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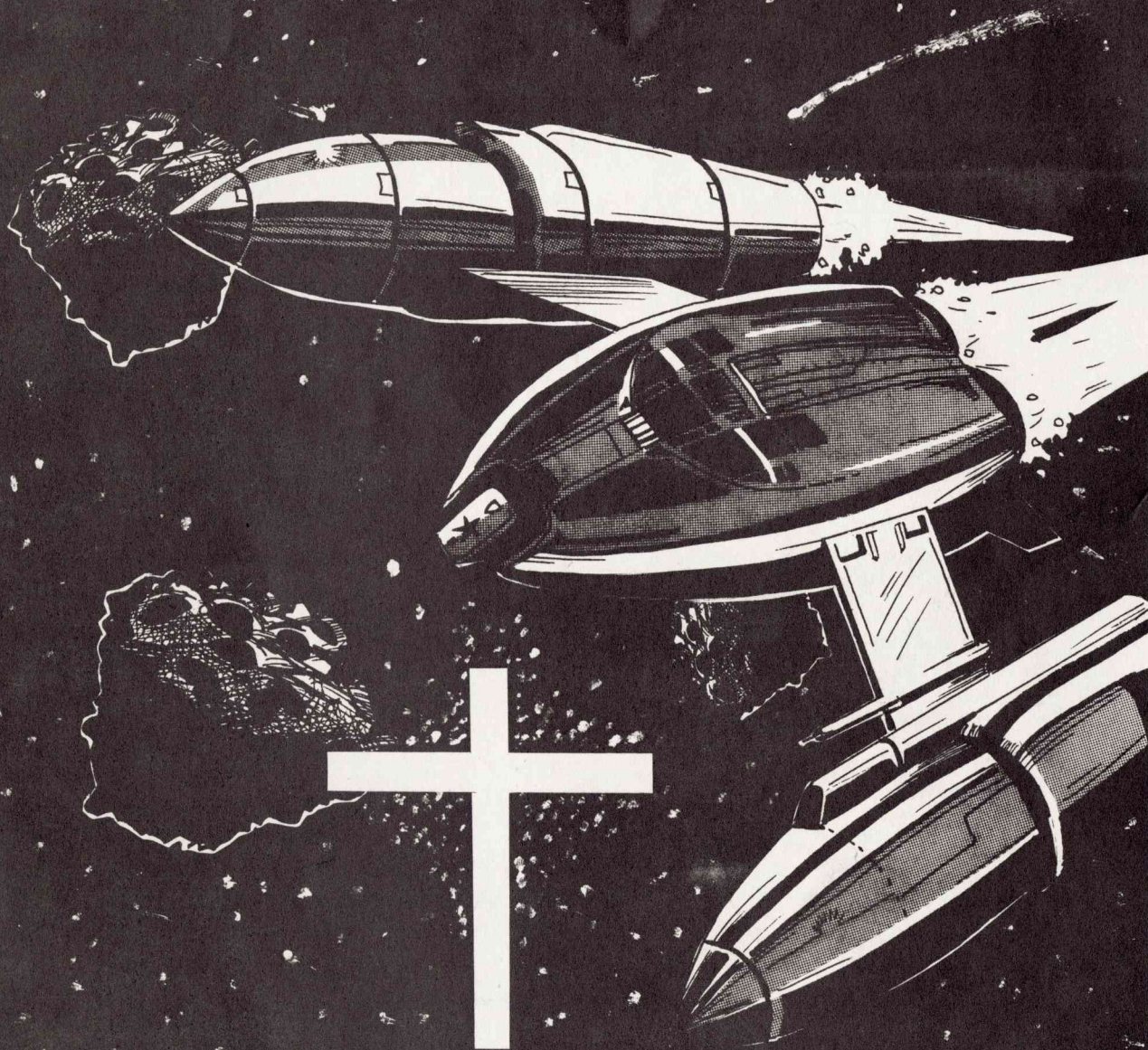
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A NEW GENESIS



