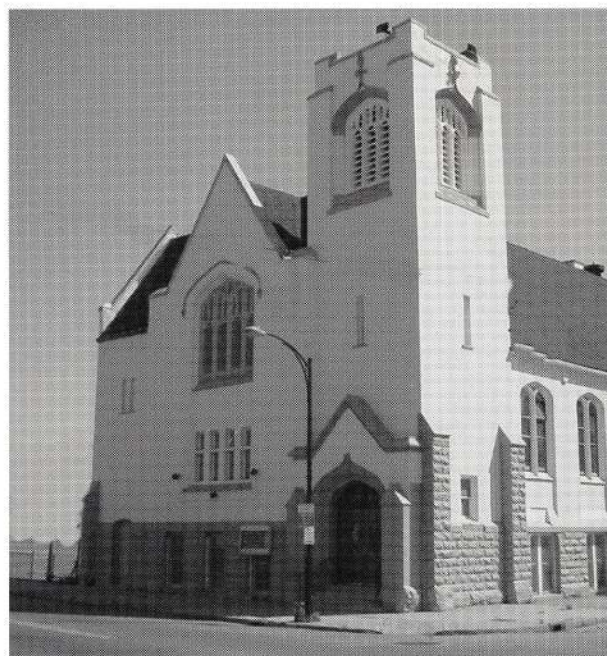




Bethel A. M. E. Church 175th Anniversary

1831



2006

"Honoring Our Past

Celebrating Our Present

Anticipating Our Future"

The Reverend Richard Allen Stenhouse, Pastor

The Reverend James E. F. Lawrence, Presiding Elder

Mother Mary Ann Norris, Episcopal Supervisor

The Rt. Reverend Richard F. Norris, Presiding Bishop



Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church

*The Oldest Black Institution in Buffalo
A Historic Church Making History*

Reverend Richard Allen Stenhouse, Pastor
1525 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14209

Telephone (716) 886-1650
Fax (716) 886-2311
www.bethelamechurch.org

Beloved:

Jesus Joy! I am honored and humbled to have the privilege to pastor Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church on the historic occasion of its 175th Church Anniversary. I praise God for the testimony that before the incorporation of the City of Buffalo there was a church to provide a Christian witness to the African-American community and the City of Buffalo.

We "Honor Our Past" by remembering those who labored, sacrificed and overcame during these 175 years. We stand on their shoulders, build on their foundation and perpetuate their legacy. From Carroll Street, to Vine Street, to Eagle Street, to Michigan and Ferry Streets, this house of God has been a beacon of hope. To God be the Glory!

After glancing back to remember our honored past, we "Celebrate our Present". Thankful for the continued favor and blessing of God and the faithful members of Bethel who continue to trust God, serve the community and spread the gospel. Your prayers and support allow Bethel to continue to minister to this community in a vital and visual manner. Thank you for being "A Historic Church Making History."

While we have a honored past and celebrate the blessing of the present, we preach, teach, contribute and plan "Anticipating our Future." As glorious as the past has been and as blessed as the present is, "Eyes have not seen nor ears heard what God has in store..." We are preparing today to be vital tomorrow. With new vision, renewed faith and steadfast hope we "press toward the mark..."

I congratulate our Award of Excellence honorees for their contribution and commitment to our community. Your work has spoken for you. God bless.

Sharon, Nicole, Tiana, Vernard and I thank you for your love, prayers and support. Thank you for sharing in this 175th Anniversary banquet.

To God be the Glory, Honor and Praise.

Yours in His Service,

Pastor Richard Allen Stenhouse

God Our Father, Christ Our Redeemer, Man Our Brother





Greetings,

We, the Bethel family, thank God for blessing us through these 175 years. We are grateful that He has shown favor on us, that we may share our blessings with others. Although, we started small, God's blessings have enabled us to grow and share with our community, families and friends through several out reach programs such as Bethel Head Start and Bethel CDC.

As co-chairs of this yearlong celebration, we thank our Bethel family for their support as we work together on the many planned events. It has been a learning experience for both of us. The committees have worked hard and are continuing to do exciting things to make this, our 175th anniversary a notable event. Although many of the tasks confronting the committees have been challenging, they have overcome them with God's help.

This has been a rewarding experience, bringing us closer to God and our church family. Without your kindness and help, we could not have endured. We would also like to thank Rev. Richard Stenhouse for his leadership and trust in us to co-chair this extraordinary event.

We honor and praise God for sustaining us throughout these 175 years and we pray for his continual blessings on all of us.

Yours in Christ,

Sis. Kathy Franklin-Adams

Sis. Maurice Anding

175th Anniversary Committee Co-Chairs



Greetings from the Banquet Chairperson

On the occasion of the 175th Anniversary, we rejoice in the knowledge that "We've Come This Far By Faith". God has truly blessed us.

On behalf of the 175th Anniversary Banquet Committee, I extend deepest gratitude to our Pastor and First Lady, Rev & Mrs. Richard and Sharon Stenhouse, for you have extended yourself above and beyond the call of duty. We are truly blessed by your visionary leadership. To Anniversary chairpersons Kathy Franklin-Adams and Maurice Anding, you are to be commended for your hard work and dedication to the year long planning of activities.

Our church has a rich history in the Buffalo area. Our members and leadership have been in the forefront of social, educational, economic and political issues. As a product of the third generation of a four generation family at Bethel, we praise God and give thanks for those who paved the way for us. We are the recipients of your contributions. Our accomplishments are numerous and our blessings are abundant. We eagerly anticipate the future, doing so with prayer, praise and thanksgiving in our hearts.

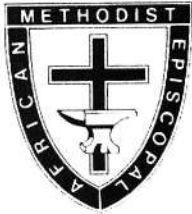
We give special recognition to those whom we honor this evening, those individuals who have led the way, those who continue to lead the way, and those on their way to becoming great leaders.

Lastly, I wish to extend my sincere appreciation and thanks to those who volunteered their time and talents to this memorable occasion. I am grateful for your support.

Sincerely,

Charlene L. McKinnon

175th Anniversary Banquet Chairperson



First Episcopal District

AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

FIRST DISTRICT PLAZA
3801 Market Street, Suite 300
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104
Office: (215) 662-0506
Fax: (215) 662-0199

RICHARD FRANKLIN NORRIS
Presiding Bishop

July 15, 2006

Rev. Richard A. Stenhouse
Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church
1525 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14209

Dear Rev. Stenhouse:

It is with a great deal of joy and pride that Mother Norris and I greet and extend best wishes to you and to the fine members of Bethel A.M.E. Church as you gather to celebrate one hundred seventy-five wonderful years of dedicated, Christian service in the Buffalo area of New York.

Having served that community so effectively for so many years, during times of difficulty--- as an off-shoot of the original "Colored Methodist Society---and now as an ever present force in Buffalo, is truly an historic happening worth noting. You, as a church are to be commended not only for the services you have provided, but for your staying power as well.

The depth of dedication and the divine enablement, which you and those before you have brought to the church and the community is legion; the fruits of your labors have been abundant. We thank God for you, and for all that has been wrought through you under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

We thank God for you, for what you stand for and for what He continues to direct you to do. We pray that you and the members of Bethel A.M.E. Church will continue to be the kind of servants that God has ordained for you to be, and that this 175th Anniversary will be just a foretaste of what lies ahead.

God bless you as you continue in His service.

Most sincerely,

Richard F. Norris, Bishop



THOMAS M. REYNOLDS
26TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

COMMITTEE ON
WAYS AND MEANS
COMMITTEE ON
HOUSE ADMINISTRATION
DEPUTY MAJORITY WHIP

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
332 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-5265

DISTRICT OFFICES:
500 ESSJAY, SUITE 260
WILLIAMSVILLE, NY 14221
(716) 634-2324

1577 WEST RIDGE ROAD
ROCHESTER, NY 14615
(585) 663-5570

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

June 13, 2006

Revered Richard Allen Stenhouse, Pastor
1525 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14209

Dear Reverend Stenhouse:

I would like to congratulate you, my friend, on the 175th Anniversary of the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church. It is a great milestone and represents the importance of all the church has come to stand for.

Over the past 175 years, the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church has become a huge part of our community. The church's efforts to work not only on its religious practices, but also to better the area as a whole through various programs and organizations, are truly inspirational. Both personally and professionally, I admire the way you have helped shape the Buffalo area in such a positive way. It is truly my privilege to represent accomplished people such as yourself and the members of your church in the United States Congress. Both you and your church have so much to be proud of.

Once again, please accept my most sincere congratulations on this milestone.

Sincerely,

THOMAS M. REYNOLDS
U.S. Representative, NY 26



STATE OF NEW YORK

GEORGE E. PATAKI
GOVERNOR

July 15, 2006

Dear Friends:

It is a pleasure to send warm greetings to all gathered for the 175th Anniversary Celebration of Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church.

New York State is home to many outstanding religious-based institutions and organizations that serve our communities and enrich the spiritual lives of their members. Founded in 1831, Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church provides compelling testimony to the faith, prayers and good works of your dedicated members and has been a source of guidance for your families, both spiritually and morally. As the beneficiaries of an important religious heritage passed down by your ancestors, you have many reasons to be thankful for your abundance of blessings and unity of faith.

This momentous occasion marks a milestone in the history of your fellowship and is the culmination of your commitment to longstanding goals and shared dreams. As you celebrate 175 years of community service, I congratulate your entire congregation on this special day and offer best wishes as you build upon a legacy of past success and look forward to a promising future.

May this be an enjoyable and memorable event.

Very truly yours,

Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church
1525 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14209





Dear Pastor and Mrs. Richard A. Stenhouse
&
The Members of Bethel AME Church Family

The history of New York State nor the City of Buffalo can accurately be recorded without the inclusion of Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church of Buffalo.

As you observe your 175th Church Anniversary, "A People Walking With God Through Many Generations", the pages of our African American history boldly must and should include your accomplishments to God and community over your life span.

God is indeed pleased with your labors of love through the preaching of the gospel of Christ, the salvation of souls, a haven place for those who had been enslaved and without hope and a lighthouse leading people toward self-efficiency and sophistication.

I am pleased to join in this historical celebration. Continue to speed the cause of Christ on its way. I am further pleased to have an inclusive moment in your history.

"March On! March On! Ye Mighty Hosts".

Rev. James E.F. Lawrence,
Presiding Elder
Western New York Annual Conference



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

LOUISE M. SLAUGHTER
NEW YORK

June 13, 2006

Rev. Richard Stenhouse
Pastor
Bethel A.M.E. Church
1525 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14209


Dear Rev. Stenhouse & Congregation,

It gives me great pleasure to congratulate Bethel A.M.E. Church, as you celebrate your 175th anniversary. This is a wonderful milestone and I celebrate the church's longevity and its very positive impact in the Buffalo community.

As the oldest African American church in Buffalo, the Bethel A.M.E. Church has served as an oasis of spiritual strength and a steadfast pillar of hope for nearly two centuries. The church has been and continues to be a spring board for community activists. With the help of past members of your congregation, slavery was completely abolished and the dawning of a new era of civil rights was birthed in our nation. What a blessing it is to know that many of your current members are continuing to follow in the path of those who have gone before them, by providing excellent leadership in the business and educational communities, as well as many other sectors of the Buffalo area.

May your well deserved celebration of 175 years of ministry and service to mankind be merely a prelude to the great days that lie ahead for Bethel A.M.E. Church. Congratulations once again!

Sincerely,


Louise Slaughter
Member of Congress



STATE OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
THE CAPITOL
ALBANY, NY 12224

ELIOT SPITZER
Attorney General

(518) 474-7330

July 15, 2006

Reverend Richard A. Stenhouse
Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church
1525 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14209

Dear Reverend Stenhouse:

I am delighted to take this opportunity to join with all who have gathered to celebrate Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church's 175th anniversary. Please accept my best wishes on this most joyous and momentous occasion.

Known as the "Oldest Black Institution in Buffalo," you can certainly take tremendous pride in the church's full, rich history, its outstanding leadership and many accomplishments over the years. From its early efforts to fight against the Fugitive Slave Act, to its current achievements, including the operation of 12 Bethel Head Start Centers, the establishment of a community development organization to provide affordable housing for those in need and its ongoing commitment to supporting minority-owned businesses, Bethel AME has remained devoted to improving the quality of life of others and to making a significant difference in the community. The positive impact of these good works is truly immeasurable.

As Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church looks ahead, I am confident that the experiences and lessons of the past, will provide the church with strength and insight as it sets new goals, accepts fresh challenges and sets its course for the future.

Again, congratulations on reaching this impressive milestone, and best wishes for much continued success.

Warmest regards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eliot Spitzer". The signature is stylized and cursive.

ELIOT SPITZER



CITY OF BUFFALO
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR



BYRON W. BROWN
MAYOR

June 9, 2006

Reverend Richard A. Stenhouse
Pastor
Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church
1525 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14209

Dear Reverend Stenhouse:


It is with great pleasure that I send greetings to Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church in celebration of their 175th Anniversary.

Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church was established on April 28, 1831, one year prior to Buffalo incorporating as a city in Western New York. It remains the oldest black church and the oldest black institution in Buffalo.

I am very proud of the commitment Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church has made to serve the needs of the community. Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church has been successful in operating 12 Bethel Head Start Centers throughout the city, which have made a significant impact on the development of preschoolers, and establishing a community development organization that has completed the first phase of its housing development project.

Please accept my warmest greetings for a successful event.

Sincerely,


Byron W. Brown
Mayor



ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATURE

DEMONE A. SMITH
LEGISLATOR - 7th DISTRICT



DISTRICT OFFICE:
836 East Delavan Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14215
(716) 894-0914 FAX (716) 896-1463

July 15, 2006

Reverend Richard A. Stenhouse, Pastor
1525 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14209

Dear Pastor Stenhouse,

As Legislator for Erie County's 7th District, and a Graduate of Wilberforce University, the Nation's oldest African American University owned and operated by the A.M.E. Church, it is my extreme pleasure to congratulate the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church on their 175th Anniversary.

The County of Erie recognizes your rich history including; your contributions to the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850, 12 Bethel Head Start facilities, and your recent success with the development of housing for low-income families in the Cold Spring community.

I wish you continued success with your future endeavors, such as the collaborative efforts in developing retail opportunities for minority owned businesses on Buffalo's Eastside. Your successes are our community's successes, providing a ray of hope to other organizations that also have a vision for new opportunities in Erie County.

May God continue to bless and empower Pastor Stenhouse and the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church.

Sincerely,

Demone Smith
Erie County Legislator 7th District

ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATURE
25 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14202
(715) 858-8878
FAX (716) 858-8429



The Council

CITY OF BUFFALO



BRIAN C. DAVIS

ELLICOTT DISTRICT COUNCIL MEMBER

65 NIAGARA SQUARE, ROOM 1408
BUFFALO, NY 14202-3314

PHONE: 851-4980 • FAX: 851-6576
E-mail: brdavis@city-buffalo.com

COMMITTEES

CLAIMS
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
EDUCATION
FINANCE
LEGISLATION

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

AUD / STADIUM TASK FORCE
ENERGY
POLICE REORGANIZATION
REAPPORTIONMENT

June 14, 2006

Rev. Richard A. Stenhouse, Pastor
Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church
1525 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14209

Dear Rev. Stenhouse:

I would like to offer a heartfelt congratulations to you and the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church congregation as you celebrate your 175th Anniversary.

