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GBSC THEME

"To Convince the Unconvinced to be Convinced...through Education, Missions and Fellowship,"

Matthew 28:19-20

Duke Study Focuses on Prostate Cancer Education and Treatment

By Afabwaje B. Jatau

A research study at Duke Medical Center is addressing life after prostate cancer in African-American prostate cancer survivors.

Statistics show that African-American men have higher rates of prostate cancer diagnosis and mortality when compared to Caucasian men. In North Carolina, African-American men are three times more likely to die from prostate cancer than Caucasian men. Additionally, African-American men also report slower recovery from treatment and more persistent symptoms after treatment.

The research study, titled "Coping in African American Prostate Cancer Survivors" (CAAPS), is led by Dr. Lisa Campbell, a health psychologist, and adjunct consulting professor at Duke Medical Center.

The CAAPS study seeks to help men cope with the symptoms and challenges that can occur after treatment for prostate cancer. Despite advances in prostate cancer treatment and improvements in post-treatment quality of life, many prostate cancer survivors do not receive proper educational and supportive services after treatment.

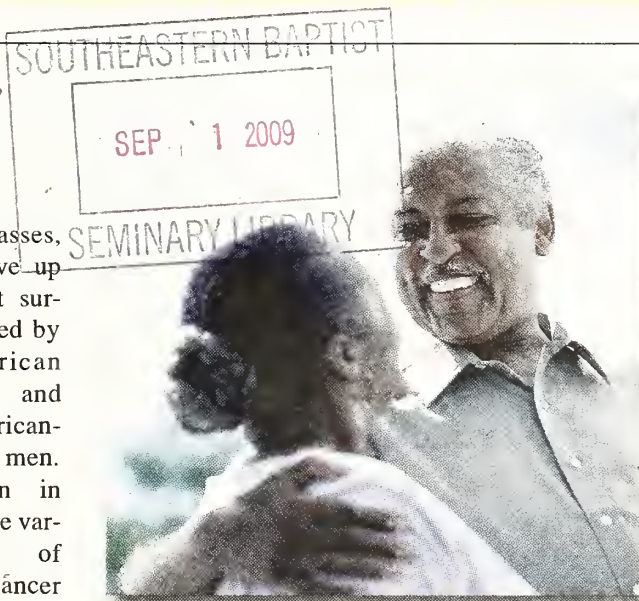
Dr. Campbell and her team believe that prostate cancer survivors can benefit most from education that goes beyond managing symptoms. Men can learn ways to maintain physical and emotional intimacy and social functioning in spite of persistent sexual, urinary, or bowel symptoms.

The CAAPS study evaluates the effectiveness of an eight-week, group-based intervention for enhancing quality of life in relation to the physical, emotional, and social challenges that can occur after treatment for prostate

cancer.

Group classes, which may have up to six to eight survivors, are co-led by African-American psychologists and trained African-American lay men. Although men in groups may have various degrees of prostate cancer knowledge, the group approach allows men to share individual experiences and act as a source of support for one another.

CAAPS, which is funded by the Department of Defense, has collaborated with several community-based organizations, including the Minority Prostate Cancer Awareness Action Team and the Triangle East Chapter of



100 Black Men, Inc. Through partnerships with these organizations, CAAPS educates African-American communities about prostate cancer and the resources available to them.

For more information contact Dr. Lisa Campbell at 919-416-3404 or caaps@mc.duke.edu.

"The Shaw Bears' Season Home Opener Is August 29th"

Shaw University to Play Football at Millbrook High School

From Press Release



Shaw University has announced that its 2009 football games will be played at the Millbrook High School stadium in Raleigh. For the last two seasons, the Bears played at the Durham County Memorial Stadium in Durham.

"This move allows us to reconnect with our Raleigh fan and alumni base. This shift means our games are closer to most of our fans, and the cost of both parking and tickets has been reduced significantly," said Marcus Clarke, interim athletic director for Shaw University.

Ticket prices for this year's games have been lowered from \$25 to \$15 for adults (except for the homecoming game on October 24, which is \$20). Students with valid IDs from visiting institutions or local grade schools will be admitted for \$10, while children under 10 are \$5. Shaw University students with valid IDs are admitted free.