**THE NINTH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT
THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
BICENTENNIAL FOUNDERS' DAY**

**ST. JOHN
AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA**

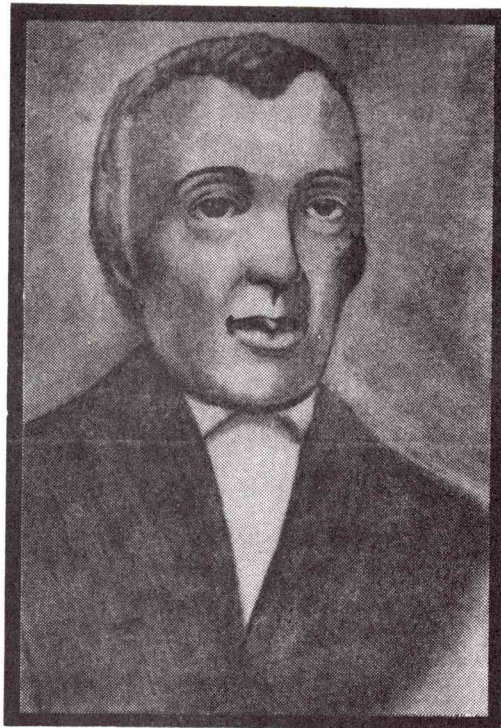
*Reverend E.L. Blankenship
Host Presiding Elder*

*Dr. Homer McCall
Host Pastor*

Feb
1987



THIS BICENTENNIAL YEAR



Hyperbole has become our mode and errant exaggeration has eroded the preciseness of our language. This imprecision is to be noted in our too facile use of words like super-great-greatest-magic-miracle-marvelous and magnificent.

Yet, I do not think it amiss to declare that the survival and vitality of the Constitution of the United States is a miracle. The miracle is that the storms of economic depression, the rise of new world powers, totalitarian assaults on democratic nations and the new technology may have at times shaken the old ship of state---But, It Sails On! Diatribal, Insidious, Asininely brutal attacks by misguided leaders and citizens have battered the document. But it still stands as a model of democratic aspiration and process.

I have seriously pondered the founding and development of the African Methodist Episcopal Church and do honestly proclaim that its TWO HUNDRED YEARS is a miracle. The very dependency which the Reagans and the so-called neo-conservatives so blatantly denounce is the product of slave mind set and radical racist mentality. Get to the point----

After two hundred years of slave dependency---In the midst of a spirit that drenched the nation about the shiftless irresponsibility of Blacks-Richard Allen, Absalom Jones and their followers dared to assert their independence----It is a Miracle! The legal road blocks thrown in the path of the church were serious and unrelenting. It is a Miracle that they and the movement they started could withstand the legal onslaught.

For many, many years a number of trustees could not sign their names on the various documents, deeds and charters. An X was the best they could do. Yet, they had an almost innate grasp of the importance of property; the economic principle of supply and demand; the wisdom of sound investments. Though they could not write a book on the principles of Stewardship, they grasped the Biblical basis and built churches and schools that majored in meeting human needs.

We don't want to belabor the point-However, I must remind you that about the time the denomination was formed in 1816-the slave states passed a whole battery of laws that made the assembly of Blacks, for any purpose, illegal. It was phenomenal that the adversity stimulated growth. It is a MIRACLE!

It is a MIRACLE that such a heritage was kept alive by Divine instruments such as Daniel A. Payne, William Paul Quinn, Henry McNeal Turner, Reverdy C. Ransom, W. A. Fountain, A. Phillip Randolph, Daisy Bates, Delaine, Briggs, Brown of Topeka, Kansas and a host of others.

Well, what happens after two hundred years? I really don't know. The MIRACLE could continue. The Reigning Sovereign Lord of our history has not gone on vacation. If we sought Him we could find a NEW GENESIS-a New Mission of Service in education, housing, ministry to the so-called underclass. THERE IS A NEW GENESIS!

