



BAPTIST INFORMER

Volume 135, No. 7

Publication of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc.

September 2010

GBSC THEME

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

Matthew 28:19-20

Shaw University Names Dr. Irma McClaurin as 15th President

Raleigh, NC – Attorney Willie E. Gary, Chairman of the Shaw University Board of Trustees, announced recently that Dr. Irma McClaurin will be Shaw University's 15th President, effective September 9, 2010. The announcement was made during a press conference that was held at the University's Spaulding Gymnasium.



Shaw University alumni, faculty, staff and students were in attendance and welcomed Dr. McClaurin to her new position with cheers and overwhelming applause as she addressed the student body and general public for the first time. In addition, a host of dignitaries and community leaders converged on Shaw's campus for the historic announcement.

Greetings and well wishes were bestowed upon Dr. McClaurin from various members of the community including: Dr. Dorothy Cowser Yancy, Interim President, Shaw University; Dr. Diane Suber, President, St. Augustine's College; Dr. James West, Mayor Pro Tem, Raleigh; Lawrence Wray, Assistant City Manager, Raleigh; John McGrath, Fire Chief, City of Raleigh; Sonia Barnes, District Representative, Congressman Bob Etheridge; Representative Earline Parmon, North Carolina Congressional Black Caucus; and Soberina Trawick, Senior Vice President and Relationship Officer, Mechanics and Farmers Bank, among others.

"It is with the utmost respect and admiration that I welcome Dr. McClaurin to the Shaw University family," commented Willie Gary. "I am confident that under the leadership of Dr. McClaurin, our esteemed university will continue to be a beacon of light and opportunity for the thousands of young men and women who value education and hope to become productive citizens."

"I am honored and privileged to have this opportunity to lead an institution of Shaw's caliber, with its deep history and rich tradition of education and scholarship," said McClaurin. "My goal is to reignite a vision of

Continued on next page

Top Ten Giving Associations

Highest Giving Association	UNION — \$184,628.13
Rev. Mark A. Rowden, Moderator	
Second Highest	WAKE — \$107,279.77
Dr. William T. Newkirk, Moderator	
Third Highest	ROWAN — \$77,111.11
Rev. David Bracken, Moderator	
Fourth Highest	NEUSE RIVER — \$73,919.90
Rev. Joseph L. Battle, Moderator	
Fifth Highest	EBENEZER — \$71,576.81
Rev. Charles A. Turner, Moderator	
Sixth Highest	MOUNT PEACE — \$69,599.01
Dr. Peter M. Wherry, Moderator	
Seventh Highest	REEDY CREEK — \$57,080.10
Rev. Shelton C. Daniel, Moderator	
Eighth Highest	WEST ROANOKE — \$44,575.05
Rev. William C. Clark, Moderator	
Ninth Highest	MIDDLE DISTRICT — \$44,103.47
Rev. Terry L. Henry, Moderator	
Tenth Highest	JOHNSTON DISTRICT — \$43,378.38
Dr. J. Vincent Terry, Jr., Moderator	

The Baptist Headquarters has announced the Top Ten Giving Associations for the 2009-10 fiscal year which ended on August 31, 2010. There are sixty Associations in the General Baptist State Convention and these ten Associations represent 54% of ALL funds received at Baptist Headquarters for the 2009-10 fiscal year.

The Top Ten Associations list includes total giving from the Associations, but only includes contributions that were received at the Baptist Headquarters. The list does not take into account any contributions which the Churches in the Associations may have sent directly to the objectives.

Healthcare Gets A Facelift

Cornell P. Wright, MPA

Programs Manager

Center for Health and Healing, Inc., a GBSC Objective

The issue of healthcare has sparked debates all over the country in recent months and shows no sign of dropping off anytime soon. On March 23, 2010, the comprehensive healthcare reform law was enacted and on September 23, 2010, some of the fruits of that labor began taking shape. On a recent phone call with faith leaders around the country, President Barack Obama helped to explain the changes that Americans can now see and ben-

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Our 143rd Year

Voice of 500,000 North Carolina Baptists

1867 - 2010

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research, teaching, scholarship, and community engagement that prepares students to become engaged, challenging, optimistic, and socially responsible citizens in a diverse and global world. With the support and collaboration of Shaw's illustrious trustees and alumni, its hopeful student body, its committed faculty and staff, and the larger Raleigh community, I have no doubt we will be successful," continued McClaurin.

Dr. McClaurin comes to Shaw University from the University of Minnesota, where she served as the Associate Vice President for System Academic Administration and founding Director of the institution's first Urban Research and Outreach/Engagement Center. Prior to the University of Minnesota, McClaurin served as a Program Officer for Education and Scholarship at the Ford Foundation with responsibilities for supporting the fields of Black Studies and

Women's Studies and overseeing a \$10.5 million budget. In addition, she served as an American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Diplomacy Fellow working at USAID in the Office of Policy Development and Coordination as a gender specialist.

Dr. McClaurin is an activist anthropologist, higher education administrator, teacher, poet and writer whose commitment to the eradication of social inequality spans over 30 years. A graduate of Grinnell College with a BA in American Studies, she holds a Masters of Fine Arts in English and Creative Writing, and a Masters and PhD in Cultural Anthropology from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. She is an accomplished scholar, author and poet and has received numerous accolades and awards for her stellar accomplishments.

Healthcare Gets a Facelift, Continued from Page 1

enefit from in their health coverage. A new series of rights, benefits, and protections under the Affordable Care Act begin to bring to an end some of the worst abuses of the insurance industry.

