



Bethel A.M.E.  
Annual Women's Day Celebration

Theme:  
Steadfast and Faithful Women

JUNE 13, 1993



Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church  
Champaign, Illinois

The Ministry  
The Rev. Steven A. Jackson, Pastor    The Rev. O.G. Monroe, Assoc. Minister  
The Rt. Rev. James Haskell Mayo Bishop, Fourth Episcopal District  
The Rev. Lewis E. Grady, Jr. Presiding Elder

Cover design taken from:  
Book of Black Heroes, volume 2  
Great Women in the Struggle  
by  
Toyomi Igus  
Veronica Freeman Ellis  
Diane Patrick  
Valerie Wilson Wesley



## Steadfast and Faithful Women of Bethel A.M.E. Church

*O love the Lord, all ye his saints: for the Lord preserveth the faithful and plentifully rewardeth the proud doer. (Psalms 31: 23)*

Today, the Bethel Family honors the lives, and accomplishments of our Senior Women. Their contributions to Bethel A.M.E. Church and the community at large, are both admirable and commendable. These steadfast and faithful women, through love, devotion and positive energy, stand as living examples of lives devoted to Christian service.

Odelia Murray Alexander  
Mildred Louise Allen  
Mary McKinney Avant  
Mattie Lee Crawford Baines  
Ola Mae Roberts Banks  
Erma Pauline Scott Bridgewater  
Nettie L. Louise Cook  
Dolly Gant  
Lucy Jess Blake Gray  
Ruth A. Stratton Gray  
Wilda Quincy Herndon  
Davie Jane Roberts Hill  
Lizzie Almira Davis Johnson  
Esther Mae Phillips Kemp  
Lena Lindsay  
Madeline Hicks McMullen  
Claudia Mae Glover Suggs Pickens  
Alyce Lee Dungy Scott  
Mattie Elsie Murray Tinsley

## **Odelia Murray Alexander**

Odelia Murray Alexander has been a faithful member of Bethel A.M.E. church for 73 years. Mrs. Alexander, devoted club member, retired health professional, and steadfast member of Bethel, was born April 28, 1911 in Metropolis, Illinois to Mattie Elsie (Mills Murray) Tinsley and George Murray. She joined Bethel A.M.E. Church in 1920 and has been a willing and devoted church worker from the beginning. Mrs. Alexander is a steward and has served in that capacity for over 30 years. She is also a class leader. Former organizational memberships include the Helping Hand Club, Calendar Club, and the Fleur de Lis Club. Mrs. Alexander has served as church clerk, and she is one of the top ticket salespersons for the Founder's Day Banquet and other church activities.

For many decades, Mrs. Alexander worked as a lab technician at Mercy Hospital in Urbana. Mrs. Alexander is a true "race woman". Her community service includes having been elected and having served as Worthy Matron of Deborah Chapter #27, Order of the Eastern Star (Prince Hall Affiliation); and having held memberships in the Urban League and the NAACP.

Mrs. Alexander was married to Hugh Alexander and is the mother of three children: Donald, Phyllis and Frieda.

## **Mildred Louise Allen**

Mildred Louise Allen, retired home maintenance professional, educator, loyal and steadfast member of Bethel A.M.E. Church for seventy nine years, is the daughter of Essex Moy Allen and Clara Mae Allen. Born November 29, 1901 in Urbana, Illinois, Mrs. Allen joined Bethel A.M.E. Church at the age of 12, under the pastorage of Reverend Henry Simons (fondly called Father Simons). As a child, she was a member of the Lou Anna Riley Missionary Sunbeams. She was also a member of the Women's Missionary Society, teacher in the Sunday School program for 25 years, former Choir member, and she assisted her mother in the Drama Club. Mrs. Allen taught in the Headstart program where she received special recognition for her outstanding contribution.