Shaw has also put season tickets on sale for the 2009 football season. The season ticket package includes tickets and a parking pass to all five home games. The package costs \$75 and may be ordered by going to www.shaw-bears.com or calling the athletic department at 919-546-8281.

Shaw University's home games are August 29 (Elizabeth City State), September 12 (Concordia), October 3 (Saint Augustine's), October 24 (Homecoming—Livingstone), and October 31 (Johnson C. Smith). All games except October 24 begin at 6 p.m.; the October 24 game is at 4 p.m.

The Millbrook stadium, located at 2201 Spring Forest Road, has a natural grass field and a current capacity of 4,000. Bleachers will be added to increase this capacity for Shaw games.

Remaining Faithful to Our Purpose as a Convention

By Reverend Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr.
President GBSC

Greetings to you in Jesus joy. There is, in general, a foreboding about the dire economic conditions facing our nation and our people. Families across the state and the country are challenged financially, psychologically, and spiritually. The word and reality of recession screams from all segments of the media and is mouthed from the barber shop to the dinner table to the bedroom. Our sense of discipline vacationed during a protracted period of unmitigated greed and gluttony. And now correction is necessary and is the rule of the day.



Rev. Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr.

Even the church is being forced into

the dreaded, turbulent waters of cutbacks, downsizing, layoffs, and reductions. Necessary, perhaps, but unfortunate when we abandon our theology and purpose for existence—missions and ministry.

The Bible is replete with instances of famine and drought. However, there is good news. In every instance God called on His people to remain obedient and faithful and He never failed in providing sustenance during and deliverance from the same. "Great is His faithfulness...Thou changest not...Thy compassion fails not." In these times, we're called to remain faithful to our purpose as a convention. Believing God is the source of our supply, I challenge each and every pastor, disciple, church, auxiliary, and association to trust God and support our convention's purpose by stretching on faith and supporting State Missions, the engine of our work.

We are delighted and excited to

welcome to our great work, Dr. Linda Bryant, our new executive-secretary treasurer. Dr. Bryant brings to the Woman's Auxiliary a wonderful energy, experience, and passion for missions and ministry. She formally served the Shaw Divinity School as an administrator and professor. She is a member of Christian Faith Baptist Church of Raleigh, having lead mission efforts for their congregation under the auspices of Dr. David Forbes. Dr. Bryant's impeccable character and integrity will serve Baptist causes well. Her gifts as a minister and administrator position her to propel missions by way of the Auxiliary to higher levels. I urge you to embrace Dr. Bryant and pledge to assist her in every way we can to ensure the continued success of Baptist causes through the work and leadership of the Woman's Auxiliary.

Finally, we welcome the Lott Carey family to the state and Raleigh in partic-

ular for their annual session. Dr. David Forbes and the Christian Faith congregation have the daunting task as host for the session. Lott Carey and General Baptist enjoy a long, storied history which grew tremendously under the guidance of North Carolina native Dr. Wendell Somerville. Now under the dynamic leadership of executive-secretary David Emmanuel Goatley and president Keith Troy, Lott Carey has expanded its vision, serving more than twenty-five mission fields around the globe. Again, welcome and I'm sure we will be blessed and better by your presence.

To God be the glory.

Rev. Moss can be reached at
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Many Things Change, But God Does Not

By Rev. Dr. Nilous M. Avery, II, D.
Min. First Vice-President GBSC

To my brothers and sisters in the General Baptist "tie" that binds our hearts in Christian love: "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God" (2 Corinthians 1:3-4, NIV).



Dr. Nilous Avery, II

What a wonderful thought to know with assurance that God is merciful. God blesses us so that through us, others will be blessed. The writer in Ecclesiastes noted that some things do change. There is a season for "every activity under heaven" (Ecclesiastes 3:1b). Change occurs frequently: from being born to dying...from planting to uprooting...from killing to healing...from tearing down to building up...from crying to laughing...from loving to hating...and so on. Some things do change.

For many who have seen a number of "getting ups and lying downs," dramatic changes have taken place. Many conveniences we take for granted today

were non-existent at the beginning of the 20th century (the year 1900). Change is constant. Some things do change. A time traveler from the early 1900s would not recognize the world as it exists today. And yet, some things do not change. When a woman came to Jesus with an alabaster jar of expensive perfume and poured it on His head, Jesus's disciples became angry and complained (Matthew 26). They concluded that the perfume could have been sold and the money given to the poor. Jesus replied that the poor would always be around.