Bethel A.M.E. Church, the oldest Black church in the City of Buffalo, has been one of the most committed churches servicing children and families throughout the community. It is an honor to have such a ministry which encompasses faith, hope, and charity into every act of kindness in this our "City of Good Neighbors".

I wish you all the very best during this time of celebration and as you continue to press on doing God's work. Congratulations once again and may God bless you and your community of saints forevermore.

Yours in Christ,

Brian C. Davis
Ellicott District Councilmember

"Communication is the key for a better tomorrow"



Common Council

City of Buffalo

ANTOINE M. THOMPSON
MASTEN DISTRICT COUNCIL MEMBER
65 NIAGARA SQUARE, ROOM 1316A
BUFFALO, NY 14202-3318
PHONE: 851-5145 • FAX: 851-5443
E-mail: athompson@city-buffalo.com
Website: <http://www.city-buffalo.com>

LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANTS

MARK J. BOYD
SCOTT J. STEINWALD

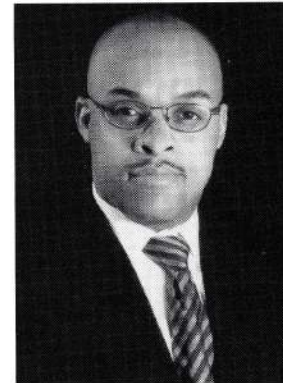
COMMITTEES

CLAIMS
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
JOINT SCHOOLS CONSTRUCTION BOARD

CHAIRMAN

EDUCATION
MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE

Rev. Richard A. Stenhouse
Pastor
Bethel A.M.E. Church
1525 Michgan Ave.
Buffalo, NY 14209



Dear Rev Stenhouse:

On behalf of the Masten District Council Office, its residents, and my colleagues on the Buffalo Common Council, I would like to congratulate Bethel A.M.E. Church on celebrating its 175th Anniversary as the oldest African-American Church and Institution in the City of Buffalo.

I would like to take this opportunity to commend the leadership, staff, the congregation, and volunteers for all of their efforts in ensuring that Bethel AME Church continues to be a beacon of light and hope within the Masten District and the City of Buffalo.

Through your community involvement in projects such as the 12 Bethel Head Start Centers (education), the Bethel Community Development Corporation's construction of new housing for low-income families within the Cold Springs Community (housing), the Jeremiah Project's Small Business Incubator underway for minority-owned businesses (economic development), and the church congregation's participation in various ministries (religion), you have shown your true commitment and dedication to improving quality of life for residents in the Masten District and the City of Buffalo.

Continue throughout life with the same passion and zeal that has aided you to this point. Congratulations to each of you. My colleagues and I would like to wish you all a peaceful, healthy, safe, and prosperous future.

Sincerely,

Antoine M. Thompson
Masten District Councilmember

"Making Things Happen, Getting Things Done"



Armaan Anding

Armaan Anding is a firm believer in God and strives daily to live according to His will. Armaan is the lead engineer for Motorola's Radio Communication Division for the State of Louisiana. He has worked for Motorola as a System Engineer since January 1998. In this position, he is responsible for designing and building radio communications system for public safety users.

Armaan was born in Buffalo, NY to the proud parents of Meredith and Maurice Anding. He attended Bethel A.M.E Church until graduating from high school. While at Bethel, he was an acolyte, a member of the junior choir, YPD, Church School and Bible Study. Upon receiving his diploma from Grand Island High School, he left the snowy winters of Buffalo for the sweltering heat of Prairie View, TX. He graduated cum laude from Prairie View A&M University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering. He also holds a MBA degree from Our Lady of the Lake University in Houston, TX.

He fell hopelessly in love while attending Prairie View with his wife, Yolanda, of eight years. Born into this union on August 5, 2002 was the troublemaker of the household, Chancellor. After residing in Houston for 5 years, Armaan and his family relocated with his job to seek greener pastures, or rather a couple acres of land that looks like a pasture, in Hammond, LA. Armaan and Yolanda decided that Master Chance needed someone to bring him down a notch. Therefore, they decided to add another Anding to the equation and are currently expecting.

To God be the glory for the influence of the members of Bethel A. M. E. Church that helped to mold him into the God fearing person that he is today.



Jonathan D. Daniels, M.D.

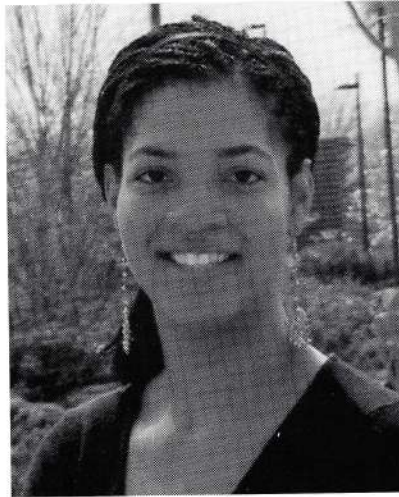
Dr. Jonathan Daniels is a physician in the field of pediatrics at Main Pediatrics, Buffalo New York. A native of Buffalo, New York Dr. Daniels earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology at the State University of New York at Buffalo after attending Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York. Dr. Daniels graduated from the University at Buffalo School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences in May 1998 and completed his pediatric residency training at the Women and Children's Hospital of Buffalo.

Prior, to transferring to the University at Buffalo as a undergraduate student, Dr. Daniels joined the United States Army Reserves where he served proudly with the men and women of the 36Sth Evacuation Hospital based in Niagara Falls New York as a Combat Medical Specialist. He attained the rank of Specialist and is a Veteran of Operation Desert Storm and the Persian Gulf War. He was honorably discharged in 1994 upon entering medical school.

Dr. Daniels is an active member of the community and serves on the Health Board of Bethel Head Start Program. In addition, Dr. Daniels serves on the medical credentialing boards of Univera Healthcare and Community Blue. A member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc., Dr. Daniels held the office of President, and is currently Vice-President of the Rho Lamda Chapter graduate chapter. Dr. Daniels has presented various workshops on Men's health and other health related topics for many local organizations.

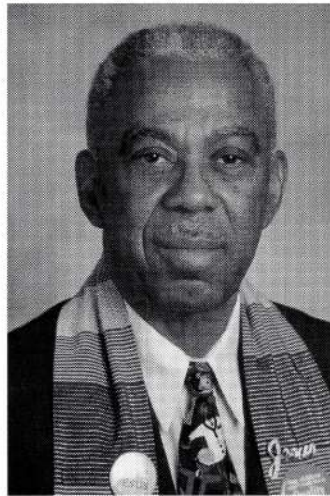
Dr. Daniels is a member of the American Academy of Pediatrics and past member of the Student National Medical Association.

Dr. Daniels resides in Buffalo, attends Faith Baptist Church, and is a member of Walls Memorial African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church. Dr. Daniels is married to Mrs. Janessa Givens Daniels and the proud parents of three daughters-Jordan Alexandria, Jillian Alicia-Marie, and Jensen Aliyah.



Teresa Michelle Edwards

Teresa Michelle Edwards was born in May of 1982 to Randy and Linda Edwards. She was brought into Bethel A.M.E. Church at a young age. In 1984, she was Bethel's baby of the year. As she grew, she sang in the children's choir and regularly attended Sunday school. Teresa was also very active in the Young People's Department. After graduating from City Honors School in 2000, she attended Washington University in St. Louis. Teresa graduated in 2004 earning her Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Biology and a minor in Psychology. She worked as a research assistant at Buffalo General Hospital for one year before entering medical school at Case Western University in Cleveland, OH in 2005. Teresa accredits her spiritual foundation to Bethel and thanks the Bethel family for all their love and support shown through the years.



Arthur O. Eve

Former Deputy Speaker

Former Deputy Speaker Arthur O. Eve is a graduate of West Virginia State College and served two years with the U. S. Army in Germany. He arrived in Buffalo on a cold day in February 1953 with two heavy suitcases and \$9.45 in his pockets.

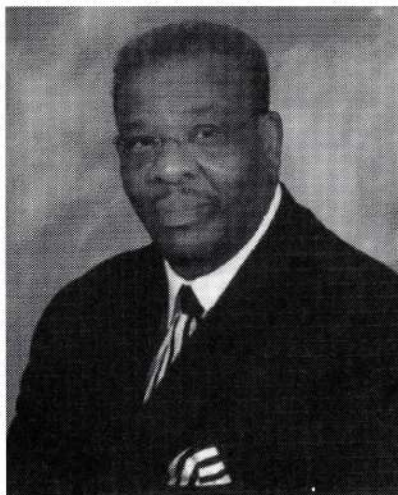
Attempting to learn more about the political process, Eve joined the Masten District Democratic Club. A group of young men then formed what they called the Civic Betterment League. As they attempted to positively affect the community, it became increasingly clear that they had to deal with City Hall. Eve began to realize that if you really want to have an impact in your government, involvement in politics is an absolute. Art wanted to do more to advance ideas, to reach more people, to help them know things they needed to know, the things that will help them not only to survive but to advance, so The Buffalo Challenger was born. The Challenger was instrumental in its earlier infancy and it has continued to be a part of the Civil Rights Movement.

Encouraged by a number of people, Arthur Eve decided to run independently in the Democratic Primary for the State Senate, the first African American to do so outside New York City. He ran for the New York State Assembly in the 143rd District (now the 141st). Eve scored a major upset in the 1966 Democratic Primary and later won the General Election. A star was born; it was a new beginning. In 1979, Arthur Eve was appointed Deputy Speaker of the New York State Assembly, at that time the highest position of any minority in the State's elective governmental system.

Throughout his service to the people of New York State, Art has accomplished far more than what he could have imagined when he was sworn in as a freshman member of the Assembly. He has done his part to secure quality education for children and their families, improve healthcare in all communities, promote sound economic development, and fight for human dignity and civil rights. Mr. Eve created the \$10 million Special Delinquency Program (SDPP); created the Bob Lanier After school Program; created the Summer Adolescent Vocational Program (SAVE); created the Progressive Adolescent Vocational Program (PAVE); prime sponsored the Buffalo School Construction Law, which is providing \$1 billion over 10 years for new school construction and the renovation and updating of older schools in the Buffalo Public School District; repeatedly obtained State funding for the Buffalo Public School District's budget.

Many believe that former Deputy Speaker Eve has done more to initiate opportunities for people of color and the economically disadvantaged in the fields of educational opportunity; undergraduate and graduate education; medical and other professional degrees; and prenatal care, day care, and infant care than any other state legislator in the nation. Over 50,000 New Yorkers have received degrees through the programs initiated by Arthur O. Eve.

Arthur Eve and his wife, Connie have a daughter and four sons and several grandchildren He resides in the City of Buffalo.



Pastor William Gillison

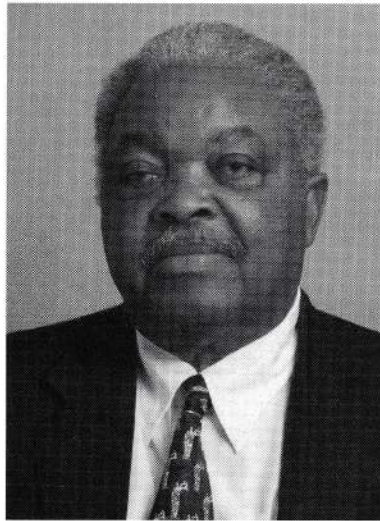
Reverend William Gillison is a native of Beaufort, South Carolina. He was educated in the Lackawanna, New York School System. Prior to entering the United States Army in 1965, he sang with a Gospel group known as the "Gospel Six" of Buffalo, New York.

Dr. Gillison was called into the ministry in August of 1980 and became Pastor of Mt. Olive Baptist Church in June 1981.

- Pastor William Gillison is President and founder of the Mt. Olive Development Corp.,
- 1st Vice-Moderator of the Great Lakes Baptist Association
- Director of the Ministers' Division of the Great Lakes Baptist Association
- Member of the Eight Judicial District Advisory Council
- Advisory Board Member of Athletes in Action
- Recipient of the National Conference Brother/Sisterhood Interfaith Award
- Service Award from the Buffalo Lutheran Employment Service
- Outstanding Service Award from Colgate Rochester Divinity School Crozer Theological Seminary
- Recipient of first New York State Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian Award
- Co-Chair of the Ecumenical Committee for the National Black Leadership Commission on AIDS
- Honorary Degree of Doctor of Divinity received from Triune Biblical University
- Honorary Degree of Doctor of Divinity in Religious Justice Ministry received from Jesus The Liberator Seminary of Religious Justice.

He has served as Director of the Ministers' Division of the Empire State Congress of Christian Education, President of the Baptist Ministers' Conference of Buffalo and Vicinity, Instructor in the State and Local Congress of Christian Education, Board Member of the Erie County Medical Center Corporation, Gospel Community Hour, Delavan-Grider Concerned Citizens, St. Augustine's Home Health Care Services, Grace Manor Nursing Home Foundation, Campus Ministries at the University of Buffalo, Board Member Meals On Wheels and an Advisory Board Member of Group Ministries.

Dr. Gillison is the husband of the former Antonia Davis, the father of four children: Mia, Dwayne, Crystal and Russell, a grandfather and a great-grandfather.



The Honorable Samuel L. Green

The Honorable Samuel L. Green is the Senior Associate Justice of the New York State Supreme Court Appellate Division, Fourth Department. Justice Green was recommended four times by the Commission on Judicial Nomination to serve New York State's highest court, the Court of Appeals; appointed Buffalo City Court Judge in 1973 and elected in 1975; elected State Supreme Court Justice State of New York Eighth Judicial District in 1978. He is also a Senior Partner in the law firm of Serotte, Hoffman, Haley & Green which specializes in civil and criminal law.

Justice Green received his Degree of Juris Doctor from the University of New York at Buffalo School of Law; Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration from the State University of New York at Buffalo; and a Honorary Degree of Doctor of Humane Letters from Canisius College of Buffalo.

Justice Green has heard over 25,000 appeals, of which seventy percent were civil and thirty percent were criminal. He has written approximately 2000 Memorandum Decisions and over 200 published Opinions. He has also presided over the trial part dealing with Medical Malpractice and Products Liability cases.

He has published articles on *General Obligations Law Section 15-108: An Unsettling Law*, New York State Bar Journal- October 1983 and *The Good Faith Exception to the Exclusionary Rule*, New York Law Journal - March 1986.

Justice Green is the Chairman of Subcommittee to Draft Rules and Regulations for improving the legal profession and the courts; Dean's Advisory Council Member School of Law University at Buffalo; member of New York State Trial Lawyers Association; Life member of the N.A.A.C.P.; Governing Board of the Albright-Knox Art Gallery; New York State Judicial Commission on Minorities which studied all of the courts in New York State and issued a report; Advisory Panel for Project 2000 Corrections and Criminal Justice; Committee to Utilize the Services of Retired Judges (Judicial Hearing Offices); and member of the New York State Task Force on Permanency Planning for Children in Foster Care.

