

2002 HONOREES





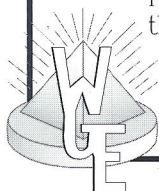
Donna Marie Christian-Christensen

Donna Marie Christian-Christensen is the spouse of Chris Christensen, the mother of two daughters; Rabiah and Karida, and the grandmother of one; Nia. Although endearing them all, she knew long ago that her life would not be limited to the commonness of these familial parameters and that her journey would be one, which would distinguish her from many so-called peers. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in 1966 at St. Mary's College in Notre Dame, Indiana. Four years later George Washington University School of Medicine in Washington, D. C. conferred upon her the Doctor of Medicine degree. She then interned at Pacific Medical Center in San Francisco and completed her residency in family medicine at Howard University Medical Center in 1974. She subsequently maintained a private practice in family medicine from 1975 until 1996.

When many would embrace retirement after the protracted years of struggle in service, The Honorable Donna M. Christian-Christensen discarded those notions of a respite, realizing that those years of providing healing services to other families were merely the foundation for the care required by an even greater, more demanding public. As a member in the United States Congress, she is the first female physician to serve, the first woman to represent an offshore territory and the first woman delegate from the United States Virgin Islands. In the 107th Congress, Representative Christian-Christensen is involved in several House committees, subcommittees and caucuses. In addition, she Chairs the Congressional Black Caucus Health Brain Trust, which oversees and advances minority health issues nationally and internationally.

Congresswoman Christian-Christensen additionally serves as a member of the National Medical Association, the Virgin Islands Medical Society, the Caribbean Youth Organization and the Virgin Islands Medical Institute. Among the many awards and honors she has received, in May 2001, the Moravian College in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania conferred upon her an Honorary Doctorate of Law degree. With each new affiliation and distinctive award, she continually distinguishes herself far removed from the milieu of mediocrity and yet remains uniquely connected to those for whom she must speak.

As she faithfully serves her personal family with the diligence of love, and as she has served her professional family with skill and compassion, Congresswoman Donna M. Christian-Christensen, now serves the global family by wisdom of experience and ideological oversight.





C. Virginia Fields

C. Virginia Fields comes from an era in which committing oneself to justice could have been a life-threatening activity. In 1963, at the age of 17, Ms. Fields endured the fire hoses of Birmingham, Alabama as she marched by the side of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in the struggle for civil rights. Concerned about the state of disenfranchised people, Ms. Fields received her undergraduate degree from Knoxville College and her Master of Social Work degree from Indiana University. After moving to New York in 1970, she pursued her career in social work as an administrator for the Children's Aid Society, as supervisor of social services for the New York City Work Release Program and as a consultant for the National Board of the YMCA.

Continuing her advocacy for the under-represented, Ms. Fields served as the District Leader and Chair of Community Board 10 and continued to blossom as an activist, social worker and political leader, energetically supporting numerous efforts to improve crucial services and to build strong communities. Her dedication moved her from the shadows of community activism to the light of the center stage, as Ms. Fields became the first African-American woman elected from Manhattan to the New York City Council in 1989. During her two terms as council member Ms. Fields initiated and supported innovative legislation that affected issues of affordable housing, economic growth, the preservation of programs for youth and seniors as well as the revitalization of schools and the enhancement of public safety.

Ms. Fields' subsequent election to the office of Manhattan Borough President has merely provided for her a broader network with which to implement the ideal of building "One Manhattan" where government and citizenry work together. Her efforts range from the provision of two million dollars for the improvement of public school, to the co-sponsorship legislation, which bans realistic-looking toy guns, to the development of Manhattan's first lead-safe house for families with children who suffer from severe lead poisoning. As education, children and families, economic development, housing, seniors and health care are her administrative priorities, and as she assumes tremendous fiscal responsibility, Ms. Fields' continued service assures everyone that the Borough of Manhattan will continue to be a beacon of unity, hope, and prosperity and secure its proud position at the dynamic fulcrum of the 21st century.





