Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/FITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION	
001. application	Application for Suzan Johnson Cook (partial) (1 page)	n.d.	P6/b(6)	
002. application	For Suzan D. Johnson Cook (10 pages)	n.d.	P6/b(6)	
003. memo	To President Clinton from Susan D. Johnson Cook (partial) (1 page)	n.d.	P6/b(6)	
004. record	Student record from Fisk University for Suzan Johnson (1 page)	n.d.	P6/b(6)	
005. record	Student record from Teachers College for Suzan Johnson (1 page)	n.d.	P6/b(6)	
006. record	Student record from Union Theological Seminary for Suzan Johnson (1 page)	n.d.	P6/b(6)	
007. record	Student record from Emerson College for Suzan Johnson (2 pages)	n.d.	P6/b(6)	
008. record	Student record from Howard University for Suzan Johnson (2 pages)	n.d.	P6/b(6)	

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records **Domestic Policy Council**

Carol Rasco (Meetings, Trips, Events)

OA/Box Number: 4592

FOLDER TITLE:

Suzan Johnson Cook 6-21-93 10:00 a.m.

RESTRICTION CODES

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rw144

PRESIDENT'S \simeq COMMISSION ON WHITE HOUSE FELLOWSHIPS

THE WHITE HOUSE

June 2, 1993

The Honorable Carol H. Rasco Assistant to the President Office of Domestic Policy The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20500

Dear Ms. Rascof (anol)

I appreciate your willingness to consider having a White House Fellow join your staff next Fall. After examining the records of all seventeen members of next year's class of Fellows, I have enclosed information on the two whom I believe would best meet your needs.

Ms. Johnson-Cook and Ms. McCown will be in Washington from June 21 to 25. My Special Assistant, William Wechsler, will contact you shortly to set up convenient times for you to interview them during this week. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

Brooke Shearer

Director

Will Wechxler x4522

SUMMARY C. DIDATE DATA PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION ON WHITE HOUSE FELLOWSHIPS

CANDIDATE	EDUCATION	OCCUPATION	PROFESSIONAL	AWARDS/INTERESTS
JOHNSON COOK,	United Theological	Mariners' Temple	Administrative Fellow	Led grassroots
Suzan	Seminary, Dayton, OH:	Baptist Church, New	Harvard University	population in purchasing
	'90 D.Min.	York, NY	Divinity School	2 church properties
CURRENT	'83, M.Div., Union	Multi-Ethnic Center	Urban Consultation	Obtained \$58,000 grant
POSITION	Theological Seminary,	(MEC), New York, NY	Ruschlikon Zurich,	from Trinity Church,
Senior/Pastor/	New York, NY	NYC Police Department	Sweden	Wall Street
Executive Director	'78, M.A. Columbia	Chaplain	Adjunct Professor,	Benjamin E. Mays
	University, New York,	•	Harvard University,	Fellow
Date of Birth:	NY		Homiletics	Cecelia Cabiness
01/28/57	'76, BS (Honors),		General Board,	Award, YWCA
.,,	Emerson College,		American Baptist	NY Woman of
Place of Birth:	Boston, MA		Churches USA	Conscience Award,
New York,	200,0,		0	United Nations, NY
New York				Keynote Speaker,
	•			American Baptist
	•			Churches Biennial

SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO PROFESSIONAL FIELD:

Two important contributions are: I recently published 2 books to encourage the support and inclusion of women in the ordained ministry. I recently represented urban churches at a consultation of world leaders in Sweden.

LIFETIME GOAL:

My life's ambitions are comprehensive. My professional goals include strengthening ties, and to encourage partnership between the church, public and private sectors. I also hope to lead a national nonprofit organization which will provide resources for the inner-city. It is my desire, long-term to also serve as president for a Historically Black College.

VOLUNTARY COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

New York Coalition of 100 Black Women; Hamilton-Madison Settlement House; 5th Precinct Community Council; Mayor's Steering Committee of the African-American Burial Ground, New York, City; Partnership of Faith in New York City.

LEISURE:

I am a sports enthusiast and enjoy playing basketball and tennis. I enjoy international travel. I attempt to provide balance with recreation, family and work.

POLICY PROPOSAL:

Possible Family Reunification through Employment Act.

REGIONAL ESSAY:

Health Care Reform in the United States.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH: THE REV. DR. SUZAN D. JOHNSON COOK

Suzan D. Johnson Cook, a native New Yorker, is the senior pastor of Mariners' Temple Baptist Church, the oldest Baptist Church in New York City. In 1983, at age 26, she became the first African-American woman ever to be elected senior pastor of an American Baptist congregation in its 200-year history. She is the executive director of the Multi-Ethnic Center NY, and the first female NYC Police Department Chaplain, appointed in 1990 by former Commissioner Lee P. Brown and Mayor David N. Dinkins.

Under her leadership the church was revitalized, growing from an active membership of 60 to more than 1,000 persons in two different congregations. Serving a predominantly African-American congregation, she has been instrumental in building interracial/ethnic cooperation. Bilingual in Spanish and English, several bicultural worship experiences have occurred. Amongst the innovative and progressive programs created under her administration are: Lunch Hour of Power, a weekly worship service for more than 500 business persons; a media broadcast; a children's ministry, which includes the Multi-Ethnic Learning Center, an after-school program stressing excellence in education; a multi-staff ministry and outreach to the NYC Police Department personnel.

An extensive traveler, she has lived in West Africa and Spain; has spoken in national and international settings which include: Havana, Cuba; American Baptist Churches, USA, 1989 Biennial; and the Urban Consultation, Ruschlikon, Switzerland in 1991. She also served as official interpreter for a musical delegation to Cuba.

A graduate of Boston's Emerson College, receiving her B.S. Degree at age 19, she received her M.A. from Teachers College, Columbia Univ., 1978, and M.Div. from Union Theological Seminary, NYC, 1983. She completed her doctoral studies at the United Theological Seminary, Dayton, OH, where she was a Sam Proctor Fellow, receiving her D.Min., May, 1990. In October, 1989 she began a sabbatic leave to serve as a President's Administrative Fellow, Harvard Univ., The Divinity School, Cambridge, MA. She now serves there as a visiting professor in urban studies and homiletics.

A prolific writer, she has several published works. Her book, Wise Women Bearing Gifts: Joys and Struggles of their Faith, released by Judson Press in 1988, is in its third printing. In 1992 her second book, Preaching in Two Voices, was also released by Judson Press. Active in community affairs, she serves on the board of the Hamilton-Madison Settlement Houses; is an officer of the New York Coalition of 100 Black Women; is advisor to local corporate leaders and elected officials; was elected to the National Board of the American Baptist Churches of the USA; and was appointed to the Steering Committee, African American Burial Ground, New York, NY.

Suzan is married to Mr. Ronald Cook. They have one son, Samuel David.

A Charles

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Domestic Policy Council

Carol Rasco (Meetings, Trips, Events)

OA/Box Number: 4592

FOLDER TITLE:

Suzan Johnson Cook 6-21-93 10:00 a.m.

rw144

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White House Fellowship Application

1. Name (Last, first, middle)	7. Employer and address
Johnson Cook, Suzan Denise 2. Preferred title Mrs. Miss Ms.	Mariners' Temple Baptist Church 3 Henry Street New York, N.Y. 10038
☐ Mr. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Miss ☐ Ms. ☐ Other Rev. Dr	
3. Other names used (e.g., maiden)	Your business address and position (and military rank, when applicable)
Sujay Johnson	Same as above, Senior Pastor/C.E.O.
4. Home address (Include ZIP Code) P6/b(6)	Mariners' Temple Baptist Church
4a. Permanent address if not same as above	9. Your job affiliation:
	🖺 Academe 🗆 Business 🗀 Military
	☐ State and Local Government ☐ Law
·	☐ Health Care ☐ Other Profession
ander gereg von der de la verscheinen der der verschaften der verschaften der verschaften. Der verschaften der verschaften der verschaften der verschaften der verschaften der verschaften der verschafte	
5. Phone (Include area codes) Home: P6/b(6) Office: (Z1Z)Z33-U61Z	10. Birthplace (City and state, or foreign country) P6/b(6)
6. Are you a citizen of the United States of America?	11. Birth date (Month, day, year)
✓ Yes □ No	P6/b(6) 12. Social Security Number
 Have you ever worked for or are you now working for the Fo (Include Active Duty Military Service.) If so, please explain a 	
No	
Have you ever been discharged from the Armed forces under	er other than honorable conditions?
] Yes
If your answer is yes, give details on a separate sheet of pa	per.
14. Have you ever been discharged from any job, or have y discharge you?	you quit after being informed that your employer intended to
	Yes 🖾 No .
If yes, give details on separate sheet.	
patterns. Therefore, on a separate sheet of paper, please	on to see "at a glance" the development of education and career provide a chronological listing of all positions you have held, sition and include all post-secondary school education. Account

(Please see attached)

Educational Background

16.	Please provide the following in	formation about your	education,	high school and beyone	d:
	Name and location of schools	Dates at From	tended To	Degree or diploma and field	Class rank (top 10% 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th quarter)
		(Ple	ease see	attached)	
	,				
17.		of the school, colleg	e or univer	sity; any offices held; th	in which you participated. For eac e length of your membership and th
		(Ple	ase see	attached)	
	•			,	·
					,
	TO THE STATE OF TH	Work	Exp	erience	- <u> </u>
	give the information requested	mination that is requi for each such test or	ired in orde examination	er to qualify for the prac on, and for each time yo	ctice of any occupation or profession took the examination, if more that
	N/A name of test or examination (NOT initials)	Administering agency		ate or diction Year	Passed
			_		
	disciplined by any agency beca	use of your conduct?	·		r been barred from such practice o
	If your answer is yes, state on name and address of the agend				r such debarment or disciplining, th

Suzan D. Johnson Cook White House Fellowship Application Question No. 15 / Page One

CHRONOLOGICAL LISTING OF EDUCATIONAL AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT

3.