Mrs. Allen has the distinction of being the oldest living member of the original group of black families who came to Champaign County, where she has resided for 91 years. Mrs. Allen is a resident of the Greenbrier Nursing Center. She is quite alert and continues to possess a wonderful sense of humor.

Mrs. Allen is the mother of James Richard.

## **Mary McKinney Avant**

Mary McKinney Avant, retired home maintenance professional and culinary artist, has been a member of Bethel A.M.E. Church for 38 years. Born October 14, 1909 in Tate County, Mississippi, she is the daughter of Ambrose and Zilla Mabry McKinney. She joined Bethel A.M.E. Church in 1955, currently attending when her health permits. For more than 30 years, Mrs. Avant has given moral support to the members of Bethel A.M.E. Church.

Mrs. Avant enjoys gardening and sharing vegetables with her neighbors and friends. She has made several beautiful quilts for family members. Mrs. Avant is called "Little Mama" by her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

She was married to Dock Avant and is the mother of six children: Richard, Earlis, Lilly, Shirley, Willie Jean and Sterling.

## **Mattie Lee Crawford Baines**

Mattie Lee Baines, loving wife, devoted mother, and member of Bethel A.M.E. Church for several decades, is the daughter of Archie and Sally Ann Crawford. She was born April 21, 1903 in Winone, Mississippi. Mrs. Baines joined Bethel A.M.E. Church in 1954 and is a member of the Lou Anna Riley Missionary Society. She worked with Mrs. Clara Allen in the Drama Club at Bethel A.M.E. Church several years ago.

Mrs. Baines loves working in her flower garden when her health permits.

She is married to Rufus E. Baines and is the mother of Estella, Rufus Jr., Devon and Delt.

## Ola Mae Roberts Banks

Ola Mae Roberts Banks, devoted wife, loving mother, faithful member of Bethel A.M.E. Church for several decades, is the daughter of Jeff and Rainey Roberts. She was born August 22, 1900 and joined Bethel A.M.E. Church at a very early age. Her church involvement includes memberships in the Lou Anna Riley Missionary Society, Stewardess Board, and the Helping Hand Club. Mrs. Banks has been a dedicated and faithful member of the church, being in attendance when her health permitted. She gave freely of her time, talent, and financial resources. She is also a member of World War II Mothers, Unit 41.

Mrs. Banks was married to Richard Banks Sr. and is the mother of six children: Richard Jr., Thomas, Melvin, Samuel, Cora Mae and Virginia.

## Erma Pauline Scott Bridgewater

Erma Pauline Scott Bridgewater is a community leader, public servant and member of the Bethel A.M.E. Church Choir. Mrs. Bridgewater was born November 24, 1913 in Champaign, Illinois and is the daughter of Raymond M. and Sarah Ann Pauline (Wilson) Scott. She joined Bethel in 1925 and has been steadfast in her involvement in several church activities. She has been a member of the Senior Choir since 1931, secretary-treasurer of the Trustee Board since 1959, and a dedicated Sunday School member.

Mrs. Bridgewater's work experience includes the following: 1937, maid in Newman Hall of the University of Illinois; 1939-42, recreation leader at Douglass Park; 1943-45, director of Lawhead Servicemen's Center; 1955-63, assistant director and director of Douglass Center; 1963-65, proof reader for the Champaign Urbana Courier Newspaper; 1965-70, relocation officer for the City of Champaign Urban Renewal program; 1970-75, community worker at Frances Nelson Health Center; 1975-82, relocation housing specialist in the City of Champaign's Community Development department.

Her memberships in organizations include: Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., Urban League, Frances Nelson Health Center Board, Fair Housing Board, Eads Street Development, Family Service of Champaign County, ABC - A Better Community, Black Community Network, East Central Illinois Area Agency on Aging, RSVP Advisory Board, Case Management Advisory Board of Covenant Hospital, Community Services Block Grant Advisory Board, National Council of Negro Women, and Champaign National Bank's Community Reinvestment Act Advisory Board.

