



A singer leads a selection as members of the choir back her up.



Richard Marshall concentrates as he plays a bass guitar during the performance.

St. Paul

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Morgan, Sharen Jordan and Christina Williams) and "Holy Ground (solo by Heather Morgan).

Next there was a time for testimonies. One single parent said: "I get so frustrated because there is so much that hasn't been done and so little time. And there's always not enough money or there's not enough this or there's not enough that. And people just don't seem to understand what I'm going through. But Lord, I know that you're the same God today that you were yesterday, and all the people that you've helped through the ages, I know you can also help me. So Lord as of this night I am determined to stand with you and lean on you for all that I need."

A woman with diabetes said: "...God help me to eat right and continue to obtain an ideal body weight. Father God show me the vitamins, miner-

als and supplements that will ... (help me) fight diabetes...."

One woman said: "...I am struggling because Satan is on my job. He has led me to believe that he is in control. Dear Lord, I know that you are the only one who (can be) in control. You have taught me to lean on you, only on you and not those around me...."

One man said: "Lord, only you know what I was like. Thank God for your goodness and your mercy, that I am no longer like that. I no longer walk with evil...I don't hang with certain people I used to hang with. They can't call me on the phone and ask me to go with them because I don't follow that way anymore. It's only because you and for all of those who prayed for my salvation - my mother, my grandfather, my grandmother, all those saints ... who kept praying that I would find my way back to you. Lord, I thank you for keeping those people in my life...."

Next the choir performed "He Is Still the Christ of

Christmas," with a solo by Velma Lockhart.

The last number was "Hallelujah," which featured the trio Jamehl Shegog, Don She-

gog and Deven Walker; soloist Deven Walker; and The Saint Paul Praise Dancers (Brianna Bradsher, Brittany Jenkins, Erin Jordan, Kayla Mattison

and Ebony Walker). Musicians were: Janet Dixon, organist; Ken Causer, on keyboard; Richard Marshall, on bass guitar;

Godosakahi Jordan, on tenor sax; Adrian Suffren, on trumpet; and Jonathan Allen, on percussion. Otto Harris was the worship leader.



Carmen Borders (front) and others applaud the cast.



Two of the singers in "Glory."

Cosby

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versity President Fred Gainous' hand. He then hissed into the microphone, prompting a chorus of similar hisses from Rattlers around the Civic Center.

After the ceremony, Russell Cosby briefly explained his drive to receive his degree, which was prompted by a promise to his nephew, Ennis.

"It wasn't intimidating; it was just something I knew I wanted," he said. Russell Cosby suffered from dyslexia and dropped out of school in the sixth grade. Despite fulfilling his promise to his nephew, who also had dyslexia, Russell Cosby said he still isn't satisfied.

"The only way I will see satisfaction is when children with learning differences and children of color can have a quality education," he said.

Russell Cosby enrolled at FAMU in 1999 after retiring from his job as a baggage handler for Delta Air Lines.

"For me it was a great eye-opener to see people of color working toward whatever degree they want," he said of his experience at FAMU.

Bill Cosby agreed that historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) such as FAMU are increasingly important.

"A school like Florida A&M is doing excellent things," he said. "These schools give friendships for life."

Happy New Year!

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