Insurers Will No Longer Be Able To:

- Deny coverage to kids with pre-existing conditions. Health plans cannot limit or deny benefits or deny coverage for a child younger than age 19 simply because the child has a pre-existing condition like asthma.
- Put lifetime limits on benefits. Health plans can no longer put a lifetime dollar limit on the benefits of people with costly conditions like cancer
- Cancel your policy without proving fraud. Health plans can't retroactively cancel insurance coverage – often at the time you need it most – solely because you or your employer made an honest mistake on your insurance application.
- Deny claims without a chance for appeal. In new health plans, you now have the right to demand that your health plan reconsider a decision to deny payment for a test or treatment. That also includes an external appeal to an independent reviewer.

Consumers in New Health Plans

Will Be Able to:

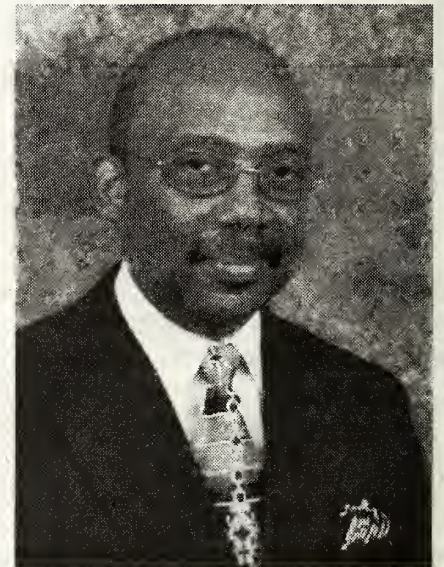
- Receive cost-free preventive services. New health plans must give you access to recommended preventive services such as screenings, vaccinations and counseling without any out-of-pocket costs to you.

- Keep young adults on a parent's plan until age 26. If your health plan covers children, you can now most likely add or keep your children on your health insurance policy until they turn 26 years old if they don't have coverage on the job.
- Choose a primary care doctor, ob/gyn and pediatrician. New health plans must let you choose the primary care doctor or pediatrician you want from your health plan's provider network and let you see an OB-GYN doctor without needing a referral from another doctor.
- Use the nearest emergency room without penalty. New health plans can't require you to get prior approval before seeking emergency room services from a provider or hospital outside your plan's network – and they can't require higher co-payments or co-insurance for out-of-network emergency room services.

For more information about the new healthcare changes, please go to www.healthcare.gov or contact the Center for Health and Healing at 919-572-6374 or visit our website at www.c4hh.org. Information provided in this article can be found at www.hhs.gov.

Byrd elected President of the General Baptist State Convention Congress

Staff Reports



Dr. Frank J. Byrd of Durham, NC, was elected President of the General Baptist State Convention Congress of Christian Education on July 8, 2010.

July was election month for the auxiliaries of the General Baptist State Convention and new officers were elected for the GBSC Congress of Christian Education, the North Carolina Baptist State Laymen's League and the North Carolina Baptist Ushers Convention. All are auxiliaries of the General Baptist State Convention.

Elected to the presidency of the Congress is Dr. Frank J. Byrd. Dr. Byrd previously held the office of First Vice President in the Congress. He is a resident of Durham, NC and a member of the Community Baptist Church in Durham. (Dr. Percy R. Chase is Dr. Byrd's pastor.) Dr. Byrd also serves in New Hope Missionary Baptist Association. He is married to Edna Coston Byrd and has one son, one daughter, and two grandsons. His educational experience include a Bachelors of Science in Mathematics Degree from North Carolina Central University in Durham, a Masters in Christian Education Degree, as well as a Doctor of Humane Letters, both from Apex School of Theology in Durham.

From the Desk of the First Vice-President

By Dr. Nilous M. Avery, II, D. Min.



Rev. Dr. Nilous
M. Avery, II

“To the General Baptist family, together with all the saints throughout the world: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ” (2 Corinthians 1:1b-2, NIV paraphrased).

As I write this article, we are in the midst of transition. By

the time this “goes to press,” our great convention will have elected new officers.

I wish to express sincere thanks and gratitude to our outgoing president, Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr. In his unique and progressive manner, Dr. Moss led us with transformational vision for such a time as this. Through financial challenges, external adversity, and the necessity for relevancy in this present age, President Moss provided a blueprint for “doing a new thing” in the life of our convention.

In cooperation with our gifted, extraordinary, one-of-a-kind Executive Secretary-Treasurer Dr.

Haywood T. Gray, our convention has confronted these faith-testing challenges, navigated through raging storms, and refreshed our focus for missions.

Thank you Dr. Moss, Dr. Gray, Vice-Presidents Parker, Lynch, Banks, and Terry, other officers, and members of this great body for striving “to convince the unconvinced to be convinced through education, missions, and fellowship” the past four years. You did not falter nor waver in the face of naysayers, doomsday prophets, and ship jumpers.

By God’s grace, mercy, and provisions, our convention remains alive, well, and full of Jesus’ resurrection power! A special thanks is also extended to WBH & FMC Executive Secretary Dr. Linda Bryan and all auxiliaries of the parent body. Most of all, TO GOD BE THE GLORY!

As we move forward under our new administration and new leadership in our auxiliaries, we must be equipped, empowered, and encouraged to wage spiritual warfare and move onward in this Christian journey. In his letter to the church at Ephesus, the Apostle Paul warned the Christian community to never underestimate the strength and impact of satanic warfare.

