The Reverend Dr. Samuel DeWitt Proctor
CDF Haley Farm, 1995
My Boat Is So Small:
Creating a Harbor of Hope and Health Care for All Children

July 16-20, 2007
Children’s Defense Fund Haley Farm
Clinton, Tennessee
Map of Haley Farm

Workshop Locations:
1) Lodge
2) Lodge Board Room
3) Langston Hughes Library
4) Business Center
5) Little Brown Building #1
6) Little Brown Building #2
7) Pastoral Room
8) Riggio-Lynch Chapel
9) Chapel Board Room
10) Young Adult Leaders Tent
The 13th Annual Samuel DeWitt Proctor Institute for Child Advocacy Ministry

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Dear Faithful Friend of Children,

Whether this is your first time at Proctor or your thirteenth, on behalf of all of us at the Children’s Defense Fund, welcome home to Haley Farm.

If you have come looking to renew your spirit with great preaching and rousing song, this is the place for you. If you have come to connect with others who share your heart for God’s children and your determination to see justice and compassion for every child, this is the place for you. If you have come to reflect even more deeply on God’s call to us to do justice through Bible study and theological reflection, this is the place for you. If you have come seeking more information about the needs of children today and what we can do to make children’s voices heard in the public square, to ensure every child health coverage, and to break up the cradle to prison pipeline, this is the place for you. If you have come to gain new skills and learn about new model programs that you can take back to your congregation, this is the place for you. Whether you have come with energy and inspiration to share or batteries that need recharging, this is the place for you, and we are glad that you are here.

We will spend much of our time together gathered in the Riggio-Lynch Chapel designed by Maya Lin. Its shape evokes the ark in which God’s creatures found protection to make it through the storm. Its ship-like silhouette also reminds us of the boats that figured so prominently in Jesus’ ministry. Jesus’ first disciples were laboring in a boat when they were called to the unexpected work of fishing for people, bringing them the good news and healing that they needed. Jesus invited his disciples to join him in a boat to go to the “other side” to minister to those others would ignore or exclude. Jesus retired to boats for time alone to think and to pray and to seek God’s direction. It was in a boat that the disciples were overcome by fear as a storm raged, until Jesus calmed the storm and reminded them to have faith in good times and bad, and that he is with us through it all.

The ark-shaped chapel also evokes the boat in CDF’s child-drawn logo of the fisherman’s prayer: Dear Lord, be good to me, the sea is so wide and my boat is so small. As we gather this week, we will learn more about the millions of children adrift on a stormy sea of national neglect and injustice:

- Nine million children in our rich nation with the world’s most advanced medical technology are uninsured and can’t see a doctor for a simple check-up or for treatment when they are sick or injured. They need a safe harbor of health care.
- Countless children, especially poor, Black, and Latino children, are pushed through the cradle to prison pipeline, stranded without the sails of good schools, health care, and adequate family income, without the moorings of strong families, caring mentors, and supportive communities. They need us to extend lifelines so that every young person makes it safely into a harbor of hope.
Children, who cannot vote, lobby, or make campaign contributions, are largely ignored in the election season. The candidates who kiss babies in November vote in tax cuts for millionaires and billionaires in January. Children need us to focus attention on their concerns so that whoever is elected, children will win.

My hope for you this week is that you will be renewed and refreshed, strengthened and equipped to respond to God’s call to nurture and protect all of God’s children, to create a safe harbor of hope and health care for every child. There is a vastness in God’s mercy that is broader than the stormy sea upon which our children are tossed. There’s a kindness in God’s justice that, working together faithfully, we can manifest for every child so that all find that safe harbor of justice and compassion.

Faithfully,

Marian Wright Edelman

P.S. In the spirit of rest and renewal, and so that we may better focus on God’s call, please refrain from using your cell phones in public spaces on the Farm and leave them turned off or in your hotel room.
History of the Samuel DeWitt Proctor Institute for Child Advocacy Ministry

“There’s a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place...”

In 1994, CDF bought the former Alex Haley Farm to be a center for spiritual renewal, character and leadership development, intergenerational mentoring, and interracial, interfaith, and interdisciplinary communication. Since then, thousands of leaders of all races and ages have attended Haley training and networking seminars, including over 6,000 college-age students who prepare to teach in Freedom Schools each summer. In the 13 years since Marian Wright Edelman and a few others spent the first night in sleeping bags in empty cabins, CDF Haley Farm has emerged as a unique and gracious center of hospitality and the only place blessed with two Maya Lin-designed buildings—the Langston Hughes Library and the Riggio-Lynch Interfaith Chapel.

Building on CDF’s long-standing collaboration with the religious community, the first Institute for Child Advocacy Ministry was held in 1995 to provide spiritual renewal, networking, continuing education, and skills-building workshops for ministers, educators, seminarians, and lay people. The Institute sought to fill the gap in the preparation for ministry by providing solid, up-to-date information about children’s needs, strengthening advocacy skills, promoting replicable model programs for children and families, and exploring theology and the Bible as they relate to children, poor families, and justice. Together, participants deepen and prepare to live out their understanding of what it means to fulfill God’s calling to nurture, protect, and seek justice for children. A central element of the Institute is the Great Preachers Series, which from its inception has featured incomparable preaching. During the first Institute, the Resurrection Choir introduced a song capturing the essence of the Institute experience: “I Will Do a New Thing in You.”

The Rev. Dr. Samuel DeWitt Proctor was the Institute’s first Pastor-in-Residence, leading the morning devotions in 1995 and 1996. His wisdom, humor, intellect, powerful preaching, and commitment to children and families set the tone for the Institute and endures to this day. None who were there will ever forget his remarkable final sermon, “Mr. Sceva and His Seven Sons.” Following Dr. Proctor’s death in 1997, the Institute was renamed in his memory.

From the Institute’s early years until today, the sweet spirit of this place has revived those who have worked long and faithfully for children as they sing and pray, learn and share, find new friends and colleagues, break bread together, and are replenished for the challenging work of child advocacy ministry.

“Without a doubt, we’ll know that we have been revived when we shall leave this place.”
The Reverend Dr. Samuel DeWitt Proctor

“Those of us who have inherited benefits we did not earn or deserve must help those who have inherited deficits they did not earn or deserve to help them learn and earn what we take for granted.”

— Reverend Dr. Samuel Proctor

Dr. Samuel DeWitt Proctor was the first Pastor-in-Residence for the CDF Haley Farm Institute for Child Advocacy Ministry. He was a remarkable servant of God in his many roles: President of North Carolina A&T State University and Virginia Union University; and as a senior official in the Peace Corps in Nigeria, the Office of Economic Opportunity in Washington, D.C., and the National Council of Churches. Dr. Proctor was pastor of the historic Abyssinian Baptist Church and on the faculty of the United Theological Seminary, the Divinity School at Duke University, Kean College, and Drew University. He was a Lyman Beecher lecturer at Yale University Divinity School and graced many of the great pulpits in our land.

Dr. Proctor was a board member of the United Negro College Fund, National Urban League, Colgate-Rochester Crozer Theological Seminary of New York, Middlebury College, and the Overseers’ Visiting Committee for the Divinity School at Harvard University. He received honorary doctor’s degrees from more than 50 colleges and universities and many other awards.

Dr. Proctor was the author of The Young Negro in America (Associated Press, 1966), We Have This Ministry (Judson Press, 1966, with Dr. Gardner C. Taylor), Sermons from the Black Pulpit (Judson Press, 1984, with Dr. William Watley), Preaching About Crises in the Community (Westminster Press, 1988), My Moral Odyssey (Judson Press, 1989), How Shall They Hear? (Judson Press, 1991), The Certain Sound of the Trumpet (Judson Press, 1994), and The Substance of Things Hoped For (Putnam and Sons, 1995).
Schedule

Monday, July 16

1:00–2:00 p.m. Lunch for Early Arrivals

2:00–6:00 p.m. Registration
Publications tent, Langston Hughes Library, and Haley Lodge open

4:00–4:45 p.m. Orientation Session for First-Time Participants (Riggio Lynch Chapel)
Shannon Daley-Harris, Proctor Institute Program Director and CDF Religious Affairs Advisor
Matt Rosen, CDF Religious Action Coordinator

5:00–5:45 p.m. Rehearsal for the Resurrection Choir (Lodge)
Dr. Eli Wilson, Jr., Director, Resurrection Choir and Minister of Music
Mr. Don Lewis, Organist

6:00–7:00 p.m. Dinner (All meals will be in the dining tent.)

7:15–7:30 p.m. Welcome: Marian Wright Edelman

7:30–8:30 p.m. Great Preachers Series
The Rev. Dr. Paul Smith, Executive Director, Healthy Families, Brooklyn, New York

All Plenary Sessions will be held in the Riggio Lynch Chapel.
All meals will be held in the dining tent.

Shuttles depart for hotels at 8:45 p.m.
Tuesday, July 17

7:30–8:15 a.m.  Meditations for the Journey (Langston Hughes Library)
Rev. Dr. Frederick J. Streets, Proctor Co-Chaplain-in-Residence

8:00–8:45 a.m.  Breakfast

9:00 a.m.–3:30 p.m.  CDF Freedom Schools (Children and youths may be enrolled at
the Registration Tent.) (white tent by the white house)

9:00–9:45 a.m.  Morning Devotions
The Rev. Dr. Otis Moss, Jr., Senior Pastor, Olivet Institutional Baptist
Church, Cleveland, Ohio; Proctor Co-Pastor-in-Residence
The Resurrection Choir, Dr. Eli Wilson, Jr., and Mr. Don Lewis

10:00–11:00 a.m.  Bible Study - Foundations for Hope in a Time of Exile
The Rev. Dr. Bruce Birch, Dean and Woodrow W. and Mildred B. Miller
Professor of Biblical Theology, Wesley Theological Seminary,
Washington, D.C.

11:15–12:30 p.m.  Children Can’t Vote But You Can: What We Can Do in This Election
Season to Ensure Children Win
• Jenny Backus, President, Backus Consulting, Washington, D.C.
• Taj Brown, Senior Manager of Capacity and Development for CDF
Freedom Schools, Washington, D.C.
• Neel Lattimore, Special Advisor for Strategic Communications,
Children’s Defense Fund, Washington, D.C.
• Adam Taylor, Director of Campaigns and Organizing,
Sojourners/Call to Renewal, Washington, D.C.
• Moderator: Matt Rosen, Religious Action Coordinator,
Children’s Defense Fund, Washington, D.C.

12:45–1:45 p.m.  Lunch
Optional: Denominational Networking Tables
Connect with other participants who are members of your denomination
to share child advocacy resources and opportunities in your denomination.

2:00–3:30 p.m.  Workshops, Session 1
See workshop choices and locations on page 11.

3:45–5:15 p.m.  Workshops, Session 2
See workshop choices and locations on page 11.

5:15–6:00 p.m.  Rehearsal for the Resurrection Choir

6:00–7:00 p.m.  Dinner

7:30–8:30 p.m.  Great Preachers Series
The Rev. Dr. Elaine Flake, Co-Pastor, Greater Allen Cathedral of
New York, Jamaica, N.Y.