Rt. Reverend Enid Gaul

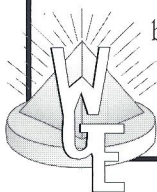
There are few among us who truly demonstrate the virtues of a woman. To speak of the dignity and strength that are her clothing, is to acknowledge her humility. To listen to her voice is to be embraced by kindness and to be surrounded by the wisdom of the ages.

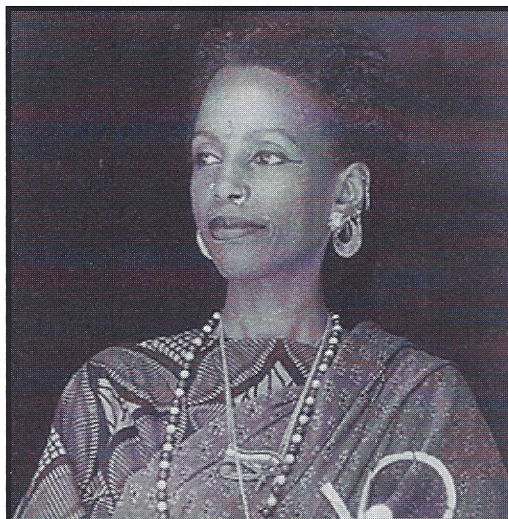
As an Elder of elders, she is a beacon of Light, a tower of support and strength for all who have the courage to stand with her on sacred ground. Her true value and essence on this earth plane is recorded only in the Akashic Records. She has a name not spoken by human tongues, but we know graced to know her as the Rt. Reverend Enid Gaul.

A native of Guyana, Rev. Gaul, already a diamond desiring a bit more polishing, arrived in the United States in 1970. She associated herself with the Ministry of Christ Church, Inc., one of the largest spiritual churches in Brooklyn, New York, which was then under the distinguished leadership of the late Bishop John Dyer, D.D. She was the first Mother Matron of the church and was later ordained as a minister in 1978. In this capacity, Rev. Gaul served as choir coordinator, organist, and soloist as well as assisting in the initiations and the robing of those candidates seeking higher spiritual elevation. Although Rev. Gaul has two sons, thirteen grandchildren and eight great grandchildren, she has given birth to many spiritual offspring, necessarily perpetuating the 'Sagrada Familia' (Sacred Family). Her biological and spiritual family is augmented by the extended circle whom she lovingly cared for as a certified home attendant. They will attest that no greater attention could have been given to them as Rev. Gaul continually expressed the earnest yet tender compassion of the One Most High. The strength of her love has enabled herself and others to transcend the adverse vicissitudes of life and function with the expectation of a new dawn, insisting on the wholeness of all.

Rev. Enid Gaul has brought to QKingdom Ministries over forty years of spiritual experience, with the aforementioned characteristics as the hallmarks on her resume of life. She was appointed Elder of QKingdom Ministries Inc., in March, 1994 and has continued to bequeath joy in the hearts of many as she provides guidance and support to even more children. She has been charged to provide counseling for the members of the ministry and educate the younger parishioners in the areas of spiritual and moral ethics. Her subsequent consecration to the office of 'Right Reverend' is but a mere attempt to approach on this plane what has long ago been established in the realms unseen.

As her life is a melody of delight to all of us, Rev. Gaul is a Precious Light, even now being honored by the Ethereal Host.





Kaitha Het Heru

*S*nt Urt Kaitha Het Heru is an Ordained Minister and Ankh Carrier of The Sacred and Most Ancient Afrakan Nubia Khamitic (Ancient Egyptian) Order, Het Ptah Ka. She also serves as Snt Urt (Elder Sister) and Urt Abut (Elder Priestess) of Kera Ptah (Shrine of Ptah) with Sen Ur (Elder Brother) Hru Ankh Ra Semahj Sa Ptah. A native New Yorker, born and raised in the village of Harlem, Snt Urt Kaitha Het Heru is founder, director and Uab Abut en Nefer (Chief Priestess of Beautification) of Pa Nefer Het, The Temple Beautiful/Het Heru Sacred Beauty Center established in 1981 which is dedicated to the resurrection, reclamation and reverence of the Sacred Divine Feminine aspect of NTR, the Mother Father Creator.

