

PEOPLES TEMPLE

OF THE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

Jim Jones, Pastor

A BIOGRAPHICAL BACKGROUND ON BISHOP JIM JONES

"For I was an hungered and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty and ye gave me brink; I was a stranger and ye took me in; Nakee, and ye clothed me; I was sick and ye visited me; I was in prison, and ye came unto me. "Then shall the radsteous

"Then shall the righteous Answer him. saying,

When san' we thee an hungered And fed thee? Or thirsty. And gave thee drink? When san' we thee a stranger And took thee in? Or naked, and clothed thee Or when san' we thee sick? Or in prison.

"Verily I say unto you. Inasmuch as ye have done it Unto one of the least of these... ... Ye have done it unto me"

And came unto thee?

Matthew 25: 35-40

Bishop Jim Jones is the founder of Peoples Temple Christian Churches, a large human service ministry based in California, U.S.A. The Bishop is an officially ordained minister in a mainstream nationwide denomination, the Disciples of Christ. He has been pastor of his church for 25 years.

Bishop Jones uncompromising stands in defense of social justice and equalitarian ideals for all peoples has led to his serving with acclaim in many civic posts. He was the Executive Director of the Mayor's Commission on Human Rights in a large city of the midwestern United States. Through that position he integrated scores of businesses, at a time--many years ago--when it was dangerous to even try. It was in this period that Bishop Jones shared a pulpit with the late civil rights leader, Dr. Martin Luther King.

Since coming to California with his wife, Marceline, a Registered Nurse who inspects and evaluates hospitals, and his family of eight adopted children of all races (and one natural-born), Bishop Jones has become widely recognized as a courageous champion of the poor and the oppressed. Various prominent media have honored him as being a great humanitarian. A special merit award for civic leadership was presented to him by the President of the National Newspaper Publishers Association—the Black press of America.

The ministry built by Jim Jones is known by virtually all segments of the community for its work in fulfilling the scripture in which Jesus Christ admonishes people to "feed the hungry, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless, and minister to the sick and imprisoned, as well as the orphans and widows." Bishop Jones is responsible for developing programs and facilities that have rescued hundreds of people from extreme poverty, drug addiction, and other oppressive conditions. Recently, he was appointed by the mayor of San Francisco, California to serve as a commissioner on the city's Housing Authority.

(More)

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BISHOP JIM JONES (CONT.)

Bishop Jones graduated from Butler University of Indiana with honors in 1960. He has taught civics and social studies as a public school teacher. His lifestyle is modest and completely without frills. As a minister, he takes no anniversary gifts, appreciation days, or personal offerings of any kind. He steadfastly refuses to live above the people of disadvantaged backgrounds whom he serves. His entire life is centered on the struggle for human dignity, and equality for the working class— a principle Bishop Jones is prepared to defend with his very life.

SUMMARY OF SOME OF THE CONCERNS AND IDEALS JIM JONES STANDS FOR

Jim Jones was reared in circumstances of extreme poverty in the midwestern United States. He began to support himself and him family as a youngster. He became head orderly of a large hospital while still in high school. At Butler University he undertook extensive study in political science and the humanities with preparation in Biblical history and scriptural exegesis. Over the years he has combined the leadership of human service ministry with teaching public school and operating two very successful nursing homes.

From the beginning of his career Jim Jones has been exclusively interested in serving the cause of humanity, sacrificing personal advantage in favor of relieving human suffering. He has worked tirelessly towards the restoration of the basic Judeo-Christian ideals of brotherhood and equality through building an integrated ministry of dedicated people that reaches out to all areas of human need.

Rev. Jim Jones is the founder of Peoples Temple Christian Churches, a large human service ministry with several California branches. He is an officially ordained minister in the nationwide Disciples of Christ denomination of about 2 million members. He has been a pastor for approximately 25 years.

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Rev. Jones' lifestyle is modest and completely without frills. He steadfastly refuses to live above the people of disadvantaged backgrounds who compose a portion of his large congregation. His entire life is centered on the struggle for human dignity and equality for the economically disadvantaged---a principle Rev. Jones has demonstrated he is willing to defend with his very life.