Mrs. Bridgewater is married to Cecil Bridgewater and is the mother of three children; Cecil Jr., Ron and Cassandra.

## **Nettie L. Louis Cook**

Nettie L. Louis Cook, retired civil servant, club member, community volunteer, and faithful member of Bethel A.M.E. Church for more than 70 years, was born June 16, 1910 in Champaign, Illinois to Fred King and Anne Valentine Louis. Mrs. Cook joined Bethel in 1922 at the age of 12. Her church involvement includes membership in the Women's Missionary Society, serving as a class leader, and serving as treasurer of both the Scholarship Fund and the Benevolent Fund. Mrs. Cook has been a church steward since 1964. Earlier church activities include: Bethel representative to Church Women United (CWU); Missionary "Torch Lighter" and cheer chairperson, 4th District (conference level); member of the Lay Organization at Bethel; chairperson of the Bethel Expansion Fund; several-time chairperson for Women's Day; past president of the Fleur de Lis Club and the Elsie Taborn Club; former member of the Usher Board; and chair of the Allen-Lincoln-Douglass Founder's Day Banquet for many years. She also represented Bethel in her work with the "Meals on Wheels" program.

Mrs. Cook's work experience includes: serving as a WPA office clerk, key punch operator and supervisor for the State of Illinois, the University of Illinois, and Chanute Air Force Base. She retired from Chanute in 1978 after 25 years of service.

Community activities include: volunteer work for the Salvation Army, and Champaign County Health Care; board member for the Church Women United; financial secretary of the National Council of Negro Women; and member of the NAACP. Mrs. Cook was elected and served as Worthy Matron of Deborah Chapter #27, Order of the Eastern Star (Prince Hall Affiliation) in 1971. She was also treasurer of Deborah Chapter #27 for 16 years.

She was married to Mr. Ernest Cook and is the mother of Barbara Williams.

## **Dolly Gant**

Dolly Gant, faithful Bethel member, devoted club member and community servant, was born February 4, 1910 in Vicksburg, Mississippi. She attended Vicksburg Industrial School and worked at McBride's Drugstore in Champaign, Illinois for 17 years.

She has been a faithful and devoted member who offered her services and support to Bethel over the years.

Mrs. Gant is currently a resident of Americana Healthcare Center in Urbana.

## **Lucy Jess Blake Gray**

Lucy Jess Blake Gray is an entrepreneur, public servant and Bethel A.M.E. Church member for 62 years. She was born January 2, 1914 in Paris, Illinois to Frank and Bertha Fredrica (Manual) Blake. Mrs. Gray joined Bethel A.M.E. Church in 1932 and has been willingly involved in several church activities. She was a member of the Choir for 32 years, was a member of the Calendar Club, and also held membership in the Helping Hand Club. Mrs. Gray formerly served as chairperson for Women's Day. Currently, she is president of the Lou Anna Riley Missionary Society, a member of the Board of Trustees, past president and current member of the Willing Workers Club, and a member of both the Church Women United and the Wesley Women Society.

Mrs. Gray worked at Kaufmans and Kuhns Department Stores as a salesperson for thirty-six years. She owns and operates Gray's Antique Shop in Champaign. Her community service includes organizing the first block club in her neighborhood. She holds memberships in the following organizations: Champaign County Development Cooperation (CCDC), University of Illinois Y.W.C.A., Antique Study Group, Champaign Historical Museum, Cunningham Children's Home, and Champaign County Board of Realtors.

Mrs. Lucy Gray was married to Louis Gray, and is the mother of Steve.