In his paraphrase, the Message, Eugene Peterson summarizes Ephesians 6:10-18:

“God is strong, and [God] wants you to be strong. So take everything the Master has set out for you, well-made weapons of the best

materials. And put them to use so you will be able to stand up to everything the devil throws your way. This is no athletic contest that we’ll walk away from and forget about in a couple of hours. This is for keeps, a life-or-death fight to the finish against the devil and his angels.

Be prepared. You’re up against far more than you can handle on your own. Take all the help you can get, every weapon God has issued, so that when it’s all over but the shouting you’ll still be on your feet. Truth, righteousness, peace, faith, and salvation are more than words. Learn how to apply them. You’ll need them throughout your life. God’s Word is an indispensable weapon. In the same way, prayer is essential in this ongoing warfare. Pray hard and long. Pray for your brothers and sisters.

Keep your eyes open. Keep each other’s spirits up so that no one falls behind or drops out.”

General Baptists, we will PRESS ON! We are fueled by a faith in God that embraces the past, enhances the present, and envisions the future. We must PRESS ON in faithful support for YOUR General Baptist State Convention and its objectives with generous gifts and loyal service. We must PRESS ON by endeavoring to worship, work and witness for the Lord. “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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Dr. Rudolph Tripp Announces A Holy Land Pilgrimage – Return from Relapse

Divinity School Students may receive 3 elective hour credits for this pilgrimage
Continue Education Units may also be received

Raleigh, North Carolina – September, 2010 – Dr. Rudolph Tripp is planning to take a group on a pilgrimage to the State of Israel from February 14 - 22, 2011, with members of the national community invited to take part.

The tour will depart from Newark International Airport on the evening of February 14, 2011 and land in Tel-Aviv on February 15, 2011. Major sites along the tour will include the Sea of Galilee, the Jordan River (with the opportunity for baptism), the Dead Sea, Capernaum, Nazareth, Bethlehem, Jericho, Jerusalem and more. In Jerusalem, those on the tour will follow in the footsteps of Jesus as they visit multiple sites, such as the Mount of Olives, Western Wall, Via Dolorosa, the Home of Caiphas, Hill of the Skull, the Garden of Gethsemane and the Garden Tomb.

"Going to Israel has been a blessing to me, and I'm excited to be leading this tour and going with seminarians, family and friends so that they too may be blessed by the experience," Dr. Tripp said. "I truly believe that every person on this trip will be forever transformed and that we'll never be the same after going to the Holy Land. It is time for a return from relapse and there is no better place to be than in the land where it all began and where it will all end."

The cost of the tour for individuals will include non-stop airfare from Newark, NJ, deluxe hotel accommodations, breakfast and dinner daily, ground transportation, and admission fees to various museums and sites. The total cost of the pilgrimage is \$2450.00, plus \$150.00 for tips (for driver, guide, bellboys and maids). Interested persons must show their commitment by providing an initial deposit of \$250.00 (non-refundable) by October 15, 2010, with final payments due no later than December 31, 2010. Pay-

ments should be made payable by check or money order to Dr. Rudolph Tripp. Hurry and secure your space as they are being filled quickly!

The tour schedule will also include visiting the mountain fortress of Masada, floating on the Dead Sea, enjoying a traditional St. Peter's fish lunch, and seeing the caves at Qumran, where the Dead Sea Scrolls were first discovered in 1947. Time will also be scheduled for Bible-based devotionals, praise and worship, and sermonettes at select sites, as well as for leisure activities.

Anyone interested in joining the tour can contact Dr. Rudolph Tripp @ drtripp@nc.rr.com (919-302-3592), Rev. Belinda Wisdom @ bwisdom04@yahoo.com (919-931-9395) or Rev. Michelle Outlaw @ michelleroutlaw@yahoo.com (913-269-2861). Because space is limited, please inform us with your response and deposit as soon as possible.

For more information, contact Dr. Rudolph Tripp, Director, Continuing Education Program
Shaw University Divinity School
Phone: 919-546-8575 • Email: drtripp@nc.rr.com

Visit the
General Baptist State Convention
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Regular Updates
on Happenings Around
the State, Event Photos,
and More!

<http://www.facebook.com/GBSCNC>

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Pastoral Vacancy

First Baptist Missionary Church of Powellville, Incorporated
Located in Bertie County (Northeastern North Carolina)

*Awaits God's Chosen Leader
For a small flock with a potential for growth*

Requirements

- Visionary and trained in setting goals for the continued growth of the church
- Licensed and ordained by the Missionary Baptist Denomination; believes/abides by the Missionary Baptist Doctrines, policies, and Church Covenant, have at least five years of pastoral experience
- Strong administrative skills
- Strong communication skills (ability to deal with people with tact and discretion)
- Willing to become affiliate of the West Roanoke Missionary Baptist Association, Inc.
- Bachelor's Degree in Theology from an accredited college or university
- Visits the sick and shut-in (hospitalized, homes, and nursing homes)
- Willing to support all church program including Sunday School, Bible Study, Prayer Meeting, etc.
- Effective in working with all groups in the church and expected to teach, preach and counsel in word and deed to all age groups in the church
- Willing to submit to a criminal check and credit report
- Implement policies fairly, consistently, respect individuals needs and abilities

The ending date to receive applications is January 31, 2011.
Please forward all correspondence to:

Search Committee
First Baptist Missionary Church of Powellville, Incorporated
C/O Deacon James L. Peele
Post Office Box 433, Powellville, North Carolina 27967

31st ANNUAL FAMILY MISSION CONFERENCE

By Rev. Dr. Linda W. Bryan, Exec. Sec.-Treasurer, WBH&FMC

The Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina celebrated its 31st Annual Family Mission Conference September 25, 2010 in Elizabeth City where the host Pastor was the Reverend Dr. Ricky Banks, Pastor of the St. Stephens Baptist Church. The Conference attendees were very warmly received and welcomed by the St. Stephens Baptist Church family and their gracious hosts and hostesses. We are grateful to Dr. Banks for his outpouring love and hospitality to the Woman's Convention during our stay in Elizabeth City.

