

THE CAMPHOR LIGHT

Vol. 5, No. 3

March/April, 2005

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Rev. Sandi Stovall
Women's Day Speaker

Camphor's Lent and Holy Week Services Were Spirit-Filled

by Carol A. Black

For many in the congregation it was the first time to personally experience the tension of mourning and victory of this high holy season.

On Ash Wednesday, Senior Pastor, **Rev. Dr. Reddick**, began our journey towards Jerusalem with Jesus with the reading of Psalm 51 and the imposition of ashes on each person's forehead after administering Holy Communion in the Fellowship Hall. He reminded that the forty days of Lent is a time of penitence, focused prayer, fasting and reflection on Jesus' wilderness experience and the ultimate sacrifice that Jesus made to save us from eternal death and separation from God.

Palm Sunday marked the end of Lent and beginning of Holy Week. At the conclusion of the worship service, **Dr. Reddick** blessed the palm branches and the ushers distributed them to the congregation. Many participated in the traditional

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Former Associate Pastor In the News

by Carol A. Black

The **Rev. Dr. Cecil Conteen Gray**, a former Associate Pastor of Camphor, was recently featured in *UMConnection*, the newsletter of the Baltimore-Washington Conference of the UMC, for his pioneering leadership in opening a public charter school in Baltimore.

A non-profit organization was created by his church, Northwood-Appold UMC, and after months of planning,

paperwork, meetings with community leaders, parents and public school officials, the Northwood-Appold Community Academy was born in Northwest Baltimore. Of the five new planned public charter schools in Baltimore, it is the only one connected to a church. The school will open in September, beginning with 126 students in kindergarten to second grade, and then adding a grade each year until enrollment reaches eighth grade.



Rev. Gray shares details of new school

Rev. Gray, who has a Ph.D in African and African-American Studies and also teaches at Morgan State University, developed the concept and

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Around Camphor Memorial UMC

••• **Bishop Marcus Matthews** has appointed our Senior Pastor, **Rev. Dr. A. Roger Reddick** to Epworth UMC, Bethlehem, PA effective July 1, 2005. Dr. Reddick will remain at Camphor until April 17, 2005 and **Rev. Herbert Palmer** will serve as interim pastor until June 30, 2005. We wish Dr. and Mrs. Reddick much joy, love and blessings in their new appointment.

••• **Bishop Marcus Matthews** has appointed **Rev. Laurie Rookard** as Senior Pastor of Camphor Memorial UMC effective July 1, 2005. Rev. Rookard is currently the pastor of Frankford Memorial UMC. Please keep Rev. Rookard and her family in your prayers as they prepare to come to Camphor.

•••**Our Sick & Shut-In.** Members, please call the church office to report the name, address and telephone number of any hospitalized, ill or homebound members so they may be included in the Nurture Ministry.

•••The next “**Camphor Light**” will be a May/June issue. Articles should be submitted by May 15 for publication on May 29.

••• A celebration luncheon in honor of **Rev. Philip Ponce**, Superintendent of the Central District of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference from 1999 to 2005, will be held Saturday, June 4, 2005 at

Eastwick at the Meadows at 11:30 am. Rev. Ponce has been appointed by Bishop Matthews to Berwyn UMC effective July 1, 2005. Tickets are \$35/person and includes a gift. Please contact Dr. Mary White (610-519-9812) for tickets and further information.

••• According to data published in the March 2005 EPC *NewSpirit*, **Camphor** paid 70% of its Connection Ministry Fund, 50% of its World Services and 50% of its General Church payments in 2004. All churches in the Central District (formerly Hosier District) paid 98% of Connection Ministries, 101% World Services and 101% of their General Church payments in 2004.

••• Little **Rebecca Ngegba**, daughter of **Mrs. Hannah Ngegba**, celebrated her first year birthday party at



Camphor on Saturday, March 12th at 2 pm. The hostess for the birthday bash was **Mrs. Dorothy Tate**, her Camphor grandmother. Guests enjoyed chicken nuggets, fries, Sierra Leone food, juice, cake and ice cream in the dining room.

The children particularly enjoyed the clown, games and music.

••• **Boy Scout Troop 194** is still going strong, thanks to the United Methodist Men of Camphor who recently provided the financial assistance to re-charter the unit for one year until January 31, 2006. The church has been a proud sponsoring organization of the troop for over 50 years. Coming events:

- **March 12** - Cub Scouts attend “The Pinewood Derby” at Girard College, 9 am to 4 pm.

- **March 14** – Leaders Roundtable and Scout Coordinators Meeting, Scout Headquarters, 22nd & Winter.