Among the many wide-ranging programs and facilities inspired by Rev. Jones are senior citizens' homes, a 40 acre children's ranch, a large community center, free medical program, and legal assistance, a youth day care project, refuge shelters for sick and abandoned animals. He has also established an overseas agricultural mission project where food is being grown to help feed the world's hungry in order to alleviate human misery in some small way.

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Jim Jones has always been a fierce and uncompromising advocate of racial equality. He has an abiding respect for the democratic process as the vehicle for the elimination of racial barriers, but he believes that it is up to each of us as citizens to see that the process is motivated and activated in a continuous way so that social justice is achieved.

Under Pastor Jones' direction, Peoples Temple constantly attempts to combat injustice by standing in support of any person, regardless of race or creed, wherever basic rights are in question. He persists through such vehicles as the Peoples Forum, in which issues of moral and social significance are presented to the community for which he feels such a great sense of responsibility.

(For further information on early background Pastor Jones has been lauded in his home-town press in Richmond, Indiana)

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FACT SHEET REV. JAMES JONES

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Bachelor of Science Degree-Butler University
Major in Political Science and History-University of Indiana
Ordained minister in the Disciples of Christ Denomination
Post Graduate work at Sonoma State
Teaching Credential with experience teaching elementary,
secondary, and adult education.

Post graduate work at Christian Bible College

COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITY

Life member of the N.A.A.C.P. and the A.C.L.U.

Ronorary Member of Religioun in American Life

Official in the Disciples of Christ Denomination

Phi Eta Sigma-Honorary Scholarship Society

Former Forman of the Grand Jury in Northern California

Past President of Legal Services Foundation in Northern Calif.

Member of Tomorrow Environmental Organization

Commissioner of the San Francisco Housing Authority

Board of Directors for the N.A.A.C.P.

HONORARY AWARDS

Commendation by the California State Senate for his "diligent and devoted service to and concern for his fellowman, not only in the state and nation but throughout the world."

Commendation by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors for the tireless and invaluable contributions to all the people of E. Bay Area."

Received the Citizen of Merit Award in the San Francisco newspaper the <u>Sun Reporter</u>
Received the "Humanitarian of the Year award" in the Los Angeles Herald Dispatch.

Named one of the Nations Most Outstanding Clergymen by the Religion in American Life (a National Interfaith Organization)

FAMILY

Rev. Jones and his wife Marceline have 6 legally adopted children of all racial and ethnic backgrounds, and have also raised numerous foster children throughout the years. His multi-racial family is composed of his black son, James Jones Jr., his two Asian children, Lew and Suzanne, his "homemade" son, Stephan, his latest adopted son, Timothy, and his grown native American daughter.

His wife, Marceline Jones, is a Registered Nurse who inspects and evaluates hospitals, with a concern for the welfare of the elderly sick which is equalled only by that of her husband.

Chairman & Housing Commission

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BIOGRAPHY

Name: Reverend James Jones

Social Security No. 303-32-5942

Present Occupation: Minister, People's Temple Christian Church, Disciples of Christ Denomination

Business Address: 1859 Geary Blvd. Businss Telephone: 922-6418 San Francisco, California

Residence Address: 1859 Geary Blvd , Residence Telephone: 922-3735 San Francisco, California

Have you been a legal resident of San Francisco for at least the past five years, and an elector in San Francisco for the past twelve months?

I have been ear resident of San Francisco for the last year and one half. I am registered and vote as and emocrat.

Previous Business Experience: Director of the Mayor's Commission on Human Rights under Mayor Charles Boswell in Indianapolis, Indiana Owner of Peoples and Anthony Hall Nursing Homes

Past Foreman of the Mendocino County Grand Jury

Date of Birth: May 13, 1931

Place of Birth: Crete, Indiana

Are you a citizen of the United States of America? Yes

Education: Bachelor of Science Degree, major, Political Science and History, Butler University 1958-1960 and Indiana University 1949-1951. Secondary teaching credential. Post graduate work at Sonoma State College.

Membership in Clubs and Organizations:
A.C.L.U.; N.A.A.C.P.; Honorary Member of Religion in American Life,
Official in the Disciples of Christ Denomination, Phi Eta Sigma,
Indiana University Honorary Society; Past President of the Legal
Services Foundation of Mendocino County; San Francisco Commonwealth
Club; San Francisco, Tomorrow Environmental Organization.

