

## Staying On The Beam With God

By GEORGE B. RUSS

Mrs. Celestia H. Sanders was guest speaker for the Faithful Gospel Tabernacle United Holy Church, June 9th, where they observed Women's Day. The theme of the observance was "Women In Action For Christ." The Rev. Mrs. Frances McKinnon was Chairman of this salute to Christian Women.

We will begin with the returned Missionary, in a rapturous voice Mrs. Sanders began, "A Missionary returned from New Guinea and someone asked him, what did you find when you arrived there?" He replied, "I found hopeless situation. The people were worse than beasts. Often if a baby began to cry, the mother would become angry and throw it into the ditch, and leave it to die. If a man saw his father break his leg, he would leave him on the side of the road to die. People simply had no compassion and no moral sense."

Well, did you preach to them?" he was asked. "No! The Missionary replied, 'I did not preach, I just loved. When I saw a man with a broken leg, I mended it. When I saw a baby crying, I picked it up and comforted it. I took care of them in the best way possible, and when they asked me why I did it, I had a chance to preach the gospel to them. Did you succeed?' the man asked. The Missionary replied, yes, when I left New Guinea, I left a thriving church in that community!"

"You can see, then, that a good Christian life is effective. Look after your Christian duties. Stay on the job and be faithful to him. Give your best to the simple Christian duties of life. You get "off the beam when you are not faithful to them. When you neglect prayer and Bible reading, you get off the beam. God has given us these means to help us. To strengthen us and to keep us on the right track. I can tell when a man is reading his Bible, and praying, I can see a change in his life. He grows in grace, he is more interested in his church, he is not criticizing and gossiping he is working for the interest of the Kingdom.

A sign placed in the front of a church read, "This church is open come in Rest in Pray." Many people were encouraged to stop a minute and lift up their hearts to God for spiritual strength. We knew that a Christian gets "off the beam" when he neglects his Prayer life.

We get "off the beam" when we get angry. All of us are guilty right here. Something comes up that goes against us and we boil over like a pot of water on a hot fire. "We are off the beam" then. We are not showing the Christian spirit which we ought to have. "But," you say, "this may be true, but think of how much damage you do yourself and others in the few minutes that you are angry."

Billy Sunday said, "it is like the discharge of a shotgun. It takes only a minute, but it destroys everything near it." So it is with our evil tempers. There is more of Satan in us than there is of Christ when we lose our tempers. Anger eats away the sweetness of our religion, the peace of our hearts and the power of our influence. Yes, you get "off the beam" when you get angry.

When you have an unforgiving spirit you "get off the beam." The unforgiving spirit is certainly the unChristian spirit. The Bible tells us not to let the sun go down on our wrath. We are told to forgive 70 times 7. Jesus on the cross is a supreme example, of the Christian spirit. His enemies were putting Him to death, but still he could say, Father, forgive them for they know not what they do.

A certain man was sick and was told he was dying. He called in his enemy and offered him his forgiveness. In a few minutes they were rejoicing in a period of sweet fellowship. But the sick man said, now just remember if I do let well, the old grudge still holds. Why not forgive and forget and really mean it? Forgiveness is like the scent of sweet flowers when they are trampled on. If you have unforgiving spirit, get it out today and get back "on the beam" of God's way for your life.

You get "off the beam" when you quit serving God. I have heard people say, "The church doesn't need me." The church needs every single member to help carry on its work. There are many spokes in the wheel that make that weak. Whoever you are, if you are not in your place, you are weakening the church just that much. Some people serve God simply by being faithful. Do not think you are of little importance if you are not holding a high job in the church. Some little people mean more to the kingdom simply by being faithful than many others who are falling God in their loyalty. Surely the real Christian does not feel right when he is not serving God. You are "off the beam" if you are not busy for Him every day.

You get off the beam when you seek Happiness elsewhere except in Jesus and in His service. This old world is filled with unhappy people in every way. They are looking for happiness, but they are looking for it in the wrong places. They seek it in the world, in pleasures, in the pursuit of material things. They are "off the beam" Happiness is found only in Christ and His service.

A dying man was laughing and smiling, and his doctor, said to him, man, don't you realize you are dying?"

"Yes," said the man, but that is alright. Years ago I met a man who taught me how to smile and I can smile even in death because of Him. His name is Jesus. 'Yea though I walk through the Valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for thou art with me. Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.'

Poor sinners, poor carnal Christians who are looking for happiness and cannot find it! You do not look for warmth at the North Pole, nor for icebergs in Florida.

Yet you are looking for your happiness in the wrong places. You are "off the beam." Look for happiness in the service of Christ and you will surely find it.

