About the Service

Our worship was led by Rabbi Amy Feder, Rabbi Michael Alper, and Rabbi Emeritus Mark L. Shook with music by the Praise Connection Choir of Greater Mount Carmel Missionary Baptist Church under the direction of Marvin Cockrell.

The Malachi Award for Interfaith Relations and Understanding

Temple Israel members Jack and Ellen Deutsch established and endowed the Malachi Award in 1986 in honor of the 100th anniversary of the founding of Temple Israel in 1886. The award “showcases persons, programs and acts of outstanding excellence in the pursuit of interfaith cooperation.” It has been presented just 11 times since its inception.

The recipient of the Malachi Award is selected by an independent panel of distinguished individuals representing all faiths. Temple Israel Rabbi Emeritus Mark L. Shook, the 2010 recipient of the Malachi Award, will present this year’s award to Rev. Nance.

The name of the Malachi Award recipient is inscribed on the beautiful Malachi Interfaith Award recognition piece, created by artist Ernest Trova, which is on permanent display in the foyer at Temple Israel. The award also includes a medal of honor and a $5,000 cash prize.

Previous Malachi Award Recipients

Women of Faith, O’Ray C. Graber; The Interfaith Partnership of Metropolitan St. Louis; Dr. David Oughton of Christian Brothers College High School; Professor Allen and Dottie Miller of Eden Seminary; Doorways Interfaith Residences for Persons with AIDS; Professor Harry James Cargas of Webster University; Father Vincent Heier, Ecumenical and Interfaith Officer of the St. Louis Archdiocese; Rabbi Robert P. Jacobs, Executive Vice President of the St. Louis Rabbinical Association; Cote Brilliant Presbyterian Church and Central Reform Congregation; Dr. Mohammed Waheed-Uz-Zaman Rana, and Rabbi Mark L. Shook.
About Our Honoree

Rev. Earl E. Nance, Jr. has served as Pastor of Greater Mount Carmel Missionary Baptist Church since 1994, succeeding his father, the late Rev. Earl E. Nance, Sr. He co-founded Faith Beyond Walls (now Interfaith Partnership/Faith Beyond Walls) together with Rabbi Mark L. Shook. He has led numerous organizations, including the St. Louis Metropolitan Clergy Coalition, Mathews-Dickey Boys’ and Girls’ Club, Project Clergy C.A.R.E.S., the St. Louis Board of Education, the Missouri Progressive Baptist Convention, the Progressive National Baptist Convention Midwest Region Congress of Christian Education, and the Jackie Joyner-Kersee Center.

He has worked tirelessly for the betterment of the St. Louis community through his service to United Way of Greater St. Louis, St. Louis Science Center, Monsanto YMCA, St. Louis Sports Commission, Urban League of St. Louis, Fair St. Louis, Friends of the Julia David Library, Heat Up/Cool Down St. Louis, NAACP, and countless other organizations.

Rev. Nance has served as the education liaison for the City of St. Louis under Mayor Francis Slay and was a member of Gov. John Ashcroft’s Bicentennial Celebration Commission. He was appointed by the late Gov. Mel Carnahan to serve on the School Performance Commission. Rev. Nance also has the distinction of being the first African American named to the 22nd Judicial Commission.

About our Guest Speaker

The Rev. Starsky D. Wilson is president and CEO of Deaconess Foundation and senior minister of Saint John’s United Church of Christ in St. Louis, a progressive congregation of “Beloved Disciples building Beloved Community.”

Rev. Wilson is a graduate of Xavier University of Louisiana and earned his Master of Divinity degree from Eden Theological Seminary. He was certified in non-profit management by American Humanics, Inc. In previous professional posts, he was the youngest Urban League chief executive in the nation, the youngest member in the history of United Way of America’s Major Gifts Council and institutional advancement director for The Black Rep, the largest professional African American theater company in the country.

His master’s thesis, “Building Beloved Community,” examines the potential in the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s theology for a multiracial, multicultural future in the American church. He is a guest lecturer in the area of African American Religious Traditions at Saint Louis University and was a teaching assistant in Congregational Leadership at Eden Seminary.
Rev. Wilson is a prominent leader in the St. Louis interfaith community. He currently serves as vice president of Interfaith Partnership/Faith Beyond Walls and president of the Congress of Christian Education for the St. Louis Progressive Baptist Direct. He is an advisory board member for the Plymouth Center for Progressive Christian Faith, the Washington University Institute of Clinical and Translational Sciences, the Program for the Elimination of Cancer Disparities at the Siteman Cancer Center, and Faith Communities United. He was previously board vice chair for Neighborhood Houses, treasurer for the St. Louis Metropolitan Clergy Coalition and a board member for the University City Children’s Center and The Black Rep.

Prior to Saint John’s, Rev. Wilson served as Youth Minister of Great Mount Carmel Missionary Baptist Church. A native of Dallas, TX, and member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., Rev. Wilson has been married to Dr. LaToya Smith Wilson, a dentist for St. Louis Children’s Hospital and member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. for nine years. They have three young sons.

Thank you to…

Marvin Cockrell and the Praise Connection Choir of Greater Mount Carmel Missionary Baptist Church for enriching our worship with their beautiful and moving music.

Temple Israel 125th Anniversary co-chairs Carol Cohen and Marcie Kalina for coordinating this special evening.

Michele Steinberg, and Ron Chatmon for providing the photography and videography for this evening.

Annette Fudemberg and Marni Deutsch, for organizing the bakers who contributed their delicious homemade desserts for our Oneg Shabbat reception.

Linda and Steve Wielansky and Independent Fruit and Produce Co. for donating the fruit for this evening’s Oneg Shabbat reception and the following congregants and friends who furnished home-baked goods:
Our ushers and doctor-on-call: Fran Axelbaum; Jonathan Bloom; Marc Braun; Max Breadman; Fred and Vera Cohen; Brent and Karen Comensky; Pamela Dern; Ed and Susie Fliesher; Bryson Hartranft; Susan, David, Robbie and Baylee Irgang; Andy and Judy Jacks; Larry Kiel; Harry and Karen Knopf; Nancy Kodner; Neil Marglous; Charlie, Sheri, Harry and Charlie O’Gorman; Michael, Diane, Amanda and Josh Packman; Ella Raber; Ron and Darcy Scharff; Jill Silverstein and Jon, Lizzie and Mo Mills; Art and Susan Stiefel; David Victor; Dr. David Weinstein

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As we celebrate 125 years as “A Voice for All Generations” we extend our heartfelt thanks to the following Sponsors for their very generous support. (Received as of Jan. 13, 2012)

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We also extend our sincere thanks to the following donors for “voicing their support” of our 125th anniversary year of celebration. (Received as of Jan. 13, 2012)

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