

The Camphor Light

Volume 5, Number 6

November/December 2005

Coming up...

- 11/5, CCCD bus trip to Radio City Music Hall
- 11/22, 12-4 PM - Community Thanksgiving Dinner
- 11/27, 11 AM - 83rd Church Anniversary Celebration
- 12/10 - Holiday Family & Friends Day
- 12/24, 7 PM - Christmas Eve Service

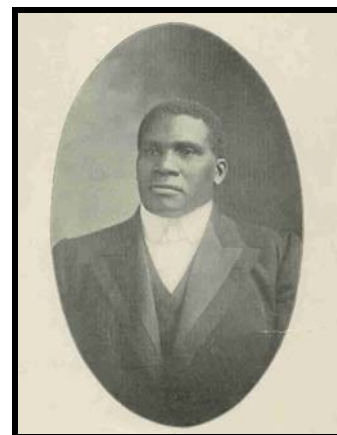


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83rd Church Anniversary Coming

On Sunday, November 27, 2005, Camphor Memorial UMC will celebrate 83 years of continuous ministry in the West Philadelphia community. The chairperson of the anniversary, Ms. Denise Rhodes, asks everyone to bring family and friends for the celebration that is planned for the 11 AM worship service, after which dinner will be served. Guest preacher will be Rev. Marshall Mitchell, VP of Institutional Advancement, Wilberforce University. Each member is asked to give a special offering of \$83 on this special occasion in support of the ministries and programs of the church.



Bishop Alexander P. Camphor

Camphor began in 1922 when Rev. William Casey, pastor of Calvary Methodist Episcopal Church (now Tindley Temple) and his wife, Catherine, opened their home at 5832 Filbert Street to a small group of neighbors for Bible studies and class meetings, as there were no Methodist churches in the West Philadelphia area. The following year, the Board of Home Missions appropriated funds to establish six missions in West Philadelphia, including our small "Saint Matthew Mission". At the Annual Session of the

(Continued on page 2)

Message from The Pastor



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

It is hard to believe that we have been working together for over three months! I continue to receive almost daily messages of confirmation that we have been brought together for a Divine purpose. Your warmth and hospitality have been gratefully received and I appreciate every act of kindness that you have offered.

In my first pastoral letter, I spoke about healing, deepening of discipleship, and discernment of God's vision. I believe that there have been signs of healing among the members of the church. We are also on the way towards deepening of discipleship which will lead to the discernment of God's vision. Some of the ways that I find helpful in the deepening of discipleship are: (1) daily prayer and reading of inspirational material—this ritual is a message

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83rd Anniversary Celebration in November

(Continued from page 1)

Delaware Conference in 1923, the name of St. Matthew Mission was changed to Camphor Memorial Methodist Church in honor of Alexander Priestly Camphor, the 4th African-American to be consecrated a bishop by the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Camphor's first pastor was Rev. William E. Hilton and the first worship service was held December 9, 1923, in a leased "store front" at 5818 Vine Street.

The membership grew rapidly and in May 1924, Camphor purchased a lot at 58th & Haverford and soon thereafter built an edifice which would be-



come known as "Little Camphor." After the Depression, Camphor blossomed under the dynamic leadership of Rev. Marion Clark, Rev. Noah Moore and Rev. Daniel Rideout. The present sanctuary and buildings were acquired in January 1943. When Rev. Marion Ballard was appointed pas-

tor in 1959, membership had swelled to 922.

In May, 1965, Camphor along with 20 other African-American churches in Pennsylvania that were part of the former Delaware Conference in the Central Jurisdiction of the Methodist Church, became charges of the Philadelphia Annual Conference. Since 1969, with the merger of The Methodist Church and the Evangelical United Brethren Church, Camphor has been a premier church in the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church.

Message from The Pastor

(Continued from page 1)

to body, mind, and soul, that God-centered living is bourne of daily contact with God; (2) pledging a particular amount for church giving—this is a way to demonstrate that the mission and ministry of our church are a part of our budget just as all of the other important aspects of our lives; and (3) regular worship attendance— while all of our individual committee work is significant, worship is the one collective gathering of everyone in the church that allows us to stay connected as

"We are ... on the way towards deepening of discipleship which will lead to the discernment of God's vision"

one body. We simply cannot feel each other or be apart of each other unless we come together in worship.

As we practice the principles of discipleship, I believe that we will continue to discern God's vision in our midst. Together, we are already giving and receiving blessings on God's behalf.

May God guide us.

Shalom,
Reverend Laurie Ann Rookard

Camphor Youth Helping with Tape Ministry

Thanks to our youth and **Ms. Elaine Brown**, Chair of **Worship Committee**, the Tape Ministry is up and running. Ten youth have volunteered to record the services and make the tapes available to our sick and shuts (free) and for purchase by the congregation, visitors and friends (\$3). The small cost will help defray the cost of the cassette tapes and labels.