Military Service: None, Ministerial Deferment

Marital Status: Married

Family: Jim W. Jones, Jr., legally adopted black son born October 1, 1960, Stephan G. Jones, born June 1, 1959, Lew Eric Jones, adopted Korean-American born, Suzanne Jones, adopted Korean-American daughter, and Timothy Jones, adopted son, as well as a number of foster children who have been reared by Mr. and Mrs. Jones.

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His wife, Marceline Jones, is a Registered Nurse who inspects and evaluates hospitals, with a concern for the welfare of the elderly sick which is equalled only by that of her husband.

The enclosed summary of some of the events of Rev. Jones' life was added by one of the Jewish participants in our human service ministry who felt any synopsis of Jim's achievements would not accurately inform you of his past contributions without the additional background information. I concurred with his suggestion and have included this material for your perusal.

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(For further information on early background, Pastor Jones has been lauded in his home-town press in Richmond, Indiana.)

GOVERNMENT RECEPTION HONORS

The Deputy Prime Minister and all the cabinet ...
members of Guyana, a progressive South American
nation, gave a banquet and reception in honor of
Rev. Jim Jones and the work he has done for the Rev. Jim Jones and the work he has done for the people in the area of Port Kaituma, (near the Venezuelan border). The reception followed a private conference between Rev. Jones and the Prime Minister at the latter's residence. Both the Prime Minister and his Deputy said to Rev. Jones their government desired to keep the door open to absolute co-operation with the United States. The properties of Caribbean countries during his private meeting with U.S. government leaders. They also stated that they are also interested in seeing the U.S. pursue a non-interventionist policy.

Rev. Jones was told by his South American hosts that the agricultural work of Peoples Temple in their country had done much to increase the co-operative republic's hopes and faith in America.

In the past, Rev. Jones declined official protocol and the invitation to be the government's guest at either receptions or the lovely residence for special within the protocol and the invitation to be the government's guest at either receptions or the lovely residence for special within the protocol and t visitors. He chose not to accept the official hospitality because he feels a developing nation should not be burdened with such unnecessary expense when it is trying to find its way in a manner best suited to meeting the material needs of its people. The invitation was accepted this time, however, because Rev. Jones was accompanied by members of the Temple's agricultural mission who, he felt, deserved the credit and recognition for their accomplishments. At a dinner reception, those present thanked Rev. Jones and the Temple members who are permanently stationed in the church's agricultural mission for all the project was doing to support the nation's goal to "Feed, Clothe, and House" its people. visitors. He chose not to accept the official hospital:

preff to hold PERSONAL INFORMATION....on Jim Jones Jim was born in May, 1931, in the small town of Crete, Indiana. In the town of Lynn, he went to grammar school, graduated from high school in the town of Richmond...all nearby towns. Began college in Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana...later graduated from Butler University (which at that time was associated with the Disciples of Christ). He was an honor student the 1st 2 years of college, Phi Eta Sigma (A Average) even while working 60-70 hours a week The only incident of revelation ever to come to his mother was in connection with his birth. She told of a revelation about the

child that was to be born to her, a year or so prior to his conception. She described how he would look and many things about him. She said his hair would be black and his eyes would be brown, although both of his parents had blue eyes and genetically this is a contradiction. to heredity factors.

In his early childhood, his mother realized he had a gift. People and animals got better at his touch and in his presence. He would "know" things he had no way of knowing.

Once when he was five, she had occasion to hide some of his money from him, and when he came home he called out for her to "come down out of the attic and bring the money with her..."

His love for animals and the afflicted and lonely prevailed early in his childhood. Animals followed him around as much as a block long. He had a ground hog for a pet, and a racoon, and there was a crow that used to ride about on his shoulder wherever he would go.

He was very conscious of poverty and the downtrodden people around him. He was born near the railroad tracks, and he used to bring home tramps for his mother to feed. One time she got tired of the hobos, and decided to hide from him, feeling that if she was not there to cook, he would not bring the men around... But when he came in the house, he called out for her to come on downstairs... he knew she was under the bed. His friend was hungry.

His friends were the most wretched people in town, those who were shunned by the rest of the populace. One old man, Salina Hutchinson, had sores all over his back and body. Jim would bring him home for dinner at times, and at other times would take the old man soup. There were some of the older people in the neighborhood to whom he consistently took flowers to cheer them up. He always took food to and cheered the older and lonely people in the town.