This year the goal of our President, Dr. Audrey Battle, is to continue to focus on spiritual integrity with emphasis on Love. The Conference theme therefore was "A Call to Spiritual Integrity with Emphasis on Love: Family Witnessing In The 21st Century". The preacher of the hour, Moderator Rev. William Sawyer, presented a prophetic word from the subject "The Importance of Teamwork" from Mark 2:1 and John 15:13. This inspired message was an encouraging word to the family of God and more specifically to our President as she leads this prestigious ministry. We are grateful to Rev. Sawyer for availing himself for this assignment and we are grateful to our God for His faithfulness.

The Family Missions Conference would have been incomplete without the following competent and inspiring presenters:

Senior Department Session Rev. & Mrs. Ronnie Culley	Youth Session Cradle Ms. Maxine Moore 6-8 Ms. Dolly Liberman 9.12 Ms. Shirley McMillen 13-20 Ms. Doris James
Young Adult Session Dr. Mary Byers Hall Mrs. Evelyn Johnson	

Suggested Family Activities

1. Have Bible study together at home, allowing all family members to participate according to their capabilities and skills.
2. Attend Sunday School and church together.
3. Visit the Central Children's Home together. The youth may become pen pals with some of the students their ages. A child from the Central Children's Home could be invited to your home to spend a weekend.
4. Invite new families of the community to attend church with you.
5. Become members of your local church's missionary department and of your Woman's Convention and General Baptist State Convention.
6. Attend mission study institutes which are sponsored in your area and invite others to attend with you.
7. Give items that your church can share with the needy.
8. Remember the elderly and shut-in of the community by visiting, sending birthday cards, doing errands or small chores. Consider other ways your family can help these people.
9. Study together the cultures of other countries, such as the people's dress, food, and family style. Young children could make scrapbooks regarding the same.
10. Remember hospitalized persons from your community by sending cards or flowers, telephoning (if possible) or giving love offerings.
11. Send love offerings for mission to your Woman's Baptist State Convention. You may discover African or other students needing assistance at Shaw. Should you desire to give a contribution, send it through the office to the Woman's Convention.
12. Plan family outings.

The Convention presented Certificates of Recognition to 29 families for their diligence and faithfulness in completing the Family Study Guide during the month of August. CONGRATULATIONS to the following families:

Rev. Veronica Judd & family
Rev. Clarence & Ellender LeMay
Veneable Family & Family
Wimbush Family
Virginia Newburgh
Gill Family
Mary Blanchard
McGee Family
Jean Bunch
Samuel & Letitia Moore
Marian Byrd

Vivian Samuel
Margaret E. Charlton
Sabrina & Julius Miles & Family
Meta L. Seabrook
Camille, Delajah, Joyce Cooley
Margaret Dance
Rosetta H. Williams
Taniya Eaton
Magnolia H. Williams
Jean W. Ferebee
Gertrude Harris
Elsie Lassiter
Min. Reginal & Lolita McPherson
Perry Family
Lemozine R. Riddick
Mamie Roundtree
Harvest & Rosetta Smith
Katrina Spence

Mount Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church

312 North Wright Street
Burgaw, North Carolina
(20 Minutes North of Wilmington North Carolina)

Qualifications should include:

- Possess Spiritual & Emotional Maturity
- 1-3 consecutive years experience as a pastor
- Thorough knowledge of scripture and Baptist Doctrine
- Pass background check
- Some formal training for a pastor
- Excellent communication skills
- Teaching skills
- Counseling skills

Qualified candidates should submit a resume with references to:

Mount Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church
Pulpit Committee

P.O. Box 1256, Burgaw, North Carolina 28425

By: February 28, 2011



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Dr. Lawrence M. Dowdy Appointed to Serve in the Governor's Office

From Press Release

Dr. Lawrence M. Dowdy of Wagram, NC has been appointed by the Office of Governor Beverly Purdue to serve as the Faith-based Outreach Coordinator for State of North Carolina. The position is housed within the Governor's Office of Citizen and Faith-based Outreach which works with citizens and faith leaders throughout North Carolina.



Dr. Lawrence M. Dowdy

As the Faith-based Outreach Coordinator, his primary responsibility is to serve as the liaison between the

Governor's office and the faith community. Dowdy will also be responsible for the implementation and coordination of the Governor's Faith-based Leadership Advisory Council.

"I have been a supporter of the Governor and her agenda as it relates to the State of North Carolina since the days of her campaign. I am excited about this opportunity to help move her initiatives forward as it relates to outreach in faith-based communities," states Dowdy. More importantly, says Dowdy is the opportunity to serve as the voice for these communities and their leaders about the concerns important to their constituents.

Dr. Dowdy graduated from North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University in Greensboro where he received his Bachelor of Arts in Speech and Theater Arts in 1984. He earned his Master of Divinity degree from

Southern Methodist University, Perkins School of Theology in Dallas, Texas, 1988. In May 1993, he earned his Doctor of Ministry degree from United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio.

Dr. Dowdy has served in the ministry for more than 28 years and is currently the Pastor of Antioch Missionary Baptist Church in Proctorville, North Carolina past for 10 years. In addition, he is the Vice-Moderator for the Lumber River Baptist Association.

