

Walls AME Zion Observes Black History Week

A special, old-fashioned morning worship service began the bangup celebration of the Walls Memorial AME Zion Church's observance of Black History Week.

A prayer service was conducted by the congregation, including singing, praying and testifying.

The entire gamut of the church choirs participated in the program. The Senior Choir, the Vocal Choir, the Gospel Choir and the Junior Choir participated.

The members dressed for the occasion by wearing long dresses, bonnets, scarves, overalls, jeans, jackets and the old-fashioned hair styles including the Page Boy, ribbons and braids.

"Lift Every Voice and Sing" began the morning service. The Black National Anthem was followed by the "I am a Black Man" message, delivered by the Minister, Rev. White. Some of the Negro Spirituals the choirs sang included "By and By", "Sometimes I feel like a motherless child and 'I'm so glad trouble don't last always."

The fact that history is still being made was made apparent as Tommy Tucker read a poem called "Black King, Martin Luther." Solists accompanying him were Mrs. Annie Mae Brown and Lincoln Quick. Other choir selections included "Lord Help Me To Hold Out," "I've Been Baked," "Thank You O Lord," "I wish I knew how it felt to be free," "I have a Dream," and "Free at Last." Mrs. Lorene Richardson of the church said visitors to the church made many comments on the service and stated that churches today need to be more relaxed.

Torrence To Attend Mortuary

School In Atlanta

Alexander James Torrence, nearing completion of his Apprenticeship at Long and Son Mortuary, will leave soon to attend G. Upton-Jones College of Mortuary Science in Atlanta, Georgia.

The Korean veteran and Torrence Lytle High School graduate is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Clinton A. Torrence, Sr. He has completed six months of his apprenticeship at Long and Son while working as a barber at Hood Norton's Barber Shop in Davidson, N. C.

Torrence, 41, is married to the former Marjorie Moore of Davidson. They have been married for eight years and are members of Davidson United Presbyterian Church where he is a member of the Trustee Board.



EIGHTEENTH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRANT, Rev. I. G. Johnson, second from left, beams broadly as he is presented with a lavish gift from members of Macedonia Baptist Church by Senior Choir President,

John Sherrill, left. Mrs. Johnson, right rear, and Junior Choir representatives Timothy Currence and Maren McLean witnessed the presentation as did a capacity crowd last Sunday. Photo by Peeler.

At 18th Anniversary Members, Friends Shower Rev. Johnson With Gifts

By James Peeler
Post Feature Writer

Members of Macedonia Baptist Church and friends marked the 18th anniversary of their pastor, Rev. I. G. Johnson, with a full day of activities last Sunday at the church on the Lucia-Stanley Highway in Lucia, N. C., west of Charlotte.

Rev. Johnson, who lives at 402 Johnson Street, in Dallas, N. C., came to Macedonia Baptist Church on February 17, 1957. A graduate of Highland High School in Gastonia, he has attended Johnson C. Smith University, and has a Bachelor Degree from Teamer's School of Religion.

Rev. Johnson and his wife, who has a degree in Nutrition from A & T State University, have three children: Dr. Charles E. Johnson of Cincinnati, Ohio; Ira Joe Johnson, a Freshman at General Seminary in New York; and Mrs. Bessie E. Welch of Elizabethtown, Kentucky.

The 300-seat church was "paced to capacity, with chairs down the aisles and standing room only," said Mrs. Robert Gwinn, a member of the Pastor's Aid group which spearheaded the anniversary celebration.

The members gave their beloved pastor a Scrapbook containing pictures and a substantial monetary gift.

The morning sermon was delivered by Rev. B. M. McKenzie, pastor of Betheny Baptist Church, Charlotte. He

was accompanied to the annual celebration by his church's Usher's Choir, Hymn Choir, and United Gospel Choir.

Also on hand for the celebration were: Rev. Wallace and members of Gold Hill Baptist Church, Lowesville, N. C.; Bethel Baptist Church of Mt Holly, N. C.; Rev. Wilson of True Light Baptist Church, Mt Holly, N. C.; New Zion Baptist Church; New Providence Baptist Church, Mt Holly, N. C.; and Springfield Baptist Church, Stanley, N. C.

Master of Ceremonies for the occasion was Rev. J. F. Wingate, Rev. Johnson's nephew, pastor of Springfield Baptist Church.

Townes Soul Troupe To Present Memorial Recital

The Townes Soul Troupe is busily preparing for a memorial recital in honor of the former director of Speech and Drama at Johnson C. Smith University, Mrs. Ernestine H. Baylor who is now deceased.

Mrs. Ruth Townes who choreographs the group, said that the program, "A Woman Who Cared", is being given in honor of Mrs. Baylor on Feb. 26 because she gave "the inspiration to Mrs. Townes to reach out to the young, gifted black children and draw from within them, their ability to perform." Admission to the Biddle Memorial Auditorium event is free and the public is cordially invited.

The Townes Soul Troupe is a non-profit dance class taught every Saturday at the West Charlotte Community Center, by Mrs. Townes.

The Troupe has been on Channel 9's Quest and will be featured again this Spring. In April they will hold their Spring Recital at the West Charlotte Community Center and on March 9 the group will participate in a program for the Beta Omicron Sigma Chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority benefiting their scholarship fund.

Mrs. Townes is a graduate of JCSU with a B.A. in English. She has worked in the public school systems of New

York, Danville, Va and Charlotte. She is the wife of R. Bernard Townes, Sr. a senior at Johnson C. Smith. They have two children Remus Bernard, Jr. and Pia Nichol.

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