



RELIGION

Send notice of your church activities and events to:
Religion Editor, Portland Observer
P.O. Box 3137
Portland OR 97208



In keeping with the Kwanzaa principle of "Self Determination," Ola (Jane) Richardson and Nashid Allim Waters, held by his grandmother Ms. Anna Jackson, participate in a name-changing (Ola) and

naming (Nashid Allim) ceremony. Kamau Anderson performed the ceremony during the Kwanzaa celebration held at the Black Educational Center. (Photo: Richard J. Brown)

Mennonites open 3rd world shop

by Robert Lothian

Do you know where you can purchase a beautiful basket with a design called "tears of the giraffe," handmade by the Bushmen of Botswana?

The basket and many other unique items made by Third World artisans are available at the little Self-Help Crafts store behind the Portland Mennonite Church, at the corner of Southeast 35th and Main.

The Mennonites, who are involved

in outreach and service programs in remote areas in many underdeveloped countries, purchase crafts from artisans at a fair wage. The crafts are shipped to a warehouse in Pennsylvania from which they are distributed to Mennonite Self-Help stores across the country.

The program, which had \$2 million in sales last year and about \$20,000 locally, provides Third World artists with a needed income. It also pro-

motes the continuation of ancient arts and indigenous crafts.

The Bushman tribes of Botswana, for instance, whose nomadic and peaceful lifestyle is threatened by drought and encroaching civilization, contribute baskets. Also available in Portland are lions, giraffes and elephants hand carved out of muhuhu wood from Kenya, and baskets from Lesotho.

There's also needlework and olive wood carvings from Palestinian refugees, wheat straw cards from Bangladesh, Indian brass and wood carvings, Guatemalan textiles, baskets from the Philippines, even wooden toys and stuffed animals from Appalachia.

"Everything here is made by artisans in those countries," said Bruce Harder, a member of the Portland Mennonite Church and co-founder of the store with his wife Kathy. "Nobody is sitting in a sweatshop with 400 people." The store was founded in 1981 with \$1,000 in seed money donated by ten families who attend the church, said Harder.

Kathy Harder, manager of the store and secretary of the church, said that each item carries with it a story. The wheat straw cards from Bangladesh, for instance, she said, are made by young girls trying to bring some income into their families so their fathers won't try to marry them off too soon, she said.

Each item is unique. You won't be able to purchase an exact duplicate of something purchased at the store last year. "We had some carved zebras, and I was so sure one was pregnant that I thought it was two for the price of one," she said.

Their push for next year is to get more things from Guatemala and Central America, where Mennonite outreach workers are active. "The Mennonites are one of the original peace churches," said Bruce Harder. "The Mennonites are not pro or con, either for or against the government for the guerillas, which puts them in a very difficult position sometimes. We're for peace."

West coast Mennonite churches are also very actively sending aid to Ethiopia, amounting to about 7,000 tons of food in 1984, he said. The local congregation raised about \$2,000 for Ethiopia at Thanksgiving, he added.

Muslim mission family night

The American Muslim Mission sincerely believes that we must do all we can to keep the family alive in '85.

With this in mind, the American Muslim Mission invites the community and all good people of faith to join us on Friday, January 4, 1985 at 7:00 p.m. for "A Community Family Night Celebration" at the American Muslim Mission Masjid, 5640 NE Union Ave. (near Killingsworth). Bring a dish, and most importantly, bring your family.

For further information, please contact resident imam, Muhammad Najieb at Masjid Muhammad, 284-8829 or 289-1606.

Classes offered

A series of classes will be offered at The Grotto, The National Sanctuary of Our Sorrowful Mother, beginning in January, 1985.

The second segment of The Grotto's "Called to Serve In His Name" course begins January 8. The program, designed to develop skilled lay ministers, offers three separate classes during its second segment. All classes will offer morning and evening sessions. For further information and registration, call 254-7371.

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11:00 A.M. Congregational Worship
5:00 P.M. Vesper Service
10:00 A.M. Baptism Fourth Sunday
11:00 Communion Each First Sunday

The American Baptist Convention, American Baptist Churches of Oregon: Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention: National, Oregon, Portland Ecumenical Ministries, American Bible Society, M. & M. Board.

The Greater St. Stephen Missionary Baptist Church
Telephone: 287-6691 or 666-1577

"The Church on the Grow" II Peters 3:18
Pastor A. Bernard Devers, I
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Telephone: 287-6691 or 281-0547

Sunday School, 9:30 a.m. • Wednesday Evening, 6:30 p.m.
Sunday Worship, 11:00 a.m. • Sunday Evening, 7:00 p.m.
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Thursday: Choir Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.

Sunday: Sunday School 9:15 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:15 a.m.
U.P.W.W. 6:30 p.m.
Evangelistic Worship 8:00 p.m.

Tuesday-Friday: Noon Day Prayer
Friday: "The Pastor Speaks" 7:30 p.m.
Saturday: Morning Prayer 9:00 a.m.

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