Justice Green has received many honors and special awards, including, The Edwin F. Jaeckle Award; 1995 Outstanding Jurist Award; Distinguished Alumnus Award; and the Award of Merit for Distinguished Service on Trial Bench, just to name a few.



Muriel A. Howard, Ph.D.

Muriel A. Howard, Ph.D., became the seventh president of Buffalo State College on April 24, 1996. She received her doctorate in educational organization, administration and policy, and her master's of education both from the University at Buffalo. Immediately before her arrival at Buffalo State College, she was the vice president for public service and urban affairs at the University of Buffalo, where she had also served in various other leadership capacities over a 23-year period. Her professional and scholarly interests include educational leadership; urban policy, planning and economic development; and the representation of women and minorities in the academy.

Nationally, Dr. Howard serves on the board of directors for the American Council of Education. She previously served in the Division III President's Council of the National Collegiate Athletics Association and the board of directors for the American Association of State Colleges and Universities. She also serves on the boards of directors for Merchants Insurance Company, Farm Credit Services of Western New York and the Fleet Bank Community Relations Advisory Board.

Dr. Howard is a member of New York State Department of Education Commissioner's Council on Higher Education, the New York State Blue Ribbon Commission on Youth Leadership and the State University of New York (SUNY) Advisory Council on Teacher Education. She also serves on the SUNY board of directors of the Center for Russia. Dr. Howard co-chaired the State University of New York Provost's Advisory Task Force on General Education, establishing guidelines for the institution of General Education curricula throughout the SUNY system.

Dr. Howard's current community board involvement includes serving on the boards for the Buffalo Niagara Partnership, Niagara University, Grace Manor Health Care Facility, the Buffalo Museum of Science, the King Urban Life Center, and the Western New York Women's Fund.

She has received numerous awards for her contributions in education and service to the community. Among these are the Governor's State Division of Women Award for Excellence in Education; Citation Award from the National Conference for Community and Justice; American Jewish Committee Institute of Human Relations Award; the University at Buffalo Distinguished Alumni Award; Staten Island College Distinguished Alumna Award, the Black Educators Association of Western New York, Educator of the Year Award; the Minority Bar Association of Western New York Award for Community Service; and the State University of New York at Buffalo, Newman Center, Catholic Campus Ministry, Distinguished Alumnus Award. She is recipient of the State University of New York Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Professional Service, a charter inductee in the Western New York Women's Hall of Fame, and was listed in the Buffalo News 2001 Leadership Survey as the "Most Powerful Women in Western New York."

She is married to Micky Howard and they reside in Buffalo.



Eunice Ashman Lewin

Eunice Ashman Lewin, a native of Cuba, obtained her RA. at Marymount Manhattan College, and both her M.A. and EdM. degrees from SUNY at Buffalo. She is a bilingual social worker with the Buffalo Public Schools and serves on the Committee on Special Education. She was a founding member of the Roswell Park Alliance, and is a member of the Erie County Chapter of The Links Incorporated, Women's Hispanic League, Canisius College Board of Regents Emeritus, and African American Women Community Builders of Western New York Uncrowned Queens.

In the past she has served on the board of directors of the Buffalo Zoological Gardens, the American Red Cross Greater Buffalo Chapter, and as Vice Chair of Buffalo Prep. She was also a trustee for the Buffalo Seminary and Western New York Public Broadcasting Association. In addition, Eunice was a member of the Erie County Cultural Resource Advisory Board, Erie County Commission on the Status of Women, Buffalo Niagara Guitar Festival Originators, and the St. Philip's Episcopal Church Vestry.

Currently, Eunice sits on the boards of Hispanic United of Buffalo and the Buffalo Urban League where she is First Vice Chair and Chair of the Scholarship Committee. In June, she was reappointed by Governor Pataki for a second 5 year term as Commissioner for the Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority, was elected Treasurer and chairs the Surface Transportation Committee. She is also on the Steering Committee for His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama's visit to the University at Buffalo in the fall.

Eunice has been the recipient of numerous honors including the Ebony and Ivory Civic Award, Governor's Award for Excellence in Education, National Conference for Community and Justice of Western New York Fiftieth Annual Citation Award, and Marcus Garvey Community Service Award. In March of 2002, she was inducted into the Western New York's Women Hall of Fame.

Eunice's commitment to volunteer work continues to give her a sense of clarity in her purpose of living. She resides in Buffalo, with her husband A. Norman Lewin, cardiovascular surgeon at Kaleida Health and is the proud mother of Eva Michelle, a recent graduate of Williams College and Elizabeth Maria, a sophomore at Fordham University at Lincoln Center. She and her family worship at Trinity Episcopal Church and are very grateful for their many blessings.



Jason Maclin

Jason Maclin, better known as “Big J” was taught entrepreneurship by his grandfather, Charles “Bill” Kelley, at an early age. Mr. Kelley encouraged Jason to find something he loved and master it. Jason did just that! He started cutting hair when he was 14 after being taught the craft by his older brother Corey. Jason has not put his clippers down since. He began cutting hair in the locker room of Buffalo Traditional High School and in his mother’s basement. Demand for Jason’s skills grew so much that he had to move his business out of his mother’s basement to O.D.’s Barber Shop. He moved around from shop to shop. He opened his own shop, Chopafellaz at 3251 Bailey Avenue, on May 7, 2002, on his birthday. What a present!

When you step through the doors of Chopafellaz the first thing you usually hear is Jason’s love for music. He owns over 3,000 CDs. He makes sure that he leaves a lasting impression on each client. Even when having a bad day, clients leave laughing. Clients, young and old, seek Jason’s advice. He advises them to “pray before doing anything. Put God first and everything else will fall into place”. Jason counts strong male role models among his numerous blessings. Jason feels that if his father, Jack Maclin, grandfather, Charles “Bill” Kelley and Junior Johnson had not been in his life, he would not be the business man, loving father and wonderful husband that he is.



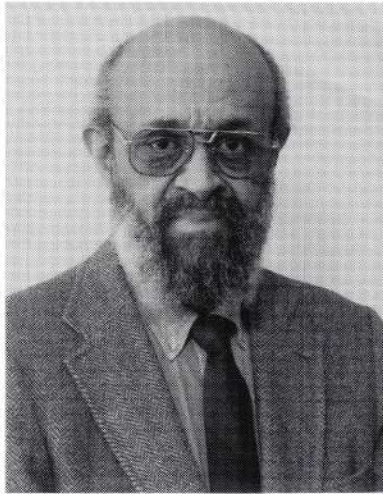
Carla Lynette McKinnon

Carla Lynette McKinnon was born September 12, 1982 in Buffalo, NY. As a young child, she was very shy and reserved, but she became more active and involved as time went on. She attended Early Childhood Center #54 and St. Lawrence Academy before graduating from City Honors School with honors in 2000. In high school, Carla was a member of the girls' basketball team, Latin Club, and HELP; an organization geared toward providing students with meaningful opportunities to lead and serve their community.

Carla was an active member of Bethel AME Church from the very beginning. She was a member of the youth choir, Junior Usher Board, drill team and Young People's Department where she served as the local treasurer and president. She also served as a high school tutor for the Bethel AME Church Tutorial program.

After finishing high school, Carla attended Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI), located in Troy, NY, where she majored in Management Information Systems. At RPI, she was a member of the National Society of Black Engineers, Black Students' Alliance and a math tutor for the Troy High School Science and Technology Entry Program. During her undergraduate years, she worked as an Information Systems and Services intern for Delphi Corporation. In May 2004, she received her Bachelor of Science degree and graduated with honors. Carla chose to stay in school to further her education and graduated in August 2005 with a Master of Engineering degree in Industrial Engineering. While pursuing her Masters degree, Carla worked as a graduate assistant for the RPI Office of Institute Diversity. As a graduate assistant she became a liaison between the campus minority undergraduates, graduates and faculty members. She also helped coordinate volunteers and workshops for Black Family Technology Awareness Week in 2005.

In August 2005, Carla began working for Carrier Corporation as a Pricing Analyst. She was responsible for providing pricing and marketing guidance for Carrier's North American Commercial organization. She currently serves as a Senior Marketing Support Analyst for Carrier's Residential and Light Commercial Systems organization. Carla plans to receive her Masters in Business Administration degree and use those skills to one day become a Global Product and Marketing Manager.



Jesse E. Nash Jr.

Jesse E. Nash Jr. is a life time resident of Buffalo, New York. He was born on February 22, 1926.

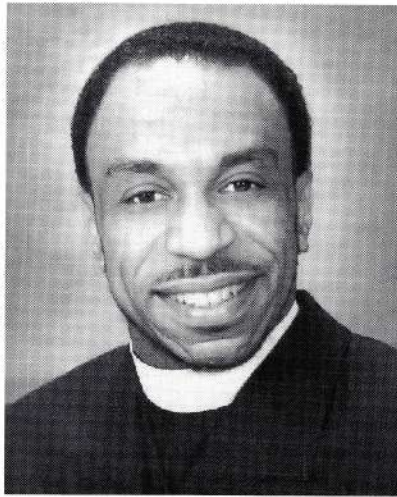
Mr. Nash is a Sociologist, Lecturer, Administrator, Counselor, Organizational Consultant, Program Planner/Developer, Musician, and Amateur Photographer.

He received his M.A. Sociology/Anthropology, from the State University of Buffalo in 1966, and Doctor of Humane Letters from Canisius College in 1993. He is a member of the Department of Sociology/Anthropology, Canisius College 1965-1968; Retired Professor Emeritus; Lecturer in the Department of Social, Philosophical, and Historical Foundations, SUNY Buffalo Graduate School of Education, 1969-1973, Assistant Vice President/Affirmative Action Officer, SUNY Buffalo Office of Finance and Management 1975-1980; Director and Program Developer of the Buffalo Model City Program, 1967-1971; President of Seventy-Eight Restoration, Inc., that in collaboration with James Management, Inc. developed the State and National historic site aware-winning Queen Anne Emerson Row Apartments, for persons of low income; Consultant to the "Neighbors" project; Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society, 1993; Invited to lecture at McMaster U., Canada 1961-1962; Harvard U., 1969; Cornell U. 1970-1971; Up-State Medical Center 1983; Carnegie-Mellon U. 1991.

His former participations include: member of the College Council of the State University College at Buffalo, on appointment by Governor Nelson Rockefeller; member of the NYS Commission on Minorities in the Health-Related Professions in Higher Education, on appointment by Gov. Hugh Carey, Moderator of the Community and Urban Areas Section of the NYS Sociological Association; Vice President of the WNY Sociological Association; Vice President of the Buffalo Urban League; Member of the Boards of Directors of Local #533, A.F. of M., and the Colored Musicians Club of Buffalo, NY; Member of the Board of Directors of Child and Family Services, Inc., Member of Millard Fillmore Hospital Board of Directors.

His current affiliations include, St. Philip's Episcopal Church Men's Club; American Sociological Association, NAACP Life Member, Afro-American Historical Association of the Niagara Frontier; Alpha Sigma Nu (Jesuit Honor Society), NYS Retired Teachers' Association, Lincoln Center Jazz Club, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. Honors include, the Haupt Award for undergraduate sociological research, SUNY Buffalo, 1958, The "Jesse E. Nash" Health Center, Buffalo, NY 1972; The President's Medal, Canisius College 1972; The President's Award, SUNY Buffalo, 1980; The Evans-Young Award, Buffalo Urban League, 1975; The Governor's Award for Distinguished Blacks in NYS 1993.

"My favorite past-time is listening to all types of music. Although my eye-sight is impaired, I still try to read non-fiction, and on occasion, play with the camera. I enjoy the game of chess and doodling designs. Also I used to go ice-skating in winter and camping in summer, but my legs tell me those days are gone forever. "



Pastor Darius G. Pridgen

Pastor Darius G. Pridgen is a man that has been chosen by God to lead and change a generation. Serving as Senior Pastor of True Bethel Baptist Church; with three services; two locations, the East and Downtown located in the great city of Buffalo, New York. His pastorate began in 1994 with 25 members and is now 3,000 members and counting. His willingness to do whatever the Lord tells him to do without fear or hesitation have changed the lives of persons locally and throughout this world.

In the fall of 2004 Pastor Pridgen and his congregation were recognized nationally for the opening of the first Subway franchise on a church campus. Pastor Pridgen says, "The sandwich shop is really just an extension of the church and provides opportunities for marketing the gospel of Jesus Christ".

Following with other first; Pastor Pridgen was the first Pastor ever elected to the Buffalo Board of Education in 1999. His continue care for the well being of others led him to be tested in his morning worship services for HIV/AIDS which resulted in 400 persons to be tested for this epidemic. His love for people gained him recognition in Gospel Today 2003 for one of the Most Loved Pastors in the country. The Buffalo News in 2004 sited him as an Outstanding Citizen of Western New York. In 2005 Adelpia recognized him as 1 of WNY Most Fascinating People, followed by the Diversity Award from Leadership Buffalo and most recently Buffalo State College honored him with the Young Alumnus Achievement Award, Class of 1988

This visionary who continues to follow God's direction is in the developmental stages of building a multi-duplex sanctuary for worship services of the True Bethel Congregation. His calling to provide persons with opportunities for economic development led Pastor Pridgen to purchase a national franchise which is housed on the campus of the East Ferry location opened in 2004 providing opportunity for job development for those in the community along with spreading the gospel of Christ. He continues to care for others through True Bethel Charities an arm of True Bethel Baptist Church which ministers to those through their Taste of Faith, food pantry, TB Clothes Closet, clothing ministry and Nehemiah Arms, transitional housing. This spring True Community Development Corporation and True Bethel Charities will open administrative offices on the campus of True Bethel Baptist church providing economic development and individual growth through educational and job readiness programs to those in the surrounding communities.

His education began in the Air Force and continued where he completed and received his Bachelor of Science degree from Buffalo State College. He is currently in pursuit of his Master's in Organizational Leadership with a graduation date of March 2007.

Understanding that his priority in ministry is serving others he is fully acceptant that his calling is to "care for people" he once said "If I can change the way we talk, maybe I can change their minds." His awards and recognitions are countless however his biggest reward is seeing lives changed which were once broken, mistreated and simply misunderstood.

For More Information Contact Elder Craig D. Pierce, 895-8222 x 13 e-mail craig_pierce@truebethel.org



Yvonne Minor-Ragan



Dr. Yvonne Minor-Ragan is currently the principal of the newly converted Westminster Community Charter School (WCCS). Dr. Ragan is recognized as an influential leader and citizen of Buffalo. She has shared her skills throughout New York, nationally, and internationally (London and Sweden). She has been such an influence in education and public policy that she has been featured on *CNN News*, *Christian Science Monitor*, *Educational Week*, and the *Buffalo Evening News*. She has a national and international reputation as an accomplished motivational speaker. As a featured speaker she has inspired audiences of hundreds, discussing critical issues of our community, ranging from the importance of parent involvement, to keeping our eyes on the prize, and how to affect

positive and systemic change.

