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From The Desk of the Executive Secretary-Treasurer Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Ed.D.

A Tribute to Martin Luther King Jr.



Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr.

By Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr.
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ! A new millennium has arrived. TO GOD BE THE GLORY! Thank you so very much for your prayers and support of the mission and ministry of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina. The GBSC has begun this new age with a mighty message of hope, faith and witness.

Hebrews 13:8, 15-16 reminds us that although time moves on God never changes. He is our ever-present sustainer and Lord: "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever...Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name. But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased." (NKJV).

Each January I pause and reflect on the life of The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. We continue to bring his DREAM of a "Beloved Community" to life. Dr. King was a dedicated freedom fighter and Kingdom Builder, and Baptist Preacher/Pastor. He was born on January 15, 1929 in Atlanta, Georgia.

Dr. King was well educated. He attended Morehouse College in Atlanta and went on to Crozier Theological Seminary in Pennsylvania. While in school he became familiar with Mahatma Gandhi, who had struggled to free the people of India from British rule by "peaceful non-violent revolution." Dr. King was also inspired by many religious writings and also the work of Henry David Thoreau, particularly his essay called "Civil Disobedience." Thoreau believed that if enough people would follow their conscience and disobey unjust laws, they could bring about a peaceful revolution of change.

During his college years Dr. King met a young woman named Coretta Scott and they would eventually marry. Dr. King received his PhD in 1954 and accepted the call to pastor the Dexter Avenue Baptist

Church in Montgomery, Alabama.

Dr. King's major involvement with the civil rights movement began with the arrest of Mrs. Rosa Parks on December 1, 1955. Mrs. Parks, an African-American seamstress on her way home from work, was arrested for not giving a white bus rider her seat. Her arrest began the modern era Civil Rights Movement in America.

Dr. King and the other African-American community leaders felt a protest was needed. The African-American residents of Montgomery were asked to boycott the bus company by walking and driving their vehicles. The boycott lasted three hundred and eighty-one days and ended when The United States Supreme Court declared that Alabama's state and local laws requiring segregation on buses were illegal. The boycott was a success and Dr. King had demonstrated that peaceful mass action could bring about change.

Dr. King and other Civil Rights leaders felt a need to organize "The Southern Christian Leadership Conference" (SCLC) in 1957. Dr. King was elected as their first president. On May 17, 1957 Dr. King led a mass march of 37,000 people to the front of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C., urging the United States government to create a Civil Rights Commission and the Civil Rights Decision Division of the Department of Justice. The government responded in September creating an official body with the authority to investigate voting and Civil Rights irregularities.

Dr. King and the SCLC organized drives for African-American voter registration, desegregation, and better education and housing throughout the South. Dr. King continued to preach, speak and enroll thousands of new voters. His message was that all people have the right to equal treatment under the law. Dr. King touched the soul and consciences of many Americans and world leaders. He based his beliefs on Christian Ethics and moral rightness.

In February 1959 Dr. and Mrs. Coretta

Scott King went to India, the homeland of Mahatma Gandhi. In India Dr. King studied *Satyagraha*, Gandhi's principle of non-violent persuasion. Dr. King was determined to use *Satyagraha* as his main instrument of social protest in the United States. After his return home to Atlanta, Georgia, where he shared the ministerial duties of the Ebenezer Baptist Church with his father he intensified his commitment to social change through non-violent protest and civil disobedience.

In January 1963 Dr. King, the SCLC and others announced that they would form a group of Freedom Fighters who would go to Birmingham, Alabama to fight segregation. The city enacted an injunction, which forbid any demonstrations or public protests. As a result Dr. King and others were arrested. The demonstrations continued. The police retaliated with water hoses, tear gas and police dogs. All this happened in the presence of television news cameras. It would be the first time the world would see the brutality that the southern African-Americans endured. The news media embarrassed America with its coverage. Many Americans were disgusted and ashamed by the cruelty and hatred. Freedom-loving people around the world began to increase their voices of protest and concern.

One of the greatest achievements of the Civil Rights Era was the March on Washington. Dr. King and others organized the protest march to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation and the Civil Rights Movement. On August 28, 1963, 200,000 people gathered in the front of the Lincoln Memorial. It was a peaceful protest, made up of African-Americans, whites and people of all cultures and nations. It was on this day that Dr. King delivered his famous "I HAVE A DREAM" speech.

In 1964 Dr. King was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize as someone who "had contributed the most to the furtherance of peace among humanity." Later that year President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Civil Rights Act into law. It guaranteed that "No person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be subjected to discrimination."

In the winter of 1965 Dr. King and others lead a Freedom March from Selma, Alabama to the State capital in Montgomery to demand voting reforms. A wall of Alabama state troopers met the marchers. The troopers with clubs, whips and tear gas advanced on the marchers, it was described "as a battle zone." The marchers were driven back. White racist along the sidewalks cheered. Several persons were killed and over seventy others were injured. It was the most violent confrontation Dr. King and the movement had experienced. A court order overturning the injunction against the

march was issued and the marchers were allowed to proceed. When they arrived in Montgomery the marchers were greeted by 25,000 supporters singing "We Shall Overcome." On August 6, 1965 a voting rights bill was passed by Congress allowing African-Americans to vote.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. believed that poverty caused much of the unrest in America. Not only poverty for African-Americans, but poor whites, Hispanics and Asians. Dr. King believed that the United States involvement in Vietnam was also a factor and that the war poisoned the atmosphere of the whole country and made the solution of local problems of human relations unrealistic. This caused friction between King and the African-American leaders who felt that their problems deserved priority and that the African-American leadership should concentrate on fighting racial injustice at home. But by early 1967 Dr. King had become associated with the antiwar movement. Dr. King became an outspoken advocate for world peace.

On April 3, 1968, Dr. King went to Memphis, Tennessee to help the sanitation workers who were on strike. This struggle would be Dr. King's last:

"We've got some difficult days ahead. But it doesn't matter with me now. Because I have been to the mountaintop. And I don't mind.

Like anybody, I would like to live a long life. Longevity has its place. But I'm not concerned about that now.

I just want to do God's will. And He's allowed me to go up to the mountain. And I've looked over. And I've seen the promised land.

I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight, that we, as a people will get to the promised land. And I'm not fearing any man.

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord."

The following day, April 4, 1968, the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated.

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing. ...But the Lord stood with me and strengthened me, so that the message might be preached fully through me, and that all... might hear." 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17 (NKJV)

The Baptist Informer

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Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie, Executive Editor

Ms. Carol J. Smith, Managing Editor

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THEME: "By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness..." (II Corinthians 6:7)

From The Desk of Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President

Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President General Baptist Convention Incorporated:

“Honored” Celebrates 27th Pastoral Anniversary at Lewis Chapel Baptist Church, October 15, Receives Doctor of Humane Letters from Shaw University, Nov. 17

By Rev. Dennis Leach, BS, M.Div.

Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute; custom to whom custom; respect to whom respect; honour to whom honour. Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law (Rom. 13:7,8).

On Sunday, Oct. 15, 2000, the Lewis Chapel Baptist Church family of Fayetteville, N.C., joined together with special guests, and friends to honor, celebrate, and give tribute for over 27 years of tremendously outstanding, and historic service by its eminent senior Pastor the Rev. Dr. John D. Fuller Sr. The day of celebration began with the 7:15 a.m. service, and was followed by 8:30 and 11 a.m. services and was conclude with a 5 p.m. service. Some of God's most inspirational trumpeters mounted the pulpit to proclaim the Good News of the Gospel message to celebrants. Beginning with the first service Rev. Dr. Gloria Gerald, Pastor of Grace Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, N.C., lifted the preaching banner, her message “Order My Steps in the Word.” The 8:30 a.m. service was rendered by the Rev. Norman T. Davis, Pastor of Bazzel Creek Missionary Baptist Church, Fuquay-Varina, N.C. His inspirational message was, “God Giveth, and God Sends.” The 11 a.m. service was rendered by Dr. Howard W. Parker, Pastor of the Sycamore Hill Missionary Baptist Church, Greenville, N.C., he preached an eternal truth: “He’s an on Time God.” The day of tribute and celebration was closed out with a 5 p.m. service rendered by a preaching prophet; Dr. Gregory K. Moss Sr., Pastor of the Saint Paul Baptist Church, Charlotte, N.C. His choir and members of his congregation who came in aboard four buses accompanied Dr. Moss. Dr. Moss’ message was “Courage” and raised the preaching bar of excellence.

Throughout the day a host of members honored one of God's gospel generals, Dr. John D. Fuller Sr. The membership of Lewis Chapel was proud to honor and introduce its pastor to all in attendance, and did so with a brochure that highlighted the many accomplishments of this pastoral genius titled, “Do You Know The Man?” Twenty-seven years ago when Dr. Fuller came to Lewis Chapel it was a small white wooden building, leaning on the corner of Skibo and Raeford roads. It is evident that God had his hands on this son of the Georgia soil, whose humble beginnings in the Brier Creek community of Thomson, Ga., tell a remarkable story of God's amazing grace. Dr. Fuller, the son of the late Deacon Leon and Mrs. Pearlie Mae Fuller, was born in a “shotgun house” in Thomson, Ga. Dr. Fuller, along with his three brothers, and six sisters shared in the family work of sharecropping on 40 acres of land in Brier Creek. God knew what he had placed in Dr. Fuller, a gifted visionary who began his preaching and ministry journey on Sept. 23, 1963, at the age of 17 at the Jones Grove Baptist Church in Thomson, Ga., during a church business meeting.

With a spirit only God can give, Pastor Fuller has made good on his call to ministry. He has pastored for over 38 years, with 27 of those years at the helm of Lewis Chapel Baptist Church. Under Rev. Fuller's leadership the church has grown spiritually, physically, socially, and numerically. The membership has grown to number over three



Unveiling of book “Sermons to Shout About.” Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., Pastor of Lewis Chapel, Mrs. Miranda Monroe and Dr. Sharon Cooper.

thousand five hundred. With Pastor Fuller at the helm the church's sanctuary, and general property has gone through a significant metamorphosis. A brick sanctuary, which can seat over two thousand, administration and learning center, Christian Education office complex, bookstore, JD Fuller Senior Citizen Apartments, JD Fuller Recreational Facility and numerous other property acquisition have all replaced the little white building on the corner. His name has become synonymous with ministerial excellence in local, state, national and international ecumenical circles. He has served the Lord in many capacities. He has served as Moderators of the Union Baptist Association. He has held the office of 4th Vice, President at Large of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina Incorporated, as well as Vice Chairman of the General Board, and Secretary for the Lott Carey Foreign Missionary Convention. He is a member of Shaw University Board of Trustees, and member of Morehouse School of Religion Board of Directors. He is a God gifted man, who has risen to the heights of church leadership from humble beginnings. Although he wears many mantles, to include President, of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina Incorporated, he maintains the common touch. This is evident in his approach to ministry, which seeks to liberate, and empower parishioners as partners. Dr. Fuller's preaching and praxis are dually aligned, and during the evening service Mrs. Miranda Monroe, and Dr. Sharon Cooper unveiled Dr. Fuller's first published works, “Sermons To Shout About,” which will be available through the Baptist bookstore soon. He is a father, mentor, friend and pastor to preachers around the globe. He has consistently stood on the leading edge of progressive church leadership and vital viable ministries emanate from under his pastorship. During the evening service, Dr. Loraine C. McLeod, shared when Dr. Fuller arrived at Lewis Chapel in October of 1973 its annual budget was a meager eight thousand dollars. The Lewis Chapel Church's 2000 budget will exceed its projected 2.5 million dollars; the majority of which is geared towards local, state, national and international ministry objectives.

Pastor Fuller's ministry philosophy is “The church is not the church, unless it gives itself away.” His stewardship of the resources entrusted to his leadership is reflected in his



Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President 27th Pastoral Anniversary at Lewis Chapel Baptist Church, Fayetteville, NC



Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., left, is shown with a gift he received. Pictured with him is Dr. Loraine C. McLeod.

ministry philosophy. He holds fast to the principle; no preacher's salary should exceed the church's contributions to missions. And, on Nov. 17, 2000, during the Shaw University's One Hundred and Thirty-Fifth Observance of Founder's Day at the Raleigh Memorial Auditorium, Dr. Fuller was again honored by having the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters bestowed upon him *Honoris Causa*. After receiving the degree he remarked that the Lewis Chapel Church Family had contributed over two hundred thousand dollars to Shaw University. His stewardship consciousness was recognized early and in 1988 The Shaw Divinity School realized the tremendous contributions to religion that had been made, were being made and were yet to be made by Dr. John D. Fuller, Sr., and at that time the Divinity School awarded him the degree Doctor of Divinity, *Honoris Causa*. Shaw University recognized that the contributions of Rev. John D. Fuller Sr., extended far beyond religion, and considered it an honor to award Rev. Fuller the subsequent degree.

Dr. Fuller's work, and ministry focus' continue to grow and only God knows what lies ahead for his pastoral giant, this master pastor, and superb ministry strategist. His life, his ministry, and his work are certainly deserving of double honor and tribute. So I stand with the members of Lewis Chapel Baptist Church, Shaw University, the GBSC family and many others as we applaud you, John D. Fuller Sr., for your tremendous unselfish contributions to ministry and life. We tip our collective hats to you for your shining example of Christian stewardship, shepherd-ship, love and brotherhood. We take admirable note; of your rare willingness to give of yourself and substance. We read with awe and respect, your lives ledger and the many chapters of your God-given journey. We mark your steps, and acknowledge that the sovereign gracious, and merciful hand of God guides them. In closing, no Christian soldier of your caliber ever goes unnoticed by those they serve, their colleagues, or the Supreme Commander in Chief, God. Great is your reward here, and in the life to come (Mark 10:28-30). Amen.

GBSC President John D. Fuller Sr. Receives Doctor of Humane Letters

By Carol Smith, Managing Editor

Executive Secretary-Treasurer Dr. Archie D. Logan Sr. had the following citation for Dr. Fuller:

Mr. President: In 1988 The Shaw Divinity School realized the tremendous contributions to religion that had been made, were being made and were yet to be made by John D. Fuller Sr. At that time the Divinity School awarded him the degree Doctor of Divinity, *Honoris Causa*. Today, November 17, 2000, Shaw University is proud to proclaim that the contributions made by Rev. Fuller extend far beyond religion. Therefore, we consider it a special honor to award Rev. Fuller the degree Doctor of Humane Letters, *Honoris Causa*.

"From humble beginnings John D. Fuller Sr., came." He, the son of the late Deacon Leon and Mrs. Pearlie Mae Fuller, was born in a "shotgun house" in Thomson, Georgia. The Fuller family sharecropped on forty acres of land in the Brier Creek Community of Thomson, Georgia. He appreciated the fact that though they were poor and

struggling, they were a proud family.

Rev. Fuller received his early education in the McDuffie County School System, Thomson, Georgia and graduated from R.L. Norris High School in 1965. His additional education includes: Paine College (Augusta, GA); B.A. in Sociology from Fayetteville State University (Fayetteville, NC); M.Div. from Morehouse School of Religion, Interdenominational Theological Center (Atlanta, GA); M.A. from Boston University, School of Theology (Boston, MA); Pursued the DMin at Boston University (Boston, MA); DD from Virginia Seminary and College (Lynchburg, VA) and the DD from Shaw Divinity School (Raleigh, N.C.).

Rev. Fuller is the distinguished pastor of The Lewis Chapel Missionary Baptist Church in Fayetteville, N.C. He currently serves as President for The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. Among his many other leadership roles, Rev. Fuller has served as Moderator of the Union Baptist Association, which encom-



passes fifty churches. He has held the office of 4th Vice President of The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. the Vice President-at-Large, as well as Vice Chairman of the General Board, and Secretary for the Lott Carey Foreign Missionary Convention. He is a member of the Board of Trustees of Shaw University and a member of the Morehouse School of Religion Board of Directors. He was appointed by North Carolina's Governor, the Honorable James B. Hunt, as Vice Chairperson of the Task Force on Racial and Religious Violence. Locally, he serves as a member of the Board of Directors for the

Cumberland County Community Action Financial Counseling Service, and the Fayetteville State University Alumni Association. He is a life member of the NAACP.

Rev. John D. Fuller Sr., is the father of three children: John Jr., Eva Regina and Frankie Bernard; Grandfather of one grandson, Gamarkis and two granddaughters; Raven and Brittany.

Mr. President, for the aforementioned and other outstanding accomplishments, I present to you John D. Fuller Sr., pastor, educator, visionary, leader and child of the King, to receive at your hands the degree Doctor of Humane Letters, *Honoris Causa*.

Sermons to Shout About

REV. JOHN D. FULLER SR.

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Women's Page Highlights

Grateful For Another Year

By Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Brodie

TO GOD BE THE GLORY!

In Christ we have come triumphantly through another year. The Holy Spirit continues to lead and empower, the scope and horizon of the work continues to expand; the people involvement continues zealously thanks to all of you. God's work is still alive and functioning, though there have been trials and tribulations.

"O GIVE THANKS UNTO THE LORD" that we have been given a new year to share new ministries, but to continue old needed ministries and to tell the old, old story that the Lord Jesus Christ is the only Way of Salvation, that God loves and desires that we manifest His love toward Him, other believers, nonbelievers, government and enemies. Have a BLESSED New Year in the Lord and Sav-

ior Jesus Christ.

FOR INFORMATION

1. **The Woman's Convention** now has been given approval to **accept applications for three (3) positions:** Administrative Assistant, Secretary and Office Secretary/HELPER COORDINATOR (See the Ads).

2. **President Maggie M. White received an honorary doctoral degree** from Shaw University during Founder's Day in November (See pictures).

3. **One-Day Session** for all departments will convene at the Raleigh Civic Center on Saturday, January 13, 2001. Sessions begin at 9:00 A.M.

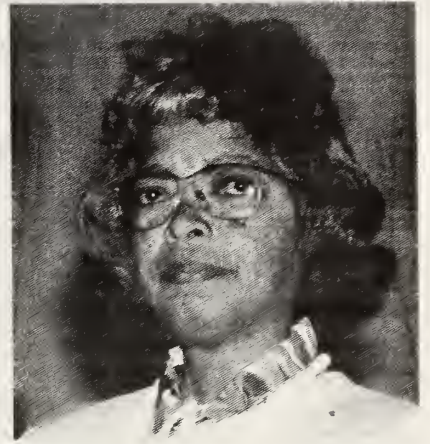
4. **Committees** who desire to meet may meet Saturday, January 13, 2001, from 8:00 A.M.-8:45 A.M. in the arena. (See announcement for the Deacons' (Wives).

5. **Prayer Vigil.** Friends of Jesus Christ and of the Convention are asked to observe

a prayer vigil every day during this year for the spiritual and general welfare of the Woman's Convention and its mission, ministries, laborers (staff and all volunteers), and constituency. "Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." Phil. 4:6.

6. **Calendar.** Please notice the calendar of events for 2001. You may desire to order a GBSC calendar booklet (\$5.00) which contains conventional and related organizational dates. You may secure this booklet from the office of the Woman's Convention or GBSC.

7. **Budget.** Quotas have been sent to churches to help realize the missions' budget. If churches (circles) have not received a quota, please write the Executive Secretary of WBH&FMC immediately. Our 2000-2001 Budget for missions in-



Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

cludes: Shaw Divinity School, \$33,500.00; Shaw University, \$49,500.00; Foreign Missions, \$80,200.00; Central Children's Home, \$36,500.00; State Missions, \$556,157.00; and Baptist Assembly, \$40,500.00

WOMAN'S BAPTIST HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONARY CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, AUXILIARY TO GBSC 2001 CALENDAR

JANUARY: (Prayer Month for STATE MISSIONS)

13 — One Day Session, Raleigh Civic Center

FEBRUARY: (Prayer Month for NATIONAL MISSIONS)

APRIL

7 — State-Wide Leaders' Workshop, Raleigh Civic Center
15 — Easter

MAY

5 — Ministers' Wives Retreat, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill

JUNE

2 — Young Adults' Retreat
4-8 — Leadership Training Conference, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill
10-15 — First Week of Youth Bible Camp, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill
17-22 — Second Week of Bible Youth Bible Camp, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill

23 — MISSIONS PRAYER DAY (County Unions, et. al.)

24-29 — Third Week of Youth Bible Camp, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill

JULY

22-26 — Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention

AUGUST: (Prayer month for the Family)

27-31 — Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention, Columbus, Ohio

SEPTEMBER

4-7 — National Baptist Convention
22 — Family Missions Conference, New Ahoskie Baptist Church, Ahoskie

OCTOBER

(Prayer month for SHAW UNIVERSITY AND SHAW DIVINITY SCHOOL)
13 — WBSC Institute Workers' Workshop, Baptist Headquarters

NOVEMBER

3 — Youth Evangelism Conference, Cumberland County Memorial Auditorium, Fayetteville
5 — World Day of Prayer (BWA — Woman's Department)
22 — Thanksgiving Day

DECEMBER

25 — Christmas Day



Shaw Founder's Day: left to right: Dr. Talbert O. Shaw, Dr. Maggie M. White, Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie, Dr. Willie Gary, an outstanding attorney and board chairman. Dr. White has just received the honorary doctoral degree.



Shaw University's Founder's Day: Mrs. Maggie White, president and Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, presenting WBSC funds to Dr. Ernest Pickens, Executive Vice President. Dr. Shaw is to be on Sabbatical leave.

POSITION OPEN: ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

The Woman's Baptist Home & Foreign Missionary Convention, Auxiliary to GBSC, is accepting applications for an Administrative Assistant. Applicants should meet the following requirements.

- Have a baccalaureate degree, preferably in Business Management (some courses in Christian education with some years of experience)
- Have supervisory expertise
- Have communicative and organizational skills
- Be able to maintain lists, schedule(s)
- Have proficiency in business English
- Have knowledge of preparing and reporting state and federal taxes preparation
- Have proficient computer skills
- Have a pleasant personality and telephone skills
- Have team skills.

Salary is negotiable, good benefits.

Please send a resume to: The Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina,
Auxiliary to GBSC, PO Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602
Telephone: (919) 833-4823 • Fax (919) 833-7599

FOR SALE

Church pews; 20 church pews; 10 ft. long, oak, red cushion seat and back. Will seat eight. \$250 each. 919-828-8057.

Women's Page Highlights

Deacon's Wives Fellowship Planning Meeting Scheduled

By Sisters Dorothy Hicks
and Evelyn McLean

Many of us are familiar with the quotation, "If you fail to plan, you plan to fail." Never have we lived in a time where this is more true than now. Prayerful planning is necessary in our day-to-day lives. Even more so is prayerful planning needed when we take on extra curricular activities and leadership positions in our service to God. It is of the utmost importance that we understand our vision and make plans to support it.

Many years ago this fellowship was organized and some of our goals and objectives were formulated at that time. They include the following:

- Providing funds to give aid to the maintenance and development of the J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly
- Supporting the programs of the Woman's Convention

- Enlisting all Deacons' wives across North Carolina, who are members of or affiliated with the Woman's Convention
- Planning a program for sharing during the Annual Session
- Meeting at least once during the year (e.g., before or after One Day Session or Statewide Leaders' Workshop)
- Functioning at the pleasure of the Woman's Convention and according to its direction.

Let us come together and make plans to support our objectives and plan a program, which will be pleasing in the sight of God. We are to attend a planning meeting on January 13, 2001 at 8:00 a.m. at the Civic Center in Raleigh, North Carolina, prior to the One-Day Session. Let us come from Manteo to Murphy and make this year like no other in our service to Christ. Come one, come all. Let us plan together for a super year.

Lanes Creek Association Meets October 17-20, 2000

Submitted by
Wilhelmenia B. King

St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church, Charlotte, N.C., where Rev. Clifford Matthews Jr., serves as pastor, was the site for the 104th Session of the Lanes Creek Baptist Association and the 87th session of the Lanes Creek Woman's Auxiliary. Business sessions were intertwined with talent presentations from the Youth Missions department. The Ushers and Laymen League session was highlighted by a sermon from the Moderator Emeritus, Dr. David Cook Jr.

Moderator Rev. H.L. Nicholson delivered his second Annual Address and challenged the assembly to move ahead in the new millennium. He admonished to rid ourselves of bitterness and strife. We are to do all we can to edify one another and to

glorify God. In this way Lanes Creek could carry on the work of the Lord. The challenge is the same: reach the masses. He explained that the world must see a difference in the Church for the Church to make a difference in the world.

The culmination of the Association was on Friday evening with Woman's Auxiliary President Mrs. Mattie Galmon, presiding. A very spirit-filled skit was presented by the Young Adult Missions department of the Oak Grove Baptist Church, Harrisburg, N.C., Rev. Christopher Harris, Pastor. The skit presented a very eye-opening depiction of souls coming to heavens gate and the archangel, Gabriel searching the Lamb's Book for their names. This was certainly food for thought.

God Bless You Lanes Creek as you continue up the King's highway!



CROWNED QUEEN IN LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Mrs. Pauline J. Young, wife of Rev. Roy J. Young, Pastor of St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church in West Asheville, N.C., was crowned queen of the *Baptist Ministers Wives & Widows* for the third time for the state of North Carolina, on September 8, 2000 in Los Angeles, California.

POSITION OPEN: Office Secretary/HELPER Coordinator for the WBH&FMC

The Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention now is receiving applications for the position of Office Secretary/HELPER Coordinator.

Qualifications:

- Should have good secretarial skills.
- Should have efficient computer skills, especially word processing and spreadsheets
- Should have an appropriate degree associate or bachelor and some experience
- Should have team spirit

Salary is negotiable; good benefits
Please send immediately a resume to:

The Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign
Missionary Convention

of North Carolina, Auxiliary to GBSC

PO Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602

Telephone: (919) 833-4823

Fax: (919) 833-7599

POSITION OPEN: SECRETARY

The Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention, Auxiliary to GBSC, is accepting applications for a Secretary. Applicants should meet the following qualifications.

- Have completed high school and have had several business courses beyond high school
- Have knowledge of business English
- Have efficient knowledge of computer operations, especially word processing and spreadsheets
- Have good typing speed and accuracy
- Have the ability to relate to people.

The salary is negotiable, good benefits.

Please send resume to the address below:

The Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary
Convention of North Carolina, Auxiliary to GBSC
PO Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602
Telephone: (919) 833-4823
Fax: (919) 833-7599

Pray for great blessings for this year!

PROPHET 3H

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ROBERT DANIEL

LAYMEN'S LEAGUE NEWS

Happy New Year

By Romas L. Hales

On behalf of the State Laymen's League of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Incorporated, we wish to take this opportunity to wish all of you a Happy New Year. Not only do we wish you a Happy New Year, but we thank you for the service you have rendered, the work you have done, your prayers, and your cooperation during the past year. Let us also pause and count our blessings.

May we thank God for all His blessings the past year. Let us also pause and count our blessings.

May we thank God for all His bless-

ings the past year. So often we concentrate on so called large things and problems and the negativism of life and forget the major things we have been blessed with. Think of the things God has blessed us with, and the things He has done for us that we were unable to do for ourselves. Think of the times the past year He has solved problems for us that we were unable to solve. Think of the times He has let what we thought were problems and obstacles in our lives be stepping stones, kingdom builders and strength for a greater tomorrow.

As we make plans for the New Year, let us try to make sure our plans are God's

plans for our live. While we think and plan for the financial goals we want to reach, the material things we want to purchase and for the things we want to do for our families, friends and love ones, let us put the things we want to do for the Lord at the head of the list. Remember what the Psalmist David said in the 103rd Psalm: "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me; bless His holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits; Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with loving kindness and tender mercies;



Romas Hales
Laymen's League Coordinator

who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagles."

Have a Happy and Spirit filled New Year!

State Laymen's League Holds Final Yearly Study Commission Meeting

By Romas L. Hales

The State Laymen's League held its final Study Commission Meeting of the Calendar year on Saturday, December 9, 2000. The meeting was held at the Johnston Piney Grove Baptist Church of Clayton, North Carolina where Rev. Theodore Breeden serves as Pastor.

The day started with refreshments and an Executive Committee Meeting at 9:00 a.m. conducted by President, Jarvis Morgan. Brother John Gladden, First Vice President called the regular session to order at 10:00 a.m. We had a spiritual devotion conducted by the host Laymen and a very warm welcome. Greetings were given by President, Jarvis Morgan and by Johnston Piney Grove Laymen President, Brother Robert Melton. Rev. Theodore Breeden sent his regrets that he was unable to be with us for the meeting.

Brother Theodore David, Third Vice President conducted the Christian Education Session. He centered his discussion on

the topic "Worship the Lord, O Come Let Us Adore Him." He emphasized how the word "Adore" means to Worship. Brother David discussed the types of worshipping. He discussed how singing is the joy of worshipping, and how the sermon is the strength of worshipping. After discussing the types of worshipping he also discussed some of the hindrances to Christian Worship. Some people do not worship in some Countries. Some do not fully worship because they are still keeping Jesus in the infancy stage. In his discussion Brother David used the Scripture Matthew 15:8-9 and John 4:23-24.

Brother Dallas Foster, Study Commission Chairman, conducted the Study Commission Workshop. Brother Foster conducted the workshop from the topic "Christian Men and the Beginning of Victory" and "Christian Men and the Assurance of Victory." This was the third lesson of a series of lesson on the subject "Christian Men Preparing for Spiritual Warfare." The purpose of this series of lessons are to help

men to overcome a sense of failure and defeat, and to experience a sense of triumph and victory in Jesus. These lessons will enable us to overcome a complex of defeatism and they will show us how we are victorious in a battle that is more important than any other. This is a spiritual battle with doubt, darkness, and depth. Brother Foster discussed in his lesson, "The Power of Faith." In Faith we only need to accept this victory. It has already been won for us by the Blood of Jesus Christ on Calvary. He discussed several scriptures on how Christian men can have the Assurance of Victory.

Brother Gregory Gabriel, Fourth Vice President was in charge of the Youth Session. The youth discussed the topics "What Is The Church" and "What it Means to be a Christian." The youth were divided in three

different groups by age. They did a beautiful job discussing their topics.

Following the workshops we had a short business session conducted by President, Jarvis Morgan. The business consisted of general reports from the President, The Youth, and The Laymen Field Worker. The President reported on the Laymen Work at Princeville, The Lott Carey Laymen, and how we want to get more young men and boys involved in the Laymen Organization.

Thanks to Rev. Breeden, the Laymen's League, and Members of the Johnston Piney Grove Baptist Church for hosting the meeting. Everything was wonderful.

The next Study Commission Meeting will be held March 10, 2001 at the Mount Zion Baptist Church of Kings Mountain, North Carolina.

May God continue to Bless You.

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Plans are being made for the National Congress meeting June, 2001, in Charlotte, North Carolina. Volunteers are needed to serve on local planning committees. Specific information is forth coming in the next informer.

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Homecoming Service For Rev. Dr. Rufus N. Lockhart

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing."

2 Timothy 4:7-8

Rev. Rufus N. Lockhart went to be with the Lord Saturday, September 23, 2000 at 4:30 p.m. He had a heart attack at the Presbyterian Hospital in Charlotte, North Carolina.

He lived a dedicated life being faithful and active in local, state and national religious activities. He was a preacher for God starting at an early age. His last sermon was September 3, 2000. He has been on the battle field for the Lord sixty years. His pastoral ministry was at Maiden Chapel Baptist Church, New Prospect Baptist Church and Fairview Heights Baptist Church. Rev. Lockhart, has held many positions during his life, serving in the United State Army; as a teacher, Director of Christian Education, Moderator of Mountain and Catawba Association, President of the Rising Star Sunday School Convention, Chairman of Churches of Eastern Catawba NAACP, Director of Youth and Young

Adult Department of Mission, President of the Maiden Ministerial Association, member of the General and Executive Board of General Baptist State Convention, Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention, and the National Sunday School Congress. He attended the National Baptist Convention USA, World Baptist Alliance and made the Christian Pilgrimage to the Bible Lands of Israel and Greece. He was the recipient of many awards and certificates. He has served as president of the Dean Street and Oaklawn Park Community Organizations and was honored as "The Mans of Troas" in the Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention.

Rev. Lockhart was born December 16, 1927 to the late Mr. Will Lockhart and Mrs. Lillian Woods Lockhart of Blacksburg, South Carolina. He is a graduate of the Academy Street School, Friendship Junior College, Benedict College and Johnson C. Smith University where he received his AA, AB and BD Degrees. In college he was chosen as Student of the Year, President of the Student Union and President of his class. He fell in love with his college girl friend, Lillie Lee Walker. They were married March 29, 1953. To this union a girl was born but died as an infant. He was married for forty seven years. They were a

working team. His sister, Sarah and his twin sister Ruby preceded him in death.

He leaves to cherish his memory a loving devoted and dedicated wife, Mrs. Lillie W. Lockhart of the home; two sisters, Mrs. Marian E. Harris of Hampton, Virginia and Mrs. Geraldine Young of Shelby, North Carolina; five brothers, Mr. Johnny Lockhart, Mr. Walter Lockhart (Ethel) both of Shelby, North Carolina, Mr. James Lockhart (Cherry), Mr. Charlie Lockhart (Eleanor) both of Atlantic City, New Jersey and Mr. Wilson Lockhart (Betty) of Pleasantville, New Jersey; father-in-law, Mr. Luther Walker of Anderson, South Carolina; sister-in-law, Mrs. Nina Harling of Anderson, South Carolina; brothers-in-law, Mr. William J. Walker (Queen) of Anderson, South Carolina, Mr. Dewitt Whisant of Baltimore, Maryland; three faithful cousins; Mrs. Willie Lee Wright, Mrs. Beatrice Hope and Mrs. Lola People all of Charlotte, North Carolina and a host of nieces, cousins and friends. All the children of Dean Street were affectionately his nieces and nephews. He was their Uncle Rufus. His extended family were the children on Dean Street, Mrs. Edith Fulton's family and the church family. He loved everyone.



Rev. Dr. Rufus N. Lockhart

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The family expresses sincere thanks and appreciation to the many friends, neighbors and members for their expressions of kindness and sympathy shown during our bereavement. May God richly bless each of you.

The Family

Moderator Rev. E.B. Wilkerson Called Home

Rev. Edward Bernard Wilkerson was called home by our Father on Wednesday, December 5, 2000 at Frye Regional Medical Center, Hickory, NC, at the age of 51 years, 1 month and 15 days. Born October 20, 1949, in McDowell County, he was the son of the late William Wilkerson and Mrs. Doris Wilkerson Hall.

In preparation for serving the Lord, he attended Shaw University in Raleigh, NC. There he was an honor graduate and received his Bachelor of Arts Degree, Religion and Philosophy and his Masters of Divinity. He also received his Clinical Pastoral from the School of Pastoral Care, Baptist Hospital, Winston-Salem, NC.

Rev. Wilkerson was very active and involved in his community. He was pastor of Friendship Baptist Church, Hickory, NC. He was the Moderator for the Mountain and Catawba Missionary Baptist Association,

serving on the Advisory Council and directory of Christian Education there. He was president of the Hickory Ministerial Alliance, vice-president of Inter-Faith Housing and a former president of the Hickory Branch of the NAACP.

He served on the following boards: Bank of Granite, Frye Regional Medical Center, General Baptist State Convention, Hickory Soup Kitchen, CCM of Greater Hickory and Advisory Committee Board for the Catawba County Prison Chaplain. Rev. Wilkerson provided Chaplaincy service for Catawba Memorial Hospital, Frye Regional Medical Center and Hickory Police Department. He will truly be missed. He was preceded in death by a sister, Deborah Elaine Goode.

He leaves to cherish fond memories his wife, Martha Parker Wilkerson of the home; three sons: Edward Bernard Wilkerson, Jr.,

Donald Andre Wilkerson, both of Claremont, NC and Jason Timothy Wilkerson of Conover, NC; one daughter, Angela Noel Wilkerson of the home; his mother and stepfather, Mrs. Doris W. Hall and Perry Hall of Augusta, Ga.; four brothers; William Howard Wilkerson of Drexel, NC, John Edward Wilkerson of Asheville, NC, Kevin Andre Hall of California and Perry Hall, Jr. of New York; three sisters: Gail Goode of Marion, NC, Yvonne Rutherford of Spindale, NC and Cara Wilkerson of Marion, NC; one grandson; Patrick Bernard Wilkerson of Newton, NC; his mother-in-law; Ms. Annie Lucille Parker of Stony Point, NC, a number of uncles, aunts, nieces, nephews, many other relatives and friends.

Moderator Wilkerson made his last GBSC presentation in our Year 2000 All Baptist Assembly Program, Thursday,



Rev. Edward Bernard Wilkerson

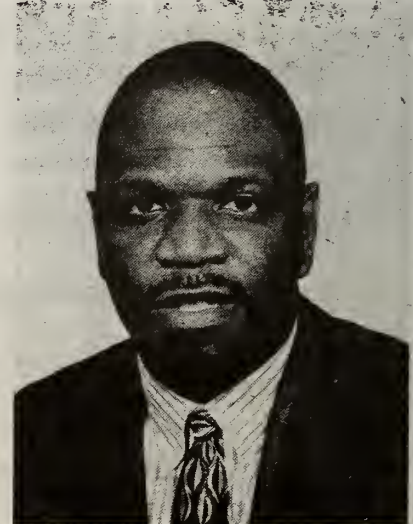
morning, July 27, 2000 at 8:30 a.m. He did a lecture on church leadership. God bless his memory. He was a faithful soldier.



Mark Your Calendars For April 16-19, State-wide Evangelism Conference

correspondence and communion with His Father, had all knowledge. He knew what was important, and what was unimportant: and He ignored the unimportant, and gave Himself solely and entirely to the important things of life. He disregarded the irrelevant, and gave Himself utterly and only to the relevant, and to that which ultimately matters. The secret of the simplicity of the gospel lies in the fact the He brushed aside everything but the one supreme question of the souls need. That is, clearly, an utter contradiction of all our modern ideas and conceptions. We, today tend to judge the greatness of a man, not by his simplicity, but by his complexity. Yet here was the very Son of God, and even little children got something from Him: ordinary fishermen followed Him — "the common people heard him gladly." Why? Because He always talked about something which they understood. You my friends, may be very

well versed in many of the arts and sciences. You may be an expert on politics: you may be an authority on quite a number of subjects. But do you know how to live? "What shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world, of knowledge, as well as wealth and lose his own soul?" Enter ye at the strait gate. Come back to that which really matters. The important and vital question is that of the soul. Is it well with your soul? Have you put forth an effort to help others with the destiny of their soul? This matter is the life and breath of the work of evangelism.



Dr. H.C. Miller

Evangelism Corner Announcement

We are in the process of updating our membership roster. We are asking all members of this committee to mail or fax us your name, church, correct mailing address and

telephone number where you may be reached. Thank you for your cooperation in forwarding your information in an expeditious manner.
Dr. H.C. Miller/Chairman
Rev. Sandra Holland-Trotter/Secretary

Greetings to the General Baptist Family in the name of our Lord Jesus The Christ.

I want to encourage each of you to mark your 2001 calendars for the dates of April 16th-19th; these are the dates for the State-Wide Evangelism Conference. This year's conference will be held with the Lewis Chapel Baptist Church, Fayetteville, N.C.

