

# Church

## The National Independent Pentecostal Convention Held In Las Vegas

By Louise H. Jordan  
SENTINEL Church Reporter

These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth; I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: For thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name. Revelations 3: 7:13-8.

The Christians of the Greater Las Vegas area cannot be denied for within one week of each other, the Saints of the local churches have hosted two National Conventions. During this past week, August 12-17, the National Independent

Pentecostals from around the country gathered for their annual convention. Just one week after the Progressive National Convention met the Christian family decided to do it again.

After the Progressive Baptists brought such outstanding national leaders as Dr. Benjamin Hooks and Mayor Wilson Goode of Philadelphia, 'pa, the Pentecostals laid claim to notables Evangelist Singer Trumaine Hawkins, who rendered her ministry in song on Monday and Tuesday evenings and Evangelist Shirley Caesar who preached a message of faith Wed-Friday. Demond Wilson did not appear as scheduled.

There was something for everyone from a daily

seminar taught by prophetess Amanda Irving on Christian marriage and family, (why, when & whom to marry) according to scriptures, lectures, professional singing, training for pastors and lay ministers taught by Elder Decur and praise and prayer throughout the services.

The climax service was entitled a dialogue of death delivered by Evangelist Shirley Caesar.

A cross section of religious locals could be seen. A glance around the beautiful Victory Baptist Church sanctuary produced pastors and members of the C.O.G.I.C., Baptist, Methodist, Catholics, non-denominational, Apostolics, and even a group of Muslims were in attendance.

It brought people together from the four areas of the country but it was all a fantastic get-together. If this was any indication of what it means to forget denomination and skin hues, we know that one day it will be beautiful indeed when all of God's children get together.

### Rev. S.P. Parks to receive roast

The Genesis Circle of the Grace Immanuel Baptist Church presents a roast in honor of Rev. S.P. Parks to be held at the Zion United Methodist Church, 2108 Revere Street, at the dining hall on Saturday, August 24, at 7 p.m.

Attire will be semi-formal-formal. For ticket information, contact Ms. D. Walker at 648-2576/646-9776.

## Workshop Charts Nonviolent Strategies For Youth

ATLANTA — The Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change completed a decade of summer training programs with a 4-day workshop at the end of July on preparing young people for nonviolent action. The theme for the 10th Annual Summer Workshop On Nonviolence was "The Nonviolent Challenge: Youth Involvement in Conflict Resolution in the Family, School, Community and Among Nations."

"Nothing is more important right now than mobilizing young people against violence," said Mrs. Coretta Scott King, president of the King Center, in her address to the Workshop. Mrs. King challenged educators, students and youth workers who participated in the Workshop to help get young people "involved in nonviolent action at every level of social conflict." She said that a number of those who have completed the Workshop during the last decade are now conducting their own nonviolent training programs based on the King Center model.

In addition to Mrs. King, the Workshop featured seminars and interactive training sessions with members of Dr. King's staff and his associates in the Civil Rights Movement. These included Atlanta Mayor Andrew Young; Atlanta City Councilman John Lewis, former chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee; Dr. C.T. Vivian, president of the National Anti-Klan Network; Dr. Bernard LaFayette, senior faculty coordinator of the Workshop On Nonviolence; and Dorothy Cotton, director of student activities, Cornell University.

At the morning session of

the second day of the Workshop, Mayor Young, a King Center vice-president, stressed the importance of learning nonviolence at the family level. "I've had a harder time keeping the spirit of nonviolence with my family than I did with Jim Clark, Bull Connor and the Klan put together," he told the participants, who came from 21 states. "The struggle to create a truly nonviolent society begins at home with your parents, children and spouse." Dr. Anna Grant, chairperson of Morehouse College Sociology Department, reiterated Mayor Young's point at a panel discussion following his address. "The family is the primary theater in which violence is learned," she said. Dr. Grant said that more than 2 million women were beaten every year by their husbands and that the number of abused children was thought to be even larger. She said that full employment and sexual equality would help reduce the kind of stress and tensions that lead to domestic violence.

Mary Hatwood Futrell, president of the 1.7 million member National Education Association, cited alarming school "push-out" rates as an example of the violence of economic hardship and neglect. She said that today more than 23 percent of young people don't finish high school, citing even higher rates for some states like Georgia (37 percent) and Mississippi (43 percent). The lack of adequate funding for public education, she charged, was a kind of "institutional violence" toward young people.

Panel discussions and workshops covered topics ranging from "peer and intergenerational communications," "developing healthy self concepts" and "the physical and psychological effects on battered children and youth" to "Dr. King's philosophy of nonviolence," "youth involvement in international nonviolent conflict resolution" and "education for democratic social change." The workshops utilized creative educational techniques, including case studies and role playing

exercises.

Also participating in the workshop were: Mrs. Christine King Farris, senior vice-president/treasurer of the King Center; Ambassador John W. McDonald, U.S. Department of State Foreign Service Institute; Georgia State Senator Paul Coverdell; Mrs. Jean Young, chairperson of the Mayor's Task Force on Public Education; Mr. Greg Moore, president of the U.S. Students Association; Ms. Sue Schrader, executive director of the Council on Battered Women; Mr. Lloyd Davis, executive vice-president of the King Center; Dr. Sandra Sims, director of the Child Development Project, Spelman College; Rev. Leslie Carter, director of special programs of the King Center; Ms. Dierdre McDonald, producer WXIA-TV; Mr. Paul Raymon, vice-president/general manager, WAGA-TV; Ms. Jocelyn Dorsey, public affairs and editorial director, WSB-TV; and others.

In summing up the Workshop, Mrs. King said it would help mobilize young people for the upcoming celebration of Dr. King's birthday as a national holiday. She said the holiday would provide a "magnificent opportunity to train young people in nonviolence and give their lives substance and meaning."

For more information, call (404) 524-1956.

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### Announcements

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