For the past ten years, Dr. Ragan, a native Chicagoan recognized as one of the 100 most influential women in Chicago for phenomenal success as a leader, has been involved in an astounding partnership with the Buffalo Public Schools and M&T Bank. Her laudable performance as a results-oriented administrator is being documented by this partnership. This partnership is unique to our nation, and is being followed by school communities and business partnerships, both here and abroad.

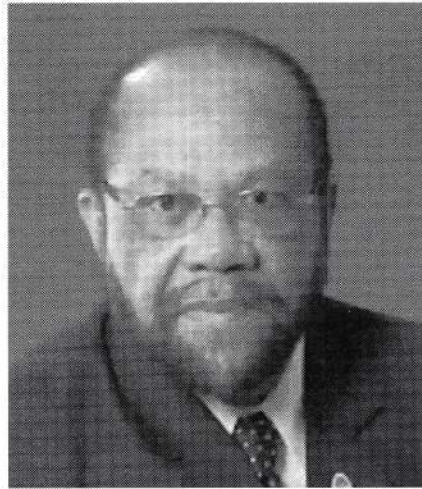
Dr. Ragan's philosophy has been that "if you want to improve the quality of life of a community it must be done through education." Her dedication to providing the best education possible to a community of students has proven that with the combination of right leadership, strong corporate alliances, and a supportive community, change can begin with the vision of one person. However, it is her continued commitment to develop successful strategies for teacher mentoring (especially in the urban setting), which result in the retention of successful teachers in the teaching profession.

Dr. Ragan received her Bachelor of Arts Degree from Roosevelt University; Masters of Science in Education from Chicago State University, Certification in Administration and Supervision, Guidance and Counseling from Chicago State University, Superintendent's Certification from the state of Illinois, Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Public Policy Analysis from the University of Illinois at Chicago and School District Administrator's Certification from New York State.

She is a member of Phi Delta Kappa, National Association of Curriculum and Development, Urban League, President of the Buffalo Chapter of the Links, Inc., and Alpha Kappa Alpha Service Sorority. She is a member of the Golden Key Honor Society, Board member for: Shea's Performing Arts; Leadership Center, Just Buffalo, and Advisory board member for Roosevelt University Graduate Education Department

Dr. Ragan has received numerous awards for her contributions in education and service to the community. Among these are *the General Superintendent's Representative*, *Illinois Distinguished Educator's Award*, *National Educators' Award*, *One of the Top Six Educators' in the Country*, *Kizzie Award for Outstanding African-American Women*, *Dyett School: Blue Ribbon Recognition*, *Governor's Award for Excellence in Education*, *Keynote Speaker: United Kingdom Headmasters' CSD Conference*, and *Westminster School Recognized by NYSED as "Most Improved School"*.

Dr. Ragan and her husband, Phillip, have four children and one grandchild. They are members of Bethel A.M.E. Church.



Bishop Robert L. Sanders, B.R.E., M.TH., D.H.L., D.MIN.

Bishop Robert L. Sanders, Senior Pastor of the Greater Refuge Temple of Christ located at 943 Jefferson Avenue, Buffalo, loves the saints and friends of this wonderful church and will celebrate his 33rd year as Pastor and Shepherd of this congregation in November 2006.

Bishop Sanders is an anointed preacher and teacher of God's word. His ministry is to reach the "total person." Under his dynamic leadership, many positive and encouraging changes have occurred at Greater Refuge Temple of Christ and the surrounding community.

Bishop Sanders is a man of vision and realizes that he must be busy about God's business. Many of Bishop Sanders' visions for Greater Refuge Temple of Christ and the community have been fulfilled through the beautiful new worship and praise center, the Family Life Center, the Christian Academy, the Citadel of Hope and God's Little Children Child Development Center. Most recently, Greater Refuge Temple purchased property on Jefferson Avenue, and remodeled the structure to become "Refuge Plaza." In December 2003, the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development awarded Bishop Sanders and the Greater Refuge Temple of Buffalo a grant for its Supportive Housing Program called "The Greater Refuge Temple Transition House." This facility will provide residential services as well as programs for homeless individuals, persons released from correctional institutions and housing for person with AIDS.

Bishop Sanders has been the recipient of numerous awards. He is also a member of many boards. Accomplishments include Bishop of the Western New York and Canada Diocese; President of the Pentecostal Apostolic Ministerial Alliance of Buffalo and Vicinity; Founder and Executive Director of the Greater Refuge Temple Bible Institute; President of the Interdenominational Religious Confederation; Member of the Jeremiah Collaboration; NAACP Award for Community Service, 2001; SCLC Outstanding Community Service Award, 2000 and Western New York Frontier Spirit Vision Award

In addition, Bishop Sanders is a veteran of the United States Army. He served his country from 1960-1963 touring in Munich Germany.

Bishop is married to the lovely Janice Sanders and they have 3 sons and 3 daughters-in-laws (Robert and Anitris; Mark and Danielle; and Timothy and April) and 8 grandchildren (Robert III, Kala, Deja, Mark, Dominique, Zoe, Timothy and Jadon).



Hon. Rose H. Sconiers
New York State Supreme Court Justice

Hon. Rose H. Sconiers, New York State Supreme Court Justice, is former Judge of The City Court of Buffalo; former Executive Attorney of The Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo, Inc., former Assistant Corporation Counsel for the City of Buffalo and a 1973 graduate of the State University of New York at Buffalo School of Law. She was admitted to the State Bar in 1974 and to the U.S. Federal District Court in 1975. In addition, she is admitted to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and the U.S. Supreme Court.

Justice Sconiers is an emeritus member of the University of Buffalo Council and a past President of the New York State Association of Council Members and College Trustees. She was appointed by the Chief Judge of New York State to the Unified Court System Advisory Committee on Criminal Law and Procedure, the Jury Project and the Commission on Fiduciary Appointments. She is also a member of the Franklin H. Williams Judicial Commission on Minorities. Justice Sconiers is past President of the University of Buffalo Law Alumni Association and a former member of the Board of Directors of the New York State Defenders Association.

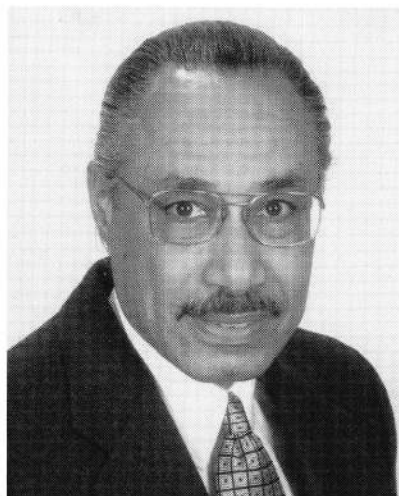
Justice Sconiers is the former President of The Association of Justices of The Supreme Court of The State of New York; former Presiding member of the Judicial Council of The New York State Bar Association and a former delegate to the National Conference of State Trial Judges of The American Bar Association.

She is a former member of the Board of Directors of the Erie County Bar Foundation; a former member of the Erie County Bar Association Grievance Committee and past Chairman of the Lawyer Referral Service Committee and Law Day Committee. She also served on the Bar's Special Committee to Study the Feasibility of Creating a Police Civilian Review Board for the Buffalo Police Department, Practice and Procedure in City Court Committee, Judiciary Committee and Ethics Committee.

Justice Sconiers is a past President of The Supreme Court Justice Association, Eighth Judicial District; past President of the Buffalo Chapter, National Bar Association; past Chairperson, Friends of the School of Architecture and Environmental Design at SUNY; past Vice-Chairperson, Women for Downtown; past President, Community Planning and Assistance Center for Western New York (CPAC); past Chairperson of the 13th Street Multi-Purpose Center, Inc., in Niagara Falls, New York, and past President of the Erie County Chapter of The Links, Inc. Justice Sconiers is a former member of the Board of Trustees of Children's Hospital, the Board of Trustees of St. Mary' School for the Deaf and Board of Directors of the Buffalo Chapter, American Red Cross.

Justice Sconiers is the recipient of many honors and awards, including among others, The University of Buffalo Law Alumni Association Distinguished Alumna Award, the YWCA Leader Luncheon Outstanding Achievement Award and the Buffalo Urban League Evans/Young Award. She was inducted into the Western New York Women's Hall of Fame in 2001.

Justice Sconiers is married to Attorney, Lester G. Sconiers and the mother of a daughter, Lisa Rose, and a son, Lester, Jr.



E. Paul Smith

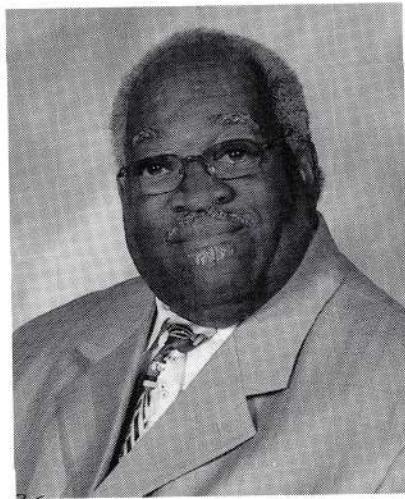
E. Paul Smith is the oldest son of Alice P. Smith and the late Eugene F. Smith.

Paul attended Buffalo Public Schools. He graduated cum laude from Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science. He is the owner, manager and President of H. Alfred Lewis Mortuary, Incorporated, located in Buffalo, New York. He operates the business along with his brother, Gregory who is the Vice President.

Paul has been married to Connie Jones Smith for 34 years. His wife, Connie is a retired Buffalo Music Teacher of 33 years. He is the father of a son, E. Paul, who is a nurse in Denver, Colorado, specializing in heart transplant surgery and daughter, Elizabeth, who is the only minority Police Officer in Allegany County and the only female officer in her department.

On, April, 29, 2006, Paul was presented a community award by Iota Phi Lambda, Beta Phi Chapter.

Paul enjoys cooking, hunting, fishing, camping, and making candles. He is a life member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, a recipient of The Black Achievers Award and a member of The Bethel Community Development Corporation. Paul is a member of Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, which is celebrating it's 175th Anniversary.



Rev. Richard G. Stewart

Rev. Richard G. Stewart's life goal is "to do the will of the Father whom I have not seen by serving those whom I see every day".

Reverend Stewart is a native of Buffalo. He grew up in St. Luke A.M.E. Zion Church and was active at Westminister Community House on Adams Street and attended their camp at Angola. He was mentored by Geneva B. Scruggs and Mary Crosby Chappell. Reverend Stewart accepted the call to ministry in the Fall of 1958 and graduated in 1963 with a Bachelors of Arts Degree from Livingstone College, the A.M.E. Zion Church's Liberal Arts College at Salisbury, North Carolina. He also graduated in 1965 from Hood Theological Seminary with a Bachelor of Divinity; 1978 Master of Divinity; 1973 Master of Arts from Texas Southern University. He also received Honorary Doctor of Divinity Degrees from Mt. Hope Bible College, Houston, Texas; Clinton Jr. College, Rock Hill, South Carolina and Jesus the Liberator Seminary, Buffalo, New York.

He has pastored churches in Statesville and Laurel Hill, North Carolina; Houston, Texas and Detroit, Michigan. For the past 16 years he has served as Pastor of Durham Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church. During this time, Reverend Stewart organized the Central City Cafe, a Soup Kitchen serving a noon time meal to any hungry person (87,000 servings served during 2005); led in the planning and erection of the Durham Memorial Church Outreach Center, which includes Head Start and Day Care for 80 children; dining room and kitchen to seat 150 people; gym/multi-purpose room that can seat 350 for banquets; showers available to persons needing to bathe. He also led in the restoration of this historic church, including stained glass windows, chancel, heating system, painting, alarm system and other improvements.

Reverend Stewart is a life member of the NAACP and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Life Patron of Women's Missionary Society, AME Zion Church; Gold Member of Afro-American Historical Society; Member of the Erie County Historical Society; President of the African Methodist Ministers Alliance; Founder & Director of the Central City Cafe and has registered over 500 persons to vote.



Garnet Hicks Wallace

On January 2, 1947 the then Garnet Hicks arrived in Buffalo, New York and the following Sunday, January 8th, she joined Bethel A.M.E. Church. The pastor, Rev. D. Ormonde Walker, who had eulogized her father, The Rev. G. Hicks and was a student at Wilberforce University immediately, assigned her to the Sunday School Board. There she taught in the Senior Department. She was appointed as Superintendent of the Sunday School on two separate occasions and has served in some area ever since 1947.

Garnet was Director of Christian Education under the leadership of Reverend Charles Stewart; Director of Lay Activities and was appointed Vice Chairperson of the Board of Trustees by the Rev. G. Grant Crumpley and kept this title under five additional administrations.

Garnet recently became a life member in the Women's Missionary Society. She has served as parliamentarian on the local level; Area Chair and Assistant Dean of the Missionary Institute. As Area Chair she was the first to initiate in taking a group to Annual Day in Bermuda and Grant A.M.E. Church in Toronto, Canada. In addition, Garnet along with Mrs. Willa Johnson, was instrumental in gathering footwear, medical and school supplies for Haiti and personally delivered them during her trip to Ghana.

Mrs. Hicks-Wallace was the second editor of the First District Reflector and General Chairperson for the International Breakfast for the Missionary Quadrennial in Columbia, South Carolina. Garnet is a New York State retiree from the Division of Parole.



Raymond T. Walton

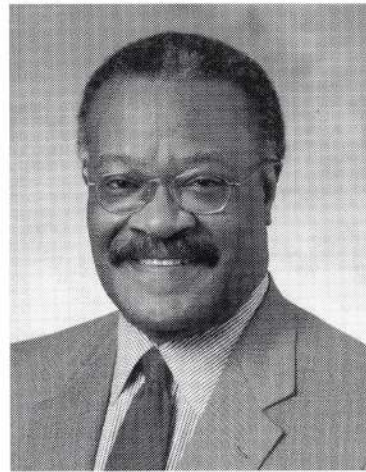
Raymond T. Walton was born in 1920 in Memphis, Tennessee. He graduated from Manassas High School in 1937. Shortly thereafter he served in the United States Armed Forces from 1942 through 1946. Afterwards, he traveled extensively throughout the United States.

Ray arrived in Buffalo in 1948 where he united with Bethel AME Church, which was then located on Eagle Street. He joined Bethel in 1952 under the leadership of Rev Harry J. White Sr.

He was appointed to the Steward Board of the church in 1952 where he served faithfully until 1977. From 1977 until today, Ray has served as a Trustee of the church. Additionally, he is a member of the Lay Organization, missionary society and church school. He also serves as President of the Male Usher Board, where in 2000, he received a plaque for 49 years of service.

Among his many accomplishments, he is life member of the NAACP, and an active member of the American Legion. He was a 2002 recipient of an award for outstanding religious and community service from the Network of Religious Communities.

