

The Camphor Light

Volume 8, Number 1

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February 2008

Coming up...

- 3/15, 6 PM - Indoor Picnic and Praise Disco
- 3/22, 2 PM - Easter Party for Community Children
- 3/29, 10 AM- Women's Day Breakfast
- 4/12 11 AM - Women's Day Market
- 4/20 11 AM, Women's Day, Speaker: Rev. Dr. Mary Floyd Palmer
- 4/29 3 PM, Camphor-Korean Fellowship 20th Anniversary



Longest Serving Members Honored at 85th Church Anniversary Banquet



Members and guests gave a standing ovation to these 14 members of the congregation at Camphor's 85th Church Anniversary Banquet, honoring them for 60 or more years of membership and faithful service to the church and community. Those honored at the gala event, held at the Crown Plaza Hotel, City Avenue, on

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Message from The Pastor



Rev. Laurie Ann Rookard

"History will have to record that the greatest tragedy of this period of social transition was not the strident clamor of the bad people, but the appalling silence of the good people."—
Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Dear Members of the Body of Christ,

It is both a privilege and an awesome responsibility to write to you as your pastor during Black History month. The month began for me with an invitation to the **Freedom Day Luncheon** during which persons were celebrating February 1st in 1865 when Abraham Lincoln signed the 13th amendment that abolished slavery in the United States. I was then invited to an event which remembered **Rev. Leon Sullivan** who was the

(Continued on page 2)

Church Honors Members at 85th Anniversary Celebration

(Continued from page 1)

November 25, 2007, are (sitting) **Charlotte Speller, Bertha Bell, Dorothea Burnett, Charlotte Jones, Edythe Lawrence, Gloria Thompson, Bettie Peyton, Thelma Massey**, (standing) **Bernard Waties, Harold Adams, Ramon Harris, Sr., Clifton Burnett, Calvin Wright** and **Arthur Langford**.

Other honorees who were not able to be present were **Eugene Newman, Florence Tripp, Mae Daniels, Elizabeth Lockwood, Mary McBride, Christine Richardson, Alice Habershaw, Henrietta Gwaltney, Jeanette Eldridge, Frances Deas, Annabelle Gordon, Jean Pollard, Anna Watson, Mazella Harris, Lucy Montgomery, Katherine Keeling** and **Elizabeth Valentine**

The 85th Anniversary, a year-long celebration, was a great success due to the untiring leadership of the co-chairs, **Walter King** and **Paul Jordan**, and the hard work of their committee. Anniversary events included a standing room only dinner-theater production of "Glory

Train" by the **Camphor Players**, a sold-out concert performance by the **Boys Choir of Philadelphia and Chorale**, special worship services in the month of November and the elegant banquet. 85th Anniversary souvenir gifts included note cards, tee-shirts, caps, visors, commemorative plates and mugs and may be ordered on the church website or from any member of the committee.

Members of the 85th Anniversary Committee were: **Bertha Bell, Lavern Taylor, Aileen Casey, Lewisene Jordan, Gloria Todd, Jean Rhodes, Gloria Johnson, Reese Brown, Jr., Frederica Broomfield, Debbie Spraggins, Kit Boyd, Floretta McMillon, Charlotte Jones, Carol Black, Luther Farrow, Ronald Deas, Edward Hale, Arthur Langford, Kathryn Jasper**, and hostesses: **Sharon Brown, Ruth Harmon, Aneita Douglas, Elaine Brown, Eva Harris** and **Charlotte Dennis**.

Message from The Pastor

(Continued from page 1)

first black man to sit on the Board of General Motors Corp. and who developed principles that companies of America and the world came to follow to end apartheid in South Africa. Both of these events left an indelible impression on my mind and spirit.

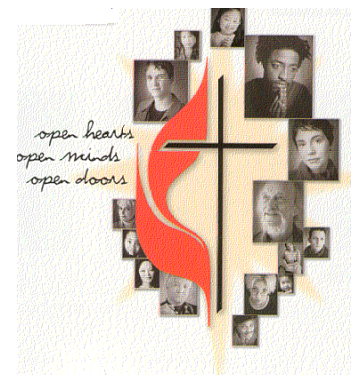
Along with these events came many quotes including the words of **Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.** which are printed above. I found myself asking, "do you have to be famous to find a way to speak and stand for justice for all people?" While most of us will not be famous, we each have a mandate to speak and to stand for others who do not have the power or privileges that we have. We too, must speak the truth in loving and firm ways. We too must find creative ways to correct unjust thought patterns, systems and policies.

We, too, must speak the truth in loving and firm ways. We, too, must find creative ways to correct unjust thought patterns, systems and policies.

My prayer for us, is that God will give us the wisdom, courage, and discernment to build the Kingdom on this earth. May we stand on the shoulders of our ancestors and make them proud of our work.

