

FIRST AME CHURCH TO OBSERVE "WOMEN'S DAY"

Observance of the First AME Church's "Annual Women's Day" will be held Sunday afternoon, September 23, beginning at 4:00 p.m. Virginia Brooks Brewster, Clark County School Board Trustee who is also a Consumer Officer of the State Department of Commerce, Consumer Affairs Division, will be presented as guest speaker, it was announced by the Church Pastor, Rev. Charles A. Foster. Rev. Foster has extended an open invitation to the public on behalf of the Women's committee, and urges everyone to attend.

IN ALL THY WAYS ACKNOWLEDGE HIM AND HE SHALL DIRECT THY PATH

PROVERBS 3:6

The first rehearsal of our Mass Choir held Monday, September 10, at Victory Baptist Church was successful beyond our wildest expectations. There have been many months of preliminary work and this rehearsal was, indeed, "the fruit of the labor".

The meeting was opened by one of our evangelists, Sister Corine Clairborne, and she really put us in the mood to worship through song.

After the weekly announcements, our Chapter Musician, Mr. Tony Wright, was introduced and took charge of the musical service.

As will be the case with all rehearsals, there were different people presenting each song. The motto of the National Workshop is "Everybody Is Somebody" and we will implement this idea by giving anyone who expresses the desire, the opportunity to play, lead or direct a song, however the Chapter Musician will have the final determination.

These rehearsals are, in actuality, a combination of several workshop classes (such as choral singing, voice, keyboard, percussion, conducting and decorum).

We welcome soloists, choirs, groups and quartets to join and perform with your own group as well as with the Mass Choir. We are "on the Move", and look forward to having total community participation.

Well, Gospel Workshop, the ultimate plateau was reached on Sunday, September 10, 1979, in Washington, D.C., when the Rev. James Cleveland, our founder and President, took Gospel to the White House at the request of President Jimmy Carter.

The purpose of the Workshop is to elevate Gospel

Music to its rightful place in America's history as the premier music form and this recognition epitomized that goal.

We thank God for Reverend Cleveland and for a President who has Christ at the head of the nation.

SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH TO HONOR PASTOR

On Sunday, September 23, 1979, the members of Second Baptist Church will give honor to Rev. Willie Davis on his first anniversary of service. He has been our leader for a little over a year now, and we have taken great strides numerically, spiritually, and financially. Pastor Davis is doing great things in the church and also in the community. Our special guests for the day will be Rev. Joseph Griffin pastor of Good Shepherd Baptist church of Los Angeles, California, along with his choir. The friendship between Rev. Davis and Rev. Griffin goes a long way back to earlier days in Denver, Colorado.

We are looking forward to having a wonderful time in the name of the Lord on that day. The public, along with various churches from the community, are invited to come out and share with us on that day.

We had as special guests this past Sunday, Rev. and Mrs. Milton Thomas from the Mt. Gilead Baptist Church of Denver, Colorado. Rev. Thomas preached at the early morning worship service "A Prepared Place for Prepared People". We were all inspired and motivated to do a little more to prepare ourselves for that prepared place.

The choirs were in good form at all services on Sunday. The pastor preached about "Wells of Living Water" at the 11:00 a.m. worship. We were blessed to have four new souls to unite with our fellowship. One young man was so touched by the sermon...he said he was tired of being a dry well, and now wants to be an artesian well for Jesus.

At 7:30 PM the combined choirs put on their monthly musical. OH, how they sang! One song in particular touched my heart..."Come Let Us Reason Together" led by the Andre Sears. If you missed it, you missed a spiritual treat, but remember the third Sunday night each month for special music by the Second Baptist Music Department.

We would like to thank each and everyone at Second Baptist who carried on in such a lovely spirit while we were absent. A special thanks to our staff of associate ministers who are so loyal and faithful. Loyalty is very rare in this day and age and those who

have that trait must be commended. Our thanks go out to all concerned.

I personally would like to thank my son Darryl Davis who carried on so ably in writing the church news in my absence. He did a very fine job and I certainly appreciate his enthusiasm and eagerness to do so. Hereafter, Darryl and a staff of young people who are interested in journalism will be writing the church news from Second Baptist.

"The Church and the Struggles for Domestic Peace"

NATIONAL BAPTIST CONVENTION

by Jeanette Davis

A movement was launched ninety-nine years ago, and a great career in things both material and spiritual began. It was a day of daring, a time of adventure; it was a day of new vision and a time of profound hope. These freed men and women...fresh from the dungeon of servitude, clutched in one hand the banner of freedom; in the other the flag of bravery while they faced great responsibilities. They were souls with new determination and enlightened minds.

Ninety-nine years ago our founding fathers excavated the soil and laid the foundation for this great fellowship of Christian believers known as the National Baptist Convention U.S.A. Inc.

The National Baptist Convention opened its 99th Annual Session in Cleveland, Ohio on Wednesday morning September 5, 1979. Amid a situation that was tense because of the anti-busing demonstrations, Dr. Jackson remarked that busing is leaving many a broken heart. The officials who promote busing mean well, however it will not work until hearts are fixed. I remember years ago when artist Norman Rockwell was doing the covers for the Saturday Evening Post, there would always be that innocent yellow school bus in the background. White children have always been bused....past Black schools to white schools....(separate, but equal. Remember?). I heard someone say today...'its not the bus, it's us'. A struggle for domestic peace.

What is the National Baptist Convention? It is a congregation of more than 30,000 churches with over 6,500,000 believers. It is a valiant army of Black Baptists who are still sowing and reaping, singing and preaching, doing and believing,, still marching on the upward way as they gain new heights every day. The value of our church properties is enormous. We own community centers, day care facilities, educational buildings, colleges, parish houses and businesses which represent billions of dollars in real estate and in other economic resources.

Not only is the National Baptist Convention a time for great fellowship, it is also a time for great inspiration. Here we have a culmination of some of the greatest spiritual leaders in the world, such as Dr. Samson from Detroit and Manuel Scott from California, and many many more. If you have heard any of these men, you have missed something.

One of the highlights for me is always the Undergraduate Scholarship Oratorical Contest on Friday evening. These young people are judged on their content and delivery. Their messages are always very inspirational. This year their theme was "What Christian Youth Can Do to Win Others to Christ." The message came through loud and clear that we, as adults, must be very careful of the example we set for our young people....they are watching, listening, and will either imitate or condemn. First place winner receives \$1,500 Scholarship; second place \$700; third place \$400. It would be well worth our time and effort to groom some of our young people to compete in this contest.

Some of the recommendations that were ratified at this session, among others were:

A. That the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A.

Inc., shall begin negotiations with the Unincorporated National Baptist Convention, the Progressive Baptist Convention, and the Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention for a closer functional unification.

1. This would not be in any way related to the property, including real estate and other physical possessions, of any group involved in the negotiations.

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ROSEMARY "TOYA" LAWSON Agent

Life, Health, Disability Income,
Juvenile, Mortgage Partnership & all
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INDIVIDUAL TAX SHELTER

Fidelity Union Life

4220 S. Maryland Parkway

Suite 214

Las Vegas, Nevada 89109

735-6089