## **Ruth A. Stratton Gray**

Ruth A. Gray, pioneer community leader, retired home maintenance professional and faithful and devoted church worker, has been a member of Bethel A.M.E. Church for more than 48 years. Mrs. Gray was born December 13, 1913 in Elkhart, Illinois. She is the second of seven children born to Christopher and Bessie (Ferrel) Stratton. Mrs. Gray joined Bethel A.M.E. Church in 1945. She serves as a class leader, is sick chairperson for the Willing Workers Club and Bethel Church, and is a member of the Lou Anna Riley Missionary Society. Mrs. Gray is responsible for distributing The Upper Room to the entire membership, including the sick and shut-in. She is a former member of the Choir, Helping Hand Club, Calendar Club and the Trustee Board. Mrs. Gray earned the distinction of serving as the first black precinct committee woman in Urbana. She worked as a patron of Gamma Chapter (undergraduate chapter at the University of Illinois), of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, purchasing needed items for Gamma House.

Mrs. Ruth A. Gray's experience in the work force includes working as a WPA kindergarten assistant, culinary artist and home maintenance professional.

She is married to Millard Gray and is the mother of Shirley.

## Wilda Quincy Herndon

Wilda Quincy Herndon, retired health professional, community service volunteer, pioneer club member, and faithful and steadfast worker in Bethel A.M.E. Church for more than 43 years, was born on May 31, 1913 in Okolona, Mississippi. She is the fourth of five children born to Joe and Susie Hursey White Herndon. Ms. Herndon joined Bethel A.M.E. Church in 1950 under the charge of Reverend Elsie Taborn and has been steadfast and loyal in her service to the church. She served as Founder's Day and Women's Day chairperson, and she has been a narrator for several church functions. She was a steward for many years and is now a steward-emeritus. She was also a member of the Calendar Club and the Fleur de Lis. In 1953 Ms. Herndon was named Church Woman of the Year. She was also crowned queen of the 4th district of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

Ms. Herndon's work experience includes being a vocalist with a local orchestra broadcasting from WDW radio in Tuscola, singing for "coke hours" at Prehn's (now Thunderbird Restaurant), and working as an elevator operator in the Champaign City Building. She later trained as a medical technologist at Burnham City Hospital. This training led to Mrs. Herndon's 25 year career as a lab technician at McKinley Hospital, University of Illinois. She was the first lab technician hired at the Frances Nelson Health Center. To her credit, the first drapes and examination table for the Frances Nelson Health Center were donated by Ms. Herndon. She also volunteered at Carle Hospital for ten years.

Ms. Herndon's community activities include organizing the Royalties, a club of civic minded women dedicated to serving both the black and white communities. She also served as vice president of the local chapter of the NAACP, board member of the Champaign Urbana Kindergarten, and a Red Cross Gray Lady. She also works with the League of Women Voters.

## Davie Jane Roberts Hill

Davie Jane Roberts Hill, early childhood educator, church deaconess, faithful member of Bethel A.M.E. Church for more than 60 years, was born September 15, 1914 in Monticello, Georgia. She is the second born of six children to Jimmie Ned and Sarah (Clements) Roberts. Mrs. Hill joined Bethel A.M.E. Church in 1929 and has served the church in many capacities. She is currently president of the Stewardess Board.

Mrs. Hill has served Bethel as both superintendent and teacher of the Sunday School, treasurer of the Missionary Society, Senior Choir member, and assistant class leader. She has also chaired several Sunday School programs. With the help of others, Mrs. Hill has supplied flowers for the church, prepared food for funerals, and fed many homeless people in Champaign.

Mrs. Hill's commitment and service to the African Methodist Episcopal Church was recognized over 15 years ago when she was consecrated as Deaconess at the Illinois Annual Conference by Bishop Samuel Solomon Morris. In this capacity, Mrs. Hill encourages, fosters and improves the general interests of the church; promotes the comfort and solicits the friendship and sympathy of the general public; cheers the fallen; feeds the hungry; clothes the naked; seeks out the homeless; encourages thrift; and saves the lost.

Mrs. Hill's experience in the work force includes: assistant dressmaker, worker in the N.Y.A. program at the University of Illinois, supervisor for Champaign County Headstart, and director of Community Home for Children from 1957 to 1963.

