

## American Gospel Music

by Hilary Clay Hicks  
The American Gospel Arts News Service



## Rev. Jesse D. Scott To Be Installed As Pastor of The Second Christian Church

The Second Christian Church of Las Vegas, Nevada, extends to all an invitation to fellowship in the installation services of Minister Jesse D. Scott as its Pastor in Heritage Hall at 950 West Owens Ave. on Sunday, November 15, 1987 at 3:00 p.m.

and praise God in prayer and song together.

Second Christian Church aims to promote and support the concept and spirit of ecumenism, which is a worldwide movement seeking greater unity and cooperation among all Christians. The body and love of Christ



Rev. Jesse Scott

Rev. & Mrs. C.W. Arnold, co-organizers of the 92nd Street Christian Church of Los Angeles, and who also assisted in organizing the Second Christian Church will be present and will bring remarks. Rev. Willie Davis, Pastor of Second Baptist Church of Las Vegas, will be the principal speaker. This invitation requires only one thing, just that you come as an individual or congregation

transcend denomination, nationality or the color of one's skin.

The prayer is that all will plan to join on this historic occasion. This is a no admission service. Music will be rendered by Second Baptist Church Choir.

For further information please call Mrs. Cynthia Williams at 646-3554 or Pastor Jesse D. Scott at 646-1662.

## BLACK PRESS AND CHURCH URGED TO UNITE IN WAR ON DRUGS

"It is not enough for the Black press to print the news that drugs are bad," says Dr. W.C. Gordon of Pasadena, speaking at a "War on Drugs" panel at the West Coast Black Publishers Association Convention in San Francisco.

Dr. Gordon is Chairman of the American Gospel Arts Fund, which sponsors the *Free Yourself* . . . Youth Drug Abuse Prevention Program, and is an evangelist and pastor of the Divinity Baptist Church of Pasadena.

"The Black media can actually organize a 'War on Drugs' if it is willing to work with the community's historic cornerstone institution, the Black church," says Gordon. "The Church is the only place the Black press can find the ready and willing

pool of workers needed to enter the battle against the evils of drug and alcohol abuse that are plaguing our young.

"I know what I'm talking about. We've tested it in Pasadena and it works."

Dr. Gordon was referring to the *Free Yourself* . . . concert in Pasadena year before last presented by Pasadena's Black churches in cooperation with the City of Pasadena and the *Pasadena Gazette*. Featuring Natalie Cole, Billy Davis, Jr. and Marilyn McCoo and Chuck Jackson, it was attended by about 1,500, of which 61 came forward for counseling and referral by church members who had been trained for the occasion.

"Our community newspapers can be the catalyst everywhere, putting the *Free Yourself* . . . Blueprint into

## Voices of Victory Present Annual Fall Musical

The members of the Victory Missionary Baptist Church choir (The Voices of Victory) will be celebrating their annual fall musical. The event will take place November 15. The time of 4:00 P.M. will start the devotional services. Everyone is invited to attend this uplifting program.

All members of the Voices of Victory are asked to attend all rehearsals held the week prior to this special event, November 9 thru November 13.

action," says Gordon. "Where else but the church can we find such a willing cadre of workers, committed to combat the moral evil of drugs? Like you, the publishers, they want to do something about it. But the church is skirted by government-funded drug abuse programs because they do not understand the central, cultural role the Church occupies in our communities."

"By re-kindling the historic reliance upon one another of the Black press and the Church, we can take a giant step in this 'war' together. And I am willing to share the *Free Yourself* . . . Blueprint with anyone who wants to use it."

## Light Records Rebounds With Stars Like The New Jersey Mass Choir

Abrahams, Light continued to produce hit albums, which by mid-1987 included "Look Up And Live" by the New Jersey Mass Choir (famous for their performance on the pop rock hit "I Want To Know Where Love Is" by Journey), and "Go Tell Somebody" by Commissioned. Light also enjoyed best sellers by Douglas Miller, Sandra Crouch, Andrae Crouch, Shirley Miller and The King James Version.

Light recently released the single "We Shall Behold Him" and the album "Be Encouraged" by Vickie Winans (wife of the famous Marvin Winans). "I'm more excited about this record than about anything we've done in years," says Carmichael. "I predict a fast climb for her music. She's got her own style and record stores are already reordering."

The revenue was still just not enough to keep up with the obligations.... until a miracle happened.

A group of investors from Nashville, led by Bob MacKenzie (former president of The Benson Company) purchased Lexicon Distributing and 2,700 of Carmichael's song copyrights for a healthy sum.

With this action, MacKenzie formed a new major force in Gospel music of which he is president, Lexicon/Spectra Distributing. Carmichael remains president of his firm, Lexicon Music, which owns Light Records. Light and other Gospel labels are now distributed by Lexicon/Spectra.

"Now Light can get back to the business of continuing to do what we do best," says Carmichael. "That's making great Black Gospel music."

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In The News: Superstar Philip Bailey is putting the finishing touches on an album he is producing of the 100 voice King Baptist Church Choir of Denver, Colorado (Bailey's home town)....

....And Jesus is still the King of Glory and worthy to be praised!

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