We hear a great deal nowadays about the simple gospel. The secret of the simplicity of the gospel is this. Jesus of Nazareth, being the Son of God, and living in perfect

A Christian Education Moment

By Dr. Jasper P. Reed, President
Congress of Christian Education

Looking Forward To New Millennium

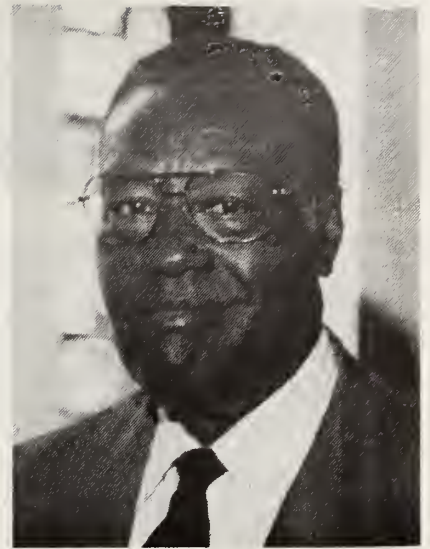
As we stand on the eve of this new millennium, let us not forget that the warfare we are in now will continue unabatedly into the next millennium. The evil forces of the world will not leave just because it is Y2K+1. Preparing our minds for action by developing self-control and setting our hope and not conforming to the evil desires of our lives will aid in the preparation to serve well in God's work in the next millennium. We as Christians will need to be steadfast and holy and live a life to be ready for action that is characterized by obedience to the Word and Will of God our Father. To be steadfast is to be self-controlled. Rather than being controlled by outside circumstances believers should be directed from within by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Finally Peter counsels us to set our hope fully. Holy living demands determination. A believer's hope should be firmly set to be

bestowed when Jesus Christ is revealed. This is how we are to prepare to greet the new millennium. Let us always be mindful that we are to live holy and that holy living is motivated by God-fearing faith.

HAPPY NEW YEAR AND WELCOME TO THE NEW MILLENNIUM

As we continue to talk about and plan to introduce NEW Curriculum Materials, it is important that you understand that we are talking about expanding the curriculum not taking away anything that we currently have. For your information and planning purposes we will still meet the second Saturday in February (the 10th) 2001 for our Midyear meeting in Winston-Salem. As usual we will be expecting all Teachers, Oratorical workers, Church members, and our Youth to be in attendance. We will be counting on you to bring your registration fees and your Church Representation fees with you. We will be convening our Second Annual Youth Conference for Oratoricals on June 27-30, 2001. As usual we will still have our Annual session of Christian Education to be held July 17-19, 2001 in Rocky Mount, NC. However beyond this we believe there is room for us to grow and that is the purpose of the new



Dr. Jasper P. Reed, President
Congress of Christian Education

material we are preparing for introduction in early 2001. Please standby.

Please keep in mind that The National Congress of Christian Education will convene its Annual Session in Charlotte, N.C. June 18-22, 2001. This is probably a once in a life time experience for many of us. Plan now to be there when they convene. Much more the upcoming GBSC Oratorical Conference can be found in this issue of the Informer under a separate heading (byline). The President

A Christian Education Moment for Our YOUTH and Young-at Heart... Quiz Getting ready for the N-E-W.....

1. When does the Scriptures declares new things? Isaiah 42:9
2. What does Jesus say about those who mishandle truth? Matthew 7:21-23
3. Where was the Inscription to the Unknown God found? Acts 17:23
4. What is the effect of Contrary Doctrine on us? Romans 16:17-18
5. How is Reincarnation refuted? Hebrews 9:27

First Baptist Church of Fayetteville Sixth Annual College Day

Submitted by Mrs. Ruth Smith

First Baptist Church will sponsor its Sixth Annual College Day on Saturday, January 27, 2001 in the Fellowship Hall of the church located at 302 Moore Street from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Nearly 40 colleges, universities and community colleges throughout North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia, Ft. Bragg Smoke Bomb Hill Education Center, and the Naval and West Point Academies have been invited to disseminate information about their institutions.

All high school students and their par-

ents in the Cumberland County School System and surrounding area schools are invited to attend this program.

This College Day is unique; it differs from the high schools college day events. Parents and guardians are invited, encouraged and expected to accompany their children. This gives the parents the opportunity to meet with representatives from the colleges and universities in which their children have interest.

For additional information contact Mrs. Ruth Smith, 910-483-6506, Youth Ministry Director, First Baptist Church.

AND, I'LL SEE YOU IN THE MORNING



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Dr. Serenus T. Churn, Sr.

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About the Author:
Dr. Serenus T. Churn Sr., received his Doctor of Ministry Degree from Drew University, Madison, N.J., in 1979, his Graduate Certificate in Pastoral Care from the Foundation for Religion and Mental Health, Grasslands Hospital, Westchester County, N.Y., in 1970, his Master of Divinity Degree from Howard University, School of Religion in Washington, D.C., in 1969, his Bachelor of Divinity Degree from Howard University, School of Religion in 1965 and his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Morgan State College, Baltimore, Md., in 1962.

He was born in Camden, N.J., to the late Dr. Charles H. Churn Sr., and Violet M. Churn and was licensed to preach at the age of 15. He is married to the former Shirley Brown of Washington, D.C., and

has two sons. Dr. Churn is currently the Senior Pastor of Mount Zion Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, N.C. Member of Novant Health Board of Trustees, Mount Zion Site Director and Adjunct Instructor, Shaw University Divinity School and Drew University Theology School. He is the Radio Host of God's Trombone WPOL. He has preached across the United States, Great Britain and India.

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UPDATE: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

By Dr. Joseph C. Paige



Timothy

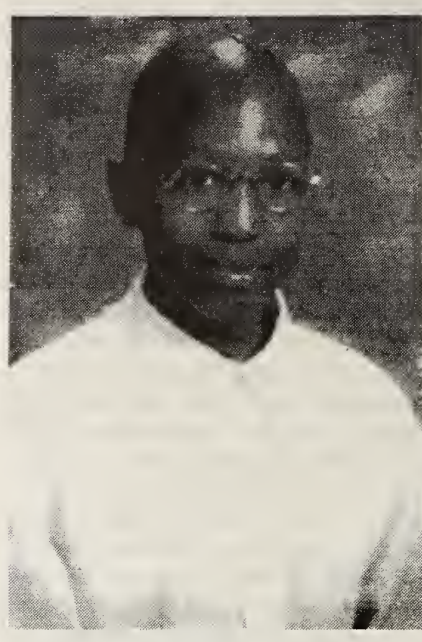
TIM Birthday: January 8, 1986
Introducing Tim:

Tim likes to be physically active playing sports and mentally active playing Nintendo. He works hard to please his teachers and others, and is especially motivated by praise and positive encouragement. He stays on task well in school, where Math is his favorite subject.

Tim has had a difficult past and is working hard in counseling to control his feelings and responses to certain situations. He is making progress, but needs time, patience and guidance to continue improving.

A Family for Tim:

Tim is happiest when he knows he has pleased others and responds best to praise and positive feedback. He needs a family to help him learn to make good decisions and to take responsibility for them. Tim thrives on attention and knowing he is loved. He needs to also feel appreciated and safe, and just looking at his warm eyes and sweet smile every day should make that the best part. (NC #080-611)



Derrick

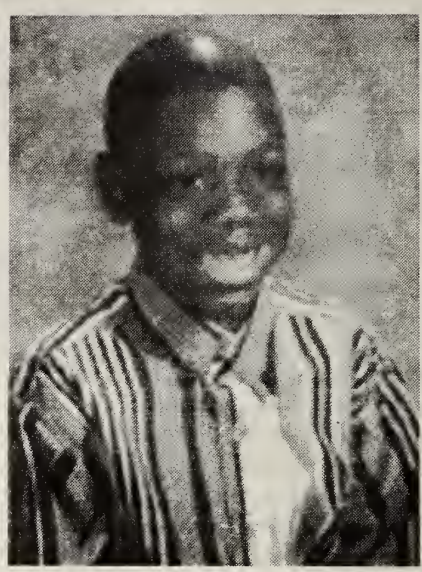
DERRICK Birthday: May 14, 1989
RASHAD Birthday: July 4, 1991
Introducing Derrick and Rashad:

Derrick and Rashad are polite, well mannered young men who show respect for others. Derrick is more serious and the peacemaker, while Rashad is the talkative one. Both boys have good appetites and like a variety of foods.

A Closer Look at Derrick:

Nicknamed "the Professor" by a previous foster parent, Derrick is a good student whose favorite subject is Science. He also enjoys reading.

Derrick enjoys extracurricular activities, too, like little league baseball and tutoring. Derrick studies hard and is a perfectionist. He has a self-disciplined personality and is probably a bit too serious for a boy his age.



Rashad

A Closer Look at Rashad:

Rashad is usually cheerful, outgoing and energetic. A previous foster parent described him as heart warming and friendly. Rashad likes school and he has proven to be enthusiastic about learning and an above-average reader. He works well independently and enjoys helping out with chores.

Rashad is a friendly kid, but needs to learn not to talk too much. He needs to continue to work on behavior, especially when it comes from not understanding his feelings.

A Family for Derrick and Rashad:

Two bright, cheerful and good kids, Derrick and Rashad are ready to be part of a bright, cheerful and loving family. Help them with their homework, bake them a nice cake, give them time to do their schoolwork, then send them happily out to play baseball. What a wonderful scenario. (NC #024-308) (NC #024-309)

Bridging The Gap To Permanency

By Dr. James T. Roberson, Jr. & Mrs. Beverly Roberson

We are pleased to have been asked to serve on the Board of THE NORTH CAROLINA FAITH COMMITTEES UNITED FOR CHILDREN: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE, joining a list of distinguished spokespersons for this important statewide initiative. Advocating for children — those already in the Foster Care System, ready and waiting for adoption, and for children awaiting foster care placement. We understand the challenge and the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of our children.

Our mandate is to help find families for children — children who have gone through the terrible trauma of losing their families. Many of them have suffered abuse and neglect and yet, all children need and deserve forever families, — a place to call home, a nurturing, supportive and caring home.

We are pleased to join our colleague at the Shaw University Divinity School, Dr. Joseph C. Paige, chairperson, and wife, Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige, in this great effort.

Please help us continue to make a difference. OPEN YOUR HEARTS AND YOUR HOMES!

Dr. James T. Roberson and Mrs. Beverly P. Roberson (O) 919-546-8570

WINTER IS HERE — LOOK AT GOD'S BEAUTY!

Our 2001 Plea! Our Challenge for the New Year!

By Dr. Joseph C. Paige

Every Church: Appoint an Adoption/Foster Care Coordinator to assist us in your area!

Every Church: Encourage and assist at least one member in becoming an **Adoptive and or Foster Parent**. Contact us. We will help you.

PLEASE HELP US HELP OUR CHILDREN. IT'S THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST!

Please call me:

Dr. Joseph C. Paige
2610 Albemarle Avenue
Raleigh, NC 27610
Phone (919) 231-9774
FAX (919) 212-3656
E-Mail: joepaigesr@aol.com



Evangelist Michelle Montgomery Volunteer Assistant

Evangelist Michelle Montgomery, Volunteer Special Assistant to Dr. Joseph C. Paige for marketing, church relations and outreach. Evangelist Montgomery has a long history of volunteer church leadership and Christian service.

Commenting on her appointment, Dr. Paige stated: — "Michelle is a God-send. Always there with new ideas, never tiring and committed to seeing the job through. We thank God for her."

SHARE THE VISION WITH US!! HELP US SPREAD THE WORD
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Making A Difference in the Life of a Child
Finding Adoptive and Foster Care Homes for African-American Children
The North Carolina African-American Faith Communities United for Children, a partnership with North Carolina Division of Social Services, is comprised of African-American congregations and community organizations from across the State, NAYKEL and the North Carolina Association of Black Social Workers committed to finding adoptive and foster homes for African-American children.
Yes, I'd like to do my part ...
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I'd like to be a field worker.
 I am interested in being an adoptive parent. I'd like to be a county volunteer.
 I am interested in being a foster care parent.
 I'd like to be a church volunteer. Other (please specify)
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Address _____
City State Zip
Contact Dr. Joseph C. Paige at 2610 Albemarle Ave., Raleigh, NC 27610, 919-231-9774, 919-618-8343, mobile • e-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com

Happy New Year!

MORE ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

*God Continues To Bless Our Efforts: Many Opened Their Hearts and Their Homes During Year 2000
2001 Promises to be a Banner Year for Recruiting Adoptive and Foster Parents*

By Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr.

Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige

Greetings in the BLESSED NAME of our Lord and SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST!

Our prayers for each of you, are that the year 2000 was a PROSPEROUS, BLESSED YEAR, that you had a joyous holiday season. We also pray that the year 2001, the second year of both the new century and the new millennium will be one of continuing prosperity and special blessings.

God continues to bless our Ministry in so many special ways. The year 2000 was indeed a God send and the year 2001 is already off with a BIG BANG! Blessings after blessings keep on coming our way, and we give God the glory, the honor and praise!

1. Year 2000 summaries

- 1-1. * Referral of Potential adoptive parents — 400
- * Referral of Potential foster parents — 240
- * Volunteers — 150
- 1-2. Presentations
- * Before churches, church and religious organizations — 240
- * Before social, civic and county groups — 120
- * Individual and home presentations — 200
- 1-3. Radio/TV programs — 40
- 1-4. Newspaper articles — 104

2. Special Observances

2-1. FOSTER CARE AWARENESS MONTH

National Foster Care Awareness Month was celebrated during the Month of May. GBSC worked with Rev. Gwen Horton and Mrs. Amelia Lance in developing and promoting a statewide North Carolina Foster Care Awareness Kick-Off, as well as regional celebrations in nine of the 10 North Carolina DSS regions consisting of from 9-11 counties. The turn-outs were great. The responses were very posi-

tive and at each celebration, we were able to recruit new volunteers and identify new referrals.

2-2. Adoption Awareness Month

As reported elsewhere in this issue and in the December, 2000 issue, our ADOPTION AWARENESS MONTH celebrations were off with a BIG BANG, beginning with the statewide KICK-OFF on November 1st in the yard of the State Capital building.

It was both festive and instructive, and representing both government and the private sector, and a broad representation of the faith communities in our state.

Follow-up celebrations were held in Asheville, November 4; Durham, November 5; Salisbury, November 10, 11; Southport, November 15; Nashville, November 18; Chapel Hill, November 19; Elizabeth City, November 28; Morganton, November 30.

Again, the responses, statewide, have been encouraging — more adoptive and foster parent referrals and more people, representing a broad spectrum from the faith communities and from the business and civic communities expressing a desire to work with us as volunteers. We give God the glory!

3. THE EVERY CHURCH ADOPT ONE PROJECT

This initiative is gaining broad support statewide, and again, we give God the glory and the praise. This is an interfaith initiative, and we strongly encourage all churches to join us in this special challenge. Join the growing number of churches uniting for children. This HELPING AND CARING MINISTRY is being pushed by moderators, ministers and assorted church laity. Many church missionary departments have designated this ministry as a primary focus for the year 2001.

For additional information, please call,

write or e-mail us! Dr. Joseph C. Paige or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige, 2610 Albemarle Ave., Raleigh, NC 27610 (919) 231-9774; Fax (919) 212-3656. e-mail:joepaigesr@aol.com.

4. VOLUNTEERS

Again, the response for adoption and foster care volunteers has been incredibly successful. People from all walks of life, clergy, laity (men and women) and missionaries, representing practically all of the African-American faith communities have responded to God's call (and it is God calling all to "help his little children") to help find loving homes for His children.

We thank God for the generous time and energy our volunteers give to our effort.

We now have adoption and foster care volunteer coordinators in many counties both rural and urban areas, and from county civic and social organizations. They all believe as we do, that every child observes a loving and caring home, and they are committed to helping make this happen. A special thanks to the Moderators, Pastors and Presidents of a auxiliaries for your support.

Yet, with our successes, we are still seeking additional volunteers to work with us at the state, regional and local levels. We need more people to help us spread the world! Please contact us. Dr. Joseph C. Paige, Project Director, or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige, Field Coordinator — FAX:

(Continued on next page)

ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

Ministry of the GBSC State & Convention of N.C., Inc.

By Dr. Joseph C. Paige, Chairperson

Greetings and Peace on the name of Jesus Christ. We would like to request your active participation and support of the North Carolina African-American Faith Communities United for Children: Adoption and Foster Care.

This Initiative is a cooperative partnership between the General Baptist State Convention and Human Services, Division of Social Services. Ours is an exciting and challenging journey, and a real opportunity to make a serious contribution to a real serious cause at this time.

The African-American Children's Initiative Adoption and Foster Care, as a cooperative church-based effort designed to help identify African-American single persons and couples who are interested in adoption African-American children or becoming foster parents to African-American children. This initiative is based on the fact that every child deserves a long, nurturing and caring home.

At the present time, there are many African-American children in the North Carolina Foster Care System, both boys and girls, who are currently eligible for this effort. The goal is to help speed up the adoption process. Time is of profound essence. There is also an urgency to identify potential Foster Care parents.

We are anxious to make a real difference within the next few months and we can do this only with your help. Volunteers will receive additional guidance from us on marketing strategies in your respective areas just as soon as I hear from you. In addition, we are in the process of soliciting and identifying volunteers to work with us throughout the state in the following categories, and we are requesting your assistance.

1. County Adoption/Foster Care Recruitment Volunteer Coordinators (one volunteer for each county).
2. Church Adoption/Foster Care Recruitment Volunteer Coordinators (one per church)
3. We are also requesting Adoption/Foster Care Recruitment Volunteer coordinators to work with us at the town, city, and area levels, to help us spread the word that all children need and deserve a loving and caring home.

If you agree to serve as a volunteer or if you know someone who is willing to serve with us, write me today and mail it to me at the address below:

Dr. Joseph C. Paige, Chairperson
The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry
PO Box 24273
Raleigh, NC 27611-5273

Please don't hesitate to call me if you have any questions (919) 231-9774. Or you can e-mail me at JoePaigeSr@aol.com or you can also e-mail me at JoePaigeSr@aol.com. I look forward to working with you.

GBSC OF N.C. INC. NORTH CAROLINA AFRICAN-AMERICAN FAITH COMMUNITIES UNITED FOR CHILDREN: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE MINISTRY DATABASE FORM

Moderator's Name _____

Moderator's Association _____

Moderator's Church _____

Address Church: _____

Home _____

Phone: Church _____ Home _____

Counties Covered by Association (Please use a separate sheet if more than 12 counties):

- | | | | |
|-----------|------------|------------|------------|
| 1.) _____ | 2.) _____ | 3.) _____ | 4.) _____ |
| 5.) _____ | 6.) _____ | 7.) _____ | 8.) _____ |
| 9.) _____ | 10.) _____ | 11.) _____ | 12.) _____ |

Names, Addresses and Phone Numbers of Adoption/Foster Care Volunteers that you are requesting. (Please use a separate sheet if more than 2 volunteers):

1.) _____

2.) _____

Please complete form and mail to the following address:
NCAAFUC, Attn: Earl Horton, Director of Public Relations and Community Affairs
5325 Thistlebrook Ct., Raleigh, NC 27610.

The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. and the N.C. African-American Faith Communities United for Children: Adoption and Foster Care Finding Adoptive & Foster Care Homes For African-American Children

Touch a Life Forever ... ADOPT!

Children waiting for adoptive families are ...

- Sisters and brothers who want to be adoptive together
- Children who have experienced neglect, abuse or abandonment
- Older children who want a permanently family
- Children who need families who care and are willing to make a lifetime commitment

You can adopt if you ...

- Are single, married or divorced
- Can provide a stable home
- Have the ability to care for a child not born to you
- Are willing to take on the responsibilities, joys and challenges of parenting

Families who adopt ...

- May be homeowners or renting
- May have a fixed income
- May be an adult of any age

North Carolina Needs More Foster Homes

Thousands of children in North Carolina, ranging in age from infants to 18 years old, enter the foster care system each year. These children may have been neglected, abused, or abandoned and need a safe place to stay temporarily. The number of children coming into care is increasing faster than the number of foster homes in our state.

You Can Become A Foster Parent If You ...

- Are between the ages of 21 and 65
- Are willing to be fingerprinted and have a criminal record check
- Have a stable home and income
- Are able to provide a safe, temporary place for children until they can be in a permanent home
- Complete all required training and be licensed by the State of North Carolina

You do not have to be married, wealthy or own your own home to be a foster parent.

From the Moderator of Moderators' Committee

Grace and Peace to all of you, my brothers and sisters!

It is my sincere hope that each of you had a Merry Christmas. On behalf of the Moderator of Moderators' Committee and myself, we wish you a happy, prosperous and blessed New Year. I trust that all of us will continue to pray for the great work of the convention and for the Moderator of Moderators' Committee as we strive to do the Master's will.

The past year has been rewarding and challenging for me as I have attempted to raise and discuss Church Conflict and Legal Awareness issues that I believe could affect all of us (pastors and churches) at some time or another. Many of you have disagreed with some of the issues I have raised and some of you have found some to be controversial. If I have caused you to at least think, then all have not been in vain.

Now, I want to raise the issue of finances and taxes. Whenever I talk about this at workshops with churches and pastors, I always hear someone say, "ah, we don't have to worry about that, churches don't get audited." My response to this is that there is always a first time for everything. There was a young man who grew up in the rural country. As a matter of fact, there was nothing around the area in which he lived but dirt roads. For many years while driving on those roads, he never stopped for the stop signs. He had never seen a vehicle coming in either of the directions since he had been driving on those roads. Well, on this particular day, he failed to stop and coming over the hill was the highway patrol who stopped him and charged him with failing to stop for a stop sign. My point is, we should never say that it will not happen to our churches or us. Our churches should make every effort to make sure she is on solid ground when it comes to her finances and taxes.

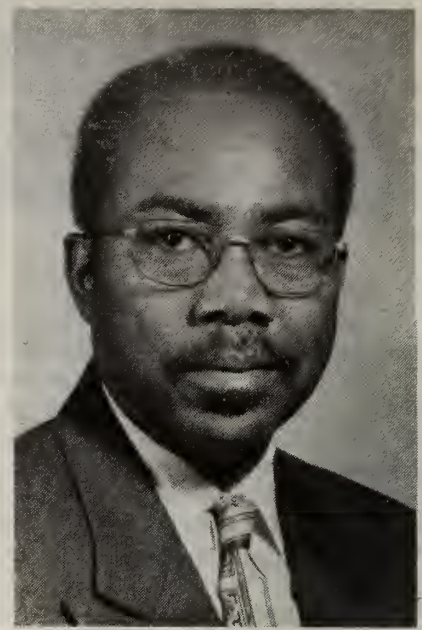
Finances and Taxes

Let me share this supposedly true story with you. Every Sunday an individual at XYZ Missionary Baptist Church had the church to cash a personal check for the sum of \$100.00. The individual would then put a \$10.00 bill in the church offering. When it came time for the individual to file an income tax return, the sum of \$5,200.00 was shown as a contribution to XYZ Missionary Baptist Church. The individual was able to prove the contribution because of the canceled checks that were returned made payable to XYZ Missionary Baptist Church. The problem here is that in the past years, the individual had been showing a contribution of approximately \$500.00 to \$600.00. Now this kind of discrepancy causes a red flag to be raised with the Internal Revenue Service. So the Internal Revenue Services decides to audit the individual. Well, you say, "what does that have to do with the church." Guess what? The audit trail leads directly to XYZ Missionary Baptist Church. The point is, you can get audited. Make sure that your financial records and taxes are in order. Don't cash checks. The church is not a banking institution. It is a religious institution.

Finances here are a broad term. It relates to everything from the counting of Sunday's collections to financial record keeping. I had the opportunity to conduct a session on Church Law and at the same workshop someone else was conducting a session on Church Finance. At the conclusion of the session, we all gather together as a group where each session would share something

of what was learned in the session. A member of the church finance session went forward and stated that they learned that the only persons that should be in the church finance room counting money were the treasurer and financial secretary. Immediately, members in my church law session began to look at me in amazement. We had not discussed this particular issue but there was just something about the statement that didn't sound right. Well there is something in law that is known as collusion. Collusion is a secret agreement or cooperation for an illegal or deceitful purpose. You see, if only John Doe and Henry Roe are in the church finance room counting the church's money, there is more of an opportunity for collusion to occur. We do not suggest that there are dishonest people counting your money but more churches would be better off spiritually and financially if they were aware of the possibility of collusion. I suggest that there be at least three or four people counting the church's fund. Now too many can be just as dangerous. If your church has lots of money to count, then you may want teams of three or four individuals counting.

If you wish our services in any way, please contact us at the following:
Rev. James W. Smith, JD



Rev. James W. Smith, J.D.

5 Bracken Ridge Place
Hillsborough, NC 27278
(919) 479-0501

Rev. W.J. Cox
107 Gray Street
Goldsboro, NC 27534, (919) 751-9899

Dr. Joshua J. Haire Jr.
PO Box 53803
Fayetteville, NC 28305, (910) 323-1508

New Pastor's Corner

By
Rev. Sandra Holland Trotter
Pastor/Shiloh Temple of Faith
Missionary Baptist Church,
Fayetteville, NC

Prayer

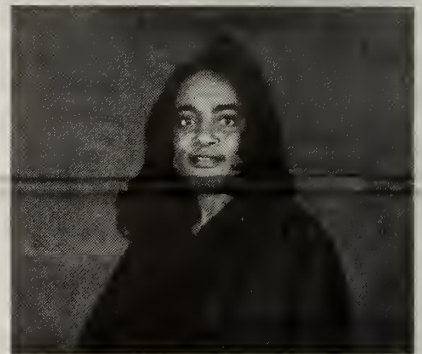
It may be said with emphasis that no lazy saint prays. Can there be a lazy saint? Can there be a prayerless saint? Does not slack praying cut a short sainthood's crown? Can there be saintly hypocrites? Can there be a cowardly soldier? It is only when these impossibilities are brought into being that we then can find a prayerless saint. To go through the motion of praying is a dull business though not a difficult one.

To say prayers in a decent way is not heavy work. But to really pray, to pray until hell feels the ponderous stroke, to pray until the iron gates of difficulty are opened, to pray until the mountains of obstacles are removed, or until the mist are exhaled and the clouds are lifted, and the sunshine of a cloudless day brightens—this is hard work, but it is God's work and man's best labor.

Never was the toil of land, head and heart less spent in vain than when praying. It may be difficult to wait and press and pray, and hear no voice, but you must stay until God answers. The joy of an answered prayer is the joy of a traveling mother when a child is born into the world, the joy of a slave whose chains have been burst asunder and to whom new life and liberty have just come.

It is not an easy thing to pray. Behind the praying, all the conditions of prayer must be met. These conditions are possible but they are not to be seized in a moment by the prayerless. Of course, they may exist in the faithful and holy, but they cannot exist or be met by a frivolous, negligent laggard spirit.

Prayers do not stand-alone. It is an isolated performance. Prayer stands in the closest connection with all the duties of an ardent piety. It comes as a result of a vigorous and commanding faith. Prayer honors God, acknowledges His being, exalts His power, adores His providence, and secures His aid. But to pray well is to do all things well. Prayer, like faith, obtains promises, enlarges their operations and adds to the measure of their results. The possibilities of prayer



Rev. Sandra Holland Trotter

run parallel with the promises of God.

Prayer opens an outlet for the promises, removes the hindrances in the way of their execution, puts them in working order, and secure their gracious ends.

God's promises were to Abraham and to his seed, but a barren womb and many obstacles stood in the way of the fulfillment of these promises; nevertheless, prayer removed them all, made a highway for the promises, added to the facility and speediness of their realization; and by prayer the promise shone bright and perfect in its execution.

The possibilities of prayer are found in its alliance with the purpose of God, for God's purposes and man's praying are the combination of all potent an omnipotent forces. More than this, the possibilities of prayer are seen in the fact that prayer changes the purposes of God. It is in the very nature of prayer to plead and give direction. Prayer is not a negotiation; it is a positive force. It never rebels against the will of God, never comes into conflict with that will, but it does seek to change God's purposes.

It would be impossible to calculate the failures, the ruined reputations, the defects, the broken homes and other multiplied tragedies that could have been avoided if believers had prayed. (James 5:16b) The effective fervent prayer of a righteous availeth much.

We should all bow our heads now and pray: Jesus plant in my heart the desire to pray. Enable me to develop a daily consistent time of prayer. Transform my prayer from duty to delight. Make me a mighty warrior in your prayer army!

Did you pray that prayer? Did you mean it? Then prepare your uniform, get the mothballs off of it, polish those buttons, and shine your boots, because, soldier, God's army is getting ready to march!!!

Adoption: God Continues To Bless

(919) 212-3656; Phone: (919) 231-9774 or e-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com. We are here to serve.

Jocelyn Curry and Letisha Anderson are New Interns

We are especially pleased to announce that Jocelyn Curry and Letisha Anderson have joined us as interns. Ms. Anderson is a NAY-KEL Adoption Outreach Intern. Ms. Curry is an Outreach Intern, University of North Carolina — Chapel Hill. They are creative, positive, additions and will add much to the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry.

NAY-KEL PARTNERS WITH GBSC ADOPTION/FOSTER CARE MINISTRY

The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry has partnered with NAY-KEL, an alternative para-church-based family and children's advocacy and service organization, in efforts to recruit African-American singles and couples interested in becoming adoptive and/or foster parents to African-American children in making the announcement, Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer, praised the partnership initiative, stating that "it is only through partnerships like this with organizations and communities, can we realize our broad objective of finding nurturing, supportive and loving homes for children who are now ready for adoption. NAY-KEL, founded by Rev. Evelyn Jervay is an active sponsor of programs for children in several North Carolina counties. The Jervays, Paul and Evelyn, are publishers of THE CAROLINIAN newspaper. NAY-KEL will provide staff and public affairs assistance.

MS. PAMELA WAKEFIELD TAYLOR JOINS STAFF

The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry is proud to welcome Ms. Pamela Wakefield Taylor as our newest staff member: a part of our NAY-KEL partnership. Ms. Taylor, brings several years of experience working with adoptive and foster care children throughout the state. She will serve as Interfaith Coordinator/Church Consultant and Staff Volunteer Coordinator.

To contact Ms. Taylor, please call (919) 754-8887; Fax (919) 754-8801; E-mail: Taylorgbbsc@aol.com.

JOIN US TODAY! BECOME AN ADOPTION/FOSTER CARE VOLUNTEER

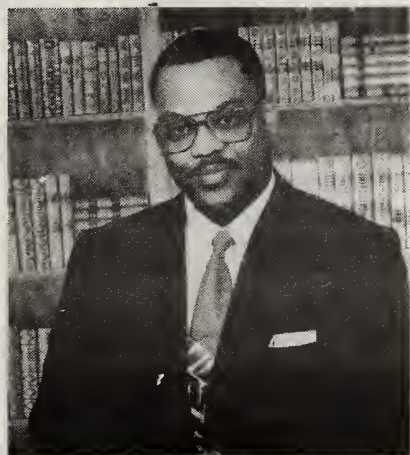
Again, we wish you all continuing prosperity and blessings throughout the New Year. And, of course, our special plea, our God-centered request is that you will agree to serve as an adoption and foster care volunteer. Help us help our children.

Call me: (919) 231-9774
E-mail me: joepaigesr@aol.com
Write me; 2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27610

From the Office of Institutional and Specialized Ministries

GBSC Prison Ministry Committee Renamed To Office of Institutional and Specialized Ministries — OISM

By Rev. Michael R. Smith Sr.
Chairman



Rev Michael R. Smith Sr.

see your good work and glorify my Father in heaven." (Matt. 5:16) I exhort General Baptists across the state to join and support OISM as we help people walk with Christ from crime to contribution.

Contact Information

Rev. Michael R. Smith Sr., Chaplain
Federal Correctional Complex — FMC
PO Box 1500 / Old NC Highway 75
Butner, NC 27509

Tel # 919-575-3900 Ext. 6203

Email: mrsmith@bop.gov

Fax 919-575-4836

or

Carol J. Smith — 800-639-GBSC

or 919-821-7466

cjsgbosc@aol.com

OISM Meeting Set for January 2001

Our most important task at hand is the organization and coordination of persons who will be serving in key roles with OISM throughout the state. Therefore, our first meeting is set for **Saturday, January 27, 2000 at 10:00 a.m. at the GBSC Headquarters in Raleigh, N.C.** It is vitally important for all interested past committee area coordinators and members to make a special effort to attend. Anyone interested in being a part of OISM should also be there. There is much to be done. If you desire to work with us, but cannot attend this meeting, please contact the GBSC headquarters or me and make sure we have your contact information. The coordination of our efforts to educate and equip GBSC churches is critical. This is a great work requiring a sacrificial commitment. Join us and let us take GBSC prison ministry to another level to the glory of God. I look forward to seeing you at our first meeting of the year 2001.

**More Prison Ministries
on next page!**

Avoid Holiday Ploys of the Credit Card Companies

By Portia H. Brandon, M. Div.

Christian Education Coordinator

Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prosperity. (III John 2)

It's time we get it out in the open: Credit card companies are in it for the money. You might think their mission is to make your life easier by allowing you to buy things now and pay for them later, but nothing could be farther from the truth.

Between now and the end of the year you will be approached in a number of ways that will only increase the profit margins of this industry. The tactics will appear to be in your favor, but don't believe it. Here are a few of their tricks.

Skip a payment

Millions of credit card customers will soon receive a congratulatory message in the mail, telling them they've earned the right to skip a monthly payment. My advice? Don't do it! Make that payment and pay even more than required if you can. If you skip a payment, even with the company's blessing, the interest you should have paid will be added to your principal balance just as if you had made a purchase. Next month your balance will be larger, which means more interest for the company — a very sneaky way to plunge you deeper into debt.

Checks in the mail

Be on the alert for another sly way banks and credit-granting companies will attempt to land you in more debt: a check in the mail. It could be a fully negotiable check for some odd amount (recently I got one for \$4,508.42), or three or four blank checks encouraging you to fill them in for whatever amount you might need. All you have to do is add your signature and deposit to your account. But before you assume this is a surprise refund or dividend from a forgotten investment, read the fine print! If you endorse that check or add your signature to a blank one, you've just accepted a high-interest loan. And some of those "checks" are charged to your account the same as a cash advance, which means interest accrues *daily*.

Deferred billing

Retailers love this tactic. They allow you to make a credit purchase not but withhold it from your account until next year. Marketing research assures them you'll buy much more on your credit card because it's human nature to believe you'll have lots more money in a few months. The truth is if you don't have the cash to pay for the purchase now, you probably won't have it next January or February either. Who wins? The retailer who knows you will end up paying for all of those purchases for years to come.

Nothing down, no payment, no interest!



Portia Brandon, M.Div.

Christian Education Coordinator

You see these kinds of advertisements, but do you understand what's going on? The retailer offers amazing terms to attract would-be buyers. Briefly, the customer must fill out a credit application agreeing to some outrageous interest rate. Then the retailer agrees to defer the interest, payments and down payment, provided the full balance is paid on a specific date in the future. If the customer fails to make that full payment as agreed, the deal is off and interest kicks in retroactively to the starting date. Here's why retailers love these deals so much: About 72 percent of all takers fail to make the full payment. The consumer credit industry wins again.

How you can win

Cash only. If you currently carry credit card balances, make a commitment to add nothing to those balances this holiday season. With the cash you have available, no matter how little, find creative gift ideas that will not exceed your budget.

Read the fine print. Remember that when it comes to credit, rarely does the consumer win. Make sure you read the fine print and understand exactly what is being offered. Most of the time what the big print gives, the small print takes away.

Pay in full. If you prefer to shop with a credit card this holiday season, make sure you pay the balance in full within the grace period so you incur no interest. As you shop, record each purchase in your checkbook in red ink as if you'd paid with a check. Deduct the amount from your cash balance as you go. Now when the bill comes, you'll have no surprises. The money will have been set aside.

The best gifts do not have price tags attached. Here's proof. Recall the most precious gift you've ever received. Was it pricey or from the heart of someone who loved you? Now quickly recall all the gifts you gave and received last Christmas. Can't remember? My point exactly.

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ON DIABETIC SUPPLIES.

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General Baptist State Convention of N.C. "Reaching The Masses"

By Michael R. Smith Sr., Chairman

OFFICE OF INSTITUTIONAL & SPECIALIZED MINISTRIES
Psalm 89:14

AT RISK YOUTH MINISTRY COMMUNITY	PRISON MINISTRY INSTITUTIONS & JAILS	AFTERCARE MINISTRY COMMUNITY
TO PROVIDE SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE MENTORING CAREER GOALS LEARNING EVENTS	TO PROVIDE DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING CHAPLAINS FELLOWSHIP	TO PROVIDE PRE-RELEASE TRAINING HALFWAY HOUSE CHURCH HOME COMMUNITY RESOURCES

The Office of Institutional and Specialized Ministries is an outreach of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc. Our mission is to reach, reconcile and restore human lives which have been impacted by crime and incarceration.

Our three strategic goals are to minister to at-risk young people, persons in prison and persons transitioning from prison back to the community.

Our desire is to extend the message of

the Gospel of Christ by equipping GBSC churches to respond effectively in these mission fields. Our prisons represent the fastest growing mission field in this country.

Through competent leadership, strategic planning and committed service, our prayer is God our Father will use this office to help many people learn to walk with Jesus the Christ from crime to contribution for His honor and glory.

Christian Parliamentary Procedure: Love

By Dr. Willie A. Swann, JD, ThD

The widely adopted, and accepted, treatise on parliamentary procedure, Robert's Rules Of Order, perhaps should be revisited in view of scripture mandates to all Christians. Questions raised and includes, but not limited to, can one be a loving, Christ-like Christian and at the same time a manipulative, crafty and strategic parliamentarian? For those who subscribe to peace and harmony, the answer should be obvious.

The hue and cry unto all Christians from scriptural passages are permeated with love: love your enemies (Matt. 5:44), love your neighbor as yourself (Mr. 12:31), and, love one another, as Christ has love us (John 15:12)h. The word used for "love" in these references is the Greek noun *agape*, and not *eros*, the common Greek word for love. Our secular, everyday, and most commonly perceived understanding of love is more skin to the Greek noun *eros*: a self-interest

craving, personal feeling.

On the other hand, Christian love, *agape*, is far removed from its secular counterpart. Being defined by loving acts, Christian love is kind, does not envy, does not behave rudely or seek its own, and thinks no evil. 1 Corinthians 13. The confrontation and adversarial tone within the Roberts Rules Of Order seems to plot a head on collision with "loving acts" Paul defined.

Perhaps seeds of division will not germinate within, and weeds of distrust will not overcome our religious assemblies of believers if we would just revisit ways to completely demonstrate Christian love in all our transactions with one another.

Surreptitious, crafty, and manipulative motions, amendments, and seconds may fair well in the halls of Congress, but in God's House Christian love should be the order of the day. Amen.

Dr. Swann will accept comments at waswann@ms.com

HOLY GHOST POWER

"ACKNOWLEDGE HIM"

MERCHANDISE FOR THE SAVED AND UNSAVED,
FOR THE UNSAVED TO BE SAVED

DUWANE A. BROWN — DESIGNER

568 NEW HOPE ROAD, GOLDSBORO, NC 27534

PHONE: 919-759-2809

EMAIL: HLYGHSTPR@XOOMMAIL.COM

WEB SITE: members.xoom.com/HLYGHSTPRR/

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

From the Desk of the 4th Vice President By Rev. Nilous M. Avery II

Seasons Celebrated Swiftly

By Rev. Nilous M. Avery, II

Peace be to you all, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. This is the season when the world celebrates Thanksgiving, Christmas, and the New Year in swift succession. Special attention is given to performing acts of compassion and embracing the angelic praise of "peace on earth among those whom (God) favors" {NRSV}. Wouldn't it be nice if the hearts and minds of humankind were mobilized and energized to possess this mind set throughout the year?!