Shalom,

Reverend Laurie Ann Rookard



Around Camphor

Bill Keyes, son of **Josephine Keyes**, received a 2008 Modern-Day Technology Leaders Award in February 2008, at the 22nd National Black Engineer of the Year Awards Conference in Baltimore, MD. He is a Manager, Rail Systems for Parsons Transportation Group where he is working on the train signaling portion of the expansion of the Los Angeles rapid transit system and commutes between Los Angeles and his home in Dallas. **Nicole Brown-Williams**, daughter of **Mr. and Mrs. Reese Brown, Jr.**, has relocated to Philadelphia from New York and reunited with Camphor Memorial. She has joined the Senior Choir and she and her husband are hosting the **Young Adult Lenten Bible Study** at their home. **Tiy Adams**, daughter of **Carol Black** and the late **William Adams**, will graduate from Howard University College of Medicine on May 9, 2008...**Melissa Alves, Esq.**, daughter of **Rose Alves**, has purchased a new home at 6134 Webster Street in Philadelphia...**Peggy Hargreaves** has called to say that she misses Camphor and will return soon...**Carol Jason** visited her aunt, **Georgia Cumber**, at Brighten at Bryn Mawr and was pleasantly surprised to see that her aunt's roommate is **Edythe Drumgoole**...**Charles Welles** is recovering from a foot condition...**Dorothy Marshall** continues to improve at Willow Terrace after injuries sustained in an automobile accident...**Ramon Harris, Sr.**, a patient at Mercy Fitzgerald Hospital, Darby, has been transferred from Intensive Care to the Nursing floor...Baby **Keira Chase**, daughter of **Kyndal Goldsberry** and **Christopher Chase**, will be christened at Camphor on March 9...**Ethel Hendricks** will also be received as an Affiliate Member on March 9.

(continued on page 7)

Camphor UMC—First Korean Presbyterian 20th Anniversary in April

Camphor Memorial and First Korean Presbyterian Church of Philadelphia will soon celebrate twenty (20) years of friendship and fellowship on **Sunday, April 29, 2008 at 3 PM.** This year the service will be held at the First Korean Church, 770-800 Tabor Road, Philadelphia, in keeping with the custom to rotate the service each year.

Everyone is invited to attend this multi-cultural program that brings to-



gether people of faith from various ethnic and cultural backgrounds in a special worship service of

music and cultural presentations in several languages. Following the worship service there

will be a fellowship dinner featuring ethnic foods and desserts. In photo are the coordinators of the 2007 and 2008 services: **Catherine Exum, Rev. Laurie Ann Rookard, Rev. Manwoo Kim, Deacon David Cho, Deacon Jae Kwagh and Carol Black.** Others from Camphor on the committee are **Rev. David Brown, Juliette Ferreira, Jean Rhodes and Gloria Todd.**

Save the date: Women's Day is April 20, 2008

Profile of Esteemed Bible Teacher: Mrs. Dorothy Burnett

By Josephine Keyes

“Christ chose some of us to be apostles, prophets, missionaries, pastors and teachers so that his people would learn to serve and his body would grow strong.” Ephesians 4, 11:12 Contemporary English Version

When **Dorothea Burnett** was asked to teach the teen Sunday school classes at Camphor 30 years ago, a memorable and distinguished journey began that ended on May 24th, 2007 when she retired.

From the teens, Dorothea moved to adult classes and, later, from Sunday school to leading weekday bible classes. Starting with a small number, the class size grew to approximately 25 faithful male and female students, including members of other congregations.

According to Mrs. Burnett, God gives and prepares each of us to use our spiritual gifts. She feels that early experiences prepared her for the gift of teaching. Dorothea first learned to offer her viewpoint as a member of Great Books Discussion Group. Later, she became an International Toast Mistress where she learned to speak before an audience. By the time she was called to teach, Dorothea was comfortable with the role she was to fill.

Mrs. Burnett believes that when we become Christians, we should study the bible to learn how to live and bring about a change in our lives. An ideal bible student studies the lesson and asks questions.

A strong believer in preparing herself through self study, Dorothea took courses at Episcopal Reform Seminary and Eastern Baptist Seminary in Philadelphia. She studied at Union Theological Seminary in New York and took correspondence courses through Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.

Many women of Camphor have enjoyed participating in annual spiritual retreats to the Pocono Mountains led by Mrs. Burnett. In addition, she has presented workshops throughout the country for United Methodist Women School of Christian Mission.

At the same time Dorothea was fulfilling her Christian calling, she was also working full time for the United States Government as an administrative assistant. Born in Little Rock, AR, her family moved to Kansas City, MO, where, during World War II, she met her husband, **Clifton**, a Philadelphia native.

Along the way Dorothea and Clifton became the proud parents of **Melonee, Xanthea and Gervay**. Husband, Clifton, is a Trustee Emeritus and long time Camphor member. Dorothea retired from the Philadelphia Naval Base after 35 years in 1982. They have four grandchildren.

Congratulations on a job well done! We, at Camphor, pray that the best things in life will always be yours.