Some things do not change. We need food because we get hungry. We need comforting because we experience grief. We need guidance because we get confused. We need compassion and companionship because we get lonely. We need forgiveness and a Savior because we all sin. We need hope because at some point, we all die. Some things do not change. God's grace, mercy, and love do not change. In

Jesus, God's image is not stained and God's power is not weak. God is immutable. In darkness, God is light. In chaos, God is truth. In weakness, God is strength. In death, God is eternal life!

Some things do change. God does not! As disciples of Jesus the Christ who strive daily to give thanks and live thankfully, our methods may change, but the goal is still the same: "To Convince the Unconvinced to be Convinced ... through Education, Missions, and Fellowship" (Matthew 28:19-20).

Are we helpers or hindrances to the cause of Jesus the Christ? State Missions equips and empowers us to be helpers. Some things do not change:

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

(2 Corinthians 13:14, NIV)

State Missions needs your financial support and prayers now! It is my firm belief that the people of God in the General Baptist family will rise up to meet every challenge, every lion's den, every Red Sea, every flaming furnace, every wall, every stronghold that attempts to thwart the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ. SEND YOUR SUPPORT FOR STATE MISSIONS TODAY!

"May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all" (2 Corinthians 13:14, NIV). Amen.

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Look at Man, See God

By Rev. Dr. Ricky L. Banks
Third Vice-President GBSC

"In man, God" (Genesis 1:26-27; 2:15). The climax of the beginning chapter of the beginning book of the



Rev. Ricky Banks

Bible was the beginning of mankind. For the first time in the sequence of creation, God said, "Let us make" (v.26). A careful statement of the formula by which

man was to be made (in our image, after our likeness) and the function he was to have (let them have dominion) also was given in verse 26.

The use in verse 26 of the plurals, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness," probably reflects the theology of the heavenly council—God holding court with His heavenly messengers and assistants. This council is mentioned here and there in the Old Testament for example, 1 Kings 22; Psalms 82; Isaiah 6; and Job 1. Reference to the heavenly council in the plurals here, as in Genesis 3:22, is another indication of the unique importance of mankind. In each of the other acts of creation, God acted alone.

Of greater importance still, however, is the formula for the creation of man. He was made "in the image of God" (v.27). In verse 26, "image" is modified by the plural pronoun "our," and then immediately qualified by the

word "likeness."

A lot of God is in each of us. He has made us like Himself. Since no two of us are alike, however, exactly what that means cannot be known in full until the family of man has lived out its days and come to the end. The genius of God's creativity can no more be measured than can the extent of His being. New aspects of His image turn up every day—indeed, every hour and every minute.

Like other creatures, man also is created and is a creature. But man is different because of all the creatures, man is like God. Like God, man can create. With his mind and with his hands, man can fashion something new. Like God, man can make decisions and undertake actions that are not self-oriented. Thus of all the creatures, man is given dominion over the full range of the creation.

In the whole frame of the account of the creation of man, the uniqueness of man as the crown of creation and the specialness of man's kinship to God are stressed. Genesis 1:26-29 provides a very special answer to the Israelite's version of the question: Where did I come from? Eloquently and with multiplied expression, the beginning of mankind is brought back to the beginning—God. And there, lo and behold, we see that when God made mankind, he made male and female like Himself—in His image and after His likeness—so that looking on man, the creation could see God.

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Mr. William B. Thompson
Financial Strategist

News from Children's Home

By Rev. Norman T. Davis

Greetings to the Baptist family around the state. Peace be unto you from the father and His only Son, the Lord Jesus Christ.



Norman T. Davis

Central Children's Home now has 16 children. We have been licensed through February 28, 2011, which is a first for the home to receive a two-year license. A special thanks to Ms.

Williams and staff. We are very pleased. We have secured a loan to help with the note, and it gives us some time.