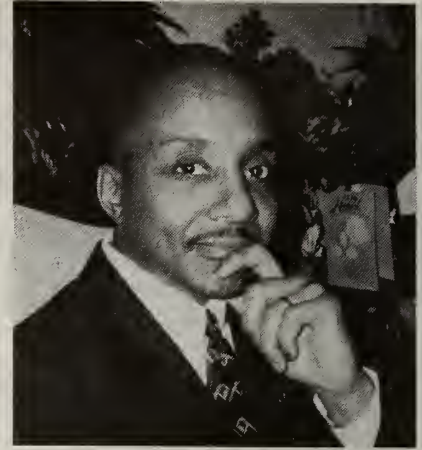
The world now stands in between the time when the Lord came into the world and the time when He will come again. The Lord's appearing here on that night in Bethlehem over 2,000 years ago provided a look at a policy that often plagues our world — a policy of "no room." The savior of the world was born in a stable. There was no room for his family in that crowded town filled with people who had complied with Caesar Augustus' decree that all inhabitants of Rome's empire be registered.

This "no room" policy continued when King Herod received word that the Messiah had been born in Bethlehem. Herod sent his soldiers to kill all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under. Herod had a "no room" policy — he would not tolerate any sharing of his throne.

Jesus often found Himself at odds with the political and religious leaders because of His passion for God and compassion for people. He placed human needs about tradition. He crossed lines and broke down barriers that alienated people because of their race, sex, status, and religion. He advocated the inclusion of all persons. As a result, Jesus was targeted for crucifixion because the political and religious leaders had a "no room" policy — they would not tolerate any one defying their custom of putting and keeping people "in their place."

Our world has a history of having a "no room" policy." Racism and sexism are twin cousins of evil that seek to oppress others simply because of their skin color or gender. Whole segments of our population are often abandoned and/or isolated based upon their race, gender, economic status, creed, or religious/political beliefs. When Jesus comes again, will the "no room" policy still be in effect? When Jesus comes again, will this policy that faced Him when He was born as a child face Him as He returns as King?

Many have not made room for others because they have not made room for Christ in their life. Except for a few "program guarded" minutes on Sunday and maybe



By Rev. Nilous M. Avery II

during mid-week, there is a "no room" policy in effect today. Liston Pope noted in the 1960's that 11 am on Sunday morning was the most segregated hour in American society. In the year 2000, not much has changed. Many believe and hope that this is now more of a choice than a "no room" policy.

This season challenges us to lift the veil and tear down the walls that keep a "no room" policy in place. We must make room for the least, the lost, the lonely, the left out, the kept out, the locked out, and the knocked out. We must make room for the frail, the fragile, and the forgotten. We must make room for the distressed, the depressed, and the oppressed. We must make room for the hapless, the helpless, the hopeless, and the homeless. If we do not strive to make room for those who are God's beautiful creatures, should we be surprised if God meets us at the gates of the Eternal City and declares: "There is no room for you?!"

Beloved, let us make room throughout the year to support our Central Children's Home in Oxford, NC. Your time, talents, treasures, and prayers are encouraged and welcomed. Please contact Mr. Michael Alston, Executive Director at (919) 693-7617. He and his hardworking staff will gladly come to your area and share the opportunities for enhancing your involvement with the Central Children's Home. You may also contact me:

Rev. Nilous M. Avery, II
(704) 633-6227 - home; (704) 637-0954 - Church; (704) 637-1137 - Fax

E-mail — AveryRevKin@gateway.net

Please make room for Christ through the Central Children's Home in your budgets, schedules, worship services, thoughts, and prayers. The grace of the Lord Jesus, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. To God be the glory! Amen!

From the Office of the Chairman of the
Board of Central Children's Home
Rev. N.C. Davis

Thank you for your support for the year 2000.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

FAITH AND FITNESS

Why Are Physical Activity and Exercise Good for the Body?

By Charolette H. Leach, M.S.

Over the last couple of months, I have been encouraging you to exercise or become more physically active in the Faith and Fitness articles. What do physical activity and more strenuous exercise do for the body? Let's consider one major body system, the muscular skeletal system. We will not get into any in-depth look at this system, but keep in mind that since we are considering the human body, we know that it is very complex. If you ever get a chance to study the intricacies of the human body, it can be an awesome experience. It brings to mind the words of the Psalmist in Chapter 139 and verse 14, "I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvelous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well."

God made the human body with 650 muscles. The majority of our muscles are voluntary, meaning that we can choose when to use them. The muscles that are in our legs and arms are voluntary muscles. The body also has involuntary muscles, the major one being the heart. Let's first consider the voluntary muscles. These muscles do a lot for the body, they move it, hold it in position, give it shape and heat it. Muscle mass decreases with age. This age related loss of muscle mass is slow from the age of 25 to 50, with only 10 percent being lost. But from the age of 50 to 80, an additional 40 percent of muscle mass is lost. Research has shown that this decrease is due some to aging, but a portion of the loss can also be

contributed to limited physical activity. Research has shown that although regular exercise cannot completely eliminate the age-related loss of muscle, it can improve muscular endurance and strength in a manner similar to that observed in young individuals. Exercise or physical activity, whether it is aerobic, strength training, or stretching all makes the muscle move and thus work.

The heart is a specialized involuntarily muscle that keeps its own rhythm and pumps blood around the body. This pumping of blood is the major function of the heart. Just as exercise helps the muscles to become stronger, exercise also strengthens the heart. The key to keeping the heart healthy is to help it to pump the blood around the body with the least amount of effort and as efficiently as possible. This means that we should desire the least amount of heartbeats per minute as possible. A well-conditioned heart (one that has had continuous activity and exercise) may beat 45 to 50 beats per minute at rest. Compare this heart to that of an inactive person that may beat 70 to 75 beats per minute at rest. This heart beats up to 36,000 more times per day than the well-conditioned heart. This equates to 13 million more beats per year. Our goal is to take as much pressure and strain off of our heart, to allow its work to be as easy as possible. How do we do this? We accomplish this by moving and working the muscles that we can control.

It is interesting that the movement and work of the voluntary muscles, (that we can

control), determines how well the movement of the involuntary muscle (that we do not control) will be able to function over time. We must work our triceps, biceps, quadriceps, and hamstrings in order to keep our major involuntary muscle, our heart as strong as possible.

Is this an easy thing to accomplish? No, it is not. Is it worth the work? It definitely is! But let's be honest. We all can come up with a lot of valid reasons for not exercising. The time issue is the number one excuse. Exactly when am I supposed to exercise, I can hear you asking. One thing that is not discriminatory is time. We all are given 24 hours in every day that God continues to grant to us. The bottom line is that we make time, (not find time) for those things that are important to us. I am encouraging you to make exercise one of those things that is important to you.

God gives us so much and a healthy body is one of those blessings that most of us have received. He expects us to be good stewards of our health, just as he expects us to be good stewards of the financial blessings that he showers on us. 1 Corinthians 4:2, states "Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful." As we consider becoming good stewards of our health, by making the time for exercise and to be more physically active, we must be found faithful. If we are sincere and committed to do what we know we should do, God makes it easier for us by giving us the gift of prayer. Prayer takes



Charolette H. Leach, M.S.

some of the pressure off of us and places it on God. Consider all of the wonderful promises that God has given us in his Word that insures that he will help us in time of need. When we feel too weak, we can turn to 2 Corinthians 12:10 that promises that "My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness." We can also turn to Psalm 46:1 that reminds us that God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Even though exercise is a physical thing, sometimes the spirit must be called on to help us make the flesh do what it should. Jesus knew this when he stated the words in Matthew 26:41. "Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak. When you know that you need to move and work your flesh, call on the spirit to help you do what you know you should, if you feel too weak.

Exercise is good for the body and for our overall health. Please take time to figure out how you can take care of or improve your health by exercising and becoming more physically active. In the upcoming months, we will focus on practical suggestions that will insure that we can become more active. Continue to be blessed!

Rev. Dr. James W. Shearn, Pastor of Jordan Grove Missionary Baptist Church

Rev. Dr. James W. Shearn is pastor of Jordan Grove Missionary Baptist Church in Winton, N.C. since 1987. He is particularly concerned with the sick and shut-in people in the church and community. He earned his doctoral degree in Pastoral Care and Counseling. His Doctor of Ministry project, *Lay Pastoral Care in the Rural African-American Church*, was designed to train laity at Jordan Grove Baptist Church to become effective lay pastoral care providers. He also studied and graduated from the Virginia Institute of Pastoral Care (VIPCAR), Richmond, Va., in 1999.

A native of Murfreesboro, N.C. and the son of the late Matthew and Annie Mary Shearn, Rev. Shearn is married to Hertford County's first African-American Magistrate, Patricia L. Shearn, a 1999 Shaw University graduate with an undergraduate degree in Criminal Justice. They are the proud parents of James Jr., Beatrice K., (2000 graduate of Howard University School of Law), and Tiffany K. Shearn, (sophomore at Elizabeth City State University), and the grandparents of five grandsons, Kameron, Dashawn, Deon, Blake and Darius.

Rev. Shearn is a son of New Haven Missionary Baptist Church, Murfreesboro,

N.C., where he and his wife were able to religiously educate their children. He served as youth leader, Sunday School teacher, Vacation Bible School teacher, and the associate pastor. He was the founder of the Murfreesboro Christian Teen-Scene Youth Ministry, a ministry designed to disciple and train with youth to become champions for Jesus Christ.

He ventured forth to graduate from Shaw University in Raleigh, N.C. and earned a Bachelor degree in Business Management in 1990, graduating Summa Cum Laude. He earned his Master of Divinity degree from the School of Theology at Virginia Union University, Richmond, Va., in 1995, Cum Laude, and the Doctor of Ministry degree in 2000.

Rev. Shearn is a community leader, educator, and evangelist. He pastored Mt. Herman Missionary Baptist Church, Aulander, N.C., for two years. He is active in social and political affairs in the community and state. He is a member of the Hertford County Branch of the NAACP where he serves as first-vice president, and the Hertford County Black Caucus. Rev. Shearn has also served on the faculty at Shaw University CAPE, Ahoskie, N.C.

Report of First Vice President John H. Grant, Home Missions Department

A Privilege To Serve

Thanks be to God and to the General Baptist State Convention family for the privilege of serving as your First Vice President. As a steward of this office, I am committed to carrying out my official responsibilities and giving you regular accounts of my stewardship.

Article IV, Section 1. of the Constitution of the GBSC, Incorporated states, "the Department of Home Missions shall be composed of a Committee from the General Board and Auxiliaries, chaired by the First Vice President. Its work shall embrace: Evangelism, Church Mission, Church Extension and Institutional Ministries, Building Planning, Support and Interpretation, Cooperative Ministries. This Committee shall consist of twenty-six (26) members; ten (10) may be appointed by the President, at the request of the Department."

Article VIII, Section 2. of the Convention Constitution states, among other things, that "The Executive Committee shall meet in regular session within sixty (60) days after the Annual Session of the Convention to assess the adopted program, give directions to the Departments, Commissions, Committees and Auxiliaries."

Accordingly, and after conferring with both our Convention President and Executive Secretary Treasurer, in a meeting on December 5, 2000, I formally requested di-

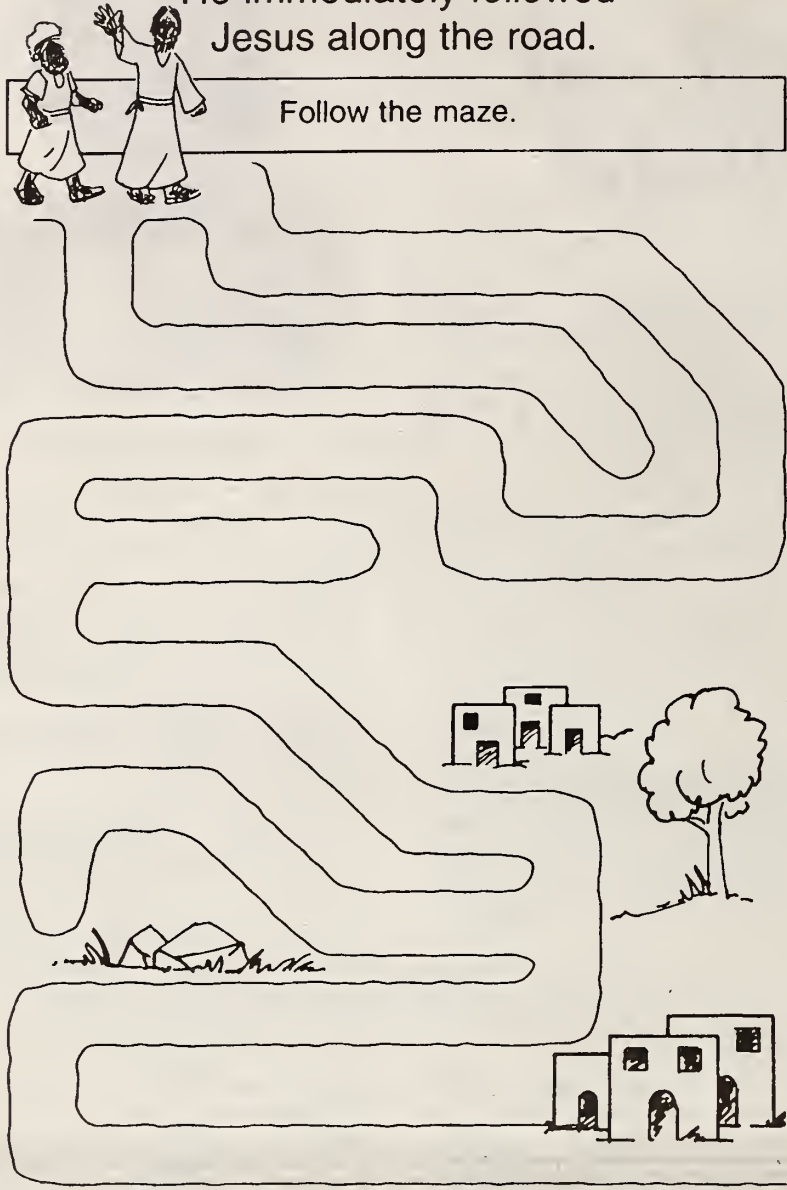


John H. Grant, 1st Vice President

rections for the Home Missions Department from the Convention's General Board and Executive Committee. As a result of that request, a committee was approved for the Home Missions Department, however, there are still slots available for additional members. Persons desiring to serve on this committee may fax your name and address to me at 828-254-7150 or e-mail me at jobeko@bellsouth.net. We will meet soon to determine specific directions for the Department in order to enhance the work of our Convention.

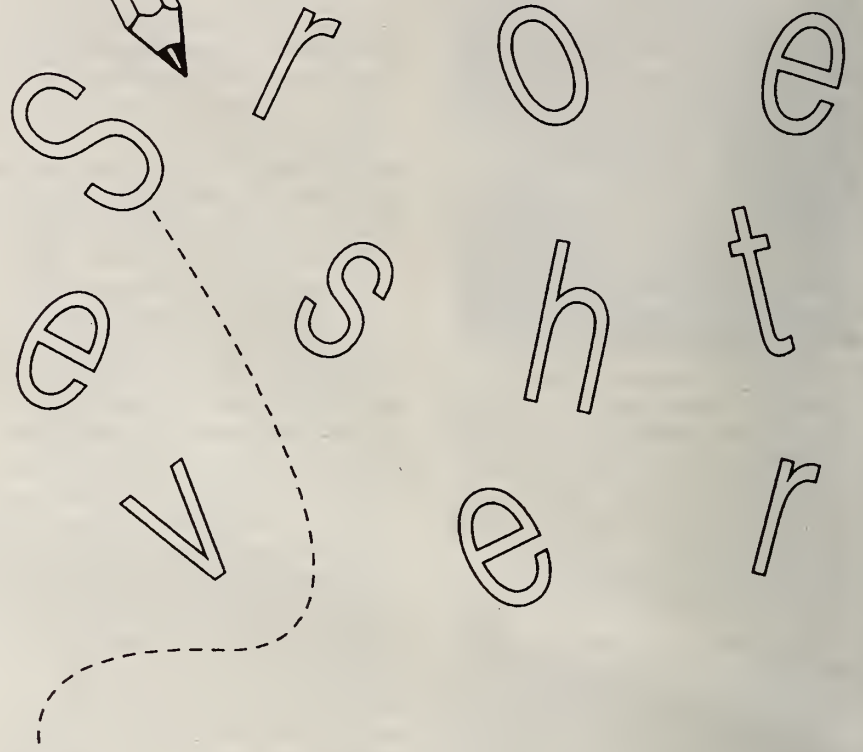
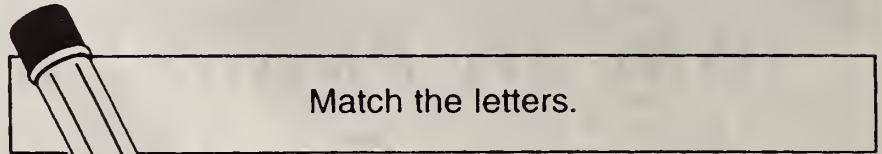
Children's Biblical Page of the 'Informer'

He immediately followed Jesus along the road.



Follow the maze.

For even Jesus came to serve.



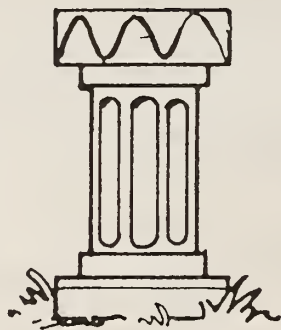
Serve others

The temple in Jerusalem was magnificent!
Some of the stones used were 40 feet wide.
The pillars were solid pieces of marble
more than 37 feet high.

What did Jesus say about it?

First write all of the 1's on the lines, then the 2's, etc.

D	B	I	R	O	U	L	Y	Y	I	L	O
1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
O	L	B	N	U	D	E	S	I	L	W	
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E	N	E	I	E	G	F	L	A	S	T	L
1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
L	N	O	B	L	O	N	E	T	T	A	T
1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
H	O	N	H	E	N	O	R	S	E	T	O
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E	S	H	W	G	T	E	N	R	O	R	D
1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
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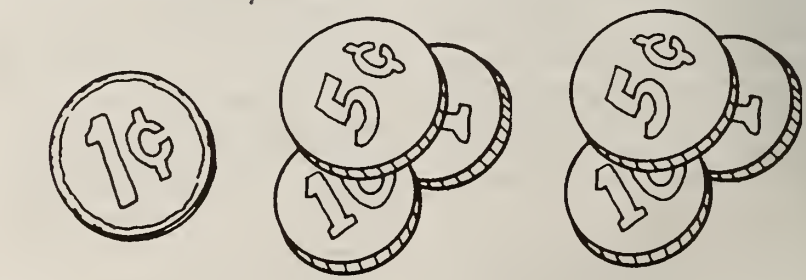


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FYI: The temple was destroyed when Jerusalem was conquered in 70 A.D.

Some people gave a lot of money.

Circle the one in each set that does not match.



2001, The Year of the "Unified Church!"

By Dr. James W. Washington, Sr.
Field Worker GBSC

Ps 133:1 "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

Vigilance is easy, when danger is evident, and the mind is prepared in anticipation for the attack of the adversary. But the enemy is feared more, and the suffering is increased, when he creeps upon us secretly, deceiving us with the appearance of peace. Satan slinks and slithers forward; hidden, silently, he approaches, and STRIKES, injecting his lethal poison, like the serpent that he is! BEWARE! Brothers and Sisters, BEWARE!

This is the way of the devil. This is his way of attacking man. Saints, from the beginning of the world; he has deceived, flattered, lied, wheeled, connived, and tricked us with his flattering and lying words. Satan even tried to tempt the Lord, Himself! But he was recognized, beaten back, and crushed, when he faced the Savior! This is the way we escape Satan, we must walk in the footsteps of Christ!

Thus, Saith the Lord GOD, "Therefore, whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock." Matt 7:24-25

Church, in order to follow Christ, we must stand firm upon the Rock of His Word. We must learn, and do, what He both taught, and did! How can a man/woman say that they believe in Christ, and not follow His commandments? How can they reap the reward of the faithful, when they have not been faithful? They are caught up in the spirit of error; they waver and wander, like dust which is shaken in the wind, to be blown about.

They will never advance in their walk towards salvation, because they don't keep the Holiness of the way of Salvation. Not only must we be aware of what is open and seen. This enemy is crafty, subtle, deceitful, dishonest, mean, unmerciful, and deadly! But, through the grace and mercy of God; the deaf receive the hearing of the Word; the blind eyes are opened to see GOD; the weak grow strong again with eternal health; the lame and cripple can run to Church; the dumb can pray with clear voices to our GOD! O'Glory, Glory Hallelujah!

Yes, Satan wants to divide our Unity. So he invents heresies and division, so he can subvert the faith, corrupt the truth, and divide and conquer! Those he cannot keep in the darkness with his old ways, he deceives by inventing a new way! He snatches men and women from the Church! Just when we think we have seen the light; just when we think we have escaped the darkness of the world; he attacks again with a new darkness, so that we cannot stand firm with the Gospel of Christ, nor can we observe the law of God.

Yet, we still call ourselves Christians; yet, we still think we have the light of Salvation; but we walk in darkness! Old Satan flatters and deceives; he transforms himself into an angel of light; and he dresses his demons like ministers of GOD...like ministers of righteousness! But they offer night, instead of day; death, for Salvation; they offer despair, for hope; faithlessness, instead of faith; they offer the anti-Christ, in the name of Christ; and they offer lies, for truth!

Jesus Christ, said, "Upon this rock, I will

build my Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it!" Unity begins from ONE! Christ is the *one and only* authority and origin of unity. Unity must begin in the Church! There **must** be unity in GOD's House! Don't think that you can have unity, when you do not have faith! How can you say that you are unified with the Church, when you fight against the Church?

Unity means that the Church is on one accord. Striving towards the same goal; uplifting and upholding one another in fellowship and love. Unity can never flourish where there is dissension; fighting and backbiting; ill-will among members; gossiping and blaming others; you pulling this way...and I am pulling the other. THIS IS WRONG! Because this retards the work of the Lord! We are to be about our Father's business; we must upbuild the Kingdom of GOD! We cannot do the work of the Lord, unless we are unified, marching in-lock-step towards heaven, as brothers and sisters in Christ!

The Church must be one, and undivided! So let no one deceive you with falsehood. Let no one corrupt your faith; let no one lead you astray! There are many rays of sun, but one light. There are many branches on a tree, but one root. Separate a ray of sun from its body of light, and there is no light; break a branch from the tree, it will not bud; cut off a stream from its fountain, and it dries up! It is ONLY in the Church, gleaming with the light of the Lord, where unity must never be separated!

Let unity reign supreme in your Church! Heed the message of Paul, Eph. 4:3-6 "Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all." Whoever is separated from the Church, is joined to Satan. He/She is separated from the promises of the Church; nor can they obtain the rewards of Christ!

No, they are strangers; they are profane, they are enemies! They can no longer claim GOD as their Father; they have no Church for their Mother! If anyone could escape who was outside Noah's Ark; then, maybe, he can also escape outside the Church! The Lord warns, saying, "He who is not with me, is against me!" Can He put it any plainer than that? He who does not hold this unity, does not hold GOD's law. He who does not hold the faith of the Father and the Son, does not hold life and salvation.

The Gospel coat of the Lord Jesus Christ is not divided or cut; but it is received as a entire garment. The ones who cast lots for His garment said, "But of the coat, because it is not sewn, but woven from the top throughout, let us not rend it, but cast lots whose it shall be." That coat of unity came from the top! That coat of unity is woven throughout with the Word of GOD! That coat of unity came down from heaven, that coat of unity came down from GOD the Father, who art in Heaven! You cannot possess the garment of Christ, if you part and divide the Church of Christ! My brother, my sister, we MUST strive for unity in the year 2001... and beyond!

Yes, the devil wants us divided. Because he is mean, cunning, and strong. Alone he might beat you...alone he might beat me; but if we are united, and armed with the Word of GOD...Oh, he can never beat US! NEVER! Acts 2:1 "And when the day of

Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place." They all had the same purpose, they all had the same goals, they all prayed to the same GOD! Christ declared the unity of His Church on that day of Pentecost!

Christ said that; "There shall be one flock, and one shepherd!" So, who is so wicked, who is so faithless, who is so insane, who is so crazed, who is so deranged that he would dare to divide the Church of Jesus Christ and bring about disunity? Sadly, the answer is many! The world is full of "False Prophets" who will try to tell you that; evil is good; wrong is right, GOD is a liar, Christ was not born of a virgin; there never was a "Cross at Calvary," and there is no Heaven or hell!

"O' ENOUGH, IS ENOUGH! NO, WE MUST STAND FIRM!" Stand firm... I say, on the promises of GOD! (Oh, I'm in Preaching country now!) You can stand firm on the promise, "I will be with you;" you can stand firm on the promise, "I will never leave you;" you can stand firm on the promise, "I will in no wise cast you out;" you can stand firm on the promise, "I go to prepare a place for you;" you can stand firm on the promise, "that you shall walk streets of gold!" THEREFORE, I CRY, "STAND FIRM, MY BROTHER"...I CRY "STAND FIRM, MY SISTER"... I CRY, STAND FIRM, "CHURCH"...O'PLEASE, STAND FIRM!"

What does gentleness and meekness have to do with disunity? What does harshness, brutality, hostility, anger, rudeness, aggressiveness, and tyranny have to do with Christians? What does inhumanity, cruelty, unkindness, oppression, and the deadly poison of the Prince of Darkness have to do with unity?

Bitterness cannot be associated with sweetness! Darkness has nothing to do with light; infertility stands against fertility; droughts stands against floods; storms stand against calmness! War is the opposite of peace! Only Unity stands with GOD! I repeat; Only unity stands with GOD! I say again...Only unity stands with GOD! (An "AMEN" would go good right here!)

Yes, the Lord speaks concerning His Church, and He speaks to those who are in the Church. That they should be in agreement, according to what he had com-

Rev. Irvin Moore Jr. Accepts Chaplaincy Job in Ohio

The Rev. Irvin (Irv) Moore Jr., a native of Burlington, N.C., recently accepted a chaplaincy position at Children's Hospital Medical Center (Cincinnati, OH). Rev. Moore is assigned the Pediatric and Cardiac Intensive Care Units of the hospital which is ranked number three among children hospitals.

Before joining the Pastoral Care staff at Children's, Rev. Moore worked as a clinical chaplain at Duke University Medical Center (Durham, NC) and a staff chaplain at Pitt County Memorial Hospital (Greenville, NC). He has over fourteen years of pastoral care experience in hospital settings.

Rev. Moore holds a M.Div. (1985) from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary (Wake Forest, NC), a Masters in Social Work (1973) from Washington University (St. Louis, MO) and a bachelors degree (1972) from N.C. A&T State University (Greensboro, NC).

Rev. Moore has been active in numerous



Dr. James W. Washington Sr., Th.D.

manded. "Wherever two or three are gathered together in my name, I," says He, "am with them." In that same manner He was with the three boys in the fiery furnace, and they were not harmed by the flames. He was with the two apostles shut up in prison, and because they were of one mind, He loosed the gates of the dungeon, and placed them again in the market-place where they preached the Word of GOD!

"Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am with them." He does not divide men from the Church; but He rebukes the faithless, and He has words of peace for the faithful. GOD shows that He would rather have two or three who pray of one mind, than a whole lot of people who gossip, cuss, fuss, fight, instigate, insinuate, castigate, infuriate, and cause trouble!

My dear reader, you can be being today. When you go to Church Sunday Morning, greet somebody, hug somebody, love somebody, uplift somebody, greet them with the hand of fellowship, Unify yourself with that new member. Let the Year of our Lord 2001 be the "Year of Unity in your House of Worship!"

A unified Church is a happy Church; a unified Church is a peaceful Church; a unified church is a praying Church; a unified Church is a staying Church, a unified Church is a testifying Church; a unified Church is a joyful Church; and a unified Church is a "Delight in the Sight of GOD!" And, I say...AMEN.

NOTE: Thanks for your kind words of encouragement in 2000. Call me I am available to preach, speak, teach, and appear on Special Occasions at your Church, in 2001, at your request. Please call me **first** at my study (919) 859-2262, or my GBSC office (919) 821-7466.



Rev. Irvin "Irv" Moore Jr.

civic and professional organizations which include Association of Black Social Workers, A&T Alumni Associations, Association of Professional Chaplains and Association for Clinical Pastoral Education.

Before moving to Cincinnati, Rev. Moore served as an associate minister at Greater St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church (Durham, NC) where the Rev. Dr. William H. Height is senior pastor.

Rev. Moore is the son of Mrs. Laura B. Moore of Burlington, NC and the late Elder Irvin Moore Sr.

African-American Churches and Sex Education

The Office of Health & Human Services is appreciative to Dr. James Carter for submission of the following article. Dr. Carter openly shares his views in this thought-provoking article.

By James H. Carter, M.D., M.Div.
L.F.A.P.A., Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
Duke University Medical Center,
Durham, North Carolina

I was dismayed by the May 13, 2000 Raleigh News and Observer article entitled "Church Passed by in Teaching about Sex." Reference was made to skewed data from national studies indicating that by age 15 half of all black teenagers have engaged sex. This report gives credence to one of the most racist misconceptions about African-Americans and our alleged preoccupation with sex.

Perhaps the researcher was unaware that most national studies are primarily from self-reports and it is generally known that teenage self-reports are often unreliable because they notoriously exaggerate their sexual prowess and tend to mirror the reported behavior of their peers. I have observed, from two decades of treating teenagers substance users who are sexually active, that they have a penchant for deliberately falsifying information on questionnaires as their way of saying "it's none of your business what I do." Additionally, data about teenage sexual behavior is often gleaned from public health reports of pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases collected at health facilities, where the majority of patrons are poor and

disproportionately African-American and Hispanic. The affluent of society do not frequent public facilities for treatment of sexually transmitted diseases or for termination of unwanted pregnancies and therefore the sexual behavior of this population of teenagers is not reported. Most important, researchers frequently fail to adjust their data for socioeconomics, education and religious affiliation of parents or rural/urban differences when analyzing teenage sexual behavior.

For more than a decade, some African-American churches have been involved in the economic empowerment of their communities, homelessness, nutrition and health education. With the encouragement of the National Medical Association, an organization of African-American physicians, and individual African-American nurses, many churches now provide health information on many topics including AIDS, breast and prostate cancer. The researcher in this article speaks disparagingly about African-American ministers hesitancy to distribute condoms and discuss masturbation with teenagers, obviously insensitive and ignorant to African-American culture and religious values. I would guess that some African-American ministers are feeling betrayed by this researcher who stated that six percent of African-American ministers would consent to distribute condoms.

This article reminds me of the infamous Tuskegee Syphilis study done by the Alabama State Department of Health, the Macon County Health Department and the Veteran's Hospital in Tuskegee, Alabama (1932-1972). Poor un-

suspecting World War I African-American soldiers were recruited by the United States Public Health Service to participate in a study that would allow observation of the impact of syphilis on African-American men. During the course of the study, penicillin was discovered and found to be effective in the treatment of syphilis. These men were not given information about the availability of a possible cure. Treatment was withheld. Many suffered needlessly and perhaps died prematurely as a consequence.

A glaring omission in the News and Observer is the failure of the researcher to state the number of white congregations or white ministers who would take sex education to the level suggested in the article. The church has a commission and that commission, if understood by researchers as African-Americans interpret it, precludes designing means to assist teenagers to satisfy the lust of their flesh. While discouraging sexual behavior and unwanted pregnancies, the African-American church has historically been supportive of teenagers who regretably have unwanted pregnancies. From the non-Christian African-American perspective, empowering teenagers to abstain from sex for religious reasons and for health purposes may seem unrealistic, crude and uninformed. It is inconceivable that men and women of the gospel would be asked by researchers to consider distributing condoms and to engage in discussions about masturbation. No mention was made about the fact that teenagers are inundated with pornography in the media, the television and the internet. Cybersex can be viewed with a simple click on the computer. The content of



James H. Carter, M.D.

many television commercials conveys sexual themes. Much of popular rap music promotes both violence and sex. Therein lies the challenge for researchers who wish to reduce sexual activity among teenagers of all races.

I support sex education within the context of the norms of the African-American Christian experience, culture and value system. African-American churches must continue to resist the call of those whose value orientation clashes with our own. God does not intend for the world to lead the church.

Although I do not pretend to speak for the African-American church and its ministries, it does seem awfully paternalistic for researchers to disregard the wishes of African-American parents when considering who, when and where sex education is taught.

James F. Wertz Oratorical Contest Rules

Submitted by Ms. Lula M. Gainey
JUNE 27-30, 2001

DIRECTIVES

1. Each contestant will choose his/her topic from the approved list, **compose and memorize** his/her speech. Bring one copy of your speech when you and give it to the Director of your participating Division.

2. The Senior Division is opened to **RISING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS AS OF JULY 1, 2001 ONLY!** The Contestants should be active in their local Church and Sunday School. To be valid, the application must be signed by the Superintendent of their Sunday School and President of their Convention.

3. The Junior Division is opened to students entering **Ninth, Tenth or Eleventh grades as of July 1, 2001.** They should be active in their local Church and Sunday School. To be valid, the application must be signed by the Superintendent of their Sunday School and President of their Convention.

4. The Preparatory Division (NEW) is open to students entering **Sixth, Seventh or Eighth grade as of July 1, 2001.** This Division will focus on Character Building Traits, which have a Spiritual and Christian use. Again students should be active in their local Church and Sunday School. To be valid, the application must be signed by the Superintendent of their Sunday School and President of their Convention.

5. All Contestants will be judged by competent judges on the following:

- A. Personal Qualities 20 points
- B. Material Organization 30 points
- C. Delivery and Presentation 30 points
- D. Overall Effectiveness 20 points

6. At least four minutes but no more than five minutes will be allowed for each contestant's Oration. If your speech is less than four minutes or more than five minutes,

you will be penalized five (5) points.

SENIOR DIVISION

7. In the State Contest, Senior Division Awards are as follows:

The Contestant Winner will represent the State in the National Oratorical Contest NBC.

- First Place \$500 and a plaque
- Second Place \$300 and a plaque
- Third Place \$200 and a plaque

JUNIOR DIVISION

8. In the State Contest, the Junior Division Awards are as follows:

- First Place \$200 and a plaque
- Second Place \$150 and a plaque
- Third Place \$100 and a plaque

All Contestants in the Junior and Senior Divisions will receive a Certificate of Participation.

THE NEW KID ON THE BLOCK

9. Preparatory Division will receive no Monetary Compensation just Certificates of Participation during this first year while, we field-test the interest of this age group.

All State Awards will be mailed directly from the Parent Body Office.

Only one contestant from each division will be allowed to participate from each Association.

Registration forms must be postmarked on or before Monday, June 25, 2001.

2001 TOPICS

Preparatory Division

- 1. Self-discipline
- 2. Courage
- 3. Good Judgment
- 4. Responsibility
- 5. Integrity
- 6. Perseverance
- 7. Kindness
- 8. Respect

Junior Division

- 1. Yield Not To Temptation
- 2. Stand Up For Jesus
- 3. Changed, Challenged and Charged

4. Can I Get A Witness?

5. Satisfied With Jesus

6. The Highest Calling

7. Passing Toward The Mark

8. Jesus Never Fails

9. Serving The Lord With Gladness

10. Living A Christ-Centered Life

Senior Division

1. Reaching For The Gold

2. The Excellency of God

3. Fruits of the Spirit

4. People of Courage

5. The (Man/Woman) In The Mirror

6. God's Word: The Ultimate Truth

7. Anchored In The Lord

8. Serving God In This Present Age

9. Knee-Power

10. Christ Alive In Youth In Changing Times

James F. Wertz Oratorical Contest Form

Contestants who have been declared winners in their Association should fill in this form and mail to: Ms. Lula M. Gainey, 513 Rosewood Drive, Stedman, N.C. 28391
Telephone: (910) 485-6752; Fax (910) 485-0735

Name of contestant _____

Address _____

Phone # _____

Church _____

Pastor's Name _____

Name of Moderator _____

List Prior Contests In Which You Have Participated In:

Local Church _____

Association _____

Other _____

Subject of Your Topic _____

Your Grade as of July 1, 2001 _____

Signature of Sunday School Superintendent _____

Signature of District President _____

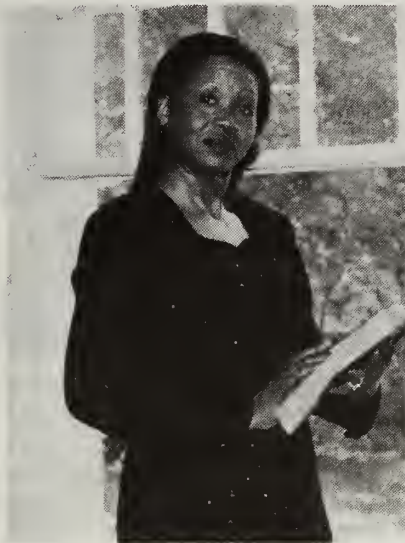
In order to participate in the State GBSC Oratorical Contest, please return this application form completed no later than June 25, 2001.

General Baptist Minister Releases New Book

HOW YOU KNOW THAT YOU KNOW... YOU ARE SAVED

BY REV. CAROLYN W. BROWN

Place your book orders to: Rev. C.W. Brown
PO Box 656, Nashville, NC 27856 • 252-443-1941
Cost: \$13.99 • Shipping & Handling: \$1 per book



Rev. Carolyn W. Brown

most precious and important of all journey's must, ultimately, be taken alone. We may, like any pilgrim, meet up with those who serve as supporters and guides as we travel on our journey. We may also meet up with those who seem to be the obstacle-makers: The ones who don't necessarily prevent us from reaching our goals, but by their disinterest or their insidious skepticism present the kind of temptation that is known to at least temporarily detract the purpose in our heart.

Readers, will encounter many of the events and many of the people that influenced the author on her journey to complete communion with the Lord. Rev. Carolyn W. Brown's journey is a true story. It is a story of surrender, a term which may have a negative connotation in our contemporary society. We are not taught to think about surrender, for the very word itself suggests that we

are making ourselves vulnerable, that we are giving up the fight, or we are utterly placing ourselves in someone else's power. In the narrative of this book, the true meaning of surrender is manifestly clear. Surrender means to yield, to abandon our own ways, to relinquish our independence and to place ourselves fully in the power of another. This book is Carolyn's journey to this point of complete surrender to faith in Jesus Christ. She reaches out to her readers to encourage them to evaluate their lives, to examine their relationship with God, and His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, and to make the commitment she made.

To contact the author for personal appearances, lectures, book signings or special orders:

Rev. Carolyn W. Brown
God's Love & Forgiveness Ministries, Inc.
P.O. Box 656, Nashville, NC 27856
252-443-1941

This book is for sale, the price of the book is \$13.95. It can be purchased at the following locations and bookstores: SOUTHSTAR INSURANCE INSURANCE CORP., 115 North Church Street, Rocky Mount, N.C.; The General Baptist State Convention Bookstore, Raligh, N.C., phone 252-977-9966 number (1-800-639-4272), The Lewis Chapel Baptist Church Bookstore, Fayetteville, N.C. (910) 424-8430, and The Christian Resource Center in the city of Rocky Mount (252) 442-8600.

By Rev. Dr. Jimmie Whitehurst,
Executive Manager
General Baptist Bookstore

Rev. Carolyn W. Brown, of Nashville, N.C., released her first book October 15, 2000: "How You Know, That You Know You Are Saved."

God inspired Rev. Carolyn W. Brown to write this book for all people, but especially for those who have lost hope. This book is the author's personal story and it tells readers how it is possible to begin anew and become a successful, contented, member of society — no matter what side of the tracks that person comes from. With faith and with God's help all things are possible.

The following is taken from the Foreword, "In the final analysis, **How You Know, That You Know, You Are Saved**, is the embodiment of a message of hope and celebration. There is hope, because we are capable of attaining redemption and, salvation if we submit to God our complete faith in His Son Jesus Christ.

