

RELIGION

Little Victories In The War

BY BERNICE POWELL JACKSON

Every week there are new and frightening headlines. Every week there are stories on the community grapevines.

Stories of the violence which is gripping communities across this nation. Stories of children who are victims of drive-by shootings. Stories of children who are murdered or who are murderers. But amidst these grim tales are stories of hope and stories of successes as people fight to reclaim our children and take back our streets.

In Washington, D.C. my home town, violence has reached epidemic proportions. As in many of our cities, many young people are lost to the streets often because there is no one to care about them, no one to help give them a positive self-image. Too

many of our young people feel abandoned and alone.

But more and more programs are beginning to focus on building self-esteem for teenage girls and boys. In Washington, D.C., the city government initiated a program called Turning Points, which works in seven junior high schools to focus on personal responsibility and self respect.

In Prince George County, M.D., just outside Washington, there is the Female Achievers program. Each week the girls in this program stand before their peers and take responsibility for their actions. Once a month they meet with their mothers. "They showed me that drugs and alcohol aren't worth it because your friends will lead you all sorts of ways and you've got to do it for yourself," said one 13 year old, adding, "When you realize all the stuff you've got going

for you, it is easy to stop."

The group is lead by the secretary in the guidance department of the junior high school where the girls attend. Herself a mother of six daughters and the wife of a former alcoholic, she confronts the girls' bad behavior head on and has set the following ground rules for the group: nolying, confidentiality among group members and communication with parents. The group has been so successful there is now a waiting list of 100 other girls.

In Ohio, the Ohio Council of Churches and 17 local churches are co-sponsoring a program focussing on enhancing the social skills and fostering the spiritual formation of African Americans teenage males. Through its Young Men with a Future program, it reaches young men by working with these local churches

in Dayton and Columbus.

Young Men with a Future is a summer-long program which provides weekly fellowship meals prepared by each church, a short recreation period and a two hour learning session on issues such as violence prevention, career planning and self-esteem development. Each meeting begins with prayer. Says Raymond Blanks, Director of Church and Community Issues for the Council of Churches, "Although our society impresses negative messages on our youth, the church affirms them as somebody."

Young Men with a Future, after only two summers, already has many success stories. One is Terrance Gilchrist, now a student at the University of Maryland. Terrance, who has hired as a counselor during this second summer, is the son in a single-

parent family. He came seeking help in finding out what it means to be a man and now is helping other young men find out as well.

There are many success stories across the nation in the battle against violence. Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. has produced a four-part television show called Victory over Violence which tells similar stories. These shows have been produced as videotapes which are for sale. They also have produced a brochure listing all the organizations in their program along with a brief description. You can get more information by calling 1-800-Met-Life.

We can no longer wait for some-

one else to do it. We can no longer pretend that just because our own children are in school that we can ignore those who are not. We can no longer allow the drug dealers and the violence-makers to take over our communities.

All of us can do something. If we as a people are to survive in the 21st century, we must all get busy somehow and somewhere. Share with me what your church, your fraternal organization, your school, your block association, your family is doing in the battle against violence so that I might share your stories with others. Write to me at 700 Prospect Ave., Cleveland, OH 44115.

First Bible Published In Gullah

The American Bible Society has released the first complete book of the Bible ever published in Gullah, the Creole language spoken largely by an African American population of the southeastern coastal regional of the United States.

The new translation of the Gospel According to Luke, entitled "De Good Nyews Bout Jedus Christ Wa Luke Write," is a culmination of years of work by the Sea Island Translation and Literacy Team in cooperation with the Summer Institute of Linguistics and Wycliffe Bible Translators.

The Rev. Ervin Greene, pastor of Brick Baptist Church on St. Helena Island, S.C., serves as head of the translation team.

"The thing I find most important about the translation work," he said, "is that an oral language is being written down for the first time, and not to

amuse but to save. Unlike what some people believe, it's not a dying language that's being saved. Gullah is by no means dying. Lost people will be saved by this mission, for we seek to make the Word of God plain to Gullah-speakers."

The Gullah language is spoken by about 250,000 people, many descendants of African American slaves, who use it for communicating at one social level or another. An estimated 20,000 persons are monolingual, speaking only pure Gullah.

Gullah probably began as a trade language in West Africa and become the common language for slaves, overseers and plantation owners, according to the translation team.

"Well over 90 percent of the language is English based, but a great many grammatical and international features are West African," said linguist Pat Sharpe.

Groups Confront Violence

Area churches, nurses and community organizations are joining hands and hearts to improve the condition of children and confront violence in our local communities.

Conferences are planned at three sites around Portland Friday through Monday to mandate a community call to action.

The effort is sponsored by Northwest Parish Nurse Ministries, Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon, the Campbell Institute and other local health care systems.

It marks the first time so many faiths from Oregon and Southwest Washington, including congregations, synagogues, and churches and all area hospital systems, including Legacy, Kaiser, Providence, Oregon Health Sciences University and Portland Adventist, work together to solve a problem. The exact issues were recently raised in the national Children First Report: Our Children - Their Well-being and Their Future.