The youth who have volunteered are **Benjamin Nelson**, **Walter Hill**, **Tyisha Hundley**, **Keyonna**

Washington, **Zahir Sankofa**, **Reese Brown III**, **Lauren Brown**, **Devin Council**, **Terrell Thompson** and **David Mingle**.

Each have committed to serve one Sunday a month. **Ms. Kathryn Jasper** and **Mr. Luther Farrow** will tape services when the youth are singing on the 4th Sundays. **Carol Black**, Chair of **Communications Ministry**, provides training and oversight for the Tape Ministry. Order forms for taped services are on the table in the Great Hall.

Around Camphor



Charlotte Jones



Stanley Glenn



Deborah Terrell



Clifton Officer

At the **Annual Trustee Day**, on Sunday, September 11, 2005, four members of Camphor's Board of Trustee received awards for their outstanding service to the church. **Mrs. Charlotte Jones**, in addition to her duties as Trustee, serves on the Community Fellowship/Food Cupboard, Stewardship Committee and is a member of the Senior Choir and Member-At-Large on the Administrative Council. Trustee **Mr. Stanley Glenn** ably serves on the Board of Directors of the Camphor Council for Community Development, member of the Administrative Council, and is a Lay Member to the Annual Conference. **Mrs. Deborah Terrell**, a Trustee, is also Chairperson of Adult and Family Ministries, Member-At-Large on the Administrative Council and a member of the Nurture Committee. Trustee, **Mr. Clifton Officer**, in addition to being a Scout Leader for 50 years, serves as Associate Lay Leader and is a member of UM Men and Nurture Committee. The guest preacher at the 11 AM Worship Service was **Rev. Keith Magee** of Milton, MA. **Mr. Edward C.T. Hale**, Chairperson of the Board of Trustees, was chairperson of program.

Thanksgiving Dinner

The Annual Thanksgiving Dinner, sponsored by the **Community Fellowship/Food Cupboard**, will be Tuesday, **November 22, 2005**. Free turkey dinners will be served to the congregation and community from 12 to 4 PM. Winter clothing and household items will be available in the "**Free Market**" in the gym for the needy, a program sponsored by **Camphor Council for Community Development**.

The **Board of Trustees** reminds everyone to bring or send quarterly donations for the Van Ministry. Your support helps to keep the vans running.



Boy/Cub Scouts

Boy Scout Troop 194 meets every Saturday at Camphor at 10 AM. To reach more youth, the scout and cub units are currently recruiting new applicants from Haddington Recreation Center and the Rhoades, Daroff, Our Lady of Holy Sacrament and Blankenburg schools. When the units are complete, the Fall Roundup and new roster will be presented in the *Camphor Light*. Upcoming 2006 events are the 50th Anniversary celebration of the units in February and the Spring District Camporee in April. Scout membership is open to boys ages 11-15 and cubs ages 6 to 10. Please contact **Scout Leader Clifton Officer** (215-474-9363) for more information.

All Saints Day

On Sunday, November 6, there will be special liturgy, music and tolling of bells in honor of the memory of members of the congregation and families who have died in the past year: **Mrs. Gertrude T. Edwards, Mrs. Mary Robinson, Mr. Kermit Downes, Jr., Mr. Ernest Sellers, Jr., Mrs. Dorothy Miller, Mrs. Blanche Savage, Mr. Elbert D. Martin, Mr. Steven Van Brown, Mr. James Hampton, Mrs. Venus L. Robinson, Mrs. Hilda M. Sheppard, Mr. James S. Manning, Mrs. Esther L. Ayers, and Mrs. Hazel Welles**. Those who die in Christ have eternal life! Though they are absent from us, they are present with the Lord; and for this, we give thanks.

(Around Camphor continued on Page 5)

Sunday School Is Expanding

By Sharon Brown

Where is Sunday School?

Thanks to the generosity of the **Communion Stewards** and the **Library Committee**, Sunday School classes at Camphor are no longer limited to the William and Mary Hudson Room. The Sunday School staff agreed that the younger children were in need of room to sing and enjoy other activities, while the junior and senior high students desired a space where they could speak their minds. Following a successful remodeling effort, it was determined that the Sunday School Room would not be large enough for the anticipated number of students.

Ruth Harmon and her Junior High students began meeting in the Communion Stewards room in September. **Sharon Brown** and the Senior High students now meet in the library. Students in grades pre-school through 5th grade will continue to have class in the Sunday School room downstairs with teachers **Wendi Vargas**, **Mabel Bounds** and **Elaine Brown**. **Rev. Rookard** is currently leading an adult Sunday School class in her office. All classes are held from 9:30 AM until 10:45 AM. Please join us and bring a friend!

