

CHURCH & RELIGION

African Religion Student

America: A Place of Adjustments

by Yvette McCullough
Staff Writer

Reverend Martin Asumang-Birikorang, a minister of the Presbyterian church of Ghana, West Africa, views his stay in America as one adjustments -- adjustments he doesn't mind making.

Birikorang was in Winston-Salem this past weekend as the guest preacher of the World Missions Conference held at Dellabrook Presbyterian Church of Winston-Salem.

The aim of the conference on international missions, was to inform those attending about what the Presbyterian Church is doing in the area of world evangelization.

Birikorang is in this country attending seminary in Decatur, Georgia near Atlanta. He said he became interested in religion when he was in college.

"I am the fourth generation of Christians in my family," Birikorang said. "I was influenced by my father to go into religion, because he wanted one of his children to be a minister."

He said that he was ordained in 1974 in his village.

"I am not going to say it is a village, I'll call it a small town with about 6 to 7,000 people in it," Birikorang said.

The town that he lives in has modern buildings, electricity, piped water and lights. He said his main adjustment in the U.S. has been the food.

"We have rice and potatoes in my country, but the preparation here is really different." "I'm not used to the food but I've adjusted."

Another adjustment Birikorang has had to make is in the educational system. he said his educational system in Ghana is formed after the British.

"In this country, you have the credit system, where within a stipulated time a person should finish college, for example in four years, in my country when a person finishes is based on a comprehensive examination."

Birikorang said that a person in Ghana would attend school and study with everything leading to the examination. If a person doesn't pass the examination, he must complete the whole year again.

"The American system is much better because it is flexible and you are graded on what you do in a classroom instead of whether or not you pass one test," Birikorang said.

After he finishes his studies, Birikorang would like to go back to Ghana and teach religion in the schools. He said that about 50 percent of the people in Ghana are the Christian faith and about 70 percent have been baptized.

"Many people have been baptized because it is necessary before you can go to school," Birikorang said. "Missions established the schools and although 70 percent have been baptized, some only go to church once a year."

Birikorang said that many people have misconceptions about him because he is from Africa.

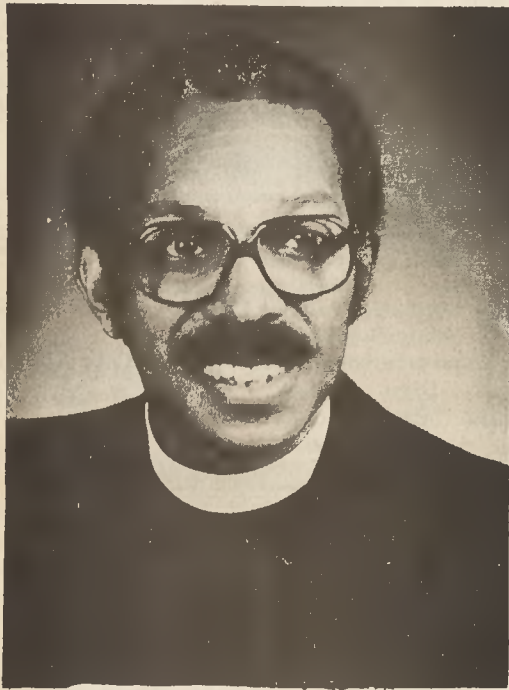
"A lot of people still think of Africa as being jungles, with people running around half dressed," Birikorang said. "People expect you to act like a Tarzan movie but that is not true."

He is married and has a 19 month old son Emmanuel who is still in Ghana.



Asumang Birikorang

Bennett to Speak At St. Stephens



Rev. Robert Bennett

On Sunday, Feb. 25th Robert A. Bennett, Ph.D, will speak at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, (810 N. Highland Ave. Near Reynolds Health Center), at 2:00 p.m. He will speak on "The History of Blacks in the Episcopal Church."

Dr. Bennett is a graduate of Kenyon College in Ohio (magna cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa). He has earned two masters degrees from the General Theological Seminary in New York City, was a Fulbright Fellow for a year studying the philosophy of Soren Kierkegaard in Denmark, and received the Ph.D from Harvard University in the department of Near Eastern Languages and Literature.

