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SALEM
SPEAKS

Volume II, Number 4

Winter 1984

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK
by: Rev. Claude E. Shelby, Sr.

Our Building Program

Building a house of worship for God is a very noble and noteworthy endeavor for the spiritual and moral god of our community.

At the beginning of Fiscal Year 1984, we were inspired to outline our THREE TO FIVE YEAR PLAN for that purpose. We all recognize the fact that we cannot accomplish this great task without God's help. Psalms 127:1 says, "Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it."

At this point in our quest, we have had the full cooperation of many of our members. We have also had a number of large contributions made by members who have proven that they are in earnest about this great endeavor. On the other hand, your pastor's request for contributions by the whole membership has gone unheeded by many. When our new building is erected, let all of us be able to say that we played our part.

Let us all do our best to make Salem's Building Program what God would have it be. This can only be done by our prayers, concern and systematic giving.

National Baptist Convention
U.S.A. Incorporated

The 104th Annual Session of the National Baptist Convention, Inc. was held in Washington, D.C., September 4-9, 1984. The general theme was, "The Convention That Cares."

We thank Salem for seeing to it that your pastor could attend. Much was gained
(continued on page 3)

ORDINATION SERVICE AT SALEM
by: Rev. James Caraway

Salem witnessed a very special event on Friday, September 14, 1984. An ordination service was held here for Brothers Lorenzo Bolden and Henry Goines. The theme for the night was I Timothy 3:1-7.

Pastor Shelby called together an ordination council of ordained ministers for the purpose of publicly questioning Brothers Bolden and Goines. The council consisted of Rev. Shelby, moderator; and Reverends W. Howe Donaldson, Morris Clark, Lundy Savage, Henry Emery, Cypress Hughes, and James Caraway. After a spirited period of questioning, the council retired for deliberations.

The council returned and gave their report to the congregation. The secretary of the council reported that both candidates had passed their examinations and it was recommended that these brothers be favorably voted to be ordained ministers of the gospel of Jesus Christ. The Salem congregation voted unanimously to ordain Brothers Bolden and Goines.

The Rev. Henry Emery led the council in the ordination prayer (laying on of hands). Rev. Lundy Savage gave the charge to the ministers. The highlight of the evening came when Rev. W. Howe Donaldson delivered a dynamic soul-inspiring sermon. All in all, the night was a great success and the Lord welcomed two more laborers to work in his vineyard.

Serve the LORD with Gladness

JESUS MOVIE IS A HOAX

The following is a letter received from the office of Attorney General Neil F. Hartigan:

Thank you for your recent correspondence concerning the purported making of a movie involving the life of Jesus Christ.

In the past few years, mail and telephone calls have come to our office from every state in the union as well as from other countries. At the present time, we have been receiving heavy correspondence from your area. Feel free to originate your own public advisory on this matter if desired, both to reassure the citizens of your area that the making of any such movie is indeed a HOAX and to help reduce the burden on our office in responding to these letters and calls.

On several occasions, citizens of various states have registered protests with the attorney general and other public officials of their states. We have, therefore, distributed this information to federal representatives and senators as well as attorneys general throughout the country.

Sincerely,

Jerry Owens
Administrative Assistant
Public Information

Please submit your favorite Bible verses, poems, quotes, or writings of your own to Jeanette Goines, editor, throughout the year. These items will be printed as space permits. Thank you.

ALPHA PHI ALPHA FRATERNITY, INC.

The men of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. would like to thank Salem Baptist Church for extending an invitation to worship with your members on Men's Day. Also, the men of Alpha enjoyed the first Sunday worship and intend to visit again. Congratulations to the men of Salem on their 39th Annual Men's Day. God be with you always. This is our prayer.



FOOD FOR THOUGHT
(submitted by Alice Stewart)

A double-minded man is unstable in all his ways (James 1:8)

If any man among you seems to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceives his own heart, this man's religion is vain. (James 1:26)

The face of the Lord is against them that do evil, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth. (Psalms 34:16)

Let not thine heart envy sinners; but be thou in fear of the Lord all the day long. (Proverbs 23:17)

WOMEN IN NEED CENTER

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NATIONAL BAPTIST CONVENTION CONTINUED

from our participation that will be helpful to us as we continue toward being what God would have us to be.

In his annual message, President T.J. Jemison stated that, "The National Baptist Convention, in a real sense represents the real hope and inspiration of this great nation. Not only are we a part of the largest organization in the world for Negroes, but we are a people who really care for his fellow-man No longer can we be known for our numbers alone. The president wants this Convention to be known for what it does.