"There is celebration, because we are capable of receiving God's immense grace and joy, if we submit our faith, and ourselves unconditionally to God, through His Son, Jesus Christ."

In this book, readers will learn a great deal about prayer and a great deal about Rev. Carolyn W. Brown. They will take a walk with her on her own special journey to complete faith. For each and every one of us this

Resolutions for the New Year

1) Another year has gone by; did we read through the Bible this year?

2) If not, and especially if we never have, can we honestly say that we are taking our relationship with God seriously?

b. Have we been steadfast in talking to God through prayer?

1) Any effective communication requires a two-way street

2) Therefore fervent Bible study should be joined with fervent prayer.

3) Has our degree of prayerfulness increased or decreased this year?

B. Has our relationship with brethren improved?

1. Has our love for one another increased this year? cf. 1 Th. 4:9-10

2. Are we any closer to one another than we were a year ago?

a. E.g., have we been in the homes of brethren?

b. E.g., have any of them been in our homes?

3. Do we even know who our brethren are?

a. Each year brings new members into the family of God.

b. Have we made the effort to know them? Even by name?

C. Has our relationship with those in the world improved?

1. As people of God, we have an important responsibility toward those in the world, cf. Mt. 5:13-16

a. To be a positive influence ("You are the salt of the earth")

b. To demonstrate a better way ("You are the light of the world")

2. Have we made progress this year in developing meaningful relationships with people in the world?

a. So the light of Christ can be seen in our lives

b. So the gospel of Christ can be communicated to them

3. Or are we like most "neighbors" in this day and age...

a. Living next to each other, but not really knowing each other?

b. Having forgotten the lost art of "Southern hospitality?"

[The questions I am raising can be summarized in this way: **Another year has gone by; have we made good use of the time the Lord has given us, or have we wasted it?**"]

It is likely that all of us in some degree have not made good use of the past year. But at this point, let's apply the words of Paul:

Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus." (Ph. 3:13-14)

With this attitude of pressing forward, let me suggest the following resolutions...]

II. FOR THE YEAR AHEAD

A. Resolve to draw nearer to God and Christ...

1. By having a daily reading program of God's living and abiding Word, He. 4:12

a. Read the Old Testament this year, cf. Ro. 15:4; 1 Co. 10:11; 2 Ti 3:14-17

b. Read the New Testament also, Ja. 1:21; 1 Pe. 2:2

2. By being diligent in prayer, Hc. 4:14-16

a. Let's be a thankful people, cf. Co. 4:2; 1 Th. 5:17-18

b. Perhaps Daniel's custom of praying three times daily would be worthy of emulation, Dan. 6:10



Delores Griffey

B. Resolve to become closer to the brethren...

1. By making it a point to learn every one's name, cf. 3 Jn. 14

a. Get a dictionary

b. Each week, connect a couple of names and faces until you learn them all

2. By having a different person or family in your home each month, cf. 1 Pe. 4:9

a. It doesn't have to be a fancy dinner

b. Just a simple visit to become better acquainted

3. Or by visiting a different person or family each month

a. It might not always be convenient to have people in your home

b. But you can arrange to visit them in their home (if you are alone, take someone with you)

Moderator of Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Association Receives Scholarship

Submitted by Linda Allison

Moderator Clinton A. Feemster was named one of the fifty recipients of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Leadership Scholarship. The men and women who receive these scholarships are chosen because of their intellect, their commitment to Bap-

tist values and their potential for ministry in the kingdom of God.

Moderator Feemster is a student at Gardner-Webb University enrolled in the M. Christopher White School of Divinity and Pastor of Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church Kings Mountain



INTRODUCTION

1. As a New Year begins, I am reminded of the fact that we are one year closer to...

a. The day of our death, or the day the Lord returns

b. That day when we shall stand before the Lord in judgment — 2 Co. 5:10

c. That day when He will either say...

1) "Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world" Mt. 25:34

2) "Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels" Mt. 25:41

2. Since we are one year closer to that day when our final destiny will be forever determined, let me use this opportunity...

a. To provoke your thinking as to how you have used this past year

b. To suggest some resolutions for the coming year

[My goal is to encourage us to make better use of the time we have left, and to prepare us for the day of reckoning that awaits us. Let's begin, by asking...]

I. IN THE PAST YEAR

A. Has our relationship with God and Christ improved?

1. Have we drawn nearer to God? cf. Ja. 4:8

2. Bearing in mind that a close relationship depends upon good communication...

a. Have we been faithful in listening to God through His Word?

NEWS AROUND THE NATION

National Council Of Negro Women Celebrates 11 Years Of Excellence In Teaching

The National Council of Negro Women, Inc. (NCNW) honored the 2000 winners of its annual Excellence In Teaching Award during a special luncheon and ceremony at the Omni-Shoreham Hotel in Washington, DC recently.

Sponsored by Shell Oil Company, the Excellence In Teaching Award pays tribute to the legacy of NCNW founder, Mary McLeod Bethune, by honoring teachers for their tireless efforts on behalf of educating African-American youth. The Excellence in Teaching Award recipients distinguished themselves among their peers as leaders in the field of education. A group of nationally respected educators selected the winners from nominations solicited by NCNW from across the country.

The luncheon highlighted the achievements of one national and six regional winners who were chosen for their skill, innovation and enthusiasm. On-hand to present the awards were NCNW President and CEO Dr. Jane Smith, NCNW Chairwoman and President Emerita, Dorothy I. Height; Susan M. Borches, Shell Oil vice president, Corporate Affairs; and Paula Saizan, Shell Oil manager, constituent relations.

"Each year I look forward to celebrating the achievements of such dedicated professionals," says Dr. Dorothy I. Height. "It is an honor to present the Excellence in Teaching Award so that the rest of the world can recognize and applaud those who have such an enormous impact on our children's lives."

During the program, awards were presented to Excellence in Teaching Award National recipient **Letitia Glover**, a biology and physics science teacher at South Atlanta High School in



Washington, D.C. — The National Council of Negro Women honored the winners of its annual Excellence in Teaching Award during a luncheon sponsored by Shell Oil Company. Pictured from left: Elsie Mescudi (mid-western regional recipient) Clemontene Rountree (mid-atlantic regional recipient), Jacelyn Hepburn (southern regional recipient), Letitia Glover (national recipient) NCNW Chairwoman and President Emerita, Dr. Dorothy I. Height, Carolyn Gray (northeastern regional recipient) Wendell Tabb (southeastern regional recipient) and Paula Saizan, Shell Oil manager, constituent relations. (Photo by Jim Wells)

Atlanta, GA; Mid-Atlantic regional recipient, **Clemontene Rountree**, a biology and life science teacher for Alice Deal Middle School in Washington, DC; and Northeastern regional recipient **Carolyn Gray**, a science teacher at J.R. Masterman School in Philadelphia, PA.

The event also celebrated the achievements of four other regional recipients who have received or will receive their awards at regional luncheons throughout the summer and fall: Midwestern regional recipient **Elsie Mescudi**, a life skills and vocal/general music teacher from Monticello Middle School in Cleveland Heights,

OH; Western regional recipient **Floretta Chaney Brumfield**, an algebra and geometry teacher from Jessic Bethel High in Vallejo, CA; Southern regional recipient **Jacelyn Hepburn**, a math teacher from Hood Middle School in Dallas, TX; and Southeastern regional recipient **Wendell Tabb**, a drama teacher from Hill-side High in Durham, NC.

Each recipient received a specially designed sculpture from Tiffany & Co., a certificate and a cash prize. Each recipient's school will also display a commemorative plaque.

"We are extremely proud to honor these well

deserving teachers. We look forward to honoring these shining stars for many years to come," said Dr. Jane Smith.

NCNW is a nonprofit voluntary service organization with 38-affiliated national organizations, 252 community-based sections chartered in 39 states and 60,000 individual members. It is dedicated to improving the quality of life of African-American women, their families and communities.

For more information about the Excellence in Teaching Award Program, contact **Lorenita Lucas** at (202) 383-9109.

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NEWS AROUND THE NATION

NCC General Assembly Continues Work On Ecumenical Vision

Submitted by Carol J. Smith
Associate Editor

Delegates to the National Council of Churches' annual General Assembly continued work this morning on the questions, "What would a renewed ecumenical relationship look like in the 21st century? What should be its mission?"

Tuesday afternoon, Assembly delegates spent two hours in 10 small-group discussion of these questions. Notes were transcribed and this morning, Dr. Barbara Brown Zikmund offered a summary of "essentials" and "concerns" as the NCC's 35 Protestant and Orthodox member communions look forward to exploring an "expanded ecumenical vision" with Roman Catholics, Evangelicals and Pentecostals.

In particular, she encouraged NCC member communions to consider how they feel with certain dynamic tensions in their own lives and to offer the wisdom of their experience to the wider U.S. Christian community.

Dr. Brown Zikmund, of Washington, D.C., immediate past president of Hartford Theological Seminary, named 10 such dynamic tensions that emerged out of Tuesday's small group discussions. For example, should exploration of an "expanded ecumenical vision" bubble up from the grassroots — where a broad spectrum of Christians already have found a greater unity — or should it begin with revitalization of national ecumenical life?

Is the starting point a common spiritual reality of being in Christ together, or does commonality grow out of working and serving together? Should the focus be on "membership," implying a certain consensus, or on "covenanting" in Christ in spite of differences?

How can exploration of an "expanded ecumenical vision" take into account the perspectives of the "seasoned ecumenical veteran" and those of young Christians — newcomers to the ecumenical movement? Should the NCC first attend to outstanding issues in its own life — for example, relationships between mainline Protestant and Orthodox churches — before engaging in a broader discussion with others?

Dr. Brown Zikmund emphasized that as discussions continue, "insights begin to shine through when people look at each other, talk with each other directly and share differences candidly. We need to continue that style of interaction."

Exploring an "expanded ecumenical vision" — to include action on a resolution Friday morning — and launching a 10-year "mobilization to overcome poverty" — set for discussion an action this afternoon and Thursday morning — are the principle items before the Assembly, which convened Tuesday afternoon (Nov. 14) and continues through Friday noon (Nov. 17).

This morning's Assembly session also included a spirited celebration of the many bilateral agreements between and among NCC member communions, and reports from Church World Service and the NCC's Bible Translation and Utilization Committee.

The Rev. John L. McCullough, Church World Service Executive Director, described CWS's board global program, which works with partners in more than 80 countries, including the United States, to support disaster response, human development and refugee assistance.

He reminded Assembly delegates that this is "CROPWALK season," when most of the some 2,000 local fund-raisers for CWS's work against hunger take place. He

thanked the NCC's Executive Board — a 50-member subgroup of the 250-member General Assembly — for their \$1,200 in support as his sponsors when he participated in a New York City CROPWALK in mid-October.

"Bob (Edgar, the NCC's General Secretary) got in on some of my action," he quipped, and Dr. Edgar confirmed, "We challenged each other. I pledged I'd give at least \$25 more than John gave." The Rev. McCullough urged Assembly delegates to support CROPWALKS in their hometowns. "Find someone to support," he said, "and if you don't know who to support feel free to put my name down."

Also on Wednesday morning, Dr. Fred Allen made a special presentation on the American Bible Society's "Jubilee Bible" project, which seeks to make the Bible relevant to the lives of African-Americans to-



Carol J. Smith, Associate Editor

day and to highlight for all readers African Americans' past and present contributions to Christendom.

NCC Assembly Takes Up Immobilization to Overcome Poverty

It is important who wins and loses elections, but the leading question facing the United States won't change regardless of who becomes this nation's next president — "What are we going to do about poverty in this country?"

In back-to-back addresses to the National Council of Churches annual General Assembly, both William Gray of the United Negro College Fund and Jim Wallis of the Call to Renewal made the point, challenging people of faith to, in Gray's words, "call the nation to a new sense of commitment and responsibility "to end poverty."

Gray noted that neither Bush nor Gore talked much "about how we are going to eliminate the poverty affecting 13 million of our children, who live in the richest of lands but who go to bed hungry and without adequate health care, and 21 million of our adults."

"I know many of you are waiting to know who's going to be the next president," he said as the recounting of ballots in Florida and the concomitant legal wrangling entered its second week. "The real question isn't who's going to be president but what is it we as a nation are going to do with the \$4.5 trillion surplus that's projected for the next 10 years."

"We must make a moral claim," Wallis said. "In time of unprecedented prosperity, one in six U.S. children live in poverty, and one in every four children of color lives in poverty. In this country we have a contradiction that is harder and harder to endure. I believe it's pricking the nation's conscience. It is the unanswered moral question, 'What is this prosperity for?'"

Both Wallis and Gray urged the faith community's particular attention to the demographics of poverty and the rapidly changing demographics of the United States. In 50 years, half of Americans will be people of color, Gray said, a population that is disproportionately impoverished.

Gray pointed to the work of the United Negro College Fund, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and others to ensure that impoverished minority youth of outstanding academic ability get higher education. "The biggest barrier to getting a college education is not values, culture, your SAT score or your grade point average, its money," Gray said.

Gray and Wallis both were thanked with standing ovations as they kicked off the NCC

General Assembly's afternoon of intensive work to launch a new, 10-year "Mobilization to Overcome Poverty." Delegates from the Council's 35 Protestant and Orthodox member communions continued work in small groups, the results of which will be reported out on Thursday morning.

The second major focus of the Nov. 14-17 NCC General Assembly is exploring how a divided church — U.S. Protestants, Orthodox, Roman Catholics, Pentecostals and Evangelicals — might find new ways to work together. Quite possibly, these two distinct initiatives may interest in a broad effort together against poverty.

Declared Gray, "We need you now, National Council, more than ever before to stand up and let your light shine brightly so that children, the hungry, the needy, the millions without healthcare may know that someone is on the battlefield" on their behalf.

"I say to you, keep preaching the whole gospel," which, he said, ministers to both soul and body. "The day will come when the Lord won't want to hear about how many sermons you preached or about your personal salvation alone. The Lord will say, 'I was hungry, naked, thirsty...'"

Affirmed Wallis, "I'm very drawn to this Mobilization to Overcome Poverty that the NCC has announced. I believe it is a concrete sign of what I see God doing across this country. When I see the Jubilee 2000 debt reduction campaign, the Call to Renewal, the NCC's Mobilization to Overcome Poverty — I have to believe something new is happening. This is a movement whose time has come."

"It's time for a new 'network of networks,'" he said, noting that the Call to Renewal is "a table, a safe place" where Christians from across the theological spectrum "are finding a common vision and voice. I hope these new relationships will help fuel greater unity. I see churches dropping their 'gang colors,' people who've not been together saying, 'It's time for us to come together.'"

"We must find a way to take the National Council of Churches, the National Association of Evangelicals, the Roman Catholic Bishops...magnify our public voice and lead our nations to a different vision," Wallis said. "I'm not sure I know how to partner and coordinate all this, but we can do it if we think 'movement.'"

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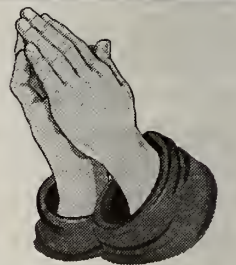
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HOUSING BANQUET HIGHLIGHTS



Happy New Year!



SHAW UNIVERSITY NEWS



Presenting a check in the amount of \$100,000 to Shaw University from the GBSC are left to right: Dr. Talbert O. Shaw, President of Shaw University; Dr. David Forbes, Chairperson of GBSC Trustee Board; Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Secretary; Dr. C.R. Edwards, GBSC Past President; Dr. W.B. Lewis, GBSC, Past President,

Pastor, First Cosmopolitan Baptist Church and Special Donor; Dr. Charles T. Bullock, GBSC Vice President-At-Large; Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., GBSC President; Dr. Willie Gary, Chairperson, Shaw University Trustee Board and Dr. Ernest Pickens, Executive Vice President, Shaw University.

General Baptist State Convention Names Floor at Shaw University Divinity School

The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc., gave \$30,000 to the Shaw University Divinity School, Raleigh, N.C., to name the 3rd Floor. Also, Past President, Dr. W.B. Lewis, Pastor of the First Cosmopolitan Baptist Church, Raleigh, N.C., gave \$25,000 to name the auditorium in the new Shaw Divinity School

Leonard Building: The W.B. Lewis Auditorium. The GBSC has naming rights to the Divinity School Student Lounge and four classrooms. If you, your family, your Association or your church are interested in naming an area on the third floor of the Divinity School please notify: Baptist Headquarters, 603 South Wilmington

Street, Raleigh, NC 27601, GBSCofNC01@aol.com, www.gbsc.org, 800-639-GBSC, 919-821-7466.

Gifts to name the following areas are: Lounge \$15,000; classrooms, \$10,000 each; plaques or memorial plates \$100-\$5,000. The GBSC encourages its members, friends, churches and Associations to

send and recommend deserving students to our educational institutions. Shaw University and Shaw University Divinity School are ours.

We need qualified students! Have Shaw Days in your local churches and Associations. Give Scholarships to members of your church who attend Shaw.

Shaw Holds Induction Ceremony for Exclusive UNCF Donors

Submitted By Rev. Norman T. Davis

Shaw University kicked off its 2000-2001 United Negro Fund (UNCF) Campaign with the induction of 83 members in the "A Mind Is" Giving Society Shaw University Chapter. More than \$75,000 was received in donations and pledges. The Charter Members of this exclusive Society are individuals in the community who agreed to donate a minimum of \$1,000 annually to Shaw University's UNCF Campaign. The UNCF "A Mind Is" Giving Society was founded in 1977 to honor UNCF's most generous individual annual supporters. There are four giving levels ranging from \$1,000 to \$10,000.

Dr. Quincy Scott Jr., Dean of the Thomas J. Boyd Chapel opened the program with the invocation and the Co-Chairs of the Shaw University "A Mind Is" Giving Society Chapter. Mr. Tim Catlett of Progressive Business Solutions and Dr. Fred Long of WakeMed gave the greetings. Miss Jocelyn Johnson, a Shaw University student who is also a UNCF scholarship recipient gave remarks during the program. In addition, Dr. Talbert O. Shaw, Shaw



University President; Mr. Virgil Ecton, UNCF Sr. Executive VP; and Mr. Maurice Jenkins, UNCF VP for SE Region gave remarks. Dr. Ernest L. Pickens, Shaw University Interim CEO and Mrs. Marilyn Baldwin Richards, NC UNCF Director served as Master and Mistress of Ceremony. After the dinner, a presentation was conducted by Shaw University's Office of Institutional Advancement.

The following members were inducted: (President's Circle) Dr. and Mrs. Talbert O. Shaw, Dr. and Mrs. H. Donell Lewis; (Cornerstone Society) Mr. and Mrs. Tim Catlett, Dr. and Mrs. Fred Long; (Friends of the College Fund) Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Allen, Mr. Warren Arrington, Mr. and Mrs. Arlester Andrews, Dr. Harold Aubrey, Mr. Randolph Bazemore, Mr. and Mrs. Ricky

Bennett, Dr. and Mrs. McLouis Clayton, Drs. James and Lacy Colson, Rev. and Mrs. David Dolby, Dr. and Mrs. Edward Ellis, Dr. and Mrs. John W. Fleming, Mr. and Mrs. Dr. Paul Flanagan, Mr. Jerry Fulmer, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Greene, Ms. Helga Greenfield, Mr. Bert Gunter, Mr. Robert M. Hanks, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Harper, Ms. Shirley Hinton, Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Johnson Jr., Ms. Maola Jones, Sen. Luther Jordan, Ms. Kisha Jordan, Mr. and Mrs. Dallas Joseph, Dr. and Mrs. Uday Kavde, Dr. Carolyn S. Love, Dr. and Mrs. Vernon Malone, Mr. and Dr. Dennis McCaskille, Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Midgett, Mr. Cary Mitchell, Mr. Sama Mondeh, Ms. Brenda Moore, Mr. and Mrs. Locke Moore, Dr. Ernest L. Pickens, Dr. and Mrs. Robert E. Powell, Dr. Milton Quigless Jr., Drs.

Roscoe and Patricia Ramsey, Dr. Karlotta Richards, Dr. Joseph Richardson, Dr. and Mrs. Prezell Robinson, Mrs. Lillie B. Scott, Dr. and Mrs. Quincy Scott Jr., Ms. Janet Spry, Mr. Carlton Sutton, Dr. and Mrs. Cleon Thompson, Mrs. Pauline and the late Dr. Paul F. Vandergrift Jr., Mrs. Doris Whitaker and Mr. and Mrs. Everett Williams. The induction ceremony was presided by Mr. Ecton, Mr. Jenkins and Mrs. Richards.

UNCF funds are used to fund student scholarships, operating support for member institutions, technology, fellowships for students and faculty, and equipment updates. President Shaw gave the closing remarks and music was provided by some of the members of the Shaw University's Jazz Ensemble I Band under the direction of Mr. Charles Brown.

SHAW UNIVERSITY NEWS

*From the Office of the
Third Vice President*

Rev. N.T. Davis

**Shaw University and Shaw
Divinity School News**



Rev. N.T. Davis

Happy New Year! Happy New Year! Grace and Peace be unto you from God the Father and from His only son Jesus and from the blessed Holy Ghost His only Spirit that dwell within us.

Two thousand has been a great year and God has blessed us, two thousand and one is here and that same God, is able to bless us in years to come. But we also play a part in the blessing by being faithful to Him who bless us.

Shaw and Divinity is doing find and is offering some challenging classes to us all. Please send us your student, that they may

get a quality education.

This year will bring many new challenges to us all. Let us keep focused on the goal of excellence.

Shaw University strides to excellence and why not attend the best.



Dr. Gale J. Issacs, left, and Ms. AdeLeaka McMillan, right.

Shaw's Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha honors Two Women of Distinction

Shaw University's Beta Rho Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. hosted a reception on Sunday, September 24th honoring two distinguished ladies of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. AdeLeaka McMillan, a senior accounting major at Shaw University, and Dr. Gale J. Isaacs, chair of the Department of Allied Health Professions and Professor of Speech Pathology and Audiology at Shaw University.

Ms. McMillan was recently elected Second Supreme Anti-Basielus, serving as a

member of the Sorority's International Board of Directors. She also serves as Basielus of the Beta Rho Chapter at Shaw University. Dr. Gale J. Isaacs serves as the Undergraduate Advisor to the Shaw University Chapter, and is a member of the Alpha Theta Omega Chapter located in Raleigh.

The reception was hosted by sorority members Reekitta K. Grimes, Mavola N. Phuse, and Janet Spry, who were all initiated into the sorority through the Beta Rho Chapter.

VACANT PULPITS

SECOND NEW LIGHT MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

3225 Purdie Hall Road, Saint Pauls, NC 28384

The Pulpit Search Committee of Second New Light Missionary Baptist Church of St. Pauls is searching for applicants for a full time pastoral vacancy.

Qualifications:

1. Must be an experienced, licensed, ordained Missionary Baptist Minister living according to First Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9.
2. The applicants should have a vision for the church according to Proverbs 29:18.
3. Must possess the ability to work with all age groups, with particular emphasis in youth development, and with all auxiliaries of the church.
 4. Must possess effective oral and written communication skills.
 5. Must be community oriented.
6. Must possess strong and proven administrative experience, with a broad knowledge of the Baptist doctrines, church policies and practices.

Education:

Must possess a high school diploma (or equivalent), preferring a degree or courses in Seminary Training, and willing to do further study.

Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume of relevant experience.
2. A copy of certificate of license and ordination.
3. One business and two personal reference (no family members).

All interested applicants should send resume to:

Deacon Vernon Richardson

C/O Second New Light Missionary Baptist Church
73 NC Highway 20, Tar Heel, NC 28392

FIRST BAPTIST CHARITY CHURCH

Greenevers, N.C.

The First Baptist Charity Church of Greenevers, N.C. is accepting resumes from interested Missionary Baptist Ministers for the position of pastor.

Qualifications:

1. Divinely called spirit-filled, born-again Christian with strong Family values.
2. Pastoral experiences is required.
3. Must work closely with the officers of the church.
4. Must have at least 2 years of college or seminary training.
5. Must be able to preach and teach.
6. Must have good leadership and communication skills.
7. Family oriented.
8. Have knowledge of and willing to follow Baptist doctrines, policies and procedures.
9. Must be willing to visit and commune with the sick and shut-ins.
10. Must be willing to work with all age groups.

Services are first, second, third and fourth Sundays with Sunday school beginning at 10:00 a.m. and morning service beginning at 11:00 a.m.

Please send resumes to:

Deacon Fernald Rawls, Jr.
920 Pasture Branch Road, Rose Hill, NC 28458

MORNING STAR MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

The Pulpit Search Committee of MSMB Church is accepting resumes for the position of pastor.

Our church body would like for all applicants to have the following qualifications.

- *Born again Christian
- *Spiritual maturity
- *Must be able to preach and teach God's Words
- *Must be able to work with all age groups
- *Willing to work in our community
- *Some college and seminary training preferred

Please send resume to:

Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church, 4610 Fayetteville Road, Durham, NC 27713
c/o Pulpit Search Committee

Shaw University's News

Dr. Joseph A. Bryant, a native of Battleboro, NC, has been named the new Director for the Shaw University High Point CAPE Center. He received his bachelor of science degree from North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University in Greensboro, NC; his master of divinity degree, concentrating in Youth Ministry from the Shaw Divinity School; and his doctor of ministry degree, concentrating in Pastoral Care and Counseling from the Candler School of Theology, Emory University in Atlanta, GA. In addition, he received his Clinical Pastoral Education Certificate from the Department of Pastoral Care at Wesley Long Hospital in Greensboro, NC, where he served three years as chaplain.

Dr. Marcellina Offoha has been named the Director for the Shaw University Kannapolis CAPE Center in Kannapolis, NC. Prior to Dr. Offoha's position at the Kannapolis CAPE Center she was Assistant Professor of Shaw University Rocky Mount/Wilson CAPE Center in Rocky Mount, NC.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND PSYCHOLOGY

Dr. Griffin David Lockett, a native of Macon, GA, has been named Associate Professor in Social Work for the Department of Sociology and Psychology at Shaw University. Prior to Dr. Lockett's position at Shaw University he served in the U.S. Army for 29 years. He received his bach-

elor of arts degree from St. Paul's College in Lawrenceville, VA; master of social service degree from the Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research, Bryn Mawr College in Bryn Mawr, PA, and doctorate of social work, from Catholic University of America in Washington, DC.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Kenneth E. Bailey, a native of Eutawville, SC, has been named Counselor for Career Development at Shaw University. Mr. Bailey received his bachelor of arts degree in social science from Morris College in Sumter, SC, and his master of education in counseling education and educational administration from South Carolina State University in Orange, SC. Prior to his appointment at Shaw University, Mr. Bailey worked at Hoover Chrysler, Plymouth, Jeep as a Sales Consultant. He is also owner/manager of Bailey's Income Tax Service.

SPORTS

Shaw University's Women's Basketball Team was to play Augusta State University on Wednesday, December 20th at 5:30 p.m. in Augusta, GA. Mr. Jacques Curtis is the head coach for the women's team.

Shaw University's Men's Basketball Team was to play Fayetteville State University on Saturday, December 16th at 7:30 p.m. in Fayetteville, NC. Mr. Joel Hopkins is the head coach for the men's team.

VACANT POSITIONS

EMMANUEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENT

Seeking Full-time Christian Minister of Music, Loyal and Committed to God's program. Must possess people skills, be trained as a Musician, Conductor and Choir Director. Salary: Commensurate with training and experience. Interested persons may send resume/portfolio to:
Attention: Trustees
Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church
913 N. Highland Street, Gastonia, NC 28052

VACANT PULPIT MAYO GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH 1065 Whitt Loop, Alton, Va. 24520

The Mayo Grove Baptist Church is currently and actively seeking resumes for the position of Pastor.

Qualifications:

1. Born Again
2. Licensed and ordained in the Missionary Baptist or American Baptist Church
3. A minimum of a Bachelors Degree in Religion, Theology or Divinity
4. Be willing to teach Bible Class and Sunday Church School
5. Good oral communication skills
6. Good written communication skills
7. Strong church Administrative ability

How to Apply:

Interested applicants should provide the following information:

Send resume to the above address. No resumes will be accepted after Jan. 15, 2001.

FIRST AFRICAN BAPTIST CHURCH 803 East Harris St., Goldsboro, N.C. 27530

Pastor: Dr. Freddie I. Barnes

POSITION AVAILABLE: DIRECTOR OF CHURCH MUSIC

First African Baptist Church is a congregation of over 350 members with a Music Ministry that consist of four choirs, Sunshine Choir, Male Chorus, Unity and Praise Choir, Chancel Choir. Music in this ministry consists of gospel (traditional and contemporary) praise and worship, hymns, spirituals and anthems.

Applications and further information may be obtained by contacting Mrs. Johnnie Ingram, Personnel Committee Chairman or Rev. Jerry Dortch at 919-734-4935.

MINISTER OF MUSIC WANTED

Wake Forest congregation seeks Minister of Music. Duties to include working directly with the Pastor in order to assist and cooperate with him in Christian Worship; playing during Sunday morning worship service; rehearsing with various choirs one night per week; and accompanying the Pastor on engagements to other churches. Please forward a cover letter and resume to:

Evans Grove Missionary Baptist Church • 12700 Creedmoor Road, Highway 50
Wake Forest, NC 27587 • (919) 870-8874

CEDAR GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH 14600 Railroad St., Gibson, NC 28343 CHURCH MUSICIAN

The Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church of Gibson, N.C., is seeking a person to serve as Church Musician.

Qualifications: Should be a Christian who lives and acts responsibly and has a good character and reputation.

Musician requirements:

- *Be able to play a piano, keyboard, organ and be able to work well with a diverse range of singers with directions for musical selections.
- *Be available for necessary rehearsals and Sunday Worship Services.
- *Be available to accompany the pastor and choirs to all church functions when requested.

Salary negotiable. Please send resume to Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church at the above address.

CHURCH MUSICIAN

The New Hope Baptist Church, Gates, N.C., is seeking a person to serve as Church Musician.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Able to play organ and/or organ.
2. Able to play diverse music.
3. Able to accompany the pastor and choir to church engagements if possible.

SALARY NEGOTIABLE:

Send resume to:

New Hope Baptist Church, PO Box 91, Gatesville, NC 27938

Attn: Fannie M. Spivey, Secretary

Inquiries may be made by calling (252) 357-1061 after 4:30 p.m.

CHURCH MUSICIAN

Mount Olive Baptist Church of Lewiston is seeking a musician for a station church, a Christian who is responsible, has good character and a good reputation.

Requirements:

- *Plays the organ and piano *Able to work with a diverse group of singers
- *Experienced in all sacred music *Reads music and is versatile in playing by ear

Send resumes or responses to: Mount Olive Baptist Church

PO Box 214, Lewiston-Woodville, NC 27849 • Attention: William W. Peele Jr.

GOLD HILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Gold Hill Baptist Church, Highway 221 North, Rutherfordton, North Carolina is seeking a pastor for its congregation. Only those who are serious, please apply.

You can send your resume to:

Attention:

Pulpit committee

Gold Hill Baptist Church

PO Box 1047

Rutherfordton, NC 28139

Inquiries may call 1 (828) 287-5580 or 1 (828) 287-3210.

First Missionary Baptist Church

The First Baptist Church is now seeking a pastor to serve as its spiritual leader, teacher, counselor and administrator. All interested persons should submit a letter of interest and resume to the Pulpit Search Committee.

Qualifications

- Born Again Christian
- Ordained Missionary Baptist Minister
- Knowledge of Baptist Doctrine and Faith
- Seminary Training preferred
- Teaching Bible Study Weekly
- Proficient in church organization and ability to train Church
- Pastoral Experience Preferred
- Family Oriented
- Able to Plan and implement innovative youth programs

Interested Applicants should Mail Resumes to:

Pastoral Search Committee

First Baptist Church

ATTENTION: Deacon Calvin Graham Jr., Chairman

P.O. Box 679, Stedman, North Carolina 28391

St. Francis Baptist Missionary Baptist Church is looking for a Pastor

This person should be:

- I. Missionary Baptist
- II. Have good organizational and leadership skills
- III. Commuting Distance
- IV. Family Oriented
- V. Experience Preferred

Interested parties should send resume to:

c/o Pulpit Committee

St. Francis Missionary Baptist Church

P.O. Box 736, Windsor, NC 27983.

PASTOR — IMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH,

the largest African-American Missionary Baptist congregation in New Haven, Connecticut, is seeking an experienced, ordained pastor to replace their retiring spiritual leader. In a community with great potential for church growth and expansion, we require a leader with a sound spiritual foundation. The church has 175 years of rich history and is housed in modern, spacious facilities. The church owns and operates low income housing properties, manages a 70-bed homeless shelter and is active in other community support missions. Candidates must have a depth of formal education, demonstrated leadership abilities and strong administrative skills.

Resumes and inquiries should be addressed to: Deacon William A. Batts, Chairman, Pulpit Search Committee, Immanuel Baptist Church, 210 Curtis Drive, New Haven, CT 06515, Facsimile: (203) 785-8673.

Progressive Missionary Baptist Church

2504 Creech Road, Raleigh, NC 27610

Rev. William H. Brock Sr., Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Leo Williams Jr., Assistant Pastor

Rev. James Richardson, Minister of Youth

Growing young Missionary Baptist Church in southeast Raleigh, Seeking a Christian Church Musician who can play piano/organ. Specifically organ. Must be able to read music as well as play by ear. Should be able to play hymns, anthems, spirituals, gospel.

Call church office to arrange interview (919) 828-8373.

First Baptist Church

Third and Mulbury Street, Weldon, North Carolina 27890

The Pulpit Committee of First Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of Pastor. Mail resumes to:

Deacon Stanley Edwards, 908 Country Club Rd., Weldon, NC 27890

Applicants must have the following qualifications:

- Born again Christian
- Must be able to preach and teach God's Word
- Preach quality sermons
- Possess strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, policies and practices
- Able to lead and communicate with all age groups
- Able to work effectively with church boards and committees
- Some college and seminary training preferred

Sandy Grove Missionary Baptist Church

PO Box 290, 1600 Martin Luther King Drive, Lumberton, NC 28358

Sandy Grove Missionary Baptist Church is accepting resumes for a full-time pastor. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

1. Must be licensed, ordained, firmly rooted in the holy spirit, born again, and divinely called.
2. Must have strong family and community values.
3. Must possess or be in the process of pursuing a college degree and theological training from an accredited college or university.
4. Must be able to preach and teach God's holy word.
5. Must be willing to follow the Baptist doctrine, policies and practices.
6. Must be an effective leader, administrator, counselor and must work cooperatively with church officials.
7. Must be willing to work with all age groups, with particular emphasis on the spiritual growth and development of our youth.
8. Must plan for the future growth and development of the church.
9. Must be able to be tactful, just and fair with everyone.
10. Must establish office hours for the benefit of the members.
11. Must visit and commune with sick, shut-ins members and bereaved families.

Interested applicants should provide the following information:

1. A resume of relevant pastoral experience (if applicable).
 2. A copy of college degree (s), certificate of license and ordination.
 3. Proof of completion of all accredited theological training.
 4. Name, address, and telephone number of four (4) personal references—excluding relatives.
- Please mail all requested information to:

The Pulpit Committee

Sandy Grove Missionary Baptist Church, P.O. Box 290, Lumberton, NC 28358

VACANT POSITIONS

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

103 Church Street, Thomasville, North Carolina 27360

First Baptist Church is currently seeking a Pastor and is accepting resumes from interested licensed, ordained Baptist Ministers. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

1. Spiritual maturity
2. A degree from an accredited college and seminary
3. Administrative and leadership skills
4. Community oriented
5. Must be able to work with all age groups with particular emphasis on youth department
6. Strong knowledge of the Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures
7. Good oral and written communications skills and ability to communicate with all age groups
8. A minimum of 5 years experience as senior pastor, but will consider years of experience as associate pastor
9. Must be willing to attend Sunday School

Responsibilities Include:

Plan and implementation of innovative religious programs, activities and projects designed to promote the church's progression and encourage active participation.

Please send resumes to:

The Rev. John D. Bratton, Chair
The Pastoral Search Committee

First Baptist Church, 103 Church Street, Thomasville, North Carolina 27360

PULPIT VACANCY

The pulpit search committee of the Mount Zoar Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of pastor. Applicants must possess the following qualifications/responsibilities.

Qualifications

- Born again, spirit-filled, ordained and divinely called with strong family and community values.
- Be a licensed, ordained Missionary Baptist Minister.
- Must be able to preach and teach Bible Study
- Must be able to work with all age groups with emphasis on youth department
- Strong knowledge of the Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures
- Experienced as a senior pastor, but will consider years of experience as an associate pastor
- Must be willing to attend Sunday School and teach Bible Study
- Spiritual maturity; preach and teach God's word
- Willingness to administer communion and perform baptismal service
- Possess strong and proven administrative experience
- College degree preferred but will consider a combination of education and experience

Responsibilities

- Plan, prepare and deliver sermons
- Visit and commune with sick and shut-in members and bereaved families
- Plan and implementation of activities and projects designed to promote the church's progression and encourage active participation.

Interested applicants should mail resume with a recent photograph to address below.

Special notes: Photograph will not be returned

Mount Zoar Missionary Baptist Church
C/O Ann Dixon
Pulpit Search Committee
PO Box 71736, Durham, NC 27704

NOTICE OF VACANCY

Liberty Hill Missionary Baptist Church of Catawba, South Carolina is actively searching for a bi-vocational Minister for their congregation. Liberty Hill is a congregation that has great potential. Congregational size is approximately 135 members, however attendance varies from 75-150 persons, depending upon the season.

We are a small family community located ten miles south of Rock Hill, SC and ten miles north of Fort Lawn, SC, off of Highway 21 and the historic Landsford Canal Park, respectively. Forty-five miles south of Charlotte, North Carolina and seventy-five miles north of Columbia, South Carolina.

We are an autonomous Missionary Baptist Church that is affiliated with the Sandy River Baptist Association (Upper Division), in York County, South Carolina; South Carolina Baptist Educational and Missionary Convention. Our congregation represents all ages, all backgrounds, and is multi-talented.

Our pastor must be a strong spiritual leader, administrator, and teacher. One who will proclaim the Good News in a meaningful way that will help members to apply Biblical concepts to our everyday lives. One who has a passion for equipping that saints to do the work of the ministry; allowing them to discover their gifts and put them into practice in service to others.

Responsibilities will include Sunday church services, Holy Communion, Induction of New Members, Baptism, Annual Revival Services, Prayer group, Adult Sunday School/Bible Study and assistance in initialing or enhancing other ministries. The minister is an ex-officio and spiritual consultant of all auxiliaries, and serves on both the Diaconate and Advisory Council. The Diaconate meets once per month; the Advisory Council and church meetings are quarterly.

Weddings, funerals, along with christening/dedications are also required of the minister, if requested by the parishioners. The pastor's presence is expected in times of serious illness and in times of serious conflict within families or among church members. Counseling may also be requested. Must participate in other church sponsored activities, i.e. Prayer Brunch, Senior and Youth Programs, Anniversary Programs, etc.

Qualifications desired in our New Pastor:

- Pastoral ministry experience
- Graduate of an accredited seminary
- College training
- Pastor's Ordination Certificate
- Be a strong, motivating speaker
- Be moderate to liberal in preaching style with an emphasis on New Testament teachings
- Have excellent teaching skills
- Possess strong leadership skills
- Be caring and sensitive
- Be skilled in conflict resolution
- Value youth development

All interested persons should send a resume and/or write for an application to Liberty Hill Missionary Baptist Church, The Pastoral Search Committee, P.O. Box 10067, Rock Hill, South Carolina 29731.

For further information e-mail: Clara Feely Gray (as4603spcgra@infoave.net), Vivian T. Robinson (vrob58.bellsouth.net), or leave a message at (803) 324-0120.