I had a rare privilege to attend one of the best Central Children's Home worship celebrations of this time. It

was held at Olive Branch Missionary Baptist Church in Parmalee, where the Rev. Samuel Chance is pastor. This was a Monday through Friday night celebration, but I was present only on Friday night. All of the pastors gave free services during the week, so all funds raised would help the children's home. I was inspired by the work of Sister Maxine Gross, who gave the welcome and purpose. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for being involved. Dr. George Cook, our board president, Ms. Angel Williams, the staff and children thank you for the fine fellowship and celebration you had. Thank you to Dr. Walter Cherry, who is moderator of the Middle Ground Association, for your leadership and your vice moderator and staff. A million thanks to you all.

We have 61 associations in the General Baptist State Convention. This is a great lesson what we can do if we would just pull together. The proceeds from the week of celebration was \$14,311, plus school supplies and toiletries for the kids.

If any associations in the Eastern half of the state is having your annual meeting, please let the children's home know by calling Rev. Norman T. Davis at 919-362-7074. We will send a representative to your association.

During the Holy week, I was asked to attend a series of services by a church of the New Hope Association and four churches from the Cedar Grove Association. The week of services gave more than \$11,000 to the children's home.

The third Sunday in April I attend-

ed the Johnson District Association at Good Samaritan Baptist Church in Garner, and the offering from this service was \$4,000.

Many thanks to all who shared in the Founder's Day celebrations on June 20. We had the largest number of vendors ever and the crowd was great. During the last two and a half years I have served as interim pastor of Mt. Gilead Baptist Church in Durham. July 12 was my last Sunday in that role. I thank the members of Mt. Gilead for the opportunity to serve and I thank God for the great things He has done. Please join me in welcoming the new pastor, Dr. David Mitchell.

Pray for us. We need the support of all the pastors and churches of the convention.

Hundreds Attend Black Church Conference

By David Winfrey, for LifeWay.com

At this year's Black Church Leadership and Family Conference church leaders explored a multitude of issues and resources including improving Sunday school, helping churches attract men, strengthening couples and raising godly kids.

Pastors and lay leaders met at LifeWay's Ridgecrest Conference Center near Asheville from July 20-24 to address spiritual, relational, and systemic challenges in their congregations and homes. The weeklong event featured enthusiastic worship, more than 100 workshops, and time to forge relationships and discuss issues informally. Many attendees said they came for the speakers and resources. Returning participants cited friendships and the Ridgecrest retreat setting as reasons to come back.

Workshop speaker Elizabeth Luter called the week an "oasis" for relaxation and renewal.

"Because of the busyness of most ministries, for some of us it's the only time we get away," said Luter, who has attended the conference for 12 years. "It's just as rewarding as a vacation because we get to glean from the wisdom of so many people around us." She and husband Fred Luter, pastor of Franklin Avenue Baptist Church in New Orleans, led a workshop presenting a set of marriage strengthening resources titled *The Love Dare*. Based on the film *Fireproof*, the resource includes an

eight-week couples study on such topics as unconditional love, forgiveness, and honoring and cherishing one's spouse.

"I've seen too many couples married and miserable," Fred Luter said. "Somewhere along the line we're not



loving each other and cherishing each other the way God desires."

A healthy relationship with God can result in a healthy marriage, he added. "If you have an intimate one-on-one relationship with God, you can't help but honor your spouse because you've got to answer to God for everything you do."

Attendee Roszylin Akins said she intends to share *The Love Dare* with another leader at her church, First Baptist Church of Bracktown in Lexington, Ky. "That will be a great tool for us to use as we prepare for our cou-

ple's retreat."

She and her husband, C.B. Akins, pastor of FBC Bracktown, used information from previous conferences to help First Baptist simplify its structure and align all ministries to the church's mission.

One change the church made was to rename its Sunday school "religious

education hour" because "school" implies an eventual graduation, Roszylin Akins said. "When you're in God's Kingdom, there's no graduation—there's just progression."

Another workshop speaker encouraged pastors to empower other leaders to direct many church activities.

"A lot of times in our churches we try to go solo, and we cannot accomplish the task that God has given us," said James Richardson, a coaching consultant for the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina.

He described a church launch in which he recruited members to direct discipleship, worship, fellowship, ministry, evangelism and stewardship efforts. "A lot of times we get bogged down with things that somebody else can do," he said. "We've got to learn to delegate."