- **April 15, 16, 17** – Spring Camporee, Musser Scout Reservation, Greenlane, PA

- **April 18** – Monthly Scout Roundtable, 22nd & Winter.

- **May 13, 14, 15**— Weekend at Camp Horseshoe, Rising Sun, MD

- **June 10, 11, 12** – Weekend at Camp Delmont, Greenlane, PA

- **July 10-16** – One week at Summer Camp, Resica Falls Scout Reservation, Gouldsboro, PA

- **August** – no meetings

- **September 10** – Meetings resume at 10 am.

Join Unit 194! Scouting builds Character – Citizenship – Fitness. We meet every Saturday 10 am to noon.

Rev. Sandi Stovall Will Be Women's Day Speaker on April 17, 2005

By Elaine Welles

Camphor will welcome **Rev. Sandi Stovall** as Speaker at its annual Women's Day Service on Sunday, April 17. The service begins at 3 p.m.

"Rev. Stovall has a message that will be relevant and uplifting," said Women's Day co-chairs **Gloria Thompson** and **Aneita Douglas**.

"She has a message for everyone, both men and women. All are welcome!"

Rev. Stovall, a native Philadelphian, now resides in Richmond, Va. where she founded and now directs Bethel Community Services, a faith-based tutoring and mentoring program that advocates for women and children.

She was also once a member of Camphor and as a youth and teenager was very active in the church. The Camphor family will welcome her return.

In keeping with tradition, all women are being asked to dress in colors that have been selected for Women's Day, which this year are red and white.

Because the Women's Day Service is in the afternoon, dinners will be served following the 11 a.m. worship service, at which Camphor's Senior Pastor, **Rev. Dr. A. Roger Reddick**, will preside.



Camphor Will Host Korean & Multi-Cultural Fellowship on April 24, 2005

By Carol A. Black

Camphor is the host church this year of the 17th Annual Camphor-First Korean Presbyterian Church of Philadelphia joint worship service that will be held on Sunday, April 24, 2005, from 3 to 6 p.m.

Joining us this year for the afternoon of praise will be six other ethnic congregations: First Filipino Baptist Church, Vietnamese Alliance Church, Grace Trinity NNN-Multi Cultural Ethnic India Church, Cambodian Church, Saints Tabernacle Community Church and Japanese Proclamation Church.



Photo of last year's planning committee (2004) with representatives from the various churches

Each church will present a short praise or cultural program and everyone is invited to wear cultural or traditional attire of their native country. A scholarship will be awarded to a deserving student at Camphor and First Korean.

A fellowship dinner will follow in the gym where there will be plenty of African-American Soul Food, African food, Korean food and ethnic desserts for all to enjoy.

The Camphor-First Korean Fellowship began in 1988 while **Rev. Paul Kim** was Associate Pastor at Camphor. Since that time the two churches have not only worshipped together but also come together for dinner and family gatherings at their respective homes.

In 1996, **Rev. D. Watson Tatem** and **Rev. Manwoo Kim** traveled to Korea where they preached the gospel to thousands. This spiritual tradition has become so special for our churches that on our 10th Anniversary we received commendations from former Governor of Pennsylvania Tom Ridge, and former President Bill Clinton.

Holy Week Services Were Spirit-Filled

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procession around the Sanctuary waiving the palms, reminiscent of Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem.

Maundy Thursday, named for Latin "mandatum" the mandate – or new command of Jesus – "love one another as I have loved you" (John 13:34-35), was a beautiful and moving service.

Dr. Reddick preached about Jesus' servanthood and then gathered everyone at the front of the church where he knelt to the floor, poured water into a basin and washed their feet, just as Jesus washed the feet of the disciples before the Last Supper over 2000 years ago.



The preaching of Jesus' "Seven Last Words" was brought (left to right) by Camphor Lay Leader William Rivers, Rev. Ed Livingston, Rev. Emily Livingston, Camphor Senior Pastor Dr. Reddick, Rev. Jerry Jones and Rev. William Lynch. Not in the photo is Rev. David Brown who brought the Third Word.

The sufferings of Jesus on the way to the cross were vividly conveyed in the sermons and the music at the Good Friday worship service. Six pastors and Camphor's lay leader (see photo caption on left) portrayed the emotional and theological impact of Good Friday. Each preacher delivered a powerful message on the "Seven Last Words" of Jesus sufferings from the cross. Lay leader, **William Rivers**, also saw Good Friday as a day to focus on the issues and sufferings at Camphor. As a result of the sermons, the congregation was able to experience the passion of Jesus and understand the significance of what Jesus had done for the world. Camphor's newest choir "**Chosen**," provided music, accompanied by **Brenda Cozart Harris** and **Joseph Patterson**. After the service a "Family Unity Fish Fry" hosted by **Mr. & Mrs. Archie Williams**, **Mr. & Mrs. William Adams**, **Mr. & Mrs. William Rivers**, **Mr. & Mrs. David Lawrence** and **Dr. & Mrs. Reddick** was enjoyed by all.

