

HOME MISSION REPORT from Vice-Chair Dr. Angelique Walker-Smith

MISSION DAY ON JUNE 20TH

Thanks be to God for mission-minded Christians like our Home Mission Board! It is a bit hard to believe that in spite of a thunder storm with lightening over 125+ volunteers showed up with a mind to work on June 20th, 2011. "With God, all things are possible!" This included the Deputy Mayor of Indianapolis and our National President of the National Baptist Convention USA Inc.! All of this was during the Annual Session of the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education of our beloved Convention. Although the National Baptist Congress includes training, classes for church leaders, families and especially youth and children as well, people also got "hands-on" learning by participating in the Home Mission Day held in cooperation with The Church Federation of Greater Indianapolis, Habitat for Humanity, and the Martindale-Brightwood Community Development Corporation as well as the local ministerial group called the Community Resurrection Project. Other partners included the Indianapolis Deputy Mayor's office, Indianapolis Fruit, Einstein Bagel, Hardees (thanks to VP Eric Williams!), Second Presbyterian Church, and Marion County Health Department. Together, approximately \$15,000-\$20,000 in in-kind and cash support resourced this mission event.

Participants in the Mission Day cleaned out two rental properties in preparation for rehab and to knock out tiles, remove debris etc in preparation for renovation of 37 Place (historic school in the neighborhood where the Centennial Build is to take place that is becoming a community center). We were also able to engage youth from the Juvenile Detention Center (next door), Edna Martin Christian Center and the Boys and Girls Club in the work! The leftover fruit, bread and bagels were donated to Wheeler Mission for the homeless. We touched a lot of lives that day....go Church Federation Centennial journey! You can go now to www.IndyFaith.org to see the news conference and slide presentation of our successful Mission Day on June 20th. Soon you will be able to do the same on the Home Mission website. Our Religion in the News television program on CBS-Channel 8 featured the President of the Congress of Christian Education and the leaders of the Home Mission Board. You can connect to this on www.IndyFaith.org as well.

MISSION DAY JULY 23, 2011

On July 23rd, part II of Mission Day occurred in the same place. This time the participants were outside working on cleaning up city streets etc. Once again we were challenged by the natural elements with a heat wave of over 100 degrees! Still people came with a mind to work and work they did! The objective of the day was to clean up to 10 streets but the approximately 60 participants, including the Habitat for Humanity team leaders, focused their efforts on doing this on Rural St. arrived. The participants formed one large team and attacked Rural Street. Participants cleared sidewalks, trimmed shrubbery, and removed trash & debris from the street. Several residents came out and greeted us. The day was a success just like June 20th!

PRESIDENT'S EDUCATIONAL BANQUET

During the week of the Congress of Christian Education I was honored to bring greetings from The Church Federation of Greater Indianapolis at the President's Educational Banquet. I was also honored to have a seat on the dais and to meet the speaker, The Rev. Howard Creecy Jr. This gave me the wonderful opportunity to highlight our Mission work during the week. I was able to share further conversations with others in attendance. My church group of youth and children had also participated in our Mission Day and were able to share this in their various Congress sessions. Since this time, I have officially thanked all partners and put together a slide presentation of both the June 20th and July 23rd event. It will be posted on the Home Mission website. I have also been working with our Executive Secretary on the upcoming conference planned for St. Louis, Missouri.

NEWLY ELECTED, EGYPT AND KENYA

You may also want to know that last year I was elected as the new Chair of Local and Regional Ecumenism which includes Councils of Churches throughout the USA. I am looking forward to linking our Home Mission work with ecumenical partners. Look out for new opportunities to expand and deepen our mission vision! In addition, I was recently in Egypt and Kenya for meetings with church leaders right after the uprising of youth that has begun the Middle East and North Africa revolution. I was in Cairo during the religious clashes between Christians and Muslims when Christians were attacked in their community over the inter-religious love relationship between a young lady and young man. I was hosted by the Bible Society in Egypt, the Coptic churches and CEOSS (ecumenical service ministry) and in Kenya I was hosted by church leaders, including the Coptic churches and All Africa Conference of Churches. A feature of my visit was my visit to the one of the poorest areas of Cairo where I visited one of the mercy ministries that are flowering all over Egypt. The Holy Spirit is very busy in the country a

PRAYERS FOR THE DEARLY DEPARTED

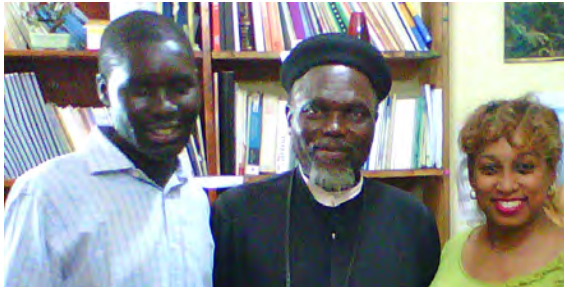
Finally, since the time of the Congress, the Atlanta Journal-Constitution newspaper has announced that the speaker for the President's Educational Banquet, The Rev. Howard Creecy Jr., passed away on Thursday, July 28th. He was the president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. He died early Thursday morning, a spokesman for the SCLC confirmed. Dr. Creecy, pastor of Olivet Church in Fayette County, died of a heart attack at around 12:30 a.m. in Atlanta, Damien Connors of the Atlanta SCLC office told the AJC. A third generation preacher, Creecy, 57, was elected SCLC president in January after Bernice King, daughter of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., declined the position. Before that, Creecy had served as the interim president of the civil rights organization founded by Martin King and other civil rights leaders in 1957. Let us keep the Creecy family in prayer.



Angelique embracing women and children at the Mercy Ministry in Cairo Area



Angelique with the Host Sponsor of the Mercy Ministry



Angelique with the Coptic Orthodox Priest and Youth in Nairobi, Kenya



Coptic Orthodox Church in Nairobi, Kenya



Home Mission Board Members at June 20, 2011 Mission Day in Indianapolis



Press Conference Participants at June 20, 2011 Mission Day in Indianapolis



Youth from the Juvenile Detention Center Who Participated in the June 20, 2011 Mission Day in Indianapolis



Workers at June 20, 2011 Mission Day



Some Workers from the July 23rd, 2011 Mission Day



Habitat Tiger Team Members and a Martindale-Brightwood Leader



Some Home Mission Board Members Cleaning up a Home



Youth Working on the Removal of Tiles at 37 Place on June 20, 2011



Tools at Work at the June 20, 2011 Mission Day