Sponsor-a-Bible

There is still time to sponsor a bible to be used by students in Camphor's Sunday School classes. We

are halfway to our goal of 30 new bibles! To be a sponsor, please complete a sponsor form available from the table in the Great Hall and drop it, along with your check in the Sunday School mailbox. Your name and donation information will be placed inside the bible. The cost is \$20 per bible.

Sunday School Christmas Program

The annual Sunday School Christmas program will be held on Sunday, December 18th at 9:30 AM. The program will feature music, skits and more! Please join us in celebrating the birth of Jesus and sharing the spirit of the holiday season.

Message from Finance Committee

The Finance Committee would like you to know that instead of giving total receipts, disbursements and amounts needed weekly, this time we would like to remind you of how your weekly contributions are used:

- Salaries and related expenses
- Utilities
- Commitments to the Conference for Connectional Ministries Fund, UMCOR/Sudan, Hurricane Katrina, World Communion, Black College Fund, Africa University and others
- Funding programs/ministries

• Capital Improvement Fund

In order for us to grow, we must focus on the mission/vision of our church.

On behalf of the Finance Committee, we want to thank you for your **support** and we encourage you to continue to make **current** your tithes and offerings so we may continue the **on-going work** of this church.

The collection for World Communion Sunday on October 2 totaled \$204.73.

Our thanks to **Adult and Family Ministries** for their efforts and

work on Family and Friends Day on October 16. It was a spirit-filled day—a day of good food and fellowship with many family and friends. It was our special event for the 3rd quarter.

We're looking forward to our special event for the 4th quarter, the 83rd Anniversary under the leadership of **Denise Rhodes**.

Kathryn Jasper, Chair

"We may not be where we should be, but Thank God, we're not where we used to be."

**Do you need a ride to church on Sunday?
Please contact Norris Molock, 215-476-1180**



Family and Friends Day Was Great Success

Much applause to Deborah Terrell and the Adult and Family Ministries Committee for a very successful Family and Friends Day on October 16, 2005. The Camphor sanctuary was filled with many who came to welcome the return of former pastor and guest preacher, Rev. John Roberts, who brought the Word during the morning worship service. Rev. Roberts fondly recalled his ministry at Camphor during the years 1971 to 1978 and read a beautiful psalm by Arthur Langford from his files that had been written as an exercise in a Bible Study class. Rev. Roberts' sermon was from Psalm 61. Mary Roberts, daughter, accompanied her father to Camphor. Among the many visitors and guests were 16 members of Rosalyn Eggleston's family and Mr. and Mrs. William Jason of Delaware. After the service, everyone enjoyed the fellowship and a delicious meal in the Dining Room. Part II of Family and Friends Day will be held Saturday, December 10 to start the holiday season. It will be a fun day with plenty of games, family movies, African story telling, face painting, Bible Jeopardy, and fish fry (donation \$6 for dinner only).



Rev. Rookard, Mrs. Bell, Rev. Roberts, Mrs. Cobb

—Around Camphor continued on Page 9



Denise Rhodes, Mary Roberts, Gervay Burnett



Mrs. Essie Glover, Ms. Thadora Alston, Ms. Elestine Ashlock



Mr. Langford and Rev. Roberts

Church Leadership Team

At the Charge Conference on September 22, 2005, District Superintendent Rev. Ralph Blanks and all gathered affirmed the following leadership of Camphor Memorial UMC for 2005-2006:

Senior Pastor

Rev. Laurie Ann Rookard

Administrative Council

Chairperson Ronald Deas

Vice-Chairperson Walter King

Secretary Catherine Boyd

Asst. Secretary Ruth Harmon

Lay Leader Dorothea Burnett

Assoc. Lay Leader Clifton Officer

Lay Members to Annual Conference:

Walter King Stanley Glenn

Alternate Lay Member:

Charles Keels

Staff Parish Relations:

Floretta McMillon

Trustees Edward Hale

Treasurer Gwendolyn Deas

Finance Kathryn Jasper

Nurture Bertha Bell

Education Ruth Harmon

Evangelism/Mission OPEN

Sunday School Supt. Sharon Brown

Worship Elaine Brown

Community Fellowship

Walter Stanley

Youth Ministries Rev. David Brown

Adult Fellowship Walter King

Adult and Family Ministries

Deborah Terrell

Records & History Charles Keels

Religion & Race OPEN

Church & Society OPEN

Ecumenical & Interreligious Concerns
OPEN

Membership Lillybell Wright

Stewardship Gloria Thompson

Communications Carol Black

UM Women OPEN

UM Men Reese Brown

Boy Scout Leader Clifton Officer

Girl Scout Leader Carolyn Richardson

Director of Music Gloria Todd

Health & Welfare Charlotte Speller

Members At Large

Emory Hale Bertha Bell

Kelly Rhem Aileen Casey

Ramon Harris, Sr. Joy Flynn

Rev. David Brown Arthur Langford

Anthony Howard Charlotte Jones

David Lawrence Deborah Terrell

Gerald Brown

Staff Parish Relations Committee

2006

Darlene Manning Emory Hale

Floretta McMillon

2007

Reese Brown, Jr. Aileen Casey

Frederica Broomfield

2008

Kelly Rhem Alphonso Jasper

Wendy Vargas

Board of Trustees

2006

Anthony Howard Charlotte Jones

Eva Harris

2007

Deborah Terrell Edward Hale

Clifton Officer

2008

Stanley Glenn George Boston

Bernard Waties

Honorary Trustees

Bertha Bell MaeDell Brown

Ramon Harris, Sr. Palmer Warren

Clifton Burnett Gladys Allen

Charles Keels Richard Stuckey

Committee on Lay Leadership (Nominations & Personnel)

2006

Ernestine Martin Ronald Deas

Joy Flynn

2007

Charles Keels Percell Robinson

Stanley Glenn

2008

Catherine Boyd Keith Harris

Dorothy Tate

Committee on Finance

Kathryn Jasper, Chair

Vivian Harmon Luther Farrow

Thelma Massey Betty Rivers

Deborah Spraggins Walter Stanley

Gwendolyn Deas David Lawrence

Karen Garrison Aida Scott

Elizabeth Lockwood Ruth Brown

Geraldine James Arthur Langford

Richard Stuckey Ronald Deas, AC

Edward Hale, Trustees

Gloria Thompson, Stewardship

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Church Leadership Team

At the Charge Conference on September 22, 2005, District Superintendent Rev. Ralph Blanks and all gathered affirmed the following leadership of Camphor Memorial UMC for 2005-2006:

(Continued from page 6)

Evangelism Committee

Elaine Welles Deborah Spraggins
Geraldine James Lottie Poindexter
Norris Molock Ernestine Martin
Gloria Johnson

Nurture Committee

Bertha Bell, Chair
Deborah Terrell Anthony Howard
Doris Snell Clifton Officer
Annette Blount Edward Hale
Leola Patterson Elaine Brown
Gloria Pollitt Jistine King

Honorary Members

Marjorie Mitchell MaeDell Brown

Worship Committee

Elaine Brown, Chair
Carol Black, Communications
Gloria Todd, Music Director
Ronald Deas, Senior Choir
Jessie Graves, Flower Club
Betty Rivers, Finance
Jean Rhodes, Gospel Chorus
Lillybell Wright, Ushers
Charlotte Dennis, Com. Stewards
Bertha Bell, Nurture
Ernestine Martin, Evangelism
Catherine Exum

Community Fellowship/Food Cupboard

Walter Stanley, Chair
Charlotte Jones Luther Farrow
Robert Cunningham Elizabeth Riley
Anna Bell Gordon Reese Brown, Jr.
Judy Mellix

Health & Welfare Ministries

Charlotte Speller Geraldine Lambert
Vivian Harmon Jessie Alves
Luther Farrow

Adult Fellowship

Walter King, Chair
Kathryn Jasper Elaine Brown
Wendi Vargas Gloria Thompson
Floretta McMillon Reese Brown, Jr.
Ruth Harmon Frederica Broomfield
Marineeta Smallwood Ada Scott
Lewisene Jordan Alphonso Jasper
Ronald Deas Paul Jordan
Gwendolyn Deas

Communications Ministry

Carol Black, Chair
Sharon Brown Elaine Welles
Vivian Harmon Catherine Boyd
Rev. David Brown Edythe Lawrence
Denise Rhodes Phyllis G. Daniels
Betty Peyton Bertha Bell
Gloria Johnson

Adult and Family Ministries

Deborah Terrell, Chair
Luther Farrow Elaine Welles
Veronica Williams Jeanne Myers
Frederica Broomfield

Records and History Committee

Charles Keels Bertha Bell
William Adams
Honorary Member: MaeDell Brown

Christmas Eve Service

Camphor Memorial UMC
Saturday, December 24 at 7 PM

"Jesus is the reason for the season"

Religion & Race, Church & Society

David Lawrence

Stewardship Committee

Gloria Thompson, Chair
Charlotte Jones Martha Cobbs
Dorothy Tate Walter King
Elizabeth Lockwood Carol Black
Ada Scott Catherine Boyd
Kathryn Jasper