Walking in the ancient healing pathway of her grand ancestors, Snt Urt is a "Hem Sesep Kekiu", a Light-Bringer/Healer who applies the First Seed/First World traditions to educate, motivate, empower and transform the consciousness of women through The Sacred Beauty Path, and Mer (Love) Thysself Workshops. Skilled in the time-honored arts of weaving and pottery, Snt Urt engages these arts to teach women the importance of loving themselves and celebrating their sacred beauty, functioning within an Afrakan Nubia Khamit ideological framework. This process assists women to discover and live their greatest potential, and to hold the highest vision of love, peace and healing for themselves, their community and the world.

Snt Urt Kaitha Het Heru is the author of *I Love My Beautiful Body*, a vitally important and inspirational book calling for humanity to attend to their body temple and the Divine Self Within. One of her articles "Call for a New Era of Afrakan Beauty" is published in Queen Afua's nationally acclaimed book, *Sacred Woman: A Guide to Healing the Feminine Body, Mind and Spirit*. Although her essential beauty will always be liberated, a photographic exhibition, 'Feeling The Spirit' by Chester Higgins Jr., included the portrait of Snt Urt Kaitha Het Heru at the gallery of the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture.

A gifted lecturer, this artisan continues to assist the necessary perpetuation of the ancient Afrakan Nubia Khamitic culture by creating hand-woven Khamit Cloth-Spirit-Medicine Weaving's and ceramic works of art created in celebration of the sacredness of the Divine Feminine and the greatness of Khamit, the ancient Hapi (Nile) Valley Classical Culture. Snt Urt Kaitha Het Heru is indeed a bearer of the flame, one who is able to dispel outer darkness because she honors the Enduring Light within. Tua NTR.





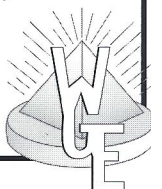
Michele S. Rodney

*A*ssistant District Attorney Michele S. Rodney serves the people of the Bronx, New York with fairness, understanding and compassion. In August 1989, Ms. Rodney began her career as an Assistant District Attorney, trying major offense and homicide cases which involved investigation and litigation. She also conducts plea negotiations, motion practice and pretrial hearings.

Ms. Rodney also supervises other Assistant District Attorneys on homicide and felony duties and authorizes all homicide arrests in the Bronx County. Prior to being an Assistant District Attorney under District Attorney Robert Johnson in the trial division bureau, Ms. Rodney was a felony case evaluator in the grand jury bureau from January 1991 to January 1992, drafting complaints, arraignments, deposing witnesses and presenting cases in their entirety to grand juries of all felonies including homicides, plea negotiations and drafting indictments. In the criminal court bureau in 1989 to 1991 she handled misdemeanor and felony complaint drafting, misdemeanor trials, arraignments and plea negotiations and supervised over 10 attorneys as an all purpose part team leader. Throughout her career, this trial lawyer has tried almost 50 cases and has lost less than 10.

Ms. Rodney is a graduate of St. John's University School of Law, class of '89 and Manhattanville College, class of '85. Her dedication to the field of law and community work has brought her the recognition of several organizations, including The Black Bar Association, which has recently given her an award for being a Black Woman who has made an impact in her community and field. She is also a member of the Bronx Bar Association, New York Urban League, in which she is the chairperson, Black Bar Association of Bronx County, treasurer, National Association of Black Prosecutors and serves as a mentor and Bar Tutorial Assistant to the Practicing Association for Law Students and participates in other outreach programs.

In 1988 she also interned at Legal Services For The Elderly. It was at this organization in Queens that she became more knowledgeable about Medicare, family, social security and consumer law cases and issues that affect the elderly. Occasionally she speaks at her alma mater St. John's University and several churches in the NY area.





The Honourable Billie Anthoinette Miller

Billie Antoinette Miller, born in Barbados in 1944, was educated at Belair Junior School and Queen's College in Barbados and later attended King's College, Durham University, and the Council of Legal Education in England. In 1968 she was called to the Bar of England and Wales and to the Bar of Barbados one year later. Her distinguished career in government has served, not only the citizenry of Barbados, but indeed has had an influence on the global community.