Spring, 1990 - Present Visiting Professor Urban Studies Harvard University, The Divinity School Cambridge, MA

October, 1990 - Present Chaplain NYC Police Department New York, NY

October, 1983 - Present Mariners' Temple Baptist Church
Senior Pastor New York, NY
(First African-American woman to lead an American Baptist Church)

September, 1986 - Present Executive Director and Founder Multi-Ethnic Center, Inc. New York, NY

September, 1989 - August, 1990 President's Administrative Fellow Harvard University
The Divinity School
Cambridge, MA

January, 1988 - May, 1990 Doctor of Ministry Student

United Theological Seminary Dayton, OH Degree received May, 1990

September, 1989 - May, 1989 Adjunct Professor New York Theological Seminary New York, NY

September, 1982 - October, 1983 Media Minister

American Baptist Churches of Metropolitan New York New York, NY

September, 1981 - May, 1983 Master of Divinity Student Union Theological Seminary New York, NY Degree received May, 1983

May, 1981 - May, 1982 Public Relations Officer Bronx-Lebanon Hospital Center Bronx, NY

August, 1980 - March, 1981 Public Affairs Producer WPLG - TV Miami, Florida Suzan D. Johnson Cook White House Fellowship Application Question No. 15 Ed.-Career Development / Page Two

Summer, 1980 Free-Lance Writer/Researcher West Africa

October, 1979 - June, 1980 Associate Producer WBZ - TV Boston, MA

Fall, 1978 Student Howard University Washington, DC

June, 1978 - October, 1979 Floor Director/Producer WJLA - TV Washington, DC

September, 1976 - January, 1978 Master of Arts Student Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, NY Degree received January, 1978

Summers, 1975 and 1977 Trainee/Representative

New York Telephone Company New York, NY

September, 1974 - May, 1976 Undergraduate Student Emerson College Boston, MA

Summer, 1976 Student Operation Crossroads Africa Ghana, West Africa

Summer 1973 and 1974 Receptionist/Trainee

Johnson Security Bureau, Inc. Bronx, NY

Summer, 1972 and 1973 Counselor-in-Training

New York Day Camp Bronx, NY

September, 1973 Undergraduate Student Fisk University Nashville, TN

Summer, 1971 Exchange Student University of Valencia Valencia, Spain Suzan D. Johnson Cook White House Fellowship Application Question No. 16

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Name and Location of Schools:	Dates Attended From - To:	Degree or Diploma and Field:	Class Rank:
Riverdale Country School Bronx, NY	1969 - 1974	High School	Top Third
Fisk University Nashville, TN	1973 - 1974	Transferred	Top 10%
Emerson College Boston, MA	1974 - 1976	BS in Speech cum laude; Speech and Mass Commu	Top 10% unications
Teachers College, Columbia Universi New York, NY		Master of Arts Educational Media	Top Third
Howard University	Fall, 1978	Coursework: Religion and Communic	•
Union Theological Seminary, New York, NY	1981 - 1983	Master of Divinity	N/A
United Theological Seminary Dayton, OH	1988 - 1990	Doctor of Ministry	Top 10%

Suzan D. Johnson Cook White House Fellowship Application Question No. 17

MAJOR EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Union Theological Seminary:

For two years, I worked with the Black Women's Caucus as a member. Through involvement in this organization, Black women, who were mentors and role models, were invited to share their experiences. (Worked while attending seminary.)

Columbia University:

For one year, I taught neighborhood youth in the areas of creative drama techniques and video production; I also performed for six months with a musical theatre company which taught literary skills via the arts.

Emerson College:

For one year, I served as the co-chair of the Black students' organization, E.B.O.N.I.; for two years I directed the Wuhabi Theatre Company which toured the New England states; in 1976, I wrote and arranged a musical score for a production which the company performed; in 1975, I was elected to the Financial Advisory Board and to the Student Council. In my senior year, I served as a Resident Assistant for freshmen women in the dormitory; was also a recipient of the "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges," and the Gold Key Honor Society; received the award for the best musician; played Varsity Basketball each year.

Fisk University:

Varsity Basketball and Tennis Teams; served as Student Manager for Men's Varsity Championship Basketball Team; Beta Kappa Chi Honor Society; organized Freshman Choir; Honors Spanish Club.

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Suzan D. Johnson Cook White House Fellowship Application Question No. 25 Memorandum / Page One

MEMORANDUM

TO: PRESIDENT-ELECT BILL CLINTON

FROM: SUZAN D. JOHNSON COOK, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE DOMESTIC

POLICY OFFICE

RE: FAMILY REUNIFICATION THROUGH EMPLOYMENT ACT

There is a need to "re-package" and focus existing support aimed at the nation's working poor, to encourage family reunification through the provision of employment skill development and employment.

The working poor, a large percentage of whom live in the inner-cities, and whose income is below the national average, have been disproportionately affected by the current economic conditions, which has resulted in the loss of more than 300,000 jobs in the unskilled and blue collar categories. As a result, this group has often struggled with not only job loss, but also the threat of homelessness. To ensure that the family "survives," husbands have often abandoned their wives and children so that welfare and medical benefits are available. This has been heightened in recent months by many fathers and husbands taking their lives because of the degradation which happens to the family.

The current legislation in effect often penalizes two-parent families, with a high frequency of the family breaking up, becoming dysfunctional, truancy, and the dropping out of school of their children, as well as the increase in crime, health problems, and lack of motivation.

Suzan D. Johnson Cook White House Fellowship Application Question No. 25 Memorandum / Page Two

It is my recommendation that domestic policy initiatives have as their underlying goal the unification of families through the provision of employment and employment skill development. As President, you can incorporate the theme of the importance of the family to provide leadership and direction in this area.

The Reunification through Employment Act would include: Affordable housing, participation in job development, employment, daycare, medical services, tutorial/homework help assistance and skills testing. All services would be directed to support the family unit versus the providing service to individuals within the family. The WIC Program is an example of how these services can be re-focused.

The disadvantage of this program revolves around the possible elimination of the traditional programs aimed at this group and, therefore, public perception that the Administration is "cutting back" on services and commitment to the poor. At the same time, there is likely to be a commensurate reduction in administrative jobs as emphasis shifts to the direct provider/counselor. Costs are likely to be \$20,000 per family unit.

The advantage of this program are: The redefinition of service to the working poor and unemployed; the increase in productivity, and thereby the decrease in crimes for this segment; an increase in the attendance and performance of school children whose lives will reflect their stability; and a better attitude towards the Administration by many who had postured themselves hostilely. Most importantly, families will be strengthened.

I would strongly urge you to convene the Domestic Policy Cabinet Council, presenting them with the goals of the program: To reunify families through employment. Ask your appointed Secretaries to identify the program in their agencies which may be replaced, strengthened, or duplicated by this act. Ask them to report their findings in four months, and utilize their report findings to make a major announcement regarding domestic policies which aim at the preservation and support of working-poor families.

Suzan D. Johnson Cook White House Fellowship Application Question No. 26

Raised in New York's inner-city, I gained an acute awareness of the social and cultural deprivation surrounding me. My parents migrated from the rural South, working daily, sharing their resources with the immediate/extended family. I, representing their hopes and dreams, was taught to respond to others' plights, and began to work with social agencies and churches.

They sacrificed to send me to private school, yet, I felt compelled to remember those who had less. I saw the disenfranchised all about me. At age five, my father's dream became a reality, when he opened a security agency in our home. We worked cooperatively with its formation and development.

Life's avenues would lead to higher education and a successful television career. Yet, I had an insatiable desire to serve in the church, and entered the Christian ministry. While in seminary, I became the first Black woman pastor in the American Baptist Churches, assuming leadership for a community.

Today, I'm part of an extended family. My ministry impacts the lives of more than 1,000 people weekly. A community now thrives. I'm able to motivate and empower people through my preaching and teaching. I also help young ministers on staff and in seminaries where I teach.

My community encourages me to run for the City Council or a Congressional seat, but I desire to share my skills as president of an historically Black college, wherein I may continue to build on the extended family concept.

As a White House Fellow, I could be interested in serving with the Peace Corps or as a Domestic Policy Advisor, where my skills can tie into the needs of the Administration, and where I can understand government from the executive level. As an accomplished local leader, I welcome the ability to contribute my talents to the nation's best.

Suzan D. Johnson Cook White House Fellowship Application Question No. 27

As pastor of Mariners' Temple, the oldest Baptist Church in Manhattan, I provide leadership for a community on New York's Lower Eastside. I receive inspiration working in partnership with people as they grow in their pursuits. I organize and motivate bus drivers, Welfare recipients, as well as government/city workers and corporate executives weekly, through my preaching and teaching. Through my efforts, an institution and a community have been revitalized.

My life's work includes: conceiving and implementing an educational/skills development program for at-risk youth; hours of community technical advisement; counsel to civilian and police personnel; participation in the formation of a family security guard agency; and coordinating local elections.

On a weekly basis, my ministry has a direct effect on more than 1,000 people, some of whom have been motivated to work for the first time in their lives; others who have completed their education and come off Welfare; still others who realized suicide was not their only option and chose to live. Through my leadership, I empower and encourage, and view these as gifts. I also help young ministers as they develop, by teaching at two major seminaries and also by training my staff.

As a White House Fellow, serving with the Secretaries in the Department of Labor, Domestic Policy, or the State Department, I could have an opportunity to increase my knowledge about government on the executive level, and also refine my skills as I seek to respond to the trends and developments I see: the rapid technological advancements, with many unable to compete; the need for educational development as many succumb to illiteracy; and the challenge to form partnerships with the world community. I would not only benefit from receiving this experience, but will also contribute my expertise as an accomplished leader on the local level.

Suzan D. Johnson Cook White House Fellowship Application Question No. 28 / Page One

LEISURE AND FREE TIME

Having been blessed with a strong and close family who believed in the work ethic, who stressed positive values, and who made clear the importance of inter-generational activities, the family unit continues to remain a focal point in both my professional and personal life.

I especially enjoy those encounters which provide relaxation and stimulation, and which promote family unity, both with my biological and extended families.

Travel is also important to me, both as an educational venture and to explore new areas. Early in my life, I was urged to develop a global consciousness, and was afforded many opportunities to journey to new cultures and to different areas of the world. Summers with my family, during junior high school, were spent in Santurce, Puerto Rico. This laid the foundation during my high school sophomore year to desire to study in Spain as an exchange student, where I became bilingual in English and Spanish. Since that time, I have developed many friendships around the world, and most frequently find myself vacationing in the Caribbean.

What was most exciting was my participation in Operation Crossroads Africa, a program designed to promote intercultural exchange with African students, teachers, and villagers, While living and working in West Africa on a media project, the summer after my college graduation, I not only discovered a new land, but also rejoiced in discovering the roots of my heritage. that I was affirmed and where I learned the importance of connectedness with my past. History became alive, and I endeavored place myself in settings which would satisfy this new insatiable Not long after this encounter, I went to the Middle East desire. and to Egypt, where I would learn the value of ecumenism and how to be tolerant of other faiths and beliefs. More recently, asked to participate as a pastor and student with a musical egation to Havana, Cuba, where I also served as the group's inter-Through each of these experiences, I was challenged to increase my vocabulary and vision, and was propelled into thinking of myself not only as a citizen of a local community, but also of the world.

Suzan D. Johnson Cook White House Fellowship Application Question No. 28 Leisure and Free Time / Page Two

Participation in team sports has always excited me and truly has its advantages, for all of life's networks require teamwork. Basketball and tennis have been the sports where I have been most active, and have helped to engage me in conversations with both amateurs and professional athletes.

Cultural activities also interest me very much, especially live theatre and fine arts museums. Exhibits with historical significance intrigue me, and both New York and Cambridge provided numerous settings for the development of my appreciation of these art forms. My most memorable experience was performing during graduate school, and helping children from the inner-city learn to read through the medium of performing arts.