Dear Lord,
 Bless our dear Teacher.
 Give her the brightest crown in heaven.
 Give her the whitest robe that can be given.
 Put golden sandals on her feet and let her
 Slip and slide up to the throne of Master Jesus.. Amen.*



Mrs. Lavern Taylor congratulates Mrs. Burnett at luncheon given in her honor by the Thursday Bible Study Class. Mrs. Marie Prattis read "Prayer for Teacher "

* Prayer for Teacher (1958) by James Mercer Langston Hughes and Arna Wendell Bontemps, Conversations with God, Two Centuries of Prayers by African Americans, James Melvin Washington, Ph.D., Editor

Bible Class Honors Mrs. Burnett at Retirement Luncheon

Photos courtesy of Ruth Harmon



Scenes from Christmas Musical, "Return to Bethlehem"



Report from the Education Ministry

By Ruth Harmon

Report dated 1/14/08. Christian Education endeavors since the 11/07 report:

Church School

- Curriculum, Pre-K to grade 6 PowerXpress Unit on Self – Control
- Grades 7 –12 to be determined
- Average attendance for December 2007 is 9 students. .

Bible Study Classes

- A new Covenant Discipleship Class has been organized by **Rev. Rookard**
- Thursday Adult Bible Study Class completed study of Book

of Ruth; currently studying I Thessalonians. Average attendance is 24. Three new members: **Ethel Hendricks, Judith Newkirk and Leanna Wallace**

Fellowships

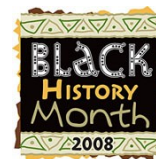
- **Adult Fellowship:** A short call meeting was held 1/13/08. Ch., **Lewisene Jordan** told about “Fresh Start” outreach program at Methodist Home. The group agreed to support and help 20 women
- **Methodist Youth Fellowship.** No updates.
- **Young Adult Fellowship.** No updates

Miscellaneous

- **Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World.** Walter King will provide update.

Education Ministry Meeting:

- There will be a **Bake Sale** after worship on 4/6/08
- **Student Recognition Day** on 6/24/08 during worship
- **Vacation Bible School** will be June 30-July 2, 2008. Theme: Trading Places, Where Jesus Makes a World of Difference



News From Finance

On January 20, 2008, **Kathryn Jasper**, Chair of Finance Ministry, brought a praise report to the congregation for a successful 2007. She reported that the church received 98% of the budgeted revenue and ended the year with a balance on \$902 in the treasury. In addition, 12 ministry groups donated 100% of their commitments to the church. For the first time in several years, the church was able to pay 100% of its current obligations to the Conference, a total of \$6,530. She related special thanks to **Walter King** and the **Anniversary Committee** for a significant part of the success story for 2007.

Finance requests that everyone pick up his/her 2008 envelopes and to be certain to remain current in giving each month in order for the church to continue to meet its obligations.

News From Evangelism

In her report to the Administrative Council on January 14, 2008, **Ernestine Martin**, Chair of Evangelism, provided three objectives developed by her team to make disciples of Jesus Christ:

- Team building and prayer
- Equipping people for service
- Implementing the **FRAN Evangelism Plan**--reaching Friends, Relatives, Associates and Neighbors.

The team will encourage a weekly “Hour of Prayer” at the church and in small prayer groups at homes and “Prayer Bands” to pray for specific needs.

A Spiritual Gifts Workshop and “An Hour in the Word” Bible Study before scheduled meetings is planned. Lenten Bible studies in homes will be encouraged. The team has implemented the Greeting Ministry for the church on January 6.

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



Around Camphor..



The Philadelphia Boys Choir and Chorale was presented at Camphor Memorial in a benefit concert by the Anniversary Committee on November 18, 2007, under the leadership of **Gloria Todd** and **Jean Rhodes**. The choir gave a magnificent concert with a variety of spirited music. Afterwards, the congregation was able to meet and greet the performers at a reception in the Great Hall. Recalls Co-Chair, **Walter King**, "the anniversary celebration began on January 28, 2007 with a rally after church that included some of our young people as cheerleaders and delicious food provided by **Laverne Taylor** and her Hospitality Committee... we had a packed house for "Glory Train" ...the speakers in November, **Rev. Rookard**, **Rev. Dr. Gary George** (DS, Central District), **Rev. Lillian Smith (EPC Director)** and **Rev. David Brown** added spiritually to our celebration...we achieved all of our goals--fellowship, spiritual growth and financial. Camphor has much to be thankful for. God has really blessed us."



Scoutmaster **Clifton Officer** was honored Sunday, February 17, 2008, upon his retirement as leader of Troop 194 for over 50 years. Standing with him are Eagle Scouts, **Dallas Hill** and **Bryant Henderson**, who were among the many family and guests at the worship service and reception who thanked him for his extraordinary dedication and service.

Elaine Brown and **Eva Harris** display a slave quilt at the Black History Potluck Dinner and Celebration that followed the morning worship service at Camphor on February 10, 2008. They explained the secret codes in quilts that helped fugitive slaves find their way north to freedom.