Honorary Member

Rev. Samuel Wilkins

Membership Committee

Lillybell Wright, Chair
Veronica Williams Jeanne Myers
Floretta McMillon Rosetta Stanley

Funeral Resolution Clerks

Edward Hale Arthur Langford

Church Support Staff

Rayna Beatty, Church Secretary
Eric Butler, Church Custodian



Statistics

Total Full Members	296
No. Females	211
No. Males	84
Approved 2006 Budget	\$249,274.00

Camphor Youth Ministry

Youth Involvement is Growing at Camphor

By Sharon Brown

All of us have probably noticed an increase in the number of younger worshippers at Camphor in recent months. The exciting news is that our kids are not content with just attending Sunday School or sitting in the pews--they want to serve God!

Youth members have occasionally played a role in the worship service as worship leader and scripture readers. Now you can look for them on a regular basis, as the fourth Sunday of each month has been designated as Youth Sunday. "It is our goal to eventually have an entirely youth run service on the fourth Sunday," says Elaine Brown, Worship Committee Chair. "We are very excited about turning an entire worship service over to the youth. With the continued support of the congregation, we know they will be successful." Rev. Rookard adds, "It is important for the youth to begin to take on the responsibilities of the traditions and the rituals of building the kingdom of God."

Camphor's newly formed youth choir made its debut on October 22., receiving a standing ovation from an emotional and supportive congregation. Their selections will continue to feature a blending of traditional and contemporary songs for service. Rehearsal dates and times can be found in the church bulletin.



The Methodist Youth Fellowship (MYF) at Camphor needs you! Spirit-filled, fun-loving adult volunteers are needed to help plan and chaperone activities, mentor and help our young people continue to grow in their faith.

Two Fridays a month and an occasional Saturday or whole weekend is all the time it takes to connect to this dynamic group of young people.

If you are interested in becoming a part of this ministry, please contact Rev. David Brown at 215-893-0856.

Thumbs Up for The Gospel

By Lauren Brown

The recently released movie, "The Gospel," is based on the biblical story of the prodigal son. The movie begins with the main character, David (Boris Kodjoe), sitting by his mother's deathbed. David prays for his mother's health with bible in hand, but has no success and she dies. His faith is now shaken and he blames his mother's death on his father.

Fifteen years have passed and David has become a famous R&B artist. While David is performing and touring around the country, the committee at his father's church is deciding whether they are going to close down the church due to a shortage of funds or keep it open for thirty more days so the church can get everything together. The committee decides to give the church thirty days to regroup. During this meeting, outbursts occur and David's father has a heart attack. When David receives the news, he rushes back to help his hometown church.

When David arrives many changes are made. He helps to get his father's church up and running, but can he keep up with some of the other changes that might be made by the new pastor?

The Gospel starring Boris Kodjoe is one of the best movies I've seen this year. I give this movie a thumbs up.

New Ministry at Camphor: Praise Dance!

By Elaine Welles

Praise dancing as a form of worship has existed for centuries and, in fact, is mentioned in several passages of the Old Testament.

The form of worship is first mentioned in the book of Exodus (15:20), in the passage that states, "all the women went out after her (Miriam) with timbrels and with dances."

Camphor now has its own Praise dance ministry, started by member Aneita Douglas. Although now primarily made up of members of the Methodist Youth Fellowship (MYF), the ministry is open to all.

Douglas said she decided to start



the Praise dance group after one of the young people of the MYF performed a liturgical dance during a recent service. The dance was so well received, said Douglas, that she thought, 'now is the time.'

"Dance has been my background," she said. "I was excited about the fact that maybe we could have a praise dance group here." A time was established for meetings, every other Friday at 6 p.m. prior to MYF meetings. Adults may meet at 7 p.m.

Once the dances have been learned, and when a form has been established for their presentation, the new ministry will be woven into different parts of the worship service. Praise dancing cannot be called performance; it is another expression through which to glorify God.

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Rev. David Brown To Receive Mentor Award

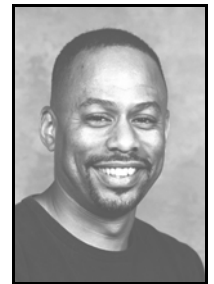
Rev. David Brown has been selected recipient of the 2005 Mentor Award in the Center City Proprietors Association of Philadelphia's Annual Real Small Business Award competition. Rev. Brown, President of Brown Partners Multicultural Marketing, was nominated to receive the prestigious award by his employees and dozens of colleagues who he has assisted in their careers.

"The Mentor Award went to David

Brown who nurtures developing minds and encourages each young person to ask questions and find his or her own way," announced the outside panel of judges who made the final selection. (Phila. Business Journal, 10/20/05).