Suzan D. Johnson Cook White House Fellowship Application Question No. 29 / Page One

- 1980: Selected for "Seven's Best Award," for Best Employee of the Week, WJLA TV, Channel 7, Washington, D.C.
- 1983: Received "Against the Odds Award," for role modeling, presented by the Parents Council of the Northside Center for Children.
- 1983: October, was elected first African-American female to lead an American Baptist congregation in its 200-year history.
 - Featured as an "Essence Woman," "Essence" magazine.
 - Received a Benjamin E. Mays Fellowship for ministry.
- 1984: Helped four youth of the community with admission into college and with receiving scholarships. They were the first in their families' history to attend college.
 - Was entered into the "Congressional Record" for significant achievements.
 - Featured in "NY Times" for church and community work.
- 1985: "Achievers Award," presented by the NY Coalition of 100 Black Women.
- 1986: Raised \$30,000 in a six-week period from grassroots community, to satisfy mortgage on property adjacent to the church; allowed those who are economically deprived to realize their potential and to become property owners for the first time in their history.
 - Traveled to Havana, Cuba with a musical delegation which shared the African-American experience in music and religion; served as translator for the group (fluent in Spanish).

Suzan D. Johnson Cook White House Fellowship Application Question No. 29 / Page Two

1986 - CONTINUED:

- Featured in "New York" Magazine as "One of the Powers That Will Be in the Year 2000."
- Began Christian-Jewish dialogue with The Village Synagogue and jointly shared in an annual Seder.
- 1987: Began a restoration and renovation campaign for the historic landmark at 12 Oliver Street.
 - Received "Woman of Conscience Award" from The National Council of Women of the United Nations.
 - Featured in December "Cosmopolitan" Magazine for work with inner-city children.
- 1988: Obtained grant from Trinity Church, Wall Street, New York, NY, for literacy program for latchkey children.
 - Released and edited my first book on women in the ministry: Wise Women Bearing Gifts: Joys and Struggles of their Faith (Judson Press, Valley Forge); now in its third printing.
 - Helped to organize ministries to the mentally retarded and to the families of substance abusers.
 - Received funding from The Landmarks Preservation Society for a Condition Survey.
 - Featured on NBC-TV's "Today" Show as "A Woman Making a Difference in the Clergy."
- 1989: Invited to be the keynote speaker for The International Biennial Celebration of the American Baptist Churches, USA, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; addressed more than 8,000 delegates.
 - The Multi-Ethnic Center, which I created, was featured on CBS-TV's "A World of Difference," for helping with race relations.

Suzan D. Johnson Cook White House Fellowship Application Question No. 29 / Page Three

1989: CONTINUED:

- Chaired the voter registration drive for the NY Coalition of 100 Black Women; registered more than 2,500 persons in all five boroughs in three major efforts.

1990: Appointed first female NY City Police Department Chaplain.

- Was one of two NY families invited to be on NBC-TV's "Family Feud."
- Cover story for "New York Newsday," as one of the leading black ministers in NYC.

1991: Elected 2nd Vice President, NY Coalition of 100 Black Women

- Married to Mr. Ronald Cook on October 11th.

1992: Second published book released: Preaching in Two Voices: Sermons on the Women in Jesus' Life (Judson Press).

- Selected as the only woman minister ever to deliver the invocation at the Democratic National Convention, NY.
- Featured in "NY Daily News," cover story: "Women and the Word," series on the African-American ministry.
- Selected by the Mayor of the City of New York to serve on the Steering Committee, African Burial Ground, New York, NY.
- Chaired NY Coalition of 100 Black Women's Committee for Adopt-a-School Program, to help inner-city youth.
- Led the congregation in the purchase of the Mariners'
 Temple Baptist Church building from the American Baptist
 Churches of the USA.

NEW YORK'S PICTURE NEWSPAPER®

Thursday, March 24, 1988





inister is keeping the faith

You get angry at so-called men of God like Bakker, Swaggart and Sharpton who make head. lines that make religion

look bad. Forget them. Listen to a woman of God, the

Rev. Suzan Johnson, 31.

"We have to get back to basics," Johnson preached at the weekly Wednesday noon service at Mariners' Temple Baptist Church yesterday. The "amens" from 400 spirit-filled worshipers who packed the pews in the old Greek Revival building on Oliver and Henry Sts. showed they agreed.

"When I was going to Public School 78 in the Bronx, my mother was teaching at PS 194 in Harlem, and if I got home before she did, the other mothers on the block looked after me. One made sure I washed my hands, another saw that I got a snack, another made sure I did my

homework, another gave a report about me to my mother when she got home.

"We were taught discipline. Homework had to be done-no homework, no double-dutch; no homework, no telephone calls; no homework, no TV.

"And we learned that same discipline in our faith: Love God with heart and soul and mind, with all your might"

Those convictions were lost by our society, however, Johnson said.

"Misplaced values came along A moral void developed. We can see the distress: .. Drugs. Promiscuity. Mothers who can't even tell you who the fathers are.

'We have to get rid of that me-generation attitude, that doing your own thing.

"My prayer and challenge is: Listen and respond so God can use us.

"Our life -- on our job, at home, In society - should reflect the love of God, should glorify God.

"We have to do three things: Love God, do what He commands, and diligently teach that to our children.

"When I hear the language children use, when I hear their lack of respect for parents and teachers," I wonder what they're being taught these days.

"Children are not responsible for raising themselves.

"We have to teach them diligently.

"As Jesse Jackson says, "The blessed of us must tell the rest of us." A handsome woman with a lovely smile

and sweet voice, Johnson preached from an altar on a stage in front of a large cross. She wore a dark suit and pink blouse.

It was wonderful to see a church full of smiling faces. It's that way every Wednesday at Mariners' Temple. Worshipers seeking inspiration hurry over from their jobs in the nearby City Hall and Foley Square areas. The choir elevates them with beautiful singing, and Johnson inspires them with a spiritual message they can take back to their jobs and homes.

"Everybody needs a good word from God, and the good news is that God has a good word for everyone here," she assured the congregation as she stood up to preach yesterday. She conveyed hope. She spoke with authority. This was true religion without pretense or manipula tion or a hidden agenda.

Johnson gave up a lucrative job in tele vision production to study for the minis try. She graduated from the demanding Union Theological Seminary. At 26, she became pastor at Mariners' Temple it 1983-the first black woman to head as American Baptist congregation. The church had only 15 active members whe: she arrived. She went door-to-door is nearby housing projects to invite peopl to worship. Now some 250 attend Sunda services. The busy church sponsors tutor ing, sports, social programs and Bibl study.

TO RAISE MONEY for renovation of the 193-year-old church, Lion-Hampton will play his vibes ther at 6 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are going fa for this Palm Sunday concert.

As Easter approaches, new life flou ishes at Mariners' Temple thanks to forward-looking pastor with old-fast ioned beliefs, the Rev. Suzan Johnson She restores your faith.

Metropolitan News

NEW YORK, NEW JERSEY, CONNECTICUT/WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 29, 1990

THE NEW YORK TIMES METROPOLITAN WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 29, 1990



Joyce B. Dinkins, the wife of the Mayor, is leading a citywide effort to start the school year on a positive note. She is urging parents to accompany their children to school on the first day and businesses to give

employees time off to do so. Children from the Multi-Ethnic Center at Mariner's Temple Baptist Church in Manhattan joined her yesterday for a news conference at City Hall.

Salute to New York Schools Begins

By FELICIA R. LEE

New York City's First Lady, Joyce B. Dinkins, sporting a button that said "Make The First Day Second to None." began a campaign yesterday to encourage parents to accompany their children to school on the first day and to get businesses to give employees time off to do so.

Mrs. Dinkins is the chairwoman of a citywide effort to get families to start i the school year with a commitment to education that will last through the school year. City elementary and junhigh schools reopen Sept. 10 and high schools on Sept. 6 and 7. The celebration of the first day of

school, a program that runs from Sept. 1 through Sept. 14, includes broadcast and print public service announcements, corporate campaigns, a special effort to reach poor children and celebrity visits to city schools on the first

'Buddy Systems' Envisioned

Mrs. Dinkins hails the start of a new term.

myself with projects which support this effort, and that's why I said yes to chairing the First Day Back to School Project.

Students in middle and high schools will be encouraged through the campaign to create "buddy systems" to support one another to return to school and stay in school. Older students will also be asked to take younger children to school if their parents are not avail-

Foster children and children living in shelters will get special attention. Businesses are donating new clothes and school supplies for them.

Schools Chancellor Joseph A. Fer-"I've made a vow in my role as first | nandez, who attended the news conferlady to take part in the battle to precnce, applauded the campaign. He said serve the future of our children," Mrs. the schools were also reaching out to Dinkins said at a City Hall news conferparents by informing them of their he said. "You have to study hard. Lis-

ing them how to help their children with homework.

"It's so important the First Lady recognize the importance all of us place on education," Mr. Fernandez said. "We can't turn our schools around without serious parental involvement. They're not our schools - they belong to the parents and the children in our community.

Children Welcome Mayor

A group of children from the Multi-Ethnic Center at Mariner's Temple Baptist Church on Manhattan's Lower East Side entertained those at the news conference with a song. When Mayor David N. Dinkins hurriedly entered the room, fresh from a ribbon-cutting ceremony at Public School 398 in Brooklyn, a little girl eagerly embraced him. Other children reached out to touch him or shake his hand.

After the Mayor read a proclamation declaring Sept. 1 through Sept. 14 "New York City Back to School Weeks," he engaged in banter with the small City



ongressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 98th congress, second session

Vol. 130

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1984

No. 17

TRIBUTE TO REV. SUZAN D. **JOHNSON**

HON. BILL GREEN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 22, 1984

Mr. GREEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate a most remarkable woman, the Reverend Suzan D. Johnson, who, on Sunday, March 4, 1984, at 4:30 p.m. will be the first black woman in any American Baptist Church, nationwide, to be installed in a senior pastorate position, as pastor of the Mariners' Temple Baptist Church.

Reverend Johnson served as interim pastor for 6 months prior to her election as senior pastor. Under her leadership, the church grew from 60 active

members to more than 200.

The Mariners' Temple Church, where the ceremony will take place, is the oldest Baptist Church on Manhattan Island. Established in 1785, it has had a great history, and has been named an historical landmark. The name derives from its having been originally established for seamen whose ships docked in the nearby East River.

I join my colleagues and my constituents in congratulating the Reverend Johnson and the Mariner's Temple Baptist Church and wishing them both continued success in the future.

Amsterdam News

Council to honor female pastor

By J. ZAMGBA BROWNE Amsterdam News Stoff

A Harlem-born preacher who five years ago broke century-old barriers and became the first Black female to lead an American Baptist church, will be cited at the U.N. on March 2.

The Rev. Sujay D. Johnson, pastor of Mariners' Temple Baptist Chruch, will at 7 p.m. be presented with the Woman of Conscience Award given by the National Council of Women of the United States at its annual

Each year since 1963, the Council has bestowed this honor on an American woman who in the group's opinion best exemplifies the merits of innovation, leadership ands dedication to humanity.

Mrs. Merrinelle Sullivan, precident of the Council said Monday that Ray, Johnson was chosen because "she stands as an inspiration for church and community leaders and in particular, women of conscience across the nation."

At age 26, Rev. Johnson was called to pastor a church in Chinatown, an area where the residents felt defeated and broken. It also is a community that reportedly was ethnically tense and spiritually deprived.

But Rev. Johnson took the challenge and within four years she had successfully reawakened and multiplied the congregation of a dying church through ambitious outreach programs that have beloed units a diverse community of Chinese, Blacks and Hispanics.

Rev. Johnson said she began to develop an interest in the ministry at 13, and at a time when it was unpopular for women to enter the clergy.

