

# Church

## THE COALITION TO PRESERVE THE IMAGE OF THE CHURCH

As a continuing series of articles are received at the Las Vegas Sentinel-Voice relating to our just completed three-part series on "Our Churches-Yesterday and Today," we have selected this week a report from the Inglewood, California Rainbow Magazine (a monthly publication) which shows how the ministers of that area are working toward "preserving the sacred image of the Christian Church." They have formed an organization now known as "The Coalition To

Preserve The Image Of The Church." This is their report:

Local ministers known as The Coalition to Preserve the Sacred Image of the Christian Church have taken an active part in cleaning-up issues regarding Black Baptist ministers and the news media. One of the coalition's objective was to decide what avenue to take. Instead of being defensive, they intend to use offensive measures, and to project a positive image among the

media. The coalition developed a set of by-laws to follow and a 10-point platform. The ministers all agreed they have to rebuild church and school, but whatever they do, they must be united with all ministers.

Says Rev. Richard C. Sanders, Executive Director, "We don't condone wrong doing -- crime or any action demonstrative of action or behavior other than what ministers preach at large." Rev. Sanders further added that, "The Black Church has been the stabilizing

institution era, and many preachers feel that it is this very foundation, which is threatened when a community loses its reverence for spiritual leaders -- in many instances unjustly." It has been the experience of both guilty, and victims found not guilty to be slandered and victimized as being already guilty as soon as alleged charges have been filed against them. This is truly a serious problem, and especially because the very black preachers and their parishioners patronize the black newspapers guilty of these actions. It is not the coalitions intent to stop the press from printing news, but our goal is to unite ministers so that when a problem appears to surface, action can be taken to either solve the problem, or at least get the facts straight. Our purpose as a coalition will be to make every effort to get both sides of the story before destroying the reputation of the Black Church and its Preachers."

Rev. Charles Minns, Treasurer stated that he was excited and pleased to be part of this vital group that has come forward to support and uphold the image of the New Testament Church. Says Rev. Minns, "We must understand the attack is aimed at the preachers, however, Satan's overall strategy is to destroy the

church." Rev. Woods' Secretary, stated that the time for preservation and unity of the church has come.

Rev. Bailey, Member, stated that he too was excited that Pastor Sanders and others have made a stand toward preserving the image of the church. Rev. Knight, Member, added that he was proud to be involved and also was very proud of the leaders and leadership set before him. And Rev. Montgomery, Member, expressed his willingness to assist as much and wherever he could.

Rev. Sanders, Executive Director, stated that he'd been in the city of Compton for three years and has never seen such attacks against preachers and church. He added that, "We must restore respect to the community. We don't want to coverup mistakes." He added, "With the spiritual awakening I have within me, and the spiritual support I have with me in this battle against sin, I know we can

### CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Churches are urged to send their services and program announcements, typewritten, to the Las Vegas Sentinel-Voice Church Reporter, Mary Wilson, at 1201 South Eastern Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89104. Articles must be mailed or delivered to the above location no later than Monday noon of each week.

get this city to help."

Says, Rev. Stafford, Member, "I have a deep appreciation for Pastor Sanders, who has become See CHURCH, Page 12

### CHURCH NEWS

By Mary Wilson  
Church Reporter

April 24-27, Elder O.L. Jefferson and congregation, of the St. John C.O.G.I.C., 2301 Comstock, will be in Tucson, Ariz. attending the Tri-State Fellowship consisting of several churches from California, Arizona and Nevada. They are wished a safe, enjoyable trip.

The Y.P.W.W. State Banquet will be held, Saturday, April 26, at the Nucleus Plaza from 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. All are asked to support this effort.

The deacon brothers of the Pentecostal Temple C.O.G.I.C., 1117 "F" Street, are conducting prayer this week from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Deacon Robert Williams is chairman. Bishop E.N. Webb is pastor.

Don't forget the "Taking It To The Street Gospel Fest" Saturday, April 26, from 2 p.m. - 5 p.m. at "D" and Jackson Streets. Several gospel groups will be appearing. Come early if you want a good seat.

The Indian Springs Prison Ministry, conducted by Mother Verna Ware, Elder T.P. Williams and others, will be having services there Saturday, April 26, from 7:30 p.m. - 9 p.m. If you would like to join them or want more information call 649-0816.

The Annual Spiritual Tea will be held at the Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church, Saturday, April 26, at 7 p.m. For more information call 648-5666.

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SPECIAL! SPECIAL! SPECIAL!

The Mother's Board and Members  
of the

True Love Missionary Baptist Church

are sponsoring their

1st Annual Olden Time Church Service.

We want you to come help us celebrate our service.

Time: 9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m., then 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

A FREE DINNER will be served from 1 p.m. until 2:45 p.m.

Mother E. Stepps, President  
Rev. I.W. Wilson, Pastor