Ms. Miller began her political career in 1976 when she was elected Member of Parliament for the City of Bridgetown and served as Minister of Health and National Insurance from 1976-1981. Re-elected to Parliament in 1981, she was appointed Minister of Education with the Culture portfolio added in 1985. Although the Barbados Labour Party was not successful in 1986, she was appointed to the Senate as Leader of Opposition Business and was later elected member for the City of Bridgetown in the General Elections of 1991. She served as Deputy Leader of the Opposition until 1994 when the Labour Party was returned to government. It was then that The Honourable Billie Antoinette Miller was appointed Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and International Business.

She has subsequently served as a member of the United Nations Population Fund's Advisory Panel of Activities Concerning Women and was the Chairperson of the NGO Planning Committee of the International Conference on Population and Development held in Cairo, Egypt in 1994. She is the President of the Western Hemisphere Region of the International Planned Parenthood Federation and is a member of the Board of Directors of the International Institute of Women's Political Leadership. She has served as Secretary-Treasurer of the Barbados Bar Association and was a member of the International Federation of Women Lawyers. There are many more panels, committees, and boards on which she has served and is now serving; the list being too exhaustive to complete here.

In addition to her profound presence in the politics of Barbados and her necessary involvement in international affairs, The Honourable Billie Antoinette Miller has more than a dozen publications to her credit, reflecting her interests concerning women in leadership and global population. Assuming the mantle of the late Frederick Edward Miller, her father, she too has distinguished herself as a parliamentarian of distinction.





Bishop Yasue Erikawa

Born in Saitama, Japan, Bishop Erikawa has taken her advocacy for women's rights and peace around the world to over twenty-one countries as she fulfills her public mission. She shares her vision with her husband, Mr. Cho Sung Jun, whom she married in the Republic of South Korea, and her children; son, Hyung Do, and daughters, Yeon Mi, and Yeon Ah. She earned a Bachelor of Law degree from the prestigious University of Tokyo in 1969 and draws on all of her academic, socially acquired, and spiritually enriched skills to bring light to an unpopular subject; the plight of Japanese Wives in North Korea.

For Bishop Yasue Erikawa, the full scope and purpose of her life may not have been evident as she became a full-time member of the H&A-UWC (The Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of World Christianity) in December of 1969, but the paths that a journey may take are never clear at the moment of the first step. As a student, she joined CARP (College Association for the Research of Principle). Later, she participated in and was the leader of the Victory over Communism Association, which was the first of its kind to be established in any Japanese University. She worked as a missionary, pioneering 32 cities, towns and villages in Tokyo, Okinawa, and Hiroshima prefectures. She was Chair of the Tokyo BB&S League (Big Brothers and Sisters Movement under the Ministry of Justice), to support the Youth Rehabilitation Act; concluding her eighteen-year effort there in 1992. From 1984 until 1993, she served as the Chairwoman of the Victory Communism International Association while establishing the Women's Hometown University, an organization for mature women leaders throughout Japan. She was promoted President of H&A-UWC - Japan, was elected as President of the Women's Federation for World Peace of Japan and participated in three major Blessings of Couples (360 million in 1998) and is responsible for over 22,000 missionaries in 185 nations worldwide. In August 2001 Bishop Erikawa was recommended to Co-Chair the World Bishops Council Women's Commission.

Bishop Yasue Erikawa, in addition to having receiving numerous awards for her exhaustive efforts, has authored several books and produced several documentaries to advance the cause of Japanese Wives in North Korea. Her presence may not evoke the adulation of people, particularly in the absence of her vitae. Bishop Erikawa, however, has learned to invoke the laws, not as taught in the university, but the Laws of the Universe and is guided and guarded by the unseen as she continues to takes those little faith-filled steps.





Veronica Airey-Wilson

Veronica Airey-Wilson migrated from Jamaica, West Indies in 1962 with her brother and sister to join their parents in Hartford, Connecticut. After graduating from Weaver High School with Honors in 1972, she was awarded a full scholarship to Ithaca College from which she graduated Magna Cum Laude in 1975. Her academic achievements, invulnerable determination, and strong parental guidance proved themselves to be the solid foundation on which her successes in life would rest.