Mrs. Hill is the mother of Diane and Jimmie.

## Lizzie Almira Davis Johnson

Lizzie Almira Davis Johnson, educator, church deaconess, faithful and steadfast member of the A.M.E. Church for more than 70 years, was born on August 9, 1909 in Springfield, Illinois. She is the sixth of ten children born to Reverend John Hamilton and Lizzie (Harris) Davis. Mrs. Johnson joined St. Paul A.M.E. Church in Springfield, Illinois at a very early age. In 1927 she joined Bethel A.M.E. Church and has served Bethel as Sunday School teacher and stewardess. Mrs. Johnson's commitment and service to the African Methodist Episcopal Church was recognized years ago when she was consecrated as deaconess at the Illinois Annual Conference by Bishop Joseph Gomez. Of her responsibilities as deaconess, Mrs. Johnson states, "The one thing I did want for Bethel A.M.E. Church, was to have a Deaconess Board." Through Mrs. Johnson's encouragement Mrs. Evola Jordon (deceased) and Mrs. Davie Hill were consecrated as deaconess' in the A.M.E. church. Her dedication is further evidenced by her frequent attendance at Annual Conferences and other A.M.E. meetings.

Mrs. Johnson was truly a pioneer in education. She graduated from the University of Illinois in 1931 where she worked for room and board all four years. Her first teaching assignment was in Vandalia, Missouri where she earned \$50 a month. She later became principal of Lawhead School, Champaign, earning \$90 a month. Mrs. Lizzie Johnson was the first principal of Booker T. Washington School in Champaign. She also opened a Johnny's Play School in Gibson City and kept the children of working parents. She moved to Decatur, Illinois and became the first black teacher and principal of Mary W. French School.

Memberships in organizations include: charter member of Epsilon Epsilon Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., life member of NAACP, National Association of Education, Illinois Education Association, and the University of Illinois Alumni Association.

Mrs. Johnson was married to Wilbur Johnson and is the mother of Nancy (deceased) and John.

Swain 1980  
+ Ed.  
Lizzie

## Esther Mae Phillips Kemp

Esther Mae Phillips Kemp, an administrative assistant at Bethel A.M.E. Church since 1984, pioneer woman in the A.M.E. Church, faithful and steadfast worker in Bethel, was born November 25, 1913 in Monticello, Illinois. She is the second of five children born to Charles Everett and Juanita (Goodloe) Phillips. Mrs. Kemp came to Bethel in 1952 from Coppin A.M.E. Church in Chicago and brought 20 years of experience in denominational, interdenominational and international Christian service and activity. Mrs. Kemp has served as secretary to two A.M.E. bishops, John Andrew Gregg and George Wilbur Baber. She was elected first state secretary and later president of the Illinois Christian Youth Council (Youth Movements Department of the newly formed Illinois Church Council), the first interdenominational agency for Illinois. Mrs. Kemp also served as delegate from Illinois (Lincoln Land) to the First World Conference of Christian Youth held in Amsterdam, Holland in 1939 where 76 countries were represented.

Mrs. Kemp has been a faithful worker in Bethel A.M.E. Church, generously donating her time, talent and financial resources. She serves as a steward, lay reader, and a member of the Lou Anna Riley Missionary Society. Mrs. Kemp instituted the "Prayer Project" coin box that encourages family worship at meal time. She also served as an advisor to the Bethel Biblical Art Group, and she was responsible for compiling the quarterly conference and annual conference reports. She has served as administrative assistant to four Pastors, John Q. Owens, Alfred A. Johnson, Hiram H. Walker and Steven A. Jackson. For several years, Mrs. Kemp edited Bethel's newsletters, *GO YE JOURNAL* and *AMEN CORNER*. She has also served on the Women's Day committee, and assisted the Founder's Day committee.

