**Pleasant Valley AME Church, Belleville**

**Mary Bell WMS**

The Mary Bell Missionary Society was organized in 1950 at Pleasant Valley African Methodist Episcopal Church. Mrs. Bell always visited the newcomers in the community and offered her services to any work needed. If someone needed transportation to a doctor's appointment, she would take them herself.

When Pleasant Valley was planning to build the first church building, she donated the first 27 blocks to the foundation. Thinking of all her good deeds for God and humanity, we decided to name our society in memory of her.

We have been continual service to the local Church and the community, even during periods of time when there was no representation to the Conferences. Until the Missionary department became well established in the Conference, we often had small groups that gave specific services to the Church, the Pastor and the community. We have had hospitality committees to welcome new residents and other groups to visit the sick and shut-in and families during bereavement.

In 1991, the Mary Bell Missionary Society joined with the Ann Arbor Area and have served since then on all levels.

We give reflections of our past Missionary sisters every 5th Sunday. We have raised money each year for AIDS of Michigan and we give to "The More Excellent Way." We have an adopted foster care home and we do special things for them during the year. We give a Senior Luncheon every year, inviting Senior Citizens

from our community. We support our Pastor and spouse on their Anniversary, Christmas and attending Conferences.