He is the son of the late Paul Lawrence Dunbar Dowdy and Olivia McNeill Dowdy of Wagram, NC. He has 3 sisters: Verona Graham Sutton, Paulette Dowdy Ealey, and Olivia Delois Dowdy Brown and is the proud father of one son, Lawton Grant Dowdy, age 15.

G.R. Little Library has Vintage Children's Literature Collection

From Press Release

The staff of the G. R. Little Library continuously review the collection of books to determine their relative use for today's patron. On a recent review, Sue Geiger, a reference librarian, decided to remove over 1,000 books from the stacks and establish a very special collection: the Vintage Children's Literature Collection. The books included were all published before 1940, some as early as 1890. They came from a children's literature collection that is maintained to support the curriculum of the Education Department. Students majoring in education frequently use that collection to complete assignments. In their sometimes shabby condition, the vintage books were often overlooked in favor of the newer more colorful, shiny generations of children's books. Geiger realized the books were a treasure trove of history-- the history of elementary education, of children's literature, and of children's art.

"The new collection has been established in order to protect them as part of the heritage of ECSU, and to keep them available to the university and the patrons of the library in perpetuity, Geiger said. "Many of these books have been

here since this institution was a state normal school and contain that school's seal inside. This is a very special collection you won't find in another library."

In the early years, the Elizabeth City State Normal School contained an elementary school within it where new teachers received training and could practice while local children received an education. Many of the original books in that school's children's literature collection may have been the same textbooks or storybooks that were being used in the classroom. The collection was almost certainly used as part of the teachers' training curriculum Geiger said.

The State Normal School's early collection contained many books useful for a classroom setting such as the 1927 edition of "Young Peoples History of the World War" by Louis P. Benezet illustrated by numerous black and white photographs. It also contained many biographies for example the "Lives of Poor Boys Who Became Famous" by Sarah K. Bolton (1925), or "Heroines of Service" by Mary R. Parkman (1917). Geography was well represented with stories of people and places around the world, as were the arts, the sciences, and technology. There are books of poetry, nursery rhymes, biographies, adventure stories, the classics along with books on morals, virtues, obedience, death, and faith. The illustrations, in some cases, represent some of the first books that positively reflected the lives of black children and families.

"Some of these vintage books still need to be cataloged but this collection is a good example

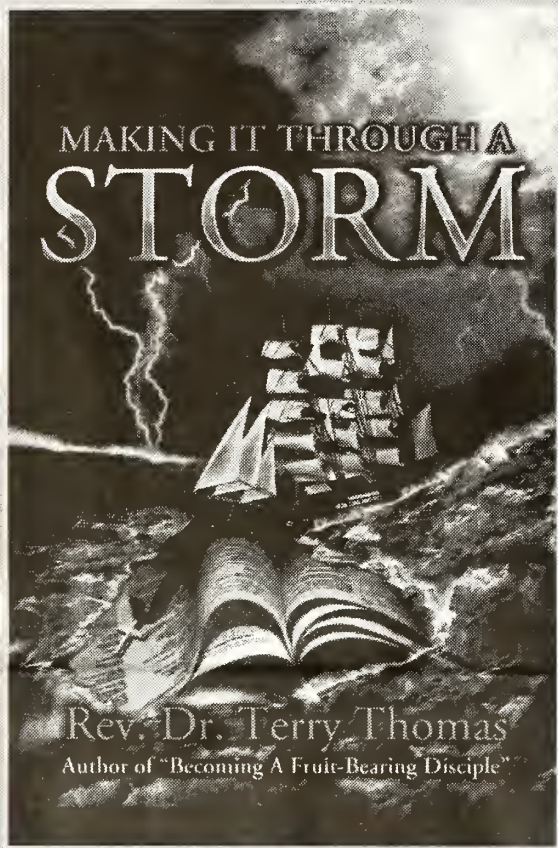
of how the genre of children's literature evolved," Geiger said. "Early on, there were stories and poems about nature, children from another country, stories that shaped children's morals and values, stories that reflect common or new experiences for children like the main character of the book. You might be surprised by the titles you recognize and or those you don't when you look through this collection."

The Vintage Children's Literature Collection is located on the second floor of the G. R. Little Library. Patrons are welcome to read the books but they aren't available for check out. While some have new book covers, the interior pages of some books are fragile from age and use over time.

By Sue Geiger and Kesha Williams
Media Relations | University Relations
and Marketing
Elizabeth City State University
1704 Weeksville Rd. | Elizabeth City, NC 2790
Phone: 252.335.3686 | Fax: 252.335.3769
Email: kdwilliams@mail.ecsu.edu
www.ecsu.edu

Making it Through a Storm

Rev. Dr. Terry Thomas



About the Book

All people, at some point time in their lives, will face the trying circumstances traditionally characterized as a storm. Since we know that storms are one of life's certainties, we should prepare to deal with by equipping ourselves with the necessary knowledge and skills.

Therefore, to know the things to do to make it through a storm, the book, *Making It Through A Storm*, is a book you will want to read. It takes a look at what a group of people, making it through a storm in the 27th chapter of Acts, did to learn the fundamental principles to embrace in order to make it through a storm. This book is comprised of fourteen chapters which contains some insightful things that will help you make it through a storm in a manner that will strengthen and enhance your life.