Camphor Memorial UMC—Pages From Our History

Worship Bulletin—June 12, 1949

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR SUNDAY JUNE 5, 1949

- RECEIPTS -

From Regular Envelopes -----	\$ 128.20
From Plate Offerings -----	24.95
From Consecration Offering -----	59.60
From Church School -----	10.16
From Initial Envelopes -----	.45
June Emergency Offering -----	112.00
Save The Sanctuary Campaign -----	211.03
Women's Society C. S. (Parsonage Furniture) -----	15.00
Totals -----	\$ 561.39

- DISBURSEMENTS -

Salaries -----	\$ 165.00
Church School -----	10.16
Refund of Broadcast Deposits to Choir -----	36.92
June Emergency -----	112.00
Save the Sanctuary Treasury -----	211.03
To General Church Treasury -----	26.28
Totals -----	\$ 561.39

William R. Adams
Financial Secretary

* I M P O R T A N T *

Get in tune with our "INTEREST" Emergency for June, give your \$2.00 now! Please!

The Special Offering plate this Morning is for our Weekly Bulletin. Give a coin please!

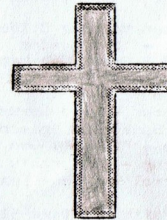
CAMPBOR MEMORIAL METHODIST CHURCH

5620 Wyalusing Avenue
Philadelphia 31, Pa.

Charles D. Gerald, Minister

Church 'Phone
SH 7-2600

Resid. 'Phone
AL 4-9146



- oOo -

SUNDAY - JUNE 12, 1949

- oOo -

Our Motto

"We have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin." - I John 1:7-

- oOo -

Charles D. Gerald - Minister
Eston Collins Jr. - Director of Music
Elizabeth Mitchell - Organist

SUNDAY - June 12, 1949

7:00 A.M. - Morning Watch
9:30 A.M. - Church School
11:00 A.M. - Morning Worship Hour - Order 1, Page 504
Miss Ethel Watkins - Presiding

Organ Prelude
Processional "When Morning Gilds the Sky" #31
Call to Worship - The Leader
Hymn - "Oh Could I Speak The Matchless Worth" #168
Prayer of Confession - Page 304
Silent Meditation
Words of Assurance - The Leader
Lord's Prayer - Spoken in Unison
Hymn of Response - "Like My God My Father" #306
Responsive Reading - Children's Day - Page 640
(Carrol Harris - Leader)

Gloria Patri
Affirmation of Faith - Page 512 #1
Lesson from the Holy Scripture - Mr. Frisby Euell
Prayer - Miss Nadine Howard
Choral Response - "Saviour Hear Us When We Pray" #600
Morning Anthem
Regular Church Offering - Offertory
Announcements - Church Clerk
Lay Message - Miss Cora Whitted
Hymn - "Dear Lord and Father of Mankind" #342
Presentation of Speaker - The Minister
SERMON - Dr. E. H. Crampton - D. S. Philadelphia Dist.
Invitation Hymn - "I Am Coming to The Cross" #246
Offering and Service of Consecration
Recessional Hymn #496
Benediction --- and --- Silent Prayer
Postlude

7:00 P.M. - Youth Fellowship Hour and Service
8:00 P.M. - Methodist Student Day Program

* THIS WEEK *

MONDAY - Official Board Meeting at 8:00 P.M. All members are urged to be present, business of great importance to be transacted.

TUESDAY - Regular Monthly Meeting of Women's Society of Christian Service - Mrs. Emma Baker, President

WEDNESDAY - Mid-Week Prayer Service at 8:00 P.M. Your presence and your prayers are needed

SATURDAY - Church of Education Meeting at 7:00 P.M.

OTHER MEETINGS - All on Regular Schedule

- oOo -

ATTEND YOUR CHURCH!

BOOST YOUR CHURCH!

BOOST YOUR PASTOR!

and

TOGETHER WE SHALL PROSPER.

- oOo -

Oh, set your sail to the heavenly gale,
And then, no matter what winds prevail,
No reef can wreck you, no calm delay;
No mist shall hinder, no storm shall stay;
Though far you wander and long you roam
Through salt sea sprays and o'er white sea foam,
No wind that can blow but shall speed you Home.

- oOo -

Special thanks to Mr. Charles Keels, Church Records and Archives Committee for sharing 1949 Worship Bulletin

Camphor Memorial UMC—Pages From Our History

Our Heritage

By W. C. JASON, JR.
Our Lay Member of the Annual Conference

IN NOVEMBER, 1922, Rev. J. T. Fletcher, a District Superintendent of the Delaware Conference, made a survey of the West Philadelphia section and found that in the "New Exodus of our people," many settled where there was no Methodist Episcopal Church and joined other denominations. The Board of Home Missions supplied the money, and in 1923, the Saint Matthew Mission was organized. In November, 1923 the church was located at Wanamaker and Vine Streets. A lot on Haverford Avenue near 58th Street was bought for \$4500. A stucco building that could seat two hundred persons upstairs with well appointed rooms downstairs was completed and dedicated by Bishop Joseph F. Berry. In 1944, he present building was secured with the help of the Board of Missions and City Missionary Society for \$25,000, under the visionary leadership of Rev. Daniel A. Ridout.