"Because of our extended stewardship, we were able to give to Natchez College in Mississippi, \$100,000; Morehouse College, Atlanta, \$1000,000; Bishop College, Dallas, \$85,000; Selma University, Alabama, \$80,000; Virginia Union University, Richmond, Virginia, \$50,000; American Baptist Bible College, Nashville, Tennessee \$50,000...." Other contributions were made to the NAACP, Partners in Ecumism, etc. Another very noteworthy venture was that our Convention is the surety for loans to some of our struggling churches in the amount of \$350,000."

Under our new president, Dr. T.J. Jemison, our Convention is moving ahead in a might way.

Your pastor was blessed and honored to be placed on the program of our National Baptist Convention. This was a rare opportunity in view of the fact that there are nearly 40,000 pastors in our Convention.

The thematic sermon was delivered by your humble servant on Wednesday afternoon for the Young People's Department on the theme; Christian Youth Committed to the High Call of Caring. I was well-pleased with the way the message was received.

Our thanks is extended to Brother Benjamin Nance, the first state president of Mississippi Young People's Department, who was instrumental in getting my name considered for this slot. It was very evident that Brother Nance is held in high esteem in this department because of his hard work and dedicated service rendered over the years.

We also thank the illustrious Dr. Zee Anderson Barons from the State of Mississippi who is national director of this department, for such a beautiful and gracious acceptance of the man (Pastor Shelby) and the message.

IF GOD SHOULD GO ON STRIKE
author unknown

(submitted by Anna Clayton)

It's just a good thing God above has never gone on strike.
Because He wasn't treated fair, for
If He had ever once sat down and said,
"that's it, I'm through,
I've had enough of those on earth,
so this is what I'll do:
I'll give my orders to the sun:
cut off your heat supply,
And to the moon; give no more light,
and run those oceans dry!
Then, just to really make it tough
and put the pressure on,
Turn off the oxygen and air
till every breath is gone.
You know that He'd be justified,
if fairness were the game;
For no one has been more abused
or treated with disdain
Than God ... and yet He carries on.
supplying you and me
With all the favors of His grace,
and everything -- for free!
Men say they want a better deal
and so, on strike they go,
But what a deal we've given God
to whom all things we owe.
We don't care who we hurt or harm
to get the things we like,
But what a mess we'd all be in
IF GOD SHOULD GO ON STRIKE!

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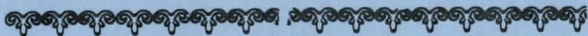
This newsletter is sent quarterly to Salem Baptist Church members, former members, and friends. If you are interested in receiving a copy, write us at 500 E. Park, Champaign, Illinois 61820.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT SALEM BAPTIST CHURCH

| | | |
|-------------|-------|----------------------|
| December 7 | 7 pm | Annual Business Mtg. |
| December 8 | 8 am | Prayer Breakfast |
| December 16 | 10 am | Christmas Program |
| December 31 | 10 pm | Watchnight Service |

ARE YOU WILLING?

- If you have a warm handclasp, use it.
- If you have a gift of speech, speak.
- If you have energy, spend it for good.
- If you have money, give it.
- If you have time, share it.
- If you have a generous spirit, minister to the needy.
- If you love little children, or youth, lead them.
- If you can sing, by all means, glorify God with your voice.
- If you are fond of the beautiful and the artistic, decorate God's altar.
- If you have a heart of love, visit the sick, greet the stranger, sympathize with the troubled or sorrowing ones.
- If you have business ability, the church and the pastor need you.
- If your faith is adequate, pray without ceasing.
- If your church means life to you and yours, then attend worship regularly and give thanks.
- If your church means life to you and yours, tell others about it.
- You need the church, and the church needs you.



CLOSING REMARKS
by: Gin Goines

This newsletter marks the end of two years for Salem Speaks. I thank God again for making its publication possible. As always, I am praying for diligent and dedicated workers in 1985 ... Happy Holidays!

T O D A Y

(Submitted by Benjamin Nance)

If there is something
you can do
to help someone along the way,
don't put it off until
tomorrow, but do it today.
As you see the needy on the way,
it is so easy just to say,
I'll help them tomorrow,
but why not today?
Some might be lost
that we could easily save,
if only we would not
put off for tomorrow what we
could do today.
So, let us all remember,
only once
we pass this way.
Stop putting off for tomorrow
what we could do today.
If I can put one rosy sunset
into the life of any
man or woman,
I shall feel that I have worked
with God.

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Managing Editor

Claude E. Shelby, Sr.
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