About the Author

Dr, Terry Thomas is the pastor of the West Durham Baptist Church, Durham, North Carolina. He is the author of the books "Becoming a Fruit-Bearing Disciple" and "Let Us Pray." He serves as a mentor in the Doctor of Ministry Program at United Theological Seminary, Dayton, Ohio whose focus is Leadership and Preaching in the African-American Church; and as the Director of the Apex School of Theology Doctor of Ministry Program., Durham, North Carolina. He is the former editor of the Baptist Informer of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina. He has earned a B.S in Math/Computer Science from Tuskegee University, a Master of Divinity at Shaw University, and a Doctor of Ministry at Virginia Union School of Theology.



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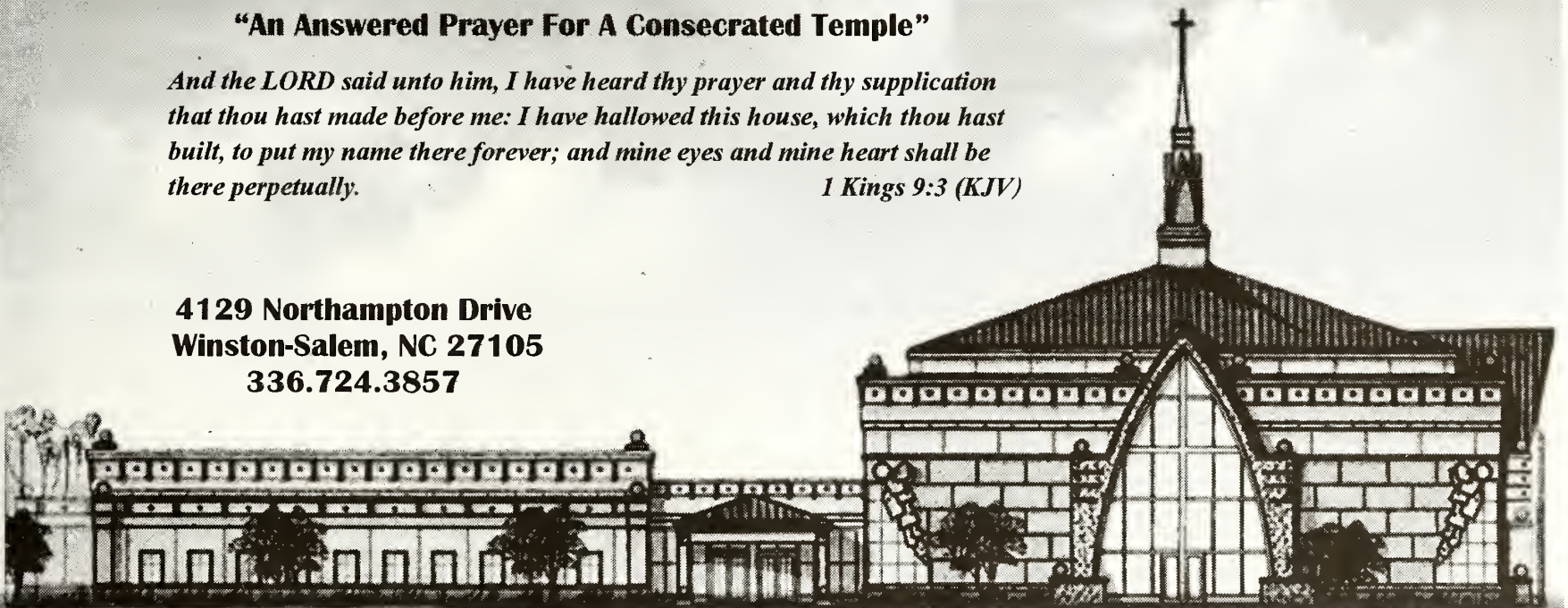


"Meet Me At The Future Home of Galilee"

"An Answered Prayer For A Consecrated Temple"

And the LORD said unto him, I have heard thy prayer and thy supplication that thou hast made before me: I have hallowed this house, which thou hast built, to put my name there forever; and mine eyes and mine heart shall be there perpetually.
1 Kings 9:3 (KJV)

**4129 Northampton Drive
 Winston-Salem, NC 27105
 336.724.3857**



Saturday: January 8, 2011
 Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
 Founding Tour & Reception
 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Saturday: January 8, 2011
 Church Dedication and Reception
 Dr. Cordes H. Brown, Jr.
 New Light Missionary Baptist Church
 Greensboro, NC
 3:00 PM

Sunday: January 9, 2011
 Joint Worship with Holy Communion Service
 Dr. Nathan E. Scovens, Pastor
 10:45 AM

Wednesday: January 12, 2011
 Citywide Fellowship Service
 Dr. Maurice Watson
 Beulahland Bible Church
 Macon, GA
 7:00 PM

Saturday: January 22, 2011
 Community Day
 Fun, Food & Fellowship
 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Wednesday: January 26, 2011
 Leadership Consecration Service
 Dr. James R. Woodson
 St. James Home of Fresh Start Ministries
 Greensboro, NC
 7:00 PM

Saturday: January 29, 2011
 Semi-Formal Gala Extravaganza
 Dr. Clifford A. Jones, Sr.
 Friendship Missionary
 Baptist Church
 Charlotte, NC
 6:00 PM
 Cost - \$30.00