By age 23, I had decided that I could no longer fight my true purpose in life and so I publicly announced my interest in the ministry," Rev. Johnson

With this important decision, Rev. Johnson said she immediately gave up her high paying job and enrolled at Union Theological Seminary to begin training for a new career.

Prior to that Rev. Johnson, at age 19, became the youngest person to graduate from Emerson College in Boston. One year later, she received her master s degree from Teachers college at Columbia University.

After leaving Columbia, Rev. Johnson pursued a career in communications and for five years was one of the few Black television producers in Miami,

Shortly before graduating from Union Theological Seminary, Rev. Johnson recalled being asked to serve as the interim pastor at Mariners' Temple Baptist Church.

Rev. Johnson said this took her by surprise because "I falt that I had three strikes against me," she noted. "I was young, single and female."



REV. SUJAY JOHNSON

The young pastor recalled preaching to about 15-dia hard members on her first Sunday on the job. These members still turn out for service each week in the facility which is capable of seating 1,000 persons.

"By all definitions, the church was dying. It was \$6,000 in the red and the doors were expected to close," Rev. Johnson explained. She added, "it seemed to many that I was sent for the final benediction."

After carefully assessing the situation, Rev. Johnson said she began to listen to the pulse of the community and then asked herself the following questions: What did this community

need? What was it they

Gradually, said Ray, Johnson, the community began to "come to me to see this woman pastor that had come to Manhattan's lower East Side. Eventually, Rev. Johnson continued, invita-

tions were extended by community residents into their i. . and into their homes and tihelped to increase the church membership.

At this point, Rev. Johnso. (Continued on Page 3

Council honors

(Continued from Page 19)

said she and her congregation launched a door-to-door evangelistic crusade in the area. "We weren't out to convert people but to invite them to a community church," she declared.

In less than eight months. Rev. Johnson added, over 150 new souls were won for Christ. "Energy was mounting and the word began to spread about our work and it was not long before I was asked to accept the position of full-time senior pastor, she said.

By the end of the first year, Rev. Johnson said membership had increased substantially to about 300. "By the third year, some 500 persons had joined the flock and new and innovative things began to happen," said Rev. Johnson.

Three years ago, she introduced a "Lunch Hour Of Power" ministry in response to workers in the nearby business community who wanted a source of spiritual renewal during the week.

According to Rev. Johnson. many workers said they felt. "stuck" in their jobs rather than enjoying the satisfaction of a career. "I told them about a 45-minute worship service conducted at the church every Wednesday at noon and that we were providing lunch to the worshipers." she said.

At the first service, Rev. Johnson recalled, only about 40 people showed up, but as the word began to spread the number increased. At last count two months ago, she said the figure had reached 375.

Rev. Johnson said instead of trying to make poeple fit into programs, "we developed programs to fit the people." she had made education a primary target for the church because most of the community's social problems are connected to education.



THE MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. CENTER FOR NONVIOLENT SOCIAL CHANGE, INC.

449 Auburn Avenue, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia 30312 (404) 524-1956

February 14, 1984

LLOYD DAVIS

Reverend Suzan Johnson 790 Concourse Village West Apt. #21M Bronx, N.Y. 10451

Dear Reverend Suzan D. Johnson and the congregation of the Mariner's Temple Baptist Church:

It is with great pleasure that I join with many others in saluting and congratulating you on this significant and historical ocassion.

The congregation of the Mariner's Temple Baptist Church must be applauded for your wise decision to call Reverend Suzan Johnson as your pastor. I am certain beyond a doubt that your union will result in manifold blessings as you strive to bring the gospel to those who are seeking the bread of life.

Although I cannot be with you today in person, my prayers and thoughts are very much with you as you officially come together to begin your journey of faith up the King's Highway.

May God's grace, mercy and love be with you always,

Coretta Scott King

CSK/hrt

Renewed Church a Symbol of Easter

BY KENNETH A. BRIGGS

On her first Sunday at Mariner's Temple Baptist Church two years ago, the Rev. Suzan Johnson preached to the 15 die hard members who still regularly turned out for services. Most expected her to be interim pastor for a few weeks before the impoverished church would be forced to close.

"It was depressing," Miss Johnson save of that Sunday in the sanctuary built for seafarers in 1844 at the corner of Henry and Oliver Streets in Chinatown. "The doors were going to close. The people felt forgotten by the whole world."

Miss Johnson had long relished challenges, and so, drawing on her. skills and energy, she ignited an evangelism campaign whose results befit the Easter message of revival.

In her first six months, she brought in more than 100 new members.

A year ago, with confidence building, the congregation asked her to be congregation.

Today, the membership rolls have ballooned, from 60 to 400, an average of 250 people attend Sunday-morning services, and the church calendar is crammed with activities.

Members, young and old, heap praise, awe and adulation on their 28year-old pastor, crediting her almost entirely with rescuing the church from the brink.

"Since she came, there has been a renaissance," said Marie Jenkins, 63 years old and a member of the board of deacons for many years. "It is due

to her strength, her inspiration, her youth and her ability to love."

Michael Brown, 25, said he was drawn to the church a few months ago, "because she's just good." . . .

Former TV Producer

Mr. Brown, like 95 percent of the congregation, lives in the neighborhood. Half are younger than 30, and a

its full-time pastor — the first black dozen are counted as elderly. Growth woman to lead an American Baptist has ridden a wave of enthusiasm symbolized by the pastor's motto, "Church alive in '85."

Miss Johnson, who was born in Harlem and graduated from the River-dale Country Day School in the Bronx, entered the Union Theological Seminary in New York after working for three television stations as a public-affairs producer.

She has accomplished a Lazaruslike feat at Mariner's Temple as a woman in the traditional male role of the preacher in the black church. The image was so daunting that Miss Johnson says she shied away from the pastorate during seminary. But her experience at the church, she says, has dispelled her besitations.

"I haven't had the resistance I'd anticipated by being a female," she said in an interview. "Both men and women have been behind me. And many of my male Baptist colleagues who have a lot of respect in the church have come forth and surported me and invited me to preach in their churches."

"Many people came, at first, but of curiosity to see a woman preacher," said the Rev. Carl Flemister, executive minister of the American Baptist Churches of Metropolitan New York. They stayed because she knows what she's doing and does it so well."



But she says the aura that has usually gone with the preacher can be jolting. "The image is so deified it scares me," Miss Johnson said. "If we disappoint people, we can forget it," referring the ability to be effective. "It puts pressure on us to live the life that we preach."

Congregants say she delivers the message with joy, persuasion and punch. They describe her as a "teaching preacher," blending rousing music, inspirational words, passages of Scripture and warm humor into the two-hour worship service...

On Palm Sunday, she made her way toward the pulpit behind the 50member singing and clapping choir.



Members of the Crusade for Christ Children's Choir, singing during a recent Sunday service.

She wore a white robe and a broad smile.

As she reached her place at the head of the congregation, beneath a banner whose red letters proclaimed "Crusade for Christ," she knelt to pray beneath a large wooden cross.

The pews of the Greek Revival church continued to fill as she began the service. She evoked expressions of thankfuiness and ripples of laughter as she led the worshipers in

prayer and preaching.

As she often does, she reminded the congregation that "body building," a term by which she refers to growth, means more than adding members. "We must also grow spiritually," she

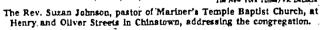
The church's survival adds another page to its long history of ethnic flux and complex pattern of service. The original congregation was founded as the first Baptist church on Manhattan 190 years ago. Over the years, the present building has been home to Swedes, Germans, Italians, Latvians, Norwegians and Russians. During the 1880's, more than 1,500 sailors attended worship every month.

Various forms of aid were made available to immigrants. At the turn of the century, the church provided food, housing, employment help and medical care. One of the betterknown ministers of that period was the Rev. Harry Emerson Fosdick, who became senior pastor of Riverside Church.

Miss Johnson honors the past but takes her cues from the needs of the present. She has adapted to a new situation by preaching the traditional Word in her own way, which includes playing basketball at the church picnic and going door-to-door seeking new members.

Miss Jenkins said she was skeptiical, at first, about having a woman as minister, but became a wholehearted believer. "She can meet everyone's needs," Miss Jenkins said. "She can be a mother, a sister, even a little

"After she was here a month, 1" thought that if there was going to be a " turnaround, she would do it." ...



Multi-ethnic learning youth center opens

A Multi-Ethnic Learning Center for inner-city youth with the goal of building self esteem, planning and preparing for productive careers, and coping with the daily problems of society opened recently at Mariners' Temple Baptist Church, 3 Henry St., Chinatown, Manhattan.

Sponsored by the Church, and funded in part by the Greater New

York Fund/United Way and Con Edison, the comprehensive academic and recreational program is geared to 7th, 8th and 9th graders and is being offered each Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

At the kick-off ceremony, Mariners' Temple pastor and program director, Rev. Suzan D. Johnson, was joined by keynote speaker, Rev. Mark Taylor of the Salem United

Methodist Church, Manhattan, and other civic leaders with a "message of hope for young people."

"Dare to dream and dare to be different in times like these, is the theme of our program," said Rev. Johnson. "The students fantasize about what they want to become. We then examine career opportunities, set long-term goals and provide students with the tools for reaching those goals.

Each student's needs, interests and abilities are taken into consideration. We hope to motivate more children to stay in school and establish positive attitudes about the future."

"The program is necessary," continued Rev. Johnson, "because of the high percentage of youngsters who never complete high school and because of the high risk of our children in becoming involved in drugs, teenage pregnancies, and the many other inherent problems in our society."

Courses include: math, ethnic studies, calligraphy and drama. The program will be expanded in the near future to include vocational and career training classes.

For further informa-



CENTER'S BIGGIES - At the kick-off ceremony for the Multi-Ethnic Learning Center, Mariners Temple Baptist Church Pastor and Program Director, Suzan D. Johnson (third from left) thanks keynote speaker the Rev. Mark Taylor of the Salem United Methodist Church, Manhattan. With them are Center staff members: (1-r) Diane Wilson, arts director; Robynne Carlson, calligraphy instructor; Rebecca J. McLean, Day-To-Day director; Irene Monroe, math instructor and Frances Salisbury, performing arts instructor.



Learning Center in the Mariners' Temple where the Rev. Suzan D. Johnson, right, is the pastor.

Children Get Extra Help On the Lower East Side

· By MARVINE HOWE

At the age of 11, Alsha Evans has learned that "even if you don't agree with everything people say, you can when they first came to the still try to understand them."

Chantese Mortimer, who is 11½, has group, Ms. Johnson said. In

discovered that "math isn't so boring

Kenya Adams, 12, wants to learn more than she can in school and is interested in calligraphy and drama.

They all have chosen to spend Satur-day mornings at the new Multi-Ethnic Learning Center in the Mariners' Temple at 3 Henry Street on the Lower East Side. Before the center opened this fall, most of the students said, they spent the time "sleeping late and watching felryision."

The center tries to help inner-city grade-school children cope with daily problems and prepare for productive careers. It offers courses in mathematics, ethnic studies, calligraphy and drama, and will soon offer vocational and career training.

'The World Is For You'. .