Shuttles depart for hotels at 8:45 p.m.
Wednesday, July 18

7:30–8:15 a.m. Meditations for the Journey (Langston Hughes Library)
Rev. Dr. Frederick J. Streets, Proctor Co-Chaplain-in-Residence

8:00–8:45 a.m. Breakfast

9:00 a.m.–3:30 p.m. CDF Freedom Schools for enrolled children
(white tent by the white house)

9:00–9:45 a.m. Morning Devotions

The Resurrection Choir
Dr. Eli Wilson, J.r.
Mr. Don Lewis

10:00–11:00 a.m. Bible Study
The Rev. Dr. Renita J. Weems, Ph.D., Author and Scholar, Nashville, Tennessee

11:15–12:30 p.m. Creating a Harbor of Health and Mental Health Care for All Children:
What You and Your Congregation Can Do
• Barbara Best, Executive Director, CDF-Texas, Houston, Texas
• Tamika Jones-Scott, President and Founder, Second Chance Youth and Teen Center, Houston, Texas
• Dr. Kimberly McNeil, Physician, New Orleans, Louisiana
• Dr. Sandra Robinson, Deputy Director of Health, City of New Orleans, Louisiana
• Rev. Dr. Paul Smith, Executive Director, Healthy Families, Brooklyn, N.Y.
• Moderator: Mary Joseph, Director, CDF-Louisiana

12:45–1:45 p.m. Lunch and Wednesday at Home® Action

2:00–3:30 p.m. Workshops, Session I
See workshop choices and locations on page 11.
Special Workshop Option:
Screening: “Hard Road Home” and Conversation with the Filmmaker, Macky Alston, and Julio Medina of Exodus Transitional Community

4:00–5:15 p.m. Katrina’s Children Speak Out
Moderator: Mary Joseph, Director, CDF-Louisiana

5:15–6:00 p.m. Rehearsal for the Resurrection Choir
6:00–7:00 p.m.  
**Dinner**  
**Optional: State Networking Tables**  
Meet other participants from your state. Talk about how you might work together to make a difference for children. Share information about the organizations, resources, and opportunities for faith-based child advocacy.

7:30–8:30 p.m.  
**Great Preachers Series**  
**The Rev. Dr. Joel Gregory**, Joel Gregory Ministries, Fort Worth, Texas

Shuttles depart for hotels at 8:45 p.m.

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**Thursday, July 19**

7:30–8:15 a.m.  
**Meditations for the Journey** *(Langston Hughes Library)*  
**Rev. Dr. Frederick J. Streets**, Proctor Co-Chaplain-in-Residence

8:00–8:45 a.m.  
**Breakfast**

9:00 a.m.–3:30 p.m.  
**CDF Freedom Schools** for enrolled children  
*(white tent by the white house)*

9:00–9:45 a.m.  
**Morning Devotions**  

The Resurrection Choir  
Dr. Eli Wilson, Jr.  
Mr. Don Lewis

10:00–11:00 a.m.  
**The Power of Non-Violence and the Beloved Community**  
**The Rev. Dr. Luther E. Smith, Jr.**, Associate Dean of Faculty Development and Professor of Church and Community, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia

11:15–12:30 p.m.  
**Charting the Right Course: How We Can Break Up the Cradle to Prison Pipeline and Put All Children on Course for a Hopeful Future**

- **Brandon Eugene Corley**, Founder and Project Director of the Bethel-Imani CDF Freedom Schools™ Program, Englewood, Illinois  
- **Dr. Edward E. Cornwell III**, Professor of Surgery and Chief of Adult Trauma, Johns Hopkins University Hospital, Baltimore, Maryland  
- **Julio Medina**, Founder and Executive Director, Exodus Transitional Community, New York, N.Y.  

12:45–1:45 p.m.  
**Lunch**
2:00–3:30 p.m.  Workshops: Session 1
See workshop choices and locations on page 11.

3:45–5:15 p.m.  Workshops: Session 2
See workshop choices and locations on page 11.

5:15–6:00 p.m.  Rehearsal for the Resurrection Choir

6:00–7:00 p.m.  Dinner

7:30–8:30 p.m.  Great Preachers Series
The Rev. Dr. William V. Guy, Pastor, Friendship Baptist Church, Atlanta, Georgia

Shuttles depart for hotels at 8:45 p.m.

Friday, July 20

8:00–8:45 a.m.  Breakfast
Publications tent open

9:00–9:30 a.m.  Call to Action
Mrs. Marian Wright Edelman

9:30–10:30 a.m.  Blessing Us on the Way: Communion Service
Rev. Dr. Eileen W. Lindner, Proctor Institute Theologian-in-Residence and Rev. Dr. Frederick J. Streets, Proctor Institute Co-Chaplain-in-Residence, Co-Celebrants

All are invited to receive communion.
Workshops at a Glance

**First Session: 2:00–3:30 • Second Session: 3:45–5:15**
All workshops are offered both sessions unless otherwise noted.

**Tuesday**
- The A, B, Cs of Child Advocacy: Legislative Advocacy 101 (Lodge)
- Becoming a Powerful Voice for Children and Justice: Auburn Media Training (Business Center)
- Conversation with George Haley and Tour of Haley Farm (Little Brown Building, Room 2)
- Dare We Call It Evangelism: Congregational Outreach to Parents and Other Caregivers of Young Children (Library)
- Feeding the Body, Feeding the Spirit (Lodge Board Room)
- Preaching and Teaching for Social Justice (Chapel – offered second session only)
- Sign Them Up: How Your Congregation Can Coordinate Outreach and Enrollment in Public Health Programs (Little Brown Building, Room 2)
- Toward a Theology of Child Advocacy: Ministry to Children Within and Without the Church (Chapel – offered first session only)

**Wednesday** (All workshops held first session only.)
- Engaging the Generations: Supporting Youth and Kin in Foster Care Reform (Little Brown Building, Room 1)
- Fervent Faith: Meeting of College and University Chaplains (Pastoral Room)
- “Hard Road Home” Documentary Screening and Conversation with the Filmmaker and Julio Medina of Exodus Transitional Community (Lodge)
- KEY Advocates Make It Happen in Congregations (Library)
- Lifting Children Out of Poverty through Tax and Benefits Outreach (Business Center)
- Protecting Children, Protecting Churches: Creating a Child Protection Policy for Your Congregation (Little Brown Building, Room 2)

**Thursday**
- Building an Effective Advocacy Program in Your Congregation (Library)
- CDF Freedom Schools: A Summer Reading Enrichment, Mentoring, Parent and Community Engagement Model (Business Center)
- God for President: Living Your Faith and Respecting Your Neighbor (Lodge Board Room)
- Planning a Children’s Sabbath to Help Your Congregation Create a Safe Harbor of Hope and Health Care for All Children (Library)
- Psalms as a Resource for Child Advocates (Little Brown Building, Room 1)
- Teaching Social Justice in the Congregation (Lodge)
- Howard Thurman: A Spirituality for Transformation (Chapel – offered second session only)
- Women in Ministry Seminar with Rev. Dr. Renita J. Weems (Chapel – offered first session only)
**Workshop Descriptions**

**Meditations for the Journey**  
Facilitated by Rev. Dr. Frederick J. Streets, Carl Bennett Professor in Pastoral Counseling at the Wurzweiler School of Social Work at Yeshiva University, and Proctor Institute Co-Chaplain-in-Residence  

**NOTE:** “Meditations for the Journey” will be held Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday morning from 7:30-8:15 a.m. in the Langston Hughes Library.  

Those who advocate for the well-being of our nation’s children and youths do so in a number of ways and in a variety of contexts. The demands placed upon those who are advocates for children and youths can sometimes be stressful. The purpose of the journey group is to provide an opportunity for participants to reflect upon the nature of their work for children, enhance their perspective on the work they do, and give some attention to their own emotional and spiritual needs as advocates for children and youths. Members will be encouraged, in a confidential group setting, to identify and explore some aspects of who they are and what they derive from, and bring to, their work for children.

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**Tuesday**

**The A, B, Cs of Child Advocacy: Legislative Advocacy 101**  
Facilitated by MaryLee Allen and Jooyeun Chang, Children’s Defense Fund Child Welfare and Mental Health Division (Lodge)  

This session will help you prepare to raise your voices in your State Legislatures and in Congress on behalf of the nine million uninsured children and others. It will focus on the nuts and bolts of legislative advocacy. How does a bill become a law? How can you effectively connect with your legislators? How do you engage others? What are important lessons to remember? No question is too basic for this session.

**Becoming a Powerful Voice for Children and Justice: Auburn Media Training**  
Facilitated by Macky Alston and Josh Olesker, Auburn Media (Business Center)  

As faith leaders are increasingly called upon to articulate their perspectives on television, radio, in print, and on the Web, it has never been more critical for them to learn the art of crafting messages and communicating effectively in the media. This workshop will touch on the tools needed to shape a core message for media presentations. In addition, Auburn Media Training will offer strategies for interview etiquette and effective communication using video and audio playback. Guidance on how to develop media contacts will also be offered to the participant and/or their organization.
Conversation with George Haley and Tour of Haley Farm  
Facilitated by George Haley, brother of Alex Haley, and Theresa Venable, Librarian, Langston Hughes Library (Little Brown Building, Room 2)  
This workshop will discuss the Haley family background, history, and legacy. George Haley will share photos and stories about this important American author and his family. Hear interesting facts and anecdotes about the family and about Alex Haley, in particular. The talk will conclude with a walking tour of the Farm, during which participants will learn about the history of Haley Farm, its buildings, and grounds.

Dare We Call It Evangelism: Congregational Outreach to Parents and Other Caregivers of Young Children  
Facilitated by Rev. Patricia L. Daley, Pastor, Presbytery of New Brunswick (Library)  
People who care for children need care, too. This workshop will explore ways in which congregations can reach out to church-seeking and unchurched moms, dads, grandparents, and foster parents. How can they be invited into your helpful, hopeful community of faith? What support can churches offer? Please come with experiences and ideas to share.

Feeding the Body, Feeding the Spirit  
Facilitated by Dr. Maggie Covington, Integrative Medicine Physician (Lodge Board Room)  
An overwhelming percentage of Americans suffer from chronic disorders such as obesity, hypertension, and diabetes, which are often accompanied by fatigue, pain, and depression. These ailments can sap us of the joy, energy, health, and vitality that are our birthright. The food we eat, how we handle the stress we experience, the emotions we hold, and the quality of our relationships can either kill us or heal us. In this workshop, we will discuss the impact of nutrition and lifestyle on the development of these disorders along with how and why we often sabotage our own healing. We also will discuss ways to prevent and/or recover from these chronic health challenges in order to regain the energy, vitality, and sense of well-being that God intends for us.

Preaching and Teaching for Social Justice  
Facilitated by Rev. Dr. Otis Moss, Jr., Senior Pastor, Olivet Institutional Baptist Church, and Proctor Co-Pastor-in-Residence (Chapel – offered second session only)  
When Jesus told the disciples to go and make disciples of all nations, what did he really mean? This workshop will give you the courage to preach, teach, and lead with a commitment to nonviolence and social transformation.

Sign Them Up: How Your Congregation Can Coordinate Outreach and Enrollment in Public Health Programs  
Facilitated by Barbara Best, Executive Director, CDF–Texas (Little Brown Building, Room 2)  
This workshop will provide hands-on tools that congregations can use to link uninsured children with health coverage through the State Children’s Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) and Medicaid, including sample bulletin and pulpit announcements, sermons on the importance of children’s health coverage, and examples of interfaith outreach campaigns with African-American ministers in Houston, the
Catholic Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, the National Association of Jewish Women, and the Islamic Society of Greater Houston, to link uninsured children with coverage. Find out what your congregation can do to link every uninsured child with the health coverage that they need and deserve!

**Toward a Theology of Child Advocacy: Ministry to Children Within and Without the Church**
Facilitated by Rev. Dr. Eileen W. Lindner, Deputy General Secretary for Research and Planning of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA, and Proctor Institute Theologian-in-Residence (Chapel – offered first session only)

This workshop will draw from Dr. Lindner’s essay, “Children as Theologians,” in *Rethinking Childhood* and from her recent book, *Thus Far on the Way: Toward a Theology of Child Advocacy*. We will focus on practical ways in which congregations can redouble their efforts to offer ministries of justice and education, and nurture children in their congregation and in their neighborhoods. We will ask afresh what it means for children to share in the “priesthood of all believers” in joining the wider ministry of the church.

**Wednesday**

**Engaging the Generations: Supporting Youth and Kin in Foster Care Reform**
Facilitated by MaryLee Allen and Jooyeun Chang, Children’s Defense Fund Child Welfare and Mental Health Division (Little Brown Building, Room 1)

A child is abused and neglected every 36 seconds. Approximately 800,000 children are in foster care in the course of a year. Nearly 114,000 children are waiting in care for permanent families. About 20,000 youth age out of care at age 18 each year.

In spite of the discouraging statistics, exciting efforts are underway in communities to support relative caregivers and the children they are raising and older youth aging out of foster care. Learn about new local, state, and federal initiatives that support youth exiting from foster care and children being raised by grandparents and other relatives. Be ready to share your good work and new ways that faith communities can engage the generations.