CEDAR GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

612 Norwalk Street, Greensboro, North Carolina 27406

The Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church are accepting resumes for the following positions. Only sincere interested persons need to apply.

Lead and Bass Guitarist:

Qualifications include but not limited to:

- Born again Christian
- Follow instructions from the Pastor and Minister of Music
- Must be able to work well with a diverse range of singers and age groups
- Must be able to rehearse with choirs at a scheduled time unless otherwise notified
- Must be in attendance for both the 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. worship services
- Must be available to accompany the pastor and choirs when requested

Mail resumes along with salary expectations to the above address,

Attn: Minister George Pass

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTER

Qualifications include but not limited to:

- Born again Christian
- Willingness to follow the By-laws governing the church
- Able to lead and communicate with all age groups
- Ability to preach and teach God's Holy Word
- Ability to plan and implement innovative religious programs, activities and projects designed to fulfill the vision and mission of the church
- Strong Desire to help nurture the youth
- Overseeing various youth programs for the church
- Excellent communication, interpersonal and organizational skills
- Ability to lead as well as follow the Pastor's vision

Mail resumes along with salary expectations to the above address,

Attn: Pastor James A. Johnson

Calvary Baptist Church of Paterson, New Jersey, is seeking a full-time Minister of Music. The applicant must be an experienced individual with formal training in voice and instrumentation, with a strong emphasis on organ and piano. The successful candidate will be a dedicated and innovative teacher/director and have strong administrative skills. College or equivalent training desired. Calvary is a large and thriving congregation with a seven-day community oriented ministry. The position is full-time and requires approximately 35 hours per week with a flexible schedule. Compensation package is excellent and commensurate with training and experience. Send resume to Rev. Dr. Albert P. Rowe, Pastor, Calvary Baptist Church, 575 East 18th Street, Paterson, New Jersey.

Oberlin Baptist Church

806 Oberlin Road, Raleigh, NC 27605 • (919) 828-1707

Oberlin Baptist Church, located in Raleigh, N.C., is currently seeking a pastor and is accepting resumes from interested licensed, ordained, Missionary Baptist Ministers. Salary is negotiable, commensurate with experience and qualifications.

Qualifications:

Licensed, ordained, Missionary Baptist Minister with a minimum of 5 years experience as a senior pastor.

Have strong knowledge of the Baptist doctrines, church policies and practices.

Must have a college and seminary degree from an accredited college or university.

Demonstrated experience in the delivery of well-prepared sermons and the ability to teach all levels.

Must possess the necessary qualifications and skills to counsel and console members and families.

Must be able to clearly develop and articulate a vision for church growth.

Must be community-oriented and have established community outreach programs.

Must exhibit leadership skills in guiding the Boards and Auxiliaries of the church.

Must have ability to work with all age groups, with special emphasis on youth development and the needs of senior citizens.

Must have demonstrated patterns of visitation for the sick and shut-ins.

Interested applicants should provide the following information:

A resume of relevant experience

A copy of Certificate of License and Ordination

Proof of completion of all programs of theological and academic degrees

Names, addresses and telephone number of five personal references excluding relatives, no more than two references from other pastors or ministers.

All information should be sent to:

Deacon Rufus J. Allen, Chairperson

OBC Pastoral Search Committee

806 Oberlin Road, Raleigh, NC 27605

PENN AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH

225 West McClanahan Street, Oxford, N.C. 27565

Rev. Willie S. Darby, Pastor

(919) 693-5396 • (919) 693-1015, Pastor's Office

The Penn Avenue Missionary Baptist Church of Oxford, N.C. is currently seeking a MINISTER OF MUSIC.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- *Must be a born again Christian.
- *Must be able to play the piano, keyboard and/or organ.
- *Must be able to read music and is versatile in playing by ear.
- *Must be able to work well with a diverse range of singers and age groups.
- *Must be able to teach and direct hymns, anthems, spirituals, gospels and other sacred music.
- *Must be able to rehearse choirs at a scheduled time unless otherwise notified.
- *Must be available for Sunday morning worship services.
- *Must be available to accompany the pastor and choirs when requested or provide a qualified substitute.
- *Must be able to assist in the selection of appropriate songs for worship and services.
- *Will be responsible with the pastor's approval in hiring other musicians if deemed necessary.

Salary: Negotiable

Penn Avenue Missionary Baptist Church is a warm, spirited-filled church that has worship services 52 Sundays a year and at present there is one musician available for 2nd Sunday worship services. Service begins each Sunday at 11 a.m. with the exception of 5th Sunday services which begin at 10 a.m.

Please send resume to the above listed address or inquiries may be made by calling one of the above listed numbers.

VACANT POSITIONS

GOOD HOPE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

4209 Smithfield Road, PO Box 441 Knightdale, North Carolina 27545

Telephone: 919-266-0217

JOHN L. THATCH, PASTOR

POSITION: MINISTER OF MUSIC

Principal Functions: Supervised by the pastor, the minister of music will be responsible for the development and promotion of the music program of the Church.

Primary Responsibilities: The minister of music will be responsible for the following:

1. Plan, organize, conduct and evaluate the comprehensive music program for the Church, including choirs, vocal and/or instrumental ensembles.
2. Prepare choirs for each Sunday morning's worship services.
3. Teach and direct sacred music (hymns, anthems, spirituals and gospel music).
4. Work with all choirs in selecting appropriate music for Sunday mornings' services and other worship services as his/her services are needed.
5. Work in cooperation with the pastor, other musicians and other choir members to set and implement guidelines for choir members' rights, responsibilities and ethical conduct while representing the Church in the glorification of God.
6. Work with the pastor, other musicians and choir members in scheduling and observing schedules for choir rehearsals.
7. Supervise the maintenance of the Church's musical instruments, hymnals, sheet music, music library and training materials, etc.
8. Work with the pastor to plan all services of worship (including funerals, weddings, revivals, special projects, etc.) and will accompany the pastor and Church when they are called upon to provide services for worship services at other churches.
9. Keep abreast of music methods, materials, promotion and administration, and cooperate with the Church process to enlist and train leaders for the Church music ministry.
10. Prepare an estimated annual budget and administer the approved budget.
11. Perform other duties as assigned by the pastor.

Qualifications:

1. Must be a Christian
2. Must possess people skills
3. Must be formally trained as a musician, conductor and choir director
4. Must be loyal and committed to the service and glory of God

Salary: Commensurate with training and experience

Interested persons may send resumes/portfolios to:

John L. Thatch, Pastor

Good Hope Missionary Baptist Church, PO Box 441, Knightdale, NC 27545

MINISTER OF MUSIC WANTED

Wake Forest Congregation seeks Minister of Music. Duties to include working directly with the Pastor in order to assist and cooperate with him in Christian Worship; playing during Sunday morning worship service; rehearsing with various choirs one night per week; and accompanying the Pastor on engagements to other churches. Please forward a cover letter and resume to:

Evans Grove Missionary Baptist Church, 12700 Creedmoor Road, Highway 50
Wake Forest, NC 27587 • (919) 870-8874

Littlefield Missionary Baptist Church

4465 Newton Grove Highway

Newton Grove, NC 28366

The Littlefield Missionary Baptist Church is accepting resumes from interested Missionary Baptist Ministers for the position of Pastor.

1. Born-again Christian and Role Model with strong leadership abilities.
 2. Able to manage Church's administrative functions effectively.
 3. Must be able to preach and teach God's Word.
 4. Knowledgeable and believes in The Baptist Doctrine
 5. Local proximity to Church, willingness to visit the sick and shut-in.
 6. Seminary and/or Theological experience (preferred)
- Services are second, third and fourth Sundays.

OAK GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

PO Box 1977, Enon Road

Oxford, North Carolina 27565

The officers and members of Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Church are accepting resumes for the position of Pastor. All interested ordained Missionary Baptist ministers should submit resumes to:

Deacon Joseph M. Lindsey

PO Box 1977

Oxford, NC 27565

Qualifications

1. Must be a born again, spirit filled, ordained missionary Baptist minister with sound knowledge of Baptist doctrine.
2. Must be willing to work with the East Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Association.
3. Must proclaim the Bible publicly and with conviction.
4. Must be willing to serve as an ex officio member of church ministries.
5. Must demonstrate strong leadership in directing all church ministries.
6. Must have a good report.
7. Must be a servant/leader with a God given vision for the church.
8. Must be more than a Sunday morning minister-visible in the community.
9. Must have good written and oral communication skills with seminary training.

POSITION AVAILABLE: DIRECTOR OF CHURCH MUSIC

First African Baptist Church is a congregation of over 350 members with a Music Ministry that consist of four choirs, Sunshine Choir, Male Chorus, Unity and Praise Choir, Chancel Choir. Music in this ministry consists of gospel (traditional and contemporary) praise and worship, hymns, spirituals and anthems.

Applications and further information may be obtained by contacting, Mrs. Johnnie Ingram, Personnel Committee Chairman or Rev. Jerry Dortch at 919-734-4935.

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110 Lincoln Ave., Lexington, NC 27292

Needed: Minister of Music or Organist.

Please send resume to:

Union Baptist Church, 110 Lincoln Ave, Lexington, NC 27292. Attn: Rev. Darrell L. Thomas. Or call 336-243-1648 and leave your name and number.

CHURCH MUSICIAN

First Missionary Baptist Church of Clinton is seeking a person to serve as musician. The responsibilities include playing for the Adult Choir on the First Sunday, and accompanying the other choirs on the remaining Sundays.

Qualifications:

Should be able to play the piano and the organ, and be able to work well with diverse groups of singers.

Experience in sacred music is a must as well as the ability to read music and play by ear.

The musician is also expected to accompany the pastor and choirs to outside functions when necessary.

Interested persons may send resume to: First Baptist Church, 900 College St., Clinton, N.C. 28328.

WANTED

First Missionary Baptist Church of Smithfield, NC, desires to make contact with the preachers who served it before 1928 or their families, also with two pastors in the 1940's: Rev. M.L. Mason and Rev. T.H. Brooks, and with Rev. J.H. Jones who served in the 1950's.

Send letters to Mrs. Myrtle Sanders, 303 Pine Street, Smithfield, NC 27577

ZION BAPTIST CHURCH SEEKS PASTOR

On April 20, 2000, Rev. Curtis E. Bender, pastor of Zion Baptist Church in Omaha, Nebraska, tendered his resignation. He has blessed Zion and the Omaha community with his leadership for more than 20 years. Although we will miss our Pastor, we humbly submit to the Will of God. Consequently, the recently formed Zion Baptist Church Pulpit Search Committee would like to solicit your help in this search. Please notify the members of your District/Convention that the Zion Baptist Church pulpit is vacant and that we have begun accepting applications for Pastor. Among other things, we require applicants who:

- Are Called by God. (1 Timothy 3:1-7)
- Are Graduates of an accredited and respected seminary.
- Have had a minimum of 10 years as pastor of a large Black Baptist Church. (500 or more members).
- Are members in good standing and with a track record of membership in the National Baptist Convention U.S.A., Inc.
- Have proven leadership and training skills.

Interested candidates are asked to request in writing applications from:

Zion Baptist Church
Pulpit Search Committee

2215 Grant Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68110

Please pray for our effort and thank you for your help in this notification.

Yours in Christ,

Dea. Jesse Sharpe, Committee Chairman, Sis. Jacqueline C. Hart, Church Clerk

MUSICIAN WANTED

Progressive Church Music Department looking for Director of Music to provide leadership for growth spiritually and musically. Must have experience in church music (anthems, hymns, spirituals, etc.) or equivalent. Able to read music and direct/accompany. Available on 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays. On call as needed. To apply call 252-442-4623. **MUSICIAN WANTED**

Progressive Church Music Department looking for Director of Music to provide leadership for growth spiritually and musically. Must have experience in church music (anthems, hymns, spirituals, etc.) or equivalent. Able to read music and direct/accompany. Available on 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays. On call as needed. To apply call 252-442-4623.

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2. Will prepare choirs for Sunday morning worship services and special services.
3. Will teach and direct hymns, spiritual selections and other sacred music.
4. Will implement and/or carrying out guidelines pertaining to choir members' conduct.
5. Will rehearse choirs at a scheduled time unless otherwise notified.
6. Will be available to accompany the Pastor and choir to church functions requested.

Please send resume to the above address: Attention Pastor. Inquiries may be made by calling (252) 492-9046 or (919) 603-0620.

Search for a Baptist Minister

Shiloh Baptist Church, 914 Fredrick Street, Shelby, N.C., is announcing a pastoral vacancy. All interested ordained General Baptist ministers should submit a resume and a sermon recorded on cassette by February 1, 2001 to:

Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church

c/o Deacon Jerry Mitchell, Chairman

830 N. Morgan Street, Shelby, N.C. 28150

Position: Baptist Minister (Pastor)

Salary: Negotiable (Commensurate with education and experience)

Qualifications:

1. A spiritual, ordained, Missionary Baptist Minister
 - A. A born-again Christian and married
 - B. A good role model of moral and ethical conduct
2. Pastoral experience
3. Possess leadership skills in promoting and directing Christian education and traditional church programs.
4. Knowledge of Baptist church polity
5. Good oral and written communication skills and ability to communicate well all age with groups.
6. Has a B.S. or B.A. degree from an accredited college or university and Theology training or currently pursuing training for a degree

Responsibilities:

1. Plan and implement innovative religious programs, activities and projects designed to promote the church's progression and encourage active participation
2. Plan, prepare and deliver sermons, speeches and other presentations
3. Plan, organize and direct church programs, designed to promote religious education
4. Lead the congregation in services, administer the various rites of the church, religious worship and perform other spiritual functions
5. Provide spiritual and moral guidance and assistance to members and the community
6. Interpret doctrines of religion and instruction people who seek conversion of faith
7. Visit sick and shut-in members and bereaved families

Update of The National Baptist Congress of Christian Education, Charlotte, North Carolina,

June 18-22, 2001

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Host Church:

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3301 Beatties Ford Road, Charlotte NC 28216

Dr. Clifford A. Jones, Senior Minister/Host Pastor

Mr. Tony McNeill, Pre-Congress Musical Director

WHEN: Monday, June 18, 2001

TIME: 6:00 pm — Official Welcome

6:45 — Concert

WHERE: Charlotte Convention Center

TICKETS: \$10.00 per person

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* The Gospel Choir Fellowship Competition

\$65 Registration Per Person Fee Required

Registration fee \$130 due Feb. 20, 2001 for room reservation plus \$400
 (3 nights) = \$530 for 2 persons

Registration fee \$195 due Feb. 20, 2001 for room reservation plus \$400
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Registration fee \$260 due Feb. 20, 2001 for room reservation plus \$400 (3
 nights) = \$660 for 4 persons

**DUE TO THE EXPECTED LARGE ATTENDANCE THERE ARE NO
 SINGLE ROOM RESERVATIONS.**

Send registration for the Retreat to: Checks payable:
 National BSU Retreat

Mail to: National Baptist Student Union Retreat
 4821 Barbee Road, Durham, NC 27713

Room fees listed are due Thursday, March 22, 2001 at the National
 Director's Office during Registration in Norfolk. Registration will begin
 at 9 a.m. Thursday. You will be contacted for your expected arrival in
 Norfolk and which hotel to complete registration, however, check-in at
 the hotels are 3 p.m. (Sheraton) and 4 p.m. (Marriott). All groups are to
 be accompanied by an Adult Advisor.

Again, Thank You

Dr. Percy R. Chase

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7. Is "Aids" God's curse on sinful activity?
8. Recovering from sexual child abuse
9. Dating: a Christian perspective
10. Engagement or shacking: the best for marriage?
11. Recognizing false doctrine
12. Holiness: exclusively for "whom"?
13. God's Will: How do I fit in?
14. Once saved, always saved?
15. Traits of a virtuous woman
16. Qualities of a godly man
17. Workshop for Choir Directors and Musicians
18. The difference between Church and secular music
19. Worship: in spirit and truth seasoned with rejoicing
20. Debt free living from God's Word

NEW TESTAMENT

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2. The Gospel of John
3. Epistle to the Romans
4. I Thessalonians
5. II Thessalonians
6. Epistle to Galatia
7. Epistle to Ephesus
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10. Philemon
11. I Timothy
12. II Timothy
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15. Epistle to James
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17. I John
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19. Jude
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The Retreat also provides:

- *Worship Services (Holy Communion on Thursday Evening)
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- *The National "Mr. BSU" Beautillion
- *The National President's Banquet
- *The National Choir Fellowship Competition

A Retreat "Package" of \$165 (per person) includes:

- *Registration to the Retreat
- *3 Nights at the hotel (4 to a room occupancy)
- *All activities listed

The registration fee of 465 (per person, non-refundable) is due by Feb. 20, 2001 for housing at the hotel.

Make check (certified/money orders only) payable to:
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Mail to: National Baptist Student Union Retreat
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Local contact person:

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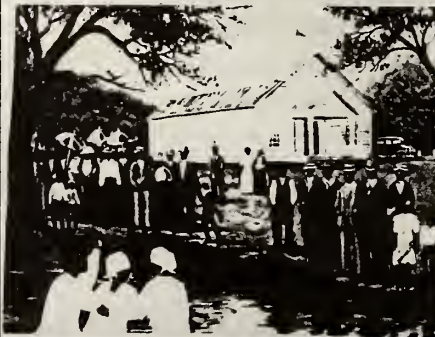
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 16. Look Where the Lord Has Brought Me From
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 20. Put Some Clothes On Child
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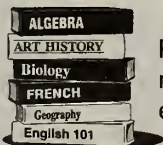
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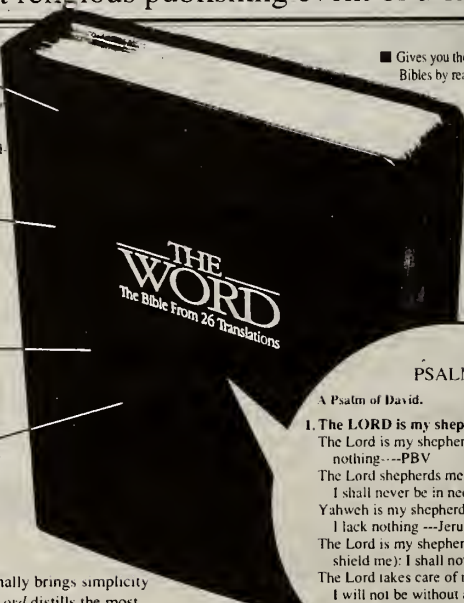
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The Lord shepherds me.
I shall never be in need ---Har
Yahweh is my shepherd.
I lack nothing ---Jerus
The Lord is my shepherd (to feed, guide and shield me); I shall not lack---Amp
The Lord takes care of me as his sheep;
I will not be without any good thing---Bas
Because the Lord is my shepherd, I have everything I need!---Tay

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Vol. 124, No. 1

Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc.
Voice of 500,000 North Carolina Baptists

January 2001

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BENTON CONVENTION CENTER, WINSTON-SALEM, NC
FEBRUARY 24

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BAPTIST INFORMER

B2236

Volume 124, Number 2

Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C. Inc.
Voice of 500,000 North Carolina Baptists

February 2001

General Baptist Joins Princeville In Home Building Project

By Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr.,
Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Dr. Thurman B. Everett,
Housing Committee Chairman

*FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST
CHURCH, CHARLOTTE, NC,
DEDICATES A HOME*

On January 3, 2001, the Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, Charlotte, N.C., Pastor, Dr. Clifford A. Jones Sr., Immediate GBSC Past



Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr.

*General Baptist Joins The
Town Of Princeville —
Habitat For Humanity
International — Lowe's Home
Improvement Warehouse
and The Federal
Management Agency Region
IV Atlanta In Home
Building Project!*

PHOENIX VILLAGE UPDATE

The GBSC has retained a surveying and engineering firm and a construction coordinator to coordinate its efforts to construct the remaining 13 homes in Phoenix Village. The GBSC will have a project manager in Princeville to screen perspective homeowners. During the construction phase of the project we will ask members of the GBSC to provide some "sweat equity help" to reduce the cost of construction.

Please continue to keep our mission efforts in your prayers. Matthew 17:20-21 says: "I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you." (NKJV).

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ! The Town of Princeville, Habitat for Humanity International, Lowe's Home Improvement Warehouse and FEMA Region IV Atlanta sponsored a Hurricane Floyd recovery project "home building blitz" during which we construct 12 homes in 12 days in Princeville beginning on January 3, 2001 and finishing on January 15, 2001, the Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday. Members of the General Baptist joined perspective homeowners in helping construct the houses.

Why was this project so important? We see the POWER of God in action! Our Convention is making a difference in the lives of people with great human needs. We are helping to complete something the Lord God has directed us to do. Below you can see the pictures of the temporary trailer park in Princeville — also the Habitat homes being constructed for the families. The town is planning to have over 100 new homes constructed in 2001. GBSC Housing Chairman, Dr. Thurman B. Everett coordinated several of our volunteers and workers during the "blitz." We continue to solicit your help in our Phase III response to the "Hurricane Floyd" tragedy.

GBSC Baptist Headquarters architect, Mr. Clint Gravely of Greensboro, N.C. was also in Princeville. His firm is overseeing the construction of several housing projects for victims of the flood.

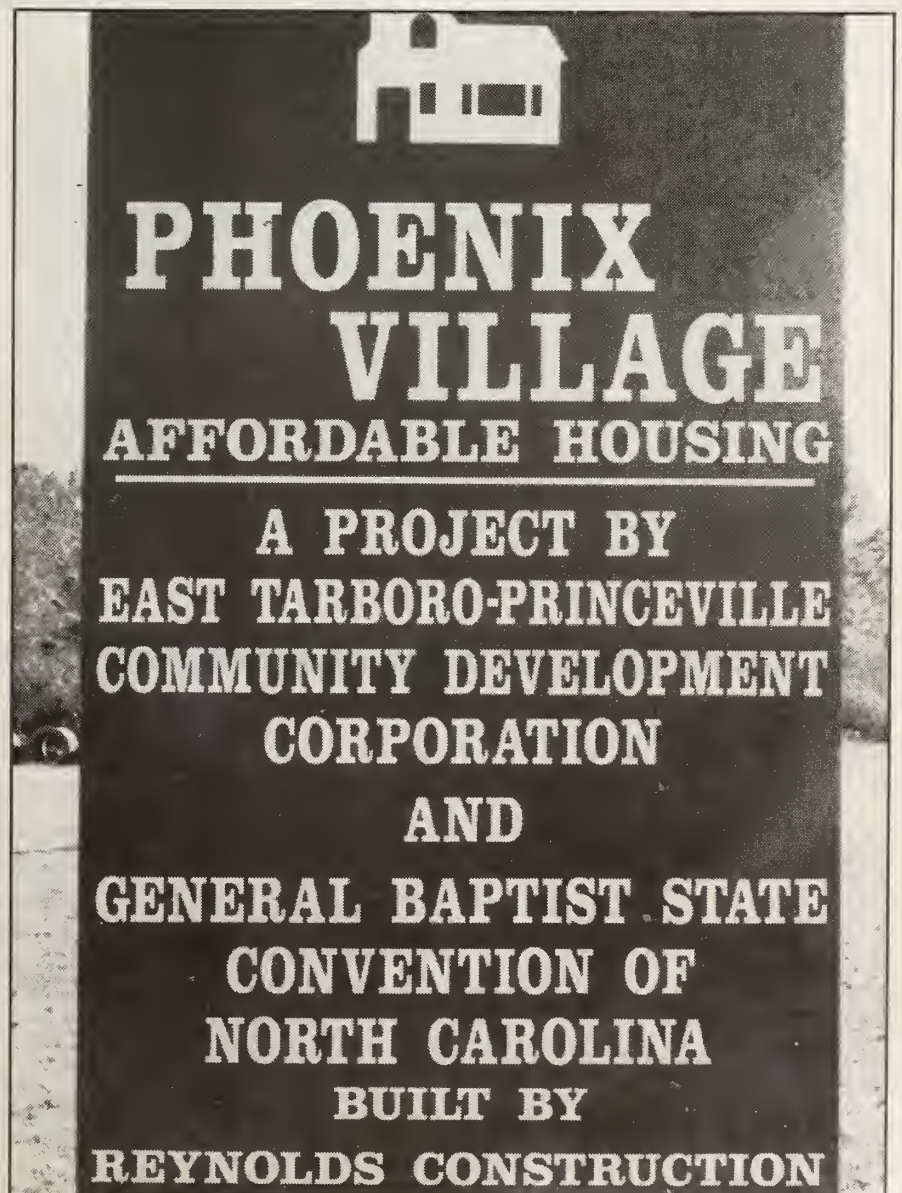
President also dedicated and blessed a home they sponsored with Habitat for the Ricks Family, on Beasley Street, Princeville, N.C. Several members from Friendship accompanied by First Lady Brenda Jones participated in the dedication service. Brother Robert Miller gave the dedication prayer.



Temporary Princeville Housing



More Princeville photos on page 2!



**PHOENIX
VILLAGE
AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

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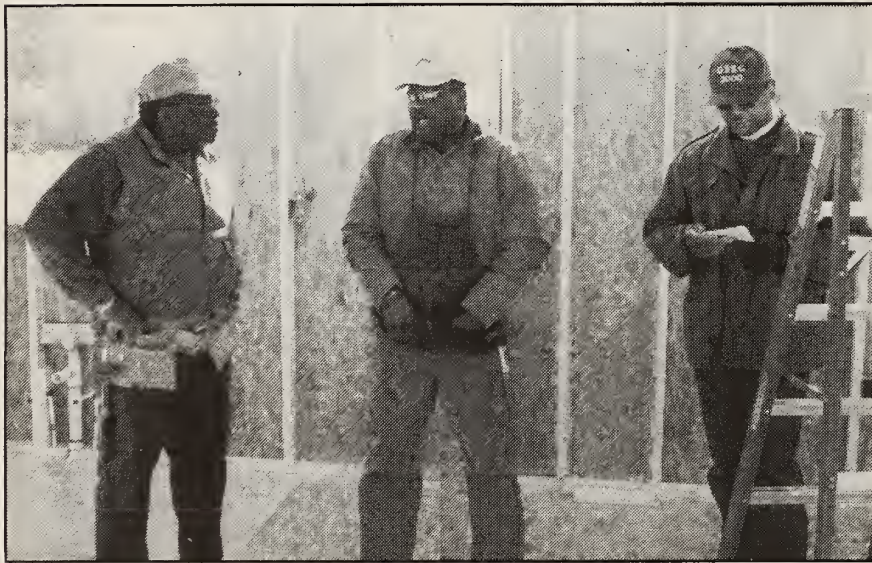
From The Desk of the Executive Secretary-Treasurer Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Ed.D.



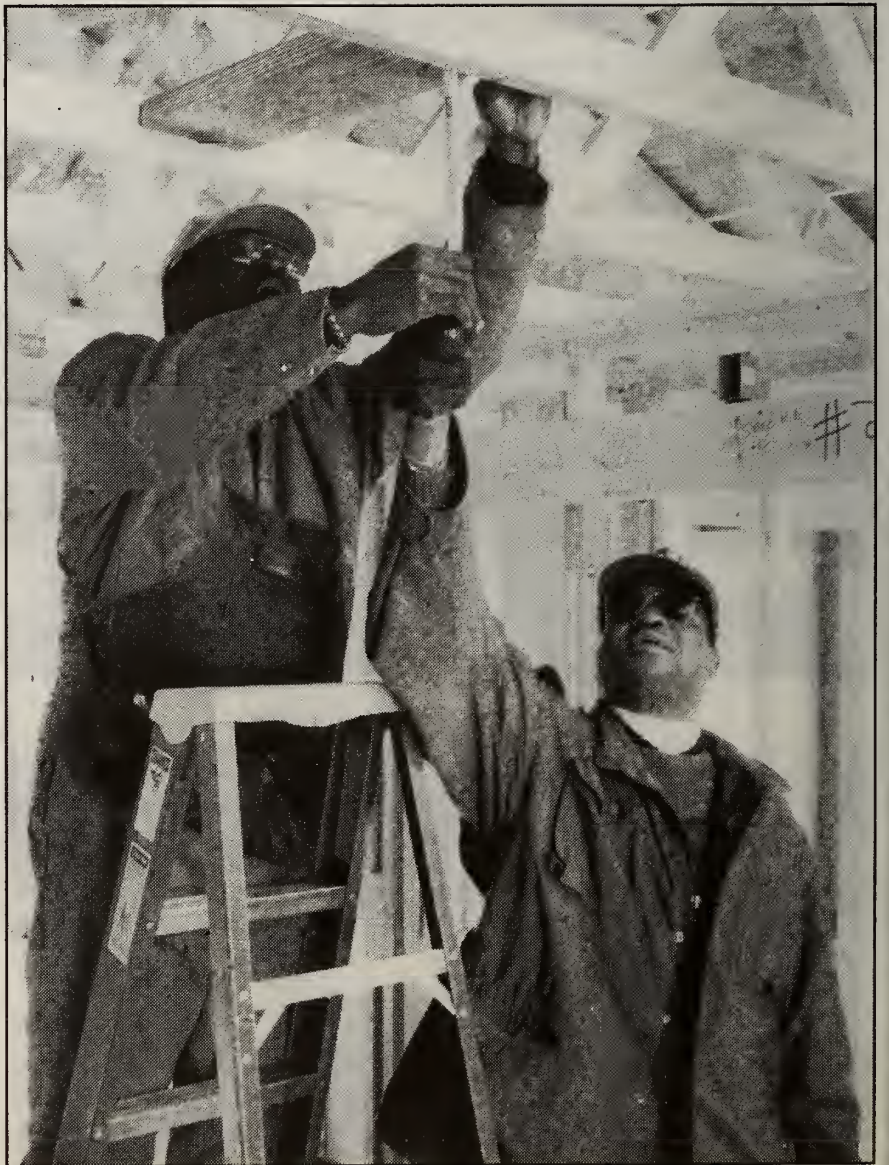
Homes in Phoenix Village built by GBSC



Habitat Home Sites



Dr. Everett and Dr. Logan make plans for work.



Dr. Everett and Dr. Logan set ceiling fan placement.

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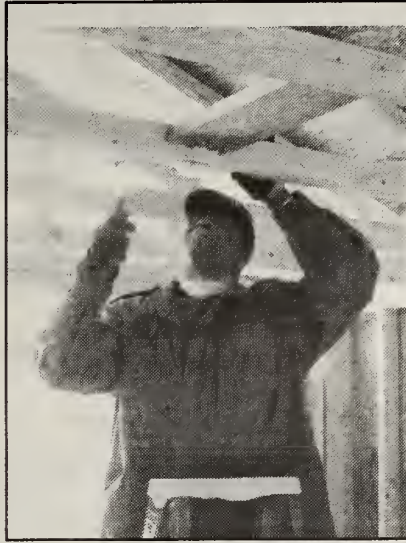
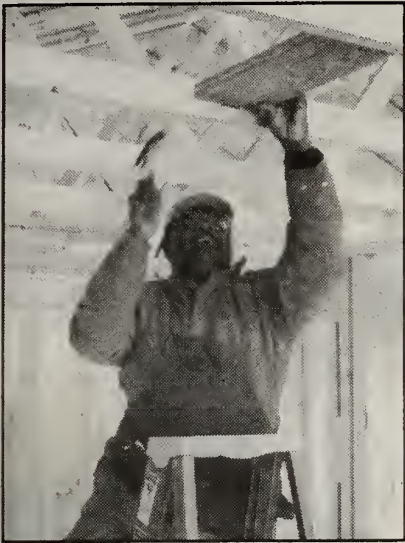
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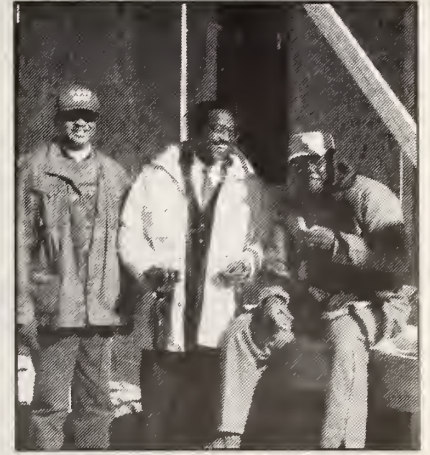
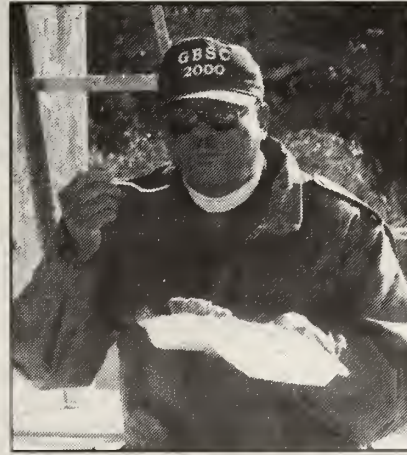
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THEME: "By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness..." (II Corinthians 6:7)

More Princeville photos on page 4!



Logan and Everett



Lunchtime



Client Gravely and Logan



Dr. Everett, Dr. Logan and Brother Miller, Charlotte, NC



Members of Friendship Missionary Baptist Church at Habitat Site.

New Release Book

A Fresh Look at the New Testament Deacon

Author: **Dr. John H. Walker, D.Min.**

Released January 2001

There is a critical problem concerning the Deacons and the local church, state and national conventions. The Deacons are assuming leadership roles without being equipped for the task of leadership. The relationship between the pastor and deacon is widening because there is a misunderstanding concerning the mission of the church, pastoral leadership and the role of the deacons.

THIS DOOR IS A MUST TOOL TO BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN THE ROLE OF PASTOR AND DEACONS IN ORDER TO PROVIDE EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP!

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From The Desk of Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President

In Celebration of Black History

By Rev. Dennis Leach BS.M.Div.
Assistant to the President and
Executive Secretary Treasurer

*Comfort,
O comfort my
people, says
your God*

(Isa. 40:1)

This word of comfort to the prophet Isaiah is for the people of God who have suffered under Babylonian captivity. Under the heavy hand of their oppressors they have lifted up mournful voices, and longed for the familiarity of their native land. Africans brought to this country in chains have long identified with the Hebrew's journey of sorrow in the land of their own captivity, America. But unlike the Hebrew, who would be freed to return home, the Negro has remained in the land of his/her former slave master. The collective journey has not been easy for Black Americans, and has been filled with both tragedies and triumphs. Others have attempted to tell the Negro story. But, the history of Blacks in America and around the globe has been woefully treated by Western, and European scholarship. Either the history books were deplete of their tremendous contributions to America and humanity, or they were painted as subhuman savages without souls. In my opinion this was done to justify the horrendous treatment of Africans brought to this country as slaves. You see if you can socially classify a group of people as savages, and demonize their existence; then it will help to soothe the social consciousness and justify the inhumane treatment of that group by others. So Blacks brought to America in chains suffered under the worst form of slavery ever known to humankind, "chattel slavery." As mere property they were robbed of their rights to human dignity. Shackled beneath slave ships, sold at auction blocks, treated like cattle, forbidden the opportunity to learn, denied the privilege to vote, and stripped of their identity Africans defied the odds. Black history had barely begun to be studied — or even documented — when the tradition originated. One songwriter wrote: "You don't know like I know, what the Lord has done for me. You can't tell it, let me tell it what the Lord has done

for me!" Guided by the need for self-determination, Blacks began to tell their own story. Since 1926 many Americans have recognized Black History annually, first as "Negro History Week" and later as "Black History Month." Although blacks have been in America as far back as the colonial period, it was not until the 20th century that they gained a respectable presence in the history books as a result of telling, and writing their own story.

We owe the celebration of Black History Month, and more importantly, the study of Black History, to Dr. Carter G. Woodson. Born to parents who were former slaves, he spent his childhood working in the Kentucky coal mines and enrolled in high school at age twenty. He graduated within two years and later went on to earn a Ph.D. from Harvard. The scholar was disturbed to find in his studies that the history books had largely ignored the Black American population — and when Blacks did figure into the picture, it was generally in ways that reflected the inferior social position they were assigned to. Beneath the unrelenting heat of slavery, the voices of the Black masses could be heard rising to the sky in sorrow songs, and the blues. "Oh, nobody knows da trouble ah see, Nobody knows but Jesus. Nobody knows da trouble ah see, Glory, Hallelujah!"

Dr. Woodson, always one to act on his ambitions, decided to take on the challenge of writing Black Americans accurately into the nation's history. He established the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (now called the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History) in 1915, and a year later founded the widely respected Journal of Negro History. In 1926, he launched Negro History Week as an initiative to bring annual attention to the contributions of Black people throughout American history.

No matter how you look at it the contributions of Black Americans should always be viewed with the scornful backdrop of racism. Racism has undeniably been a part of our lot and struggle in America. The late social scientist W.E.B. Dubois wrote in his book: *The Souls of Black Folk*, "Herein lie buried many things which if read with patience may show the strange meaning of being black here at the dawning of the Twentieth Century. This meaning is not without interest to you, Gentle reader; for the problem of the Twentieth Century is the problem of the color line." Over the course of Black history in America this problem of the "color line" has manifested it-

*Great things are
happening in the
Princeville
community.
Praise God
and thanks to the
participants!*



Dr. John D. Fuller Sr.

self in the most egregious ways. Thousands of Black Americans fell victims to the ravages of racism in America. Lynch mobs, bombings of church and homes, rapes, mutilations, burnings, murders, assassinations, violence and intimidation are all the fruits of this American disease (racism). Laws often supported the horrifically agonizing treatment of Blacks in the South as well as in the North. In many states Blacks could not legally testify against Whites. During that period there was a riddle that asked: "If there were twenty Blacks in a room, and a White man came in and shot one, how many witnesses would you have? None!" This inability of Blacks to find legal recourse helped to create an environment of "open season" for anti-Black groups like the KKK.

Perhaps you are wondering where I am going with this article, well I just want you to know that "the Lord has brought Black folk from a mighty long ways." Yes, we celebrate the history, and we do not forget the horror of it! Lest we forget their struggle was and is our struggle. God has always provided a prophetic voice to address the wounds of his children festering in despair. But, as we celebrate Black history we should avoid the condition of "socially selective collective amnesia" that Dr. Carter G. Woodson, W.E.B. Dubois, C. Eric Lincoln, and Cornel West addressed. As we celebrate Black history, we do not participate in America's current condition of "denial." We rise in celebration of the spirit of those Black and unknown Bards who "stole away to Jesus" in song and prayer. "O comfort, Comfort ye my people says your God." When the waves of racism, and discrimination sweep over their souls, "comfort ye my people." When they find themselves classified as second-class citizens in a

first class society, "comfort ye my people." When color determines whether they will vote, or their votes will be counted, "comfort ye my people." When the uncertainty of an un-sensitive administration looms on the horizon, "comfort ye my people." When they have been legally force-fed a candidate not of they're choosing, "comfort ye my people." When the country remains "hush mouthed" about is debt to its Black and Brown citizens, "comfort ye my people." When they fall victim to performance gaps, digital divides, economic disparity, racial profiling, and police brutality, "comfort ye my people." Let history not record that the prophetic voice of justice remained silent while republic hooligans ran roughshod over a wounded democracy.

A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

Black history is the collective journey of the past, present, and future triumphs and struggles of God's Colored children. So remember the struggle, The Civil Rights Movement, Martin Luther King Jr., Rosa Parks, Medgar Evers, Chaney, Goodman, Schwener, Emmet Till, Thurgood Marshall, Viola Liuzzo, segregation Montgomery, Birmingham, Selma, The March on Washington, those four little girls, The Tuskegee Experiment etc... Give praise and thanks to God for those who served, are serving, and who will serve, "comfort ye my people" "until justice rolls down like a river, and righteousness like a mighty stream." (Amos 5:24). Amen.