Rev. William Lynch returned to the pulpit for Easter Sunrise Service at 5:45 a.m. and "took Jesus off the cross" in a dynamic sermon about Jesus' resurrection. Singing was led by "**Chosen**."

Senior Pastor, **Rev. Dr. Reddick**, led the well-attended Easter Sunday Worship Service at 11 am. His sermon was "He Is Alive!" The sanctuary was adorned with lilies given in honor and memory of loved ones. The organist was **Mrs. Gloria Todd** and the **Senior Choir** provided the music, including Handel's "Halleluia Chorus."

Former Associate Pastor In The News

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helped to write the specialized freedom and democracy curriculum for the school. The mission of the school is "to help young people realize superior results in both academics and character development so they can become servant-leaders in society."

Rev. Gray states that the Northwood-Appold congregation is excited and supportive of the new venture, including renting its 30,000 square foot education building to the academy for only \$1 a year.

Members have donated funds and professional expertise. He states that he thought there were about 10 career educators in the church, but when the congregation was surveyed, there were about 50 teachers, five to ten principals, and several architects, engineers, food service professionals and law enforcement officers willing to help.

Rev. Gray is quoted in the newsletter, "This effort has become a catalyst, igniting people here to bring forth their gifts and engaging many of them in this community for the first time. They're loving it."

Birthdays, Anniversaries, Memorials, At College

Happy March Birthday!

Mrs. Fredericka Broomfield
Mrs. Sharon Brown
Mrs. Lillian Cosby
Mrs. Catherine Exum
Mrs. Essie Glover
Mrs. Alice Habershaw
Mrs. Jacqueline Hopps
Ms. Amber Jordan
Mr. Reuben Mills
Mrs. Bettie Peyton
Mrs. Naomi Waters
Mrs. Evelyn Woodson



Happy April Anniversary!

Mr. & Mrs. George Boston
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Moore



In Memoriam

Mr. Ernest Sellers
March 7, 2005



Mrs. Margaret M. Lambert
March 1, 2005
Cubmaster, Troop 194

Happy April Birthday!

Mr. Harold Adams
Mrs. Louise Cain
Mrs. Martha Cobbs
Ms. Aida Crooms-Ingrim
Mrs. Mary Garvin
Ms. Tenile Harris
Mrs. Ossie Howard
Ms. Josephine Keyes
Mr. John Mackrey
Mr. Robert Pope
Mr. Charles Robinson
Mrs. Stanley Wyatt, Sr.



Thank you, Dr. and Mrs. Reddick!



God bless you
at your new church.
We shall miss you!

Blessings to Our College/Graduate Students!

Tiy Adams
Howard University
Medical School

Melissa Alves
Howard University
Law School

Mark Bounds
University of Maryland
Eastern Shore

Richard Garrison
Villanova University

Brendan Harris
Johnson C. Smith University

Daisha Harris
University of Pittsburgh

Paul Jordan, Jr.
Morehouse College

Rev. Emily Livingston
Rev. Edward Livingston
Lutheran Seminary

Kenny McKnight
New York University

Victoria Mingle
Millersville University

Elizabeth Kelly Terrell
Howard University

Randie Welles
Barnard College



The Church Around

Parents must set example for kids

RAPID CITY, S.D.—One reason 16-year-old Aaron Holland volunteers at Canyon Lake United Methodist Church's child care center is to set a good example for his younger brother—the kind of example his own parents set for them both. His father is “a great example of what to do,” he says. “If you know something is wrong, then you should just do what's right and fix the problems.” Setting an example is crucial for parents who want to raise good, moral children in a society that often sends mixed messages about success, cheating and honesty, says author Michele Borba.

Conferences begin 2005 annual sessions

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Three conferences outside the United States are the first to conduct 2005 sessions across the United Methodist connection. This year's annual conference gatherings kicked off with the Feb. 15-20 meeting of the Liberia Annual Conference. It will be followed by March meetings of the Central Luzon Philippines Conference and the Pangasinan Philippines Conference. Between Feb. 15 and Dec. 19, United Methodists worldwide are approving budgets, receiving reports and adopting programs and resolutions.



