



RELIGION

SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK:
ISAIAH 26

Celebration Tabernacle

by Mattie Ann Callier-Spears

There are young Black men dying by the 1,000's; but, there are many positive Black men out there making good sound judgement calls for our seemingly diminishing group of young Black males. But, That's an entirely different story.

This Saga unfolds about August of 1985 when a young Black man by the name of Elbert Mondaine arrived in the Northwest. He had been with a non-denominational church in St. Louis when he received a call to become a youth pastor for a church in the State of Washington.

As a single parent, this was somewhat - of a challenge. He had to leave the comfort of his family support. "This was my very first time being totally away from my family. When I arrived, I didn't know a soul. I came from a city where there are a plenty Black people and this place had none. All that I saw were cows!" Rev Mondaine said, "I sincerely think this was God's way of giving me a push."

The Shepherd of Love Church, located in Salmon Creek, Washington, has never had a Youth group that was successful until Rev. Mondaine arrived.

Not only was he equipped with the WORD, when he came; but God had given him an extra stick to fight with. He is an extraordinary musician.

His desire to see more Blacks, caused him to cross the bridge. "When I came across that bridge" he continued to say, "I was afraid of the unknown."

While filling the position of Youth Pastor, he started a singing group called 'Shepherd's Kids'.

The Young Rev. Mondaine served at the Morning Star Baptist Church, under the Rev. Dr. Tony Lloyd Lewis, for one year. During the interim, he was employed with the Albina Ministerial Alliance as a Teen Parent Coordinator. In that position, he helps young fathers who have low esteem, no jobs and who need someone to talk to. He teaches sex education and is very interested in the health, welfare, and well being of the young men (especially the young Black male) in this city - because there are many programs for the girls but there are very few programs that are concerned with the interests and the needs of the young, inexperienced male who falls by the wayside of life.

I asked him what kind of experience had he had. Why did he feel he was qualified to fill this position? And his response was, "I was married and I'm having to raise my 6-year-old twin sons. Even though my beginnings may be different, I can still relate to their problems and because of my love of God and knowledge of the WORD, I can give them good sound advice. They need help." He went on to say, "The Lord has blessed me with a host of people to help me,

when I need it. Many of these young men don't have that kind of support."

On the 30th of October, Rev Mondaine was installed in his very own church - The Celebration Tabernacle. The church is located at 1854 N. Lombard. The week was chocked full with glorious excitement. There was a musical on the 29th and a revival that began on the 31st with guest Evangelist Ruby Nelson from Shreveport, Louisiana. "Ruby has bookings up to 1991. She is a very busy lady. Ruby and I ministered together in Germany for one year. We labored profusely!" Then he intimated, "I learned how to bear the cross of God in a strange land."

"My church is non-denominational, largely because of my parents. My father is a deacon at the Compton Hill Baptist Church and my mother is a, long time, member of Carter's Institutional CME Church. No matter what

Sunday you go to Carter's CME, you can find my mother in the third pew on the left."

"The has full control of my life. My ministry and my music, in my words, was a mistake."

"My parents were both entertainers. My mother sang with the O'Neal Twins in St. Louis for many years, many of my ancestors were ministers, but I didn't necessarily say I wanted to do this. BUT... her I am!"

The Celebration Tabernacle opened its doors in September of this year, has a membership of 30 and is growing each Sunday.

Evangelist Fred Price, another friend of Rev. Mondaine, will be hold a 2-day seminar in February of 1989.

God has truly brought this young 29 year old minister from a mighty long way and has blessed him tremendously.

STORMS OF LIFE

When terror grips you and you feel despair,
Have faith and know your Lord is there.
He can calm the raging wind and sea.
And whisper softly, "Trust in Me."
He knew defeat when alone on the cross,
He, too, felt abandoned, forsaken and lost.
So when the "storms of life" prevail,
With God at the helm, you cannot fail!

Jesus Loves You!

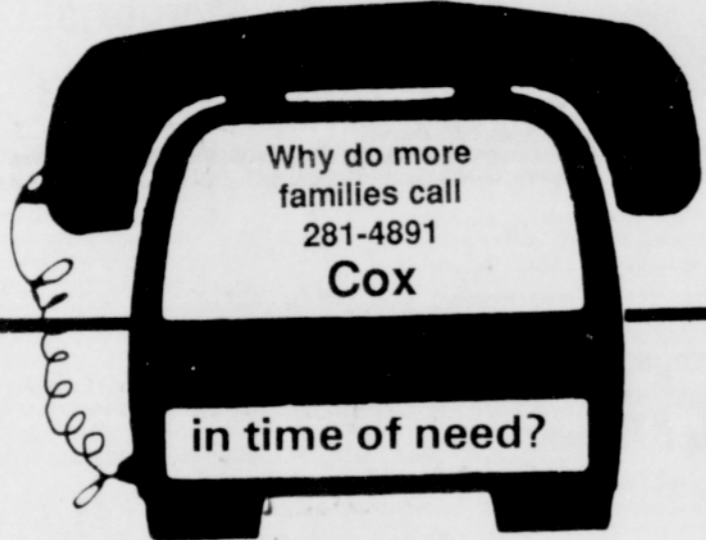
Allen Temple CME Church
4236 N.E. Eighth Avenue
(corner of 8th & Skidmore)
Portland, Oregon 97211
(503) 287-0261

Phillip S. Nelson, Pastor

Psalm 34:3

NEWS IN BRIEF

William R. Richards, a 22-year staff member of United Methodist Communications and predecessor agencies, and public relations director for the past eight years, has been named marketing director for the agency to promote distribution and viewership of United Methodism's national television series, "Catch the Spirit." Public relations for the agency and the denomination now will be handled by the general secretary's office, according to Roger Burgess, chief staff executive.



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the Bible says ...

Follow peace with all men & holiness without which no man shall see the Lord

HEBREWS 12:14

Tuesday: 7:30 p.m.
Bible Band
Thursday: 7:00 p.m.
Choir Rehearsal
Sunday: 9:15 a.m.
Sunday School
11:15 a.m.
Morning Worship
Y.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.

FEATURING:
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&
Roslyn Weidler

Bishop A.R. Hopkins
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