Lastly, my friends, we get off the beam when we fail to trust God completely. He wanders most of us are guilty right here. Some trouble comes up and we begin to worry and not trust. There are two things which ought to make us trust God.

First, we ought to trust Him because he promises to care for us. A husband promises to care for his wife and she trusts him to do that. A father promises to feed and clothe his children and they trust him for it. God's book is full of promises. You and I may fall in our promises, but God never does you can trust Him.

Let us find God's place in our lives and let us live always for Him. We are His, created in His image and redeemed by the blood of His Son. God help us to get "on the beam" and to do what He puts us here to do."

NEW MATERIALS AT THE LIBRARY WEEK ENDING JUNE 14, 1974

**Bogner**—The hunting animal. Constantine—The man who liked to look at himself. Fenner—Consider the evidence. Peters—City of gold and shadows. Wisel—The oath. Non-Fiction Armour—Going like sixty. Brodie—Thomas Jefferson: an intimate history. Jorde—Living and learning with children. Lawson—Mother nature's beauty cupboard. Lovin—The complete motor-cycle nomad.

The U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training promotes apprenticeship programs in the skilled trades under the National Apprenticeship Act.

### Durham Man Gets Stanford Degree

Dennis Warner of Durham has received a degree from Stanford University in Stanford, Calif. In ceremonies yesterday, Warner received his Ph.D. degree in civil engineering.

### Card Of Thanks

The family of the late Mr. Fred D. McNeill, Sr. wish to thank their many friends for the kind expressions tendered to them during the illness and loss of their husband, father, brother, and grandfather.

Your many cards, floral arrangements, telegrams, food, visits and other neighborly gestures will always bring kind thoughts to us. of you. May God continue to shower his blessings upon all of you. Family of late Fred D. McNeill, Sr.



### Mrs. Marie Daniel Receives Plaque For Distinguished Services

During the Founders' Day activities held at Shaw University, Raleigh, March 9, Mrs. Marie Orsot Daniel was presented a plaque by the President Dr. Arthur Hargrove for distinguished service in human relations and contributions in Program Development.

For the past few years Mrs.

Daniel has been quite involved as a consultant with the Department of Health, Education and Welfare in Washington, D.C. She was recommended by her Senator and appointed by her Congressman. In this position she is required to travel all over the country and make many travels abroad. This she enjoys

because like her father, the late Dr. J. O. Plummer of Raleigh, she loves helping and serving people. Both Mrs. Daniel and her father have done hours of volunteer work unselfishly.

Mrs. Daniel has worked 22 years in volunteer work. She also worked with the rural people, poor people, housing and aided with the sick and underprivileged people, in the states of Georgia, North Carolina, Florida and Virginia. She is also working with the new programs, Anti-Poverty, Red Cross, Poor People and Senior Citizens.

During the fall and winter, Mrs. Daniel worked out of the country with the underprivileged children. She is now making plans for a research tour out-of-the-country to work with retarded and underprivileged children. The later part of the summer will be attending a clinic at the Wallace Village for Children, Roomfield, Colorado.

## LOCAL CHURCH NEWS AND OTHER EVENTS



### Last Rites Held For Fred D. McNeill, Sr.

Funeral services for Mr. Fred D. McNeill, Sr. were held on Monday, June 17, at St. Mark A.M.E. Zion Church at 1:00 p.m. Rev. L. A. Miller, minister officiated. He died June 13, at Watts Hospital.

A son of the late Artimus and Sarah Frances McNeill, of Robeson County, he was born June 15, 1909. He had lived in Durham for fifty-one years.

As a devoted member of St. Mark A.M.E. Zion Church, he served as a Sunday School Teacher, a Trustee, Chairman of Steward Board Number Two, member of the Church Finance Committee, a member of the Gleaners and I. H. Marsh Clubs, and in many other capacities wherever his services were needed.

Mr. McNeill had worked as a Trainer with the Durham Bulls Baseball Team for more than twenty years. During that time and subsequently, he was affiliated with the Major League Chains, of Detroit Tigers, Houston Astros, New York Mets, San Francisco Giants, and the past several years with the Philadelphia Phillies of the National League.

He was also a member of the Doric Lodge No. 28. Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Lottie H. McNeill of the home, two sons, Fred McNeill, Jr. of Durham, Captain Linwood McNeill, of the U.S. Mariens, San Diego, Calif., three sisters, Mrs. Frances Bethea, Coco Beach, Florida, Mrs. Odessa White, Philadelphia, Penn., and Mrs. Gertrude Stephens, Trenton, N.J., two brothers, Howard McNeill of Howard McNeill of Phila. Penn. and Theodore McNeill, of Detroit, Michigan, four grandchildren, Sheila and Veta McNeill of Durham, Sonya and Linwood McNeill, Jr., San Diego, California and many other relatives and friends.