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<http://Infoserv.umc.org>

Taco Bell boycott ends

WASHINGTON—A United Methodist-backed consumer boycott against Taco Bell has ended. The Florida-based Coalition of Immokalee Workers announced March 8 that it is ending the boycott after Taco Bell agreed to work with the organization to address working conditions and the wages of farm workers in the Florida tomato industry. The United Methodist Church officially joined the boycott last spring by a vote of the denomination's 2004 General Conference, its top legislative body.

Origami teaches Bible verses

CHARLOTTE, N.C.— Two North Carolina United Methodist pastors and a print shop owner have created an interactive card to give children and youth a way to learn Bible verses as they make a cross. Memory Cross is an interactive card that puts God's word at the tips of young fingers. The cards are designed in the origami style, and each contains a selected Scripture. Memory Cross Inc. was launched in January. Details can be found at www.memorycross.com.

Church's number of older adults grows

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Society and the United Methodist Church are “graying,” and the church cannot afford to abandon or under serve older adults, said the Rev. Richard H. Gentzler Jr., director of the Center on Aging and Older Adult Ministries for the United Methodist Board of Discipleship. By 2020, the number of people in the United States over 50 will grow by 74 percent, while the number of people under 50 will grow by only 1 percent. About 62 percent of United Methodists are 50 or older, Gentzler told the denomination's Committee on Older Adult Ministries at a March 5-7 meeting. “Older adults want to serve as well as be spiritually enriched,” said the Rev. Hazel Bennett, committee chairwoman.

Church patrols against crime

TRILBY, Fla.—The stillness of Trilby’s hilly countryside masks a growing problem for the small town. The Pasco County Sheriff’s Department responds to as many calls for service as it can. But now, a small group of neighbors is providing backup. In January, Herb Green, the choir director at Trilby United Methodist Church, formed Trilby’s first security patrol. “We want to make sure people feel safe in their community and they can walk down the street and not be harmed,” said the Rev. Juan Marcos Garay, pastor.

Cote d’Ivoire gets United Methodist bishop

ABIDJAN, Côte d’Ivoire—The Rev. Benjamin Boni has been elected the first bishop of the newly constituted United Methodist Church of Côte d’Ivoire (Ivory Coast). He was elected March 12 without opposition by the West Africa Central Conference, meeting in Abidjan. Delegates to the central conference also recognized Côte d’Ivoire as an annual conference of the international denomination. Last year, General Conference granted full membership on the basis of the history and organizational strength of Methodism in Côte d’Ivoire.

Partnerships critical for Africa University

MYRTLE BEACH, S.C.—Africa University’s fund-raising committee is focusing on forging new partnerships and finding fresh ways to financially assist the United Methodist-related school in Zimbabwe. Members of the Africa University Development Committee met March 15 to brainstorm ways to finance capital projects at the university, increase its endowment and help the school become a self-sufficient international and ecumenical institution. Committee members noted the critical need for United Methodist congregations to pay 100 percent of their apportionments by 2008 to address the university’s daily operational needs.

Methodists help Sri Lankans recover

NEW YORK—Methodists are working with fishing societies in Sri Lanka to help those whose livelihoods were destroyed by the Dec. 26 tsunami. The collaborative effort, funded at \$100,000, is between the Methodist Church of Sri Lanka and the United Methodist Committee on Relief. The money will help the societies buy boats, nets and other equipment. As of mid-March, United Methodists had contributed more than \$15 million to assist people in South Asian countries affected by the tsunami.

Souper Bowl raises nearly \$4 million

COLUMBIA, S.C.—At one month after the big game, almost 10,500 congregations and schools have reported raising more than \$3.75 million through the Souper Bowl of Caring. That includes 2,070 Methodist churches reporting \$686,596. Youth across the country collected \$1 donations in large soup pots at their churches on or around Feb. 6, Super Bowl Sunday. All of the money was given to charities chosen by the young people.

God, why?

Teachings from the Tsunamis



Grief and a loss of a spiritual compass are common when natural disasters strike. *God, why? Teachings from the Tsunamis* is a two-session small group study DVD/CD resource – with study guide, video stories, commentaries and more – created to help people of faith understand God’s activity when natural disasters occur.