**Fervent Faith**
Facilitated by Rev. William C. Gipson and Rev. Dr. Frederick J. Streets, Proctor Institute Co-Chaplains-in-Residence (Pastoral Room)

**NOTE: This meeting is for college and university chaplains only.**

The Children’s Defense Fund’s Leave No Child Behind® mission is to ensure every child a Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start, a Safe Start, and a Moral Start in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities. University chaplains and campus ministers can play a vital role in their work with the college and religious community in promoting the well-being of children. This meeting of university chaplains and campus ministers is an opportunity for them to explore linking the service learning and volunteer interests of their students with the work of CDF and to increase their knowledge of the needs of children and further develop their skills as child advocates.
“Hard Road Home” Documentary Screening and Conversation
Facilitated by Macky Alston, Filmmaker, and Julio Medina, Founder, Exodus Transitional Community (Lodge)

“Hard Road Home” tells the story of Julio Medina and the Exodus Transitional Community, the center he founded to help ex-prisoners navigate the transition from prison to life on the outside. Located above a storefront church in East Harlem, Exodus is distinctive among re-entry programs in that it is run by ex-prisoners for ex-prisoners. In following the lives of its director, Medina, the Exodus staff, and a group of newly released ex-prisoners, “Hard Road Home” draws the audience into a direct relationship with people returning from prison to the challenges of making it on the outside with little training, education, or other help.

“Hard Road Home” made its world premiere in March 2007, has been featured at the White House and at film festivals around the country, and will serve as the centerpiece of a national campaign of outreach to faith communities culminating in a national re-entry conference and the film’s national broadcast on PBS next spring. After viewing the film, participants will engage in discussion with the filmmaker, Macky Alston, and Julio Medina.

KEY Advocates Make It Happen in Congregations
Facilitated by Norma Bourland, Faith-Based Organizer, CDF-Minnesota (Library)

Is your congregation better at giving charity than working for justice? Is it a struggle to keep advocacy for children a vital ministry of your congregation? Learn from a successful Minnesota model how to integrate child advocacy into the life and mission of your congregation without adding yet another program and yet another responsibility for the pastor. Come ready to hear the ingredients and the how-tos and then interact with others in designing a plan for your congregation. You will be inspired by the simplicity of this strategy and eager to get back home to get started.

Lifting Children Out of Poverty through Tax and Benefits Outreach

This workshop will provide an overview of tax credits and other benefits available to low-income working families, including the Earned Income Tax Credit, the Child Tax Credit, health insurance and food stamps, and strategies that congregations and faith-based organizations can use to put money into the pockets of eligible children and families. Strategies to be discussed include: promoting public education and awareness, building assets, creating covenant-building partnerships, and equipping willing workers with resources and information.

Protecting Children - Protecting Churches: Creating a Child Protection Policy for Your Congregation
Facilitated by Rev. Dr. Rebecca Davis, Minister for Children and Families, Myers Park Presbyterian Church (Little Brown Building, Room 2)

As disciples we are called to welcome children and remove stumbling blocks. Creating a child protection policy that reduces the risk of abuse for our children and youth is a matter of faithfulness and good stewardship. These essential policies for today’s ministry protect children, the church, and those
who care for them. This workshop will focus on the key components necessary for a sound policy that meets insurance standards and the “how-tos” of writing, adopting, and educating a congregation about the policy.

Thursday

Building an Effective Advocacy Program in Your Congregation
Facilitated by Laura Dean Friedrich, Director of Advocacy and Church Relations, ChildServ (Library)

Congregations care deeply about the well-being of children and youth, but they rarely have a clearly defined advocacy program as one of their ministries. This workshop will address this dilemma by demonstrating that advocacy is an integral aspect of Christian discipleship. The presentation will discuss a range of issues in the context of local church life, including different types of advocacy, practical steps for organizing advocacy initiatives, strategies for overcoming barriers, recommendations of allies and involvement in public policy matters. Participants will gain knowledge about a comprehensive approach to advocacy that is deeply rooted in congregational faith and witness. Biblical examples of advocacy for children will enrich the discussion.

CDF Freedom Schools: A Summer Reading Enrichment, Mentoring, Parent and Community Engagement Model
Facilitated by Dr. Jeanne Middleton-Hairston, Director of CDF Freedom Schools, and Robin Sally, CDF Freedom Schools Curriculum Coordinator (Business Center)

Examine the concept and vision behind this successful summer and after-school enrichment program for children ages five to 18. The CDF Freedom Schools℠ program integrates reading, conflict resolution, and social action in an activity-based curriculum that promotes social, cultural, and historical awareness. Our recent Ella Baker Child Policy Training Institute was the largest training CDF has ever had with a total of 825 participants and more than 640 college-age interns, representing 23 states and 44 cities. This summer, these interns will help run Freedom Schools programs operating at more than 70 sites across the country serving approximately 5,500 children.

God for President: Living Your Faith and Respecting Your Neighbor
Facilitated by Kim Baldwin, Director of Public Policy and Voter Education, The Interfaith Alliance, and Matt Rosen, Religious Action Coordinator, Children’s Defense Fund (Lodge Board Room)

Our religious faith plays a critical role in how we live out our understanding of community and how we engage or do not engage political structures. In an effort to promote the positive and healing role of religion in public life, encourage civic participation, facilitate community activism focused on social justice, and challenge religious political extremism, this workshop will include discussions on understanding faith and politics, how they interact, and where they should remain separate. Specific attention will be focused on how communities of faith can responsibly play an active role in the upcoming elections.

Planning a Children’s Sabbath to Help Your Congregation Create a Safe Harbor of Hope and Health Care for All Children
Facilitated by Norma Bourland, Faith-Based Organizer, Children’s Defense Fund–Minnesota (Library)

This workshop will introduce participants to the National Observance of Children’s Sabbaths® event and explore how congregations can plan special worship services, education programs, and congre-
gional service and advocacy activities to put their faith into action to seek justice for children. Planning steps, promotion ideas, and follow-up activities will be discussed. The 2007 Children’s Sabbaths celebration in October will focus on how congregations can create a safe harbor of hope and health care for all children, especially our nation’s nine million children without health insurance and the countless children swept along the cradle to prison pipeline. This will be an interactive workshop generating practical planning strategies and creative ideas for worship, education, outreach, and advocacy.

**Psalms as a Resource for Child Advocates**
Facilitated by Shannon Daley-Harris, Proctor Institute Program Director, and CDF Religious Affairs Advisor (Little Brown Building, Room 1)

The psalms are a vital resource for all who care about and care for children. They include a range of prayer, from praise to lament to thanksgiving, that encompasses the variety of our experiences as parent or pastor, child advocate, or child-serving professional. Far too often, however, just a few “classics” are drawn upon, leaving unplumbed the rich breadth of psalms that could support, renew, guide, and sustain us in our work with and for children. This workshop will engage participants in reading and reflecting on the range of psalms. We will connect the insights and language of the psalms to our own experiences raising, serving, and advocating for children. Participants will look at the forms of various types of psalms and be guided in using the psalm structures to try their hand at writing their own psalms of praise, lament, thanksgiving, and more. Come prepared to read, reflect, write, rejoice, and renew!

**Teaching Social Justice in the Congregation**
Facilitated by Rev. Dr. Rebecca Davis, Minister for Children and Families, Myers Park Presbyterian Church (Lodge)

Educating a church and its disciples about God’s requirement for justice is essential to making a difference for children in the world. This workshop will explore how to teach about justice for children in church school, fellowship gatherings, worship services, committee meetings, and through missions and outreach.

**Howard Thurman: A Spirituality for Transformation**
Facilitated by Rev. Dr. Luther Smith, Jr., Professor of Church and Community, Candler School of Theology at Emory University (Chapel – offered second session only)

Howard Thurman is considered a significant prophet and spiritual master of the 20th century. This workshop will explore how Thurman’s ideas about a sense of self, the meaning of community, and experience of God provide key insights for personal and social transformation. Special attention is given to the practice of spiritual disciplines, working in racially and religiously diverse settings, and sustaining the commitment to children.

**Women in Ministry Seminar with Dr. Renita J. Weems**
Led by the Rev. Dr. Renita J. Weems, Author and Scholar (Chapel – offered first session only)

Reflections and reminders for women on the journey in and to ministry. A conversation on how, as women in ministry, we hold fast to our faith and convictions as we struggle for the right to be used by God despite the voice of convention, tradition, customs, those in power, and juggling one’s career and personal life.
The Reverend Dr. Bruce C. Birch, Monday Bible Study Leader, is Dean and Woodrow W. and Mildred B. Miller Professor of Biblical Theology at Wesley Theological Seminary. A native of Kansas, he received his B.A. from Southwestern College, his B.D. from Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University and his Ph.D. from Yale University. He did post-doctoral study at Tübingen University in West Germany and taught at Yale, Iowa Wesleyan College, and Erskine College before coming to Wesley in 1971.

Dr. Birch is an ordained United Methodist minister in the Baltimore-Washington Annual Conference. He has been a delegate to General and Jurisdictional Conferences of that denomination and served on its General Board of Church and Society. He has lectured and consulted in a wide range of ecumenical events and projects. He serves on the Council of the Society of Biblical Literature and the steering committee of the Chief Academic Officers Society of The Association of Theological Schools.

A frequent contributor to journals and periodicals, Dr. Birch has authored numerous books including What Does the Lord Require?: Singing the Lord’s Song; Let Justice Roll Down: The Old Testament, Ethics and Christian Life; Hosea, Joel, Amos for the Westminster Bible Companion, and To Love As We Are Loved: The Bible and Relationships. With Larry Rasmussen he has co-authored The Predicament of the Prosperous and Bible and Ethics in the Christian Life. He has served as one of the Old Testament

editors for the New Interpreter’s Bible and contributed the commentary on 1 and 2 Samuel. With Walter Brueggemann, Terence Fretheim, and David Petersen, he co-authored A Theological Introduction to the Old Testament, now in its second edition. He is the originator and editor of the curriculum, Steward: Living as Disciples in Everyday Life. He co-authored, with Lewis A. Parks, Ducking Spears, Dancing Madly: A Biblical Model of Church Leadership.

Marian Wright Edelman, Founder and President of the Children’s Defense Fund (CDF), has been an advocate for disadvantaged Americans for her entire professional life. Under her leadership, the Washington-based CDF has become the nation’s strongest voice for children and families. She began her career in the mid-60s when, as the first Black woman admitted to the Mississippi Bar, she directed the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund office in Jackson, Mississippi. In 1968, she moved to Washington, D.C. as counsel for the Poor People’s March that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., began organizing before his death. Mrs. Edelman founded the Washington Research Project, a public interest law firm and the parent body of the Children’s Defense Fund. For two years she directed the Center for Law and Education at Harvard University and in 1973 began CDF.

Mrs. Edelman has received many honorary degrees and awards including the Albert Schweitzer Humanitarian Prize, the Heinz Award, and a MacArthur Foundation Prize Fellowship. In 2000 she received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation’s highest civilian award, and the Robert F. Kennedy Lifetime Achievement
Award for her writings, which include: *The Measure of Our Success: A Letter to My Children and Yours*; *Lanterns: A Memoir of Mentors*; and *I’m Your Child, God: Prayers for Our Children*. A graduate of Spelman College, Mrs. Edelman holds a law degree from Yale University.

She is married to Peter Edelman, a professor at Georgetown Law School. They have three sons, Joshua, Jonah, and Ezra; two granddaughters, Ellika and Zoe; and two grandsons, Elijah and Levi.

The Reverend Dr. Margaret Elaine M. Flake, *Tuesday’s Great Preacher*, has played a crucial role in increasing the membership of The Greater Allen A.M.E Cathedral (GAC) in Jamaica, New York, to more than 20,000.

Rev. Flake is an itinerant Elder in the African Methodist Episcopal Church. She and her husband, the Reverend Floyd H. Flake, founded the Allen Christian School in 1982, now a leading Christian educational institution providing a competitive education for young Christians in grades pre-k through eighth. The school currently enrolls 600 African American students.