WHERE IS THE MIRACLE? LET IT BEGIN WITH ME!!





REV. FRED LUCAS: BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

The Reverend Fred Aloysious Lucas, Jr., an ordained elder in the African Methodist Episcopal Church, was born and reared in Washington, D.C. He received his undergraduate training at Harvard College in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and his seminary education at the Harvard Divinity School.

Pastor Lucas began his pastoral ministry as an associate minister at St. Paul A.M.E. Church in Cambridge, Massachusetts. He has served as pastor of Turner

Memorial A.M.E. Church in Monrovia, Liberia, West Africa and also served as Instructor of Religion at Monrovia College; as pastor of Heard A.M.E. Church in Philadelphia; pastor of Agape A.M.E. Church in Buffalo, New York, and is presently serving as pastor of the 3,800 member Bridge Street A.M.E. Church in Brooklyn, New York.

In the secular world, Rev. Lucas has been employed as a Parole Agent with the Boston Juvenile Court, an Administrative Assistant with the Cambridge Center for Community Economic Development and as a Program Evaluator with the Youth Opportunity Services in Washington, D.C.

Pastor Lucas has been active in numerous religious and community activities throughout his ministry, including the Eastside Consortium of Youth Agencies Board of Directors, Houghton College Advisory Board, Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship Advisory Board and the Board of Directors of the Afro-American Historical Association. He has also served on the Governor's Commission on the International Year of the Child, and on the Advisory Board to the New York State Commission on Children and Families.

While in West Africa, he was heard weekly over radio station ELWA on the "Bridge Over Troubled Waters" radio broadcast. While in Buffalo, he was seen monthly on the "Church Invitation" Television Broadcast sponsored by the Buffalo Council of Churches.

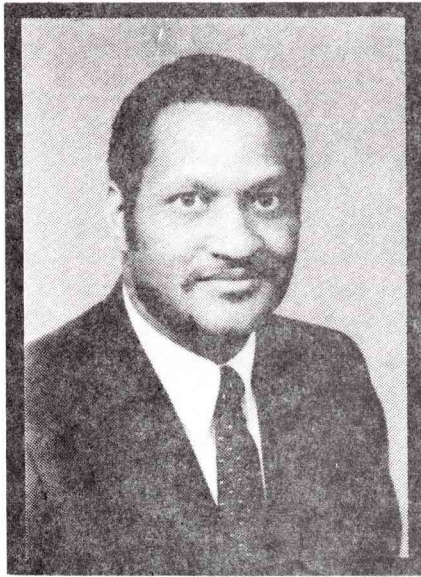
Rev. Lucas is presently in his fifth year as pastor of Brooklyn's oldest Black Church--the 221 years old Bridge Street Church. Under Rev. Lucas' administration, over 1,200 new members have been added to the church, seven persons have been added to the Ministerial Staff and the church's operational budget has increased from \$261,000 to \$700,000. Additionally, the Bridge Street Church Family has organized and chartered the Bridge Street Federal Credit Union; completed a \$750,000 Church Expansion Project (entailing a new floor of administrative offices, an elevator installation, refurbished chapel, senior citizen's lounge and kitchen and two additional public restrooms).

In an attempt to expand its community ministry, the congregation has developed the Bridge Street After-School Tutorial Center which has been funded by the New York State Commission on Education for \$25,000, with an enrollment of seventy-five students. Recently the Bridge Street Teens in Transition Program (a pregnancy prevention program) was funded by the New York City Community Development Agency with a \$19,000 budget. The church also serves 2,000 needy community residents per month, through participation in the Federal Food Distribution Program. The congregation also organized a Food Co-Operative in 1984 which presently serves 100 members monthly.

Pastor Lucas is married to the Reverend Barbara Austin Lucas, also an ordained elder in the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Rev. Barbara Lucas holds a B.S. from Tufts University, a M.A. from Boston University and a Master of Divinity from Colgate Rochester Divinity School. She currently serves as Assistant Pastor and Director of Counseling and Family Ministries at the Bridge Street Church.