Conference organizer Jay Wells said the week was designed to provide multiple resources for church staff and members in one location. "We're meeting a need for churches to help them renew, regenerate and equip their people in a way they couldn't do themselves," said Wells, director of black church relations and consulting for LifeWay Christian Resources.

The conference featured presentations and resources from several Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) agencies including the International Mission Board (IMB), NAMB,

(Continued on Page 5)

(Continued from Page 5,
Church Conference)

GuideStone and the SBC Executive Committee. "A lot of this week is designed to deliver all of the SBC to one audience at the same time," Wells said.

IMB President Jerry Rankin presented the closing message, telling attendees that SBC missionaries reported 27,000 new churches globally last year. "The Gospel's being proclaimed to nations where we never dreamed we would have a missionary witness."

Yet the greatest tragedy remains those who have never had the opportunity to hear about Jesus, in part, because many Christians won't consider going abroad. "Where did we get the elite myth that only a few are called to go?" Rankin asked. "When are we going to take the initiative and say, 'Here am I. Send me?'"

During energetic worship services,

pastors often urged church leaders to trust in God in the face of congregational, economic or personal challenges.

"When we're caught off guard, God is not caught off guard," said Wayne Chaney Jr., pastor of Antioch Baptist Church in Long Beach, Calif. "In times of hardship, the Lord is still speaking." Chaney noted that God spoke to Joshua after Moses' death, during a time of transition for the people of Israel. Chaney urged the audience to lean on God during times of transition, despite tension and uncertainty.

"Even when you can't understand him ... He's still reliable. He's still doing wonders. He can still blow your mind."

Nearly 1,000 people attended this year's conference. For more information, visit

www.lifeway.com/blackchurchlife.

Lott Carey Youth Travels

By Rev. David Emmanuel Goatley

For several months, five churches in Metropolitan Washington, DC have been on a journey of discovery. These congregations have been exploring how they can be more intentional about developing habits and practices to help them notice, name, and nurture young people who may be open to exploring

ministry as vocation. Being alive is a call to live for God. Discovering, developing, and deploying our unique giftedness, however, requires some intentionality. Our Calling Congregations Cluster is trying to experiment with some practices that will help them live into their responsibilities to help nurture new leaders for Christian leadership.

We have been documenting some of our journey in this project. You might be interested in how we have progressed and what we are learning. Your congregation may want to begin a journey of

this kind. If not, perhaps you can pray for our cluster and for the young people and their leaders who are on pilgrimage.

In June, our youth leaders were with us at the 55th Annual Lott Carey Youth Seminar at Shaw University in Raleigh. In July they had a theological seminar, where I got to put on my seminar professor's hat again and be their theology professor. Some of them participated in the eighth Caribbean Baptist Youth Festival in Nassau, Bahamas, July 22-26, where they shares with Christian youth from all over the Caribbean for

worship, service, study, and fellowship.

The youth leadership team will also help us plan one more missions blitz activity. If you are interested in learning about our journey, go to www.lottcarey.org. If you don't have time for the read, will you remember us in prayer? We are trying to help churches to nurture new generations of leaders for the world.

Thanks for your partnership in this ministry!

Fewer Teens Gained Valuable Employment Skills this Summer

From Press Release

New employment data released last month confirmed what economists (and parents of teenagers across the country) feared—the bad economy and increasing federal minimum wage had a disastrous effect on teens looking for jobs over the summer.

The latest employment data continues to show an increase in unemployment for America's teens, which

reached the highest rate in 17 years this spring and continued to climb over the summer. The teen unemployment rate is currently at 24 percent, a nearly 12 percent increase from earlier this summer and 2.5 times the national unemployment rate. African-American teen unemployment is at 37.9 percent, 4 times the national unemployment rate. National African-American teen unemployment has increased by over 27 percent in one year.

Summer months have historically been a time when teenagers flock to entry-level employment opportunities and, in doing so, gain valuable job skills that increase their chance of successfully entering the adult workforce.

"The unintended consequence of the federal minimum wage hike is pricing some employees out of the workforce, and based on the recent unemployment data, it's teens—

minority teens especially—who are getting hit the hardest," said Kristen Lopez Eastlick, senior research analyst for the Employment Policies Institute. "A job for a young employee is a chance to gain important skills and learn the invisible curriculum that comes from being employed. Unfortunately many teens were denied the chance to learn skills that come with having a first job this summer because of an auto pilot wage increase coming on top of shrinking business profits."