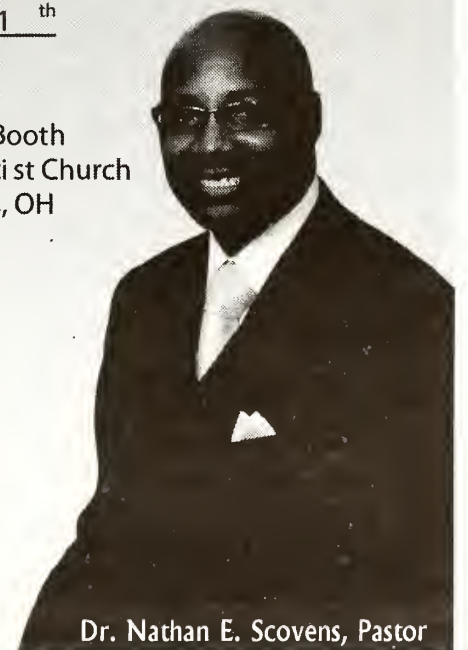
Tuesday: February 8th - Friday: February 11th
 Fresh Wind, Fresh Fire Revival
 7:00 PM

Dr. Stephen J. Thurston, Jr.
 New Covenant Baptist Church
 Chicago, IL

Dr. Charles E. Booth
 Mt. Olivet Baptist Church
 Columbus, OH

Wednesday: February 16, 2011
 Fellowship Service
 Dr. Sir Walter Mack, Jr.
 Union Baptist Church
 Winston-Salem, NC
 7:00 PM

Wednesday: February 23, 2011
 Galilee & St. Stephen
 "A Family Affair"
 Reverend James E. Cook
 St. Stephen Baptist Church
 Winston-Salem, NC
 7:00 PM



Dr. Nathan E. Scovens, Pastor

Baptist Grove Church - Raleigh, N.C.

Pastoral Search Announcement

Application Deadline; December 20, 2010

Job Description:

The 450+ member congregation of Baptist Grove Church (BGC) in Raleigh, North Carolina, a predominantly African American congregation, is seeking a pastor who demonstrates an enthusiastic love for Christ, possesses and applies a comprehensive knowledge of the Bible and has a clearly defined vision for the church Job Requirements: (Only candidates capable of meeting these requirements will be considered)

- Exhibit a well developed vision for the future of the church and of doing God's work and enthusiastically sharing the vision with the church.
- Make the Gospel relevant to people's lives through clarity and creativity in preaching, resulting in increased membership. Minister in the midst of a crisis, for example death, sickness, or other traumatic events in individuals' lives.
- Communicate a comprehensive understanding of the Bible and Christian theology. Have strong skills in program planning and the implementation of diverse ministry activities.
- Plan and conduct well-prepared and meaningful worship services that are relevant to all aspects of the congregation which would facilitate congregational growth.
- Minister to, befriend, nurture, support, reconcile, and affirm church members in their homes, through informal contact, and at church; Pastoral counseling.
- Lead the church staff. Manage the affairs of the congregational organization through planning, decision making, delegating, evaluating and providing counsel to all church ministries.
- Display an understanding of the formal and informal structure of the Baptist Church organizations.

Education/Experience:

- At least 5 or more years of active, continuous experience as a licensed and ordained Baptist minister in good standing with affiliated religious organizations.
- Bachelor's degree or Advanced degree in theological training from an accredited School of Divinity or Seminary is preferred.
- Demonstrated ability to teach, preach, and counsel.
- Proof of education, ministerial license, and ordination license.

How to apply: (Deadline-12/20/10)

1. Please submit a resume
2. A letter describing your philosophy of ministry
3. Recordings of two recent sermons
4. Three letters of recommendation

Please forward resumes/documents to:

Deacon Keith Shannon, Chair
Pastoral Search Committee
Baptist Grove Church, Raleigh, NC 27622

The Baptist Informer

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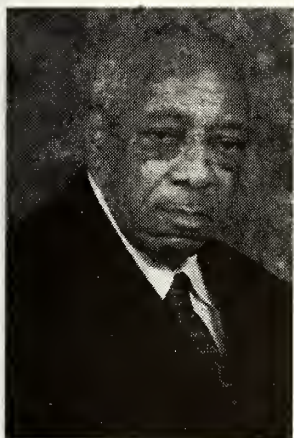
Baptist Informer, Baptist Headquarters,
603 S. Wilmington St., Raleigh, N.C. 27601
919-821-7466 • 800-639-4272 • Fax: 919-831-1526

"By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness..."

(II Corinthians 6:7)

News from the Laymen's Corner

By Richmond Turner, President, North Carolina State Baptist Laymen's League



Richmond Turner

Speaking on the behalf of the current slate of officers elected to serve the N.C. Laymen's League—we are grateful and we thank you for your confidence expressed in us through your vote.

The N.C. Laymen's outlook 2010-2014 to keep us focused is our mantra: "JESUS IS LORD!"

Our objective: "Deploying Men with Christ: A call for Radical Discipleship." Sub-theme: "Transforming Christian men into mature devoted disciples of Jesus Christ through intentional

discipleship training."

Striving to make a bold new approach, the Laymen begin their term with the Men's Retreat on September 11, 2010, hosted by the Greater St. John MBC, located in Asheboro, where the Rev. Joseph Kearns, Sr., is Pastor.

In awareness of tension brought about by change, a workshop was requested on fear, presented by the very capable Brother Dallas Foster, Deacon, First Baptist Church, Raleigh. A Laymen's Blog was presented for improved communication and interaction across the state. It can be viewed at <http://gbscnc-ll.blogspot.com/>.

On September 19, 2010, the State Laymen's League Prison Ministry had it's first visitation at the Butner Institute, coordinated by Rev. Artie Kilgore. 35 Bibles (NIV) were donated, gifted by the Life's Christian Book Store. 25-30 Men responded to the alter call.