Mrs. Kemp's work experience includes working in two financial institutions founded by her father. She worked in her father's office in Springfield, Illinois as a clerk cashier for the Frederick Douglass Savings and Loan Association. This was the first black institution south of Chicago. She also worked for the Estate Benefit Insurance Company from 1930-35.

Mrs. Kemp is dedicated to serving others. Her dedication to service is seen in her previous four year term as president of Church Women United and her current membership in the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW).

Mrs. Kemp was married to Attorney John M. Kemp

## **Lena Lindsay**

Lena Lindsay is the second oldest member of Bethel A.M.E. Church. She is a generous donor, devoted community volunteer worker, and has been a faithful member of Bethel A.M.E. Church for more than 20 years. Mrs. Lindsay was born April 19, 1897 in Indianapolis, Indiana. She joined Bethel approximately 25 years ago under the charge of Reverend Hiram Walker. Mrs. Lindsay is a member of the Lou Anna Riley Missionary Society and the Willing Workers Club.

Bethel A.M.E. Church has benefitted immensely from Mrs. Lindsay's generosity. Her gifts to Bethel include \$1,000 toward the covering of the pews, \$1,000 toward Bethel's first Church van, the purchase of a kitchen sink, and the purchase of a sofa for the lounge. For several years, Mrs. Lindsay also rewarded each Bethel high school graduate with a \$50 donation. She has given freely of her time, talent and finances to help humanity.

Her community service includes a membership in the Retired Senior Volunteer Program of Champaign (RSVP), Douglass Seniors. She received special recognition from the Senior Citizen Volunteer Program of Champaign and played an instrument in the Senior Citizen Band.

Mrs. Lindsay was married to Loyal J. Lindsay.

## **Madeline Hicks McMullen**

Madeline Hicks McMullen was born June 11, 1914 to Shelly Hicks and Mary Katherine Hughes. She is a nursery school teacher, retired culinary artist, and served as a faithful and steadfast director of Bethel's Young People's Department (YPD) for more than 25 years. She continues to work diligently with the children of Bethel, serving as an advisor in the YPD program. Her dedication to the children is also admirably displayed as she serves in her capacity as teacher in the Sunday School program, a position she has held since 1964. Mrs. McMullen joined Bethel A.M.E. Church in 1961 under the charge of Reverend Blaine Ramsey. She is a class leader, Women's Missionary Society member, Steward Board member and Helping Hand Club president. Over the years, Mrs. McMullen's pizza has been a vital source of funds for the YPD. In 1991, Mrs. McMullen was crowned the queen of Champaign Churches, gaining city wide recognition for Bethel. She has received many awards from several local organizations and the Missionary Conference Branch.

Mrs. McMullen's work experience includes a 50 year career as a cook at the University of Illinois, serving as a teacher's aide in Brookens Junior High School's Headstart program, and working as a nursery teacher at the Bradley Day Care Center. Her community service includes having been elected vice president of the Champaign chapter of the NAACP in 1961.

She was married to Charles McMullen and is the mother of Rudolph and Charles.

## Claudia Mae Glover Suggs Pickens

Claudia Mae Glover Suggs Pickens is a loving mother, devoted club member, fund raiser, community worker, and faithful member of Bethel A.M.E. Church. She is the daughter of Samuel and Emma (Peacock) Glover and was born May 11, 1906 in Monticello, Georgia. She is the second of five children. Mrs. Pickens came to Bethel in February, 1921 from an African Methodist Episcopal Church in Monticello, Georgia.

She has served the church in many capacities. She has been both a long term member and past president and of the Usher Board, where she ushered for sixteen years; past president and member of the Helping Hand Club; and member of the Calendar Club. For several years she served food to bereaved families at the church. Mrs. Pickens was a great fund raiser, accepting the crown on behalf of the Usher Board for raising the most money at the Church's program; served as co-host of the Teenage Show; and assisted with style shows for Bethel.