The church was named for Alexander Priestly Camphor, a young preacher who, in 1895, transferred from the Louisiana Conference to the Delaware Conference. Within a year he and his wife "became the first regular missionaries of color employed by the Board of Missions, and sailed for Africa." In 1916, he became the fourth Negro consecrated a bishop by the Methodist Episcopal Church. Four years after his death the Delaware Conference established the Bishop Alexander P. Camphor Scholarship.

On December 9, 1923, when Rev. William H. Hilton conducted the first worship service in a rented room heated by a kerosene stove, there were fifteen members: local Preacher William H. Casey and his wife Catherine, local Preacher Joshua Bell and his wife Blanch, Mr. John Fitchett, Mr. Joseph Henson and his wife Delilah, Mr. Walter Blount and his wife, Mr. Walter Ballinger, Mr. Walter Blount and eight Resident Bishops, nine members: W. E. Hilton, J. I. D. A. Jr., etc.

50th Anniversary
Souvenir Journal, 1972

OUR FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE



Chairman: Mrs. Gladys Allen; **Co-Chairman:** Mrs. Ardelia Roots; **Secretary:** Mrs. Lillian Fitchett; **Assistant Secretary:** Mrs. Emma B. Brinkley; **Treasurer:** Mr. Ramon Harris, Sr.; **Financial Secretary:** Mr. Warren D. Brinkley.

Program Committee: Mrs. Ethel Patience, Chairman; Mr. Dennis McNeill, Co-Chairman.

Publicity Committee: Mrs. Gloria Thompson, Chairman; Mrs. Marguerite Miles, Co-Chairman.

Hospitality & Courtesy Committee: Mrs. Gladys Plummer, Chairman; Mrs. Elsie Harris, Co-Chairman; Mrs. Ardelia Roots, Co-Chairman.

Finance Committee: Mr. John I. Polk, Chairman; Mr. Warren D. Brinkley, Treasurer; Mr. Ramon Harris, Sr., Financial Secretary.

Spiritual Rededication Committee: Mrs. Clemon E. Miles, Chairman; Mrs. Joshua Joynes, Co-Chairman.

Banquet Committee: Mrs. Gladys W. Allen, Chairman; Mrs. Bertha Bell, Co-Chairman.

Banquet Ticket Committee: Mrs. Mattie B. Polk, Chairman; Mrs. Emma B. Brinkley, Mrs. Lillian Fitchett, Mrs. Mary Pray.

Special thanks to Mr. Charles Keels, Church Records and Archives Committee for sharing these documents

Black History Month - Did you know...

To recall and celebrate the positive contributions to our nation made by people of African descent, American historian **Carter G. Woodson** established Black History Week. The first celebration occurred February 12, 1926. For many years, the second week of February was set aside for this celebration to coincide with the birthdays of Black abolitionist/editor **Frederick Douglass** and **Abraham Lincoln**. In 1976, as part of the nation's bicentennial, the week was expanded into Black History Month.

Population Distribution

- As of July 1, 2005, there were an estimated 39.7 million black residents in the United States, including those of more than one race. They made up 13.4 percent of the total U.S. population. This figure represents an increase of half a million residents from one year earlier.
- The projected single-race black population of the United States as of July 1, 2050 is 61.4 million. On that date, according to the projection, blacks would constitute 15 percent of the nation's total population.
- The estimated black population of New York on July 1, 2004 was 3.5 million, the highest of any state. Four other states had black populations that surpassed 2 million: Florida, Texas, California and Georgia. About 85,900 blacks were added to Florida's population between July 1, 2003, and July 1, 2004. That is the largest numeric increase of any state in the nation. Georgia and Texas added 61,800 and 45,000, respectively.
- As of July 1, 2004, 59 percent of the District of Columbia's population was identified as black - the highest rate for this race group of any state or state-equivalent in the nation. The District of Columbia was followed by Mississippi (37 percent), Louisiana (33 percent) and Georgia, Maryland and South Carolina (30 percent each).
- 1.4 million blacks lived in Cook County, Ill., as of July 1, 2005. Cook led all the nation's counties in the number of people of this racial category. Broward County, Fla., had the largest numerical increase (17,900) between 2003 and 2004. Los Angeles County, CA., also topped the 1 million mark.
- 31% of the black population was under 18 as of July 1, 2005. At the other end of the spectrum, 8 percent of the black population was 65 or older.

Businesses

- \$88.6 billion in revenues for black-owned businesses in 2002, up 24 percent from 1997. The number of black-owned businesses totaled 1.2 million in 2002, up by 45 percent since 1997. Black-owned firms accounted for 5 percent of all nonfarm businesses in the United States.
- 129,329: The number of black-owned firms in New York in 2002, which led all states. New York City alone had 98,080 such firms, which led all cities.
- 10,716: The number of black-owned firms operating in 2002 with receipts of \$1 million or more. These firms accounted for 1 percent of the total number of black-owned firms in 2002 and 55 percent of their total receipts, or \$49 billion.
- 969: The number of black-owned firms with 100 or more employees in 2002. Firms of this size accounted for 24 percent of the total revenue for black owned employer firms in 2002, or \$16 billion.