He began picking tomatoes at age nine, and later at age 15 began work in a hospital, he kept getting added responsibilities until he was placed in charge of all orderlies.

It was in this hospital that he met his wife, Marceline. At 18 they married and have stayed married and devoted to the same principles for 23 years now. They were very poor at this point of their life,

and they recall buying maybe a candy bar a week and splitting it, or a coke.

It was just prior to this time that he had split from his own family and was taken in by a black grandmother who loved him and Cared for him as her own. She was a fundamentalist and taught him to really appreciate the qualities of black people. It was even a quarrel with his father over Jim's black friend that caused the rift in his natural home. As he saw the problems of his black family, he developed a strong concern for racial justice.

Marcy and Jim worked together in the nursing home. His jobs have always oriented around people in need.

When he graduated he went into his ministry -- always maintaining himself with a job on the side, both he and Marcy working. As his ministry progressed, he was offered jobs all over the world in various churches, but he decided to stay with the common folk and be become a more active example of what he felt Christ had come to earth to

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Across the years, they have taken in many children.

As Jim's ministry in Indianapolis progressed, he was appointed as Director of the Mayor's Commission on Human Rights and was an official for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored people. Many Boswell still has good words for him and with the best from the formal of the best from the first formal of the best from the first fr

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While on the Mayors Commission for to the hospital for The doctor When taken into the hospital Though the doctor The doctors gave him little hope. When taken into the hospital, he found that it was not integrated. Though the doctors had all but given up hope, and told Marcy to prepare for the worst - even though he was going into surgery . Jim refused to let the doctors touch him in that hospital until it was integrated.

When the hospital realized his position on the Mayor's commission, they acquiesced. They moved beds everywhere and integrated the hospital on the spot. He was in his room waiting to go into surgery when he made a decision. He decided he could not go out of life at this point -- he would not go. He must stay here and help conditions. And so he decided that the God within him must and would heal him. He felt a warmth all over his body, and knew that he was healed. rights of the downtrodden of society.

He established a free food kitchen in his Indianapolis church. He never required people to go to the services. He felt it was important to do as Christ had declared...and he fed the hungry wherever he found them. The people liked cabbage and they cooked a lot of it, even while service was going on. One woman in the congregation offered him \$10,000 if Med would stop cooking cabbage during the service as it spoiled her worship by the smell — has said no. The felt that feeding hungry people was more important than the money or had enjoyment of the services, and he refused.

His children were each precious to him. Agnes at age 10 or 11 couldn't talk. She was retarded, they were told, and she would never pass 4th grade mental level... She is now a mature woman, a high school graduate, married with her own family and she operates one of the church care homes.

It took an act of congress to adopt one of the children, because of the number of children he had taken from abroad.

Suzanne, their Korean child now at Univ. of Calif, if not adopted by them would have been turned out of the orphanage the following year, leaving her only chance at support to be a life of prostitution.

Jim does the tasks he will not ask others to do. When he becameinvolved locally, in Ukiah, in the Legal Services Foundation/Tim Stoen asked if some of the temple people could clean the upstairs of a building that would be used for the foundation office (it is still being used); they came in and cleaned. Though the toilets had been used for years without much flushing, Jim personally took the job of cleaning the toilets and sinks. (This was through the Office of Economic Opportunity for poor families.

The family vacations began when someone offered to let Jim bring his personal family to their place in Oregon, he refused unless the whole church could come along with them. He stood in church and said it was not fair for his children to have a vacation and the children of the congregation to not have one -- so he paid the way of sould go out of his own pockets of was arranged the children challenge.

One of our attorneys, Eugene Chaikin, had been told by his doctors that he had Cancer. Gene was called out by Jim and healed. His doctors later pronounced the Cancer -- gone!

1959 was the last death that occurred in the "inner" family in and around Jim. Since that time, he has restored any that have passed into that realm where vital signs were gone and where the nurses could not detect life. Some may have been in a very deep faint, but most unquestionably, in many cases the furses present checked them specifically before Jim could reach them and the vital signs were gone.