“Reverend Elaine” was instrumental in developing the Allen Women’s Resource Center, which houses women who are victims of domestic violence; the Allen Prison Ministry; and many of the other 102 ministries at the GAC that serve both church and community. She acts as advisor to the Missionary Department and as advisor/coordinator of the Allen Women’s Ministry Department. She is a mentor to New York area leaders and a women’s retreat leader.


A native of Memphis, Tennessee, Rev. Flake earned her bachelor’s degree in English from Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee. She received a master’s degree in English from Boston University and a Master of Divinity from Union Theological Seminary in New York City. She was awarded the Doctor of Ministry degree from United Theological Seminary of Dayton, Ohio. She is also a proud member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.; The Links, Inc.; and the National Council of Negro Women.

Married for 30 years to Reverend Dr. Floyd H. Flake, they are the parents of four adult children: Aliya, Nailah, Robert Rasheed, and Harold Hasan.

The Reverend William C. Gipson, *Proctor Co-Chaplain-in-Residence*, is University Chaplain and Special Advisor to the President at the University of Pennsylvania. In this role he promotes and encourages the growth of student religious groups and fosters a spirit of authentic inter-religious engagement, which draws on the distinctive traits as well as the commonalities among faith communities. He is also the co-director of the Program in Universities, Communities of Faith, Schools, and Neighborhood Organizations, under the auspices of the School of Arts and Sciences and coordinated in collabora-
tion with the Center for Community Partnerships at Penn. Before coming to Penn in 1996, for six years Rev. Gipson was Associate Dean of Religious Life and the Chapel at Princeton University, where he founded, with students, the Hallelujah Worship Service, a non-denominational community of faith that reflects the traditions of the Black Church. Rev. Gipson earned a B.A. degree in 1979 in journalism from the University of Louisiana and a Master of Divinity degree in 1987 from the Colgate-Rochester Crozer Divinity School.

The Reverend Joel C. Gregory, Ph.D., Wednesday's Great Preacher, is Professor of Preaching at Truett Seminary and Distinguished Fellow of Georgetown College, Georgetown, Kentucky. He is founder and president of Joel Gregory Ministries, as well as the author of five books and co-author of two. Among other pastorates, he served as pastor of First Baptist Church in Dallas and Travis Avenue Baptist Church in Fort Worth. For years he was the speaker on the “International Baptist Hour,” heard on more than 500 radio stations. In 2005 he spoke in 22 states at 25 national and regional conferences as well as 36 local churches. This summer he will teach Proclaimers Place at Oxford University.

Dr. Gregory is a graduate of Baylor University with a B.A. summa cum laude and Ph.D. He also was graduated from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary with the M.Div., where he also taught preaching. Dr. Gregory has spoken in 46 states as well as in Europe, the Middle-East, the Pacific Rim, Central and South America. He has taught preaching or preached in venues as diverse as Princeton Theological Seminary, Spurgeon’s College and Westminster Chapel in London, and the International Seminary of Buenos Aires, among others.

The Reverend Dr. William Vincent Guy, Thursday’s Great Preacher, is the pastor of the historic Friendship Baptist Church in Atlanta, Georgia. Among its community-oriented programs, the church sponsors a non-profit housing project containing over 200 garden apartments and town houses and operates a 14-story high-rise for the elderly and handicapped.

Prior to coming to Friendship, Rev. Guy served as college minister at Morehouse College. He has worked with a number of civic groups and boards, including the Community Council of Atlanta, Atlanta Interfaith Broadcasters, the Board of Directors of Trinity School, and the Christian Council of Metropolitan Atlanta. He has served on the Executive Committee of the General Board of the American Baptist Churches, USA, and on the Board of Managers of the American Baptist Ministers and Missionaries Benefit Board.

In previous years Rev. Guy worked as a settlement house worker in Boston and taught English in two New England public schools. For five years he served as pastor of Bethesda Baptist Church in Port Chester, New York, where among his civic activities he was president of the Port Chester-Rye Branch of the N.A.A.C.P.

Rev. Guy was born in Little Rock, Arkansas, and was ordained at Mt. Zion Baptist Church, pastored by his father, Fred T. Guy, Sr. He received his B.A.
degree from Morehouse College, where as Morehouse’s first Merrill Fellow, he spent a year in Europe and studied at the University of London and the Sorbonne (the University of Paris). He holds two master’s degrees from Harvard University, one from the Divinity School and the other from the Graduate School of Education. He has studied at Columbia University and was awarded the Doctor of Divinity degree by Arkansas Baptist College.

Rev. Guy is married to Florine Cobb Guy. He has two married daughters, Jasmine and Monica, and four young grandchildren.

The Reverend Dr. Eileen Lindner, Proctor Theologian-in-Residence, is Deputy General Secretary for Research and Planning of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA, the nation’s largest ecumenical agency, comprised of 36 Protestant, Episcopal and Orthodox churches with a constituent membership exceeding 50 million Americans. Previously, she served as director of the NCC child advocacy office. As a Presbyterian minister, she is frequently asked to preach and teach around the country. She holds a Master of Divinity, a Master of Science, as well as a Ph.D. in American Church History, and also has done post-doctoral work at the University of Edinburgh and Harvard.

Rev. Lindner is editor of the NCC’s annual Yearbook of American and Canadian Churches, widely recognized as the most accurate and complete compilation of facts and figures on U.S. and Canadian churches and organizations. She is also the author of numerous books and articles including When Churches Mind the Children, reporting on the nation’s most extensive child care study, and most recently, Thus Far on the Way: Toward a Theology of Child Advocacy, developed from sermons preached at the Proctor Institute.

Rev. Lindner is a member of the Good Schools Pennsylvania Founding Council and was named by President Jimmy Carter to the U.S. Commission for the International Year of the Child. She is on the Steering Council for the Children’s Defense Fund’s “Campaign to Leave No Child Behind” and serves as Theologian-in-Residence to the Proctor Institute for Child Advocacy Ministry. She is the mother of two grown sons, Andrew and Peter.

The Reverend Dr. Otis Moss, Jr., Morning Devotions Preacher and Proctor Co-Pastor-in-Residence, currently serves as Senior Pastor of Olivet Institutional Baptist Church in Cleveland, Ohio. Prior to his current post, he served as co-pastor with Dr. Martin Luther King, Sr., at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta. He received his bachelor’s degree from Morehouse College, his Master of Divinity from Morehouse School of Religion/ITC, and his Doctor of Ministry from the United Theological Seminary.

For more than 30 years, Dr. Moss has been directly involved in the civil rights movement as a religious leader and community activist and espouses the nonviolent approach for affecting social and political change. He has a strong philosophical bond to Mahatma Gandhi, Howard Thurman, and Martin Luther King, Jr.
Dr. Moss is the recipient of many honors, including four honorary doctorates and a citation in 2000 from the Howard University College of Medicine. He has long served in leadership capacities including chairman of the Board of Trustees of Morehouse College. He is a life member of the NAACP and served as a consultant to former President Jimmy Carter. He was the Lyman Beecher Lecturer for Yale University Divinity School in 2004.

Dr. Moss has been selected twice by Ebony magazine as one of “America’s 15 Greatest Black Preachers” and listed as one of 30 people who have defined Cleveland in the last 30 years.

The Reverend Otis Moss III, Morning Devotions Preacher and Proctor Co-Pastor-in-Residence, is the pastor of Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago. Rev. Moss received his bachelor’s degree in religion and philosophy from Morehouse College where he served as student government president. He continued graduate work at Yale University and was awarded the FTE Benjamin Elijah Mays Scholarship in Religion and the Yale University Magee Fellowship. Rev. Moss is recorded as one of the few African Americans to ever receive this award in the school’s 300-year history. He graduated from Yale with a Master of Divinity degree with a concentration in ethics and theology.

Rev. Moss has done extensive research in the areas of African-American culture, theology and youth development. His passion for youth ministry led him to design the Kabasia Rites of Passage Program for youth development. This program contains a comprehensive Christ-centered, Afro-centric curriculum designed to assist in the development of African-American youth.

He has preached in churches, seminaries and colleges across the globe, including such places as South Africa, Bermuda, Puerto Rico and Egypt. Newsweek magazine cited Rev. Moss as one of “God’s foot soldiers committed to transforming the lives of youth.” Prior to his pastorate at Trinity, Rev. Moss served as pastor of the historic Tabernacle Baptist Church in Augusta, Georgia, from 1997 until 2006.

Rev. Moss is married to the former Monica Brown. They have a son, Elijah Wynton Taylor Moss, and a daughter, Makayla Elon Moss.

The Rev. Dr. Luther E. Smith, Jr., Thursday’s Bible Study Leader, is the Associate Dean of Faculty Development and Professor of Church and Community at Emory University. Dr. Smith’s current research focuses on the role of congregations in public health issues, a sacramental understanding of hope, and an ethical perspective on Black church financing. He received his bachelor’s degree from Washington University in 1969, a Master of Divinity from Eden Theological Seminary in 1972, and a Ph.D. from Saint Louis University in 1979.

Dr. Smith is the author of Howard Thurman: The Mystic as Prophet (1981) and Intimacy and Mission: Intentional Community as Crucible for Radical Discipleship (1994), and editor of Howard Thurman: Essential Writings (2007).
The Rev. Dr. Paul Smith, Monday’s Great Preacher, is the Retired Senior Pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Brooklyn and a faculty member of the New York Theological Seminary. A scholar, Dr. Smith describes himself as an African-American minister leading an interracial congregation. He has written extensively on issues of integration and is considered one of the world’s leading authorities on multicultural training and arbitration.

Dr. Smith has negotiated labor management agreements related to sweatshops in South America and China and conducted sensitivity training for the New York City Police Department, various churches, universities and the federal government, including the IRS. He is an associate clinical professor in the Department of Family Practice and Medicine at SUNY-Brooklyn.

Guided by his late mentor, Dr. Howard Thurman, Dr. Smith is an advocate for outreach to communities throughout the world. He preached at the Centenary of the Presbyterian Church of Southern Africa in Johannesburg and has brought famous leaders with important social causes to the pulpit, including The Dalia Lama from Tibet, Ambassador Andrew Young, Arthur Ashe and Speaker of the House Tom Foley.

Dr. Smith presented, along with other African-American spiritual leaders from across the country, on a panel at the 2004 landmark conference, “Last Miles of the Way Home: A National Conference to Improve End-of-Life Care for African Americans.” He also co-authored an article titled, “Theological Perspectives on Death and Dying for African Americans: Christian and Islamic Perspectives.”

He is the author of The Deep Calling to the Deep: Facing Death, his personal account, taken directly from his journals, of his experiences in helping others face death.

Dr. Smith lives with his wife, Fran. They have three daughters each with families of their own.

Reverend Dr. Frederick J. Streets, Proctor Chaplain-in-Residence, is the Carl Bennett Professor in Pastoral Counseling at the Wurzweiler School of Social Work at Yeshiva University in New York City and was Chaplain of Yale University from 1992-2007. Rev. Streets, the first African American and Baptist to hold the office of Chaplain of Yale, is a graduate of Yale Divinity School and holds a MSW and doctorate from Wurzweiler and is also a licensed clinical social worker. Prior to his position at Yale, he served as the Senior Pastor of the Mount Aery Baptist Church in Bridgeport, Connecticut, for 17 years. Rev. Streets leaves a legacy at Yale that includes fostering social justice, multi-faith and inter-religious programs, and developing dialogues and understanding across cultures and religions. He will remain on the Yale Divinity School faculty of which he has been an adjunct member since 1987.

In spring 2008 he will serve as a Fulbright Scholar at the University of Pretoria in South Africa. There he will teach and do research on the intersection of modern medicine and spirituality in the lives of families with children living with HIV and AIDS. He is the author of numerous publications and editor of Preaching in the New Millennium, Yale University Press, 2005.
The Reverend Dr. Renita J. Weems, Ph.D., Wednesday's Bible Study Leader, is passionate about her vocation as a teacher of spiritual insight. Through her books, sermons, and classes, she helps women and men tap into the inner wisdom and spiritual intelligence they already possess.