Education

- 80% of blacks age 25 and older had at least a high school diploma in 2005. In states such as Colorado, the

Black History Month - Did you know...

proportion was even higher - 90 percent. (Source: 2005 American Community Survey)

- 17% of blacks 25 and older had a bachelor's degree or higher in 2005. In many states, the rate was higher. Twenty-six percent of blacks this age in Colorado, for instance, had this level of education. (Source: 2005 American Community Survey)

- 1.1 million blacks age 25 and older had an advanced degree in 2005 (e.g., master's, Ph.D., M.D. or J.D.). Ten years earlier - in 1995 - only 677,000 blacks had this level of education.

- For the 2005 school year, 2.3 million black college students were enrolled. This was an increase of roughly 1 million from 15 years earlier.

Income, Poverty and Health Insurance

- The annual median income of black households in 2005 is \$30,858. In constant dollars, this is up from \$25,642 in 1985.

- \$33,077: The 2005 median earnings of black men 15 years old and over who worked full time, year-round. This compares to the median earnings of \$29,672 for corresponding black women.

- The poverty rate in 2004 for those reporting black as their only race was 24.9%. This rate was down from 31.3% in 1985.

- 60% of black citizens age 18 and older voted in the 2004 presidential election. That amounted to 14 million voters. The percentage of those voting is up 3 percentage points from the previous election. Blacks had the highest turnout rate of any minority group in 2004.

- 19.6% of blacks lacked health insurance in 2005.

Families and Children

- There are 9.1 million black families in the United States. Of these, nearly one-half (47 percent) are married-couple families.

- 11% of black children live in a household maintained by a grandparent.

- 46% of black householders own their own home, nationally. The rate was higher in certain states, such as Mississippi, where it reached 56 percent.

Military Service

- There are 2.4 million black military veterans in the United States in 2004. (Source: American FactFinder)

Jobs

- 26% of blacks age 16 and older work in management, professional and related occupations. (Source: American FactFinder)

- There are 44,000 black physicians and surgeons; 79,400 postsecondary teachers; 45,200 lawyers; and 49,300 chief executives. (Source: Upcoming Statistical Abstract of the United States: 2007)

Data courtesy of the U.S. Census Bureau

UM Women Donate Needlework

By Catherine Exum

Members of the **Needlework Circle** of Camphor UMW have been bringing joy to everyone they touch. They meet once a month to work on lap quilts, prayer shawls, blankets, wheel chair/walker caddies and other items for our sick and shut-ins.

During worship service on January 20, 2008, they also presented a baby blanket to new mother, **Kyndal Goldsberry**, and a white shawl to **Carol Black**, who recently lost her husband. In photos, **Eva Harris** accepts gift for mother, **Catherine Williams**, and **Marie Washington** accepts for friend, **Vernette McGuire**.

The Circle meets on the second Thursday of each month at 11:30 am and welcomes new members. They would appreci-



ate donations of yarn and needles. Members of the Needlework Circle are **Elaine Brown**, coordinator, **Maria Carmichael**, **Janet Chaffin**, **Sonora Molock**, **Mabel Bounds**, **Catherine Exum** and **Jeanne Myers**.

The 2008 UMW officers are President, **Catherine Exum**; Vice-President, **Deborah Terrell**; Secretary, **Veronica Williams**; Treasurer, **Jeanne Myers**; Secretary of Program Resources, **Aneita Douglas**; Mission Coordinator for Social Action & Spiritual Growth, **Janet Chaffin**; Missions Coordinator for Education & Interpretation, **Elaine Brown**; Mission Coordinators for Membership, Nurture and Outreach, **Dorothy Tate** and **Elizabeth Riley**.

2008 Church Leaders Dedicated

During the Worship Service on Sunday, January 13, 2008, the following officers were dedicated for service to the church: **Ronald Deas**, Ch., Administrative Council; **Walter King**, Vice Ch., Adm. Council; **Catherine Boyd**, Secretary, Adm. Council, **Ruth Harmon**, Asst. Secretary, Adm. Council, **Walter King**, Lay Leader/Lay Member Annual Conference; **Stanley Glenn**, Assoc. Lay Leader/Alt Member Annual Conference; **Deborah Terrell**, Ch., Adult & Family Ministries; **Lewisene Jordan**, Ch., Adult Fellowship; **Carol Black**, Ch., Communications; **Walter Stanley**, Ch., Community Fellowship; **Gloria Todd**, Director of Music; **Catherine Exum**, Ch., Ecumenical and Interreligious Concerns; **Ruth Harmon**, Ch., Education; **Ernestine Martin**, Ch., Evangelism/Missions; **Kathryn Jasper**, Ch., of Fi-

nance; **Charlotte Speller**, Ch., Health & Welfare; **Edward Hale**, Ch., Membership; **Frederica Broomfield**, Ch., Nurture; **Charles Keels**, Ch., Records & History; **Phyllis Daniels**, Ch., SPPRC; **Gloria Thompson**, Ch., Stewardship; **Sharon Brown**, Sunday School Superintendent; **Gwendolyn Deas**, Treasurer; **Edward Hale**, Acting Ch., Trustees; **Reese Brown, Jr.**, Ch., UMM, **Catherine Exum**, Ch., UMW; Open, MYF; **Floretta McMillon**, Ch., Worship. All persons were duly elected, upon nomination, at the Charge Conference on October 11, 2007.