Rev. Brown, an ordained deacon in the United Methodist Church, serves as Coordinator of Youth Ministries and member of

the Communications Committee at Camphor, where he has been a life-long member. He also assists Rev. Rookard in the pulpit as worship leader and in administering communion, baptism, and other sacraments. Congratulations, Rev. Brown!



Ms. Evelyn Parker Honored by Singing City Choir



Ms. Evelyn Parker, a member of Camphor's Senior Choir, was recently honored as the longest standing member of Singing City Choir at its first rehearsal of the

2005-2006 season.

Ms. Parker is an original member

of the famous integrated choir that was founded in 1948 by Dr. Elaine Brown out of the Fellowship House movement, which believed that differences between races, religions and cultures could be bridged by ordinary people coming together in shared activities.

In addition to performances in and around Philadelphia, the choir

traveled to the South during the 1950s and '60's struggles for civil rights, performing before integrated audiences. The choir has performed with the Philadelphia Orchestra in Israel and also in Jordan and Egypt while on tour in the '70s and '80s. In May 2000, Singing City was the lead choir at the First International Festival de Cuba. Bravo, Ms. Parker! Keep on singing!

The Church Around

UMCOR responds to quake

NEW YORK — “This is going to be the one remembered as the earthquake that killed the children,” said Marvin Parvez, a Methodist and the Pakistan/Afghanistan director for Church World Service. Parvez has been on the scene in Pakistan helping coordinate the CWS response to the calamitous earthquake that, as of Oct. 14, had killed more than 25,000 people. He urged people to pray for parents who lost children and for children who lost their parents.

The United Methodist Committee on Relief and ecumenical partner agencies are responding to the Oct. 8 earthquake. Donations can be marked for “UMCOR Advance #232000, Pakistan Earthquake,” and placed in church offering plates or sent to UMCOR, P.O. Box 9068, New York, N.Y. 10087-9068. Contributions also can be made by phone at (800) 554-8583. More information is available at <http://gbgm-umc.org/umcor/emergency/earthquake/index.stm>.

Women call attention to ethical issues

STAMFORD, Conn. — United Methodist Women is calling on its membership to address issues of race and class raised by Hurricane Katrina. The UMW issued a statement, “Be Repairers of the Breach,” during the Oct. 7-10 annual meeting of the Women’s Division, which is the UMW’s administrative arm. UMW members are urged to study biblical and ethical obligations “to respond and address both immediate and long-term system injustices.” In the community, that means having conversations on issues of race, class and public policy; serving as advocates for those displaced by Katrina; and leading dialogues “on what it means to ... be communities of hospitality.”

United Methodist Church publishes commentaries on rebuilding Gulf Coast

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--The United Methodist Church is urging local people to have a voice in the planning and rebuilding of the Gulf Coast in a paid commentary published Oct. 21 in The Washington Post and several newspapers in Louisiana and Mississippi. The commentary stated that a “renewed sense of community” came out of the crisis caused by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita when people came together in concern, compassion and generosity. A second commentary is planned for the week of Oct. 24. The commentaries urge commitment to a fair and inclusive process that creates better places for people to live.

United Methodist contributions to hurricane relief keep climbing

NEW YORK--United Methodists contributed \$17.4 million, as of Oct. 14, to the United Methodist Committee on Relief for its response to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. That figure includes \$2.76 million given online, according to Roland Fernandes, treasurer, United Methodist Board of Global Ministries. UMCOR is providing two giving numbers through The Advance for Christ and His Church for hurricane relief. Checks should be made out to UMCOR and designated for "UMCOR Advance #982523 Hurricane Katrina" or "UMCOR Advance #901323 Hurricane Rita." Both numbers or one number and the word "both" can be given for general assistance. Checks may be placed in church offering plates or mailed directly to UMCOR, P.O. Box 9068, New York, NY 10087. Credit-card gifts can be made by calling (800) 554-8583 or going online to www.methodistrelief.org.

The next “Camphor Light” will be a January/February issue. If you would like to contribute an article, poem, or anything else, please email: communications@camphormemorial.org or place item(s) in the Communications mailbox at church. All items should be submitted by December 15 for publication on January 1.

The World ...from United Methodist News Service – <http://umns.umc.org>

Survey focuses on United Methodist men

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Do most men in the United Methodist Church believe the Bible is the inerrant word of God, or do they believe it is the word of God to be interpreted in the light of its historical context and the church's teachings? These questions are included in an online 45-question survey developed by the churchwide Commission on United Methodist Men, to understand the particular needs and interests of men. The commission invites all men to visit <http://www.gcumm.org/> and click on "UMC Men's Study - Individual" to answer questions about faith, involvement, history, family and theology.