Dr. Weems has spoken at national and international religious events and on radio and television. Her latest appearance was on “FlashPoints USA” with Bryant Gumbel and Gwen Ifill discussing the role of religion in politics, government, and public life.

Ordained an elder in the Methodist tradition, Dr. Weems wrote about the waxing and waning of faith in her 1999 book, Listening for God: A Minister’s Journey through Silence and Doubt, which won the Religious Communicators’ Council’s prestigious Wilbur Award. She currently writes a bi-monthly e-column for www.beliefnet.org, which focuses on matters of love and relationships, self-esteem, career, spirituality, and opportunities for change. Dr. Weems is especially proud of her newest online project, “Something Within Blog” (www.somethingwithin-rjweems.blogspot.com), which allows her to keep in touch with “thinking women of faith.”

She earned her undergraduate degree from Wellesley College and her Master’s and Ph.D. degrees from Princeton Theological Seminary. Dr. Weems taught from 1987-2004 on the divinity faculty at Vanderbilt University in Nashville as a professor of Hebrew Bible. From 2003-2005, she served as the William and Camille Cosby Visiting Professor of Humanities at Spelman College in Atlanta. She lives in Nashville, Tennessee, with her husband and daughter.
MaryLee Allen is the Director of the Child Welfare and Mental Health Division at the Children’s Defense Fund (CDF). She is responsible for defining and carrying out CDF’s agenda to keep children safe in nurturing families and communities. Her work involves a range of activities designed to improve policies and practices to better support families to prevent problems from occurring and family crises from intensifying and to promote permanent families for children.

Ms. Allen has played a leadership role in the development, passage, and implementation of major child welfare and children’s mental health reforms over the past two decades. She co-chairs, with the Child Welfare League of America, a coalition of national child welfare and mental health organizations and works regularly with advocates and service providers across the country. She is the author of many articles and publications, and she frequently testifies before Congress.

Macky Alston is an award-winning producer and documentary filmmaker (Hard Road Home – PBS 2007, The Killer Within – Discovery Films 2006, Questioning Faith – HBO/Cinemax 2002, Family Name – PBS 1998), an educator on issues of media and religion, an organizer within the worlds of philanthropy and media making, and a regular writer and reviewer on film and religion. A graduate of Union Theological Seminary (M. Div.), he comes from a long line of ministers in the American South and grew up exposed to the power of the media and the pulpit, as charismatic leaders on the Left and the Right shaped society and politics for generations to come.

Jenny Backus is president of Backus Consulting and does strategy, politics and communications consulting for some of the top candidates and progressive organizations across the country and television networks around the world.

Ms. Backus’ past positions include former communications director for the DCCC, spokesperson for the 2000 Presidential Recount in Florida, DNC press secretary, and communications director for Assistant Senate Democratic Leader Harry Reid (D-NV).

During the 2004 Presidential campaign, she managed 18 out of the 22 debates among the Democratic candidates during the primary campaign. She also managed “Get Out the Vote” strategy. For the 2008 cycle, she has designed and managed presidential primary debates for MSNBC and CNN in South Carolina and New Hampshire. She currently consults for the Children’s Defense Fund on their health care campaign and worked last summer on the launch of the Global Women’s Action Network held in Jordan.

A graduate of Brown University, she lives in Washington, D.C., with her husband, Ed Pagano, and son, Jack.

Kim Baldwin is the Director of Public Policy and Voter Education at The Interfaith Alliance in Washington, D.C. Ms. Baldwin has over 14 years of communications, non-profit and campaign experience. She has served as communications director for U.S. Senate, U.S. House and gubernatorial campaigns as well as for a state political party. Her most memorable experience was as press secretary for Noach Dear, a New York City Councilman representing Boro Park, the largest Hasidic Jewish area outside of Israel.

She got her start in political communications as a staff member on “The McLaughlin Group” and at the Associated Press. She holds a bachelor’s degree from UNC-Greensboro and a master’s degree from The George Washington University. She lives in Alexandria, Virginia, with her English Bulldog, Hanna.
Norma Bourland is the lead organizer for the Children's Defense Fund, Minnesota. Previously she was the director of Congregations Concerned for Children, a Minnesota faith-based children’s advocacy network. Ms. Bourland has served on numerous child-serving non-profit boards and currently serves on the board of directors for Prevent Child Abuse Minnesota. She has professional experience as a social worker, nursery school teacher, day care provider, Christian missionary, small business owner, and community organizer.

She received a bachelor’s degree from the University of Texas at El Paso in sociology and elementary education. Norma and her husband, Eugene, have four grown children and six grandchildren, and live in Plymouth, Minnesota.

Taj Anton Brown is the Senior Manager of Capacity and Development for the Children’s Defense Fund Freedom Schools® program, based in Washington, D.C. In the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, he relocated to Jackson, Mississippi, to direct the CDF Freedom Schools Katrina Project, an emergency response initiative that provided 37 weeks of after-school care and wrap-around services for more than 600 children and families at nine sites in Cleveland, Columbia, Jackson and Metcalfe, Mississippi. Since joining CDF in 2002, Mr. Brown has coordinated a wide variety of initiatives through his service as Senior Field Organizer for CDF-New York and Deputy Manager of National Field Operations, including Youth in the Movement, reaching more than 7,000 youth throughout New York City, and CDF’s first voter empowerment project in 2004, which registered more than 30,000 voters.

Mr. Brown has over 15 years experience in community organizing, program implementation and nonprofit management. He has served on multiple boards including the board of directors for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People from 1996-2001, when he was the youngest member of the Executive Committee. Every summer since 1997 he has helped manage Camp Dreamcatcher, a summer retreat in Pennsylvania for children infected and affected by HIV/AIDS.

Mr. Brown holds a bachelor’s degree in political science from Lock Haven University and also attended the University of Malaga in Ronda, Spain.

Barbara Best is the most senior staff member in CDF-Texas and has overseen the growth of the Texas office from a staff of one to 14 statewide with a $1 million budget. She started the Houston office in December 1999 and oversaw the establishment of the Rio Grande Valley office along the Mexican border in April 2001. Most recently, she played a critical role in directing the statewide Campaign to Restore CHIP, mobilizing regional coordinators in ten Texas cities to achieve partial restoration of the State Children’s Health Insurance Program (SCHIP).

Ms. Best came to Houston as a Jesuit volunteer to work with refugees and coordinated legislative affairs for the Houston Area Women’s Center, a domestic violence and sexual assault center. She has attended human rights delegations to El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Thailand, and graduated magna cum laude from Duke University in 1995.

In 2002, she was awarded the Spirit of Collaboration award from the Greater Houston Collaborative for Children for her work in promoting access to healthcare for Houston’s children. She was recently profiled as one of 15 international advocates by the World Health Organization as part of their “Voices from the Frontline” Web series on international efforts to improve access to health care.
JooYeun Chang, J.D., is a senior staff attorney in the Child Welfare and Mental Health Division at the Children’s Defense Fund (CDF). At CDF, Ms. Chang is responsible for researching case law, existing and proposed legislation, as well as programs and initiatives. She works to identify and promote “best practices” in child welfare and related issues and educates congressional staff about child welfare policies designed to protect children and support families. She also assists with the preparation of the division’s publications, including the guides for grandparents and other relatives raising children, the State Kinship Care Fact Sheets, the Kinship Care Resource Kit, and the report on subsidized guardianship. She is a May 2002 graduate of the University of Miami School of Law, where she was a Harvey T. Reid Scholar and a Children and Youth Law Fellow. She received her B.A. from North Carolina State University in 1998.

Kimberley Chin currently coordinates the Children’s Defense Fund’s National Tax and Benefits Outreach (TBO) initiative. She first joined the CDF-New York office in 1999 to coordinate the Immigrant Child Health Outreach project. Ms. Chin then took a position at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities in Washington, D.C., where she worked on national health insurance and tax credit outreach issues. In 2003, she returned to CDF-New York to run the Supports for Working Families Project, promoting integrated outreach strategies to help families gain access to tax credits, Medicaid, SCHIP, and food stamps. Prior to coming to the Children’s Defense Fund in 1999, she was an attorney with the HIV/AIDS unit at South Brooklyn Legal Services in New York. Ms. Chin received her Master of Public Administration from New York University and her law degree from Fordham University in New York. She is married to Anthony Salandy and is the mother of three young boys, Aidan, Colin and Garan.

Brandon Eugene Corley, a 24-year-old senior at Chicago State University majoring in mathematics and secondary education, is an established leader and child advocate who represents the Englewood community of Chicago’s south side with great pride. He has worked with the Children’s Defense Fund Freedom Schools® program since 2004 in both Chicago and Champaign, Illinois, and presently serves as a national CDF Ella Baker Trainer. Mr. Corley’s widespread community involvement and volunteer work includes: the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America where he has served as the multicultural representative for the Lutheran Youth Organization; nation builder with Simba Circle of Shekinah Chapel; basketball coach for the Southside YMCA; president of the Beta Chapter of Phi Rho Eta Fraternity, Inc., including the Mentor, Teacher, Brother Mentoring Program; his role as founder and project director of the Bethel-Imani CDF Freedom SchoolsSM program in Englewood, and his work planning regular youth mobilizations, conferences and events.

Dr. Edward E. Cornwell III is Professor of Surgery and Chief of Adult Trauma at the Johns Hopkins University Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland. He has risen through the academic ranks through teaching and clinical appointments at the Howard University College of Medicine, the University of Southern California, and Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. Dr. Cornwell received his undergraduate degree from Brown University and went to Howard University College of Medicine, where he served as class president and graduated with honors. He did his surgical training at the Los Angeles County University of Southern California Medical Center and his trauma/critical care fellowship at the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems in Baltimore. He received the 1999 Martin Luther King, Jr., Community Service Award for his violence prevention activities in Baltimore, and the 2000 Maryland Governor’s Volunteer Service
Dr. Maggie Covington is a family physician who practices integrative medicine that emphasizes the importance of addressing the whole person—body, mind, and spirit—including lifestyle, and makes use of the best of both conventional and alternative therapies. Dr. Covington graduated from Swarthmore College and Howard University College of Medicine and completed training in family medicine at the University of Maryland in Baltimore. She also studied medical acupuncture at the Helms Medical Institute and UCLA. She has held academic positions at the Howard University College of Medicine, the University of Southern California, and most recently, the University of Maryland School of Medicine, where for the past five years she has served as director of education for the Center for Integrative Medicine. Currently, Dr. Covington has a part-time private practice and coordinates the Complementary and Alternative Medicine course for fourth-year medical students at the University of Maryland. She is the wife of Dr. Edward E. Cornwell III and the mother of Michael Cornwell.

The Reverend Patricia L. Daley has spent more than 20 years in urban ministry in New Jersey and Massachusetts. She currently is pastoring in an interim ministry in the Presbytery of New Brunswick in New Jersey, serving as a member of the Presbytery Committee on Ministry, mentoring new pastors, and chairing the Administrative Commission for New Church Development (Montgomery Ministries). Rev. Daley is the President of Trenton Area Campus Ministries and serves on the board of the Trenton Children’s Chorus. Her first career was in education as a teacher of deaf children, speech therapist, and administrator of a school for children with learning disabilities. She is the mother of three children and grandmother of seven.

Laura Dean F. Friedrich is the Director of Advocacy and Church Relations at ChildServ in Chicago. She organizes the agency’s advocacy and public policy initiatives and assists churches in fulfilling their missions with children through mutual ministry relationships with ChildServ programs. She is a frequent speaker, workshop leader and writer on issues related to the church’s ministry with children. Prior to coming to ChildServ, she managed a child care center, Casa Central, a social service agency in Chicago serving the Latino community.