Economists continue to establish a strong link between minimum wage increases and job loss. According to research from the University of California-Irvine that looked at job loss during a good economy, the negative effects of wage hikes are overwhelmingly concentrated on the most vulnerable employees, particularly

young minorities and high school dropouts. Research from the University of Georgia found that every 10 percent increase in the minimum wage was associated with a 4.6 to 9 percent decline in teenage employment in small businesses.

For vulnerable teens, a lack of entry-level job experience can have a long-term impact. A study out of Stanford University found that youths who experienced especially long periods of unemployment were particularly prone to negative long-term effects on future wages and employment. Research from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill found that unemployment for teens continues to adversely affect earnings for as long as 10 years.

For more on this study, visit www.epionline.org.

Durham School Opens Its Doors Thanks to Church

From Staff Reports

Students living in one of the poorest neighborhoods in Durham have a new private school they can attend for free. Union Independent School is housed in a new 49,000-square-foot facility and was built largely with contributions from Union Baptist Church, which is led by Pastor Ken Hammond.

The school is scheduled to open this month with 75 students in grades kindergarten through second. It will operate on a year-round academic schedule and plans to add a new kindergarten class each year until it becomes a K-8 school.

Parents living in the 172-block area known as Northeast-Central

Durham began applying for their children at the beginning of the year. Students were selected through a lottery and acceptance letters were mailed out in May, signifying the inaugural classes.

Union Baptist Church broke ground on the school in July 2006 as part of its ongoing efforts to revitalize the area. According to Pastor Hammond, the church has contributed more than \$2 million so far to bring the dream to fruition. The school will operate independently of the church and has its own board of directors. For more information, visit www.unionis.org.

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Choir Shares One Voice

From Staff Reports

One Voice Youth Choir is an interdenominational organization that functions to give the Christian young people of Pamlico County the opportunity to share their faith in Jesus Christ. Members of the choir range from eighth grade to first year in college. Since March, these teens have been working hard learning songs, choreography, and drama lines for a musical they created titled "Amazing God." In June and July, One Voice presented the musical locally and also took it on the road for a

week of touring in mid-July. They've performed in churches, camps, children's homes—including Central Children's Homes—assisted living homes, and in community services. And because they don't charge for these performances, the teens have held fundraisers to help cover expenses, along with the financial support they receive from churches, families, friends, and local businesses.

Open Ceremony Planned

Miss Kristy D. Davis and The Reverend O.D. Sykes

are pleased to announce their engagement and forth-coming marriage.



*Kristy D. Davis &
The Reverend O.D. Sykes*

The bride-elect is the daughter of Ms. Deloris Davis of Garysburg and Mr. Vernon J. Bryant of Roanoke Rapids and the granddaughter of Mrs. Maliscy F. Davis of Weldon

The bridegroom-elect is the son of Deacon Paul C. and Deaconess Bessie M. Sykes of Garysburg. He is the grandson of Mrs. Erma L. Sykes of Jackson and godson of Mrs. Roxie H. Battle of Weldon. The Reverend Sykes is the Pastor of Swift Creek Missionary Baptist Church in Whitakers and Springfield Missionary Baptist Church in Littleton

The couple is registered at Crate & Barrel, Belk and JC Penny

**The couple will exchange vows at 6p.m.,
Saturday, September 19, 2009**

at the Evangelistic Church of Deliverance

195 Sycamore Street, Weldon, N.C. 27890

The Reverend J.L. Battle of Roanoke Rapids will officiate the ceremony

All are welcome to join us in this joyous occasion



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Friday, August 14, 2009 @ 7:00pm

Dr. Charles E. Rogers & Salem Missionary Baptist Church Family

Friday, August 21, 2009 @ 7:00pm

Dr. Nathan E. Scovens & Galilee Missionary Baptist Church Family

Sunday, August 23, 2009

8am - Pastor Brenda Caldwell & Greater Temple Baptist Church Family

10:30am—Dr. Daniel K. McCowan & Maxwell Baptist Church Family

Dinner will be served.