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



Camphor Well Represented at “Tools For Ministry”

Nineteen members of the Administrative Council attended the “Tools for Ministry” training held at Christ UMC on Saturday, January 26, 2008, in Lansdale, PA. It was the largest delegation of any church in the Central District.

“Tools for Ministry” was sponsored by the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference and the Board of Lay Ministry. It marked the first time that conference-wide training was offered in each of the six districts on the same day. Other workshops were held in Hatboro, Quakertown, Schuylkill Haven, West Grove and Lancaster, PA.

Camphor also provided leaders for several of the workshops. **Carol Black** led the Church Council workshop in the Central District, **Walter King** led the UMM workshop in the Northeast District and **Bill Rivers** led the UMM workshop in the Northwest District.

Workshops were offered in Staff Parish Rela-

tions (led by the DS), Lay Leader/Lay Member, Trustees, Safe Sanctuaries, Youth and Young Adult Ministries, Treasurer/Finance/Stewardship, Church Council. United Methodist Men and Children’s Ministries.

The EPC *NewSpirit* reported on February 6, 2008, that more than 1200 church leaders attended the training and were commissioned in a special service at the end of the day.

Members of Camphor who participated in the training were: **Ronald Deas, Gwen Deas, Kathryn Jasper, Floretta McMillon, Rev. Rookard, Lewisene Jordan, Paul Jordan, Clifton Officer, Jeanne Myers, Veronica Williams, Arthur Langford, Bernard Waties, Ernestine Martin, Frederica Broomfield, Kyndal Goldsberry, Phyllis Daniels, Terrell Thompson, Gloria Johnson and Ruth Harmon.** Registration fees and van transportation was provided by the church.



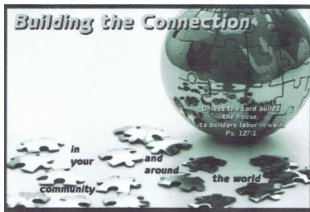
Rev. Dr. Mary Floyd Palmer Will Preach On Women’s Day

“Women of Faith Setting a Spiritual Standard for the Next Generation” is the theme of this year’s Women’s Day on April 20, 2008, a theme which is grounded in Philippians 2:13. An exciting and uplifting Worship Service has been planned by the Women’s Day Committee under the leadership of Co-Chairs, **Judith Mellix and Charlotte Dennis.**

Rev. Dr. Mary Floyd Palmer, the eldest daughter of Rev. & Mrs. Melvin Floyd, is an honor graduate of Philadelphia H.S. for Girls and recipient of an honorary Doctorate of Divinity. Raised in the church, she held positions of Usher, Junior Trustee, Sunday School Teacher, Youth Missionary, Assistant Youth Director and Music Director, as well as singing with several church and community choirs. Presently, she serves as the ordained Associate Minister/Minister of Music at Agape Christian Chapel where her father is the Founder and Pastor. In January 2007, she was appointed Executive Administrator of the Philadelphia Council of Clergy, the largest clergy association in the city. She also serves as National Evangelism Director for Maranatha Faith Fellowship International Conference. Professionally, she is an Event Planner for 16 years and has 12 years of law enforcement experience as a police officer.



The Committee is asking everyone to support the upcoming Market Day on April 12, Women’s Day Breakfast on March 29 and the Shoe Fundraiser envelopes. All proceeds will benefit the church. Everyone is welcome to wear gold and white, this year’s colors.

Save the Date!**2008 Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference**

**Sheraton Philadelphia
City Center Hotel
17th & Race Streets**

May 29-30, 2008

**Clergy Session: Tuesday, May 27 at 9:30 am
at Hempfield UMC in Lancaster**

**Laity Session: Wednesday, May 29 at Noon
Ordination: June 1 at Lancaster, First UMC**

**Preaching: Bishop J. Lawrence McCleskey
Bible Study Leader: Rev. Kelvin Sauls**

Save the Date!**25th Annual
Academy for Laity**

August 8-10, 2008

**“Growing, Sharing and
Living Our Faith”**

**Special Guests:
Bishop F. Herbert Skeete
Rev. Charles Yrigoyen**

**Basic and advanced work-
shops, Basic CSM Course
for Young Adults, Special
Anniversary Banquet,
Great Activities, Fellow-
ship and Fun!**

*25th
Anniversary
of the
Academy for
Laity*

August 8-10, 2008

Sheraton
Park Ridge Hotel
and
Conference Center
King of Prussia, PA

**Save the Date!**

**Camphor Memorial UMC Gospel Chorus
presents an**

Indoor Picnic and Praise Disco

**Saturday, March 15, 2008
6-9 PM in Camphor Gym**



New Date

Donation \$5

Bring your picnic basket
filled with favorite picnic food.
There will be a prize for the most unique basket.
Beverages and dessert will be provided