Her community work includes working as a patron for Gamma Chapter (undergraduate chapter at the University of Illinois), of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, purchasing needed items for the AKA's house; and providing housing for University of Illinois black students several decades ago. Mrs. Pickens was elected and served as Worthy Matron of Deborah Chapter #27, Order of the Eastern Star, (Prince Hall Affiliation) in 1938. She received an award in recognition of her dedicated service to Deborah Chapter #27.

Mrs. Pickens is the mother of Eugene.

## Alyce Lee Dungy Scott

Alyce Lee Dungy Scott, community volunteer worker, generous donor, and faithful worker at Bethel A.M.E. Church, was born March 12 in Carmi, Illinois. The fourth of eight children, she is the daughter of Charlie William and Ida Mae (Collins) Dungy. Joining the church in 1949 under the charge of Reverend Elsie Taborn, Mrs. Scott has been a member of Bethel for more than forty years. From 1952 to 1992, Mrs. Scott was appointed and served as steward. She was church treasurer for many years, and she was a member of Bethel's financial committee for several decades. Mrs. Scott's other activities include: member and past secretary of the Willing Workers Club, former member of the Usher Board, member of the Women's Day Committee, and former member of the Choir.

Bethel has benefited immensely from Mrs. Scott's generous donations to the Church. She has provided a water fountain and the baptismal fountain that were given in memory of her late husband, Raymond Scott. She also donated a historical plaque that included the names of the trustees when the new church was built. Among the trustee's names included on the plaque is Mrs. Scott's sister, the late Mary Ellen Dungy McMurray. Mrs. Scott regularly donates to the Women's Missionary scholarship fund.

Her community volunteer work includes serving the Red Cross for 17 years as a volunteer bus driver and working with the Blood Bank. She received a special citation for exceptional volunteer service from the Red Cross at the 70th annual meeting of the Champaign County Chapter in 1987. She has also volunteered with the Meals on Wheels program. Mrs. Scott was elected and served as Worthy Matron of De Chapter #27, Order of the Eastern Star (Prince Hall Affiliation) in 1958.

## Mattie Elsie Murray Tinsley

Mattie Elsie Murray Tinsley is a retired educator. She has the honored distinction of being the oldest member of Bethel A.M.E. Church. Mrs. Tinsley was born October 1895 in Fulton, Kentucky and is the daughter of Spencer James and Laura E. She joined Bethel at a very early age and has been a faithful and steadfast member of the church for several decades. Mrs. Tinsley served as a stewardess for many years and is now a stewardess-emeritus. She was also a teacher and superintendent of the Sunday School, Helping Hand Club member, Lou Anna Riley Women's Missionary Society past secretary, and a class leader.

She graduated from Parkland College at the age of 65 and taught adult education in Urbana, Illinois.

Mrs. Tinsley was married to Johnson Tinsley and is the mother of three children: Odelia, Georgia and Spencer.

*Mattie Elsie Murray Tinsley*

**Order of Worship  
Women's Day  
June 13, 1993**

***Church Men of the Month***

Mr. Cliff Peete

Mr. Joseph McDowell

***Church Women of the Day***

Mrs. Renee Renfro

Ms. Gilda Jennings

**Quiet Moments:** As we come into the sanctuary, let us come with an attitude of prayer and thanksgiving. Give God all the praise and the glory. For it was He who allowed us to come together to worship Him.

**Instrumental Prelude**

**The Introit:** "Spirit of the Living God"

**Processional:** "This is The Day The Lord Has Made"

**Doxology:** #647 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

**CALL TO WORSHIP** - Traditional

**Minister:** I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the Lord, our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem.

**People:** For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.

**M:** Because of the house of the Lord, our God, I will seek thy good.

**P:** Those that be planted in the house of the Lord, shall flourish in the courts of our God.

**M:** Blessed are they that dwell in thy house. Lord, I have loved thy habitation, the place where thy honor dwelleth.

**P:** For the Lord is in His Holy temple, let all the earth keep silence before him.

**M:** Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer.

**P:** O sing unto the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things. Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all the earth, sing praises.