The Reverend Dr. Rebecca L. Davis is a minister of Word and Sacrament and a Certified Christian Educator in the Presbyterian Church (USA). She currently serves as Minister for Children and their Families at Myers Park Presbyterian Church and as Adjunct Professor of Christian Education at Union Theological Seminary (Virginia) in Charlotte, North Carolina. Dr. Davis has been involved in child advocacy at all levels of the church and community, including serving as the organizing chair of the Presbyterian Child Advocacy Network, the contract staff for the National Council of Churches’ Committee on Justice for Children and their Families, Coordinator of Religious Action for the Children’s Defense Fund, and as a member of the Steering Committee for the United Agenda for Children in Charlotte, North Carolina.
Ms. Friedrich earned a Master of Education degree from the University of Illinois at Chicago and graduated cum laude from Birmingham-Southern College with a BA degree. She also earned a Certificate in Nonprofit Leadership from North Park University in Chicago and is the recipient of several social justice awards.

The Honorable George Haley, younger brother of author Alex Haley, has devoted his life to championing the rights of people everywhere. He has worked as an attorney, civil rights activist, influential politician, and United States Ambassador. Mr. Haley was the second African American to graduate from the University of Arkansas Law School. He then practiced law in Kansas and became the first African American to be elected to the Kansas State Senate. He has served in several national administrations under Presidents Nixon, Ford, Carter, Reagan, George H.W. Bush, Clinton, and George Bush. His government posts include Chief Counsel for the Federal Transit Administration, General Counsel and congressional liaison of the U.S. Information Agency, and Chairman of the Postal Rate Commission. In 1998, President Clinton appointed him as U.S. Ambassador to Gambia, the country to which Alex Haley traced the family’s heritage in the best selling novel, Roots. Mr. Haley is currently involved in several projects in the United States and Gambia. He resides in Maryland with his wife, Doris. They have two grown children and seven grandchildren.

Tamika Dionne Jones-Scott is the President and Founder of Second Chance Youth and Teen Center. Her focus is to proactively reach youth and teens living in poverty and low-income areas and equip them with the necessary skills and education to allow them to live healthy, productive lives. She received her bachelor’s degree from the University of Houston.

Ms. Jones-Scott has been a member of Brookhollow Baptist Church for 16 years where she served on various ministries. She is the mother of three boys: Derrick, 12, and Demarcus, 9. Her son Devante died at the age of 14 from Wilms Tumor, an advanced kidney cancer, on March 1, 2007. Because of her struggle to keep her children insured while her son was in critical condition, Ms. Jones-Scott has been compelled and inspired to join the fight to make sure that all children are insured. She began advocating publicly for children’s health insurance after meeting and working with representatives of the Children Defense Fund.

Mary Joseph joined CDF as Director of the Katrina Resource and Referral Project, a multi-state initiative that assists children and families affected by hurricanes Katrina and Rita in the Gulf Coast Region. Prior to joining CDF, she served as Acting Assistant Secretary for the Office of Family Support, Louisiana Department of Social Services, where she was responsible for the administration of public assistance benefit programs including food stamps, child care, and the Governor’s Solutions to Poverty program.

She has been affiliated with CDF for a number of years as a volunteer and a member of the Southern Region Network. She participated in the 1996 Stand for Children Rally in Washington, D.C., and has organized volunteer-led Child Watch and Children’s Sabbath activities in the New Orleans area.

G. Neel Lattimore currently serves as Special Advisor for Strategic Communications to Marian Wright Edelman, President of the Children’s Defense Fund. Before joining CDF, he worked for the International AIDS Trust as director of communications, did consulting for the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, served as executive director of the Coalition for AIDS Relief in Africa, and helped to create the Corporate Council on Africa’s AIDS awareness program.

A native of North Carolina, Mr. Lattimore moved to Washington, D.C., after graduating from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in
1983. His first job in the Democratic National Committee’s press office became a stepping stone for a career in communications. Mr. Lattimore became a key player in the Democratic Party working on every national political convention and presidential campaign since 1984. When not working in the political arena, he spent time working to end unfair labor practices across the country, serving as the spokesperson for the largest strike by African American workers in Mississippi and is credited with ending unsafe food practices in use by a leading national grocery chain.

Mr. Lattimore joined the Clinton Administration as Deputy Press Secretary to First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton in 1993 and was promoted to Special Assistant to the President and Press Secretary to the First Lady in 1995, becoming the first man to hold the title.

Dr. Kimberly McNeil opened her solo practice in New Orleans East in March of this year. After Hurricane Katrina, she evacuated to Lake Charles then Houston, but gladly returned to New Orleans despite FEMA’s efforts to keep her away from the city. Prior to Katrina, Dr. McNeil was the Medical Director of Castle Manor KidMed Clinic. She received her medical degree from Howard University College of Medicine in Washington, D.C., and her pediatric training at Louisiana State University School of Medicine. Before returning to the New Orleans area, she practiced in Washington, D.C., Maryland and Virginia. Dr. McNeil believes in a holistic approach to patient care and maintains a commitment to patient education and the city of New Orleans. She said she is concerned about the number of uninsured children in our country and serves children who do not have health coverage.

Julio Medina earned his Master’s Degree in Divinity and then vowed to address the plague of recidivism by helping formerly incarcerated individuals find employment and fully reintegrate into society. Every year 32,000 New Yorkers are released from prison; two-thirds will be rearrested within three years.

In 1999, after years of planning, he opened Exodus Transitional Community in East Harlem. Word quickly spread of the extraordinary work that Mr. Medina and a few volunteers were doing in a small church office on 104th Street. The success of the Exodus program led to private funding as well as it becoming the signature program for the White House faith-based re-entry initiatives. In fact, he was First Lady Laura Bush’s guest at the 2004 State of the Union Address when the President announced the $300 million Prisoner Re-entry Initiative. With his exposure and decades of experience, Mr. Medina has become a nationally recognized expert in the criminal justice field. He has lectured at conferences nationwide and has been profiled in the New York Times, Daily News, NY Newsday, the Christian Science Monitor and on CNN and MSNBC.

Dr. Jeanne Middleton-Hairston is CDF’s Black Community Crusade for Children’s National Director of CDF Freedom Schools. She is an accomplished educator, lecturer and community leader with over 25 years experience in public and private education. Prior to serving as a tenured professor of education on the faculty of Millsaps College in Jackson, Mississippi, she worked in the Jackson Public Schools Office of Research and Evaluation. While at Millsaps, Dr. Middleton-Hairston served as Chair of the Department of Education for 11 years. Under her leadership, the department earned national accreditation for its teacher education program for the first time in the college’s history. She was one of eight Black students to integrate Millsaps College and the first African American to be appointed to the teaching faculty there.

As a co-author of the award-winning history textbook, Mississippi: Conflict and Change, Dr. Middleton-Hairston was active in the struggle to
create honest and appropriate texts for history instruction in America’s middle and high schools. She is also a board examiner for the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education in Washington, D.C. Dr. Middleton-Hairston earned her doctorate and masters degrees in administration, planning, and social policy from the Harvard Graduate School of Education.

**Joshua Olesker** is a writer, journalist and media maker with experience in television news production (60 Minutes, PrimeTime Live, Dateline NBC), interactive marketing, and the broad spectrum of religious life in America. Olesker oversees Auburn Media’s outreach campaign partnerships program, which seeks to use the power of great documentary film to inspire individuals and communities of faith to positive action. He holds an M.A. from Union Theological Seminary, an M.S. from the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, and a B.A. from Yale University.

**Dr. Sandra Lawson Robinson, M.D., M.P.H.** is currently the Deputy Director for the New Orleans Health Department and a practicing pediatrician. She is the former Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Resources for the State of Louisiana, state health officer, and former president of Children’s Medical Care, a private medical corporation. Her medical practice has been an affiliate office of Children’s Hospital Practice Corporation since 1996. As former chief executive officer of the largest state department, she supervised more than 700 programs, 28,000 employees, and a $2 billion budget, and also set health policy for the state of Louisiana. In 2002, Dr. Robinson, while continuing some pediatric practice duties, was asked to use her experience in state government to improve city health.

Recently Dr. Robinson co-directed and coordinated medical services to the more than 900 special-needs patients housed in the Superdome during and after Hurricane Katrina. One week after her evacuation, she returned to New Orleans to work on the command team for the rebuilding of the health care system in the city. She continues as a consultant in areas of governmental and medical administration and has served on a number of national health committees and boards.

**Robin Sally** is the CDF Freedom Schools Curriculum Coordinator and Director of the CDF/Marlboro County Office in Bennettsville, South Carolina. Ms. Sally graduated from Fayetteville State University and completed graduate studies at the University of North Texas. She worked as an educator for 17 years in the public school systems in Charlotte, North Carolina, and Dallas, Texas. While working in the Dallas Public School System, she served as a coordinator of the gifted and talented program and developed the curriculum for the program. Ms. Sally started with CDF as a full-time volunteer and served as a consultant before taking on her current position.

**Adam Russell Taylor** currently serves as the Senior Director of Campaigns and Organizing at Sojourners/Call to Renewal, a 34-year old Christian organization that integrates spiritual renewal with social justice. He formerly served as the executive director of Global Justice, an organization that educates, trains, and mobilizes students around issues of global human rights and economic justice. Before co-founding Global Justice, Mr. Taylor worked as an associate at the Harvard University Carr Center for Human Rights.

He earned a master’s degree in public policy from the JFK School of Government at Harvard University (2001) and a B.A. from Emory University (1998) in international studies. Mr. Taylor served as the co-chair of the Jubilee U.S.A. Network and serves on the Advisory Board of the Global Interdependence Initiative. He is an Associate Minister at Shiloh Baptist Church in Washington, D.C.
Music Ministry at the Proctor Institute

All are welcome to participate in the Resurrection Choir rehearsals held in the Main Lodge from 5:15 to 6:00 p.m. every evening.

Dr. Eli Wilson, Jr., Director of the Resurrection Choir and Minister of Music, is an ordained church musician with 40 years of service in the church music ministry. He is currently the founder and CEO of Eli Wilson Ministries, Inc., a church music education ministry. He served as a full-time minister of music at the St. Paul Community Baptist Church in the East New York section of Brooklyn where he supplied leadership to the music department and created a ministry numbering more than 500. In 1993, Dr. Wilson accepted the position of Associate Pastor of Music at the Emmanuel Baptist Church of Brooklyn. He stayed there until 1999, when he became Associate Pastor of Music and Performing Arts at the New Covenant Baptist Church of Orlando.

As a composer and independent recording artist, Dr. Wilson released his first solo recording in 1988, entitled, “Introducing Eli Wilson, Jr.: God’s Word Shall Stand Forevermore.” He recently released his latest solo recording entitled, “In My Quiet Time.” He also has worked as a vocal coach and children’s choir director and co-wrote a Bible rap song performed in the movie “The Apostle.” He did his undergraduate work at Dillard University and his postgraduate work at Colgate-Rochester Divinity School and the Eastman School of Music in the areas of Christian education and sacred music. In 1990, he received the Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters degree from Virginia Seminary and College.

Don Lewis, Organist, is a visionary who believes that music can and does make a difference in the world, whether he is performing in Carnegie Hall or the Sydney Opera House, in cathedrals in Europe or jazz clubs in Chicago. Growing up in Dayton, Ohio, Mr. Lewis’ early interest in synthesizers and organ led him in 1977 to create LEO (Live Electronic Orchestra), considered to be a pioneering effort that helped to shape current synthesizer technology. As a recording artist, he has worked in the studio with the likes of Quincy Jones, Sergio Mendez, and Marvin Hamlisch. In 1987, he created the Say “Yes” to Music! program, bringing the importance of dreams, education, and community to children through music. As an elder hostel instructor, he also shares the joy of singing and the history of gospel music with seniors.