We had a very gratifying and successful trip the 14th annual Walter Cade Jr., Southeast Regional Workshop September 24-26 held in Valdosta, Ga. We appreciate the outstanding work from the N.C. participants in the workshop. Youth participants include Master's Kahlil

Richardson and Nicholas Nills, both from Nash County. The Junior Laymen's Class was facilitated by, Brother Jerry Ratchford, our 4th Vice-President. A presentation on "The Role of a Laymen's Wife" was conducted by Sister Chiquita Miller of Mooresville and others.

North Carolina brought home the attendance Trophy with 95 registered attendees. We are looking forward with great anticipation, to the 15th Annual Session to be hosted in High Point at Temple Memorial MBC.

The N. C. Laymen are excited about the challenges confronting Christian men today. We know that by Lifting up our Savior Jesus Christ and with God's grace, they can be met.

We are not asking Associations and Churches to partner with us—We are asking Churches and Associations to let us partner with you as we intentionally develop self-initiating, reproducing, fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

International Association of Black Professional Fire Fighters Launches "No Child Left Alone Fire Safety Campaign"

From Press Release

National campaign urges parents and caregivers of African-American and Spanish-speaking children to never leave young children alone at home.

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The International Association of Black Professional Fire Fighters (IABPFF) launched the No Child Left Alone Fire Safety Campaign during Fire Prevention Week, which took place October 3-9, 2010. The fire safety and awareness campaign focuses on informing parents and caregivers of children about the perils of leaving children alone at home and provides life-saving information to make their children "fire-safe." The No Child Left Alone Fire Safety Campaign is funded by a grant from Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program. IABPFF will implement the campaign across the country and in cities where there are

high African-American and Spanish-speaking populations.

"Leaving children alone at home is dangerous, because if a fire starts, children can be injured or even lose their lives," said IABPFF President Joseph Muhammad. "The IABPFF's No Child Left Alone Fire Safety Campaign teaches parents and caregivers that it's never okay to leave children home alone or without proper supervision, because so many things can go wrong...in just seconds."

According to the United States Fire Administration's (USFA) 2008 report, Fire Risk to Children in 2004, 38 percent of all children killed in home fires in the United States were African American. Both African-American children and adults have a very high risk of fire death. Simple steps like never leaving children alone at home and teaching them what to do when a smoke alarm activates can mean the difference between life and death. Statistics compiled from reports by the USFA and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) underscore the significant fire risk posed to African-American and Spanish-speaking children:

* African Americans face a risk of fire death almost twice that of an individual of another race.

* Spanish-speaking children under the age of five-years-old comprised an average of 23 percent of all Spanish-speaking people killed in home fires in the United States, from 2003 to 2007.

* More than half of all child-fire deaths occur to children under five-years-old. These children are usually unable to escape from a fire by themselves.

* More than half of "child-playing" fires start in a bedroom.

"The impact of a child harmed in a house fire is felt by everyone involved, including the hurt child, family members, friends, first responders and the community at large. We are honored to assist the IABPFF in such a meaningful cause as the No Child Left Alone Fire Safety Campaign," said Daniel Valenzuela, President, National Association of Hispanic Firefighters (NAHF). He added, "The IABPFF should be credited for having the foresight to have the message translated in Spanish, as every firefighter knows, fire does not discriminate."

This October, IABPFF members are brought the No Child Left Alone Fire Safety Campaign to their own communities. Campaign materials are available to supplement their outreach efforts, including a brief educational video with Spanish subtitles, as well as brochures and posters in both English and Spanish. Campaign materials are free of charge and are available for download through IABPFF's website at www.iabpff.org. Community leaders, educators, and members of the fire service should e-mail their orders for hard-copy materials to Teresa Everett, IABPFF Grant Manager, at exedir411@hotmail.com.

Down Through the Years: A Look Back

Compiled by Dexter A. Hinson, Interim Managing Editor, the Baptist Informer

During the summer of 2009, the staff at Baptist Headquarters took the liberty of archiving the Baptist Informer and its rich, detailed history by digitally importing copies of this, the beloved Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina.

This issue will be the first of many that will feature a glimpse of past issues of the Baptist Informer, with brief details and pictures about a particular edition.

40 YEARS AGO.....

- The September 1970 edition of the Baptist Informer was edited by George W. Dudley under the auspices of Convention president J.W. White and Dr. O. L. Sherrill, Executive Secretary. Highlights of this edition included:
- Announcements of the programs of the 21st annual session of the Laymen's League Convention and the 103rd annual session of the GBSC, convening with the United Metropolitan Baptist Church of Winston-Salem Oct. 26-29. J. D. Bullard was host pastor.

- The Rev. Preston Pendergrass was installed pastor of the Antioch Baptist Church (city not given), succeeding Rev. D. F. Moore, who had served the church for 41 years.

- Saint Paul Baptist Church of Charlotte had concluded a week of services honoring the retirement of their pastor Dr. James F. Wertz who served the church for 27 years. Wertz was the first black president of the Mecklenburg Christian Minister's Association, and served the Convention for years as director of Christian Education and president of the state Baptist Training Union Convention.

- An article about the dedication of the Third Creek Baptist Church of Stony Point dedicating their new building on June 21 of that year was featured.

- A story about Shaw Divinity School's alumni breakfast was featured, detailing the event that was to be held during the annual session. The speaker was Dr. J. Leon Pridgen, pastor of the Mount Moriah Baptist Church of Spartanburg, S.C.

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A Look Back....

The Baptist Informer
LIGHT  TRUTH

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Voice of 350,000 Baptists

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Wake Forest NC 27587-2553

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