

Mount Carmel To Serve As Host Church

Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Convention Begins Monday

By Teresa Burns
Post Staff Writer

Known to many as the convention of distinction, the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention will be held here August 31 through September 4 with headquarters at the Radisson Plaza Hotel, No. Two NCNB, Charlotte.

The purpose of the convention is to exalt the name of the Lord Jesus Christ everywhere and to seek to persuade all men to accept him as Lord and Master.

Delegates from the 19 states and the District of Columbia affiliated with Lott Carey will attend the convention. They will return to their home churches and report the many accomplishments of the 96 missionaries of Lott Carey.

The Lott Carey Convention was named for the Rev. Lott Carey, a former slave who was born near Richmond, Va. He sailed for West Africa on January 16, 1821. He was the first American missionary to Africa. The Convention was organized December 16, 1867 at New Shiloh Baptist Church, Washington, D.C.

Being the only independent organization of its kind among blacks Lott Carey operates on over a half million dollar budget. Several hundred churches have already reported over a thousand dollars per congregation. This is already pushing the million dollar mark - a record for Lott Carey.

In addition to receiving funds from individuals and local congregations, Lott Carey is also financially supported by conferences, associations and state conventions.

Serving Guyana, India and Nigeria, Lott Carey is now mainly focusing on Liberia, where the Rev. Jeremiah Walker is superintendent.

Opening Monday night, August 31, with a pre-convention musical and play (8 p.m. at the Civic Center) directed by Mrs. Juanita David, a New York Public School System music and art teacher, the Lott Carey Convention holds a spiritual thrill for all who attend.

An ensemble of the musical staff at Convent Avenue Baptist Church, local singers, musicians and performers will contribute to the convention's theme "Mission in Power."

Dr. George L. Bowick, Pittsburgh, Pa., president of Parent Body, is to preside and Ms. Helen Benton, Baltimore, Md., will chair the Women's Auxiliary meeting.

John W. McQueen, Fayetteville, will direct the Layman's League and Carolyn Pop Middleton, from Landover, Md., will lead the Young People who will meet simultaneously during the week.

According to Dr. W. C. Sommerville, Washington, D.C., executive secretary for Lott Carey, this year's attendance is expected to be over 10,000 the largest in the history of the organization.

Meeting in Charlotte for the first time in over 25 years several hundred church delegates will hear Dr. Sommerville, the convention's chief executive officer make his annual report Wednesday morning. Certificates are to be awarded to several hundred

churches who have reported \$1,000 or more for missions during the year. Several local churches will be included in this honor.

The headquarters of the Lott

Carey Baptist Foreign Mission is 1501 11th Street, in Washington, D.C.

Many are awaiting the exciting and educational events of the

convention.

Monday the pre-convention pageant, Tuesday morning at 11 a.m. the executive committee meeting and later the executive board

meeting will be held. Both meetings will be held at the Radisson Plaza Hotel. Also a local inspirational hour conducted by Rev. Isaac James will be held. Rev. James Coleman will deliver a sermon Tuesday evening.

Wednesday, Dr. Sommerville's annual report will be given. Dr. R. G. Williams, chairman of the executive board, will preside Wednesday morning when board reports will be made and approved by the convention.

Dr. E. C. Kent, Richmond, Va., will read the report. Ms. Benton, head of the Women's Auxiliary, has been scheduled to present her annual address on Thursday evening.

Dr. Albert Hill, a former president of the Virginia Baptist State Convention from Washington, will bring the inspirational message.

Friday morning President Stanley Smith of Shaw University will be heard.

On the same morning Rev. Charles E. Booth, of Columbus, Ohio, and convention preacher, will deliver a message on "Planning At Its Best."

In the evening the Convent Baptist Church of New York will present a musical extravaganza, directed by William Kyles Jr.

Dr. Johnnie B. McLester, of Durham will direct annual missionary study courses that are to be taught by Dr. James A. Scott, of Newark, New Jersey.