Sponsored by the Mariners' Temple Raptist Church, the center has re-ceived some financing from the Greater New York Fund/United Way

Some of the children were so shy when they first came to the center they would not stand publicly before the group, Ms. Johnson said, in only a few weeks, she said, they learned how "to articulate their dreams.

On a recent Saturday, the children sat in a circle with one of their teach ers, Pauline Phillips, and talked about their ambitions as another teacher, Christine Dudley, videolaped the ses-sion. One student wanted to become an actor, another a pediatrician, still an-other a civil rights lawyer.

Reviving a Congregation

Ms. Johnson noted that the long-term goal of the program was "to try to prevent crises from happening instead of reacting to crises." Emphasizing the reacting to crises." Emphasizing the importance of motivating children to stay in school, she pointed out that New York State had one of the highest high school dropout rates and with it, a high risk of drug involvement, teen-age pregnancies and other problems.

Ms. Johnson was born and raised in

the South Bronx, and she welcomes challenges. She has proven her mettle as the first black woman to lead an and Con Edison.

"We tell young people the world is church, which was established for seafor you," said the Rev. Suzan D. Johnson, the pastor of the Mariners' Tember in 1795. When she began preaching it the Mariners' Temple three ple. "Then we help students make interest and additional beautiful and the statement of the Mariners' than the statement of the statement of the Mariners' than the statement of the statement of the Mariners' than the statement of the statement of the Mariners' than the statement of the Mariners' than the statement of the inen we help students make in years ago, there were about 15 active formed decisions about career oppor-

grown to more than 500

At the end of September, she opened the Multi-Ethnic Learning Center for seventh, eighth and ninth graders. Ini-tial enrollment consists of 10 black and three Hispanic students. No Asians are enrolled as yet, although the Mariners' Temple is on the edge of Chinatown.

"We've begun a dialogue but have a long way to go," she said in an inter-view, reviewing some of the problems of building a multi-ethnic center in an area "historically rooted in racial tensions." Other problems she mentioned are language barriers, cultural differnces and financing.

She has approached community leaders, particularly Chinese organiza-tions and schools. One group that has expressed interest in cooperation is the

Chinatown Planning Council,
"There is definitely a need for this kind of center to help young people of different ethnic groups achieve better understanding," said the council's executive director, Charles Wong

He said one problem was the image of the Mariners' Temple as "a church for blacks" and suggested it would be important to have a Chinese-speaker on the center's staff. He added that the fee — \$150 for the academic year was also "a deterrent."

Ms. Johnson Insisted that the church represented the multi-ethnic community and pointed out that there were Asian, Hispanic and white people on the board, as well as blacks. She emphasized that it would be their task to support the center and make recommendations for the staff.

She acknowledged that the tuition was prohibitive for many families "but necessary to get the program off the ground," and she said scholarships were available.

The minister's ambition is to turn the center into a broad, tuition-free youth program, with after-school counseling courses, as well as Saturday

"We aim to identify and train leaders from the Lower East Side to bring skills back into the community," Ms. Johnson said. "I hope some of the major corporations like I.B.M. will take a look at our project and consider contributing tools and equipment, which would mean so much to us and so little for them.

"But first we have to prove our selves, establish a track record."

Philadelphia Courts Are Cited

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 20 (UPI) --A new report has determined that Philadelphia runs one of the nation's most expensive judicial systems, and the director of the group that conducted the study suggested the system was ineffi-

The Pennsylvania Economy League. à nonprofit group that conducted a twoyear study of the courts, said each Philadelphia resident paid about 50 percent more for justice in 1982 than the na-tional average for the 30 largest cities.

The study, which used statistics for the most recent years available, found the Philadelphia court system cost \$27 per person to operate in 1982, as against an average of \$18 per person for the other cities.

The private group stopped short of calling the system inefficient, urging every 19,000 people.

instead that the judicial system study Its employment and spending "with an emphasis on efficiency for the purpose of reducing space requirements and operating expenditures.

But Dianne Reed, the director of the league, said the study clearly implied that the courts were "not producing efficiently or effectively."

The study said the city court operallons cost \$45 million in 1982.

The report also found that Philadelphia's court system employs more peole and more judges than most cities, about one person for every 1,000 residents and one judge for every 15,000 residents. The average for other large cities was one court employee for every 1,500 residents and one judge for

Downtown Church Marks 192d Year

BY ARI L GOLDMAN

From the outside, Mariners' Temple in Lower Manhattan looks like a church ready for its last rites. Wide swaths of plaster have fallen away, revealing building stones that are more than a century old and sorely in need of repair.

But inside, Mariners' is alive and vibrant, with 500 active members, daily educational programs, a 70member choir and all the handclap-

ping, swaying and singing that a congregation of the American Baptist Church can muster.

Yesterday the church, looking every bit its age, celebrated its 192d birthday. But the members did not lament their crumbling walls; nor did they announce a rebuilding plan. Instead their pastor gave thanks.

"We thank God for 192 years," said the pastor, the Rev. Suzan D. Johnson. "He has blessed us collectively, and He has blessed us individually.

Mariners' Temple at 3 Henry Street in Chinatown.

The situation at the church might: seem anomalous, but it is all part of a

"We have decided on a three-tlered approach," said Ms. Johnson, the first woman to lead Mariners' Temple, which calls itself the oldest Baptist church in Manhattan. "First we want to build God's people, then we want to build God's community, and then we can worry about the physical facility."

Although there is a scaffold in front of the church at the corner of Henry and Oliver Streets, it was not put up for repairs, the pastor said, but to protect passers-by from falling de-

The Rev. Dr. James A. Forbes, the guest preacher, picked up the theme in his sermon. "I'm so glad you haven't spent all your money getting it painted and plastered," he said stepping from the pulpit and theatrically examining one of the interior columns that hold up the church.

He asked the congregation to open their Bibles and turn to Zecharlah 4:6 and he read: "Not by might, not by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts.

Praise for Holy Spirit

"What is the secret of the phenomenal growth of this church?" he asked. "The Holy Spirit."

Dr. Forbes, professor of homiletics at Union Theological Seminary, took the microphone from its stand and pointed it toward congregants one by one, asking, "What can the Holy Spirit do?"

"Heal your body," said one.
"Save your soul," said another.
"Turn you around," said yet an-

The sermon came at the end of a rousing two-hour service during which a song was offered for every religious rite. When a new member was immersed in the baptismal pool beneath the pulpit, the congregation sang, "He That Believeth Shall Have Everlasting Life."

During the collection for the church, all sang, "It's Amazing How the Lord Provides."

When youngsters approached the altar for the "children's worship" .segment, the congregation sang, "Oh,



The Rev. Suzan D. Johnson, at left in aisle, the pastor of Mariners' Temple, greeting parishioners yesterday during "o" a service marking the Baptist church's 192d anniversary.

How I Love Jesus." And before the sermon, the song was "All I Need is a Touch From Jesus."

As its name suggests, Mariners' Temple was built for the seamen whose ships once docked at the nearby East River piers. The church was organized in 1795, and the present building was built in 1844.

Over the years four Baptist groups were organized in the church, each reflecting a different population that lived in the neighborhood. There were the First Swedish, First Italian, First Russian and the First Chinese Baptist Churches.

Today the temple is in the heart of Chinatown. But a large black and Hispanic population still live in the area, according to Ms. Johnson.

When she became pastor almost four years ago, there were only 60 members. Fifteen people came to hear her first sermon.

With a small core of supporters, Ms. Johnson went door to door in the housing projects nearby to invite people to the church. "We asked people what we could do for them," she said.

She found a real need for afterschool programs to provide remedial help and to teach such things as good study habits, etiquette and social skills - how to apply for a job, for example. The program now meets five afternoons a week and is largely staffed by volunteers, including elderly church members.

'It is an old African concept that the elders of the community teach youngsters how to come into manhood and womanhood with skills and confidence," the pastor said.

"That was an important step for the community," Ms. Johnson added. "Because when people feel good about themselves, the sky is the

LOTTERY NUMBERS

Feb. 22, 1987

New York Numbers - 101 New York Win 4 - 3907 New York Win-10 — 1, 15, 24, 25, 31, 41, 42, 46, 48, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 58, 61, 69, 71, 75, 80

Feb. 21, 1987

New York Lotto 48 - 4, 6, 24, 39, . 44, 45; supplementary, 13 New York Win-10 — 2, 8, 11, 15, 16, 22, 25, 26, 31, 33, 39, 45, 48, 49, 50, 52, 54, 62, 74, 78

Do you have The Times delivered?

R / Mostly sunny, 80 today, partly cloudy, 60-65 tonight / Details, Page 2 FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1990 **

404 in New York City 504 enewhere

NEW YORK POST, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1990



GREAT SHAKES: Police Commissioner Lec Brown congratulates the Rev. Dr. Suzan D. Johnson, (above) the department's first woman chaplain, at promotion ceremonies at Police Headquarters yesterday. Also celebrating (below) were sisters and fellow cops Kathleen (left) and Patricia Cowan after Kathleen was promoted to detective investigator.

- 25. On a separate sheet of paper write a memorandum, of not more than 500 words, for the President, making a specific policy proposal. Explain why you think it is important, what issues it raises, and why you think he should support it. If you exceed the word limit, your application will be disqualified.
- 26. On a separate sheet of paper describe, in 300 words or less, your life's ambition, what you hope to accomplish or achieve in your lifetime, and what position you hope to attain. If you exceed the word limit, your application will be disqualified.
- 27. On a separate sheet of paper describe, in 300 words or less, why you want to be a White House Fellow, what you consider to be your major strengths and qualifications for the program, and what benefits you feel are likely to result from your participation. If you exceed the word limit, your application will be disqualified.
- 28. Describe what you enjoy doing in your leisure time, how you spend your vacations, and meaningful experiences these opportunities have afforded you. Answer on separate sheet.
- 29. In addition to the things you have mentioned in answering earlier questions, list and describe briefly any other accomplishments or skills of which you are proud or that you deem significant or outstanding. Include, among other things, literary awards, inventions, patents, prizes for architectural design or works of art, significant publications (do not enclose actual publications), and fluencies in foreign languages. You may also use this space to describe briefly any news stories, editorials, radio or television announcements, etc., that show evidence of your recognition by community, cultural, business, or other groups. Enclose pertinent news clippings only when germane and not numerous. Answer on separate sheet.
- 30. References. List five persons who are NOT RELATED TO YOU AND WHO HAVE DIRECT KNOWLEDGE of your qualifications and character. At least one person listed should have professional competence in your field; at least one should have knowledge of your major community or civic activities; at least one should have knowledge of your business or professional accomplishments; and one should be your present supervisor, if applicable. Please reproduce the personal evaluation form which is bound into this application and have it completed by each of the persons listed below. Each reference should seal the form in an envelope and sign his/her name across the seal and return the form to you. These references must be included with your application. Your application cannot be evaluated without the references.