Now, as when he began his ministry, Jim's real mission is to people. He spends most of his time ministering to his flock, and to the needy of the community that come to the congregation for help. Peace is best served by love, and this is the ministry he practices.

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PERSONAL INFORMATION....on Jim Jones

Jim was born in May, 1931, in the small town of Crete, Indiana. In the town of Lynn, he went to grammar school, graduated from high school in the town of Richmond...all nearby towns. Began college in Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana...later graduated from Butler University (which at that time was associated with the Disciples of Christ). He was an honor student the 1st 2 years of college, Phi Eta Sigma (A Average) even while working 60-70 hours a week

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Marcy and Jim worked together in the nursing home. His jobs have always oriented around people in need.

When he graduated he went into his ministry -- always maintaining himself with a job on the side, both he and Marcy working. As his ministry progressed, he was offered jobs all over the world in various churches, but he decided to stay with the common fold and be become a more active example of what he felt Christ had come to earth to portray.

It was a while before they had a natural child; Jim and Marcy had always shared the idea of adoption of little children. It seemed more kindly to take children from the ghettos and from the orphans homes and love them, rather than bring in so many more...So while they had their own son naturally, they also adopted children of many races.

Bach child "happened" to them. There was really no planning for the type of a family that developed. For instance, when they went to the orphanage to look for a child and heard their little "jim" crying, and the people at the orphanage refused to let them see the child — telling them that that child was not for them...Jim insisted on seeing the child, and though he had to go all over the state to get a Judge to sign the papers, he finally succeeded in the adoption of his black child.

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Jewish, catholic and black of the community overwhelmingly asked that Jim be appointed to the Mayor's commission on Human Rights.

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He established a free food kitchen in his Indianapolis church. He never required people to go to the services. He felt it was important to do as Christ had declared...and he fed the hungry wherever he found them. The people liked cabbage and they cooked a lot of it, even while service was going on. One woman in the congregation offered him \$10,000 if he would stop cooking cabbage during the service as it spoiled her worship by the smell -- he said no. He felt that feeding hungry people was more important than the money or her enjoyment of the services, and he refused.

His children were each precious to him. Agnes at age 10 or 11 couldn't talk. She was retarded, they were told, and she would never pass 4th grade mental level... She is now a mature woman, a high school graduate, married with her own family and she operates one of the church care homes.

It took an act of congress to adopt one of the children, because of the number of children he had taken from abroad.

Suzanne, their Korean child now at Univ. of Calif, if not adopted by them would have been turned out of the orphanage the following year, leaving her only chance at support to be a life of prostitution.

Jim does the tasks he will not ask others to do. When he became involved locally, in Ukiah, in the Legal Services Foundation, Tim Stoen asked if some of the temple people could clean the upstairs of a building that would be used for the foundation office (it is still being used); they came in and cleaned. Though the toilets had been used for years without much flushing, Jim personally took the job of cleaning the toilets and sinks. This was through the Office of it Economic Opportunity for poor families.

The family vacations began when someone offered to let Jim bring his personal family to their place in Oregon, he refused unless the whole church could come along with them. He stood in church and said it was not fair for his children to have a vacation and the children of the congregation to not have one --so he paid the way of all children who could go -- out of his own pocket.

NV-7

One of our attorneys, Eugene Chaikin, had been told by his doctors that he had Cancer. Gene was called out by Jim and healed. His doctors later pronounced the Cancer -- gone!

1959 was the last death that occurred in the "inner" family in and around Jim. Since that time, he has restored any that have passed into that realm where vital signs were gone and where the nurses could not detect life. Some may have been in a very deep faint, but most unquestionably, in many cases the rurses present checked them specifically before Jim could reach them and the vital signs were gone.

Now, as when he began his ministry, Jim's real mission is to people. He spends most of his time ministering to his flock, and to the needy of the community that come to the congregation for help. Peace is best served by love, and this is the ministry he practices.