**February is Black History
Month! Discover a great
African-American each day!**

Women's Page Highlights

"We Praise Thee, O God!"

By Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Brodie

We praise Thee, O God, for the Son of Thy love,
For Jesus who died and is now gone above.

We Praise Thee, O God, for Thy Spirit of light,
Who has shown us our Savior and scattered our night.

All glory and praise to the Lamb that was slain,
Who has borne all our sins and has cleansed every stain.

Revive us again — fill each heart with Thy love,
May each soul be rekindled with fire from

above.

Chorus:
Hallelujah, Thine the glory! Hallelujah,
amen!
Hallelujah, Thine the glory! Revive us
again.

— William P. Mackay

Sincerely we can say, "We praise Thee, O God." We praise Him for His Son of Love, Jesus, who died and went above. We also praise God for the 48th One Day Session and the worship, fellowship, information, preaching, giving and attendance. We praise God for this second month in 2001, February, which emphasizes love and African-American's history and achievements. In conjunction with this we praise

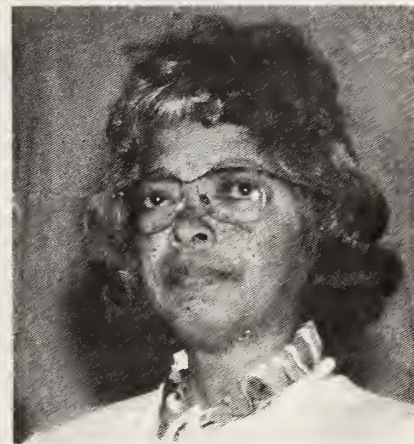
God for the many known and unknown Christian missionary services of persons of the past and present who have shared in Christ's mission for the church, the Woman's Convention, and other Christian endeavors/ministries. May we continue to praise God for what He has done, is doing, and will do through Jesus Christ.

Reminders:

1. Budget — Our 2000-2001 Budget for missions includes: **Shaw Divinity School, \$33,500; Shaw University, \$49,500; Foreign Missions, \$80,200; Central Children's Home, \$36,500; State Missions, \$556,157 and Baptist Assembly, \$40,500.** Please send contributions to P.O. Box 1818, Raleigh, N.C. 27602, and make checks or money orders payable to Woman's Baptist State Convention or Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention.

2. Self-Denial Envelopes — Please write to the Woman's Convention, P.O. Box 1818, Raleigh, N.C. 27602, in order to receive these.

3. Housing Reservation Forms for the 117th Annual Session of the Woman's Convention in Winston-Salem, July



Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

2001, are now available from this office.

4. 2001 Lott Carey housing reservation forms may be secured from this office also.

5. State-wide Leaders' Workshop — Preregistration for the State-wide Leaders' Workshop, April 7, 2001, is \$5; on-site, \$6. If you have not received preregistration forms, please contact the office immediately. Preregistration deadline is March 15, 2001.

6. Please see our ads for office positions.

7. Promotion Certificates for the missionary circle, union, and auxiliary are also available.

WOMAN'S BAPTIST HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONARY CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, AUXILIARY TO GBSC 2001 CALENDAR

FEBRUARY: (Prayer Month for NATIONAL MISSIONS)

APRIL

7 — State-Wide Leaders' Workshop, Raleigh Civic Center
15 — Easter

MAY

5 — Ministers' Wives Retreat, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill

JUNE

2 — Young Adults' Retreat
4-8 — Leadership Training Conference, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill
10-15 — First Week of Youth Bible Camp, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill
17-22 — Second Week of Bible Youth Bible Camp, Baptist Assembly,

Laurel Hill

23 — MISSIONS PRAYER DAY (County Unions, et. al.)

24-29 — Third Week of Youth Bible Camp, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill

JULY

22-26 — Woman's Baptist Home and

Foreign Missionary Convention

AUGUST: (Prayer month for the Family)

27-31 — Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention, Columbus, Ohio

SEPTEMBER

4-7 — National Baptist Convention
22 — Family Missions Conference, New Ahoskie Baptist Church, Ahoskie

OCTOBER

(Prayer month for SHAW UNIVERSITY AND SHAW DIVINITY SCHOOL)

13 — WBSC Institute Workers' Workshop, Baptist Headquarters

NOVEMBER

3 — Youth Evangelism Conference, Cumberland County Memorial Auditorium, Fayetteville

5 — World Day of Prayer (BWA — Woman's Department)

22 — Thanksgiving Day

DECEMBER

25 — Christmas Day

POSITION OPEN: SECRETARY

The Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention, Auxiliary to GBSC, is accepting applications for a Secretary. Applicants should meet the following qualifications.

- Have completed high school and have had several business courses beyond high school
- Have knowledge of business English
- Have efficient knowledge of computer operations, especially word processing and spreadsheets
- Have good typing speed and accuracy
- Have the ability to relate to people.

The salary is negotiable, good benefits.
Please send resume to the address below:

The Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary
Convention of North Carolina, Auxiliary to GBSC
PO Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602
Telephone: (919) 833-4823
Fax: (919) 833-7599

POSITION OPEN: ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

The Woman's Baptist Home & Foreign Missionary Convention, Auxiliary to GBSC, is accepting applications for an Administrative Assistant. Applicants should meet the following requirements.

- Have a baccalaureate degree, preferably in Business Management (some courses in Christian education with some years of experience)
- Have supervisory expertise
- Have communicative and organizational skills
- Be able to maintain lists, schedule(s)
- Be able to work with minimal supervision
- Have proficiency in business English
- Have knowledge of preparing and reporting state and federal taxes preparation
- Have proficient computer skills
- Have a pleasant personality and telephone skills
- Have team spirit.

Salary is negotiable, good benefits.

Please send a resume to: The Executive Secretary-Treasurer

Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina,
Auxiliary to GBSC, PO Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602
Telephone: (919) 833-4823 • Fax (919) 833-7599

POSITION OPEN: Office Secretary/HELPER Coordinator for the WBH&FMC

The Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention now is receiving applications for the position of Office Secretary/HELPER Coordinator. Qualifications:

- Should have good secretarial skills.
- Should have efficient computer skills, especially word processing and spreadsheets
- Should have an appropriate degree associate or bachelor and some experience
- Should have team spirit

Salary is negotiable; good benefits
Please send immediately a resume to:
The Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign
Missionary Convention
of North Carolina, Auxiliary to GBSC
PO Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602
Telephone: (919) 833-4823
Fax: (919) 833-7599

LAYMEN'S LEAGUE NEWS

Getting Others Involved In Laymen Work Is Our Challenge

By Romas L. Hales

While you are reviewing or making plans for the year, this is a good time to plan to get as many of our men and boys involved in wholesome Christian Activities in the local Churches, Associations, and on the State level as you can. We hope that you have made your plans and programs for the New Year and they include attending and participating in all State Laymen Activities.

The challenge is before us to get other involved in the Laymen work, especially our young men and boys. We also need to strive to get more Churches and Associations to organize a Laymen's League. The work is not always going to be easy and some sacrifices will have to be made, but it shall be rewarding and beneficial. We should not forget that all of our work should be to the glory and honor of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, to benefit mankind, and

to reach the unsaved.

You that have the State Laymen Calendar of events for the year realize there are a few changes in this year's schedule. This article will include the key activities the Laymen will be involved in, you can make preparation to participate. We also want your Church and Association involved in Laymen Activities. For the past few years the Assessment has been \$260 per Church and Association. That has been increased to \$300 per Church and Association. We hope you will accept this increase. It is needed to help reach our budget of \$45,000 for the year.

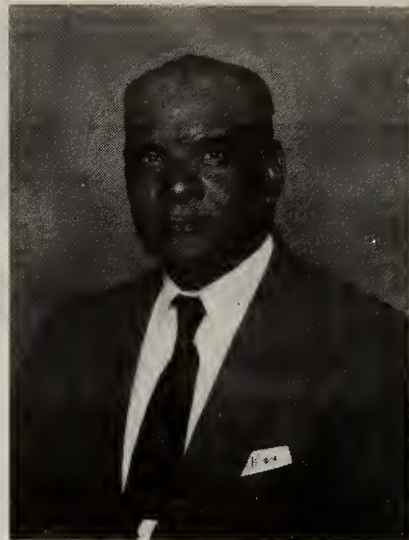
The next Laymen Study Commission Meeting will be held March 10, 2001 at the Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Kings Mountain, North Carolina. The Executive Committee will meet at 9:00 a.m. and the regular session will start at 10:00 a.m., please make plans to attend and bring the boys.

The Laymen Mid Annual Banquet and One Day Session will be held April 20-21, 2001, at First Baptist Church, Fayetteville, North Carolina. The Banquet will be held Friday, April 20, 2001, at 7:00 p.m. Registration will start at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 21, 2001, and the One Day Session will start at 9:30 a.m.

On Saturday, May 19, 2001, at 10:00 a.m. we will have our Laymen Mini Skills Exhibit at the J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill, NC. This is an opportunity for the youth, boys and girls, to exhibit their skills in several areas such as Science and Fine Arts. Start preparing your youth to participate in the activity. Brother Micheal Kendall is the Coordinator of the Mini Skills Exhibits.

On June 9, 2001, the Laymen Study Commission Meeting will be held at the Olive Branch Baptist Church, Elizabeth City, North Carolina. The Executive Committee will meet at 9:00 a.m., and the regular session will start at 10:00 a.m.

July is going to be a busy month for us. The Laymen and Boys Summer Retreats will be held at the J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly. The first retreat will be held July



Romas Hales
Laymen's League Coordinator

11-12, 2001, and the second retreat will be held July 13-15, 2001. July 16-17, 2001, will be the Laymen Annual Session. This will be held at the Ebenezer Baptist Church in Rocky Mount, North Carolina.

Saturday, September 8, 2001, we will have our Laymen Men Retreat at the J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly. This is for the men only.

The final Study Commission Meeting of the year will be held at the Community Baptist Church, Durham, North Carolina.

You will be receiving information on all of the activities prior to their meeting times. Please schedule your local programs so they will not conflict the State Laymen dates. We need your attendance.

May God continue to bless you.

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Dr. Clifford A. Jones, Sr. • General Chairman

Host Church

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church
3301 Beattles Ford Rd. • Charlotte, North Carolina 28216

Plans are being made for the National Congress meeting June, 2001, in Charlotte, North Carolina. Volunteers are needed to serve on local planning committees. Specific information is forth coming in the next informer.



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Evangelism Corner

By Dr. H.C. Miller
Chairman Evangelism
Committee

"Some King of Meeting..."

uncle, Frank Tyson, who pastored in the AME Zion Church for over 50 years. Once as he was preparing to leave for a conference, I asked him, "Uncle Frank, what's the big deal?" I never shall forget his response to me, he said "Boy, its gonna be some kind of meeting!"

I want our convention family to know that beginning on April 16 and continuing through the 19th there will be "Some kind of meeting" in Fayetteville, N.C. at Lewis Chapel Baptist Church. The meeting to which I refer is the Annual Statewide Evangelism Conference of the General Baptist State Convention. You do not want to miss this meeting.

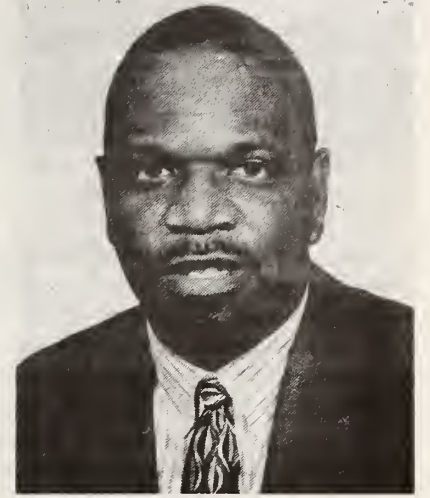
Dr. Charles Booth, pastor of Mount Olive Baptist Church, Columbus, Ohio, shall serve as Conference preacher. Dr. Mack

King Carter, pastor of Mount Olive Baptist Church, Fort Lauderdale, Fla., shall serve as Conference lecturer and Dr. Suzan Johnson Cook, pastor of Bronx Fellowship, Bronx, N.Y., shall serve as Conference special guest.

There will be workshops and training during the day and dynamic worship each evening.

I wholly agree with Dietrich Bonhoeffer who stated — "A church is an organization that should fight not for itself but for the salvation of the world."

This conference is for everyone. This is not just a *preacher thing*, but for all who love the Lord Jesus Christ. So mark your calendar, make your reservations at the Holiday Inn, Bordeaux, pack your bag, come



Dr. H.C. Miller

any way you can; in April, there's gonna be some kind of meeting in Fayetteville. I hope to see you at the meeting.

Greetings to our Convention family:

It is good to be a part of what God is doing in this world. It's also good to know that when all is said and done our God will have the last word. Psalm 68:1 reads — "Let God arise, let his enemies be scattered; let them also that hate him flee before him." I have fond memories of my late great-

CFBC Hosts Raleigh City Missionary Union

By Elder Barbara M. Harris
Minister, Mission Ministry

On November 18, 2000, the Raleigh City Union met at Christian Faith Baptist Church. The Union is comprised of nine local churches, which plan and support local mission projects and broadly support the efforts of the Women's Foreign, Home and Mission Convention.

The Union meets quarterly and the meeting site is rotated among the member churches. The Union also sponsors annual events such as the Bible Quiz Bowl, Prayer Day and Mass Rally. Rev. Annette Sanders of Martin Street Baptist Church is the current President of the Union.

The November 18, 2000, meeting was the planning session for projects in 2001. The Union plans to increase its support of the Interfaith Hospitality Network Day Shelter. Members of the Union will continue to provide instruction and supervision at the J.J. Johnson summer camp. Christian Faith Baptist Church will host the annual Prayer Day and Mass Rally events on June 23, 2001.

Representing Christian Faith Baptist Church at the meeting were Missionaries Leona Dunn, Patricia Hughes, Barbara Newman, Elizabeth Robinson, Marilyn Suitt and Barbara Harris.

Follow Me

Multiple Choice

- Jesus first found him fishing in the Sea of Galilee.
a. Matthew b. Andrew c. Judas
 - He and his brother left their father to follow Jesus.
a. Andrew b. James c. Thomas
 - Jesus helped his mother-in-law.
a. Matthew b. James c. Peter
 - Jesus called him away from his job at the tax collector's booth.
a. Matthew b. Philip c. James
 - He tried to walk with Jesus on the water.
a. Bartholomew b. Peter c. John
 - This one gave Jesus a kiss but didn't do it out of love.
a. Judas b. Judas Iscariot c. Thomas
 - Jesus gave him to Mary his mother before he died.
a. Peter b. James c. John
 - He put his hand in Jesus' side after the Resurrection.
a. Thomas b. John c. Peter
 - He had an early breakfast with Peter, Thomas, James and John. Jesus cooked.
a. Andrew b. Philip c. Nathanael
 - He baptized an Ethiopian he met on the road.
a. Philip b. Simon c. Thomas
- (Answers on page 9)

A Christian Education Moment

By Dr. Jasper P. Reed, President
Congress of Christian Education

Pray For All To Believe

As we begin a new Millennium please allow me to call your attention to a profoundly significant prayer offered by the Apostle Paul for all believers who read it with a committed heart. Turn then with me, in your Bible, to Ephesians 3:14-19 and let us meditate as Paul prays.

"For this cause I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man, That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God."

What a way to start both the New Year and New Millennium. What cause could Paul be concerned about? Let us place ourselves in Paul's position as we face the challenges offered by the times in which we live. My hope is that we use this opportune time to become acquainted with the Holy Spirit and the Power of Prayer as we move into and through this period of uncertainty. Before I get too far into this presentation let me suggest that you place studying God's Word at the top of your priorities for this year. In addition to the Holy Bible please include the following two books on your Must Read list for the year. The first one is, "The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit" by R.A. Torrey, and the second one is, "Fresh Wind, Fresh Fire" by Jim Cymbala. The first is an in-depth look at the third Person of the God Head, and the second is a chronology on the power and significance of prayer in the life of the believer and the church.

In our early Biblical exposure to the Holy Spirit he is conceived, as being the mode or manner of God's activity, made

known in supernatural revelations. That is to say that those who encountered him were possessed by force which gave them extraordinary strength, courage, wisdom and knowledge of God's will and His dealings with men. Even today we still find believers who associate the presence of the Holy Spirit with ecstasy or ecstatic moods. Many believers, in the absence of the ecstatic environs, doubt whether they have worshipped the Lord. Often times being ecstatic is not necessarily the most important effect of possessing the Holy Spirit. Accordingly, being ecstatic is not proof of His presence. His role, as the comforter and teacher, is not always to make us feel good. There are other ways in which he impacts our lives and imparts instructions to us. When was the last time we gave credence to the Holy Spirit for the impartation of our wisdom, understanding, knowledge and workmanship in the Kingdom cause? Two Scriptures claim our attention as we meditate on this and similar questions, Exodus 31:1-6 and Daniel 5:10-14. Isaiah (32:15-16) referring to the transformation of the world into a piece of Righteousness. Listen as he describes that great time — the millennium — which will come about after the Holy Spirit is poured on us from on high. Believers and the Church today are the benefactors of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. Therefore we should have an inner compulsion to do God's will. His will is that we should pray, seek His face and worship Him. He will respond by way of Holy Spirit which is His *modus operandi*.

A Christian Education Moment for Our YOUTH and Young-at-Heart — Quiz

For the Month of February let us explore the occurrence of RACISM in the Bible.

Dr. Jasper P. Reed, President
Congress of Christian Education

1. Why was Ishmael mocked?

Genesis 21:9



Dr. Jasper P. Reed, President
Congress of Christian Education

- With Mordecai's help what did Esther conceal? Esther 2:10
- Who was discriminated against in this passage of scripture? John 7:41-52
- Why did Miriam and Aaron speak against Moses? Numbers 12:1
- How did Jesus deal with racism? Galatians 3:28
- Why did Isaac forbid Jacob from marrying? Genesis 28:1
- What profound statement did Nehemiah make in this passage? Nehemiah 10:30
- Who was Haman plotting against when he talked with King Ahasuerus? Esther 3:8-9
- Who was compelled to carry Jesus' cross? Mark 15:21
- How did Jeremiah account for the Ethiopian's skin color? Jeremiah 13:23

Royal Roosts

WHAT COUNTRY DID THESE
PEOPLE RULE?

- Candace
- Nebuchadnezzar
- Cyrus
- Shalmaneser
- Pharaoh (pick one)
- Nero
- Ben-Hadad
- Evil-Merodach
- Sennacherib
- Og

(Answers on page 9)

To the churches in the General Assembly family:

"Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen." (Galatians 1:3-5, NIV)

The New Year is now in full swing as time marches on. For some of us, it is back to "business as usual." For others, the New Year has provided the opportunity for new commitments, new goals, new objectives, and new challenges. Our prayer is that we face these new opportunities with renewed energy, enthusiasm, and enlightenment. Along with these opportunities should come the joy of serving as a living witness for the Lord through total stewardship (time, talent and treasure).

Note what Jesus declares in John 14:12: "...anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. (You) will do greater things than these, because I am going to the Father" (NIV). Jesus actually declares

From the Desk of the 4th Vice President
 By Rev. Nilous M. Avery II

Time Marches On

that the believer will do "greater things...greater works!" Greater than what Jesus did? Greater works than Jesus who healed the sick, fed the thousands, raised the dead, and taught the masses? Greater works than Jesus who had compassion for the left out, the kept out, and the put out? Greater works than Jesus who loved the children? Ah, yes. Jesus said so!

Are we ready to join our faith, pool our resources, combine our efforts, lift our prayers, inspire our contacts, fulfill our stewardship, walk worthy of our calling? God performs these great works. Yet, God works through us. God blesses us with the

means to get the work of the kingdom done. There is much "kingdom work" to be done at our Central Children's Home. Are we ready to glorify God by edifying others?

If so, please get on board with your gifts of stewardship (time, talent, and treasures). Mr. Michael Alston and staff are ready and willing to share with you the joys and challenges of this fruitful ministry. All it takes is your response to the call. Let us endeavor to bless the children with our willingness to serve. Take a few moments right now to contact the Central Children's Home or feel free to contact me at:

(704) 637-0954 (church); (704) 637-1137



By Rev. Nilous M. Avery II

(Fax); or e-mail
 AveryRevKin@gateway.net

Remember that there is POWER IN ONE IN 2001. Let us strive to serve you with A PASSION FOR GOD & COMPASSION FOR PEOPLE! "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).

Gernotology

Submitted by Dr. Elbert Lee
 Chairman of the Gerontology Committee

Lee's Gerontology Services
 327 South Raleigh St., Rocky Mount, NC 27801
 919-442-8936 work • 919-446-7728 home • 919-972-3604

Social Security is important to African-Americans

Fact Sheet

Kenneth S. Apfel, Commissioner

Social Security has made a difference in the lives of African-Americans

- Without Social Security, the poverty rate for elderly African-Americans would increase from 24 percent to 65 percent.
- Social Security is the only source of retirement income for 40 percent of elderly African-Americans.
- African-Americans face different situations when it comes to retirement.
- Social Security is race neutral — individuals who are in identical life situations are treated the same. People, however, are rarely in identical situations. African-Americans tend to have lower earnings than whites and less pension coverage. Therefore, Social Security benefits are disproportionately important to them.
- African-Americans have lower life expectancies than whites. The average African-American male currently aged 65 can expect to live to about age 79, compared to about age 81 for white men. (For females, the comparable figures are age 83 for African-Americans and age 85 for whites.)
- African-American have lower

earnings. The median earnings of working-age African-Americans in covered employment in 1996 was about \$15,000, compared to \$19,000 for the general population.

African-Americans benefit from the Social Security program in several ways.

- The Social Security system is progressive. It returns a greater percentage of earnings to a lower-wage person than to a higher-wage person. Currently, average earnings for the African-Americans are lower than for whites. Therefore, African-Americans who receive any type of Social Security benefit are more likely to receive a higher percentage of their pre-retirement earnings.
- Survivors insurance disproportionately benefits African-Americans. African-Americans make up approximately 12 percent of the American population, but 23 percent of all children receiving Social Security survivor benefits are African-American.
- African-American families disproportionately benefit from disability insurance. In 1998, 12 percent of the population was African-American, however, 17 percent of disabled workers receiving benefits were African-American.

May 2000

Go to:
www.gbsc.net



Rev. N.T. Davis

From the Office of the Chairman of the Board of Central Children's Home
 Rev. N.T. Davis

Thanks To All Who Supported The Children's Home

I thank God for you all who has supported us in the past year. We have the best Children's Home in the state. But to keep it that way we must continue to give support on a monthly basis.

It is of importance that we remain open and ready to help children, not just Baptist Boys and Girls but Children.

Please pray for this ministry and give

according as God Blesses you.

Grace and Peace be unto you from God our father and His Son Jesus the Christ.

As we go through two thousand and one, let us walk together as God's Children. Remember to put us in your budget, that we will also do well at years end. God Bless and pray for us. These are our children.

Just Off The Press ... Latest Release of

GBSC's Bible — Price \$49.95

Leather Bound

Check out the General Baptist Bookstore for the new release at

919-839-2211
 1-800-627-1690 • Fax 919-839-2266

UPDATE: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

By Dr. Joseph C. Paige



Introducing Jurrowmore...

This is a well-mannered, self-confident and affectionate young man.

Jurrowmore loves to be with other kids and gets along well with them. He likes to ride his bike, play with computers and go on family outings.

Jurrowmore has mild delays in speech and language development, for which he attends a special class at school. Jurrowmore also takes medications to help him focus, to relax and to sleep. Jurrowmore's foster family says he has made tremendous progress in his speech since staying with them. He is more verbal and can be understood.

A Family for Jurrowmore...

Jurrowmore does require one-on-one attention and he needs to be supervised at all times. He has adjusted nicely to his current foster home and should move into a permanent family and home without too many problems. Jurrowmore does have some mild to moderate delays and disabilities. He still needs lots of love, care and stability. He still needs that permanent, loving family. (NC #074-266)

A Note from the Director of Church Relations!

By Rev. Anthonette Wright

Director of Church Relations

GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry
Attention all African-American Singles and African-American Couples! Bridge the gap to permanency through Adoption and Foster Care!

The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry continue to solicit your help. There is still a serious need for African-American Singles and Couples to Adopt or Foster Care African-American Children in North Carolina. The number of children coming into care is increasing faster than the number of homes in our state.

Who can adopt or foster care? There is no typical adoptive or foster care parent. The common characteristic is the ability to accept as a member of one's family a child not born into that family. African-American Singles and Couples, male and female this means you can adopt or foster care.

Help support this ministry by volunteering to recruit African-American Singles and Couples willing to adopt or foster African-American Children. With your help, we can make a difference in the life of a child. Please contact me for more information on what you can do to help make a difference in a child's life.

You may write me: Rev. Anthonette Wright, Director of Church Relations, 211 West Martin St., Suite 120 Raleigh, N.C. 27501 or E-mail me: Nwrightgbsc@aol.com or telephone me: 919-754-8800.

Every child deserves a home! Why not make that a reality for someone!



Introducing Brittney...

Like many toddlers, nearly everything Brittney touches ends up in her mouth. She also loves to play with musical toys and things that light up. She has a wonderful smile and is very affectionate. Brittney also loves to sing and play with her foster siblings.

Brittney attends a special school that works with her developmental delays and she is making slow, but steady progress. She takes several medications and gets a variety of therapies to help the progress with her delays. Brittney is currently fed through a G tube during the night.

A Family for Brittney...

Brittney is quite delayed for her age, and it is important that a new family is aware of her many needs. She will need a family that has lots of time to spend with her to help her achieve her developmental goals.

All children need lots of love, attention and nurturing. Brittney just needs more than most. (NC #041-0626)

For additional information on these children, or adoption in general, please call 1-887-NC Kids -1 (887-625-4371)

WANTED!!

- ADOPTIVE PARENT
- FOSTER CARE PARENT
- VOLUNTEER ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE ADVOCATES URGENT!

Please contact:

Dr. Joseph C. Paige or
Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige, 2610
Albemarle Avenue,
Raleigh, NC 27610; 919-231-9774;
Fax: 919-212-3656; or e-mail:
joepaigesr@aol.com or
dottiedem@maxxconnect.net

Follow Me Answers

1. Andrew. Matthew 4:18
2. James. Matthew 4:22
3. Peter. Matthew 4:15
4. Matthew. Matthew 9:9
5. Peter. Matthew 14:29
6. Judas Iscariot. Luke 22:47
7. John. John 19:20-27
8. Thomas. John 20:27
9. Nathaniel. John 21:2
10. Philip. Acts 8:38

Bridging The Gap To Permanency

By Dr. James T. Roberson and
Mrs. Beverly Roberson

It is our pleasure to again greet you in the BLESSED NAME of our LORD and SAVIOR, JESUS CHRIST.

We bring you greetings from THE NORTH CAROLINA AFRICAN-AMERICAN FAITH COMMUNITIES UNITED FOR CHILDREN: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE, the outreach arm of the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry. We are pleased to report that January was off with A BIG BANG — many new referrals and new volunteers, and we want to thank all of you for helping us make a difference in the lives of so many children. Thank you for your help, your prayers, and opening up your heart and your homes. These children would be without a family and a permanent home, except for people like you.

As we stated in the January issue of this newspaper, we are especially pleased to have been asked to join the list of distinguished spokespersons for this important statewide children's initiative. We are seriously advocated for children and we believe

strongly that every child deserves a home, a loving and caring family.

We are adoptive parents. We are proud and happy adoptive parents, and we thank God that we are. Ours is a serious commitment — a great challenge and a great opportunity. Our wish is that more of you will become adoptive and/or foster parents.

Our mandate is to help identify African-American families, singles and couples, who are willing to become adoptive parents of African-American children already in the North Carolina Foster Care System, who are ready and waiting for adoption. We are also helping to identify families willing to become foster parents for children awaiting foster care replacement.

You can also help us by becoming a **Volunteer Adoption and Foster Care Advocate**, helping us spread the word — helping us identify potential adoptive and/or foster parents.

Please contact us, Dr. James T. and Beverly Roberson, office, 919-546-8570; or Dr. Joseph C. Paige or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige, 2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27601; 919-231-9774.

\$1000 BONUS! BONUS! BONUS!

We have decided, as our special way to say "Thank You," to provide a personal bonus of \$1000, to the first individual, church or association that recruits a minimum of 20 potential adoptive and/or foster parents each month for the next five months (February, March, April, May and June) or a total of 100 recruits (verified) by June 30, 2001. Only one bonus of \$1000 will be given. Persons interested in competing for the "bonus" should call, write or e-mail us! Dr. Joseph C. Paige or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige, 2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27610; 919-231-9774; Fax 919-212-3656; E-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com or dottiedem@maxxconnect.net

The Urgent Plea of the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry

By Earl Horton,

Director of Public Relations

In the state of North Carolina there are 9,972 children of all cultural backgrounds who are not living with their birth families. 3,400 of those children are waiting to be adopted. We the Adoption and Foster Care Ministry believe that African-American children are the majority of these figures. The urgency of getting churches involved of finding individuals and couples to adopt or foster a child is our motivation.

During the year, 2001, our prayers are to get all GBSC churches as well as churches of other faith communities involved in this important cause. We are requesting that each church establish an Adoption and Foster Care Ministry with the express purpose of helping identify African-American singles and couples who are interested in and willing open their home to a child. In order to coordinate efforts of recruitment in the churches, we recommend appointing a volunteer coordinator. Every church is encouraged to recruit at least one member who is interested in becoming an adoptive or foster care parent.

The Adoption and Foster Care Ministry

is asking for all ministers and moderators to assist us with establishing ministries in your churches and associations. We do make ourselves available for training-volunteers on how to get people interested. In addition, your county department is available to provide information and answer questions concerning adoption and foster care.

We care make a difference if we work together. The New Year has begun and we must walk another journey. And, as stated above, the new journey is to find more African-American singles and couples who are interested in becoming adoptive or foster care parent. We will do so in 2001 but we need help from ministers, moderators and churches. If we all work together, the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry will continue its role as a model and leader, nationwide, in adoption and foster care.

May God continue to bless our ministry and let us start the first year of the new millennium with a BIG BANG!

If you are interested in starting an Adoption and Foster Care Ministry in your church, please call at 919-754-8333 or 919-754-8800, or e-mail me at gbsceh@aol.com

ROYAL ROOSTS ANSWERS

1. Candace was queen of the Ethiopians. Acts 8:27
2. Nebuchadnezzar was king of Babylon. 2 Kings 24:1
3. Cyrus was king of Persia. 2 Chronicles 36:22
4. Shalmaneser was king of Assyria. 2 Kings 17:3
5. Pharaoh (all of them) was king of Egypt.

Genesis 41:46

6. Nero was the emperor of Rome.

7. Ben-Hadad was king of Syria. 1 Kings 20:1

8. Evil-Merodach was another king of Babylon. 2 Kings 25:27

9. Sennacherib was king of Assyria. 2 Chronicles 32:1.

10. Og was king of Bashan. Numbers

21:33

MORE ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

January, 2001 — A Blessed Month

By Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr.
and Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige

...With your help and God's continuing blessings, 2001 will be a banner year for recruiting adoptive and foster parents.

Greetings in the BLESSED NAME of our Lord and SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST!

Our prayers are that each of you experienced joy, happiness and prosperity during the month of January and that February will be a month of continuing blessings.

January was indeed a great month. God continues to bless our efforts and ministry in so many special ways and we continue to give Him the Praise!

More people are calling — daily calls now — to express interest in becoming adoptive and/or foster parents. More people are sending e-mails, now 5 to 10 each day, asking questions and expressing a desire to adopt or become a foster parent. More people are volunteering to assist — to help spread the word. **IT'S VERY TOUCHING!** The commitment to help make a difference in the lives of our children is overwhelming. Again, God continues to bless our efforts. And, as the song goes, "Blessings after blessings keep on coming our way," and we continue to give God the glory, the honor and the praise! **THE EVERY CHURCH ADOPT ONE PROJECT**

As we stated last month, THE EVERY CHURCH ADOPT ONE initiative is gaining broad support statewide, and again, we give God the glory and the praise. This is an interfaith initiative, and we strongly encourage all churches to join us in this special challenge and opportunity. **Join the growing number of churches uniting for children.** This HELPING AND CARING MINISTRY is being pushed by moderators, conference leaders, elders, bishops, ministers and assorted church laity. Many church missionary departments have designated this ministry as a primary focus for the year 2001.

For additional information, please call, write or e-mail us! Dr. Joseph C. Paige or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige, 2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, N.C. 27610; (919) 231-9774; Fax (919) 212-3656; e-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com or dottedem@maxxconnect.net

VOLUNTEERS

While the response for adoption and foster care volunteers has been incredibly successful, statewide, we are still seeking additional volunteers to help spread the word. People from all walks of life, clergy, laity (men and women) and missionaries,

representing practically all of the African-American faith communities have responded to God's call (and it is God calling all to "help his little children") to help find loving homes for His children.

We thank God for the generous time and energy our volunteers give to our effort.

We now have adoption and foster care volunteers coordinators in most counties and in both rural and urban areas, and from county civic and social organizations. They all believe as we do, that every child deserves a loving and caring home, and they are committed to helping make this happen. A special thanks to the Moderators, Pastors and Presidents of auxiliaries for your continued support.

Yet, with our successes, we are still seeking additional volunteers to work with us at the state, regional and local levels. We need more people to help us spread the word! We need more people to advocate for us at meetings, on radio, TV, and in social and social and work settings.

Please contact us. We will send you recruitment forms and related materials. 2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27610, Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr. or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige, 919-231-9774; Fax: 919-212-3656; E-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com or dottedem@maxxconnect.net.

TRAINING OF VOLUNTEERS

We thank NAY-KEL for assisting us in training of volunteers. Paul and Evelyn Jervay-Owners and Co-Publishers of *The Carolinian*, and NAY-KEL founders, assisted by Pamela W. Taylor and Letisha Anderson, continue to play special roles in our training efforts. Joycelyn Curry, our UNC-CH Intern, is helping us identify contacts in underserved areas. Michelle Montgomery is at work with the media and as a special volunteer assistant, she is indispensable.

THE OFFICE STAFF

Rev. Anthonette Wright, Director of Church Relations and Regional Consultant, and Earl Horton, Director of Public Relations and Consultant, are people to watch in the Adoption and Foster Care Ministry. Rev. Wright is a graduate of Appalachian State University and the Shaw University Divinity School. Earl Horton is a graduate of A and T State University.

Rev. Wright has responsibility for the western and central counties of the state, including the following five target counties in these regions: Buncombe, Guilford, Gaston, Mecklenburg, Forsyth

Mr. Horton has responsibility for the

state's eastern counties including the following five target counties in his region: Cumberland, Durham, Wake, New Hanover, Robeson

Both Wright and Horton will be in contact with officials and member organizations of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina Inc., affiliates and member organizations of the Women's Baptist Home and Foreign Mission Convention, and officials of other faith communities as they expand adoption and foster care activities, statewide. Both can be reached at the following address:

Rev. Anthonette Wright

GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry

211 West Martin Street, Suite 120
Raleigh, NC 27601
Raleigh, NC 27601
919-754-8800;

E-mail: Nwrightgbsc@aol.com

Mr. Earl Horton

GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry

211 West Martin Street, Suite 120
Raleigh, NC 27601
919-754-8333;

E-mail: gbsceh@aol.com

From the Moderator of Moderators' Committee

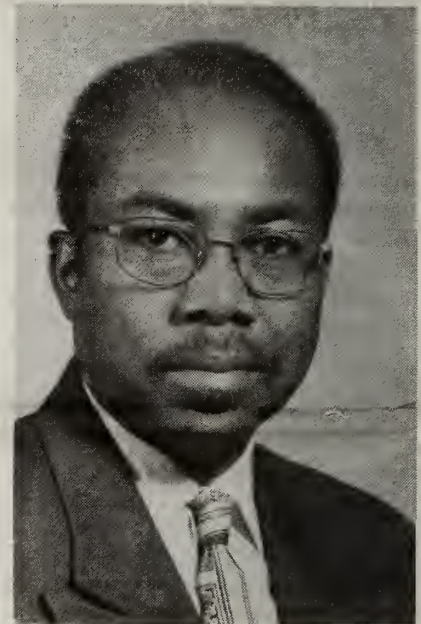
Liability (Pastors and Churches)

Grace and Peace to all of you, my brothers and sisters!

Twenty-five or fifty years ago, some of the articles that I have been writing would not be necessary. My mom and grandparents would have thought it a penitentiary crime to bring a suit or action against the church or pastor. Today, such things are much different. Pastors and churches are getting sued by the minute. In law it is called "going after the deep pocket." After all, why should I waste my time suing John Doe in your church when I can sue John Doe, the Pastor and the church? The pocket then becomes much deeper. So in this article, I want to look at the issue of liability.

Bruce P. Powers states in his book entitled, *Church Administration Handbook*, and I quote, "The church and the minister are not immune from responsibility for their actions because they are in the religion business. There is a responsibility which extends to anyone who is related to the activities of the church in terms of their care and protection." In other words, the fact that we are pastors who served churches, we should not feel that we are above the law. He further states that a church may be called upon to provide compensation for anyone — members, visitors, employees, or others outside the church when the church's negligence results in any loss or damage. The act of negligence may result from the doing or not doing of something that a reasonable person would do or not do in a similar situation. The interpretation of what is reasonable has varied from state to state and usually is decided by a judge or jury when the question of negligence reaches the courtroom. The church should make every effort to keep from being negligent as well as to provide adequate insurance coverage for protection from unforeseen situations. The provision of *workers compensation* insurance coverage for employees and *public liability* insurance coverage for property and vehicles in significant amounts should be made.

The pastor as a professional also has concerns about the proper performance of responsibilities. This is evident in those acts as an agent of the church but also in those acts as a professional person, particularly in the area of counseling. The subject of "mal-



Rev. James W. Smith, J.D.

practice" by a pastor is becoming one of legal significance. This is due to vague interpretations of a pastor's liability when advice given a counselee leads to harmful results. Again, the negligence question is open to interpretation but has become the object of suits, which have been filed. Another matter of concern for our pastors is that of privileged communications between the pastor and a counselee. As pastors, we need to be aware that the breach of this privileged communications could in some cases lead to an action against the pastor and church.

Because of the above possibilities, this is one of the reasons I have raised the issue of bylaws and incorporation for our churches. By no means is this article intended to hamper the pastor or church ability to do the ministry God has called him or her to do. My only desire is to raise the issue so that you may be able to guard against the pitfalls.

If you wish our services in any way, please contact us at the following:

Rev. James W. Smith, JD
5 Bracken Ridge Place
Hillsborough, NC 27278
(919) 479-0501
Email: Jsmith9450@aol.com

Rev. W.J. Cox
107 Gray Street, Goldsboro, NC 27534
(919) 751-9899

Dr. Joshua J. Haire Jr.
PO Box 53803, Fayetteville, NC 28305
(910) 323-1508

GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry Adds New Volunteer Advocates

Rev. Sheila Crump and Rev. and Mrs. Jon Murphy recently joined the growing list of volunteer advocates for adoption and foster care.

In making the announcement, Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr., Chairperson of the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry, stated that "God continues to send us good people of faith to help us spread the word that all children deserve loving and caring homes." He added that Rev. Crump and Rev. Jon and Linda Murphy will speak for the adoption and Foster Care Ministry at meetings, at faith community gatherings (churches, associations, conferences, etc.) and on radio and TV.

Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Secretary/Treasurer, GBSC, stated that "the addition of Dr. and Mrs. James T. Roberson, and now Rev. Crump and Rev. Jon and

Linda Murphy, is further proof of God's special blessings of this important statewide children's initiative," which, he added, "is already a national model among faith communities and adoption and foster care advocates."

