



# RELIGION

Scripture of the Week

Matthew Chapter 10

## North Portland Bible College Relocates

There is a treasure hidden in a church basement in North Portland. Comparatively few people know about it. In fact, it has just been moved from one church basement to another.

Hardly recognizable, because it is blended into the Christian Education facilities of its host church. It is a treasure, nevertheless, because it is so valued by those who have discovered it. It is a school for systematic Bible instruction and ministry training called "North Portland Bible College." The college was founded in 1982 as a strategic means of equipping believers and strengthening churches in North/Northeast Portland, the home of the majority of Portland's black residents. Cultural distance, economic limitations and minimal encouragement put the usual Bible colleges out of reach to most black students. Moreover, many who desire Bible training are past the normal age for entering college. With jobs and family responsibilities, they have fewer options. To meet this need, the late Dr. John Garlington, along with several local ministers and lay leaders, initiated a commu-

nity-based evening school to offer instruction at a price local people could afford, at times when working people can attend. Formerly a guest/tenant for eight years in Maranatha, it is now temporarily located in Berean Baptist Church. Tuition is \$35 for a three-credit course at NPBC. Entrance requirements consist mostly of a desire to study, and students have ranged in age from 16 to 80. Some have limited skills and receive specialized help. At the other end of the spectrum are the students who have had college experience, but who desire quality Bible instruction. Some are associate pastors, teachers, and leaders in their respective churches.

A recent survey of past enrollment shows that over three hundred students have taken at least one class at NPBC. They have come from 41 different churches representing ten different denominations. Several have earned the Bible and/or Christian Education Certificates. NPBC is progressing toward offering a program that would qualify a student for an Associate degree in Biblical Studies. For those students who have

come from outside the community from as far away as Milwaukee and Wempe, Oregon. It has been a valuable cross-cultural experience.

The instructors are a unique group of people. They all come from busy lives, and yet they have such a desire to enable others to know the Word of God that they add a weekly class to their full schedules. NPBC usually recruits instructors from the N/NE community, thus recognizing and enhancing the spiritual resources in the local churches. Most have graduate degrees. Although predominantly African American, the faculty also has included Caucasian, Hispanic, Caribbean and Native American.

This fall it is crucial for NPBC to receive enough support to get it out of the basement and into the public view so that its ministry will reach more people. Now is a crucial time for Friends and Supporters of NPBC to pray and to send their financial support as the Lord leads. We have taken a giant step of faith. We invite you to participate and then rejoice with us as we see God answer prayer!

## United Methodist Women Respond to Bush's "Thousand Points of Light"

Ten thousand "points of light" in the form of cards, signed by United Methodist Women and urging President Bush to not "be cheap with children," were delivered to the White House Sept. 26. Each card carried a small candle symbolizing one point of light as well as the facts that children are the nation's "real points of light" and millions of them "need good day care now if America is to have a shining future." The president was urged to sign a child-care bill passed earlier this year by the House and Senate and now in conference committee.

"Our message is simple: Don't

be cheap with children," Sally Graham Ernst, Bethel Park, Pa., national president of United Methodist Women said. "It is time to stop giving lip service to children and give priority to children-beginning with quality child care," Ms. Ernst told reporters.

Carol Burnett, Biloxi, Miss., said at the news conference, "If we can pay for Operation Desert Shield and bail out the savings and loans in the middle of a national deficit crisis, we can pay for adequate child care services for poor families." Ms. Burnett is director of Moore Community House, a United Methodist agency serving poor and low-in-

come families.

Margery Freeman, a United Methodist on the staff of the national Council of Churches, said that "our children are waiting" and "we must not let the Iraqi crisis or any other crisis divert our attention from them. Children do not stop needing care because grown-ups are fighting."

News reports said the United States will commit itself to a United Nations declaration that sets many goals for maternal and child health care, but Mr. Bush has not said whether or not he will sign the actual treaty.

## Congratulations Mr. and Mrs. Tellis

Roosevelt Tellis Jr. married Ella D. McFarland on September 30, 1945 on his birthday in Vancouver, Washington. They now have eight children: Charles Austin Brown Tellis, Lamont Tellis, Ruby Jones, Sandra Booker, Sharra Calhoun, Darnell Tellis, Mark Tellis and Linda Abel; four sons-in-law: eldon Jones, Pastor James W. Booker Jr., Henry Calhoun and Melvin Abel; three daughters-in-law: Linda Brown Tellis, Claudia Tellis, Jeanette Tellis. Roosevelt and ella have 28 grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

Roosevelt Tellis accepted the Lord as his personal savior in 1957 and Ella as his wife in 1958. They raised their children, instilling in them as well a living example the fear of God. The results of their teaching as well as living a life submitted to God. All sons, sons-in-law, daughters, and daughters-in-law have accepted the Lord as their personal savior and are active in the church. There are two pastors, one assistant pastor, two elders, two ministers, one deacon and three missionaries, as well as two inspired missionaries.



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When I hear beautiful song  
I feel the heavens wrap around me  
Like God's arms taking me in  
and allowing me to flow in a dreamy sky

He energizes me  
I feel his flowing energy  
Burning me into a flame  
Making love to the Heavens

I wish that I could  
Evaporate into the sky  
Licking my lips, tasting the breeze  
Blowing my kiss to float in the air

No person can catch it  
Like bubbles, my kisses burst  
and I will dance to kiss  
For Him to make love to me

-D. Kizmi

## Black Poetry Day

Oct. 17 marks the birthday of Jupiter Hammon, the first black-American poet to be published in the United States. It also is celebrated as Black Poetry Day to honor and recognize the contributions of African-American poets to our country.

Jupiter Hammon was born into slavery in 1711, probably in Long Island, N.Y. He was taught to read and was allowed to use his master's library. And on Christmas Day in 1760, his 88-line ballad, "An Evening in Thought," was published.

Hammon died in 1790, but his contribution to American life and culture still serve as an inspiration to struggling poets today. **II**

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Morning Worship  
10:30 A.M.

Maranatha School of Ministry  
6:30 P.M.

Mid-Week Services - Wednesday  
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Rev. Wendell H. Wallace  
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10:30 A.M. and 6:30 P.M.

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