Ray has been married to Virlee Brown Walton for 54 years.



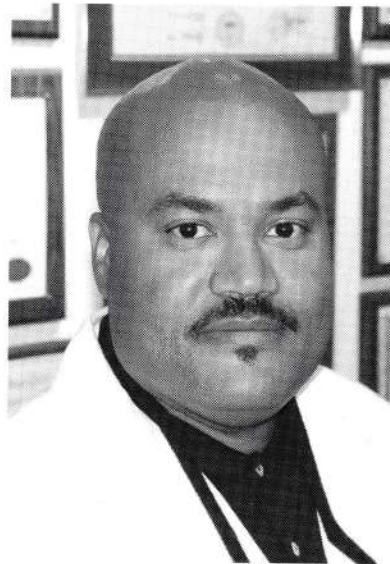
Alphonso O'Neil-White
President and Chief Executive Officer
HealthNow New York Inc.

Alphonso O'Neil-White has served as President and CEO of HealthNow New York Inc. since December 2003. HealthNow, serving all of Upstate New York, is a diversified health care company with annual revenues of more than \$2 billion. HealthNow does business as BlueCross BlueShield of Western New York and BlueShield of Northeastern New York and is one of the oldest BlueCross BlueShield Plans in the country. He is credited with leading the company back to profitability and financial stability.

Mr. O'Neil-White has over two decades of experience in the health care arena. Before joining HealthNow as Senior Vice President & General Counsel in 1997, he served as Vice President & General Counsel for America's Health Insurance Plans, the preeminent health insurance industry trade association. He also served as Labor Counsel for Humana, Inc., a \$12 billion national, publicly traded health care company, and as General Counsel for one of the nation's first HMOs, Group Health Association, Inc. in Washington, D.C. He is admitted to practice law in several states, the District of Columbia, and before the U.S. Supreme Court.

Mr. O'Neil-White serves on a number of business and community organization boards; most notably, he is a member of the Board of Directors of the BlueCross BlueShield Association, a national association of all of the country's BlueCross BlueShield Plans, and is Chair of the Buffalo Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. He is also Chair of the National Conference for Community and Justice of Western New York, and a trustee of the internationally renowned Albright-Knox Art Gallery in Buffalo, New York.

Mr. O'Neil-White resides in Amherst, New York with his wife, Marcia, and their three children.



Kevin C. Wood, DDS

Kevin C. Wood, DDS is a native of Buffalo, NY, and has been practicing in Western NY since 1983. A graduate of Howard University College of Dentistry, Dr. Wood has served as Dental Director of Geneva B. Scruggs Community Health Center, Associate Director of Dentistry of the Anthony Jordan Health Center in Rochester, NY and as Chief of Dental Services at Sheehan Memorial Hospital. Dr. Wood has completed hundreds of hours of postgraduate continuing education in many aspects of dentistry, including advanced training in CEREC CAD/CAM reconstruction. He serves as a Regional Trainer in CEREC technology for Patterson Dental. He also has been awarded multiple advanced certifications from the Academy of Laser Dentistry. He serves as educator and consultant to numerous local health care and community organizations. He has been married for 28 years to Dr. Kathy Wood, and have four children, Dr. Kamillah, Kia, K. Jamaal, and Kendall.

Professional Memberships

- Academy of Laser Dentistry
- Academy of Computerized Dentistry
- International Congress of Oral Implantology
- American College of Oral Implantologists
- International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology
- American Dental Association
- National Dental Association
- Academy of General Dentistry



M&T Bank: A Leader in the WNY Community

Manufacturers and Traders Bank opened its doors at 2 East Swan Street in Buffalo, N.Y. for the first time on August 29, 1856 with \$200,000 in capital. 150 years later, M&T Bank Corporation is now one of the country's twenty largest banks, with more than \$55 billion in assets, 14,000 employees and 670 branch offices in six states plus the District of Columbia. M&T was recently cited by Forbes Magazine as one of the best-managed companies in America, and by Fortune Magazine as one of the nation's most admired super-regional banks.

As M&T has grown, it has remained loyal to its roots as a community bank. "We have long described M&T as a community bank," said CEO Robert E. Sadler, Jr. "As such, we understand that the well-being of the bank is dependent upon the well-being of the communities we serve."

Effective leadership can help solve even the most intractable problems, Sadler maintains, as evidenced by M&T's experience at the Westminster Community Charter School. An inner-city elementary school on Buffalo's East Side, where more than nine out of ten families live below the poverty line, Westminster (formerly School 68) once was one of Buffalo's lowest performing schools. Now, Westminster ranks consistently among the best schools in the city – the result of a 13-year, \$11-million public-private partnership that the bank formed to turn the school around. M&T spent millions on supplemental teacher training, summer-school and after-school programs, computers and textbooks – but the most important investment was in a new school principal.

M&T's experience at Westminster proved the key hypothesis: that *leadership matters*. The partnership was premised on the belief that strong, unfettered leadership could effect real change. And under the leadership of Principal Yvonne Minor-Ragan, Westminster achieved dramatic results. Test scores rose from the bottom of the district to the top, and now rival many suburban schools. Westminster was named one of New York State's "Most Improved Schools," and received the Governor's Award for Excellence in Education.

M&T's commitment to Westminster is just one of the reasons why the bank is recognized locally and nationally as a philanthropic leader. In addition to the support it provides to Westminster, M&T contributes millions of dollars – and thousands of volunteer hours – to hundreds of non-profit community-based organizations.

M&T Bank Corporation (NYSE:MTB) is headquartered in Buffalo, New York, and is one of the twenty largest bank holding companies in the United States, with more than \$55 billion in assets, 14,000 employees and 650 offices in New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, West Virginia and Washington, D.C. M&T was recently cited by Forbes Magazine (February 9, 2006) as one of the best-managed companies in America.



The Margaret L. Wendt Foundation

Margaret L. Wendt was the daughter of William and Margaret Geis Wendt. Her father was one of the founders of the Buffalo Forge Company. Educated in the public schools and at the Buffalo Seminary, she graduated with honors in Latin and Mathematics in 1903.

When her father left the company he had helped to establish, he purchased a farm near Lockport, NY and young Margaret became a manager and developed her skills as a businesswoman. Chiefly, she expressed her concern for the community through the Lutheran Home, the Niagara Lutheran Home and the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra. During the 1940's and 1950's, she met regularly with her pastor, discovering a multitude of ways by which she could quietly meet community needs. Through her involvement in the management of her farm, she became intensely interested in a variety of related environmental causes as well as demonstrating an astute financial ability.

Margaret Wendt was a very private person, interested in serving without publicity, finding a channel for her faith in meeting specific needs. She loved music, she loved her church, she loved to travel and she loved her city. The Margaret L. Wendt Foundation is a private, grant-making entity, established in 1956 and dedicated to charitable and publicservice purposes in the Western New York area. The Foundation which bears her name continues these interests in a variety of reactive and proactive ways by providing "seed money" for new and creative programs, supporting organizations which are meeting special human needs, encouraging music and the performing arts as a part of the educational and community life of the city, and sharing in "risk projects" which are important for a community concerned with its heritage, its many and diverse peoples, its concern for the cultural and physical environment of its citizens.



Celebrating 175 Years

The Best is Yet to Come!

“Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man, the things which God has prepared for those who love Him”

I Corinthians 2:9 NKJV

Bethel AME Church • Board of Stewards

Rev. Richard A. Stenhouse - Pastor
Charlene L. McKinnon - Vice Chairperson



Meredith Anding • Marie Brown • Douglas Cassell
Joseph Demps • Cheryl Dublin • Linda Edwards
Armour Rhea Funderburg • Julie Hartley
M. Elaine Ingram • Gavina Leonard • Peter Niblett
Stafford Truehart • Edward Williams • Jenene Williams
Vanetta Williams • Paula Young • Martha Younger

CONGRATULATIONS
to
Bethel A.M.E. Church

on the
175th Church Anniversary

"Seek His will first in All you do
And He will direct your path"

Proverbs 3:6



2006-2007 Trustee Board

We are proud to be a part of this Historical
Church called Bethel



Bethel A.M.E. Church School

Buffalo, New York 14209

***"Our Sunday School must
Grow and Glow.***

***We must help
to make it so."***

***Rev. Richard A. Stenhouse, Pastor
Sis. Martha J. Younger, Superintendent***



Celebrating Success! Celebrating You!

Bethel on your 175th Anniversary

"You Have Come This Far By Faith"

Historic: Famous or important in history; Having great and lasting importance; Known or established in the past; Dating from or preserved from a past time in culture.

For all the Successes behind You, And Challenges You have Overcome, We say Congratulations

"Savor Each Day For The Gift That It Is"

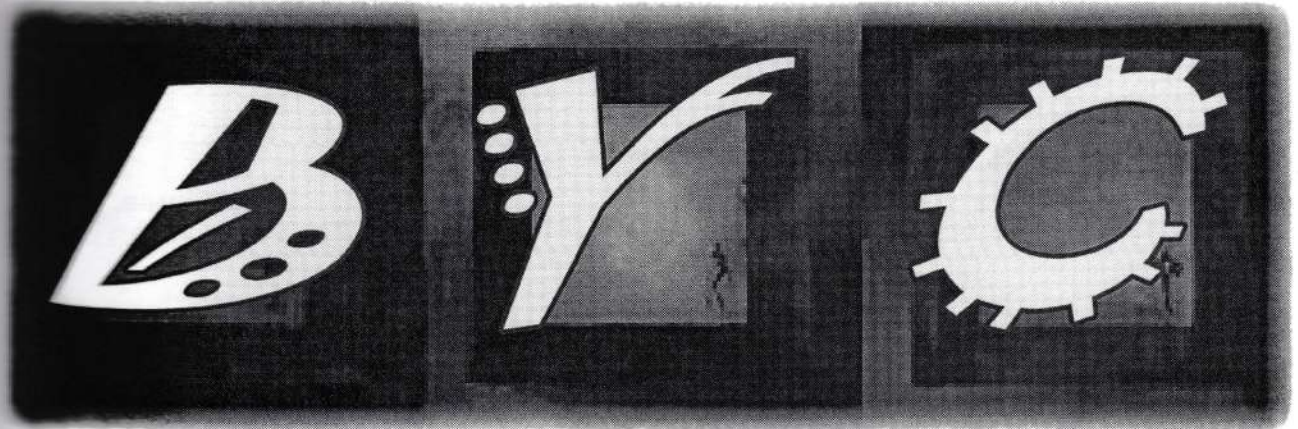
The Lay Organization of Bethel AME Church

Sis. Paula Young, President

Sis. Caroline Hoffman-Veasey, Lay Director

Rev. Richard Allen Stenhouse, Pastor





Bethel A.M.E. Youth Church

"Building A Strong Foundation In The Word"

To all of our Mothers and Fathers in Christ's Kingdom

The Source of our strength is God

The Joy of our strength is You!

In 175 years, eyes have not seen nor ears heard the wondrous things God is going to do with His children.

Keep Laboring, Leading and Loving us!

Rev. Beverly J. Abram, Assoc. Minister

Rev. Richard A. Stenhouse, Pastor



Bethel's Womens Missionary Society

Geneva Allen Unit
Sister Armour Rhea Funderburg,
Leader

Dorcas Sisters
Sister Edith Hall-Robinson,
Leader

Here Am I Unit
Sister Lou Jim Hunt,
Leader

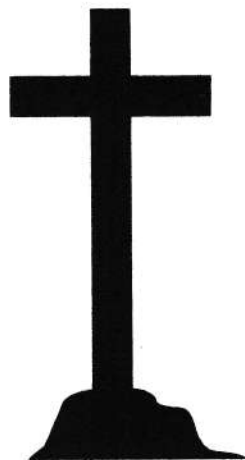
Sisters Sharing Unit
Sister Jimmie Jenkins,
Leader

Daughters of Hannah
Sister Martha McMillan,
Leader

Young People's Department
Sister Nicole Stenhouse,
Director

Sister Caroline Hoffman-Veasey, President
Sister Sharon Stenhouse, Advisor
Rev. Richard Allen Stenhouse, Pastor

*We are walking worthily in the footsteps of our elders, standing safely in the shadows
of The Almighty God.*





To A

"Historic Church Making History"

The Western New York Conference YPD & Bethel Buffalo YPD

Wishes You God's Miracles and Blessings on Your 175th Anniverary

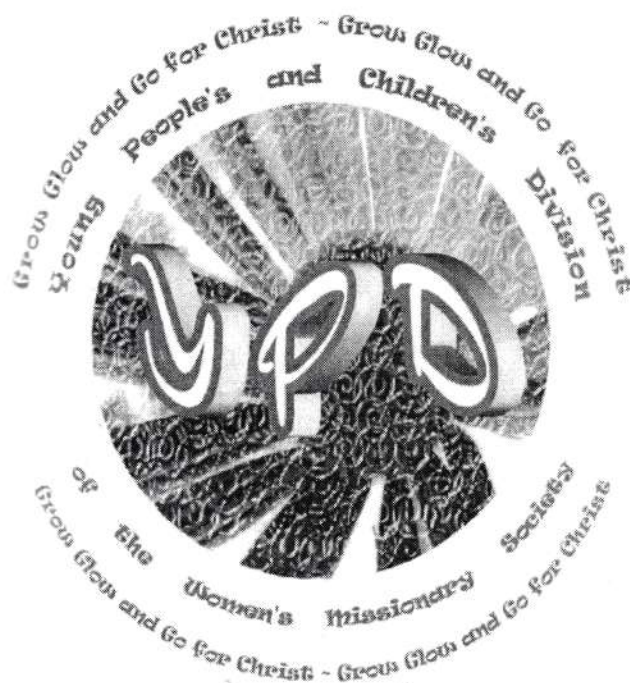
He is able to make all Grace abound toward You.

His Grace is relevant in all things at all times.

He will provide all that You need.

He will enable You to abound in every good work.