Come help us honor our Pastor and an Anointed Man of God

Through Church, He Fought Segregation

By Amber Nimocks, for *The News & Observer*

During the 1950s and '60s, when violence marked the civil rights struggle in much of the South, the conflict in North Carolina was less explosive. This was due in part to the efforts of many who chipped away at the wall between the races before and during those decades, pushing for social equality.

J.C. Herrin was one of those who pushed, helping ease tensions and fostering a dialog between blacks and whites. He did so first in 1948 by advocating that black and white Baptists be welcomed to worship together at a church in Chapel Hill. Herrin's support of integrated student groups eventually led to his removal as chaplain of the Baptist Student Union at the University of North Carolina. But it didn't stop him from pushing.

Herrin died in June at age 94.

His daughters Cynthia Evans and

Barbara Herrin say they aren't sure what drove their father to challenge racial segregation. He grew up in segregated Concord in the 1920s and '30s, the son of a devoutly Baptist textile millworker. He earned his undergraduate degree from Wake Forest University then went north to study theology, graduating from Union Theological Seminary in New York.

Herrin arrived in Chapel Hill in 1946 to find a campus thronged with postwar students, the school and the town solidly segregated.

"He had come to believe that the churches should be leading the way," Evans says.

Baptist Student Union members began inviting Shaw University students to dinners and socials at what was then Chapel Hill Baptist and is now University Baptist. One Sunday, the

black students came into the sanctuary to worship with their white colleagues, prompting an emergency meeting of deacons. Afterward, some white members left while the black students remained.

But eventually, the N.C. Baptist Convention, which employed Herrin, blamed him for encouraging revolutionary and misguided actions among students. He and two other Baptist Student Union chaplains were fired in 1954. The proceedings against them and their dismissal made statewide headlines, and Charles Kuralt, then-editor of *The Daily Tar Heel* at UNC, raged against the decision: "What blasphemies are committed in the name of Christianity?"

Herrin's daughter recalls that her father was shocked that the church to which he had been so devoted could reject him so resoundingly.

"I think at that point he was struggling with the hypocrisy of this religious industry he had committed his life to," Barbara Herrin says. "He really thought they would come along and see the rightness of his position."

He also was concerned for the future of his family. The Herrins moved for a while to Scarsdale, N.Y., and his daughters recall how much the family wanted to return to the South. In 1959, Herrin secured a grant from the Field Foundation that allowed him to continue his civil rights work. His mission was to offer money to support black colleges that the American Baptist Convention had helped start in the South after the Civil War. That mission turned into one of giving financial support to young civil rights workers.

As part of his mission, Herrin set up an office of the progressive, northern-

(Continued on Page 10)

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(Continued from Page 8,
J.C. Herrin)

based American Baptist Convention in Chapel Hill. He secured scholarships for such luminaries as civil rights leader John Lewis, today a U.S. congressman; Bernice Johnson Reagon, founder of the musical group Sweet Honey in the Rock; eventual black power leader Stokely Carmichael; and countless others. Many of the recommendations for these scholarships came from the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