Rev. Crump is Founder/Director of Sheila Crump Ministries, Moncure, N.C. She is also a retired Senior Citizen Council executive, and a Director and Independent Associate of MAXXIS 2000 Inc., one of the nation's fastest growing and most successful Home-Based Wealth Creation companies.

Rev. Jon Murphy a well-known area minister, is certified counselor and corrections official. Linda Murphy is one of the top Real Estate Brokers in the area. They have three daughters, and live in Cary.

Rev. Michael R. Smith Sr. Chairman

I am convinced the answer to reducing crime is found at the Cross of Jesus Christ. In order to reduce crime, the Church must present the cure for persons who are intent on living outside of the law. The laws of the land can only tell a person what is lawful and unlawful, but laws have no power to change a person's heart. The apostle Paul wrote to the Church at Colosse, "He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love..." Colossians 1:13. The power to change a criminal's heart is found at the Cross of Christ. The Cross of Christ is the place where God the Father through Jesus demonstrated the power to reach, reconcile, and restore human lives. The Apostle Paul also said to the Church at Corinth, "For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God" 1 Corinthians 1:18. The message of the cross contains the great truths about Jesus Christ's atonement for lost mankind. The power of this message is found in Who was at the cross, why He died on the cross, and what resulted from His sacrifice on the cross. The theme of OISM is "REACHING, RECONCILING, RESTORING HUMAN LIVES."

REACHING

The Cross of Christ is the place where God the Father reaches out in love to all mankind. "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us" Romans 5:8. Jesus shows us God took the initiative in reaching out to sinful mankind. The same is true in reaching out to the unlawful. The Church must take this initiative. I believe many people are reluctant to reach out to prisoners because they have misunderstood that God always takes the initiative in

From the Office of Institutional and Specialized Ministries

"The Answer to Crime Is Found at the Cross of Christ"

reaching out. If Jesus Christ had not taken the initiative, all mankind would still be lost. Also, God's initiative to reach the lost was not taken after a person tried to clean up their life, but while mankind was in the midst of our depravity. "For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly" Romans 5:6. Jesus Christ reached out by dying for the ungodly that includes lawbreakers. We are living in times when society's attitude toward crime is moving away from reaching out to the criminal. The Church cannot adopt this attitude because reaching out was the essence of Jesus' mission. Jesus came demonstrating His initiative to reach out to sinners. Let us not become so comfortable in our nice sanctuaries, and forget to take the initiative in reaching out to persons in prison. Reaching is the first step in presenting a cure to animals. The Church must go where the crime problem exists.

RECONCILING

The Cross of Christ is the place where God the Father reconciles sinners into a right relationship with Himself. Reconciliation is the process where an enemy is transformed into a friend. Jesus' death was the avenue through which sinners are changed from enemies of God into children of God.

Reconciliation is what occurred in your life when you believed on Jesus as your Lord and Savior. Therefore, the Apostle Paul said, "Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them and committed to us the word of reconciliation" 2 Corinthians 5:18. The Church's mission is to be reconcilers. Lawbreakers need this reconciliation. Crime is a symptom of mankind's sinful nature being at enmity with God.

Can the Church expect lawbreakers to change without being reconciled to God? I don't believe rehabilitation is the Church's goal for lawbreakers. The Church's goal is reconciliation with God through a transformation of the heart. This is what happened to the repentant thief on the cross in Luke 23:39-43. Reconciliation occurs when the penalty for sin has been paid. The blood of Jesus Christ paid for the sins of all people. Therefore, God the Father can extend forgiveness leading to reconciliation to all who believe in Jesus Christ. Lawbreakers need to know God will forgive them no matter what they have done. This is the essence of the message of reconciliation. When a person is reconciled to God, this does not dismiss them from the consequences of their crime. Reconciliation is an act of God's mercy, but it does not set aside His justice. "Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne; mercy and truth go before your face" Psalm 89:14. When a lawbreaker has been reconciled to God through Christ, this leads to a transformation of heart, mind and deeds. "Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, he reclined to God" 2 Corinthians 5:20.

RESTORING

The Cross of Christ is the place where restoration of broken relationships begin to take place. Reconciliation with God leads to restoration of human relationships destroyed or damaged by our sins. Lawbreakers have destroyed relationships with their victims, families and the community. Most



Rev Michael R. Smith Sr.

persons in prisons will return back to society. Therefore, restoration back to society is a necessity. The Church must help in restoring persons who have been reached and reconciled back to our communities. This is called the ministry of aftercare. Once a person returns to the community, they face many social obstacles. After Saul was converted on the Damascus road, many in the Church did not believe he was a true disciple in Acts 9:26. Saul had fiercely persecuted the Church and was an accomplice to murder. Yet Barnabas, came along side of the now Paul and led a restoration effort. Barnabas took Paul to the Church and told of his reconciliation with God through Christ in Acts 9:27.

Persons coming out of prison need help in being restored back to their families, victims, and communities. How many churches do you know have an established aftercare ministry? There are some but not many. Jesus Christ died on the Cross to bring restoration to broken relationships. Ex-offenders need intensive support during the restorative phase of their walk from crime to contribution. I believe only the Church has the kind of compassion and commitment to make this truly effective. I believe it is crucial in prison ministry to minister to the victim's crime as well as the offender. Restoration is needed on both sides of the crime for true reconciliation and eventual restoration. Sometimes total restoration is not possible for example when the crime was murder. Yet, because of the Cross of Christ, the possibility of restoration can begin. Our society is filled with fractured and broken relationships. Restoration is the Church's goal for all relationships broken because of crime and incarceration. "He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His Name's sake" Psalm 23:3.

The Office of Institutional and Specialized Ministries goal is to equip GBSC churches to reach, reconcile and restore human lives impacted by crime and incarceration. For assistance and information contact me at my office 919-575-3900 Ext. 6203 or email at mrsmith@bop.gov.

Parliamentary Procedure: In Order

By Dr. Willie A. Swann, JD, ThD

Having irrefutably established that all Church related assemblies should be permeated with "love." Let us now turn towards the implementation of this decree. The gist of our inquiry is: "By what kind of rules, mandates, or enactments should we be governed when we assemble, as a religious body, to transact business?" The Roberts Rules Of Order has survived the test of time: procedurally, but does it, in its entirety, promote a healthy agenda for Christians?

Paul addressed the Corinthians, in his quest to cool down turmoil within their ranks, saying: "Let all things be done decently and in order." I Corinthians 14:40. As we come together to transact business, it should, parenthetically be "...done decently and in order."

Scriptural harmony can be found in Ephesians where we are told: "...be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, ...Ephesians 4:32. The Roberts Rules Of Order are replete with "motions," "questions," "amendments," and "points of order" all designed purely to win, presumably, at any cost. Tenderheartedness definitely runs afoul of procedural strategies. Winning is a selfish, personal endeavor. In God's House, everybody is somebody: vested with inalienable one-



Dr. Willie A. Swann, JD, ThD

ness as "one body in Christ." Romans 12:5

Let us take out time and pray for love, kindness, and order to prevail within all of our Church assemblies. Conferences, and board meetings, alike, should all have the same tone and atmosphere as Sunday morning worship service. Otherwise, we have confusion. See: I Corinthians 14:33, James 3:16.

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Health & Human Services

Submitted by Dr. Anita Holmes

Five Fiber Boosts

Eating vegetables, fruits, whole grains, and beans can help lower your risk for many types of cancer. And new studies show soluble fiber can help control diabetes. Soluble fiber-rich foods include cantaloupe, granola, grapefruit, lima beans, oat bran, oatmeal, okra, oranges, papaya, raisins, squash, sweet potato and zucchini.

Consider these suggestions from the Food and Drug Administration for increasing your fiber intake:

1. Include a whole-grain cereal containing at least 5 grams of fiber per serving with your breakfast. Top with wheat germ, raisins, bananas, or berries.
2. Eat vegetables raw, when appropriate. When you do cook vegetables, microwave or steam only until they are just tender but still firm to the bite.
3. Avoid peeling fruits and vegetables. And remember that whole fruits and vegetables contain more fiber than juice, which lacks the skin and membranes.
4. Eat foods containing unprocessed grains. Try whole-wheat products, such as



Dr. Anita Holmes

bulgur, couscous, or kasha, and whole-grain breads, cereals, and pasta.

5. Add beans to soups, stews, and salads. Twice a week, substitute legume-based dishes such as lentil soup, bean burritos, or rice and beans for those made with meat.

(Source: *The American Council on Science and Health; the American Institute for Cancer Research; And FDA Consumer; July-August 1997, Revised September 1998*)

New Pastor's Corner

By
Rev. Sandra Holland Trotter
Pastor/Shiloh Temple of Faith
Missionary Baptist Church,
Fayetteville, NC



Rev. Sandra Holland Trotter

The Anointing

The Anointing. (Greek: charisma, ointment, anointing)

The anointing is the power of the Holy Spirit effecting eternal changes in our lives. It is the gift of the Holy Spirit as an efficient aid in obtaining knowledge of the truth. It is a vital necessity for any pastor or teacher who wants demonstration and evidence of Kingdom authority.

God is requiring change in this millennium, change in our lifestyle, change in our relationships, change in our attitudes and a change in our ministries. Some will like it, some will not, some will receive it and some will not.

God is calling for a change. We must be willing to change, not for ourselves, but for the one that has anointed us to preach good tidings unto the meek: he has sent us to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and the opening of the prison to them that are bound. (Isaiah 61:1)

Are you dead to self? Are you willing to receive the sacrificial anointing? Only when you abandon self, and totally empty yourself, can you be filled with God's presence. If we draw near to God, he will draw near to you. (James 4:8)

In our churches we must have an atmosphere conducive for the Holy Spirit to come in. In our heart we must be willing to seek, to welcome, and to invite the Holy Spirit.

God has decided what our own particular anointing should be. Although not all of us have Jeremiah's anointing, as surely as we have been put into the body of His Son we have this in common: Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart. (Jeremiah 1:5)

We must accept the limits of our anointing and remain obedient. King Saul was given a special anointing. He had a lively anointing that indicated God's approval, but abused it and became yesterday's man overnight. (R.T. Kendall) In other words, Saul became irrelevant. A has-been. Until that happened he was today's man, the man of the hour. King Saul moved outside his anointing and assumed the prerogatives of a priest. (I Samuel 13:9-14) Saul promoted

himself to an anointing that was not his anointing.

By taking himself too seriously and letting his success and stature go to his head, Saul moved outside the limit of his anointing and God did not condone it.

What happened to Saul could happen to you or I. Many have abused it indeed, brought disgrace and left many sincere Christians bewildered. We should never abuse this precious gift.

Some of Jesus' followers need a new anointing. People who have been in church for a while will grow stiff and starchy. Many of us have a need of an oil change, a fresh filling of the Holy Spirit. Just as oil dries up and evaporates, we need a fresh fellowship with the Holy Spirit, which will produce fresh oil and a fresh anointing.

A fresh anointing will mend what has been torn, heal what has been wounded, fix what has been broken, it will resurrect your spirit, restore your joy, renew your mind, revitalize your body and redeem your soul.

Slow down!!! Most of us are too busy doing busy work. Take the time to smell the sweet aroma of the Holy Spirit.

Take the time to listen to that small still voice.

The voice that called you out of the darkness into the marvelous light.

The voice of the spoken word that will be a light unto your path and a lamp unto your feet.

The voice that spoke the words, I will never leave you nor forsake you.

The voice that says I am your God and you are my people!

Get ready for your fresh anointing!

Announcement:

All pastor's/new pastor's are invited to **The New Pastor's Luncheon at the Evangelism Conference on April 18, 2001 at Lewis Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, 5422 Raeford Road, Fayetteville, NC.**

Please RSVP via Fax, (910) 867-1308 or write to:

Rev. Sandra Holland-Trotter
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About the Author:

Dr. Serenus T. Churn Sr., received his Doctor of Ministry Degree from Drew University, Madison, N.J., in 1979, his Graduate Certificate in Pastoral Care from the Foundation for Religion and Mental Health, Grasslands Hospital, Westchester County, N.Y., in 1970, his Master of Divinity Degree from Howard University, School of Religion in Washington, D.C., in 1969, his Bachelor of Divinity Degree from Howard University, School of Religion in 1965 and his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Morgan State College, Baltimore, Md., in 1962.

He was born in Camden, N.J., to the late Dr. Charles H. Churn Sr., and Violet M. Churn and was licensed to preach at the age of 15. He is married to the former Shirley Brown of Washington, D.C., and

has two sons. Dr. Churn is currently the Senior Pastor of Mount Zion Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, N.C. Member of Novant Health Board of Trustees, Mount Zion Site Director and Adjunct Instructor, Shaw University Divinity School and Drew University Theology School. He is the Radio Host of God's Trombone WPOL. He has preached across the United States, Great Britain and India.

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FAITH AND FITNESS

Exercise and Physical Activity Must Be Planned, Scheduled and Written

By Charolette H. Leach, M.S.

I hope your holidays were filled with nothing but blessings. How did things work out for you during the holidays with regard to your health and nutrition? Did you take the steps necessary to avoid the 5-7 pound weight gain of the average American? If you did great! If you didn't, there is still hope. Are you one of the thousands of Americans that makes New Year's resolutions? It is interesting that most resolutions are with regard to improving your health. We resolve to exercise on a regular basis, to work on improving our eating habits, and to quit smoking.

I am working to encourage members of my church to exercise and eat properly and I had several members mention to me in mid-December that they would come join us for walking or aerobics next year. It made me wonder, what is magical about next year? In a new year, will it be easier to push yourself? I finally determined that they wanted to wait until next year because that would give them more time.

Determining that you are going to exercise on a regular basis, especially if this is exactly what you have not been doing, is not an easy thing. We must admit that we are all busy and lead very full lives. Most of us probably work a full-time job, are raising children and are active in our churches. To determine that I am going to be at church on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:00 to 7:00 to exercise, takes determination. To decide that I am going to get up 45 minutes earlier to do an exercise tape 3 days per week, takes determination. To decide that I will take my exercise clothes with me on Mondays, Wednesday, and Fridays and go straight to the gym after work for an hour

workout, takes determination.

Okay, you may be the one to say that this is asking too much. Three times a week of strenuous exercise. I can't do it. That's ok, all is not lost, but you cannot be let off the hook that easily. Maybe you can fit in 2 days per week, or maybe you can definitely commit to one day per week of strenuous exercise. That may be enough, because research is on your side. There was a time that exercise prescriptions stated that you had to exercise for 20 to 60 minutes at 60 — 85% of your maximum heart rate at least 4 times per week to receive health benefits. The research now shows that we can receive health benefits from just becoming more active.

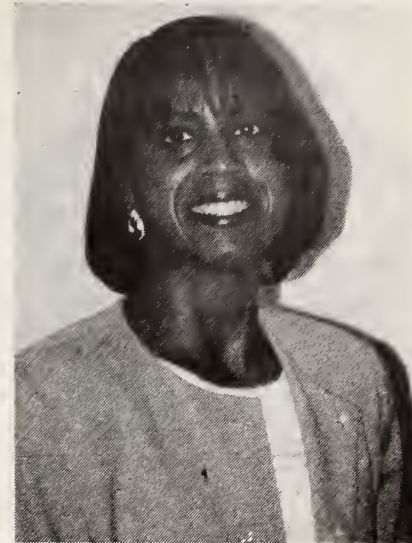
Activities that can be beneficial include taking the stairs when the opportunity arises and parking the car and walking a couple of blocks to your destination. Another excellent opportunity to increase your physical activity is by adding some gusto to carrying out your household chores. We must admit that all of the electrical household conveniences do help with saving time, but we have definitely been short-changed with regard to receiving benefits of physical activity that our parents and grandparents were able to obtain. To prove my point, try sweeping a rug rather than using the vacuum cleaner and notice the difference in your breathing. Keep in mind that breathing hard can be a good thing.

There are many other opportunities that can be created to increase our physical activity on a daily basis. The key is that these opportunities must be created and put into effect for us to gain some health benefits. Just as we must plan to go to the gym directly from work 3 days per week, we

must plan the everyday opportunities for increased physical activity. It may be as simple as planning a 10-minute walk during our morning and afternoon breaks. You plan it and then you do it. If you can include 1 definite day to get a good workout and at least 2 days of creating opportunities to be more physically active, you would be surprised at the health benefits that you can achieve.

If you want a way to help to make your plans successful, I encourage you to write your plans for becoming more active on paper. In Habakkuk 2:2, we are instructed to "Write the vision and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it."

I mentioned that I have been encouraging members at my church to exercise and to improve their overall nutrition. Our group is not very large. We have about 5 or 6 dedicated members, all women and one man. (Why do men have a hard time doing what they need to do for their health? That is a question to be addressed in an upcoming article). We met about a week before Christmas and determined our schedule for walking during the holidays. We decided that we would meet at the mall at 7:45 on December 27, 28 and 29 for walking since it had gotten too cold to walk outside. I didn't give too much thought to what we decided and wanted to go along with the group. I thought that it was very admirable for them to want to continue to get together for exercise right through the holidays. When we decided this, all of those who were in attendance wrote our plans down. As it turned out, my family went to Pa. for Christmas and did not get home until late the night of the 26th. I knew that we had said that we would meet at the mall for



Charolette H. Leach, M.S.

walking on some days after Christmas, but I did not make it on the 27. I called the group later that day and sure enough 3 of the faithful were there. I was quite surprised and very impressed with these ladies and I did make it to the mall on the 2 following mornings. I believe that the commitment to get to the mall on those days was there, simply because we had made our plans and wrote them down.

You may want to share your plans with someone who you are close to, so that they can check on you. Mention to your wife that you plan to walk for 10 minutes in the morning and afternoon on your breaks and write it down. Schedule it in your day just as you do your 10:00 staff meeting. Also ask your wife to be sure to check with you at the end of the day to see if you followed through with your plan.

Prayerfully, you can now come up with your own creative opportunities to become more physically active. You do not have to try to become totally active within one week, but I encourage you to start. Start by planning 20 to 30 minutes of activity at least twice per week. And remember that it does not have to be continuous. Just let me add one word of caution. Please be sure to see your doctor for a check-up before starting any strenuous exercise program. Be Blessed!

State Ushers News

By Alice W. McNair

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ!

Mrs. Ernestine W. Crawford, reporter for District III Ushers sent us a glowing report of their Nov. 18, 2000 Banquet held at The St. Paul B. Church, Ray of Hope Center, Charlotte, N.C. Dr. G.K. Moss, host pastor, was the guest speaker. He chose Matt. 19:23-27. His theme was "What's in it for Me?" Mrs. Crawford stated it was inspiring and inspirational. A glorious time was enjoyed by the more than 300 people attending. Bro. Forest Eaves is president of District III Ushers and is vice president of the State Ushers Convention.

State president, Charles Fletcher thought it would be a good idea to review, "Back to the Bases in Church Ushering" given by the Assistant Dean, Dr. E.B. Turner at the State Ushers Convention July 10, 1998. Here it is:

Bases-Bottom, Support; Starting place: Supply point: Main ingredients; To put on a base; Have a foundation.

1. This topic is a challenge to church ushers, as we seek to prepare ourselves for the 21st century — a new century — a lot of changes in the manner and ways of worship — A new congregation worshipping in a new century.

2. This topic is a presidential request — The Leader of Church Ushers in North Carolina — The Engineer for Baptist Ushers in North Carolina. A desire for the Unity of Baptist Church Ushers. The Leader on our road to progress, quality church ushering. Committed to doing things in our Baptist Churches:

3. Back to the Bases:

(1) The fundamental requirement for all church ushers, (Men, Women, Boys and Girls) before serving, not after serving, is to be born again.

(2) This is the oversight responsibility of the church.

(3) All church ushers should be approved by the church conference, as one of the requirements to serve. The Bases in church ushering says that ushers are to show the Jesus in their lives, whenever, wherever, and to whomever. So show me the Jesus in you!

(4) The Bases in church ushering says that ushers should attend all meetings of the local church, (training or business).

(5) The Bases says that ushers should be clearly knowledgeable of, dedicated, and

loyal to the church, know the organization and work of the church.

(6) The Bases of the church ushers says that the ushers are supportive of the work and the leadership of the pastor, have a knowledge of church etiquette and knowing what to wear and how to dress.

BACK TO THE BASES

"Shoulds" for church ushers

1. An usher should hold his office in high esteem, for it is a service unto the Lord.

2. An usher should not frown or scowl at visitors, for they are an opportunity to witness for the church and the Lord.

3. An usher should make himself a storehouse of information for visitors.

4. An usher should smile pleasantly and always be cheerful, so that visitors will feel that they are in a warm, friendly, church.

5. An usher should know where every available seat is, and always be prepared to seat guests as they arrive.

6. An usher should try to seat strangers beside friendly church members.

7. An usher should conduct guests to their seats.

8. An usher should always be on guard for the comfort of their guests.

9. An usher should show no favoritism to any guest, but should treat all visitors with the same courtesy.

10. An usher should remember that he or she is a host or hostess for the Lord and that people will judge the Lord and the church by his attitude.

Remember, the One Day Session of The Ushers State Convention, Feb. 24, 2001, at the Benton Convention Center in Winston Salem, N.C. with registration beginning at 8:00 a.m. Make your plans now to attend.

To all usher presidents who volunteered to serve, June 18-22, 2001 at the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education at the Friendship B. Church, Dr. Clifford Jones, pastor, Charlotte, N.C. An ushers volunteers rehearsal is being held Sat., Feb. 10, 2001 at 10:00 a.m. and Sat., March 10 at 10:00 a.m. at the St. Paul M.B. Church at 1401 N. Allen Street, Charlotte, N.C. Dr. G.R. Moss is host pastor.

I did not receive an answer to the question: Who was the first ushers or doorkeepers or gatekeepers in the Old Testament?

Send new to: P.O. Box 105, Newton Grove, N.C. 28366.

Somebody Loves You



Love crashes in on the lives of our young people in positive and negative ways. They are bombarded by mixed messages from the media and peers about love. Without a Christian base for understanding this powerful force, they will grow up confused and bewildered. We need to clarify their feelings about love and help them explore the characteristics of Christian love. We can help them rate the mixed messages they hear about love. Helping them to grow emotionally and spiritually will develop Christian love. Let them know somebody loves them!

The early church struggled to understand what it meant for Christians to love others. In fact, one of the main reasons new converts joined the church was due to the intense love people had for one another. Do we feel that kind of love now in our churches? Somebody loves us!

Paul tells us in I Corinthians 13:4-7. Love is **patient**, love is **kind**. It does **not** **envy**, it does **not** **boast**, it is **not** **proud**. It is **not** **rude**, it is **not** **self-seeking**, it is **not** **easily angered**, it **keeps no record of wrongs**. Love does **not** **rejoice in evil** but **rejoices with the truth**. It always **protects**, always **trusts**, always **hopes**, always **perseveres**.

If you were asked, does anyone love you, how would you answer? Would you be sure? What would you base your answer on, the person, the promises, the provisions, what?

Somebody loves you. Who you ask? God our Father, Creator of heaven and earth. He loves you. No conditions, no circumstances, no costs, He just loves you because He loves you.

The essential nature of God is love. All

of His actions are done out of love. When He creates, He does so out of love. When He redeems, He does so because of love. When He heals and helps, guides and guards, shields and shepherds, He does it because of His great, grand marvelous, and majestic love.

God not only loves us, He declares and demonstrates it by what He does. His love is all embracing. For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life (John 3:16).

God's love is unmerited love. We did not earn it, we do not deserve it, but God commended (poured out) His love for us that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us (Romans 5:8).

God's love is sacrificial love. He (Jesus) that knew no sin, became sin for us that we might become the righteousness of God in Him (2 Corinthians 5:21).

God's love is conquering love, that enables us to overcome the trials and temptations of our lives. Nay in all these things, we are more than conquerors through him



Delores Griffey

that loved us (Romans 8:37).

God's love is everlasting love. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come. Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord (Romans 8:38-39).

Somebody loves you. Love him back.

James F. Wertz Oratorical Contest Rules

Submitted by Ms. Lula M. Gainey
JUNE 27-30, 2001

DIRECTIVES

1. Each contestant will choose his/her topic from the approved list, **compose and memorize** his/her speech. Bring one copy of your speech when you come and give it to the Director of your participating Division.

2. The Senior Division is open to **RIISING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS AS OF JULY 1, 2001 ONLY!** The Contestants should be active in their local Church and Sunday School. To be valid, the application must be signed by the Superintendent of their Sunday School and President of their Convention.

3. The Junior Division is open to students entering **Ninth, Tenth or Eleventh grades as of July 1, 2001.** They should be active in their local Church and Sunday School. To be valid, the application must be signed by the Superintendent of their Sunday School and President of their Convention.

4. The Preparatory Division (NEW) is open to students entering **Sixth, Seventh or Eighth grade as of July 1, 2001.** This Division will focus on Character Building Traits, which have a Spiritual and Christian use. Again students should be active in their local Church and Sunday School. To be valid, the application must be signed by the Superintendent of their Sunday School and President of their Convention.

5. All Contestants will be judged by competent judges on the following:

- A. Personal Qualities 20 points

- B. Material Organization 30 points
- C. Delivery and Presentation 30 points
- D. Overall Effectiveness 20 points

6. At least four minutes but no more than five minutes will be allowed for each contestant's Oration. If your speech is less than four minutes or more than five minutes, you will be penalized five (5) points.

SENIOR DIVISION

7. In the State Contest, Senior Division Awards are as follows:

- The Contestant Winner will represent the State in the National Oratorical Contest NBC.
- First Place \$500 and a plaque
- Second Place \$300 and a plaque
- Third Place \$200 and a plaque

JUNIOR DIVISION

8. In the State Contest, the Junior Division Awards are as follows:

- First Place \$200 and a plaque
- Second Place \$150 and a plaque
- Third Place \$100 and a plaque

All Contestants in the Junior and Senior Divisions will receive a Certificate of Participation.

THE NEW KID ON THE BLOCK

9. Preparatory Division will receive no Monetary Compensation just Certificates of Participation during this first year while, we field-test the interest of this age group.

All State Awards will be mailed directly from the Parent Body Office.

Only one contestant from each division will be allowed to participate from each Association.

Registration forms must be postmarked on or before Monday, June 25, 2001.

2001 TOPICS

Preparatory Division

1. Self-discipline
2. Courage
3. Good Judgment
4. Responsibility
5. Integrity
6. Perseverance
7. Kindness
8. Respect

Junior Division

1. Yield Not To Temptation
2. Stand Up For Jesus
3. Changed, Challenged and Charged
4. Can I Get A Witness?

5. Satisfied With Jesus
 6. The Highest Calling
 7. Pressing Toward The Mark
 8. Jesus Never Fails
 9. Serving The Lord With Gladness
 10. Living A Christ-Centered Life
- #### Senior Division
1. Reaching For The Gold
 2. The Excellency of God
 3. Fruits of the Spirit
 4. People of Courage
 5. The (Man/Woman) In The Mirror
 6. God's Word: The Ultimate Truth
 7. Anchored In The Lord
 8. Serving God In This Present Age
 9. Knee-Power
 10. Christ Alive In Youth In Changing Times

James F. Wertz Oratorical Contest Form

Contestants who have been declared winners in their Association should fill in this form and mail to: Ms. Lula M. Gainey, 513 Rosewood Drive, Stedman, N.C. 28391
Telephone: (910) 485-6752; Fax (910) 485-0735

Name of contestant _____

Address _____

Phone # _____

Church _____

Pastor's Name _____

Name of Moderator _____

List Prior Contests In Which You Have Participated In:

Local Church _____

Association _____

Other _____

Subject of Your Topic _____

Your Grade as of July 1, 2001 _____

Signature of Sunday School Superintendent _____

Signature of District President _____

In order to participate in the State GBSC Oratorical Contest, please return this application form completed no later than June 25, 2001.

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Effective Church Leadership

By Rev. Dr. gloria gerald

In the October 2000 edition of *The Informer*, we began a synopsis on the *Church Leadership* lecture presented during the joint adult morning lecture session held during our 2000 All Baptist Assembly. The synopsis was to appear in three parts: *Introduction, Shared ministry and Servant Leadership*. Following is Part II, *Shared Ministry* and a summary of Part I.

Summary

Years come and go. Centuries come and go. However, the church's mission in every age continues to be developing maturing disciples and sending them into the marketplace — the world God so loves — to make more disciples (Mark 16:14-15, Matthew 28:19-29, Luke 24:45-59, John 20). The church is in the world at home, work, learning institutions and places of leisure, and we are called to carry out our mission within the context of the world.

The mission is realized through a flow, an ongoing process of service that has a synergy, a connection. One flows into and out of the other: beloved communities reach out into their respective marketplaces and receive people into the family of faith; individuals enter into the beloved community for continual transformation, nurture, fellowship/kononia and practice and are sent back into the marketplaces as channels of God's grace, mediators between God and the world God so loves; and subsequently return to the beloved community for a deeper relationship with God, each other and ongoing growth in

discipleship — at which point the process begins again.

Preparing, nurturing, fellowshiping, supporting, sending, returning...is the ongoing process by which we reach the world God so loves.

Each disciple of Christ is called to participate in this ongoing process. However, we cannot be active participants in this flow and thereby intentional in living out our mission of going, teaching and making disciples without theologically and biblically based, right and reasonable Christian leadership.

There is a paradigm, or model of leadership that will better empower us to carry out the church's/our mission: shared ministry. Some other terms for shared ministry are mutual ministry, co-creators/procreators, co-laborers, partners-in-ministry and good old fashion team work. It is shared ministry based on God's having called each of us into ministry, that is, into faithful witness as a royal priesthood.

Biblical and Theological Foundations

When we look at the biblical record we see that shared ministry as the paradigm for effective church leadership is not new. However, it is new to most of us because the majority of churches of all denominations do not practice mutuality of ministry.

The Genesis account of creation is a primary text. In chapters 1-11, God calls the world into creation to be God's world. God calls female and male to be stewards' over/of God's creation and to be in fellowship with God. In actuality to partner with God. God

calls and is looking for a faithful response.

Because Adam and Eve broke covenant with God, in chapters 12-50, God calls a special community to be God's faithful witness and to care for the world. There is a call with an expected response. In essence God again calls peoplekind into partnership with God — to be co-creators and pro-create. Therein lies the vertical and horizontal relationship — each of us called to participate in the birthing process so to speak of pro creating as well as fellowship with God. Ultimately for each Christian it is participating in the birthing process of salvation — the process of helping to make disciples.

To be sure, we are not equal partners with God because we are also a part of God's creation — Creator-creature. However, since God made us in God's image, God's likeness and thereby imbued us with a will, we can, as God empowers us, stand with God continuing the process of creating. We become God's feet, hands and mouth as we carry out the challenge of "reaching the masses."

The Sovereign our God, the, as I like to say, I will be who I will be, where I will, when I will be, how I will be and to whomsoever I choose to be, calls us into partnership with God and thereby with each other — that is shared ministry at the highest.

Some other Old Testament examples of shared ministry are Moses, Aaron and Miriam in Exodus 18:17-18 and prophet/Judge Deborah and Berak in Judges 4.

Jesus also practiced shared ministry. His flow or process was that of calling or conscripting, preparing, sending disciples two by two, three by three to perform various tasks and then gathering them together for ongoing preparation and fellowship. They were partners in ministry, trusted with the vision and trained for the coming time of his absence (Mark 6:7, 8, 31, 34, 9:30-32; Matthew 4:18-22; Luke 6:12-16, 8:1-3, 10:1-3, 8-9, 39; John 1:35-37, 43).

Throughout the book of Acts we also see shared ministry in practice. The development of what we now call the diaconate or deacon board grew out of a need for shared ministry. We also see families sharing ministry — Priscilla and Aquilla. (Acts 6, 13:1-4, 13, 36-41, 16:1, 3a, 4-5, 18:1-26).

1 Peter 2:9 gives a doctrinal statement as it relates to our priesthood and thereby mutual ministry. All of God's people are chosen



By Rev. Dr. gloria gerald

and precious. As a holy, chosen priesthood each person has a ministry of demonstrating God's redeeming, reconciling love — "...[you are] God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of [God] who called you out of darkness into [God's] marvelous light." Now you must tell all the wonderful things God has done."

This text is also called a baptismal text. It lifts up our initiation into the body of Christ that starts us on our journey of being priest to each other and mediators between God and the world God so loves. As priests we are channels of God's grace and thereby partners, co-laborers.

The world of our priesthood does not come naturally. It requires seasons of prayer, study, fellowship, worship — active participation in the ongoing process that helps us realize the church and thereby our mission of reaching the masses.

In summary, when the church leadership style is shared ministry the following are evident in both the beloved community gathered together for worship, study and kononia and scattered in the world God so loves for practice: priesthood of all believers is understood and evidenced in the life of each member; the ongoing process of transforming, preparing, nurturing, supporting, sending forth into the marketplace for service and returning to the beloved community for continual transformation, preparation, nurture, supporting, fellowship and sending forth to carry out the church's mission and mandate of making disciples of Christ.

[NRVS with inclusive language]

Guidance For Pastors and Congregations Under Attack

By Portia Brandon, M. Div.

Christian Education Coordinator
Clergy Killers, G. Lloyd Rediger
GUIDANCE FOR PASTORS AND
CONGREGATIONS UNDER ATTACK

It is hard to believe this is happening; the church, synagogue, and temple are the last places such behavior would be expected. Even though there is abuse and violence in society, it seems incongruous that it would happen in church. The church buildings and denominational offices still look much as they have for years, and pastors preach from the pulpits every weekend. Except for occasional scandalous headlines, much of the abuse, conflict, and breakdown of pastors, priests, and rabbis is not in public view.

CHARACTERISTICS

Six "D's" characterize the clergy killer phenomenon:

Destructive: Clergy killers are marked by intentional destructiveness. They don't just disagree or criticize, they insist on inflicting pain and damaging their targets. Their tactics include sabotage, subverting worthy causes, inciting others to do their dirty work, and causing victims to self-destruct.

Determined: Clergy killers don't stop. They may pause, go underground, or change tactics, but they will intimidate, network, and break any rules of decency to accomplish their destruction. They insist that their agenda has priority.

Deceitful: Clergy killers manipulate, camouflage, misrepresent, and accuse others of their own tactics. Their statements and negotiations are not trustworthy.

Demonic: Clergy killers are masters of disguise when they choose to be. They can present themselves as pious, active church members who are "Only doing this for the good of the church." Often they convince naive parishioners that they are raising legitimate issues. It is not uncommon for clergy killers to hide among their "allies of opportunity" — members who are their friends or congregational powerbrokers, or members who are disgruntled with the church.



Portia Brandon, M.Div.
Christian Education Coordinator

Denial: This fifth "D" indicates the way the church colludes in the agenda of the clergy killer. Most of us don't want to admit to the reality of clergy killers, nor do we acknowledge the intentional damage they cause.

Discernment: This is the prescriptive sixth "D." The spiritual gift of discernment is God's grace proffered in an enlightened person, who sees and understands evil, and then allows himself or herself to be empowered by God's Holy Spirit and to become an agent of exorcism. Discernment is followed by confronting evil, in this case, the clergy killers. This confrontation works best, of course, in a healthy community of faith.

Not only does this book warn of disaster, it provides remedies and effective strategies for healing and health in the church. Church leaders must not allow pastors to die one by one and imagine that this is not a warning signal. And pastors must not allow themselves to slip into victim-thinking, in which they become pitiful shadows of a once noble profession. It will be up to pastors to break this degenerative pattern and move the church forward toward health. Pastors can use a lot of help from concerned laity, seminarians, and wise denominational officials.

Children Honored at Morning Star Celebration



The Morning Star Baptist Church hosted a holiday celebration for children in the custody of Catawba County Social Services on Monday, Dec. 18. The holiday event started with a hot dog supper with all the trimmings. Christmas carols were sung by children as they waited for a visit from Santa. Before leaving, each child received a treat bag full of goodies. The holiday celebration was held in the church's fellowship hall. Morning Star Baptist Church and the General Baptist State Convention and co-sponsored the event. Ms. Sherbia Jones, pastoral consultant, Region #2, Cleveland and Catawba Counties, plays Santa Claus to children at Morning Star Baptist Church, Hickory, when the Church hosted a Holiday Celebration for children in the custody of Catawba County Social Services, Dec. 15, 2000.

St. John "A" Baptist Church of Asheville Installs Rev. Whitfield As Pastor



Rev. William Whitfield

Technical Specialist of Volvo Construction Equipment Company. He is married to Veronica J. Taylor and they have four children, Crispin, Janice, Timothy and Poreannian.

Submitted by Diatha Harris
The St. John "A" Baptist Church of Asheville, North Carolina and one of the member churches of Mud Creek Missionary Baptist Association; recently installed their new pastor, the Rev. William Whitfield of Arden, North Carolina. Rev. Whitfield serves as First Vice Moderator of Mud Creek Missionary Baptist Association.

The Installation Service was held on Sunday, December 10, 2000 at 6:00 p.m. at St. John "A" Baptist Church, 20 Dalton Street, Asheville, N.C. The Rev. Frederick Gordon, Pastor of Bethel "A" Baptist Church, Brevard, N.C. and Moderator of the Mud Creek Missionary Baptist Association preached the installation message.

The Bethel "A" Baptist Church Congregation and Choirs accompanied Rev. Gordon.

In Matthew 20:26 we find a passage of scriptures which states, "...whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister" that is visible in his many, many volunteer and/or community service acts; however, of note are the pastoral leadership and assistance that he provided a small church of Hendersonville, N.C., Mount Zion Clear Creek Baptist Church. Ignoring the vastness of their need, he yielded to the Lord's call to assist them and continues to serve as their Interim Pastor. He is also a member of the Baptist Ministers Union and, the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance both of Asheville, N.C.

Pastor Whitfield received his Associate Degree with a major in Industrial Technology from Lake Michigan College in Benton Harbor, Michigan. Later pursued a Bachelor of Science Degree in Industrial Management at Dyke College in Cleveland, Ohio. After graduating from the Good Shepherd School of the Bible in Cleveland, Ohio, he obtained certification as an Evangelical Training Association (E.T.A.) instructor. He currently continues to further his Christian Education by attending Fruitland Baptist Bible Institute of Hendersonville, N.C. with a major in Religion and Christian Education.

Pastor Whitfield is a native of Benton Harbor, Michigan and a retired Product

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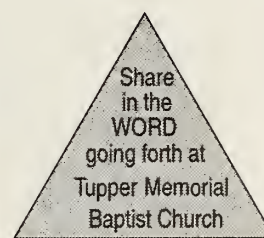
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SHAW UNIVERSITY NEWS

From the Office of the
Third Vice President
Rev. N.T. Davis
Shaw University and Shaw
Divinity School News



Rev. N.T. Davis

the other objectives of the Convention. We look to see you in Winston-Salem in February for the Congress and Usher's One Day Session.

It is a wonderful opportunity to serve you at this time of the 21st Century.

Please ask your church to be present in Winston-Salem.

Grace be unto you and Peace from God our Father and from The Lord Jesus Christ.

Time is moving on, and we must keep up with the changing of time or we will be left behind.

As of this date Shaw University and Shaw Divinity is doing fine.

What we need now is for more Baptist churches to send us your students.

God blessed us with a great leader and he is surrounded by great teachers.

Let us lift up Shaw University to our kids and family. We have come a long way — yet we ask your prayers for Shaw and Shaw Divinity as the year progresses.

Please don't forget State Missions and

Shaw University To Celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. on Actual Birthday

Shaw University honored the life of the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on his actual birthday, Wednesday, January 10th at 11:00 a.m. at the Thomas J. Boyd Chapel.