"God's Promise is Limitless"



Sis. Paula Young
Conference YPD Director

Sis. Ashley McNeal
Conference YPD President

Sis. Nicole Stenhouse
Local YPD Director

Sis. Natisha Roberson
Local YPD President

We've Come This Far By Faith



**Congratulations
Bethel AME Church
on our 175th Anniversary**

Hospitality Board

Delores Davis - President
Florence Leonard - Vice President
Beatrice Stenson - Treasurer
Clydean Amaker - Secretary
Dorothy Webster - Sunshine
Doreathea Maulbsy - Corresponding Secretary
Mary Thomas - Larissa Moreland - Jimmie Jenkins
Emeritus Members
Margaret Thomas - Frances Costley

Congratulations to Bethel's 175th Anniversary

Sisters Sharing Missionary Unit

Jimmie L. Jenkins - Leader
Thelma L. Batchelor - Assistant Leader
Bettye Hutcherson - Recording Secretary
Adell Fletcher - Corresponding Secretary
Vanetta Williams - Finance Secretary
Lucy Merrill - Treasurer
Addie Jackson - Assistant Treasurer - Finance Secretary
Dorothy Trueheart - Chaplain
Cincy Waiters - Sunshine
Elaine W. Wilson - Assistant Secretary/Telephone Tree
Bettie Beasley - PME
Edith Bable Ida Davis Ada B. Harris
Gladys Odgen Elizabeth Peterson Mazie Ricks
Hoppie Ryan Cecelia Sharpe Dorothy Webster



CONGRATULATIONS

on your

175th Church Anniversary

LADIES' USHER BOARD #1

*"I WOULD RATHER BE A DOORKEEPER IN THE HOUSE
OF THE LORD THAN TO DWELL IN THE TENTS OF THE WICKED"*

OFFICERS

Marie Brown - President

Kathy Herritage - Vice President

Patricia Johnson - Secretary

Bettie Beasley - Corresponding Secretary

Thelma Henley - Treasurer

Colious Lott - Sunshine Treasurer

Geraldine Ivey - Chaplain

Betty Fugate - Chaplain

Deborah Smith Evans - Captain

Julia Bethel - Co-Captain

MEMBERS

Edith Hall Robinson

Bertha Hendricks

Katrina Hooker

Dawne McNeal

Elaine Wilson

Mary Evans

Rev. Richard A. Stenhouse, Pastor



The Ladies of Usher Board #2
Join with Bethel AME Church as we
Celebrate 175 Years of Service
To Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ



Members

Bessie Albert

Frances Benjamin

Loretta Demps

Nakia Franklin

Lonzenia Jackson

Alberta Morgan

Carrie Alexander

Almeta Boles

Sarah Fogan

Dorinda Glover

Delores Johnson

Carolyn Peterson

Maurice Anding

Jessie Dale

Kathy Franklin Adams

Carolyn Jackson

Pamela Lane



CONGRATULATIONS FOR 175 YEARS!!!!



THE MEMBERS OF THE MALE USHER BOARD

Ray Walton, President
Willie Merrill, Vice President
James Willis, Secretary
George McCoullum, Treasurer

James P. Alexander
John Melvin
William Smith

Frank Bartell
Peter Niblett
Johnny Walton
Clyde Watkins

Charles Jones
Richard Thompson
Clay Wilson



Congratulations
to
Bethel A.M.E. Church
on our
175th Church Anniversary



The Sanctuary Choir
Sister Michelle Thomas, Minister of Music

*"O Praise the Lord, all ye nations; praise him, all ye
people.
For his merciful kindness is great toward us; and the truth
of the Lord endureth for ever.
Praise ye the Lord."
Psalm 117*



THE BROTHERHOOD MALE CHORUS

OFFICERS

George McMillan	President
James Richerson	Vice President
Ambi Ford	Secretary
Rasheen Powell	Financial Secretary
Herman Alexander	Treasurer
Dedric Johnson	Corresponding Secretary
James Alexander	Sunshine Treasurer
Trevor McNeal	Chaplain

Michelle Thomas Directress

MEMBERS

John Hart	Augustus Daniels
Joseph Demps	Lamont Glover
Peter Niblett	Clay Wilson
Philip Ragan	

CONGRATULATIONS BETHEL ON YOUR
175th ANNIVERSARY

For every house is builded by some man; But he that built all things is God
Hebrews 3:4

Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church

*The Oldest Black Institution in Buffalo
A Historic Church Making History*

Reverend Richard Allen Stenhouse, Pastor
1525 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14209

Telephone (716) 886-1650
Fax (716) 886-2311
www.bethelamechurch.org

Jesus Joy and Congratulations

to

Reverend Richard Allen Stenhouse, Pastor

and the

Bethel AME Church Family

In Celebration

of

One Hundred Seventy Five Years

of

Service to God & Community

"To God Be The Glory"

Ed Williams & Nakia Franklin

Co-Chairs of 175 Anniversary Finance Committee

Committee Members: Meredith Anding
Noreen Fears

George McCoullum
George McMillan

God Our Father, Christ Our Redeemer, Man Our Brother



**The Albert Franklin Adams Families
Wish Continued Success to
All the Members of Bethel AME Church
as we Commemorate
175 Years of Spiritual Service in the City of Buffalo**

Continue Making History

Bessie Albert

Larry Adams & Kathy Franklin Adams

Frederick Franklin Jr.

Aaliyah Kennay Franklin & Keisha

Nakia Sangria Franklin

Justine & Vivian Albert

Annie Green

Adah & Arlington S. Albert Sr.

Karen Albert - Maya, Kia & Steve Duncan

Michelle, Marcus & Nicholas Locke

Lois Adams

Larry - Lisandra Cavins & Samantha Daniels

Jimmy & Dorothy Adams

In Memory Of

Arlington S. Albert Sr.

Kenneth D. Albert

John W. Green

J. Carl Bland

Congratulations ~ Bethel AME Church
On a Historic Milestone of Worship and Praise
Serving Buffalo's African-American Community
With 175 Years of Dedicated Service

Bethel AME Federal Credit Union
50 plus years serving our church members

Bethel A.M.E.
Federal Credit Union



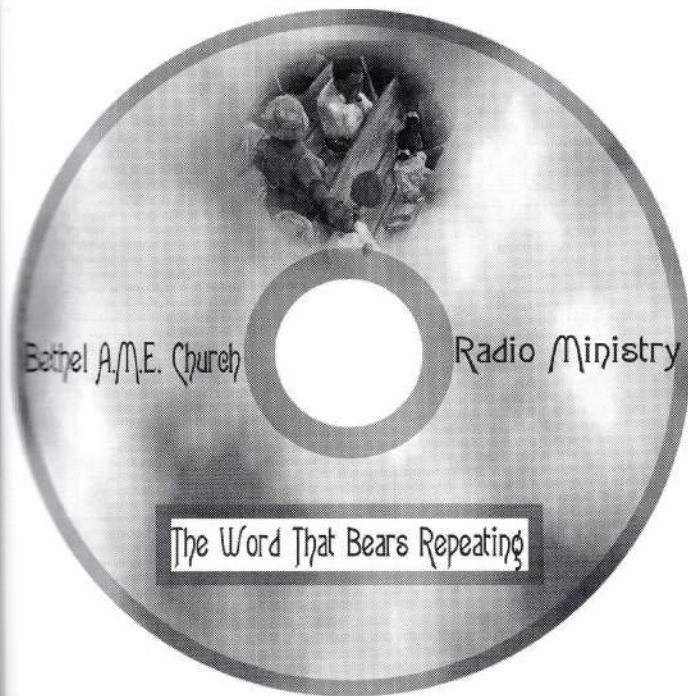
P.O. Box 1535, Buffalo, New York 14215 ~ 716-882-2997

Sharon L. DuBard, President
George McCoullum, Vice President
Kathleen V. Franklin-Adams,
Recording Secretary

Maurice D. Anding, Treasurer
Raymond C. DuBard, Loan Officer
Terry A. Patterson,
Supervisory Committee

Credit Union Hours: Thursday, 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.,
and Sunday after 10:30 Service

Savings Accounts, Personal Loans, Christmas Clubs
Insured by NCUA



Happy 175th Anniversary Bethel

Miss a Sermon?

Tune into WFBO 1080 AM Sundays at 11 a.m.

Want to hear a Sermon again?

Sermons are also available on CD.

Rev. Beverly J. Abram

Steward Stafford Trueheart

Congratulations
on your
175th Anniversary

The Hyatt Regency Buffalo
thanks you for your patronage.

We look forward to
a long relationship
and many more events.

Sincerely,
The Hyatt Regency Buffalo Staff





The Chautauqua Institution

Congratulates and Celebrates

**The Bethel African
Methodist Episcopal Church**

**on the joyous occasion of its
175th Anniversary**

For its historical contributions
to the people and community of Buffalo

*We
Congratulate & Salute
Bethel AME Church
on our
175th Church Anniversary*

"May God Be The Glory"

*James & Julie Hartley
Joel, Sonia & Janiya Croxie*

**The Pitts Family
Congratulate
Bethel AME Church
on your
175th Anniversary**

To God be the Glory

Steven E. Pitts
Jeaneen D. Pitts
Jazmin S. Pitts
Steven J. Pitts

Chesterfield, Virginia

*Congratulations
and Best Wishes
to
Bethel A.M.E. Church
on your
175th Anniversary*

*from
Margaret A. Wilder, Ph.D.
Athens, GA*



Demone Smith

Erie County Legislator-7th District

...would like to congratulate
The Bethel African Methodist
Episcopal Church
in celebrating its
175th Anniversary.

836 East Delavan Ave.
Buffalo, New York 14215
Phone: 716.894.0914 Fax: 716.896.1463
email: smith@erie.gov



Greetings to
Rev. Richard A. Stenhouse
& Mrs. S. Stenhouse
and to the Officers and Members
of Bethel AME Church.

Congratulations on Celebrating
one hundred seventy-five Years
of Service to the Community.
May the "Spirit of the Living God
Fall a Fresh, Melting Molding,
Filling and Using" His people
in a Mighty Way.
God Bless You!
Rev. & Mrs. Horace T. Cromer
Agape AME Church

Congratulations
Bethel AME Church
on your
175th Anniversary

Sheridan
Broadcasting Corporation

Carol M. Salter
Operations Manager

89 LaSalle Avenue • Buffalo, NY 14214-1495
(716) 834-1080 • Fax. (716) 837-1438
Email: csalter@wufoam.com



Congratulations
on our
175th Anniversary
from the
McKinnon, Pitts
and Washington families
Georgia Washington
Marie Pitts
Carlton & Charlene McKinnon
Carla McKinnon
Carlton McKinnon Jr.

In Memory of
George & Carrie Washington

Best Wishes
to
Bethel Church
on this Great Anniversary
175 years
from
Bethel and Edwards Families
Julia Bethel
Linda Bethel Edwards
Randy Edwards
David Edwards
Teresa Edwards
In memory of
John Bethel and Rosa Edwards

Mr. Kones
893 Jefferson Avenue



Where there's a smile in every Kone.
Specializing in Flavor Burst Ice Cream
Funnel Kakes, Fried Dough
and other delights
See Ya There!

*“Faith is building on what
you know is here so you can reach
what you know is there.”*
Cullen Hightower

**OUR SINCERE CONGRATULATIONS
ON YOUR 175TH ANNIVERSARY**
AND FOR COMBINING YOUR SPIRITUALITY
WITH YOUR VISION TO HELP BUILD
A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR BOTH
YOUR CONGREGATION AND
YOUR COMMUNITY

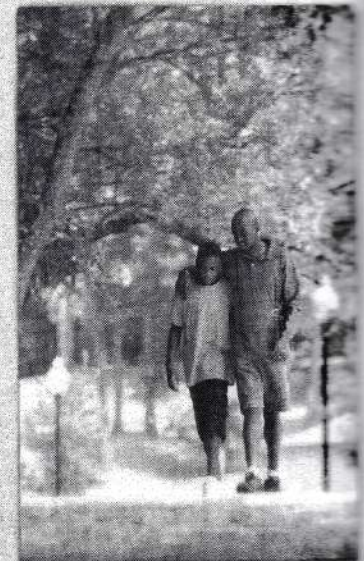


**Belmont
Shelter Corp.**
*...because everybody
needs a home*

With Offices in Buffalo, Hamburg
and the City of North Tonawanda

**DERRICK DOESN'T THINK ABOUT HIS KIDNEY
TRANSPLANT. HE'S TOO BUSY BEING A FATHER.**

Kidney disease left Derrick
unable to be the husband
or father he wanted to be.
But a kidney transplant
gave him his life back.
Now he and his family
are making up for lost
time, all because someone
like you made the decision
to be an organ and
tissue donor.



*“When you think about — this gift
of life, it's unbelievable. It
costs you nothing. And yet it
gives someone else everything.
I know. I got my life back.”*

YOU HAVE THE POWER TO DONATE LIFE

UNYTS
Upstate New York
Transplant Services, Inc.



A Donate Life Organization

To find out how, go today to www.unyts.org
or call 1-800-227-4771.

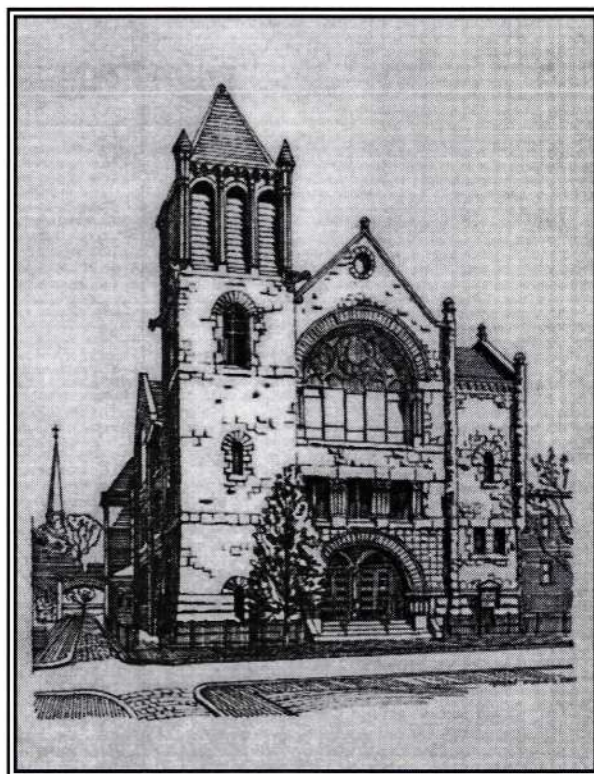


Congratulations to

Bethel A.M.E. Church

Praise God for 175 years of service!

May God bless you with continued strength for the journey ahead!



