

# RELIGION

## Church News

By Mary Wilson  
Church Reporter



Saturday, February 2 at 8 p.m. the "Amen! Amen! Gospel Concert" will be held at the Reed Whipple Cultural Center, 821 Las Vegas Blvd. North, 386-6211. Featured on the program will be the Shout of Joy Singers, the Hall Sisters, the Harris Sisters, the Nellis AFB Gospel Choir, and the Gaston Five Gospel Singers. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$5 for students, seniors and handicapped.

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The St. James the Apostle Catholic Church will hold this year's revival on February 4, 5, and 6 at the church, located at "H" and Morgan Streets.

Rev. John Cornelius of the Immaculate Conception Church, Seattle, Washington will conduct the revival. The theme for this year's revival is "Give Us Lord a New Heart".

Services are scheduled to start at 7 p.m. each evening.

The St. James community would like to invite you to join us

for all or some of these services.

For more information please call Father Brian Flynn at 648-6606.

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Hot Concerts and Films present two McGee & Me films Here are two other exciting videos from the McGee and Me series that use live action combined with animation to teach kids values while entertaining them through the characters of Nicholas and McGee. The first is the newest release, "Take Me Out of the Ball Game", which is about the wild adventures of a baseball team that is tired of getting clobbered every year. Orel Hershiser is a special guest in this story. "The Big Lie" is the second film to be shown. Nicholas and McGee, being new in town, discover that telling lies is not a good way to make friends. Bring the whole family for a great evening on Friday, January 25th at Hallelujah Fellowship. We are located at 800 N. Rancho Dr. (1/

2 blk north of the expressway). Admission is free, and nursery is provided.

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The Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship invite you to hear our guest speaker Glen Twilligear, Saturday, February 2, 1991 at 8:00 a.m. sharp. The meeting will be held at the Best Western Motel, Main Street and Washington, Las Vegas, NV. For reservations call 254-1155. Full course breakfast served. The cost is \$6.50.

Originally from New York, Glen was raised on Long Island by his Jewish mother and Southern Baptist father. Given a choice as how to believe — Jewish or Protestant — he chose neither. His religious training consisted of three two-week "Kosher" summer camps and celebrating the High Holy Days with his Jewish high school friends. But these early attempts at finding God were generally insincere.

It wasn't until he moved to Las Vegas 15 years ago that Glen really acknowledged a need for God. His search caused him to leave his job as a poker dealer and join the International Union of Operating Engineers as an apprentice. Now employed by the Washington Construction Company in Henderson, he is a spirit filled, Bible believing, Christ loving Christian. Come and be blessed!

## DENIECE WILLIAMS... "FROM THE BEGINNING"



*From The Beginning* Deniece Williams' newest release on Sparrow Records, hold special meaning for the singer, and with good reason. "Listening to this album is like taking a trip through my life," she says. "I've done Christian music on all of my albums since 1976. I've had a lot of people ask me about these songs because the music was unavailable to the Gospel marketplace. So we said, 'Why not put these songs together and let people know what God's been doing with my life the past fourteen years?'"

Now, for the first time, the collected Gospel works of Deniece Williams, originally recorded for Columbia Records, are available on one Sparrow album. *From The Beginning* not only reaffirms her standing as one of the most extravagantly talented singers of her time, but also re-emphasizes her Christian commitment while record-

ing for a secular label.

The Afro-Cuban flavored "I Am Sure," by Michael W. Smith, is one of the LP's most striking tracks. "This song talks about the Lord's return," notes Deniece. "I felt this was something people really need to know about. Then one day we turned on the TV and they were playing the song on 'All My Children,' and I laughed and thought maybe someone out there is catching the message."

Many of the songs on *From The Beginning* are familiar, and some, like "God Is Truly Amazing," have intriguing stories behind them. "It started out as a little vocal exercise I'd sing every night before going on stage," recalls Deniece, "and then it developed into a song. My label at the time wasn't too thrilled with putting it on an album, but I said, 'Wait a minute.' I explained that I wasn't going to do an album unless it included Gospel music, because it's such an intricate part of who I am. As it turned out, 'God Is Truly Amazing' was the most played song on the record." Deniece later went on to sing this same song before millions of people in an electrifying performance at the Grammy Awards.

Deniece often had to fight to include Gospel songs on her albums, but it was a fight she never shied away from. Says Deniece, "I recorded a song called 'Whiter Than Snow,' and they didn't want to put the lyrics to that song on the album! Somehow, all the other lyrics

were included on the project, but mysteriously, not the ones to "Whiter Than Snow."

"Doing gospel music was definitely the bone of contention between my earlier label and me," Deniece comments, "but I was able to say things to people in the entertainment business that no minister could every say to them. I don't believe that there is anybody in the record industry that wants to see Deniece Williams not be a Christian. Because I think silently they are pulling for me to make it."

Every one of the songs on *From The Beginning* reflects a part of Deniece Williams that has shined brightly within her, quite literally from the beginning.

The Indiana native was raised in a Christian home steeped in the church, where she discovered her love and talent for singing. While still in high school she cut her first single, and it wasn't long before Stevie Wonder asked her to join his band as a singer. She toured with Stevie and sang on his albums until 1975, when she settled in LA and launched a solo career.

Deniece wanted to do more than include Gospel songs on her pop albums; she wanted an album that was entirely Gospel. *So Glad I Know*, her first such album, featured "They Say," a striking duet with Sandi Patti, and earned two Grammy Awards. Her second all gospel release, *Special Love*, brought even more attention to this uniquely talented woman with a number one Christian radio chart position for "Healing".

With a close loving family and strong Christian faith, Deniece continually remains committed to her calling. There can be no doubt about it: from the beginning right up to present, Deniece Williams has been one of our most gifted artists in both pop and Gospel.

## ATTENTION!!!

You are invited to become a part of  
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940 West Owens Avenue  
Las Vegas, Nevada

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