List full name of references:

- 1. Hon. Jose E. Serrano, Congressman, N.Y.
- 2. Hon. David N. Dinkins, Mayor, City of New York
- 3. Hon. Ruth Messinger, Manhattan Borough President
- 4. Mr. Howard Rubenstein, Howard J. Rubenstein & Associates Public Relations Firm
- 5. Dr. Lee P. Brown, Chair, Black Male Initiative Program, Texas Southern University

CERTIFICATION

I CERTIFY that all of the statements made in this application are true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, and are made in good faith. I know and understand that any or all items contained herein may be subject to investigation or verification and I consent to the full release of all information concerning my capacity and fitness by employers, educational institutions (who are also authorized to release my academic records), law enforcement agencies, and other individuals and agencies, to duly accredited investigators of the Federal Government or to the Commission for that purpose.

Signature of applicant	Δ	a Deptork	Date /2/1/92
•		(Sign in ink)	

Below is a series of descriptive statements. Based on your knowledge of the candidate, decide the extent to which each statement is descriptive of him or her and place a check mark in the appropriate column. A check under

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- "2" means that it is occasionally descriptive and you rate him/her "average" (middle third);
- "1" means that the statement is not descriptive at all and you rate him/her "poor" (bottom third).

(If you do not feel that you can evaluate the candidate in some particular, check the "Don't Know" column.)

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Although your rating of the applicant on the above scales will be important in judging his/her qualifications for a White House Fellowship, even more important will be your candid and specific comments answering the following questions. Please attach additional sheets as necessary.

- (Please see attached sheet)

 1. What do you feel are the applicant's major strengths? Please include a specific example or an occasion in which these strengths were demonstrated.
- 2. What do you feel are the applicant's weaknesses?
- 3. What do you consider to be the major impact the applicant has made in his/her professional work?
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- 7. What is the candidate's potential? What position or level of responsibility do you expect the candidate to achieve in his/her lifetime?
- 8. In what specific ways would you anticipate that this person would benefit personally and professionally, if selected as a White House Fellow?
- 9. To what extent and in what specific ways would you expect this candidate's community and the Nation to benefit from his/her participation in the Fellowship program?

	dent or Vice President of the of your personal staff?	ne United States, or a	member of the cabinet, wou	ld you select this persor
Z				
DEFINITELY	PROBABLY	POSSIBLY	PROBABLY NOT	NO
11. All things considered	how does this person's at	pility and potential comp	pare to others with whom yo	ou are acquainted?
(3)				
OUTSTANDING	EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	POOR
(top 5%)	(top 15%)	(top third)	(middle third)	(bottom third)
Name (please print)				
RUTH W. MESSI	NGER			
Address				
ONE CENTRE ST	REET, 19th FL. S.	NEW YORK, NY 100	007	
Title		Phone No.		
BOROUGH PRESI	DENT OF MANHATTAN	212 669-8	8155	
Nature of business, occup	ation, profession			
GOVERNMENT				
How long have you know	applicant? 10 years	in what conne	ction?	
A.			[23]92	
Signature	,			Date



THE CITY OF NEW YORK OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN

MUNICIPAL BUILDING NEW YORK, N.Y. 10007 (212) 669-8300

RUTH W. MESSINGER BOROUGH PRESIDENT

November 23, 1992

To Whom It May Concern:

I have known the Rev. Suzan D. Johnson Cook for the past ten years. Prior to her assuming the leadership of the historic Mariners' Temple Baptist Church, we became acquainted as she was in seminary and served as media minister for the American Baptist Churches of Metropolitan New York.

She was unusually gifted with organizational skills, and helped to organize and participate in several election and reelection efforts for local legislators.

In 1983, she began to hone these skills, and nurture and develop others, as she was elected to the interim leadership and later full-time pastorate of Mariners' Temple, where she helped a fledgling grassroots constituency blossom into a viable institution in the community.

Today, Mariners' Temple has more than 1,000 persons pass through its doors each week. Several innovative programs and projects have been successfully completed under her inspirational and exemplary leadership.

The Multi-Ethnic Center for children and their families, which she conceived and implemented is a recipient of several community grants and awards, a tribute to her exceptional talent in these recessionary times. She also successfully motivated and led the congregation into the purchase of two properties on the Lower Eastside of Manhattan this year.

She is certainly a leader who stands out in New York City. Her work with the NYC Police Department, the Hamilton-Madison and Grand Street Settlement Houses, and with building better race

Page 2 November 25, 1992

relations are just some of the contributions she has made.

It would be exciting for her to have an opportunity to be exposed to new arenas. A White House Fellowship will allow her an opportunity to be surrounded with others of this nation's best and brightest, challenged and strengthened to bring renewed vigor and new insight back to New York. I am happy to commend her to you.

Sincerely

Ruth W. Messinger

Below is a series of descriptive statements. Based on your knowledge of the candidate, decide the extent to which each statement is descriptive of him or her and place a check mark in the appropriate column. A check under

- "5" means that the statement is completely and consistently descriptive of the candidate in all contexts, circumstances, and occasions in which you have known or observed him/her and you rate him/her "outstanding" (top 5%);
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(If you do not feel that you can evaluate the candidate in some particular, check the "Don't Know" column.)

	5	4	3	2	1	Don't Know
Intellectual ability	x ·					
Displays rigorous analytical powers						
Demonstrates critical facility						
Is clear in reasoning ability						
Writes clearly and convincingly	X					
Speaks clearly and convincingly	Х					
Personal integrity and responsibility	. X					
Demonstrates courage of convictions						
Accepts blame when it is his/hers	X				,	
Keeps his/her word	X					
Inspires trust on part of associates	X					4
Decisiveness, energy, vigor, creativity	Х	<u> </u>				
Follows through on work						
Eager to assume responsibility	X					
Initiates innovative solutions	X					
Fulfills commitments	X					
	X					
· · · · · · ·						
Inspires confidence in others	X	 			-	
Channels/directs efforts of others						
Convinces by sound reasons	X					
Takes responsibility for decisions he/she makes	X				1	
Gives subordinates full credit for what they do					<u> </u>	
Is respected for wisdom and courage of his/her leadership	Х					
Civic-mindedness and sense of responsibility	Х					
Believes firmly in the ideals and principles of American Government						
Feels and demonstrates a strong sense of obligation to his/her community	X					
	X					
Self-confidence, poise, ability to get along with others	X					
Is poised and confident of his/her ability						
Profits from constructive criticism	X					
Remains stable under stress	X					
Is able to work cooperatively and not just alone	X					

Although your rating of the applicant on the above scales will be important in judging his/her qualifications for a White House Fellowship, even more important will be your candid and specific comments answering the following questions. Please attach additional sheets as necessary.

(See attached)

- 1. What do you feel are the applicant's major strengths? Please include a specific example or an occasion in which these strengths were demonstrated.
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- 9. To what extent and in what specific ways would you expect this candidate's community and the Nation to benefit from his/her participation in the Fellowship program?

If you were the Preside to be a key member of		the United States, or a	member of the cabinet, wou	ld you select this person
∑ De a Rey member or		П	П	П
DEFINITELY	PROBABLY	POSSIBLY	PROBABLY NOT	NO
11. All things considered, h	ow does this person's a	bility and potential com	pare to others with whom yo	ou are acquainted?
X				
OUTSTANDING	EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	POOR
(top 5%)	(top 15%)	(top thiră)	(middle third)	(bottom third)
Name (please print)				
Dr. Lee P. Brown	C.			
Address				
3100 Cleburne Ave	nue, University	Library Rm. 509	Houston, Texas 77	7004
Title		Phone No.		
University Profes	sor	(713) 63	9-1992	
Nature of business, occupat	ion, profession			
Texas Southern Un	iversity	·		
How long have you known a	applicant? 3 years	in what conne	ction? Supervisory and	d advisory roles
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,				
141	1 / Ban			h 2 / 9 2

Date

TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY 3100 CLEBURNE AVENUE * HOUSTON, TEXAS 77004

(713) 639-1992

LEEP. BROWN

November 23, 1992

President's Commission on White House Fellowships Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Rev. Dr. Suzan Johnson Cook's reputation far preceded our first meeting of three years ago. Highly regarded within the New York metropolitan area as an innovative and deeply committed person, Dr. Johnson Cook was often mentioned as an example of exemplary leadership. It was soon after our meeting as I served as police commissioner of the New York City Police Department that I would interview and appoint her as the first female chaplain. She was overwhelmingly welcomed, received, and frequently requested as counselor, advisor, confidante, and friend.

Constantly selected for public recognition and awards, Dr. Johnson Cook has maintained a great sense of humility and priority for the common good. Her commanding presence and eloquent speech demand both attention and action. She is the confidante of many key leaders in the city and nation, across sectors, from business to government to the community. She is also prolific in both her written publications and speaking engagements. Her knowledge and respect within the urban setting was not only a key factor in my hiring her, but also for her invitation to join the faculty and administration of the Harvard Divinity School as well.

Both positions, and her acceptance of them, were timely and important, for she has much to offer not only a congregation, but other arenas where her skills may be utilized.

I appreciate that both my ranking of description statements and my rating of the applicant border on the superlative. The response is sincere and by no means overstated. During her young career, Dr. Johnson Cook has clearly demonstrated exceptional leadership with a bright and stellar future.

I am confident that not only is she a convincing local leader, but would serve the nation well. I would hope that Dr. Susan Johnson Cook will be selected as a White House Fellow, to work with either the President, Vice President, or a member of the Cabinet. The experience would be mutually beneficial.

Lee P. Brown

Sinderely.

University Professor

WASHINGTON OFFICE:

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-3218

(202) 225-4361

DISTRICT OFFICE:

890 GRAND CONCOURSE BRONX, NY 10451-2828 (212) 538-5400

SMALL BUSINESS

MEMBER, CONGRESSIONAL HISPANIC CAUCUS

ASSOCIATE MEMBER, CONGRESSIONAL

BLACK CAUCUS

Congress of the United States

1107 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

House of Representatives

Washington, **DC** 20515-3218

The Rev. Dr. Suzan D. Johnson Cook first came to my

attention in 1978 when she worked with the "Johnson in '78" campaign for my then colleague State Assemblyman Charles She had just completed college and was an enthusiastic community activist.

Rev. Dr. Cook would later coordinate the public relations activities of the Bronx Lebanon Hospital Center where she coordinated its "New Directions" community revitalization effort. In that capacity, she organized many community leaders and established linkages with many government and public officials. While at Bronx Lebanon, she successfully coordinated the visit of Governor Hugh Carey to the South Bronx.

Since then, Suzan has gone on to establish herself as a leading member of the Bronx, and New York City as a whole. While still working at the Hospital, she entered the Union Theological Seminary, and upon completion became the first African-American woman in the history of the United States to pastor an American Baptist congregation. Although the church is in Manhattan, Suzan has maintained her residency in and commitment to the Bronx. The work she has done with the congregation of Mariners' Temple, and its surrounding community, has afforded her many tributes and recognitions. She continues to strive for excellence and has matured into a very capable community leader.

The opportunity to become a White House Fellow and to work with a Cabinet member at the federal Executive level would be an honor for both she and my community. As one who has made a difference, Suzan brings a clear voice and vision from the inner city. She is among the nation's best and brightest individuals. I am unaware of any weaknesses that she may possess. Through hard work, talent and sacrifice, she has secured many of the same opportunities which are available to our better advantaged citizens.

I have no hesitation in recommending highly, the Rev.

Dr. Suzan Johnson Cook, to the White House Fellowship program.

_	Name of	Evaluator.	