Mother Bethel

African Methodist Episcopal Church

Heaven's Gate

The oldest parcel of land continuously owned by African Americans

Purchased by Richard Allen in 1791

419 Richard Allen Avenue

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19147

The Reverend Dr. Jeffrey N. Leath, Pastor

God our Father

Christ Our Redeemer

Man our Brother



**Congratulations
And
God Bless You**

Reverend Richard & Sharon Stenhouse

on your

Church's 175th Anniversary

**We pray that the events of this day
Be a blessing to the Bethel AME Church
family.**

**Reverend Henry A. Belin III
First African Methodist Episcopal Church-Bethel
New York, New York**



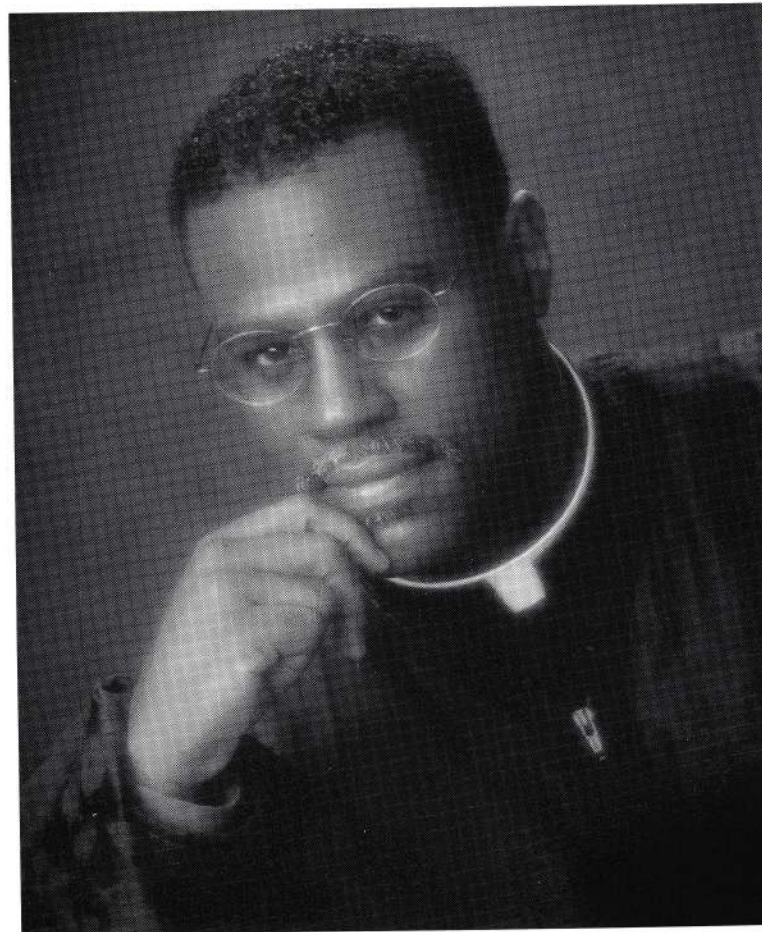
Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church

Rev. Silvester S. Beaman, Pastor
Ministerial Staff
Deacons Board
Trustee Board
Official Board

604 N. Walnut Street
Wilmington, Delaware 19801
Office: 302-658-1676
Fax: 302-658-1683

*Congratulations and Best Wishes
on your
175th Church Anniversary*

*May God bless you as you continue to
work in His vineyard.*



*Rev. & Mrs. Silvester S. Beaman and the
Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church Family*

"The Church That Cares"



Baber

African Methodist Episcopal Church

Rev. Marlowe V. N. Washington, Pastor

550 Meigs Street Rochester, NY 14607

Telephone: 585-461-1395 Fax: 271-6429

E-mail: Baberamechurch@frontiernet.net

Congratulations

To The

Bethel A.M.E. Church

Buffalo, NY

Reverend Richard A. Stenhouse Pastor

on your

175th Church Anniversary

Baber's Schedule of Service

SUNDAYS

Church School

8:30 A.M.

Worship Service

10:00 A.M.

WEDNESDAYS

Morning Glory (PRAYER HOUR)

6:00 A.M.

"More About Jesus" Noon Day Worship

12:00 NOON

Prayer Band (EVENING PRAYER HOUR)

6:30 P.M.

Pastor's Bible Study

7:30 P.M.



ALL ARE WELCOME TO COME AND CELEBRATE WITH BABER!



CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES

TO

REV. AND MRS. RICHARD ALLEN STENHOUSE

ALONG WITH THE MEMBERS OF

“BETHEL A.M.E. CHURCH”

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

AS YOU CELEBRATE YOUR

175TH ANNIVERSARY

FROM

REV. STANLEY GORDON SMITH, PASTOR, FIRST LADY WANDA

AND THE ENTIRE

ST. JOHN A.M.E. CHURCH FAMILY

917 GARDEN AVE.

NIAGARA FALLS, NY 14305

“Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.” 1Cor. 15:48

Bethel

African Methodist Episcopal Church

540 Mumford Street - Schenectady, NY 12307

(P) 518 377-7988; (f) 518 377-0679

Rev. Angelo S. Dawson - Pastor

OUR CONGRATULATIONS AND GOD'S BLESSINGS

To

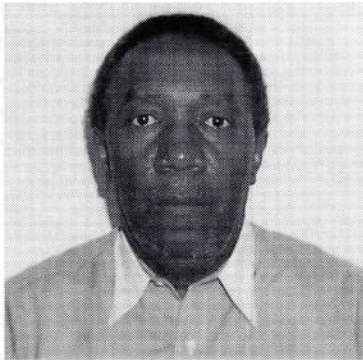
The Rev. Richard A. Stenhouse

Pastor

(My Father in the Ministry)

Sis. Sharon D. Stenhouse

First Lady



BETHEL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH FAMILY

Buffalo, NY

(The Oldest Black Institution in Buffalo)

WE SALUTE YOU

AS YOU CELEBRATE YOUR

175TH CHURCH ANNIVERSARY.

*"...Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness;
and all these things shall be added unto you."*

-Matthew 6:33 (KJV)

Rev. Angelo S. Dawson - Pastor

Officers & Members

of

Bethel AME - Schenectady, NY



*It is our prayer
that God will continue
to pour out his blessings
on the
Pastor and Congregation
of Bethel A.M.E. Church
as you
Celebrate 175 Years
doing His will.*

*Rev. Dr. James A. Lewis, III
Director, Pastoral Care
ECMC Pastoral Care Department*

PLEASANT GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Founded 1918

226 CEDAR STREET
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14204

REVEREND JOE L. FISHER, Pastor

Chairman of Deacons

JOHN PRATCHER

Chairman of Trustees

MRS. BARBARA P. GRAHAM

Treasurer

LEVORN ROBINSON

Telephone

(716) 856-6321

CONGRATULATIONS

BETHEL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

On your

175TH CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

As the oldest Black church and the oldest Black institution in the City of Buffalo, this is truly an historic event that is worthy of celebration.

Such an accomplishment is an honor to God and we pray for you in your on-going mission for our Lord. May He continue to bless and sustain you.

To God Be The Glory!!

**Pleasant Grove Baptist Church Family
Reverend Joe L. Fisher, Pastor**



Congratulations Pastor Stenhouse and the Officers and Members of Bethel A.M.E. Church

*To God Be The Glory
for all the Good Things he has done*

Pastor Robert E. Baines Sr.

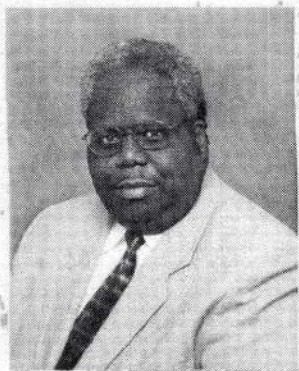


Our Community, the most important
investment we could ever make.



At First Niagara,
building relationships
with our customers
begins by building
relationships with
our communities.
We're proud to
support the people,
places and
organizations that
enrich all of our
lives every day.

Congratulations Bethel African Methodist
Episcopal Church on your 175th Anniversary.



*Rev. Dr. James C. Blackburn, Jr.
And the
Greater Hope Baptist Church
Wish to Congratulate
Bethel AME Church
On your
175th Anniversary*

*Greater Hope Baptist Church * 8 Verplanck Street * Buffalo, NY 14208
Phone (716) 883-3328 Fax (716) 883-7538 www.GreaterHopeBuffalo.org*

*Sunday Morning Worship 8:00AM & 10:45AM * Sunday Bible Class 9:30 AM*



To

*The Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church
In celebration of 175 years in ministry*

*As servants of God, may your life together as people called Methodists continue
to be led by the Holy spirit as you make disciples for Jesus Christ.*

Given by

Violet L. Fisher

*The Rev. Dr. Violet L. Fisher, Residing Bishop
New York, West Area, The United Methodist Church*



New Hope Baptist Church

543 RICHMOND AVENUE
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14222-1523



Herschel Chapman, Jr., Pastor



OFFICERS

Church Clerk
Mrs. Shirley Hunter

Chairman
Board Of Deacons
Mr. James E. Anderson

Chairman
Board Of Trustees
Mrs. Bertha Ann Robinson

Church Treasurer
Mrs. Sarah M. Smith



Church Secretary
Mrs. Sarah M. Smith

CONGRATULATIONS

To

Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church

On your

175th CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

“To God Be the Glory!”

“Blessed is the man...
...that trusts in the Lord
Whose hope is in Him
For he shall be as a tree
Planted by the waters...
...and never fails to bear fruit.”

Jeremiah 17:7-8

Church Telephone: (716) 883-0821

Fax: (716) 883-0822

Pastor: (716) 833-8639

“O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the Lord, our maker!” - PSALM 95:6



New Hope Baptist Church

543 RICHMOND AVENUE
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14222-1523



Herschel Chapman, Jr., Pastor



OFFICERS

Church Clerk
Mrs. Shirley Hunter

**Chairman
Board Of Deacons**
Mr. James E. Anderson

**Chairman
Board Of Trustees**
Ms. Bertha Ann Robinson

Church Treasurer
Ms. Sarah M. Smith



Church Secretary
Ms. Sarah M. Smith

CONGRATULATIONS

To

Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church

On your

175th CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

“To God Be the Glory!”

“Blessed is the man...
...that trusts in the Lord
Whose hope is in Him
For he shall be as a tree
Planted by the waters...
...and never fails to bear fruit.”
Jeremiah 17:7-8

Church Telephone: (716) 883-0821

Fax: (716) 883-0822

Pastor: (716) 833-8639

“O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the Lord, our maker!” - PSALM 95:6

Praise Be To God!

Congratulations!

Pastor Richard Stenhouse

&

Bethel A.M.E. Church

God's Blessings

*Upon You as You Celebrate
175 Years of Christian Service*

*St. Luke A.M.E. Zion Church
314 E. Ferry Street
Buffalo, New York 14208*

The Rev. Dr. Robert L. Graham, Pastor




*"Beloved, now are we the children of God; and it doth
not yet appear what we shall be."*

1 John 3:2



Congratulations Bethel AME Church on your 175th Anniversary


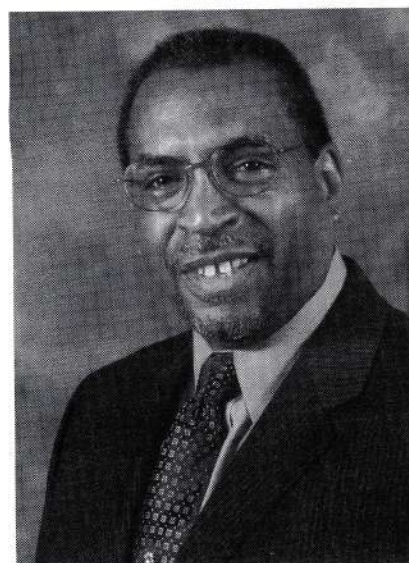
Real Estate & More



LANTON REAL ESTATE, INC.
3385 Bailey Avenue • Buffalo, NY 14215

Daniel Adams Jr.
Licensed Real Estate Associate

Office: 716-831-3600
Fax: 716-831-3505
Cell: 716-725-8419
VM: 716-743-7344

To buy or sell Residential, Commercial, HUD or Investment Property
Please Call 743-7344

Congratulations Bethel on your 175th Anniversary



Princor®
*Financial
Services
Corporation*
*A member of the Principal
Financial Group*

Conway Porter, III, CPA
Princor Registered Representative
Financial Advisor

147 Linwood Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14209
(716) 881-2277
FAX (716) 881-2283
cp_cpa_pc@msn.com



Congratulations

to

**Bethel African Methodist
Episcopal Church**

on your

**175 years
of service.**

**Erie County Court Judge
Shirley Troutman**

Congratulations
Happy Anniversary
and a Happy Year Ahead

God Bless You
BETHEL CHURCH

The Stewardess Board

Dorothy Trueheart, President
Dorothy Webster, Secretary
Rose Nance, Treasurer
Beatrice Stenson, Sunshine

Willie DuBard
Barbara Patton

Collie Arrington
Bettye Hutcherson
Jimmie Jenkins

Sheryl Dunbar
Deloris Stokes
Geraldine Ivey

**Congratulations
and
Thank You
for
175 Years of Contribution
to Our Community**

CENTERSTONE DEVELOPMENT



“Investing in Urban Assets”

393 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14202

Congratulations
**Bethel African Methodist
Episcopal Church**
Buffalo, New York
and

Reverend Richard Allen Stenhouse
175th Anniversary

St. James A.M.E. Church
Danbury, CT
Reverend Clifford H. Hill Jr., Pastor



*Buffalo State proudly supports the
175th anniversary of the*

**Bethel African
Methodist Episcopal
Church**

*Established in 1871, Buffalo State is known for small classes,
big ideas, and successful alumni. Buffalo State strives to be
a nationally recognized leader in public higher education,
and serves to improve our region, our nation, and our
world—one student at a time.*

www.buffalostate.edu

Muriel A. Howard, Ph.D.
President

Buffalo State
State University of New York



LOCAL, Credit Counseling for Over 40 Years!

712-2060

(800) 926-9685

www.cccsbuff.org



MEMBER
Upstate New York



United Way
of Buffalo & Erie County

Licensed by the
New York State
Banking Department

CCCS

**Consumer Credit Counseling
Service of Buffalo, Inc.**

40 Gardenville Pkwy., Suite 300, West Seneca, NY 14224



KeyBank

salutes

Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church

***the oldest Black church and oldest Black
institution in Buffalo, New York***

and

joins in the celebration of its
175th Anniversary

KeyBank



Achieve Anything



A better human experience for
a better business outcome...

E. K. Ward & Associates, Inc.
extends their sincerest congratulations to
Bethel A.M.E. Church
for 175 years of continued
leadership and inspiration
in the **Buffalo** community.

As Western New York's leading Human Resources Solutions company, EKW&A partners with organizations, both large and small, in achieving strategic goals and enhancing the talent of their greatest resource...their people. Look to EKW&A for talent management, global diversity initiatives, HR services and infrastructures, as well as strategic planning and organizational alignment initiatives.

(716) 626-1188
www.ekward.com

HARTER, SECREST & EMERY, LLP

Attorneys and Counselors

JOHN V. ELMORE

Twelve Fountain Plaza, Suite 400, Buffalo, NY 14202-2293

Phone: 716-853-1616 Fax: 716-853-1617
Direct: 716-845-4235 Email jelmore@hsalaw.com

WWW.HSELAW.COM

852-2324



**VIP
Secretarial Service
located in the CCDC building
at
134 William St.
Buffalo, New York**

Fax 884-5462

**Tax Consultant
Certified Brailist
Notary Public
Licensed Broker**

Pictures Circulated...(Black History included)

**Letters - Obituaries - Resumes - Deeds:
Typewritten**



Congratulations

To

Bethel AME Church

On your 175th Anniversary

From

The Bethel Head Start Policy Committee

NaKia S. Franklin, Chairperson
 Tara Jefferson, Vice Chairperson
 Anaida Coffie, Secretary
 Gail Leggio, Treasurer
 Francena Adams
 Brian Anderson
 Maurice Anding

Vivian Bell
 Clara Hartley
 Atasha James
 Shalese List
 Caprecia Lowmack
 Moselle Perry
 Janet Rainey

Joyce Reed
 Danielle Simmons
 Tracy Stein
 Raquel Wells
 Robert Zielinski

Reaping the Harvest

Who planted the seeds?
 They have grown beyond recognition
 The ancestors look back and rejoice
 They shout Hallelujah!
 See what God can do!