Save the Date!**Camphor Family and Friends
Church Retreat**

June 20--21, 2008

At the National Christian Conference Center
Valley Forge, PA

**Theme: Working Together in Christ”
Speaker: Rev. Evelyn Kent Clark**

Cost: \$120 pp/double or \$105 pp/triple

Payment plan: 3 payments of \$40 or \$35
First payment by March 2
Second payment by April 6
Final payment by May 4

For payments and additional information contact
**Kit Boyd 215-878-9444
Debbie Terrell 610-626-7572
or Rev. Rookard**

The next “Camphor Light” will be an April issue. If you would like to contribute an article, poem, or anything else, please email: communications@camphormemorial.org or place item in the Communications mailbox at church. All items should be submitted by March 30 for publication on April 15.

The Church Around the World

From the UM News Service <http://umns.umc.org>

Research: 'Open hearts' campaign helps perceptions

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—The "open hearts, open minds, open doors" media campaign of The United Methodist Church is effectively communicating key characteristics of the denomination to the public, according to new research. Telephone interviews conducted last fall indicate that those exposed to the church's nearly 8-year-old campaign were much more likely to hold favorable views of The United Methodist Church than those who did not recall the advertising. The research was conducted by the Barna Research Group.

Gates Foundation invites church to apply for grant

FORT WORTH, Texas—The United Methodist Church has been invited to apply for up to \$5 million from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the United Nations Foundation to underwrite a campaign to strengthen its global health ministries. The fundraising, education and outreach campaign would aim to raise \$100 million over three years and especially would support the church's efforts to eradicate malaria in Africa. The denomination plans to submit a formal proposal.

College student: 'I'll never forget' tornado aftermath

JACKSON, Tenn.—Buried for three hours under tons of rubble left by an F-4 tornado, Jordan Thompson found new brothers and a deeper belief in God. "I'd have given up, 100 percent given up, without my faith," said Thompson, a member of Germantown (Tenn.) United Methodist

Church, of his entrapment after a twister leveled his two-story dormitory at Union University in Jackson. The 20-year-old sophomore had sought refuge on his dorm's bottom floor, along with six other male students, when a Feb. 5 tornado bounced across the 1,100-student campus, destroying much of the school's student housing. Thompson and his classmates were trapped underneath the wreckage until rescuers pulled them out. Three of the students remain hospitalized.

News briefing offers glimpse into assembly changes

FORT WORTH, Texas—When United Methodists convene this spring for their worldwide assembly, they can expect wider international representation, a denominational budget built around four new areas of focus, and carefully choreographed opening sessions aimed at fostering unity through common ministry instead of gridlock over divisive social issues. The 2008 General Conference will meet for 10 days—two fewer than the 2004 gathering in Pittsburgh and with no break—but still must sort through more than 1,500 petitions, which is about the same amount of business conducted at the previous assembly. In addition to hearing opening addresses from a bishop and lay person, delegates will hear the first-ever Young People's Address—delivered jointly by six teens and young adults who promise a presentation "different from anything that's ever been presented to General Conference before."



Working to keep you connected

<http://umns.umc.org>

In the Spotlight -- Candace Brown



Keeping up with **Candace Brown** isn't easy. With the latest teen bestseller and her iPod in her bag, this Camphor youth is always on the go.

Candace is currently a freshman at Washington Township High School, where she has already begun to make her

mark. She is an honor roll student taking three honors classes and enjoying every moment. Being elected co-president of her orchestra and making first chair viola were definite highlights of the very first week of school according to Candace. "I wanted to get involved right away. I've wanted to be in high school since I was five years old. Now, I can't wait to see what's next," she says.

Candace then joined the French club and now serves as an officer. She's been taking French for five years and would like to travel to Paris one day. Europe may not be too far off as the school orchestra is preparing to travel to Austria next summer.

With her sights set on Columbia or Stanford University she realizes the importance of working hard and

staying involved in a variety of activities. "I don't want to just sit on the side lines, I want to be involved."

In a high school with approximately 3,000 students, it would be easy to get lost in the crowd, but Candace sees it in a positive way. "I love being with my friends at school and at church. I really like meeting new people," she explained. Candace also serves on the executive board of Freshman Class Council, is a member of the drama club and is Co-treasurer of Camphor's Methodist Youth Fellowship (MYF). She also participates in Praise Dance at Camphor.

Candace recently auditioned for the school musical and will appear in the chorus of "Suessical" in the spring. She loves music and listens to everything ranging from Broadway show tunes to hip-hop with a little Kirk Franklin sprinkled in, too.

What's next for this busy young lady? "National Honor Society applications are available in the fall for sophomores!" In the meantime, working on her Girl Scout Gold Award is on the immediate horizon and selling those cookies, of course!

Camphor Memorial
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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.