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you thay have said and all sungery - I havestly did not take it down their - I nached the orig for revision from these notes,

Inglana always fed and visited the older and lonely people in the town Had a pet ground hog a lina pet racoon A crowled to fide about on his shoulder began picking tomatores-age 9 worked in hosp age 12--became chief attendant Honor student let 2 yrs of college, Phi Eta Sigma (A average) while working 60-70 hrs a week graduated from Butler Univ (formerly assoc w Disc of Christ) Fist to Indiana Univ, Bloomington Director of Mayors commission on human/rights--was officl for Natl Assn Adv Colored People...Mr. Boswell still has good words for him. Jewish, catho and black overwhelmingly asked that Jim be apptd to mayors commission of Human rights He got 300 businesses integrated Met w Ku Klux Klansmen...got them #o meet their black neighbors, had people bake cookies and get together -- prior to this were bombing the black people, etc. 1961 editor of INDIANA TIMES when it closed, parting editorial when Jim left Mayors commission. L. very favorable (editor later went to New York...w Scripps Howard) born in Crede Indiana...
Went to Lynn in grammar school grad Richmond Sr Hi Mother told everyone a couple of years before his birth that she had a revelation about a child to be born to her--only suchincident as she was not given to psychic phenomena or experience--described him, that he would be black have and expension eyes, tho both of his parents were blue eyed ... Adoption of children documentary being done by univ of Calif to show utopian community Chaikin cure Cancer Raising of dead WHEN WAS FIRST raising of dead...47 this year...some may have been in very deep faint, but most unquestionably showed no vital signs and the nurskes cd not detect life---how li the black woman was...

Born in kown of Aynn Animals followed him around as much as a block long lived next to rr tracks --used to bring home tramps for food and dinner. one time nother got tired and didnt want to feed anymore hobbs --im came in, called out for her to cm on down he knew she was under the bed Would go to the most wretched people #-with sored and who were generally shunned and became their friend Salina Hutchinson, an old man all shippned: sores on back, would bring him soup and befriend...brought him home Old folks, would take flowers to them Always had a feeling for people-Went to college and worked 40 hours a week Met Marcy 18 marr 23 yrs one think that changed him, when he lived with black grandmother (fundamentalist) -- she made him apprec plack people He traces his concern for racial justice to her Marcy and he worked in nursing home together A Jobs always oriented around people in need Started to work hospital age graduated in charge of all o rderlies Marcy there as nurse-they were very poor--would split 1 candybar (a week or a coke B Was sping to be a minister As ministry mprogressed, had offers all over world of ministries choze to set example and stay w common folk **a**xxxx He and Marcy had always shared the idea of adoption -- suffer little children come unto me When adopted Jim Jr they heard a child crying--he hadn't planned--had to bo all over state to get a judge that would si Child killed in car wreck Chi wanted them to adopt her sister -- in orphanage -- miraculously C they we e able to

Agnes at age 10 couldn't talk--retarded they were told she would never pass 4th grade mental level...how mature woman, grad h. s., has husb in electron bus runs board and care home... part amer Indian Their home has always been open to those in trouble or need.. C a haven for many who came and went Lou took a spec act of congress because of that many children $\mathcal C$ adopted in one family from abroad Suzanne (korean) now at Univ Calif, happily married, if not C adopted would have been turned out kkeof orphanage next year With only prostitution life facing her His mother realized as a sm child he had a gift Once she hid his money -- age 5 -- when he came home he called out for her to come down out of the attick and bring his While on mayors comm for civil r
subseteq --ktaken to kkhosp for Cancer--Drs gave little hope...When taken into hosp, he refused to be touched until it was integrated/ When hosp realized his position on Mayors commission, they acquiesed...moved beds everywhere and integrated hospital.. He decided he could not go---would not go---must stay here and help conditions...Felt warmth and knew he was healed...had drs put tubes down in stomach and where before no hydrocl acid, was some... Established free food kitchen --never required people to go to serv...Cooked a lot of cabbage even while service going on...one woman offered \$10,000 if he would stop cooking cabbage during service as it spoimed her worshp---he felt feeding the poor was more important and refused. Went to brazil established orphanage fed the starving bables who be dying in streets, until dictatorship made is imperative they leave. His first tour began at a S F meeting--he stood and said if any child there wanted to go, he would take them and give them a chance to be out of the ghettos...he paid their way out of own pocket How vacations began--/someone offered him and family a trip, but he said not unless he could bring entire family...He stood in ch and said not fair for his children to have vacation and theirs not.. so he would take whole family or none... When involved with legal services foundation---toilets had been used for years without much flushing...he personally took the job of cleaning the toiless...and sinks..

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