Ms. Airey-Wilson's career began shortly after graduating from college with Aetna Life and Casualty. Her rapid development and promotions into the higher-level positions over a nine-year period, Manager of Corporate Recruiting, demonstrated the self-disciplined professionalism, which was to be the hallmark of her deportment. Subsequently Ms. Airey-Wilson, guided by her entrepreneurial spirit, established VER-JEN Creative Fashion in 1984, providing fashion accessories for her clientele while at the same time advancing their self-confidence. She also served the Greater Hartford area by the establishment of an Allstate Insurance office, which still provides a number of financial services to the community.

This acumen for business and personal development extended itself to even broader horizons. Ms. Airey-Wilson was the first Caribbean-American female elected to the Hartford City Council in November 1993. She currently serves as Deputy Mayor and Chair of the Housing Committee. In this position, she has been instrumental in producing an economic summit and in establishing an Information Superhighway Commission. She has promoted immigration and citizenship workshops and was instrumental in developing a West Indian Resource Center New Arrival Program within the Hartford school system. In addition, Deputy Mayor Airey-Wilson serves as the Co-Chair of the Camile Fisher Memorial Scholarship Fund that distributes annual scholarships to high school students.

Councilwoman Airey-Wilson currently serves as an Executive Member of the Capital Region Council of Government Joint Policy Board and the Hartford Consortium Policy Steering Committee. She serves on numerous committees and was elected as an American Leadership Forum Fellow and to WHO IS WHO IN AMERICAN WOMEN. She also received the National Coalition of Caribbean Affairs Distinguished Public Service Award in 1999. These and many other warranted accolades are the tribute to one who was provided a foundation, the necessary cornerstone, and chose to serve.





Sarah Agatha Wescott-Williams

S Maarten, located 175 miles southeast of Puerto Rico, shares 37 square miles with the French Territory of St. Martin and has the unique distinction of being the smallest landmass shared peacefully by two governments since 1648. This is the location where Commissioner Sarah Agatha Wescott, born Williams, is the political leader of the Democratic Party, which currently controls seven of the eleven seats of the Island Legislative Council. Currently the only female legislator on the island, she has enjoyed a long and distinguished career, spanning more than twenty five years.

Her experience in public service is complimented with an Associate degree in Business and Finance, and a Bachelor and a Master of Public Administration degree (Cum Laude) from La Salle University. She, in addition, completed management training with the prestigious Alexander Hamilton Institute. Admired for her style and eloquent delivery, Commissioner Wescott-Williams has found the unique posture that is inviting yet assertive, caring yet decisive, sometimes controversial yet always impeccably ethical.

Given the quality of her preparedness and the depth of her personality, one would not be surprised to know that she has served on numerous community organizations, commissions and supervisory boards concentrating in the areas of youth, sports, education, women's issues, labor and constitutional affairs. As she has been so engaged, she has assisted in the development of the island and dramatically revitalized the political process while demonstrating a profound symmetry by attending to the needs and rigors of family life.

As a senator in parliament, she championed workers' rights, primary and secondary education reform, tax reform and the pursuit of a new constitutional status for her island. In charge of the portfolios of Education, Finance, Legal Affairs and Constitutional Affairs, she has led the party to numerous victories, most recently on January 18, 2002, capturing two of the three parliamentary seats.

As Commissioner Wescott-Williams seeks to constitutionally move St. Maarten from the status of territory to the status of country within the Dutch Kingdom, the questions of government and its ability to meet the needs of its constituents rest heavily on her heart. Already having received the Person of the Year 2000 from two media houses on St. Maarten, Commissioner Wescott-Williams continues to seek the balance between independence and responsibility, political progress and personal purpose, and public service and private solace. She can. She must. She will.