Spirits surround this Holy Ground of God!
 Spirits rumble and abide within our Family
 We magnify the Lord and bless his Holy Name
 We give praises!
 Peace be still!

Gathering seeds is awesome!
 The Lord quenches our thirst!
 Thanks be to God
 For so many trials and victories,
 He deserves all of the praise and glory!
 The fruits are multiplied and happily blossom within
 The souls of my people!
 The windows of blessings
 Expose the inner being of my people.

Are we prepared for the reaper of the seeds?
 The church must live within our daily messages.
 We must tell the people
 Blessings abound and are surging through
 The veins of God's real people (The Chosen)
 We must keep the faith and realize
 That God is working through us-for us!
 And everyone around us should sing the praises of
 Jes-Us!

James & Thelma Richardson
 Written by Thelma
 For our 175th Anniversary



We Get Results!

Serious Injury & Accidents

Our experienced trial lawyers have obtained millions of dollars in settlements and awards for clients. We never charge a fee until we win your case and you collect.

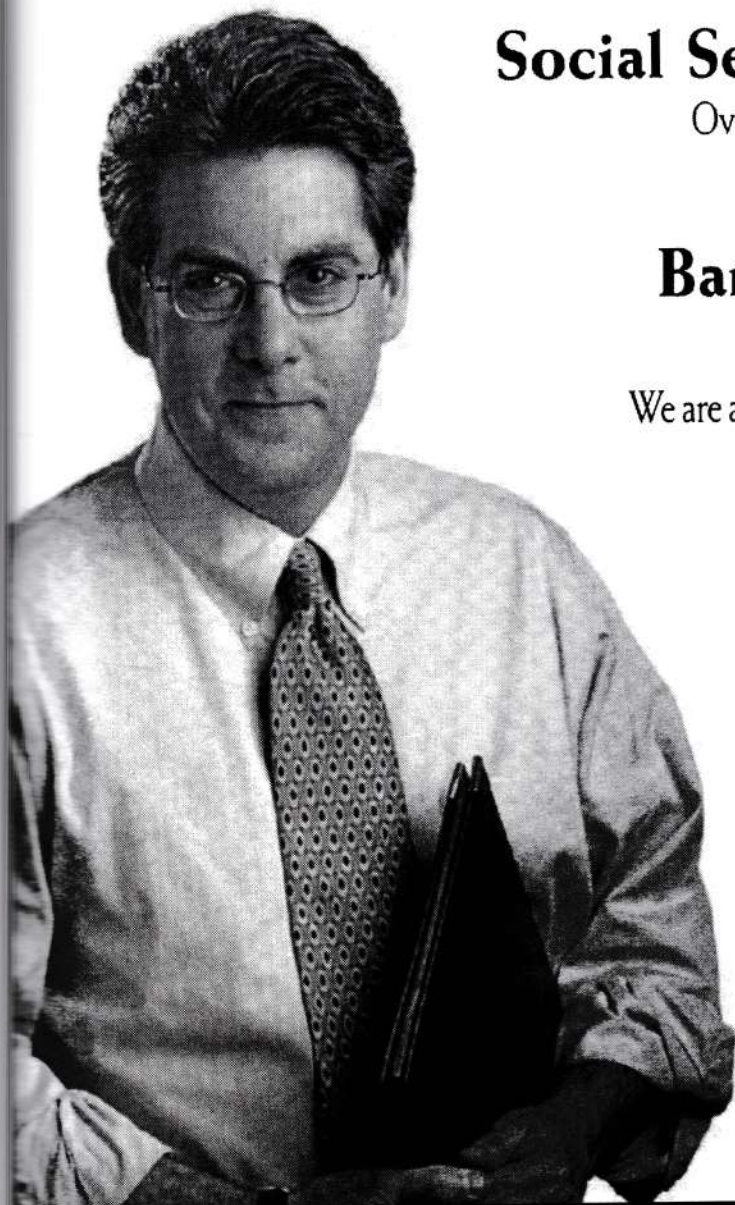
Social Security Disability & SSI

Over 10,000 favorable decisions. We never charge a fee until we win your case and you collect.

Bankruptcy & Debt Relief

Reasonable fees & payment plans

We are a debt relief agency and have helped over 25,000 people file for relief under the bankruptcy code.



**Jeffrey
Freedman**
Attorneys at Law

est. 1980

CALL TODAY FOR A
FREE CONSULTATION.

716-856-7091

Admin. Offices: 424 Main Street, Buffalo, NY

15 Conveniently Located Offices Throughout Western New York

1-800-434-8537 • www.jeffreyfreedman.com

New York State law requires clients to be responsible for disbursements regardless of outcome.



PRIDE



Local 55



Canon
AUTHORIZED DEALER

Pride Office Products, Inc.

SALES, SERVICE, SUPPLIES

CARL A. LEAS
(HOME) 716-492-9956

PHONE: 716-332-0502
FAX: 716-332-0509

20 NORTH AMERICA DR., WEST SENECA, N.Y. 14224

www.prideofficeproducts.com



CONGRATULATIONS!



ALBIN J. BUDASH, JR. President, C.E.O.

Consulting Actuaries • Administrators • Consultants

ACTUARIAL
CONSULTING
SERVICES
INC.

220 Northpointe Parkway, Suite A
Amherst, New York 14228

(716) 691-2181
Fax (716) 691-5756



Best Wishes
to
Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church

on their

175th Anniversary

From

The Bethel Head Start Program, Inc.

A Federally Funded Program

Serving 544 low income

Children and Families

MISSION STATEMENT

Bethel Head Start, Inc. is the innovative leader and provider of early childhood and family focused services. We offer children and families a variety of experiences in nurturing environments, which educationally and socially prepare them for the future. We foster programs and services that strengthen parent involvement, support ongoing research and enrich community collaborations.

Administrative Office

**1461 Main Street
 Buffalo, New York 14209
 716/878-0220**

<u>CENTER</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>CONTACT</u>
1485	1485 Jefferson Ave., Buffalo, NY	878-2425
Bethel	1525 Michigan Ave., Buffalo	878-0226/0227
Bowmansville	5360 Genesee St., Bowmansville, NY	686-2397
EOC	465 Washington St., Buffalo, NY	849-9473
FLAR	307 Leroy Ave., Buffalo, NY	878-0232
G.K.A.	2056 Genesee St., Buffalo,	896-1551
Harlem Rd.	4255 Harlem Rd., Amherst, NY	839-3507
Langfield	175 Oakmont Ave., Buffalo, NY	833-8337
Maryvale	100 Old Maryvale Dr., Cheektowaga, NY	878-0234
Perry	124 Fulton St., Buffalo, NY	878-0229
St. James	500 Terrace Blvd., Depew, NY	681-2625
U.B.	3435 Main Street., Annex B, Buffalo, NY	829-3161



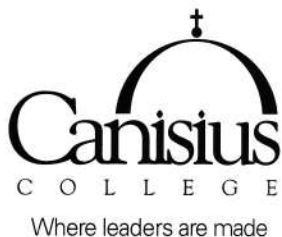
M&T Bank
congratulates
Bethel AME Church
on its
175th Anniversary.



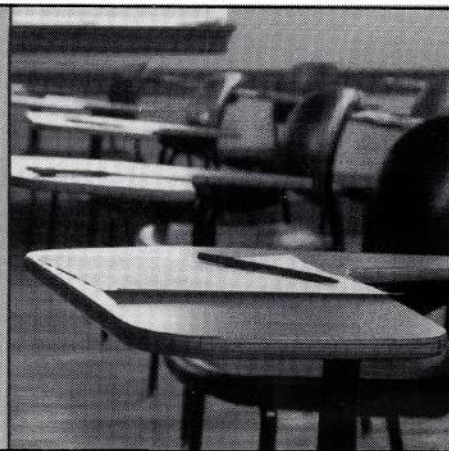


Canisius College salutes
175 years of
Bethel African Methodist
Episcopal Church
A Historic Church
Making History

Visit Canisius on the Web at www.canisius.edu



tradition
quality
leadership
value





Congratulations



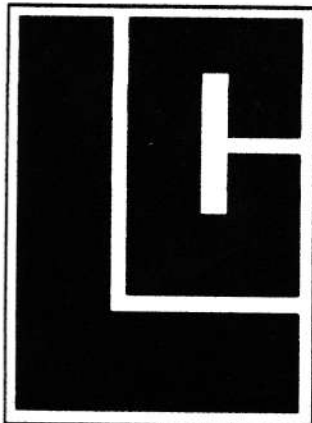
Bethel AME Church

Celebrating

175 Years of providing

Strong leadership in the community.





LAMPARELLI CONSTRUCTION CO., INC.

Commercial • Industrial • Construction Management



Paul Lamparelli
President

Peter Lamparelli
Vice President

Serving all of Western New York

590 Kennedy Road, Cheektowaga, NY 14227 - 716/891-8599 Fax 716/891-8213
www.lamparelliconstruction.com



TELEPHONE 884-0901
FAX 882-1815

NOTARY
PUBLIC

H. Alfred Lewis' Mortuary, Inc.



A SERVICE THAT NEEDS NO APOLOGY

968 JEFFERSON AVENUE, BUFFALO, N.Y. 14204

E. PAUL SMITH
PRESIDENT

GREGORY L. SMITH
VICE PRESIDENT



The audible difference in security service.

Not all security services are alike. Sonitrol's unique audio capability enables each alarm to be verified — we actually hear what's going on at the scene. This results in a low false alarm rate and a high rate of on-site apprehensions — over 100,000 nationally. But Sonitrol is more than just intrusion detection. We offer a full range of integrated services, including fire detection, fenced enclosure protection, access control and CCTV. Add to this our unsurpassed quality of service, and you'll know you made the right choice.

Sonitrol. Proven security solutions.

SONITROL®

Sonitrol Security Systems of Buffalo, Inc.
847-0900



*CPC Congratulates
Bethel African Methodist
Episcopal Church
for 175 years of
outstanding service
to the community*





Harris' Hardware

Rug Shampoo ** Sewer Cleaning ** Power Tools
Specializing in Glass



169 East Ferry Street
Buffalo, New York 14208
Phone 883-0379

Congratulations Bethel A.M.E. Church on your 175th Anniversary

May God continue to Bless You!

Sarah P. Fogan

Congratulations & Best Wishes Bethel A.M.E. Church on your 175th Anniversary

Addie Jackson & Daughters:
Jackie, Elizabeth, Mamie, Carolyn & Beverly

For We Walk By Faith, Not By Sight

*May
God
Continue
To
Bless Us!*




PATRICIA JOHNSON
Licensed Real Estate Salesperson
of: (716) 681-3900
fax: (716) 681-0919
vm: (716) 743-7511
Patricia.Johnson@huntrealestate.com
www.hunt4misspat.com

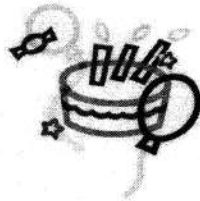
1765 Como Park Blvd., Depew, New York 14043
Hunt Real Estate ERA is Independently Owned.



Congratulations Bethel A.M.E. Church

I am very proud of Bethel's place in history in the freedom of our ancestors.
I happily join in this celebration of its 175th birthday.

Charles L. Anderson, M.D.
Anderson Community Healthcare
941 Washington Street
Buffalo, NY 14203
716 / 882-1212
716/882-1579 (fax)



CONGRATULATIONS **Bethel A.M.E. Church** 175th Anniversary

Carla Anita Singleton, A.AIA
President & CEO

SINGLETON Construction Consultants, Inc.
Ellicott Square Building 295 Main Street Suite 1076 Buffalo, NY 14203
716/842-2197 (o) 716/842-2199 (fax) csingleton@singletonconsultants.com

Project Management Cost Estimating Construction Management Interior Design AutoCAD
Historic Preservation and Renovation Specialists ♦ NYS Certified MBE & WBE

Member of the American Institute of Architects, Buffalo Preservation Board and Landmark Society Board Member



CONGRATULATIONS

To a

TREMENDOUS Public Servant

and

BEST Father in the World

*Arthur Jr.,
Leecia,
Eric,
Malcolm
and Martin*



Patrons

from Thelma Richardson

Mrs. Doris Richardson Dumas

Rev. Dr. John R. Richardson

Rev. Dr. Delores F. Richardson

Mr. & Mrs. Marvin Cofield

Mr. Solomon Richardson

Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Richardson

Mrs. Lourenia Richardson-Rowe

Mr. & Mrs. George Ford

Mrs. Joanne Locke Allen

Mr. James Henry Locke

Ms. Janie M. Locke

Ms. Annie B. Locke

Mr. Calvin L. Richardson

Mr. Cedric L. Richardson

Mr. Clifton L. Richardson

Mr. T. Archie Locke

Mr. Edward Talley

Mrs. Evelyn Talley

Rhonda S. Duncan



Patrons

Ms. Lola P. Majors

Mrs. Lillie C. Williams

Miss Paula S. McDonald

Miss Daphene M. Williams

E.M. Williams

Rev. William C. Cobb, Jr.

Rev. Lois C. Cobb

Mrs. Annie C. Jackson

The Horne Family



Patrons

Jazmin Pitts

Steven Pitts

Gerry Daniels

Tammy Martin

Edward Pitts

Gene Pitts



Patrons

from Kathy Franklin-Adams

Carolyn Allen

Betty Evans

Juanita Blunt

Donette Ruffin

Roz Taylor

Allison Turley

Elizabeth Waller

Denise Segers-McPhatter and the Faculty & Staff of ECC 82

Janet Barnes and the Faculty & Staff of Popular Academy ECC 11

The Arden Newburgh Block Club

Frances Sawyer & Family

The Kenneth Stroud Sr. Family

Karen Stroud & Family

Charles Morris

Honorable City Court Judge Craig Hannah

Saleem Shabazz - M&T Bank

Almeta Boles

Beverly Williams



Congratulations

Rev. & Mrs. Richard Allen Stenhouse

and the

Bethel AME Church family

on the occasion of your

175th Church Anniversary.

The Historic Israel AME Church family joins me
in expressing our congratulations for your accomplishments.

Israel African Methodist Episcopal Church
Albany, New York
Rev. Dr. Edward Smart, Pastor



BESSEMER, HOME OF AMERICA'S TOP PRE-OWNED CAR DEALER



Roderick Underwood
GM Sales

Anthony Underwood
President

Broderick Underwood
GM Service Operation

ANTHONY UNDERWOOD AUTOMOTIVE

"Like New Cars, Unlike New Prices"

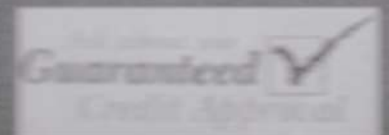
Why Go Anywhere Else?

www.aautomotive.com

A Family Tradition With
Two Locations To Serve You.



Pre-Owned Super
4006 Bessemer Super Hwy.
(205) 424-4033



5138 Bessemer Super Hwy.
(205) 425-RIDE