

# THE BALTIMORE EXPERIENCE

## JAMES M. DIAL: THE MAN AFTER TRANSFORMATION

By  
Herbert H. Locklear

The building on East Fairmont Avenue (Baltimore) has been torn down and even the street has been eliminated to make room for the Chapel Apartments. But, as Rev. Dial shares, "...the memories of that location will live forever in my mind." It was at that place in October 1964 when James M. Dial was transformed into Brother James through acceptance of Christ.

No longer was there a need to cross over the other side of the street when folks saw him coming. "No sir-ree," said Vivian Locklear, "one could tell that he was a changed man."

Since that time, says Brother Dial, I have tried to be "kind hearted to all people. I've tried to consider others and their feelings along with their ways." Everyone knowing James Dial before and after his conversion experience agree that while he was always considerate, once he was "turned on" the feeling of others was not his primary concern.

It was learned from Bessie Chavis, Elizabeth Locklear, Roscoe and Sally Locklear, along with other charter members of the first "Indian Church" in Baltimore, that right away, after "being saved" James Dial went to work for the church.

He led in raising funds for the church; went to work to help organize the early church; got important positions filled in the church and steered the church toward the Missionary Baptist dogma.

Meantime, said a longtime friend, who is not yet in the Church, "...People on the street were asking questions about what had happened to 'Man' as he was often called. This source continued, word soon got around that 'Man had gone for the church.' He said that many persons often thought and spoke out that he will soon be back.

Brother James said that he had not "been back" and has never had a desire to go back. Says he has no intentions to go back to "wallow in the mud." When one hears James Dial say this, the seriousness of the statement is detected. Many people are convinced of Rev. Dial's seriousness toward his commitments to THE Church and what THE Church stands for. Likewise, his concern and dedication to South Broadway is beyond question, said one of the church Deacons.

The active words of "love, concern, showing compassion," are obviously not "buzz" words with Dial, one can see that he demonstrates these feelings by involvement.

Said the writer to Rev. Dial recently, "I've always heard it said, 'you can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ear'; while this may be true for man, God can do it!" Surely the transformation of James

M. Dial to Brother James; then to Rev. James Dial is symbolic of from sow's ear to silk purse.

Next Week Conclusion: James M. Dial-The Man: In an Action Ministry.



Rev. James Dial is shown 1980 in the Baltimore area. above as he appeared in early



Rev. and Mrs. James Dial are, Maxwell, shown with their grandson,

## IN THE ARMED FORCES

WOODY CANADY JR

Navy Seaman Apprentice Woody Canady Jr., son of Nellie L. Canady of Rt. 2, Pembroke, NC, has completed recruit training at the Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Ill.

During the training cycle, trainees studied general military subjects designed to prepare them for further academic and on-the-job training in one of the Navy's 85 basic occupational fields.

Included in their studies were seamanship, close order drill, Naval history and first aid. Personnel who complete this course of instruction are eligible for three hours of college credit in Physical Education and Hygiene.

RONALD W. PRIDGEN

Coast Guard Seaman Radioman Ronald W. Pridgen, son of Lee L. & Lillian H. Pridgen of Lumberton, NC, has reported for duty at U.S. Coast Guard Communication Station Portsmouth, Va.



Shown left to right are president; Mary Paul; Elsie Pulley and Flora N. Ransom, Pembroke BPW Club President. [Elmer Hunt photo]

At the September meeting of the Pembroke Business and Professional Women's Club, Ms. Elsie Pulley, Management Service Officer of First Union National Bank in Pem-

broke was the guest speaker. Ms. Pulley discussed the different types of investments which are available at First Union National Bank as well as other banking institutions. Ms. Pulley was assisted in her

presentation by Mary Paul of the Customers Service Division of First Union National Bank in Lumberton. Hostesses for the September meeting were Helen Lowry and Sue Maynor.

## Prospect Students Learn Nutrition Education



The faculty and cafeteria staff of Prospect School recognizes the importance of implementing nutrition education into their curriculum. They are convinced that nourished bodies help to bring about nourished and healthy minds.

Shown are the kindergarten classes, the school cafeteria manager (Mrs. Grace Locklear), and the school principal Mr. James A. Jones, enjoying a "tasting party" held in the cafeteria on the morning of

Sept. 8, 1982. The children were encouraged to sample a variety of breakfast food prepared by Mrs. Locklear and her staff. Each food was properly identified as to which food group it belonged and its nutritional values were discussed.

It is obvious from all the smiles that the children enjoyed this learning experience. Mrs. Locklear plans to carry this nutritional program through

"A work of art is a corner of creation seen through a temperament." Emile Zola

"We often pardon those who weary us but we cannot pardon those whom we weary." La Rochefoucauld

the sixth grade. Shown left to right are: Ms. Bonnie S. Locklear, kindergarten and first grade aide; Ms. Cathy O. Hammonds, kindergarten and first grade teacher; Ms. Deloris Moore, kindergarten aide; Ms. Beverly Lay, kindergarten teacher; Mrs. Grace Locklear, cafeteria manager; Ms. Welthe Dial, kindergarten aide; Ms. Harvelene Bullard, kindergarten teacher; and Mr. James A. Jones, principal.

"Laughter is an instrument of happiness." John Dryden

"A book is like a garden carried in the pocket." Arab proverb

## Joins Staff of Justice Department



Flora C. Dismukes Attorney General Rufus Edmisten announced that Mrs. Flora C. Dismukes of Raleigh has joined the Department of Justice's SBI Division as Personnel Assistant.

A 1962 graduate of Magnolia High School in Lumberton, she attended Hardbarger Business College for a year in 1964.

Before joining the Department of Justice, Mrs. Dismukes held positions with the Garner Florist for nine years, the Forest Hills Florist for three years, and was employed in the bookkeeping department of WRAL-TV in Raleigh for three years.

"The State Bureau of Investigation is very pleased to have Mrs. Dismukes join its personnel staff," said Edmisten, "and I am sure with her splendid qualifications, she will contribute greatly to the department."

Mrs. Dismukes is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kermit L. Chavis of St. Pauls and the widow of John C. Dismukes.



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