Below is a series of descriptive statements. Based on your knowledge of the candidate, decide the extent to which each statement is descriptive of him or her and place a check mark in the appropriate column. A check under

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(If you go not feel that you can evaluate the candidate in some particular, check the "Don't Know" column.)

	5	4	3	2	1	Don't Know
Intellectual ability	x				İ	and the second of the second o
Displays rigorous analytical powers		1				
Demonstrates critical facility	X	1	1	i	1	!
Is clear in reasoning ability	X					
Writes clearly and convincingly	Х					,
Speaks clearly and convincingly	X					
Personal integrity and responsibility	. X					
Demonstrates courage of convictions						<u> </u>
Accepts blame when it is his/hers	X	!	<u>i</u>	1	!	1
Keeps his/her word	X		Ì		!	!
Inspires trust on part of associates	Х					
Decisiveness, energy, vigor, creativity	Х					
Follows through on work						
Eager to assume responsibility	Х	İ	į	!		ļ
Initiates innovative solutions	X	!	1	<u>i</u>		l
Fulfills commitments	Х					
Leadership	Х	.		1		
Inspires confidence in others		-				ļ
Channels/directs efforts of others	X	i	;	i	1	1
Convinces by sound reasons	Х	1	!	<u> </u>	1	!
Takes responsibility for decisions he/she makes	X	1	!	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	!
Gives subordinates full credit for what they do	X	1	<u>i</u>	1	!	1
Is respected for wisdom and courage of his/her leadership	X			*		
Civic-mindedness and sense of responsibility	Х					
Believes firmly in the ideals and principles of American Government						
Feels and demonstrates a strong sense of obligation to his/her community	Х	į	!		1	1
	X	l	:		1	1
Self-confidence, poise, ability to get along with others	X					
Is poised and confident of his/her ability		<u> </u>				
Profits from constructive criticism		i	1		I	
Remains stable under stress	X	!			1	
Is able to work cooperatively and not just alone	Х	ì			!	j
Is clear and persuasive in argument	X.					İ

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- 9. To what extent and in what specific ways would you expect this candidate's community and the Nation to benefit from his/her participation in the Fellowship program?

	dent or Vice President of of your personal staff?	the United States, or a t	member of the cabinet, wou	uld you select this person
DEFINITELY	PROBABLY	POSSIBLY	PROBABLY NOT	NO NO
11. All things considered,	how does this person's a	bility and potential comp	pare to others with whom ye	ou are acquainted?
© OUTSTANDING (top 5%)	EXCELLENT (top 15%)	GOOD (top third)	AVERAGE (middle third)	POOR (bottom third)
Name (please print)				
Congi	ressman Jose E.	Serrano		A.
Address				
890 (Grand Concourse,	Bronx, NY 1045	1 (718) 538-5400	
Title		Phone No.		
U.S.	Representative			
Nature of business, occup				
Gove	rnment Office			
How long have you known	applicant? 14 years	In what conne	ction? <u>Constituent</u>	

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	5	4	3	2	. 1	Don't Know
Intellectual ability						
Displays rigorous analytical powers	X					
Demonstrates critical facility	х					
Is clear in reasoning ability						
	X		<u> </u>			
Writes clearly and convincingly	Х					
Speaks clearly and convincingly	х					
Personal integrity and responsibility	х					
Demonstrates courage of convictions						
Accepts blame when it is his/hers	X					
Keeps his/her word	X			ļ		
Inspires trust on part of associates	Х					
Decisiveness, energy, vigor, creativity	Х					
Follows through on work						
Eager to assume responsibility	Х				ļ	
Initiates innovative solutions	X				-	
Fulfills commitments	Х					
Leadership	Х					
Inspires confidence in others						
Channels/directs efforts of others	X					
Convinces by sound reasons	X					
Takes responsibility for decisions he/she makes	X				ļ	
Gives subordinates full credit for what they do	Х	-			-	
Is respected for wisdom and courage of his/her leadership	Х	•				
Civic-mindedness and sense of responsibility	Х					
Believes firmly in the ideals and principles of American Government						
Feels and demonstrates a strong sense of obligation to his/her community	X					
	X					
Self-confidence, poise, ability to get along with others	Х					
Is poised and confident of his/her ability						
Profits from constructive criticism	Х		1	 	†	
Remains stable under stress	Х		<u> </u>		†	
Is able to work cooperatively and not just alone	х			1	†	
Is clear and persuasive in argument	X					
,	**					•

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(See attached)

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		dent or Vice President of to your personal staff?	the United States, or a	member of the cabinet, w	ould you select this person
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	IITELY	PROBABLY	POSSIBLY	PROBABLY NOT	NO
11. All thing	s considered,	how does this person's a	bility and potential comp	pare to others with whom	you are acquainted?
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OUTST	ANDING	EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	POOR
(top	5%)	(top 15%)	(top third)	(middle third)	(bottom third)
Name (pleas	se print)				
	David N.	. Dinkins			
Address	City Hal			(212) 788-3000	
Title			Phone No.		······································
	Marray of	E the City of Nov. 1	ra wile		
	——————————————————————————————————————	the City of New Y	OLK		
Nature of bu	siness, occup	pation, profession			
How long ha	ve you know	n applicant? 15 Years	In what conne	ection? As her Mayor	and Borough President
		•	,		
					,
J		1 - JAHANS		1	December 4, 1992
Signature					Date



THE CITY OF NEW YORK OFFICE OF THE MAYOR NEW YORK, N.Y. 10007

December 4th, 1992

President's Commission on
White House Fellowships
The White House
Washington, D.C.

To Whom It May Concern:

I write to commend the Reverend Dr. Suzan Johnson Cook to your favorable consideration for a White House Fellowship.

When I first met the Reverend Dr. Suzan Johnson Cook 15 years ago, she had just graduated from college — at the age of 19. She returned home to New York in order to attend graduate school and to help elect her brother, Charles R. Johnson, to the New York State Assembly. I also assisted in this successful campaign and became acquainted with Suzan's exceptional skills and dynamic, compelling personality, which she would later put to use in support of my own campaigns for Manhattan Borough President and Mayor of the City of New York.

Over the years, I have seen Suzan develop into a capable and highly respected leader not only in the religious community, but in the public and private sectors as well. Under her leadership, the historic Mariner's Temple Baptist Church — the oldest Baptist church in Manhattan — has grown from a struggling parish of 15 members to a bustling spiritual center of more than 1,000. Each week, more than 500 men and women in business gather for reflection and inspiration at the Reverend Johnson Cook's "Lunch Hour of Power" services for the downtown community.

Suzan's exemplary leadership, care, and concern for the wellbeing of all New Yorkers have earned her the respect and admiration of her peers. Indeed, her effectiveness at building bridges between ethnic and religious groups led me to join Police Commissioner Lee Brown in appointing Suzan to be a Police Department Chaplain in 1990 — the first female chaplain in the history of the department. Her work there has helped the morale of both officers and civilian employees.

Her many successes have not gone without recognition. Harvard University awarded Suzan a President's Administrative Fellowship in 1989 and later offered her a permanent position. But her dedication to the City of New York and to her community led her back to this city, much to our benefit. She recently accepted my invitation to serve on the Federal Steering Committee for the "Negros Burial Ground," an important spiritual and archaeological site in lower Manhattan. Not only is her voice needed, but she will also benefit from this opportunity to broaden her horizons and maximize her skills.

If there is a limit to what Suzan Johnson Cook can achieve, I certainly have not seen it. She has demonstrated capability, competence, and determination in the face of any obstacle. I have no doubt that she could easily and successfully lead almost any major non-profit or community-based organization. I feel certain that in the long run, Suzan will attain high office, whether as a commissioner or cabinet member at the local, state, or national level.

I believe that a White House Fellowship will offer Dr. Johnson Cook an even greater opportunity to learn and to grow. At the same time, I believe she will also be a great benefit to the White House. She has an interest and investment in the political process, and has demonstrated that she knows how to work within that process constructively and successfully. If accepted, she would bring an experienced, urban, and urbane voice to the highest level of our government, which has lacked such voices for too long.

I commend her without reservation.

Sincerely,

David N. Dinkins MAYOR

Name of Applicant	Suzan D. Johnson Cook	Name of Evaluator_	Howard Rubenstein

Below is a series of descriptive statements. Based on your knowledge of the candidate, decide the extent to which each statement is descriptive of him or her and place a check mark in the appropriate column. A check under

- "5" means that the statement is completely and consistently descriptive of the candidate in all contexts, circumstances, and occasions in which you have known or observed him/her and you rate him/her "outstanding" (top 5%);
- "4" means that the statement is almost always descriptive and you rate him/her "excellent" (top 15%);
- "3" means that the statement is almost always descriptive and you rate him/her "good" (top third);
- "2" means that it is occasionally descriptive and you rate him/her "average" (middle third);
- "1" means that the statement is not descriptive at all and you rate him/her "poor" (bottom third).

(If you do not feel that you can evaluate the candidate in some particular, check the "Don't Know" column.)

	5	4	3	2	1	Don't Know
Intellectual ability						
Displays rigorous analytical powers	Х					
Demonstrates critical facility	X					
Is clear in reasoning ability	Х					
- Ood Wilder						,
Writes clearly and convincingly	Х					
Speaks clearly and convincingly	Х					
Personal integrity and responsibility	. X					
Demonstrates courage of convictions						
Accepts blame when it is his/hers	X					
Keeps his/her word	X					
Inspires trust on part of associates	Х					
Decisiveness, energy, vigor, creativity	Х					,
• •						
Follows through on work	X				-	<u> </u>
Eager to assume responsibility	X					
Fulfills commitments	Х					
	X					
Leadership	Λ					
Inspires confidence in others						
Channels/directs efforts of others	<u>X</u>					
Convinces by sound reasons						
Takes responsibility for decisions he/she makes	Х					
Gives subordinates full credit for what they do	X					
Is respected for wisdom and courage of his/her leadership	X					
Civic-mindedness and sense of responsibility	х					×
Believes firmly in the ideals and principles of American Government	^					
Feels and demonstrates a strong sense of obligation to his/her community	Х					
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	X					
Self-confidence, poise, ability to get along with others	х					
Is poised and confident of his/her ability	,					
Profits from constructive criticism	X				 	
					1	
Remains stable under stress	X				 	
Is clear and persuasive in argument	X				·	
is clear and persuasive in argument	^					

Although your rating of the applicant on the above scales will be important in judging his/her qualifications for a White House Fellowship, even more important will be your candid and specific comments answering the following questions. Please attach additional sheets as necessary.

(See attached)

- 1. What do you feel are the applicant's major strengths? Please include a specific example or an occasion in which these strengths were demonstrated. Suzan has a wonderful aility to interact with and command the respect of colleagues and professionals in many different sectors of society.
- 2. What do you feel are the applicant's weaknesses?

\$ignature

- 3. What do you consider to be the major impact the applicant has made in his/her professional work?
- 4. What do you consider to be the candidate's major contribution to his/her community, outside his/her professional work?
- 5. What has the candidate done that you consider to be especially enterprising or creative?
- Describe the situation, circumstance, or occasion that you feel most significantly called upon the candidate's leadership, judgment, abilities, and capacity and describe how he or she responded or acted in that situation.
- 7. What is the candidate's potential? What position or level of responsibility do you expect the candidate to achieve in his/her lifetime?
- 8. In what specific ways would you anticipate that this person would benefit personally and professionally, if selected as a White House Fellow?
- 9. To what extent and in what specific ways would you expect this candidate's community and the Nation to benefit from his/her participation in the Fellowship program?