Musical director of the meeting will be Rev. Lonnie Simmon, Youngstown, Ohio. Mrs. Raba Gilbert, Landover, Md., will be convention soloist.

Rev. Marcus Woods, Baltimore, Md., will present a pictorial scene of the convention's foreign area at the closing, Friday night.

A convention's climax will be a meaningful mission symposium that will be led by Rev. W. D. Jackson, Rev. William Montgomery of Washington, Rev. Thomas Turner of Columbus, Ohio, Rev. Joseph D. Martin, Chariton, Pa., and Rev. Abraham Walton, Graysburg, NC. Rev. M. L. Dillingham, Pittsburgh, Pa., will serve as one of the devotional leaders.



Rehearsing two parables for the Lott Carey Pre-convention pageant at the Civic Center Monday are, from left to right, Rosa Jones,

Jackie Culberth, Renee Wallace, Brendlyn Wallace, Carol Grier and Shirley Milligan.

Here Monday Night

Pre-Convention To Open

Lott Carey Baptist Convention

By Teresa Burns
Post Staff Writer

The pre-convention pageant for the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention is both a musical play and musical concert combined with the luxurious scenery of Biblical times. On August 31, 8 p.m., at the Civic Center, one can witness this event and probably leave with an uplifted heart.

Directress Juanita Mitchell David's enthusiasm for the pageant is pure and overflowing. This is her eleventh year conducting this pre-convention event. Her task is not minimal but she feels that she is traveling the path God would have her to.

"Like a lot of people I didn't want to work on my vacation and I didn't want to get involved. But once I became involved I began to love it," Ms. David confessed.

In addition to directing the pageant Ms. David will also play the organ. She authored the play which will be in two parts. The first part is entitled "Lost Sheep" based upon St. Luke 15:3-7 verses.

During the intermission officials of the Lott Carey Convention will be introduced.

The second half of the pageant is entitled "And He Came To Him-

self," the parable of the prodigal son, St. Luke chapter 15 verses 11 through 32.

The choir, composed of delegates from various states involved in Lott Carey, will sing an array of tunes before and after the pageant.

"The songs," according to Ms. David, "range from gospel and spirituals to classical. We have music for all kinds of tastes."

Both plays will be complete with music, composed by Ms. David. The scenery was also designed by Ms. David. A Charlottean, Deborah Pegue helped to design the set and make the costumes. Her major in college was Fine Arts.

"Ms. Pegue has been a great asset to the pageant. All I had to do was tell her what I needed and she had it right away. She helped lay out sets and used her own materials," Ms. David stated.

Accompanists Ivan Davis, Ann Wallace Jones, are also invaluable to the pageant. Annie Rose Pool, a singer well known in the Charlotte area, will be one featured soloist among many at the pageant.

Participation in the pageant has been tremendous, according to Ms. David. Thus she wrote another segment to the prodigal son play to include more young actresses and actors.

The choir of over 100 voices will present about 15 songs. "Lift Every Voice and Sing," arrangement by Roland Carter, anthems, a selection from the Messiah by Handel and compositions by many black authors will be featured.

"Come Holy Spirit" will also be featured. The author, Rev. Dennis Freeman of Columbus, Ohio, has been invited to the convention and he plans to be present.

Ms. David is not only enthusiastic about the pre-convention pageant, but she is also a believer in the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission and its purposes.

"The missionaries are helping to teach people how to live. They are helping them to go to school and to grow both economically and religiously right where they are," Ms. David explained.

A music and art teacher in the public school system of New York, Ms. David has been involved in music all her life. She received her Bachelor's degree in music at Mannes College of Music in New York and her Master's in Music at Teacher's College, Columbia University.

She is a member of Convent Baptist Church in New York but the minister of music at Victory Baptist Church in the Bronx.



Dr. W. C. Sommerville
...Executive secretary