Rev. Elma Phyllis Noel

Elma Noel was born in Saint Andrews, Grenada, West Indies. Her Aunt, Evelyn, who is credited with having guided her spiritual journey, raised her from childhood. After migrating to the United States, Elma Noel affiliated herself with the Ministry of Christ Church Inc., where she served as vice president and secretary for the Women's Missionary Association and in addition, supervised the Homeless Ministry. Her ministerial efforts notwithstanding, Elma has received a Certificate in Christian Ministry from the New York Theological Seminary. She is a graduate of The College of New Rochelle with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Social Science. She has received a certificate for Evangelism Through Worship from the Drew University School of Theology and was a participant in the Princeton University Lectures and Kuyper Conference in 1998.

The responsibilities, which she embraced at the Ministry of Christ Church, enhanced by her academic accomplishments, have prepared her well for the multiple obligations which she has committed herself to at QKingdom Ministries, Inc. As a teacher in M.A.C.A.D.E.M.Y. in Brooklyn, New York, she was charged with the academic development and care of children, ages three to six. She also assisted with the classroom curriculum implementation, served as liaison to parents, and coordinated fund-raising activities. Her confident management of these and other duties served to note her administrative adeptness and spiritual efficacy. She has since been appointed Senior Pastor of the Mystical Temple of the Rose and Flame of QKingdom Ministries, Inc.

In addition, Rev. Noel is a member of the Board of Directors of QKingdom Ministries, now shouldering oversight responsibilities for other QKingdom subsidiaries which include, the Student Exchange Program, The Homeless Ministry, The HIV/AIDS Ministry, Mount Horeb and Mount Bethel Spiritual Churches of Trinidad and Tobago and the Second Chance Ministries of Connecticut.

Rev. Elma Noel, an employee at Laurie Imaging Center, an affiliate organization of Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, who was integral in its accreditation certification secured from the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Hospital Organizations, prefers to serve and not be seen. She, however, has received the Marcus Garvey Nursing Home Certificate of Appreciation for her volunteer services. Aunt Evelyn is proud to know that her daughter/niece, Rev. Elma Noel is one who has chosen to rise above humble beginnings and human weakness to express, with authority, her Spirit mission; to serve with dignity and pride the least, the lost, the little, the unlucky, the left-out and any other of these, members of the Family of One.





Mervis Walsh

*M*ervis Sylvia Walsh, born in Palmetto Grove in the parish of St. Mary, is the youngest of four siblings; Delroy, Valerie and Jenneta. Although it would be a family member who would eventually be instrumental in advancing her career, the strength, character and industrious nature witnessed in her childhood continued to emerge and has carried her to places that not even she had anticipated. I would suggest that the good service she rendered to the elders, while a teenage member of the Palmetto Church of God and later at Clonmel Baptist Church; preparing meals, visiting the shut-in, and completing yard chores, has returned in multiple folds. Service was clearly her standard even as she migrated to Florida in 1979 and assisted the displaced, the homeless and the poor, while working with the Salvation Army.

After Mervis Walsh earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration she secured a position as a court reporter for the West Palm Beach court system. There she witnessed the dysfunction of, not only the individuals who passed through it, but also observed the maladies inherent within the court system itself. The circuitous nature of the court system beckoned her departure and she took advantage of her skills in business administration to secure a position as Manager of Operations for the Federal Reserve Bank where she served for ten years.

A series of events, that may best be described as Providential, ensued during her final year at the Federal Reserve Bank. Mervis Walsh volunteered her services once again and offered a ride to a friend to pick up her brother, Delroy, at a reggae concert. Delroy introduced Mervis to one of his long time friends who hails from Annotto Bay, also in St. Mary. This companion happened to be Beres Hammond, the internationally acclaimed reggae balladeer. After some conversation, Mervis was asked to be his manager. She researched his organization and the music industry for one year and in 1990 resigned from the bank to embrace the task of managing the career of Beres Hammond.

Assuming this responsibility engendered a myriad of challenges for Mervis; the most adverse of which was to successfully compete within the music industry as a female. Her strength, character, industriousness and integrity remains with her from childhood as she continues to expand the fan base for Mr. Hammond from Italy, to France, from Germany to England, the North American continent and of course the Caribbean region. How is it possible for a female to succeed in this sometimes curious industry? She was faithful to the elders and now the elders are faithful to her.