•	President or Vice President of mber of your personal staff?	the United States, or a me	ember of the cabinet, wou	ld you select this person
DEFINITELY	PROBABLY	D POSSIBLY	PROBABLY NOT	NO
11. All things consid OUTSTANDING (top 5%)	dered, how does this person's a EXCELLENT (top 15%)	ability and potential compa GOOD (top third)	re to others with whom you AVERAGE (middle third)	ou are acquainted? POOR (bottom third)
Name (please print) HowARD Address	J. Rubens			
How	and J. Rubenstei	in Assoc, dre	1345-6 m Ch	4 NY. 10105
PRES.		Phone No.	489-6900	
. •	occupation, profession REZATION S			
How long have you	known applicant? <u>12 years</u>	In what connecti	on?	
Huraco	M.		ורואו	92

Date

HOWARD J. RUBENSTEIN ASSOCIATES, INC.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

November 17, 1992

President's Commission on White House Fellowships

To Whom It May Concern:

Reverend Suzan D. Johnson Cook's reputation preceded our meeting more than 15 years ago, as she served as public relations director for a community hospital in the South Bronx and later with the American Baptist Churches. A relationship was formed, which has remained constant and consistent throughout the years.

Suzan has grown and matured into a most capable and dynamic leader, not only in the New York metropolitan area, but nationwide having demonstrated a tremendous commitment and concern for the disadvantaged and for the urban community.

She is able to bridge religion, politics and community service in a disarming yet meaningful manner, and thus her contributions to the nation will be extraordinary. She has excellent organizational skills and is an effective communicator within groups and one-on-one encounters.

As a community organizer, Suzan has made significant contributions for the underclass, the undereducated, and the disenfranchised. Yet, she has many more accomplishments. She endeavors to volunteer much of her time to neighborhood children, affording them cultural and educational experiences not otherwise available to them; both through her visionary leadership with the Multi-Ethnic Center, the American Baptists, and also an executive for the New York 100 Black Women.

She has also exemplified talents in a range of areas from the performing arts, to speaking, to managing a congregation. However, she has also excelled in the academic arena, having served as an administrative fellow at the Harvard University Divinity School. There, she aided the Divinity School in designing a program to address the needs of urban ministries, confronting senior faculty with rigorous intellectual and innovative ideas on how to accomplish this task with effectiveness. She continues to serve there as a member of the faculty as a visiting professor in urban studies. Many civic and private organizations have recognized her efforts, constantly inviting her to serve in a leadership capacity.

continued.....

Suzan has not displayed any weaknesses noteworthy to mention. Because of her adaptiveness and high intellect, if a weakness were to occur, I am certain that she would overcome such a shortcoming.

Her decision to return to her community following the Harvard Program was to continue her work in behalf of the disadvantaged. The White House Fellowship Program will send back a person with a more broadened mind armed with an enhanced perspective on the social, political and economic complexities of the 1990's. Short term, Suzan is able to sense as a commissioner for a city agency, or to head any of the major metropolitan, non-profit organizations.

Long range, there is unlimited potential to be an outstanding national leader.

Sincerely,

Howard J. Rubenstein

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION	
003. memo	To President Clinton from Susan D. Johnson Cook (partial) (1 page)	n.d.	P6/b(6)	

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For a complete list of items withdrawn from this folder, see the

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet at the front of the folder.

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records Domestic Policy Council

Carol Rasco (Meetings, Trips, Events)

OA/Box Number: 4592

FOLDER TITLE:

Suzan Johnson Cook 6-21-93 10:00 a.m.

rw144

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
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- PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).
 - RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

- Freedom of Information Act [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]
- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
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Susan D. Johnson Cook



MEMORANDUM

TO: President Clinton

FROM: Susan D. Johnson Cook, White House Fellow '93-'94

RE: Health Care Reform

DATE: March 24, 1993

As a new mother of five-month old son, one of the firstborn after your election, and who will benefit from the process and initiatives introduced and implemented by your Administration, I am deeply concerned about health care in the United States.

Although I was fortunate to have three different health coverage benefits. I was deeply convicted by the presence of those mothers' and households who were lacking coverage, and who therefore received inferior treatment. Every American has the right to adequate health care. There are certainly several aspects you must consider, and I am pleased with the progress of the task force on health headed by Mrs. Clinton.

There is the concern of policy-makers who want competitive health care by providers, there are the concerns of providers who are frustrated by a system, and there are the average, voting citizen whose voice is often heard. Middle-class Americans feel greatly pressured, and more than 35 million Americans are under or uninsured. More than 60% of children under age two are not immunized against polio. The lack of security and stability is also troubling, several employers do not have adequate health care

plans for employers. Those who do choose to terminate benefits when employment ends. Those trying to cater or re-enter the job market face the threat of non-coverage of previously treated illnesses. One answer is National Health Care.

There are also questions which deserve answers. Who shall pay for this reform? Many are willing to pay modest tax increases for themselves but not generations following. What about alienage? Should the plan covers those not citizens? What about a acute care? who helps the disabled; will there be adequate services? What about balanced billing?

There should, in my estimation, be health care for every American, regardless of ability to pay, at birth, a card should be supplied just as a birth certificate which should be in effect for the life of a person.

Most affected by the lack of national plan are children.

I recognize the need to trim the budget deficit, I only ask that monies not be taken away children.

In conjunction with immunization efforts, there must be education, particularly in inner-city communities infant mortality and teenager pregnancy are at alarming rates, I am in full support of your efforts to revitalize and expand upon the W/C and headstart programs, both of which have direct impact on health. A child cannot compete in school if s/he is not emotionally and physically healthy. The major development and foundation for warning access before age 5, the ages under which so many children are neglected. It also directly has impact on the number of youth having children. Without adequate education and access to birth control, there are

so many unwanted pregnancies, meaning on the very fabric of our society. Although costs may seem high long-term the dividends would urge you to consider a roundtable dialogue between: Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton; Surgeon General Jowlyn Elders; Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalah, CDF Executive M. Wright Edelmen to present a plan of action for the new millenuinn concerning health care or health education, by December 1993. It is important now to have this topic discuss by Congress. It is important now to have this topic discussed by Congress. Thank you for your attention.

As a practitioner within inner-city America for the past decade, I welcome the opportunity to share the concerns of an urban constituency

Word Count 599

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004. record	Student record from Fisk University for Suzan Johnson (1 page)	n.d.	P6/b(6)	

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COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records Domestic Policy Council

Carol Rasco (Meetings, Trips, Events)

OA/Box Number: 4592

FOLDER TITLE:

Suzan Johnson Cook 6-21-93 10:00 a.m.

rw144

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

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UNITED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

1810 Harvard Boulevard Dayton, Ohio 45406

Formed July 1, 1954, by the union of The Evangelical School of Theology, Reading Pennsylvania, and The Bonebrake Theological Seminary, Dayton, Ohio

Record of Suzan D. Johnson

Home Address 1020 Grand Concourse #6F, Bronx, New York 10451

Schools Attended Date Graduated Degree Granted Emerson College 1976 B.S.

Teachers College, Columbia U.1978 B.A.
Union Theological Seminary 1983 M.Div.

Date Admitted 1988 Date Graduated 19 May 1990 Degree Granted Doctor of Ministry

The Doctor of Ministry degree is awarded on the basis of evidence that growth, competence and contribution in ministry are worthy of the degree and in accord with the goals and objectives of the program. It is not granted for the completion of any stated number of units of study. However, it is assumed that achievement of the requisite goals requires full engagement in the Doctor of Ministry program process. Involvement in the process is continuous from enrollment to degree conferral.

Process Component	Number of Semester-Hour Credits
Intensive Seminar I Analysis: Context and Participant	2
Completion of Phase I Synergy of Context and Participant: toward a program focus	3
Intensive Seminar II Foundations: God's Action and Our Response	2
Completion of Phase II Foundations: God's Action and Our Response	3
Intensive Seminar III Preparation for a Model of Ministry	2
Candidacy Review Evaluation	. 1
Completion of Phase III A Model of Ministry	3
Intensive Seminar IV Synthesis and Publication	2
Completion of Phase IV Including Final Document "Building Community with F Christians in a Twentieth Century New York City Com	6 First Generation ntext"
Program Related Electives "The Relationship of the Black Church to Issues of America" - Dr. Daryl Ward "The Mission of the Black Church for the Twenty-fir Dr. Samuel D. Proctor	
TOTAL	32

Entitled to honorable dismissal unless otherwise indicated

Date of issue 2-24-93	Donna J. West	Registrar

Summary of Doctor of Ministry Program

Suzan Denise Johnson

Building Community with First Generation Christians
In a Twentieth Century New York City Context

February 1990

Suzan Denise Johnson is a Samuel D. Proctor Fellow. Her Doctor of Ministry final document examines and evaluates methodologies used for growth and revitalization of Mariners' Temple, the oldest Baptist Church in Manhattan. Study of the growth from 15 to 515 members assists discernment of future directions for the ministry of Mariners' Temple. The information is also valuable to other churches interested in building community with first generation Christians.

Suzan's final examination committee indicated that the document contributes a much-needed perspective on church renewal within the Black Church tradition. The committee encouraged her to pursue publishers for the manuscript.

Throughout the Doctor of Ministry Program Suzan demonstrated strong leadership skills, a collegial style of learning and an ability to effectively equip laity for ministry.

Suzan, as part of her total Doctor of Ministry Program, completed course work on: 1) The Relationship of The Black Church to Issues of Blackness in America and 2) The Mission of the Black Church for the 21st Century. Four sermon manuscripts related to her doctoral project reflected her ability to translate academic learnings into meaningful preaching for the Black Church as it shapes its mission for the 21st century.

Samuel D. Proctor Mentor

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005. record	Student record from Teachers College for Suzan Johnson (1 page)	n.d.	P6/b(6)	

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OA/Box Number: 4592

FOLDER TITLE:

Suzan Johnson Cook 6-21-93 10:00 a.m.

rw144

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 - RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

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006. record	Student record from Union Theological Seminary for Suzan Johnson (1 page)	n.d.	P6/b(6)	

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rw144

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Fisk University 1973-71

Intro. to Theatre	3
Eng. Comp.	3
Forms of Lit.	3
World Civ.	6
Interm. Spanish	3
Convers. & CompSpanish	3
Fundament. Concepts of Math	3
11 11 11	3
University Choir	1
Principal Piano	3
Core Course-Religion	3
Effective Communication	2_
•	36 credits

N.Y. University Summer 1975
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Named to Who's Who among Students in American Universities & Colleges 1975-76

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION	
007. record	Student record from Emerson College for Suzan Johnson (2 pages)	n.d.	P6/b(6)	

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Domestic Policy Council
Carol Rasco (Meetings, Trips, Events)

OA/Box Number: 4592

FOLDER TITLE:

Suzan Johnson Cook 6-21-93 10:00 a.m.

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