Presently he is a doctoral candidate at Colgate Rochester Divinity School. He is also a member of the following organizations: Executive Board Boy Scout Council of Brooklyn, Advisory Board Model Block Project, New York Police Department, The Brooklyn Club and the NAACP.

Revs. Fred and Barbara Lucas are the parents of three children, Kemba Jarena, Hakim Jabez and Kareem Mandela.



Dr. William D. Watley

Dr. William D. Watley, himself an AME "Preacher's Kid", was licensed to preach in 1964, ordained Deacon in 1967 and ordained an Itinerant Elder in 1969. He has pastored churches in Elberton, Georgia and in Warwick, New York (a student appointment). For four years he pastored the Macedonia AMEC in Flushing, New York where he increased the membership by 457 persons, increased the budget 106%, renovated the church and parsonage, and conceptualized and implemented many innovative programs. Currently he is the pastor of St. James AMEC in Newark, New Jersey where he was assigned in 1984. The

membership is 3,025 and Dr. Watley has initiated a tape ministry and expanded the tithing program.

Dr. Watley's experience are many - Preacher, teacher counselor, college president and noted Ecumenist. He has served as counselor for a Migrant Voluntary Improvement Program in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania and as chaplain to over 800 migrants. He provided Social Services as well as pastoral care. He has served Paul Quinn College as "Distinguished Professor of Religion" and was President of the College from 1978 to 1981. During the fall of 1983 he was Visiting Professor at the New Brunswick Theological Seminary. Following that post, he served as Adjunct Professor of Theology at the New York Theological Seminary.

As Associate General Secretary of the Consultation on Church Union (COCU), Dr. Watley assisted in the coordination and management of the process that seeks to unite 23 million Christians in nine denominations into one church; assisted the various COCU commissions such as Theology, Worship, Church Order and had direct responsibility for the Commission on Racism and the Women's Task Force. He also edited the Lenten Booklet "Liberation and Unity". Some of Dr. Watley's other ecumenical associations are the New York Council of Churches; The Fund for Theological Education, Final Selection Committee for the Benjamin E. Mays Fellowship; The Black Theology Project of Theology in the Americas and the National Council Churches of Christ where he presently serves on the Implementation Committee.

Dr. Watley served as Connectional President of the Young People's Division of the African Methodist Episcopal Church from 1967 to 1975. He was president of the New York AME Ministerial Alliance from 1976-78. He has served on the Boards of Directors of the United Way (Waco, Texas) and the United Negro College Fund. He was a Visiting Fellow at Princeton Theological Seminary 1982-83. Dr. Watley is a member of the Phi Beta

Sigma fraternity. Among the many articles written by Dr. Watley are "Lambs and Wolves: A Vision of Hopes" Mid-Stream, an Ecumenical Journal, Volume XXIV, No. 2 April 1985, "Black Ecumenism", Ecumenical Trends, Volume 13, No. 6 June 1984 and "Prophecy Deliverance!--An Afro-American Revolutionary Christianity" (Book Review), Theology Today, Volume XL, No. 3, October 1983. Two booklets edited by Dr. Watley are The Word and Words - Beyond Gender in Theological and Liturgical Language, 1983 and the aforementioned Liberation and Unity: A Guide For Meditation and Action 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986.

Dr. Watley is a renown author. His most recent book is Roots of Resistance: The Nonviolent Ethic of Martin Luther King, Jr. He also co-authored (with Dr. Samuel Proctor), Sermons From The Black Pulpit.

Dr. Watley, the son of Reverend and Mrs. Matthew A. Watley; was born in St. Louis, Missouri. He received his public school education there and attended St. Louis University where he earned the A.B. degree. He received the Master of Divinity degree from the Interdenominational Theological Center, Atlanta, Georgia. In a joint program between Columbia University and Union Theological Seminary (New York), Dr. Watley earned the Ph.D in the field of Social Ethics. He has done post doctoral research at Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts and at The Ecumenical Institute, Celigny, Switzerland. Married to the former Muriel Lewis, Dr. Watley is the father of two.