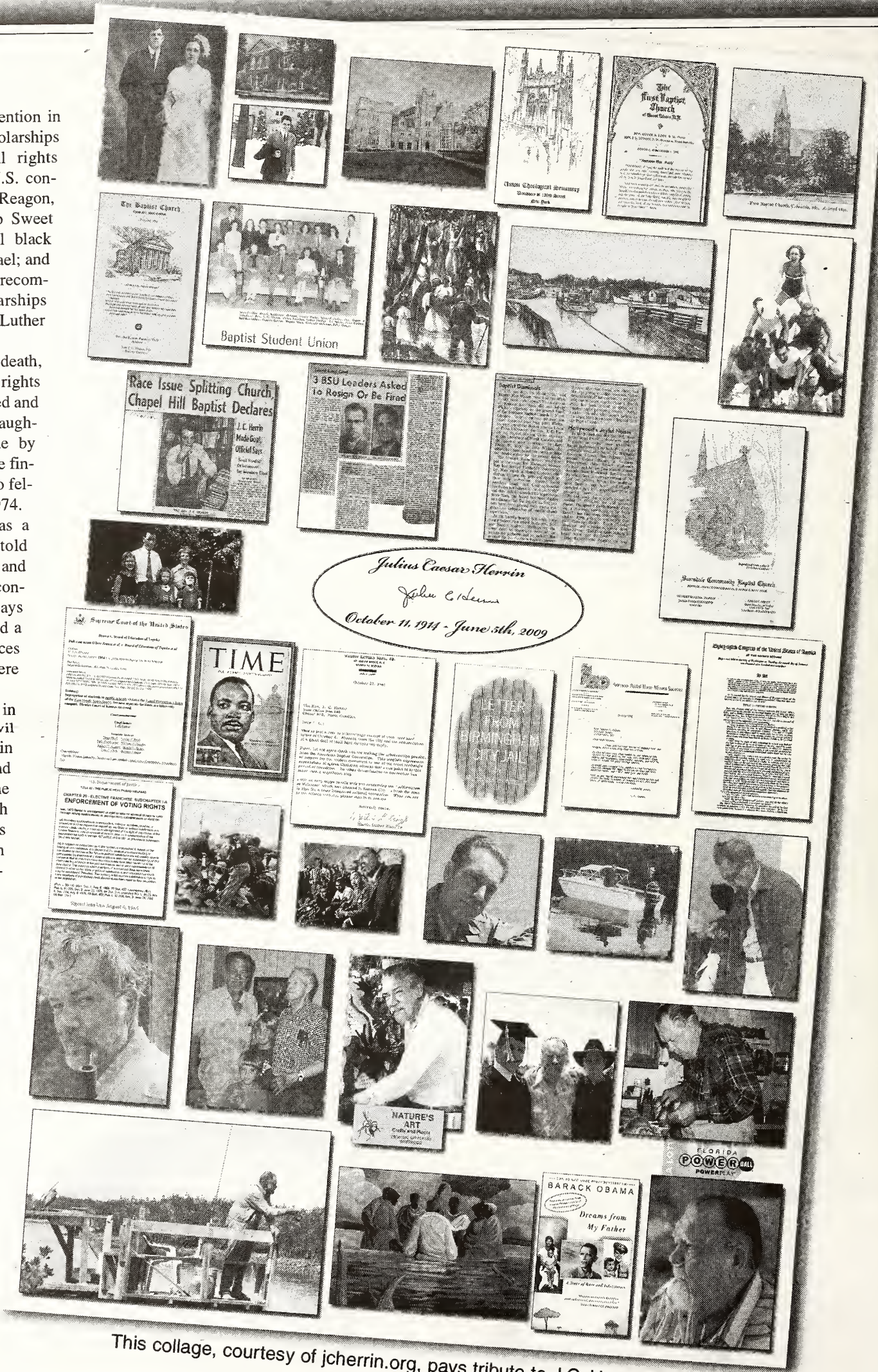
In the aftermath of King's death, when factions within the civil rights movement became more divided and some more militant, Herrin's daughters say he felt pushed aside by many within the movement. He finished his career as a minister to fellow ministers and retired in 1974.

Cynthia Evans says that as a retiree, her father fished, told jokes, learned to make wine and played cards with his family, continuing to cheat as he had always done. Evans recalls that he had a special knack for pulling deuces out of his pocket when they were wild.

Despite being honored late in life for his bold support of civil rights, his daughters say Herrin wondered whether his work had been worthwhile, whether the stress he put his family through had been warranted. His doubts were quelled, they say, when Barack Obama was inaugurated.

It wasn't only that Herrin believed in the president's message. Barbara Herrin says, it was that he saw that America had proved itself to be colorblind.

"He felt like his life had come full circle, and his issues had been resolved and he really was at peace," she says. It was one reason, she says, he was able to let go.



This collage, courtesy of jcherrin.org, pays tribute to J.C. Herrin's life.

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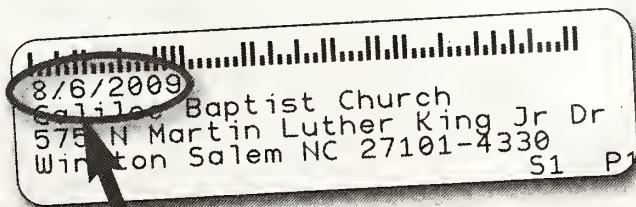
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Hundreds Attend Black Church Conference

See story on Page 4.



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