Native Americans have much to offer

ARLINGTON, Va. — Concerned about the lack of understanding across the United Methodist Church about Native American ministry, directors of the Native American Comprehensive Plan have decided to seek an audience with the Council of Bishops in 2006 to present a "State of Native Americans Ministries" address. The plan's executive director, Ann Saunkeah, noted that Native Americans "are not a mission; we are in ministry in the United Methodist Church. We have models and resources to offer to the general church, and we are anxious to share those models and resources with others."

Liberian church breaks ground for hospital

MONROVIA, Liberia — United Methodists in Liberia broke ground for a 100-bed hospital at Ganta Mission on Aug. 13. It will replace the mission's older hospital, severely damaged during the country's civil war.



Praise Dance Ministry

(Continued from page 9)

"I think it will be received well (at Camphor) if it is done well and tastefully," said Duglas, who is also a member of the senior choir.

"My expectations are that the people who come will learn something about movement, something about the history of dance in the church."

Second Samuel 6:14 says King David "danced before the Lord with all of his heart." Psalm 150 says we are to "Praise Him with the timbrel and dance." And, according to an online Maranatha Life article by Richard A. Murphy, "The New Testament church gained most of its style of worship from the Jews. Since the Jewish believers were used to dance as a form of worship, they naturally taught it to the gentiles."



"Dance in the church has gone in and out of fashion or favor throughout history. The Reformation put a damper on dance in the church," explained Duglas. "But, it's making a comeback in modern times."

Duglas, a former dance teacher with Joan Myers' Philadanco, said she believes praise dancing at Camphor will imbue the church with an "additional spirit." "I would like our liturgical dance to illuminate the Word, and to be an addition to the Word that helps people get into the spirit and to understand. It will be just a plus."

Expect to see the new ministry during the Thanksgiving and Christmas worship services, and then in the New Year. Duglas said she would like to see praise dancing be a part of a service at least once a month. All are invited to participate in one of Camphor's newest ministries. See the MYF schedule in the Great Hall for meeting times. Then, expect something wonderful to happen when Praise Dancing comes alive at Camphor!

In The Spotlight... Martha Cobb

By Betty Peyton



We proudly salute **Mrs. Martha Brown Cobb** who has been a faithful and dedicated member of Camphor Memorial UMC for nearly 60 years.

Mrs. Cobb was born in Steelton, PA, on April 9, 1906. She came from a family of 12 children and is the sole survivor of them. She received

her early education at the historic Hygienic School of Steelton, established by the African-American community following the Civil War. In 1923 she graduated from Steelton High School. She is listed among "Steelton High School African-American Graduates" by the Afrolumens Project, a Central Pennsylvania African-American history project (www.afrolumens.org).

At age 15, she started her faith journey which occurred in Sunday School at the historic Monumental AME Church, founded by ex-slaves in Steelton. Mrs. Cobb continued her education at

Shippensburg State Teachers College and returned to teach in the public schools of Steelton. She married Theodore Cobb in 1946 and moved to Philadelphia. As Philadelphia did not permit married women to teach, Mrs. Cobb entered Penn's School of Social Work and thereafter was employed as a Social Worker by the State until retirement. She joined the Camphor family in 1947 under the pastorate of Rev. Daniel Rideout and was a member of the Senior Choir for many years.

Mrs. Cobb is an amazing person. Her current ministries at Camphor are Stewardship and Bible Study. She participates in Bible Jeopardy games during fellowships at church and her knowledge of the Bible is extensive. She plays hymns and songs on the piano and doesn't use a cane or walker. She is always spirited, cheerful and encouraging. When asked for her fondest memories at Camphor, Mrs. Cobb quickly responds, "the Senior Choir, Bible Study Class and the fellowship with the people at church." We look forward to her 100th birthday in April. Mrs. Cobb, we are very proud of you!

Camphor Memorial
United Methodist Church
5620 Wyalusing Ave
Phila., PA 19131

Visit us on the web at
www.camphormemorial.org.

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We may not all believe exactly the same thing, but the people of the United Methodist Church believe in God and each other. If you're searching for something to believe in, our hearts, our minds and our doors are always open.

