheery sound. The boss has found Jesus
and no longer feels down.

He went to church with me
a few weeks ago. He accepted Christ as
his Savior. He wants all of you to know.

So that night at the Christmas Party
the boss told everyone there

"I went to church!" he said, "a few Sundays ago
and I kneeled down for prayer.

I've never gone often but a friend
invited me to go – so ooo oo oo...

I enjoyed the singing of the fellowship,
the wreath with candles alight
but when the preacher started speaking,
my heart and soul took flight.

The words literally lifted me off the pew.
I knew I loved Jesus, I knew what to do.

At the invitation my legs felt ever so strong.

I found myself rising,
going forth with the song.

I gave my life to Christ that day.

I gave him charge —
in **my** life He'll stay.

I know now this **CHRIST**mas,
The Savior of mankind.

I'll love and serve Him forever,
for I've now **made HIM mine.**"



Written Fri. morn
December 17, 2004
May F. Lindsey Reed

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRECIOUS GIFTS

Rev. Harold & Mrs. Evelyn Watkins, Indianapolis, IN; Mr. Silvio & Mrs. Ann Cappiello, Kensington, MD; Mrs. Ruth P. Hobbs, Jackson, MS; Mr. Glenn & Mrs. Kathleen Helme, Baltimore, MD; Mr. Charles & Mrs. Martha Barr, Cameron, MO; Mr. Robbie & Mrs. Louada Chisholm, Silver Spring, MD; Mrs. Joy Walker, Shreveport, LA; Ms. Carol Boyd, Jacksonville, TX; Dr. Lou & Mrs. Carolyn Brown, Huntsville, AL; Dr. William & Mrs. Mary Helen Blackwell, Brandywine, WV; Mrs. Mary Ellen Lyons, Alexandria, VA; Colonel Charles E. McGhee, Bethesda, MD; Dr. Duane & Mrs. Suzi Cummins, Swanton, MD; Mr. Franklin & Mrs. Vivian Gee, Silver Spring, MD; Dr. Roland & Mrs. Betty Huff, Jacksonville, FL; Mrs. Lucille Stark, Silver Spring, MD; Mrs. Iva Blain, Raymore, MO; Rev. Melvin Schultz, Baltimore, MD; Mrs. Vera Russell, Philadelphia, PA; Mrs. Mary Thomas, Washington, DC; Rev. Linda Chenowith, Celebration, FL; Dr. Raymond & Mrs. Suzanne Brown, Indianapolis, IN; Mrs. Lydan Range, Columbus, OH; Mrs. Ruth Heimer, Indianapolis, IN; Rev. Dan Genung, Clairemont, CA; Mr. David & Mrs. Hattie Millner, New Carrollton, MD; Dr. Sere & Mrs. Mary J. Myers, Sr., Leawood, KS; Mr. Donald Wharff, Raymore, MO; Mrs. Loraine Pitman, Indianapolis, IN; Ms. Ethel Seitz, Indianapolis, IN; Ms. Mary M. Watson, Kansas City, MO; Rev. Bobbye Brown, Indianapolis, IN; Mrs. Dolores Young, Washington, DC; Dr. Marjorie & Mr. Russell Parker, Indianapolis, IN; and Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Easterly Jr., Rogersville, TN

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