## Order of Worship - cont.

Hymn of Praise: "We Come To Worship Him" (see insert)

Invocation: Mrs. Ruth Gray

Choral Response: #413 "Yield Not to Temptation" (Refrain)

Welcome: Dr. Elaine Copeland

Presentation of Plaques: Mrs. Halestine Session

The Ministry of Music

Scripture: (Old) PROVERBS 31:10-31 Mrs. Regina Wiley  
(New)) EPHESIANS 4:25-33 Mrs. Toja Douglas

Preface: "From All That Dwell Below the Skies"

Decalogue: "The Ten Commandments & Response" (Abridged)

The Ministry of Music

Benevolent Offering

Announcements: Mrs. Diane Mitchell, Church Clerk

Introduction of Visitors: Usher

Pastor's Notes

Worship Through Giving: Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the Most High. (Psalm 50:14) KJV

Prayer of Thanks

Choral Response: #644 "All Things Come of Thee"

Children's Message: #549 "Jesus Loves Me"

Altar Call: "Nobody But You Lord"

Pastoral Prayer

Memorial Service: Mrs. Davie Hill

The Ministry of Music

Introduction of Speaker: Mrs. Donna Jackson

THE MESSAGE: Reverend Bridgette Black, Bethel A.M.E. Church, Lafayette, IN

Invitation to Christian Discipleship: "This Little Light of Mine"

Closing Remarks: Reverend Steven A. Jackson

Recessional: #594 "Bless the Lord, O My Soul"

Doxology: "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" (Second Tune)

Benediction: Reverend Bridgette Black

Instrumental Postlude

## Patrons

*Mr. Nathaniel Banks*  
*Mr. Cecil Bridgewater*  
*Mr. Jerome Cook*  
*Mr. Carlos Donaldson*  
*Mr. Troy Douglas*  
*Mr. James H. Hayes, Jr.*  
*Mr. Valton Henderson*  
*Mr. Ray F. Hines*  
*Reverend Steven A. Jackson*  
*Elder Michael Jenkins*  
*Mr. Leon Lomax*  
*Mr. Speedie McDowell*  
*Mr. James McGavock*  
*Dr. Henry Mears*  
*Reverend O.G. Munroe*  
*Mr. David Phillips*  
*Mr. Jesse Poe*  
*Mr. George Pope*  
*Mr. Thomas C. Rollins*  
*Mr. David Session*  
*Mr. Eugene Washington*

*Thank you to all of the committee chairpersons and captains who worked so diligently on the Women's Day program. Your cooperation and spirit of service was truly appreciated.*

*Mrs. Donna Marie Jackson  
Mrs. Mary Grace Thomas  
Co-Chairwomen, Women's Day Program*

## **Captains**

Carrie P. Banks

Erma S. Bridgewater

Elaine Carter

Sherbie L. Faulkner

Ruth Gray

Odessa Hudson

Donna Montiro

Mattie Phillips

Connie Polite

Halestine Session

Marilyn Starks

Edna Young

## **Committee Chairwomen**

Men's Patron Committee .....	Thomas C. Rollins
Steward Board Liaison.....	Carrie Pope Banks, Alma Faye Renfro
Reception Committee .....	Elaine Carter
Program Booklet Committee.....	Lisa Davis, Diane Mitchell
Senior Women's Histories Committee	Halestine Session, Mary Grace Thomas, Donna Jackson

# **Twelve Things To Remember**

**The value of time**

**The success of perseverance**

**The pleasure of working**

**The dignity of simplicity**

**The worth of character**

**The power of kindness**

**The influence of example**

**The obligation of duty**

**The wisdom of economy**

**The virtue of patience**

**The improvement of talent**

**The joy of originating**

**-anonymous**