Interment followed with Masonic Rites at Glennview Memorial Park.

JOSEPH E. FLEMING PRESENTED PLAQUE BY MOREHEAD AVE. CHURCH Sunday, June 16, during the eleven o'clock worship service at the Morehead Ave. Baptist Church, Joseph E. Fleming was presented a plaque by the church membership in appreciation for his more than ten years of service as church organist.

The presentation to Fleming was made by Mrs. J. B. McLester, President of the Baptist State Convention, Director of the Junior Choir at

Morehead, and widow of the Church's Founder, the late Dr. C. E. McLester.

During Fleming's tenure at Morehead Ave. Baptist Church he has served every musical organization of the church and was organist of the Junior Choir during his entire tenure.

Fleming, who is Acquisitions Librarian at the James E. Shepard Memorial Library, North Carolina Central University has been granted a leave of absence for school year 1974-75 so that he can pursue further graduate study at the Graduate School of Library and Information Sciences, University of Pittsburgh at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Fleming, a Durham native, holds both the B.A. and M.L.S. from North Carolina Central University and is a 1952 graduate of Hillside High School.

A \$25-million convention center under construction in Kansas City will more than double that city's current \$30-million annual convention business volume by 1976, says Mayor Charles Wheeler.

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## NCHMDP Conducts Program On Education Trends

The North Carolina Health Manpower Development Program, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, conducted a one-day conference on "Current Trends in Preprofessional Education." Preprofessional education advisors pre-medical and pre-dental advisors from eighteen predominantly minority institutions in North Carolina and Virginia participated in the conference on Thursday, June 20, Room 201, NCNE Plaza, 136 E. Rosemary Street, Chapel Hill, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Dr. Marion Phillips, Assistant Dean for Student Affairs UNC School of Medicine, one of the consultants for the conference, said in a recent article, "One of the first steps which must be taken is to discover what kind

of pre-medical counseling and advice exist for minorities on all the campuses in the state university system, so that students with an interest in medicine know what to prepare for. Some campuses already have very good pre-medical advisors, who know what kind of courses students must take, and what medical schools expect of students. But we need this kind of advisor on all campuses.

The June 20th conference addressed itself to this counseling need. Guest consultants for the conference included: Dr. Reid Jackson, Associate Dean Howard University College of Medicine, Washington, D.C. Dr. Anna Epps, Tulane University School of Medicine, New Orleans, LA.

Dr. E. Lavonia Allison,

NCHMDP Director, indicated that the conference was good beginning toward determining the kinds of preprofessional counseling services which should be provided for minority students.

Topics of interest addressed during the conference were undergraduate preparation for medical and dental schools, the application and selection process for admission to medical and dental schools, special programs and activities for improved preprofessional educational experiences for minority students, and financial resources available for minority students interested in pursuing a medical education.

Chuang Tzu-tung of China has the fastest smash in table tennis, estimated at more than 60 miles an hour.

## Elijah Stewart To Join Durham County Legal Aid Society

Denison Ray, Executive Director of the Legal Aid Society of Durham County, announced the hiring of Elijah Stewart, age 34, as a Staff Attorney. Ray states that Stewart will be joining the agency in August after he takes the N.C. Bar Examination in late July.

Stewart is a 1974 graduate of North Carolina Central University School of Law. He was a member of the Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity International and the Student Bar Association while working his way through Law School.

Stewart's undergraduate degree is from St. Augustine's College in Raleigh where he was on the Dean's List and president of the Student Government. In 1971 he obtained an M.S. in History from A&T State University, Greensboro.

Stewart has had diverse experience in community activities, especially concerning young people. For several years he organized a group of high school students to collect, repair and distribute toys and gifts to underprivileged children. He also organized a course of study in Federal Income Tax in high school which was designed to teach and train students how to prepare the various forms. The students were then directed into the community under Stewart's supervision to aid

families in the community who did not have the financial means to employ tax experts. He was the first black counselor at a home for emotionally disturbed children in Lake Forest, Illinois. He was a teacher and coach for a number of years in the Forsyth

County School system, and has been a counselor, teacher and dean in various educational institutions.

Ray feels that Stewart has the life experience, maturity, determination and ability to be a great asset to the Legal Aid Society and its clients.

Stewart was reared in New Bern. He is very active in community affairs. He is married to the former Angela Moore of Kinston, who is presently teaching in the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County School System.

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