His strong foundation in music came from playing organ in his church as a teenager, accompanying as many as seven choirs. Mr. Lewis has appeared as a performing artist on the Bobby Jones Gospel Explosion, Gospel Music Workshop of America, and the National Association of Negro Musicians. He also has been a featured performer at church conventions such as the National Baptist Convention, the Quadrennial AME World Conference, National Pastoral Musicians, and Christian Workers Conference. He visits churches around the country, performing concerts, teaching gospel/church music technology workshops, and leading gospel music services.
Shannon Daley-Harris, Proctor Program Director and CDF Religious Affairs Advisor, has served CDF in various capacities since 1990. While serving as CDF’s Director of Religious Affairs, she created the National Observance of Children’s Sabbaths in 1992 and launched the Institute for Child Advocacy Ministry in 1995. Since 1998, she has worked in a consulting capacity for CDF, authoring the Children’s Sabbaths interfaith resource manual, directing the Proctor Institute, and coordinating various projects. Ms. Daley-Harris is also the Children’s Resource Review Editor for The Journal of Family Ministry. She is the author of Our Day to End Poverty: 24 Ways You Can Make a Difference, published by Berrett-Koehler this spring, and edited Thus Far on the Way: Toward a Theology of Child Advocacy by Eileen W. Lindner. Other publications, which she has written for CDF, include Holding Children in Prayer: An Advent Guide, A Child Advocate’s Concordance to the Bible, and, with Kathleen A. Guy, Welcome the Child: A Child Advocacy Guide for Churches. Ms. Daley-Harris earned her B.A. in religious studies, magna cum laude, from Brown University and her Master of Divinity, summa cum laude, from Wesley Theological Seminary. She is certified ready to receive a call in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). She is married to Sam Daley-Harris and is the mother of Micah and Sophie.

Oleta Garrett Fitzgerald, Program Director for the Young Adult Leaders Training this year, is the Southern Regional Director for the Children’s Defense Fund and also serves as Regional Administrator for the Southern Rural Black Women’s Initiative for Economic and Social Justice (SRBWII). Prior to this position, Ms. Fitzgerald was appointed White House Liaison and executive assistant to then Secretary of Agriculture Mike Espy by President Bill Clinton in January 1993. Shortly thereafter, she was named the Department’s Director of Intergovernmental Affairs where she worked with local, state and tribal governments.

Ms. Fitzgerald received a B.A. in sociology from Tougaloo College in Jackson, Mississippi, and was the recipient of John Hay Whitney and Woodrow Wilson fellowships for graduate studies. She currently serves on the board of the Mississippi Head Start Association, and was invited to attend the World Social Forum 2005 in Brazil as one of ten delegates chosen nationwide by the Marguerite Casey Foundation. She is the proud mother of four children: Rashida, Yusef, Layla and Joi.
Matt Rosen is the Religious Action Coordinator for the Children’s Defense Fund in Washington, D.C. Raised in the suburbs of Kansas City, Missouri, Mr. Rosen learned that he and all those around him are children of God, worthy of love and respect. He carried this perspective to Texas Christian University where he graduated with a degree in social work.

Continuing to increase his capacity for doing public ministry, Mr. Rosen engaged in community service at the Coro Leadership Center in St. Louis, Missouri. After successfully running a city-wide political campaign, he headed to Chicago for graduate school and received his Master of Divinity and Master of Public Policy. Mr. Rosen is a member of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and serves on the Decision Team for the Disciples Justice Action Network.

Jon Rybka, the Young Adult Leaders Training Coordinator for the Proctor Institute this year, serves as Rapid Response Organizer and Beat the Odds® Coordinator for the Children’s Defense Fund in the Washington, D.C. office. Previously, he held the position of Intern Coordinator for CDF. A former teacher at the SEED Public Charter School in Washington, D.C., and at Carver High School in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, Mr. Rybka has worked directly with schools nationwide to obtain their participation in health-related research projects. He graduated magna cum laude from Denison University in Ohio and holds a Master of Education from Wake Forest University.
Children’s Defense Fund Haley Farm Staff

Juanita Bealer, Housekeeping Manager, oversees and maintains the cleaning and routine upkeep of the buildings and facilities.

Robert Hankins, Security/Maintenance Technician, is responsible for the security and maintenance of the buildings and grounds, and also assists in the maintenance and upkeep of the buildings and grounds.

Leon Hurd, Maintenance Technician, maintains the property, buildings, and equipment.

Elgin Johnson, Chef, coordinates the planning and preparation of meals.

Ken Libby, Fulfillment Manager and Senior Administrative Assistant, oversees the processing and fulfillment of publications orders and is responsible for event logistics—registration, travel, housing, transportation, etc. He also performs administrative and bookkeeping functions for the Haley Farm office.

Janet Long, Housekeeping Assistant, assists in the cleaning and routine upkeep of the buildings and facilities.

Wokie Massaquoi-Wicks, Director of Operations, is responsible for the day-to-day operations of CDF Haley Farm. She coordinates and maintains the overall tone, quality and direction of the Farm and its activities.

Stephanie Phillips, Security Technician, is responsible for the security of the buildings and grounds.

Elizabeth Sims, Fulfillment/Administrative Assistant, assists with the processing and fulfillment of publications orders and performs administrative functions for the fulfillment office.

Theresa Venable, Librarian, Langston Hughes Library, coordinates and oversees the collection, acquisition and display of materials in the Langston Hughes Library; works with fulfillment to secure books for the publications tent during major events; plans events for the library.

Gerald Wagner, Facilities Manager, oversees the maintenance and upkeep of buildings, facilities and grounds. He coordinates the security of Haley Farm and is responsible for audio and video machinery and equipment.

Ericka Wright, Administrative Assistant, is responsible for event logistics—registration, travel, housing, transportation, etc. She also performs administrative functions for the Haley Farm office.

Sermons of the Great Preachers are available on audio cassettes and compact disc. They can be purchased at the CDF Haley Farm Publications Tent.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Preachers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Bishop John Hurst Adams, Rev. Dr. James A. Forbes, Jr., Rev. Dr. Ray Hammond, Rev. Dr. Harry S. Wright, Sr.</td>
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<td>1996</td>
<td>Rev. Dr. William Sloane Coffin, Rev. Dr. Vashti McKenzie, Rev. Dr. Gardner Taylor, Rev. Dr. Renita Weems</td>
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<td>1997</td>
<td>Rev. Charles G. Adams, Rev. Dr. Suzan Johnson Cook, Rev. Dr. Otis Moss, Jr., Rev. Dr. Mark Trotter</td>
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<td>1998</td>
<td>Father Walter J. Burghardt, S.J., Rev. Dr. Joan Brown Campbell, Rev. Dr. H. Beecher Hicks, Jr., Rev. Barbara Brown Taylor</td>
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<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Bishop Charles E. Blake, Dr. Robert M. Franklin, Jr., Father J. Bryan Hehir, Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth</td>
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<td>2000</td>
<td>Rev. Dr. John M. Buchanan, Rev. Dr. Cecil L. Murray, Rev. Dr. Joan S. Parrott, Rev. Dr. Wallace Charles Smith</td>
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<td>2001</td>
<td>Rev. Dr. Fred B. Craddock, Rev. Dr. Joan S. Parrott</td>
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<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Rev. Dr. Anthony C. Campbell, Rev. Dr. William Sloane Coffin, Rev. Dr. Suzan Johnson Cook, Rev. Dr. W. Franklyn Richardson II</td>
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<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Rev. Dr. Calvin O. Butts III, Rev. Dr. Anthony Campolo, Rev. Dr. Claudette A. Copeland, Rev. Dr. Frank M. Reid III</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Rev. Dr. Donald Hilliard, Jr., Rev. Dr. John W. Kinney, Rev. Dr. Carolyn Ann Knight, Rev. Otis Moss III</td>
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<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Rev. Dr. Cecelia Williams Bryant, Rev. Dr. Robert Franklin, Rev. Dr. Ann F. Lightner-Fuller, Rev. Jim Wallis</td>
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<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Rev. Dr. Joanna M. Adams, Rev. Dr. William S. Epps, Rev. Dr. James A. Forbes, Jr., Rev. Dr. Eileen W. Lindner</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Rev. Dr. Margaret Elaine M. Flake, Rev. Dr. Joel C. Gregory, Rev. Dr. William Vincent Guy, Rev. Dr. Paul Smith</td>
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Proctor Institute Publications Tent Hours

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>1:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.</td>
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<td>12:45 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>4:00 p.m. – 7:15 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.</td>
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<td>12:45 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>3:45 p.m. – 7:15 p.m.</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.</td>
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<td>12:45 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4:00 p.m. – 7:15 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.</td>
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The Publications Tent will be closed during all sessions.

Book Signing

The following authors will be in the Board Room of the Main Lodge to sign books on the dates and times noted. Their books are available in the Publications Tent.

**Tuesday 1:15-1:45 p.m.**

**The Rev. Dr. Bruce Birch**
- Let Justice Roll Down: The Old Testament, Ethics, and Christian Life
- Ducking Spears, Dancing Madly: A Biblical Model of Church Leadership
- A Theological Introduction to the Old Testament (with Walter Brueggeman, Terence E. Frethim, and David L. Peterson, editors)

**Marian Wright Edelman**
- Dream Me Home Safely
- I’m Your Child, God: Prayers for Our Children
- Guide My Feet: Prayers and Meditations on Loving and Working for Children
- The Measure of Our Success: A Letter to My Children and Yours
- Lanterns: A Memoir of Mentors
- Hold My Hand: Prayers for Building a Movement to Leave No Child Behind

**The Rev. Dr. Paul Smith**
- Facing Death: The Deep Calling the Deep
- Theological Perspectives on Death and Dying for African Americans: Christian and Islamic Perspectives (with Ibrahim Abdul-Malik and Jeremiah A. Wright)

**Wednesday 1:15-1:45 p.m.**

**The Rev. Dr. Joel C. Gregory**
- Gregory’s Sermon Synopses

**The Rev. Dr. Eileen W. Lindner**
- Thus Far on the Way: Toward a Theology of Child Advocacy

**The Rev. Dr. Renita J. Weems**
- Just a Sister Away (2nd edition)
- I Asked for Intimacy
- Showing Mary: How Women Can Share Prayers, Wisdom, and the Blessings of God
- What Matters Most (Ten Passionate Lessons from the Song of Solomon)
- Listening for God: A Minister’s Journey through Silence and Doubt

**Thursday 1:15-1:45 p.m.**

**Shannon Daley-Harris**
- Our Day to End Poverty: 24 Ways You Can Make a Difference

**The Rev. Otis Moss III**
- The Gospel Remix (contributor, Ralph C. Watkins, editor)
- Sound the Trumpet! Messages to Empower African-American Men (contributor, Darryl D. Sims, editor)

**The Rev. Dr. Luther Smith**
- Howard Thurman: The Mystic as Prophet
- Intimacy and Mission: Intentional Community as Crucible for Radical Discipleship
- Howard Thurman: Essential Writings (editor)
Shuttle Schedule:

Monday, July 16
8:45 p.m. Buses depart for hotels

Tuesday, July 17
Session: Meditations for the Journey begins at 7:30 a.m. each morning.
7:00 a.m. One bus departs from Merchant’s Drive area hotels
7:10 a.m. One bus departs from Powell hotels
7:20 a.m. One bus departs from Clinton hotels
Breakfast is served at 8:00 each morning.
7:30 a.m. Buses depart from Merchant’s Drive area hotels
7:40 a.m. Buses depart from Powell hotels
7:50 a.m. Buses depart from Clinton hotels
8:45 p.m. Buses depart for hotels

Thursday, July 19
Session: Meditations for the Journey begins at 7:30 a.m. each morning.
7:00 a.m. One bus departs from Merchant’s Drive area hotels
7:10 a.m. One bus departs from Powell hotels
7:20 a.m. One bus departs from Clinton hotels
Breakfast is served at 8:00 each morning.
7:30 a.m. Buses depart from Merchant’s Drive area hotels
7:40 a.m. Buses depart from Powell hotels
7:50 a.m. Buses depart from Clinton hotels
8:45 p.m. Buses depart for hotels

Bus Schedule for July 16–20, 2007

Wednesday, July 18
Session: Meditations for the Journey begins at 7:30 a.m. each morning.
7:00 a.m. One bus departs from Merchant’s Drive area hotels
7:10 a.m. One bus departs from Powell hotels
7:20 a.m. One bus departs from Clinton hotels
Breakfast is served at 8:00 each morning.
7:30 a.m. Buses depart from Merchant’s Drive area hotels
7:40 a.m. Buses depart from Powell hotels
7:50 a.m. Buses depart from Clinton hotels
8:45 p.m. Buses depart for hotels

Friday, July 20
Breakfast is served at 8:00 each morning.
7:30 a.m. Buses with luggage depart from Merchant’s Drive area hotels
7:40 a.m. Buses with luggage depart from Powell hotels
7:50 a.m. Buses with luggage depart from Clinton hotels
**Abide with Me #1**
Abide with me, fast falls the even tide;
The darkness deepens, Lord, with me abide!
When other helpers fail, and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life’s little day;
Earth’s joys grow dim, its glories pass away.
Change and decay in all around I see,
O thou who changest not, abide with me.