Dr. Jamye Coleman Williams

Dr. Jamye Coleman Williams was born in Louisville, Kentucky - a child of the parsonage who was literally bred and nurtured in African Methodism. She is the daughter of the late Frederick Douglass Coleman, Sr. who was an AME minister for 40 years and the late Jamye H. Coleman, a noted religious writer and AME missionary.



She attended AME schools, taught in AME schools, worked in AME churches wherever she has lived, has been active with the AME Lay Organization on all levels and has served on numerous AME committees and commissions. At the General Conference in 1984, Dr. Williams was elected **Editor AME Review**, thus becoming a general officer - the first woman so elected in the 200 year history of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

Dr. Williams received the AB degree (cum laude) in English from Wilberforce University; the MA (in English) from Fisk University and the Ph.D in speech from The Ohio State University.

Her professional affiliations include: The Tennessee Speech Communication Association, The National Collegiate Honors Council and the Southern Regional Honors Council. Dr. Williams has served as president of the Nashville Chapter of American Women in Radio and Television (AWRT) and as National Chairperson of that organization's Internship Program of Educational Foundation. She holds membership in Kappa Delta Pi, an honor society in Education; in Theta Alpha Phi, the National Honorary Dramatic Fraternity and Pi Kappa Delta an Honorary Forensic Fraternity. She is currently the campus representative for the Mellon Fellowships in the Humanities.

She has taught at Edward Waters College, Shorter College, Wilberforce University and Morris Brown College. Presently she is Head of the Department of Communication and Professor of Speech Communication at Tennessee State University.

Dr. Williams Religious and Civic affiliations are myriad. She is secretary of the Board of Incorporators, AME Church; a member of the Commission on Chaplains AME Church; member of World Methodist Council and a member of the Board of Governors, National Council of Churches of Christ in America. She is a member of Links, Inc. (Nashville Chapter) and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.

"Outstanding" is certainly an appropriate description of Dr. Williams as indicated by the honors that she has received. The Thirteenth District AME Church has honored her as "Outstanding Layperson" and she has also been named "Outstanding Connectional Layperson" The AME Church. Tennessee State University selected her as "Outstanding Teacher" in 1976; Delta Sigma Theta (Nashville Alumnae Chapter) named her "Outstanding Citizen of 1979". She has been

recipient of the Arthur Crownover "Outstanding Citizenship Award" by the Nashville Area, Civitan Inter-club Council. Along with her husband she has received Alpha Kappa Alpha's award for "Outstanding Personal Involvement in the Community".

Dr. Williams is the wife of Dr. McDonald Williams, Director of the Honors Program and Professor of English at Tennessee State University. They are the parents of one daughter.



Dr. Adam J. Richardson, Jr.

Dr. Richardson, born in Clearwater, Florida is the son of the late Rev. A. J. Richardson, Sr. and Mrs. Inez Walker Richardson. He was educated in the public schools of Tampa, then went on to Tallahassee where he received his BA degree from Florida A and M University. The Master of Divinity was conferred by The Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC) in Atlanta, Georgia. From the Atlanta Theological Association, ITC and Emory University he received the degree Doctor of Sacred Theology.

Dr. Richardson has pastored in Odessa, Florida, Rome, Georgia and Columbus, Georgia. He also served as pastor of Trinity AMEC in Atlanta, Georgia and St. Peter AMEC in Fort Valley, Georgia. Presently, he is serving as pastor of Behtel AMEC in Tallahassee, Florida where he has taken in more than 1000 additional parishioners and is now giving leadership in the building of a \$1.6 million "Worship, Study and Community" Complex.

Dr. Richardson was an assistant Professor at Morris Brown College, and instructor of Homiletics at ITC and is now an adjunct Professor at Florida A and M University. The author of several articles for newspapers, he has contributed chapters and sermons to four published works.