The events also bring together nationally-known speakers to relate the experiences of attempts at solutions in other communities.

The conferences will explore two subject areas.

Former Oregon Gov. Neil Goldschmidt and national speakers Linda Kavelin Popov, Rev. Tom Quigley and Rev. Paul Escamilla will be featured at sessions entitled "What Congregations Can Do For Children." This workshop is held Friday and Saturday at the Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, 147 N.W. 19th Ave. and Congregation Beth Israel, 1931 N.W. Flanders.

Featured at sessions entitled "Breaking The Cycle of Violence" will be national speakers Dr. David Hilton, Rev. Fred Smith and Ray Naff, state director for U.S. Sen. Mark Hatfield. This workshop will take place Sunday and Monday in the Atrium of the medical office building at Legacy Emanuel Hospital and Health Center, 501 N. Graham.

Also scheduled is an Interfaith Family Sabbath Worship Service on Sunday at 2 p.m. at the Legacy Emanuel Hospital Atrium.

For more information and to register call 221-1054.

St. Mark Baptist Church

103 NE Morris St., Portland, OR 97212

- Sunday School - 9:30am
- Sunday Morning Worship Service - 11:00am
- Sunday School Teacher's Meeting Tues - 6:30pm
- Bible Study Wednesday 6:00pm
- Prayer Meeting Wednesday - 7:00pm

Church Phone Number
287-7457

We Invite You To Come And Worship With Us.
The Church Where Everybody is Somebody And Christ Is All.
Dr. Joe S. Hardie, Pastor

The Little Chapel Of The Chimes

Funeral Home
Cemetery - Memorial Garden

Lombard Chapel
3018 N. Lombard
Portland, Oregon 97217
503-283-0525

Killingsworth Chapel
430 N. Killingsworth
Portland, Oregon 97217
503-283-1976

FAITH TEMPLE CHURCH

4224 S.E. 62nd Avenue
(between Powell & Foster)
Portland, Oregon 97206

SUNDAY

Sunday School 9:30am
Morning Worship 10:45am
Evangelistic Service 7:30pm
Tuesday Pastoral Teaching 7:00pm

FRIDAY

Evangelistic Service 7:00pm

DAILY

Prayer 12:00pm & 6:00pm

(503) 774-5470

PASTORS: Bishop Robert Simpson, Jr. • Dr. Ida M. Simpson



Mt Olivet Baptist Church

Has moved Sunday services to
Family Life Center, 8725 N.
Chautauqua Blvd., at Willis Blvd.

Worship Services 8:00am & 11:00am,
Church School 9:30 to 10:30am,
Bible Study, Wednesdays, 116 NE Schuyler, 10:30am & 7:00pm
Radio Ministry each Sunday, 8:00am on KBMS
A Teaching Church With A Reaching Ministry
Dr. James E. Martin, Senior Pastor
Church Office 116 NE Schuyler St. • (503) 284-1954

PARADISE BAPTIST CHURCH



OCTOBER 23 - 26, 1994
7:30 P.M.

THEME: "THE KEY TO VICTORY"
1ST CORINTHIANS 15:56-57

GUEST EVANGELIST



Rev. B.L. Blade
Pastor of
ZION BAPTIST CHURCH
Shreveport, Louisiana
Rev. Robert C. Hill - Host Pastor

CHOIRS FROM THROUGHOUT THE CITY WILL BE SINGING
THE PRAISES OF GOD EACH NIGHT.

4735 North Commercial
Portland, Oregon
All Invited

DON'T MISS IT! DON'T MISS IT!
ONE DAY

BIBLICAL MIRACLE & HEALING SEMINAR

"CLAIMING GOD'S PROMISES
BEYOND THE INSTANT
TANGIBLE MIRACLE"

WITH
EVANGELIST W.
PRITCHETT

WHO HAS A PROVEN NATION-
WIDE MINISTRY OF CLAIMING
GOD'S PROMISES FOR
MIRACLES, HEALING AND
NEEDS.



Evangelist W. Pritchett

Come learn directly from The Bible what God has
promised to do for all our needs - And that He will
keep His promises if we claim them
according to His Word.

Come learn how to Claim God's Promises Beyond
The Instant And Tangle Miracle and receive answers
to your needs.

ONE GREAT SEMINAR ON HOW TO TRUST
GOD'S PROMISES.

Place: Shilo Inn
Portland Airport
11707 NE Airport Way
Portland, OR 97220-1075
Date: Saturday, October 22, 1994
Time: 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM

We Welcome You to The Greater Saint Stephen Missionary Baptist Church

"Serving The Lord With Gladness" Psalm 100:2

Sunday School 10am

Morning Worship 11:05

Wednesday

Prayer & Bible Study 7pm

Rev. G.L. Black I Pastor

3605 N.E. Mallory Ave.

(503) 281-8117 Portland, OR 97212