Two ways to order

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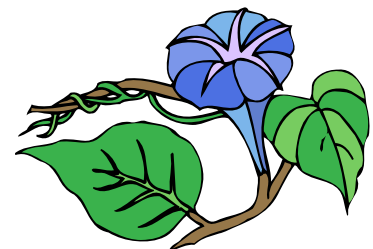
Remember Our Sick & Shut-In March-April 2005

1. Mrs. Gladys Allen Simpson House, 2100 Belmont Ave., Phila., PA 19131
2. Mrs. Pauline Cunningham St. Ignatius Nursing Home #407, 4401 Haverford Ave., Phila., PA 9104
3. Mr. Pauline Carroll Tucker House Nursing Home, 10th and Wallace, Phila., PA 19123
4. Mr. William Covington 5627 Stewart Street, Phila., PA 19131
5. Mrs. Mae Daniel Simpson House, 2101 Belmont Ave., Phila., PA 19131; (215) 871-5366
6. Rev. Claude Edmonds 7701 Henry Ave., Apt D103, Phila., PA 19128
7. Mrs. Margaret Freeman Simpson House, # M330, 2101 Belmont Ave., Phila., PA 19131
8. Mrs. Mary-Lora Garvin 1853 Wynnewood Road, Phila., PA 19151
9. Mrs. Essie Glover 653 N. Frazier St., Phila., PA 19131; (215) 474-0312
10. Mrs. Ossie Hayward 621 N. Frazier St., Phila., PA 19131
11. Mrs. Zula Hampton 3848 Brown Street, Phila., PA 19104
12. Mrs. Alice Habershaw Britthaven Inc., 1016 Fletcher St., Wilkesboro, NC 28697
13. Mr. Lewis Hill 1101 N. 63rd Street, Phila., PA 19131
14. Mrs. Katherine Keeling 625 Thomasville Church Road, Mt. Gilead, NC 27306; (910) 439-6748
15. Mrs. Lucy Levere 5714 Cambridge Street, Phila., PA 19131; (215) 877-3251
16. Mrs. Elizabeth Manning The Chateau Nursing Home, 956 Railroad Ave., Bryn Mawr, PA 19010
17. Mr. James Manning Simpson House, 2100 Belmont Ave., Phila., PA 19131
18. Mr. Dennis McNeill St. Francis Country House, 1425 Lansdowne Ave., Room 303, Darby, PA 19023

19. Mrs. Dorothy Miller 6221 Washington Ave., Phila., PA 19143; (215) 471-3289
20. Mrs. Marjorie Mitchell 330 Main Street #204, Newark, DE 19711; (302) 234-8854
21. Mrs. Lula Mock Chateau Nursing & Rehab Center, 956 Railroad Ave., Bryn Mawr, PA 19010

22. Mr. & Mrs. Charlie Moore, Sr. 6107 Ellsworth Street, Phila., PA 19143; (215) 472-2251
23. Mrs. Ethel Moore 623 N. Frazier St., Phila., PA 19131; (215) 474-4524
24. Mrs. Terezin Richards 2100 Wanamaker Street, Phila., PA 19151
25. Mrs. Hilda Sheppard Presbyterian Home, 2100 S. 58th Street, Apt 362, Phila., PA 19143
26. Mrs. Marineeta Smallwood 5745 Hunter Street, Philadelphia, PA 19131; (215) 877-2541
27. Mrs. Naomi Waters 5512 Name Ave., Baltimore, MD 21215; (410) 358-2675
28. Mrs. Margaret White Hairston Hall, Flourtown, PA 19031

"I was sick and you looked after me." Matt. 25:36 (NIV)



In the Spotlight... Nicole E. Brown



We salute **Nicole E. Brown**, daughter of **Mr. & Mrs. Reese Brown, Jr.** for her nomination by the American Council of Engineering Companies to the **New Faces of Engineering**, a program of Engineers Week (February

20-26, 2005) that recognized 14 exceptional young engineers in the world for their interesting and unique work and impact on society.

Nicole, an engineer at Malcolm Pirnie, Inc. in New York City, has been recognized for her extraordinary efforts to revamp New York City's water supply to handle severe drought conditions in response to the 2002 drought emergency.

The main thrust of her work for New York has been to evaluate existing conditions and design improvements for the city's groundwater

system. As project engineer for detailed design of a demonstration plant for expanding the city's drinking water supply system, she is helping to provide the design basis for selection and sizing of the treatment processes at a full-scale plant. Additionally, Nicole implements ongoing community outreach for the project, regularly giving presentations at public meetings and effectively dealing with community members and elected officials.

Nicole grew up in Philadelphia and Camphor church, where she was very active in youth ministry. She graduated from the George School in 1993 and received her B.S. in Civil Engineering from Georgia Institute of Technology in 1998. A president emeritus of the New York City Alumni chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers, Nicole is also very involved in encouraging minorities to join and excel in the engineering field.

**Camphor Memorial
United Methodist Church
5620 Wyalusing Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19131**

Visit Camphor on the web at
www.camphormemorial.org

We may not all believe exactly the same thing, but the people of the United Methodist Church believe in God and each other. If you're searching for something to believe in, our hearts, our minds and our doors are always open.