I need thy presence every passing hour;
What but thy grace can foil the tempter’s power?
Who, like thyself, my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.

I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death’s sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if thou abide with me.

Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.
Heav’n’s morning breaks, and earth’s vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

**As the Deer #3**
As the deer panteth for the water
So my soul longeth after Thee.
You alone are my heart’s desire
And I long to worship Thee.

You alone are my strength and shield
To you alone does my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart’s desire
And I long to worship Thee.

**Awesome God #4**
Our God is an awesome God,
He reigns from heaven above.
With wisdom, power, and love
Our God is an awesome God.

**Because We’re Family #5**
When times are tough and roads are rough
There is something we can count on;
We always have someone to see us through.

Through wind and rain, through hurt and pain
There is something we are sure of;
That our God is keeping us and we’re secure.

Refrain:
Because we’re family, Yes, we’re a family
With our hands and hearts connected by love;
And with faith and prayer, God keeps us in His care.
We can face the storm because we’re family.

**Amazing Grace #2**
Amazing grace! how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now I’m found,
was blind, but now I see.

‘Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come.
‘Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

When we’ve been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
We’ve no less days to sing God’s praise
than when we first begun.

**Songs of Praise**

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**Songs**
Some friends may come and friends may go;
There’s one thing we can rely on
That we have a bond that none can ever break.

So come what may from day to day
We’ll keep joining hands together;
What a difference in this world that we can make.

**Designer, Creator, Most Provident God #6**

Designer, Creator, most provident God,
We praise you for forests and mountains and sod,
For life-giving water in river and lake,
For life more abundant for all the world’s sake.

We pray that your people will find in this place
Full measures o’er flowing of love and of grace,
Of challenging thought and of nurturing care,
Of deepening friendships and strengthening prayer.

The music of silence caressing our ears
Renews us in spirit and eases our fears.
We listen, we ponder, we wait for your voice,
And hearing, in gratitude, now we rejoice.

You call us to justice, to freedom, and peace,
To work building bridges that love may increase.
Stand with us to show us the excellent way
To welcome, unhindered, your long-promised day.

**God of Grace, God of Glory #7**

God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power;
Crown thine ancient church’s story, bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour,
For the facing of this hour.

Lo, the clouds of evil ‘round us hide thy brightness from our gaze;
From the fears that long have bound us, free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of these days,
For the living of these days.

Cure thy children’s warring madness, bend our pride to thy control;
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, make thy peace our daily goal,
Make thy peace our daily goal.

Fill us with a living vision, heal our wounds that we may be
Bound as one beyond division in the struggle to be free.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, ears to hear and eyes to see.
Ears to hear and eyes to see.

**Great Is Thy Faithfulness #8**

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with thee; Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not,
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness,
To thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.
Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside.

**Guide My Feet #9**

Guide my feet, Lord, while I run this race.
For I don’t want to run this race in vain.

Hold my hand…
Stand by me…
I’m your child…
Search my heart…
Guide my feet…

**Hallelujah #10**

Hallelujah, (8 times)
Lord, we praise thee…
Lord, we thank thee…
Here I Am, Lord #11
I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright,
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people’s pain,
I have wept for love of them, they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

I’m Gonna Sing When the Spirit Says
Sing #12
I’m gonna sing when the Spirit says sing. I’m gonna sing when the Spirit says sing, and obey the Spirit of the Lord.
   2. shout
   3. pray
   4. speak
   5. vote

I Need You to Survive #13
I need you; you need me,
We’re all a part of God’s body.
Stand with me; agree with me,
We’re all a part of God’s body.
It is his will that every need be supplied.
You are important to me,
I need you to survive.
You are important to me,
I need you to survive.

I pray for you; you pray for me.
I love you; I need you to survive.
I won’t harm you
With words from my mouth.
I love you; I need you to survive.

I Will Celebrate #14
I will celebrate; sing unto the Lord.
I will sing to Him a new song.
I will celebrate; sing unto the Lord.
I will sing to Him a new song.

I will praise Him;
I will sing to Him a new song.
I will praise Him;
I will sing to Him a new song.

Hallelujah, Hallelujah,
Hallelujah, Hallelujah,
Hallelu, Hallelujah. [repeat]

I Worship You, Almighty God #15
I worship You, Almighty God
There is none like you.
I worship You, O Prince of Peace
That is what I want to do.
I give you praise for you are my righteousness
I worship You, Almighty God
There is none like you.

Lift Every Voice and Sing #16
Lift ev’ry voice and sing, till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise high as the list’ning skies,
Let us resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us.
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us.
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
Let us march on ’til victory is won.

Stony the road we trod, bitter the chast’ning rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered.
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughter.
Out from the gloomy past, ‘til now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way;
Thou who hast by Thy might let us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God,
where we met Thee.
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee.
Shadowed beneath Thy hand, may we forever stand
True to our God, true to our native land.

**Lord, I Lift Your Name on High #17**
Lord, I lift your name on high;
Lord, I love to sing your praises.
I’m so glad you’re in my life;
I’m so glad you came to save us.

You came from heaven to earth
To show the way.
From the earth to the Cross
My debt you paid.
From the Cross to the grave
From the grave to the sky
Lord, I lift your name on high.

**Nobody Knows the Trouble I’ve Seen #18**
Nobody knows the trouble I’ve seen,
Nobody knows my sorrow.
Nobody knows the trouble I’ve seen,
Glory, hallelujah!

1. Sometimes I’m up, sometimes, I’m down, oh, yes, Lord!
Sometimes I’m almost to the ground, oh, yes, Lord!

2. Although you see me going ‘long so, oh, yes, Lord!
I have my troubles here below, oh, yes, Lord!
3. One day when I was walking ‘long, oh, yes, Lord!
The heavens broke and love come down, oh, yes, Lord!

**Now Thank We All Our God #19**
Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things hath done, in whom the world rejoices,
Who from our parents’ arms has blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,
The one eternal God, whom earth and heaven adore,
For thus it was, is now, and shall be ever more.

**O Give Thanks #20**
O give thanks unto the Lord
For He is good, yes, He is good. [repeat]
For He is worthy, worthy
For He is good, yes, He is good. [repeat]

**Oh, I Woke Up This Morning #21**
Oh, I woke up this morning with my mind stayed on freedom.
Woke up this morning with my mind stayed on freedom.
Woke up this morning with my mind stayed on freedom.
Hallelu, hallelu, halleluia.

Walking and talking...
Singing and praying...
I’ll be advocating...
Siph’ Amandla (Zulu) #22
Siph’ amandla N’kosi, Wokung esabi
Siph amandla N’kosi.
Si ya-wa-ding-a
O God, give us power to rip down prisons.
O God, give us power to lift the people.
O God, give us courage to withstand hatred.
O God, give us courage not to be bitter.
O God, give us power and make us fearless.
O God, give us power because we need it.

Standing in the Need of Prayer #23
It’s me, it’s me, O Lord, standing in the need of prayer.
Not my brother but it’s me, O Lord, standing in the need of prayer.
Not my sister...
Not my mother...

Sweet, Sweet Spirit #24
There’s a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place, and I know that it’s the Spirit of the Lord.
There are sweet expressions on each face, and I know they feel the presence of the Lord.

Sweet Holy Spirit, Sweet Heavenly Dove,
Stay right here with us, filling us with your love.
And for these blessings, we lift our hearts in praise.
Without a doubt we’ll know that we have been revived
When we shall leave this place.

2. There are blessings you cannot receive
Till you know Him in His fullness and believe.
You’re the one to profit when you say “I am going to walk with Jesus all the way.”

3. If you say He saved you from your sin,
Now you’re weak, you’re bound, and cannot enter in.
You can make it right if you will yield.
You’ll enjoy the Holy Spirit that we feel.

The Welcome Table #25
I’m going to sit at the welcome table
Yes, I’m going to sit at the welcome table
One of these days, hallelujah
I’m going to sit at the welcome table one of these days,
One of these days.

I’m going to feast on milk and honey...
I’m going to tell God how you treat me...
All God’s children gonna sit together
I’m going to sit at the welcome table...
(I’m gonna be a registered voter...)

There Is a Balm in Gilead #26
There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole,
There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sinsick soul.
1. Sometimes I feel discouraged and think my work’s in vain,
But then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.

2. If you cannot preach like Peter, if you cannot pray like Paul,
You can tell the love of Jesus, and say “Christ died for all.”

We Are Called #27
1. Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!
We are called to be light for the kingdom, to live in the freedom of the city of God!

Refrain:
We are called to act with justice, we are called to love tenderly,
We are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God!

2. Come! Open your heart! Show your mercy to all those in fear!
We are called to be hope for the hopeless so all hatred and blindness will be no more!
3. Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be one!
God will reign, and we’ll walk with each other as sisters and brothers united in love!
**Sung Responses**

**Amen**
Amen, amen. Amen, amen, amen.

**Do Lord, Remember Me**
1. Do, Lord. Do, Lord, Lord, remember me.
2. When I’m in trouble, Lord, remember me.
3. When I’m dyin’, Lord, remember me.

**Thank You Lord**
Thank you, Lord. Thank you, Lord. I just want to thank you, Lord.
Been so good...

**I Will Do a New Thing**
I will do a new thing in you, I will do a new thing in you.
Whatever you ask for, whatever you need.
I will give unto you, saith the Lord.

**Victory is Mine**
Victory is mine, Lord, victory is mine. Victory is mine today.
I told Satan, get thee behind. Victory is mine today.
Joy is mine...
Peace is mine...

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**Songs for Communion**

**Let Us Break Bread Together**
Let us break bread together on our knees.
Let us break bread together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.
Let us drink wine together...
Let us praise God together...

**Give Thanks**
Give thanks with a grateful heart,
Give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks to God who gave us Jesus Christ, the Son.
And now, let the weak say I am strong,
Let the poor say I am rich,
Because of what the Lord has done in us.
Give thanks, give thanks, give thanks.
The Children's Defense Fund Mission Statement

The Children’s Defense Fund’s Leave No Child Behind® mission is to ensure every child a Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start, a Safe Start, and a Moral Start in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities.

CDF provides a strong, effective voice for all the children of America who cannot vote, lobby, or speak for themselves. We pay particular attention to the needs of poor and minority children and those with disabilities. CDF educates the nation about the needs of children and encourages preventive investment before they get sick or into trouble, drop out of school, or suffer family breakdown.

CDF began in 1973 and is a private, nonprofit organization supported by foundation and corporate grants and individual donations. We have never taken government funds.

Haley Farm is the spiritual home of CDF’s Leave No Child Behind® movement. Here, people of diverse faiths, backgrounds, and hometowns are knit together as a beloved community united by a common vision for children.

CDF’s 2007 Annual Young Adult Leaders Training
“Building a Young People’s Movement for Healthy Children”

The Children's Defense Fund’s “Young Adult Leaders’ Training” (YALT) is an exciting adjunct to our annual Samuel DeWitt Proctor Institute for Child Advocacy Ministry.

For the third year in a row, CDF brings 200 young leaders, community organizers, child advocates and activists from around the country for an intensive week of training to learn new skills, models and strategies so that they are equipped to go back to their local communities and campuses and implement programs to more effectively advocate for children and strengthen families in their communities. These extraordinary young leaders will be armed with the most up-to-date information about policy debates impacting children and families; how this affects young people in their communities; and how they can take a leadership role in addressing these critical issues. (These youths also will hear from renowned activists who will provide the important historical context they need to understand the cycle of social movements and motivate them to move forward, building on the struggles and successes of those who came before them.) In addition, the YALT participants will take part in some of the sessions of the Samuel DeWitt Proctor Institute for Child Advocacy Ministry.