He is an ordained priest of the Episcopal Church. He has served as Episcopal

chaplain at Morgan State College, a tutor on the faculty of the General Seminary, a member of the Absalom Jones Theological Institute at the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, and now as professor of Old Testament at the Episcopal Divinity School in Cambridge, Mass. He is also a member of the Board of Trustees of the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta.

He has several articles in publication and has written a book entitled *God's Work of Liberation*. Next year he will be on a sabbatical leave to study the history and culture of the Nubian people (the Ethiopians/Cushites of the Bible), from which he expects to publish another book.

Church Notes

St. Benedict to Host Conference

The Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, covering the Western part of North Carolina, will hold its fourth social council congress at St. Benedict Church, Saturday, February 24th at 9 am.

The congress is sponsored by the Catholic Church for the benefit for anyone concerned with social issues. Within the congress there will be workshops dealing with the community, the family, resettlement of refugees, world hunger, pro-life and ministry to the aging.

Rev. Collins Kilburn of the North Carolina Council of Churches will be the keynote speaker, and will talk on the subject "Social Gospel — Today and Tomorrow."

St. Benedict's is the host of this congress, and welcomes people of all churches to attend.

A three dollar registration fee will cover the workshop and the lunch. Persons wishing to register may do so at the door or by calling Father O'Rourke at 723-1918.

The Doctor Is In

A doctor and his wife, a nurse, is available for free medical checkups at St. Benedict Church for people living in the East Winston area. The medical team are

on hand on Wednesday evening from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the church. Those wishing to see the doctor should use the entrance to the Priest's house off of Hattie Avenue.

Black History Observed

A program will be held Sunday February 25th at St. Benedict Church to commemorate black history month. Mass spirituals will be held and art displays of black artists will be shown after the Mass.

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**St. John
Apostle
Church**

1131 E. 21st St.
Phone 722-1032

Gospel Records-
Located at the Church

9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship
6:30 p.m. Evening Worship Service
12 Noon Wed. Midday Bible Study
7:30 p.m. Wed. Evening Bible Study

"The Church in the Heart of the City, with the City in its Heart."

Word of God

Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Matthew 11:28-30

Blessed be the Lord, because he hath heard the voice of my supplications.

The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him, and I am helped; therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise him.

The Lord is their strength, and he is the saving strength of his anointed.

Save thy people, and bless thine inheritance: feed them also, and lift them up for ever.

Psalm 28:6-9

BIG, BIG, BIG FOOD SAVINGS

Food Fair Salutes "Roots of Black Winston-Salem"

<p><i>Lucks</i> PINTO BEANS 3 17 Oz. Cans \$1.00</p>	<div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; letter-spacing: 0.5em;">FOOD FAIR</div>	<p><i>Banquet Frozen</i> Fried CHICKEN 2 Lb. Pkg. \$1.99</p> <p>Red or Golden Delicious APPLES Lb. 39¢</p> <p><i>Tony</i> DOG FOOD 6 15½ Oz. Cans \$1.00</p> <p><i>Shasta</i> SOFT DRINKS 2 Liter Bottles 59¢</p> <p><i>Choice Boneless</i> CHUCK ROAST Lb. \$1.79</p> <p><i>Chase & Sanborn</i> COFFEE Lb. Bag \$1.99</p>
<p><i>Pride Saltine</i> CRACKERS 1 Lb. Box 39¢</p>		
<p><i>Fancy Sweet</i> POTATOES Lb. 19¢</p>		
<p><i>Campbell</i> TOMATO SOUP Can 19¢</p>		
<p><i>Light & Lively</i> YOGURT 4 8 Oz. Cups \$1.00</p>		
<p><i>Kleenex</i> FACIAL TISSUE 200 Count Box 53¢</p>		
	<p><i>Donald Duck</i> ORANGE JUICE Half Gal. Carton 89¢</p>	

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