Remember Our Sick and Shut-In

Mr. Lewis Alexander	460 N. Sweet Gum Lane, Lafayette Hill, PA 19444 (610) 941-6372
Mrs. Gladys Allen	Simpson House, 2101 Belmont Ave., Phila., PA 19131
Mr. Pauline Carroll	Tucker House Nursing Home, 10th and Wallace, Phila., PA 19123
Mr. William Covington	5627 Stewart Street, Phila., PA 19131
Mrs. Pauline Cunningham	St. Ignatius Nursing Home #407, 4401 Haverford Ave., Phila., PA 19104
Mrs. Mae Daniel	Simpson House, 2101 Belmont Ave., #C203, Phila., PA 19131; (215) 871- 5366
Rev. Claude Edmonds	7701 Henry Ave., Apt D103, Phila., PA 19128
Mrs. Margaret Freeman	Simpson House, 2101 Belmont Ave., #M330, Phila., PA 19131; (215) 871-5408
Mrs. Mary-Lora Garvin	1853 Wynnewood Road, Phila., PA 19151
Mrs. Essie Glover	653 N. Frazier St., Phila., PA 19131; (215) 474-0312
Mrs. Henrietta Gwaltney	1255 N. 57 th Street, Phila., PA 19131
Mrs. Alice Habershaw	Britthaven Inc., 1016 Fletcher St., Wilkesboro, NC 28697
Mrs. Zula Hampton	3848 Brown Street, Phila., PA 19104
Mrs. Ossie Hayward	621 N. Frazier St., Phila., PA 19131
Mr. Lewis Hill	1101 N. 63rd Street, Phila., PA 19131
Mrs. Katherine Keeling	625 Thomasville Church Road, Mt. Gilead, NC 27306; (910) 439-6748
Mrs. Lucy Levere	5714 Cambridge Street, Phila., PA 19131; (215) 877-3251
Mrs. Elizabeth Manning	Brighten at Bryn Mawr, 956 Railroad Ave., Bryn Mawr, PA 19010
Mr. Dennis McNeill	St. Francis Country House, 1425 Lansdowne Ave., Room 303, Darby, PA 19023
Mrs. Marjorie Mitchell	330 Main Street #204, Newark, DE 19711; (302) 234-8854
Mrs. Lula Mock	Brighten at Bryn Mawr, 956 Railroad Ave., Bryn Mawr, PA 19010
Mr. & Mrs. Charlie Moore	716 Canasita Trail, Chattanooga, TN 37406; (423) 493-1844
Mrs. Ethel Moore	623 N. Frazier St., Phila., PA 19131; (215) 474-4524
Mrs. Naomi Waters	5512 Name Ave., Baltimore, MD 21215; (410) 358-2675
Mrs. Margaret White	Harston Hall, 350 Haws Lane, Flourtown, PA 19031



"I was sick and you looked after me." Matt. 25:36 (NIV)

Anniversaries, Birthdays, Memorials, College

Happy November Birthday!



William Adams
 Rev. David Brown
 Clifton Officer
 Charlotte Dennis
 Pauline Flamer
 Henrietta Gwatney
 Ruth Harmon
 Vivian Harmon
 Richard Moody
 Anna Strand
 Elizabeth K. Terrell

Happy December Birthday!

Tiy Adams
 Bertha Bell
 Nicole Boston
 Reese J. Brown, Jr.
 Marian Curry
 Michelle Flamer
 Margaret B. Freeman
 Eva Harris
 Lorraine Howard
 Ronald Jasper
 Lewisene Jordan
 Jestine King
 David Lawrence
 Malcolm Poindexter, III
 LaVerne Taylor
 Gloria Todd
 Palmer Warren
 Elaine Welles
 Rev. Samuel Wilkins

Blessings to Our College/Graduate Students!

Tiy Adams
 Howard University
 Medical School

Melissa Alves
 Howard University
 Law School

Mark Bounds
 University of Maryland
 Eastern Shore

Kina Smallwood Butts
 Temple University
 Educational Psychology
 Ph.D Program

Richard Garrison
 Villanova University

Daisha Harris
 Arcadia University
 Forensics Science Program

Paul Jordan, Jr.
 Morehouse College

Victoria Mingle
 Millersville University

Elizabeth Kelly Terrell
 Howard University

Randie Welles
 Barnard College

Happy November Anniversary!

Mr. & Mrs. Reese Brown, Jr.

 Mr. and Mrs. William R.
 Adams, Jr.

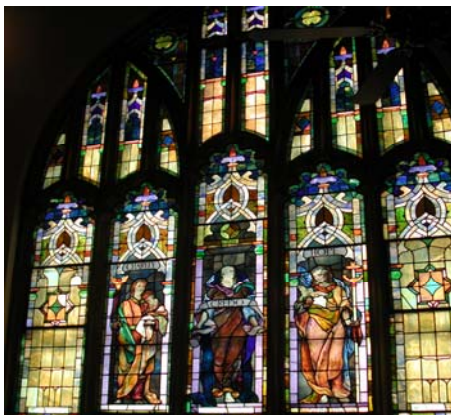


In Memoriam

Mrs. Hilda Sheppard
 September 7, 2005



Mr. James Manning
 September 29, 2005



Christmas Blessings to All!

