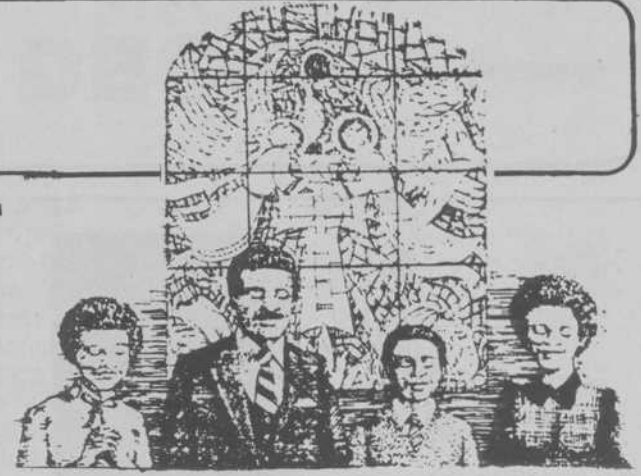


Church



Church will be in a Christmas Revival Sunday, December 25, at 7:00 P.M. and will conclude Saturday, December 31, New Year's Eve, at midnight. The True Love Baptist Church is located at 1941 North "H" Street and is pastored by Rev. I.W. Wilson. For more information call 648-3606.

A Youth and Young Adult Convention will be held at the Grace Immanuel Baptist Church, 805 Bartlett Street, Monday, December 26 through Friday, December 20, nightly at 7:00 P.M. All are welcome. The Grace Immanuel Baptist Church is pastored by Rev. S.P. Parks and the information number is 647-5795.

The St. John Church of God in Christ, 2301 Comstock Drive, will have their Christmas Revival, Monday, December 26 through Saturday, December 31 at 7:30 P.M. nightly. They will also be in a 3-day fast from Wednesday, December 28 through Friday, December 30 at 3:00 P.M. You are invited to join in the fast and also attend the revival. For more information call 646-0700. The St. John Church of God is pastored by Elder/Supt. O.L. Jefferson.

Church News

By Mary Wilson
Church Reporter



The Echoes Christian Academy, 1401 East Washington Street, will serve Communion on Christmas Eve, December 24, at 7:00 P.M. Bob and Lena Sutherland will conduct the service. Their Christmas services will be held December 25, at 9:30 A.M. All are welcome. The Echoes Christian Academy is pastored by Pastor Birdie McCoy.

The New Light Baptist Church Choir will present a Christmas Musical December 21 at 7:00 P.M. For more information call 642-4345. The church location is 1165 Lawry and the pastor is Rev. John Henry.

The Youth Department of the St. James Baptist Church will present a Christmas Play entitled "Jesus the Light of the World" on December 24 at 4:00 P.M. The

location of the St. James Baptist Church is 316 Madison and the proud pastor is Rev. J.W. Arnold. The information number is 646-4747.

The Young Adults of the Victory Baptist Church will conduct a Christmas Revival Sunday, December 25, through Wednesday, December 28, nightly at 7:00 p.m. The Victory Baptist Church information number is 648-2268 and it is located at 500 West Monroe. The pastor is Rev. A. J. Thompson.

The Children's Christmas Program of the True Love Baptist Church will be held Sunday, December 25 at 9:00 A.M. The True Love Baptist Church is located at 1941 North "N" Street and is pastored by Rev. I. W. Wilson. The information number is 648-3606.

The Unity Christ Church, 3310 South Jones, Suite "M," will offer its Christmas Candlelighting Services on Thursday, December 22 at 7:00 P.M. The subject for the evening will be "How far is it to Bethlehem?" For more information call 367-4891. The Unity Christ Church is pastored by Rev. Dr. Harry S. and Elinor M. Newman.

The First Pentecostal Apostolic Church will be in their Christmas Revival through Friday, December 23. The Apostle Obee of Oakland, California is the speaker. The First Pentecostal Apostolic Church is located at 928 West Owens. For more information call 648-3333 or 438-1938. The Elder Sammy Graham is the pastor.

The True love Baptist

WORDS OF LIFE

AND it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

AND there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. 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. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

AND suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



The Church's Role in Economic Development Leading Blacks to Prosperity

Continued from Dec. 8 Issue

Reprinted from ISSUES & VIEWS
(September/October 1988)

Issues & Views: Are you getting any negative reaction to your church's involvement in these projects?

Rev. Butts: Yes, there are many people who say that this is not the church's business. Some claim that we're in the business of preaching the gospel, bringing souls to God through Christ. I agree. That's our primary function. But that is not the traditional history totally of our black church. The work done by E. Franklin Frazier points out that the church in our community is the bedrock, not only of social and political activity, but of economic activity as well.

Yes, this is a commercial development. And why shouldn't the church be involved? I said to one developer this morning, "I don't know how much money and power I have, but I've got a

lot of nerve. 'And with your power and money, we can make it work.'" He answered, "No, Reverend, I've got the nerve, and if you've got the power, then we can make it work."

So, here we've got this totally dormant block front, and there's no reason why we can't give it new life. The church has the talent and it also has important resources.

Issues & Views: Do you envision the church going even further, and opening up greater business opportunities?

Rev. Butts: Yes, if we have the ability to get together to build housing, certainly we ought to be able to open up other business opportunities for our people. If we can own that block front, that's just to facilitate getting it opened. Really, the church

should then want to divest itself of it eventually into your hands, let's say, and let you run it. And if you can make a million dollars off it, then you run it, and make the million dollars. Of course, just give a tithe to the church.

Issues & Views: Gladly. Now, do you have any insights as to why blacks seem to have this blockage against economic achievement, why we seem to have gotten turned around? When you look at some of our early history, as you mentioned, blacks were well into business activity—free blacks throughout the pre-Emancipation period, and certainly throughout the 19th century.

Rev. Butts: Because at that time we were not program oriented. We now rely on this program and that

See ROLE, Page 16

ATTENTION!!!

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