He is a renown speaker. He has been the Religious Emphasis Lecturer at Edward Waters and Paul Quinn Colleges; the "Minority Weekend" lecturer at Fort Polk Army Post, Louisiana; banquet speaker for several Alumni associations and Civic organizations. He has also spoken for the Black Student Alliance at Emory University and Black History, Honors Programs, Baccalaureate and Commencement Exercises. Dr. Richardson a noted and sought after revivalist has conducted revivals in several cities for various churches and denominations. He has served as Keynote Speaker in several Episcopal Districts of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

He is a member of the NAACP, the Urban League and is affiliated with several boards and commissions in Tallahassee and in Leon County Florida.

Dr. Richardson and his wife, the former Connie Speights, are the parents of two children - Monique (16) and Trey (9).

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE
FOR BICENTENNIAL

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1987
10:00 A.M.

-WORSHIP-

REV. ALBERT HYPHE, WORSHIP LEADER

THE HYMN #61
"O God, Our Help In Ages Past"

THE PRAYER REV. DWIGHT DILLARD

THE SCRIPTURE
THE OLD TESTAMENT REV. JEROME HARRIS
Psalms 78:1-8

THE NEW TESTAMENT REV. RICHARD A. JOHNSON
St. Luke 4:16-21

THE WELCOME
REV. EDDIE L. BLANKENSHIP
HOST PRESIDING ELDER
SOUTH BIRMINGHAM-HUNTSVILLE DISTRICT

DR. HOMER McCALL, HOST PASTOR
ST. JOHN A.M.E. CHURCH
HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE RICHARD ALLEN BICENTENNIAL LECTURES AND SERMONS
RT. REV. FRANK M. REID, JR., BISHOP
NINTH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT

10:55 A.M.

LECTURES DR. JAMYE C. WILLIAMS, EDITOR
A.M.E. REVIEW

REV. FRED A. LUCAS, PASTOR
BRIDGE STREET A.M.E. CHURCH

12:00 Noon

WORSHIP SERVICE

REV. FARRELL DUNCOMBE, WORSHIP LEADER

THE CALL TO WORSHIP REV. W. F. THOMPSON

THE OPENING HYMN #82
"O For A Closer Walk With God"

THE PRAYER REV. W. G. TREADWELL

THE SCRIPTURE

THE OLD TESTAMENT REV. C. C. CUMMINGS
Psalms 146

THE NEW TESTAMENT REV. G. W. SHAW
Romans 9:21-39

A SELECTION

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE BISHOP REV. J. F. HOLMES

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE PREACHER BISHOP FRANK M. REID, JR.

THE SERMON HYMN

THE SERMON ~~DR. A. J. RICHARDSON, PASTOR~~
BETHEL A.M.E. CHURCH
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

THE INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP ~~REV. J. F. MCINTYRE~~
BRIDGE ST. AME CHURCH
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT APPEAL THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

THE DOXOLOGY

THE BENEDICTION

1:30 P.M. - 2:30 P.M. -- LUNCH

2:30 P.M.

LECTURES DR. A. J. RICHARDSON
DR. JAMYE C. WILLIAMS

4:00 P.M.

LECTURE DR. A. J. RICHARDSON

7:15 P.M.

LOCAL CHURCH WELCOME PROGRAM

7:30 P.M.

WORSHIP SERVICE

REV. R. W. HILSON, WORSHIP LEADER

PROCESSION

DOXOLOGY

CALL TO WORSHIP..... REV. ROY WALKER

OPENING HYMN #571
"Lift Every Voice And Sing"

PRAYER REV. W. M. BODDIE

CHANT

A SELECTION

SCRIPTURE

THE OLD TESTAMENT MRS. T. D. PETERS
Psalms 136

THE NEW TESTAMENT MRS. MARY BLANKENSHIP
St. John 10:1-16

THE DECALOGUE REV. A. R. RAY

THE MISSION OFFERING REV. J. F. McCLOUD

A SELECTION

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE BISHOP REV. H. O. SWANSON

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE PREACHER RT. REV. FRANK M. REID, JR., BISHOP
NINTH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT

THE SERMON HYMN #327
"I Need Thee Every Hour"

THE SERMON REV. FRED A. LUCAS, PASTOR
BRIDGE STREET A.M.E. CHURCH
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

THE INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP AND
RECOMMITMENT TO ALLEN'S PRINCIPLES REV. S. T. DAVIS

THE OFFERING THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

REMARKS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION REV. FRED A. LUCAS

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1987

⁴¹
9:21 A.M.

LECTURES REV. FRED A. LUCAS
DR. A. J. RICHARDSON

12:00 Noon REV. GEORGE WASHINGTON, WORSHIP LEADER

THE CALL TO WORSHIP REV. R. J. RUMLEY

OPENING HYMN #77

"Come, Thou Fount Of Every Blessing"

THE PRAYER REV. R. GREEN

THE SCRIPTURE

THE OLD TESTAMENT REV. JAMES L. DAVIS
Psalms 103

THE NEW TESTAMENT REV. J. D. SANDERS
Hebrews 11:1-10

A SELECTION

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE BISHOP REV. S. SPENCER

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE PREACHER BISHOP FRANK M. REID, JR.

THE SERMON HYMN

THE SERMON REV. FRED A. LUCAS, PASTOR
BRIDGE STREET A.M.E. CHURCH
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

THE INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP REV. W. N. HUGGINS

STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT APPEAL

DOXOLOGY

THE BENEDICTION

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1987

9:21 A.M.

LECTURES REV. WILLIAM D. WATLEY
REV. FRED LUCAS

12:00 Noon

REV. R. J. KING, WORSHIP LEADER

THE CALL TO WORSHIP REV. J. REMBERT

THE OPENING HYMN # 283

THE PRAYER "I Am Thine, O Lord"
REV. R. NEAL

THE CHORAL RESPONSE

THE SCRIPTURES

THE OLD TESTAMENT REV. C. FELS
Psalms 146

THE NEW TESTAMENT REV. LEO BROCK

THE CHORAL SELECTION Ephesians 4:1-13

THE PRESENTATION OF THE BISHOP

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE PREACHER BISHOP FRANK M. REID, JR.

THE SERMON HYMN

THE SERMON REV. A. J. RICHARDSON, PASTOR
BETHEL A.M.E. CHURCH
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

THE INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP REV. E. A. ROUSE

STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT APPEAL

THE DOXOLOGY

THE BENEDICTION

SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE

THURSDAY - FEB. 26, 1987

1:30 P.M. - 2:30 P.M. -- LUNCH

2:30 P.M.

LECTURES DR. A. J. RICHARDSON
REV. FRED A. LUCAS

7:15 P.M.

WORSHIP SERVICE

REV. P. C. JONES, WORSHIP LEADER

PROCESSIONAL

DOXOLOGY

THE CALL TO WORSHIP REV. P. H. LEWIS

OPENING HYMN #82
"O For A Closer Walk With God"

THE PRAYER REV. Z. D. HARDWICK

THE CHORAL RESPONSE

A SELECTION THE GREATER ST. PAUL MASS CHOIR

SCRIPTURE

THE OLD TESTAMENT REV. G. D. SPEARMAN
Psalms 121

THE NEW TESTAMENT REV. ROY McCLOUD
Romans 8:31-39

THE DECALOGUE REV. W. J. MILLER

THE MISSION OFFERING REV. J. A. RUMPH

A SELECTION THE GREATER ST. PAUL MASS CHOIR

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE BISHOP

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE PREACHER BISHOP FRANK M. REID, JR.

THE SERMON HYMN

THE SERMON REV. WILLIAM D. WATLEY, PASTOR
ST. JAMES A.M.E. CHURCH
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

THE INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP REV. H. W. ANTHONY

THE OFFERING

REMARKS