The featured speaker for the occasion was Dr. John Killinger, renowned pastor, author and educator from Warrenton, Virginia. The occasion was also punctuated with music by Shaw University's Choir, under the direction of Dr. James Abbington, and musical selections by students from the Washington Magnet School (Raleigh) who were invited as special guests.

Dr. Quincy Scott Jr., Dean of the Thomas J. Boyd Chapel noted "The campus community is excited to have Dr. Killinger

return to Shaw University in the role of speaker/facilitator for this annual event. While most institutions seek to find prominent Black citizens to speak on MLK Day, an appeal to diversity," said Scott "provides a perspective consistent with the ideas espoused by Dr. King."

Dr. John Killinger is a prominent civic leader who has championed the cause of civil rights and the equality of all people long before it was popular to do so in public domain. The entire community was invited to attend the Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration. This event was free and open to the public.

Shaw University's Divinity School Hosted AIDS Seminar

Shaw University hosted a two day AIDS Seminar entitled the *Christian Education Health Seminar HIV/STD Prevention*. The focus of the seminar was the HIV/STD prevention in the African-American community.

The purpose of the seminar was to educate and equip seminarians and alumni for the work of ministry in the area of HIV/STD Prevention by providing intensive Christian-based training in HIV/STD Prevention and Care, raising the awareness and the impact of HIV/STD particularly in the

African-American community and responding to the Christian community for help with biblical interpretation pertinent to a theology of prevention and care.

Some of the sessions held were: Hebrew Bible and AIDS, Caring for the Black Family, Church and Community, New Testament Ethics and a Response to AIDS and A Theology of Prevention. For more information on the AIDS Seminar, please contact Dr. James T. Roberson, Dean for the Shaw Divinity School at 919-546-8569.

Mark your calendar! Shaw University Divinity School

presents the

28th Annual James Z. Alexander/Albert W. Pegues Ministers' Conference March 18-20, 2001

Theme: "Equipping the Saints for the Work
of Ministry in the New Millennium"

Speakers!

Rev. Dr. Edward L. Wheeler, President
Christian Theological Seminary, Indianapolis, Ind.

Rev. Dr. Cane Hope Felder,
Professor of New Testament Language & Literature
Howard University

Rev. Dr. Frederick D. Terry, Pastor, Trinity Presbyterian Church
St. Petersburg, Fla.

Local Community Preacher:

Elder Patrick L. Wooden Sr., Pastor
Upper Room Church of God in Christ, Raleigh, N.C.

Highlights:

The conference will begin on Sunday evening at 6 p.m. with preaching in the Thomas J. Boyd Chapel by the conference preacher Dr. Edward Wheeler.

Conference workshops will be held on Monday afternoon at 2:30 p.m. in the W.B. Lewis Lecture Hall in historic Leonard Building. Lectures include Church Music, Old Testament, New Testament, and a Preaching Clinic.

Meet the speakers on Monday evening at 5:30 p.m. at a reception in the Willie E. Gary Student Center followed by preaching at 7 p.m. with Dr. Wheeler in the Thomas J. Boyd Chapel.

Dr. Wheeler will preach Tuesday evening at 7 p.m. and Wednesday at 11 a.m.

Dr. Cane Hope Felder will lecture on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings at 9 a.m.

Elder Patrick L. Wooden Sr., Special Workshop Service preacher on Tuesday night at 8:30 p.m.

Register Now! Advance registration by March 16, 2001 — \$85
On Site Registration \$100

For more information, you may call
Shaw University Divinity School at (919) 546-8570

The United Negro College Fund

William H. Gray III
President & CEO

Mission

United Negro College Fund (UNCF) is the nation's oldest and most successful African-American higher education assistance organization. Our mission is to enhance the quality of education by providing financial assistance to deserving students, raise operating funds for our 39 member colleges and universities, and increase access to technology for students and faculty. UNCF administers more than 450 scholarships and fellowships to students and faculty who attend our member colleges and universities, other historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) and majority institutions throughout the country. In its 56-year history, UNCF has raised over \$1.6 billion to promote higher education achievement and has helped more than 300,000 students earn undergraduate and graduate degrees.

Headquarters

The UNCF headquarters is located in Fairfax, Virginia. It also has 24 regional bases around the country including offices in such major cities as Atlanta, New York, Los Angeles, New Orleans, Washington, DC, Miami, Chicago, Philadelphia and Boston.

UNCF Member Institutions

Barber-Scotia College, Concord, NC
Johnson C. Smith University
Charlotte, NC
Saint Augustine's College, Raleigh, NC
Benedict College, Columbia, SC

Lane College, Jackson, TN
Saint Paul's College, Lawrenceville, VA
Bennett College, Greensboro, NC
LeMoyne-Owen College, Memphis, TN
Shaw University, Raleigh, NC
Bethune-Cookman College

Daytona Beach, FL

Livingstone College, Salisbury, NC
Spelman College, Atlanta, GA
Claffin University, Orangeburg, SC
Miles College, Birmingham, AL
Stillman College, Tuscaloosa, AL
Clark Atlanta University, Atlanta, GA
Morehouse College, Atlanta, GA
Talladega College, Talladega, AL
Dillard University, New Orleans, LA
Morris Brown College, Atlanta, GA
Tougaloo College, Tougaloo, MS
Edward Waters College, Jacksonville, FL
Morris College, Sumter, SC
Tuskegee University, Tuskegee, AL
Fisk University, Nashville, TN
Oakwood College, Huntsville, AL
Virginia Union University

Richmond, VA

Florida Memorial College, Miami, FL
Paine College, Augusta, GA
Voorhees College, Denmark, SC
Huston-Tillotson College, Austin, TX
Paul Quinn College, Dallas, TX
Interdenominational Theological Center,
Wilberforce, OH
Philander Smith College, Little Rock, AR
Wiley College, Marshall, TX
Jarvis Christian College, Hawkins, TX
Rust College, Holly Springs, MS
Xavier University, New Orleans, LA

Support Shaw's Activities!

VACANT POSITIONS

EMMANUEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENT

Seeking Full-time Christian Minister of Music, Loyal and Committed to God's program. Must possess people skills, be trained as a Musician, Conductor and Choir Director. Salary: Commensurate with training and experience. Interested persons may send resume/portfolio to:
Attention: Trustees
Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church
913 N. Highland Street, Gastonia, NC 28052

MORNING STAR MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

The Pulpit Search Committee of MSMB Church is accepting resumes for the position of pastor. Our church body would like for all applicants to have the following qualifications.
*Born again Christian
*Spiritual maturity
*Must be able to preach and teach God's Words
*Must be able to work with all age groups
*Willing to work in our community
*Some college and seminary training preferred
Please send resume to:
Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church, 4610 Fayetteville Road, Durham, NC 27713
c/o Pulpit Search Committee

FIRST AFRICAN BAPTIST CHURCH

803 East Harris St., Goldsboro, N.C. 27530
Pastor: Dr. Freddie I. Barnes

POSITION AVAILABLE: DIRECTOR OF CHURCH MUSIC

First African Baptist Church is a congregation of over 350 members with a Music Ministry that consist of four choirs, Sunshine Choir, Male Chorus, Unity and Praise Choir, Chancel Choir. Music in this ministry consists of gospel (traditional and contemporary) praise and worship. hymns, spirituals and anthems.
Applications and further information may be obtained by contacting Mrs. Johnnie Ingram, Personnel Committee Chairman or Rev. Jerry Dortch at 919-734-4935.

MINISTER OF MUSIC WANTED

Wake Forest congregation seeks Minister of Music. Duties to include working directly with the Pastor in order to assist and cooperate with him in Christian Worship; playing during Sunday morning worship service; rehearsing with various choirs one night per week; and accompanying the Pastor on engagements to other churches. Please forward a cover letter and resume to:
Evans Grove Missionary Baptist Church • 12700 Creedmoor Road, Highway 50
Wake Forest, NC 27587 • (919) 870-8874

CEDAR GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

14600 Railroad St., Gibson, NC 28343
CHURCH MUSICIAN

The Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church of Gibson, N.C., is seeking a person to serve as Church Musician.
Qualifications: Should be a Christian who lives and acts responsibly and has a good character and reputation.
Musician requirements:
*Be able to play a piano, keyboard, organ and be able to work well with a diverse range of singers with directions for musical selections.
*Be available for necessary rehearsals and Sunday Worship Services.
*Be available to accompany the pastor and choirs to all church functions when requested.
Salary negotiable. Please send resume to Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church at the above address.

CHURCH MUSICIAN

The New Hope Baptist Church, Gates, N.C., is seeking a person to serve as Church Musician.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Able to play organ and/or organ.
2. Able to play diverse music.
3. Able to accompany the pastor and choir to church engagements if possible.

SALARY NEGOTIABLE:

Send resume to:
New Hope Baptist Church, PO Box 91, Gatesville, NC 27938
Attn: Fannie M. Spivey, Secretary
Inquiries may be made by calling (252) 357-1061 after 4:30 p.m.

CHURCH MUSICIAN

Mount Olive Baptist Church of Lewiston is seeking a musician for a station church, a Christian who is responsible, has good character and a good reputation.

Requirements:

- *Plays the organ and piano
 - *Able to work with a diverse group of singers
 - *Experienced in all sacred music
 - *Reads music and is versatile in playing by ear
- Send resumes or responses to: Mount Olive Baptist Church
PO Box 214, Lewiston-Woodville, NC 27849 • Attention: William W. Peele Jr.

GOLD HILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Gold Hill Baptist Church, Highway 221 North, Rutherfordton, North Carolina is seeking a pastor for its congregation. Only those who are serious, please apply.

You can send your resume to:

Attention:

Pulpit committee
Gold Hill Baptist Church
PO Box 1047
Rutherfordton, NC 28139

Inquiries may call 1 (828) 287-5580 or 1 (828) 287-3210.

First Missionary Baptist Church

The First Baptist Church is now seeking a pastor to serve as its spiritual leader, teacher, counselor and administrator. All interested persons should submit a letter of interest and resume to the Pulpit Search Committee.

Qualifications

- Born Again Christian
- Ordained Missionary Baptist Minister
- Knowledge of Baptist Doctrine and Faith
- Seminary Training preferred
- Teaching Bible Study Weekly
- Proficient in church organization and ability to train Church
- Pastoral Experience Preferred
- Family Oriented
- Able to Plan and implement innovative youth programs

Interested Applicants should Mail Resumes to:

Pastoral Search Committee

First Baptist Church

ATTENTION: Deacon Calvin Graham Jr., Chairman
P.O. Box 679, Stedman, North Carolina 28391

St. Francis Baptist Missionary Baptist Church is looking for a Pastor

This person should be:

- I. Missionary Baptist
- II. Have good organizational and leadership skills
- III. Commuting Distance
- IV. Family Oriented
- V. Experience Preferred

Interested parties should send resume to:

c/o Pulpit Committee
St. Francis Missionary Baptist Church
P.O. Box 736, Windsor, NC 27983.

PASTOR — IMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH,

the largest African-American Missionary Baptist congregation in New Haven, Connecticut, is seeking an experienced, ordained pastor to replace their retiring spiritual leader. In a community with great potential for church growth and expansion, we require a leader with a sound spiritual foundation. The church has 175 years of rich history and is housed in modern, spacious facilities. The church owns and operates low income housing properties, manages a 70-bed homeless shelter and is active in other community support missions. Candidates must have a depth of formal education, demonstrated leadership abilities and strong administrative skills.

Resumes and inquiries should be addressed to: Deacon William A. Batts, Chairman, Pulpit Search Committee, Immanuel Baptist Church, 210 Curtis Drive, New Haven, CT 06515, Facsimile: (203) 785-8673.

Progressive Missionary Baptist Church

2504 Creech Road, Raleigh, NC 27610
Rev. William H. Brock Sr., Senior Pastor
Rev. Dr. Leo Williams Jr., Assistant Pastor
Rev. James Richardson, Minister of Youth

Growing young Missionary Baptist Church in southeast Raleigh. Seeking a Christian Church Musician who can play piano/organ. Specifically organ. Must be able to read music as well as play by ear. Should be able to play hymns, anthems, spirituals, gospel.

Call church office to arrange interview (919) 828-8373.

First Baptist Church

Third and Mulbury Street, Weldon, North Carolina 27890

The Pulpit Committee of First Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of Pastor. Mail resumes to:

Deacon Stanley Edwards, 908 Country Club Rd., Weldon, NC 27890

Applicants must have the following qualifications:

- Born again Christian
- Must be able to preach and teach God's Word
- Preach quality sermons
- Possess strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, policies and practices
- Able to lead and communicate with all age groups
- Able to work effectively with church boards and committees
- Some college and seminary training preferred

Sandy Grove Missionary Baptist Church

PO Box 290, 1600 Martin Luther King Drive, Lumberton, NC 28358

Sandy Grove Missionary Baptist Church is accepting resumes for a full-time pastor. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

1. Must be licensed, ordained, firmly rooted in the holy spirit, born again, and divinely called.
2. Must have strong family and community values.
3. Must possess or be in the process of pursuing a college degree and theological training from an accredited college or university.
4. Must be able to preach and teach God's holy word.
5. Must be willing to follow the Baptist doctrine, policies and practices.
6. Must be an effective leader, administrator, counselor and must work cooperatively with church officials.
7. Must be willing to work with all age groups, with particular emphasis on the spiritual growth and development of our youth.
8. Must plan for the future growth and development of the church.
9. Must be able to be tactful, just and fair with everyone.
10. Must establish office hours for the benefit of the members.
11. Must visit and commune with sick, shut-ins members and bereaved families.

Interested applicants should provide the following information:

1. A resume of relevant pastoral experience (if applicable).
2. A copy of college degree (s), certificate of license and ordination.
3. Proof of completion of all accredited theological training.
4. Name, address, and telephone number of four (4) personal references—excluding relatives.

Please mail all requested information to:

The Pulpit Committee

Sandy Grove Missionary Baptist Church, P.O. Box 290, Lumberton, NC 28358

Advertise Your Vacant Church Positions!

VACANT POSITIONS

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

103 Church Street, Thomasville, North Carolina 27360

First Baptist Church is currently seeking a Pastor and is accepting resumes from interested licensed, ordained Baptist Ministers. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

1. Spiritual maturity
2. A degree from an accredited college and seminary
3. Administrative and leadership skills
4. Community oriented
5. Must be able to work with all age groups with particular emphasis on youth department
6. Strong knowledge of the Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures
7. Good oral and written communications skills and ability to communicate with all age groups
8. A minimum of 5 years experience as senior pastor, but will consider years of experience as associate pastor
9. Must be willing to attend Sunday School

Responsibilities Include:

Plan and implementation of innovative religious programs, activities and projects designed to promote the church's progression and encourage active participation.

Please send resumes to:

The Rev. John D. Bratton, Chair
The Pastoral Search Committee

First Baptist Church, 103 Church Street, Thomasville, North Carolina 27360

PULPIT VACANCY

The pulpit search committee of the Mount Zoar Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of pastor. Applicants must possess the following qualifications/responsibilities.

Qualifications

- Born again, spirit-filled, ordained and divinely called with strong family and community values.
- Be a licensed, ordained Missionary Baptist Minister.
- Must be able to preach and teach Bible Study
- Must be able to work with all age groups with emphasis on youth department
- Strong knowledge of the Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures
- Experienced as a senior pastor, but will consider years of experience as an associate pastor
- Must be willing to attend Sunday School and teach Bible Study
- Spiritual maturity; preach and teach God's word
- Willingness to administer communion and perform baptismal service
- Possess strong and proven administrative experience
- College degree preferred but will consider a combination of education and experience

Responsibilities

- Plan, prepare and deliver sermons
- Visit and commune with sick and shut-in members and bereaved families
- Plan and implementation of activities and projects designed to promote the church's progression and encourage active participation.
- Interested applicants should mail resume with a recent photograph to address below.
- Special notes: Photograph will not be returned

Mount Zoar Missionary Baptist Church
C/O Ann Dixon
Pulpit Search Committee
PO Box 71736, Durham, NC 27704

NOTICE OF VACANCY

Liberty Hill Missionary Baptist Church of Catawba, South Carolina is actively searching for a bi-vocational Minister for their congregation. Liberty Hill is a congregation that has great potential. Congregational size is approximately 135 members, however attendance varies from 75-150 persons, depending upon the season.

We are a small family community located ten miles south of Rock Hill, SC and ten miles north of Fort Lawn, SC, off of Highway 21 and the historic Landsford Canal Park, respectively. Forty-five miles south of Charlotte, North Carolina and seventy-five miles north of Columbia, South Carolina.

We are an autonomous Missionary Baptist Church that is affiliated with the Sandy River Baptist Association (Upper Division), in York County, South Carolina; South Carolina Baptist Educational and Missionary Convention. Our congregation represents all ages, all backgrounds, an is multi-talented.

Our pastor must be a strong spiritual leader, administrator, and teacher. One who will proclaim the Good News in a meaningful way that will help members to apply Biblical concepts to our everyday lives. One who has a passion for equipping that saints to do the work of the ministry; allowing them to discover their gifts and put them into practice in service to others.

Responsibilities will include Sunday church services, Holy Communion, Induction of New Members, Baptism, Annual Revival Services, Prayer group, Adult Sunday School/Bible Study and assistance in initiating or enhancing other ministries. The minister is an ex-officio and spiritual consultant of all auxiliaries, and serves on both the Diaconate and Advisory Council. The Diaconate meets once per month; the Advisory Council and church meetings are quarterly.

Weddings, funerals, along with christening/dedications are also required of the minister, if requested by the parishioners. The pastor's presence is expected in times of serious illness and in times of serious conflict within families or among church members. Counseling may also be requested. Must participate in other church sponsored activities, i.e. Prayer Brunch, Senior and Youth Programs, Anniversary Programs, etc.

Qualifications desired in our New Pastor:

- Pastoral ministry experience
- Graduate of an accredited seminary
- College training
- Pastor's Ordination Certificate
- Be a strong, motivating speaker
- Be moderate to liberal in preaching style with an emphasis on New Testament teachings
- Have excellent teaching skills
- Possess strong leadership skills
- Be caring and sensitive
- Be skilled in conflict resolution
- Value youth development

All interested persons should send a resume and/or write for an application to Liberty Hill Missionary Baptist Church, The Pastor Search Committee, P.O. Box 10067, Rock Hill, South Carolina 29731.

For further information e-mail: Clara Feely Gray (as4603spcgra@infoave.net), Vivian T. Robinson (vrob58.bellsouth.net), or leave a message at (803) 324-0120.

CEDAR GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

612 Norwalk Street, Greensboro, North Carolina 27406

The Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church are accepting resumes for the following positions. Only sincere interested persons need to apply.

Lead and Bass Guitarist:

Qualifications include but not limited to:

- Born again Christian
- Follow instructions from the Pastor and Minister of Music
- Must be able to work well with a diverse range of singers and age groups
- Must be able to rehearse with choirs at a scheduled time unless otherwise notified
- Must be in attendance for both the 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. worship services
- Must be available to accompany the pastor and choirs when requested

Mail resumes along with salary expectations to the above address,

Attn: Minister George Pass

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTER

Qualifications include but not limited to:

- Born again Christian
- Willingness to follow the By-laws governing the church
- Able to lead and communicate with all age groups
- Ability to preach and teach God's Holy Word
- Ability to plan and implement innovative religious programs, activities and projects designed to fulfill the vision and mission of the church
- Strong Desire to help nurture the youth
- Overseeing various youth programs for the church
- Excellent communication, interpersonal and organizational skills
- Ability to lead as well as follow the Pastor's vision

Mail resumes along with salary expectations to the above address,

Attn: Pastor James A. Johnson

Calvary Baptist Church of Paterson, New Jersey, is seeking a full-time Minister of Music. The applicant must be an experienced individual with formal training in voice and instrumentation, with a strong emphasis on organ and piano. The successful candidate will be a dedicated and innovative teacher/director and have strong administrative skills. College or equivalent training desired. Calvary is a large and thriving congregation with a seven-day community oriented ministry. The position is full-time and requires approximately 35 hours per week with a flexible schedule. Compensation package is excellent and commensurate with training and experience. Send resume to Rev. Dr. Albert P. Rowe, Pastor, Calvary Baptist Church, 575 East 18th Street, Paterson, New Jersey.

Oberlin Baptist Church

806 Oberlin Road, Raleigh, NC 27605 • (919) 828-1707

Oberlin Baptist Church, located in Raleigh, N.C., is currently seeking a pastor and is accepting resumes from interested licensed, ordained, Missionary Baptist Ministers. Salary is negotiable, commensurate with experience and qualifications.

Qualifications:

Licensed, ordained, Missionary Baptist Minister with a minimum of 5 years experience as a senior pastor.

- Have strong knowledge of the Baptist doctrines, church policies and practices.
- Must have a college and seminary degree from an accredited college or university.
- Demonstrated experience in the delivery of well-prepared sermons and the ability to teach all levels.
- Must possess the necessary qualifications and skills to counsel and console members and families.
- Must be able to clearly develop and articulate a vision for church growth.
- Must be community-oriented and have established community outreach programs.
- Must exhibit leadership skills in guiding the Boards and Auxiliaries of the church.
- Must have ability to work with all age groups, with special emphasis on youth development and the needs of senior citizens.
- Must have demonstrated patterns of visitation for the sick and shut-ins.
- Interested applicants should provide the following information:
- A resume of relevant experience
- A copy of Certificate of License and Ordination
- Proof of completion of all programs of theological and academic degrees
- Names, addresses and telephone number of five personal references excluding relatives, no more than two references from other pastors or ministers.

All information should be sent to:

Deacon Rufus J. Allen, Chairperson
OBC Pastoral Search Committee
806 Oberlin Road, Raleigh, NC 27605

PENN AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH

225 West McClanahan Street, Oxford, N.C. 27565

Rev. Willie S. Darby, Pastor

(919) 693-5396 • (919) 693-1015, Pastor's Office

The Penn Avenue Missionary Baptist Church of Oxford, N.C. is currently seeking a MINISTER OF MUSIC.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- *Must be a born again Christian.
- *Must be able to play the piano, keyboard and/or organ.
- *Must be able to read music and is versatile in playing by ear.
- *Must be able to work well with a diverse range of singers and age groups.
- *Must be able to teach and direct hymns, anthems, spirituals, gospels and other sacred music.
- *Must be able to rehearse choirs at a scheduled time unless otherwise notified.
- *Must be available for Sunday morning worship services.
- *Must be available to accompany the pastor and choirs when requested or provide a qualified substitute.
- *Must be able to assist in the selection of appropriate songs for worship and services.
- *Will be responsible with the pastor's approval in hiring other musicians if deemed necessary.

Salary: Negotiable

Penn Avenue Missionary Baptist Church is a warm, spirited-filled church that has worship services 52 Sundays a year and at present there is one musician available for 2nd Sunday worship services. Service begins each Sunday at 11 a.m. with the exception of 5th Sunday services which begin at 10 a.m.

Please send resume to the above listed address or inquiries may be made by calling one of the above listed numbers.

VACANT POSITIONS

GOOD HOPE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

4209 Smithfield Road, PO Box 441 Knightdale, North Carolina 27545
Telephone: 919-266-0217

JOHN L. THATCH, PASTOR

POSITION: MINISTER OF MUSIC

Principal Functions: Supervised by the pastor, the minister of music will be responsible for the development and promotion of the music program of the Church.

Primary Responsibilities: The minister of music will be responsible for the following:

1. Plan, organize, conduct and evaluate the comprehensive music program for the Church, including choirs, vocal and/or instrumental ensembles.
2. Prepare choirs for each Sunday morning's worship services.
3. Teach and direct sacred music (hymns, anthems, spirituals and gospel music).
4. Work with all choirs in selecting appropriate music for Sunday mornings' services and other worship services as his/her services are needed.
5. Work in cooperation with the pastor, other musicians and other choir members to set and implement guidelines for choir members' rights, responsibilities and ethical conduct while representing the Church in the glorification of God.
6. Work with the pastor, other musicians and choir members in scheduling and observing schedules for choir rehearsals.
7. Supervise the maintenance of the Church's musical instruments, hymnals, sheet music, music library and training materials, etc.
8. Work with the pastor to plan all services of worship (including funerals, weddings, revivals, special projects, etc.) and will accompany the pastor and Church when they are called upon to provide services for worship services at other churches.
9. Keep abreast of music methods, materials, promotion and administration, and cooperate with the Church process to enlist and train leaders for the Church music ministry.
10. Prepare an estimated annual budget and administer the approved budget.
11. Perform other duties as assigned by the pastor.

Qualifications:

1. Must be a Christian
2. Must possess people skills
3. Must be formally trained as a musician, conductor and choir director
4. Must be loyal and committed to the service and glory of God

Salary: Commensurate with training and experience

Interested persons may send resumes/portfolios to:

John L. Thatch, Pastor

Good Hope Missionary Baptist Church, PO Box 441, Knightdale, NC 27545

MINISTER OF MUSIC WANTED

Wake Forest Congregation seeks Minister of Music. Duties to include working directly with the Pastor in order to assist and cooperate with him in Christian Worship; playing during Sunday morning worship service; rehearsing with various choirs one night per week; and accompanying the Pastor on engagements to other churches. Please forward a cover letter and resume to:

Evans Grove Missionary Baptist Church, 12700 Creedmoor Road, Highway 50
Wake Forest, NC 27587 • (919) 870-8874

Littlefield Missionary Baptist Church

4465 Newton Grove Highway
Newton Grove, NC 28366

The Littlefield Missionary Baptist Church is accepting resumes from interested Missionary Baptist Ministers for the position of Pastor.

1. Born-again Christian and Role Model with strong leadership abilities.
2. Able to manage Church's administrative functions effectively.
3. Must be able to preach and teach God's Word.
4. Knowledgeable and believes in The Baptist Doctrine
5. Local proximity to Church, willingness to visit the sick and shut-in.
6. Seminary and/or Theological experience (preferred)

Services are second, third and fourth Sundays.

OAK GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

PO Box 1977, Enon Road
Oxford, North Carolina 27565

The officers and members of Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Church are accepting resumes for the position of Pastor. All interested ordained Missionary Baptist ministers should submit resumes to:

Deacon Joseph M. Lindsey
PO Box 1977
Oxford, NC 27565

Qualifications

1. Must be a born again, spirit filled, ordained missionary Baptist minister with sound knowledge of Baptist doctrine.
2. Must be willing to work with the East Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Association.
3. Must proclaim the Bible publicly and with conviction.
4. Must be willing to serve as an ex officio member of church ministries.
5. Must demonstrate strong leadership in directing all church ministries.
6. Must have a good report.
7. Must be a servant/leader with a God given vision for the church.
8. Must be more than a Sunday morning minister-visible in the community.
9. Must have good written and oral communication skills with seminary training.

POSITION AVAILABLE: DIRECTOR OF CHURCH MUSIC

First African Baptist Church is a congregation of over 350 members with a Music Ministry that consist of four choirs, Sunshine Choir, Male Chorus, Unity and Praise Choir, Chancel Choir. Music in this ministry consists of gospel (traditional and contemporary) praise and worship, hymns, spirituals and anthems.

Applications and further information may be obtained by contacting, Mrs. Johnnie Ingram, Personnel Committee Chairman or Rev. Jerry Dortch at 919-734-4935.

UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

110 Lincoln Ave., Lexington, NC 27292

Needed: Minister of Music or Organist.

Please send resume to:

Union Baptist Church, 110 Lincoln Ave, Lexington, NC 27292. Attn: Rev. Darrell L. Thomas.
Or call 336-243-1648 and leave your name and number.

CHURCH MUSICIAN

First Missionary Baptist Church of Clinton is seeking a person to serve as musician. The responsibilities include playing for the Adult Choir on the First Sunday, and accompanying the other choirs on the remaining Sundays.

Qualifications:

Should be able to play the piano and the organ, and be able to work well with diverse groups of singers.

Experience in sacred music is a must as well as the ability to read music and play by ear.

The musician is also expected to accompany the pastor and choirs to outside functions when necessary.

Interested persons may send resume to: First Baptist Church, 900 College St., Clinton, N.C. 28328.

WANTED

First Missionary Baptist Church of Smithfield, NC, desires to make contact with the preachers who served it before 1928 or their families, also with two pastors in the 1940's: Rev. M.L. Mason and Rev. T.H. Brooks, and with Rev. J.H. Jones who served in the 1950's.

Send letters to Mrs. Myrtle Sanders, 303 Pine Street, Smithfield, NC 27577

ZION BAPTIST CHURCH SEEKS PASTOR

On April 20, 2000, Rev. Curtis E. Bender, pastor of Zion Baptist Church in Omaha, Nebraska, tendered his resignation. He has blessed Zion and the Omaha community with his leadership for more than 20 years. Although we will miss our Pastor, we humbly submit to the Will of God. Consequently, the recently formed Zion Baptist Church Pulpit Search Committee would like to solicit your help in this search. Please notify the members of your District/Convention that the Zion Baptist Church pulpit is vacant and that we have begun accepting applications for Pastor. Among other things, we require applicants who:

- Are Called by God. (1 Timothy 3:1-7)
- Are Graduates of an accredited and respected seminary.
- Have had a minimum of 10 years as pastor of a large Black Baptist Church. (500 or more members).
- Are members in good standing and with a track record of membership in the National Baptist Convention U.S.A., Inc.
- Have proven leadership and training skills.

Interested candidates are asked to request in writing applications from:

Zion Baptist Church
Pulpit Search Committee
2215 Grant Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68110

Please pray for our effort and thank you for your help in this notification.

Yours in Christ,

Dea. Jesse Sharpe, Committee Chairman, Sis. Jacqueline C. Hart, Church Clerk

MUSICIAN WANTED

Progressive Church Music Department looking for Director of Music to provide leadership for growth spiritually and musically. Must have experience in church music (anthems, hymns, spirituals, etc.) or equivalent. Able to read music and direct/accompany. Available on 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays. On call as needed. To apply call 252-442-4623. **MUSICIAN WANTED**

Progressive Church Music Department looking for Director of Music to provide leadership for growth spiritually and musically. Must have experience in church music (anthems, hymns, spirituals, etc.) or equivalent. Able to read music and direct/accompany. Available on 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays. On call as needed. To apply call 252-442-4623.

MINISTER OF MUSIC • ST. MATTHEW BAPTIST CHURCH

P.O. BOX 1710, OXFORD, NC 27565

1. Must be a Christian to serve as minister of music each Sunday.
 2. Will prepare choirs for Sunday morning worship services and special services.
 3. Will teach and direct hymns, spiritual selections and other sacred music.
 4. Will implement and/or carrying out guidelines pertaining to choir members' conduct.
 5. Will rehearse choirs at a scheduled time unless otherwise notified.
 6. Will be available to accompany the Pastor and choir to church functions requested.
- Please send resume to the above address: Attention Pastor. Inquiries may be made by calling (252) 492-9046 or (919) 603-0620.

JONES CHAPEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

148 Jones Chapel Church Road
Louisburg, NC 27549

The Pulpit Committee of Jones Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, Louisburg, N.C. is currently accepting resumes for the position of Pastor.

Qualifications:

- I. Must be a born again, licensed and ordained Missionary Baptist Minister who is Spirit filled and abides by I Timothy 3:1-7 as well as Titus 1:6-9.
 - II. Pastoral experience preferred.
 - III. Must have a vision for the church. (Proverbs 29:18)
 - IV. Prefer one who has BA or BS degree from a college or university and a degree from an accredited and respected Seminary.
 - V. Ability to preach and teach God's Word.
 - VI. Must have excellent oral and written communication skills.
 - VII. Must have proven leadership abilities and administrative skills.
 - VIII. Ability to work with all age groups, particularly seniors and youth.
 - IX. Must be community oriented.
 - X. Must have knowledge of the Baptist Doctrine, church policies, and procedures.
- Only interested applicants need apply and provide the following:
1. Recent resume.
 2. Copy of licensure and ordination certificates.
 3. Three professional references.

Please forward resumes to the following:

Jones Chapel Missionary Baptist Church
Attn: Pulpit Committee
148 Jones Chapel Church Road
Louisburg, N.C. 27549
Please respond by April 1, 2001

VACANT POSITIONS

FIRST BAPTIST CHARITY CHURCH

Greenevers, N.C.

The First Baptist Charity Church of Greenevers, N.C. is accepting resumes from interested Missionary Baptist Ministers for the position of pastor.

Qualifications:

1. Divinely called spirit-filled, born-again Christian with strong Family values.
2. Pastoral experiences is required.
3. Must work closely with the officers of the church.
4. Must have at least 2 years of college or seminary training.
5. Must be able to preach and teach.
6. Must have good leadership and communication skills.
7. Family oriented.
8. Have knowledge of and willing to follow Baptist doctrines, policies and procedures.
9. Must be willing to visit and commune with the sick and shut-ins.
10. Must be willing to work with all age groups.

Services are first, second, third and fourth Sundays with Sunday school beginning at 10:00 a.m. and morning service beginning at 11:00 a.m.

Please send resumes to:

Deacon Fernald Rawls, Jr.
920 Pasture Branch Road, Rose Hill, NC 28458

MT. OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

PO Box 98, Kings Mountain, NC 28086

Mt. Olive Baptist Church is currently seeking a Pastor and is accepting resumes from interested licenses, ordained Baptist ministers. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

1. Spiritual maturity
2. A minimum of three years experience as a pastor, but will consider years of experience as associate pastor.
3. Administrative and leadership skills.
4. Community oriented.
5. Must be able to work with all age groups with specific emphasis on youth department.
6. Strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures.
7. Good oral and written communication skills and ability to communicate with all age groups.

Responsibilities include:

Planning, organizing and implementing programs that encourage participation from youth and young adults and promote church growth and progression.

Please send resumes to:

Mt. Olive Baptist Church
P.O. Box 98
Kings Mountain, NC 28086
% The Pulpit Committee

UNION GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH

Warrenton, North Carolina

The Union Grove Baptist is currently seeking and accepting resumes from interested licensed, ordained Baptist ministers. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

1. Spiritual maturity
2. A minimum of three years experience as a pastor, but will consider years of experience as associate pastor
3. Administrative and leadership skills
4. Must be able to work with various age groups with specific emphasis on youth development.
5. Strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures.
7. Good oral and written communication skills and ability to communicate with all age groups.
8. Have excellent teaching ability.

Other responsibilities include:

Planning, organizing and implementing programs that encourage participation of youth and young adults that promote church growth and progress.

Please send resumes to:

Brother Alonza Jones, Board Chairman
Route 2, Box 128, Norlina, N.C. 27563
% The Pulpit Committee

MINISTER OF MUSIC VACANCY SPRING GREEN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

PO Box 924

Warrenton, NC 27589

Rev. Dennis G. Lindsay, Pastor

The Spring Green Missionary Baptist Church seeks a Minister of Music to provide musical direction and accompaniment for 4 choirs in the church. This person will work closely with the Pastor to provide spiritual leadership in the ministry of Jesus Christ through music, i.e. hymns, spiritual songs, and praise and worship music that glorifies God.

We are accepting resumes from candidates with the following qualifications:

1. Born-again Christian, Spirit-filled, and divinely gifted in music ministry.
2. Willingness to spiritually align the music ministry with Pastoral vision.
3. Able to play the piano, keyboard and/or organ; able to read music and versatile.
4. Able to prepare choirs for Sunday morning worship services and other services.
5. Able to teach, as well as direct choirs, with humility and love.
6. Able to rehearse with all choirs on schedule, and available for all Sunday services
7. Able to accompany Pastor and choirs to other services as required (or ensure qualified substitute is available).

8. Able to select appropriate hymns and songs for worship service.

Please submit resumes to the address above. Any inquiries, please contact Pastor Lindsay at (919) 361-3003.

POSITION OPENINGS ANNOUNCEMENT

JOB TITLE: CLERK TYPIST

APPLICATION DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 14, 2001

SALARY: \$27,876

JOB LOCATION: DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

INTERVIEW DATES: MARCH 5-6, 2001

EMPLOYMENT BEGINS: MARCH 19, 2001

Church World Service is the international relief, development and refugee resettlement agency of 36 Protestant and Orthodox communions of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. The mission of the Resource Development Department is to confront hunger and its related injustices through various ecumenical and interfaith educational and fund raising opportunities.

BASIC FUNCTION: The Clerk Typist serves as a support staff person for the CarolinasCWS/CROP office. The incumbent provides advanced word processing and data entry assistance on assigned tasks for the Regional Office staff. Tasks include word processing of various reports and correspondence, and other copy as required; and maintaining program-related records which includes data entry into the Regional Fund/Raiser System. Responsible for processing CROPWALKER Envelopes and data entry for office mailing list. Serves as office receptionist. Opens, sorts, and distributes mail. Assists with mailings, preparation of materials packets, and shipment and unpacking of CROP WALK, TOOLS OF HOPE & BLANKET materials. Maintains program materials inventory. Purchases office supplies. Maintains income, county, and general office files. Responsible for copying multiple duplication needs. All duties have set time limits. Other duties and special projects as assigned.

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION: The level of responsibility for this position requires: (1) strong organizational and communication skills; (2) proficiency in WordPerfect 7.0, email, and Internet use; (3) strong data entry skills; (4) experience in general office tasks; (5) receptionist skills; (6) ability to meet and manage multiple time lines and priorities; (7) flexibility in approach to work assignments; (8) ability to work with many tasks, staff and volunteers; and (9) knowledge of interest in learning about issues of justice, poverty, and hunger in the local and global community.

Church World Service does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, religion, age, disability or veteran status in employment or the provision of services and in keeping with our Affirmative Action policy, we encourage women and racial/ethnic minority persons to apply for this position.

Interested applicants should mail their resume and cover letter to be received no later than February 14, 2001 to: Church World Service/CROP, Attention: KML, P.O. Box 968, Elkhart, IN 46515.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

North Carolina Council of Churches COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATE

Job responsibilities

Develop and implement a communications plan including at least the following:

Print media

- Write, edit, and produce Church Council Bulletin
- Write, edit, and produce regular information piece for "Interested Persons"
- Produce quarterly one-page information piece for distribution by judicatories
- Prepare and distribute press releases to secular and religious press
- Coordinate production of other printed resources

Electronic communications

- Design and maintain web site
- Develop electronic versions of CCB and Raleigh Report, including e-mail summaries
- Propose other uses of electronic communications technology

Develop and staff the Communications Committee

Qualifications

Compatible with Council's mission of ecumenism and social justice
Member of a faith community affiliated with the NC Council of Churches (preferred)

Four-year communications degree (preferred)

Two years work experience (preferred)

Excellent computer skills in MS Office, especially Word, Publisher and FrontPage

Other

Responsible to Executive Director

Attend meetings of House of Delegates and Executive Board

Salary and benefits package: \$17,000-\$19,000 for half-time employment.

Telecommuting from within the Triangle is preferred, with semimonthly in-office staff meetings.

The North Carolina Council of Churches does not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, ethnicity, or sexual orientation.

To apply, send a resume and writing sample to George Reed, 1307 Glenwood Avenue, Suite 162, Raleigh, NC 27605.

Or e-mail to nccofof@nccouncilofchurches.org.

Pray for great blessings for this year!

GO TO: WWW.GBSC.NET

Update of The National Baptist Congress of Christian Education, Charlotte, North Carolina,

June 18-22, 2001

National Congress of Christian Education is the "Teaching arm of the National Baptist Convention. U.S.A., Inc.

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Pre-Congress Musical 2001**

Host Church:

FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

3301 Beatties Ford Road, Charlotte NC 28216

Dr. Clifford A. Jones, Senior Minister/Host Pastor

Mr. Tony McNeill, Pre-Congress Musical Director

WHEN: Monday, June 18, 2001

**TIME: 6:00 pm — Official Welcome
6:45 — Concert**

WHERE: Charlotte Convention Center

TICKETS: \$10.00 per person

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Frank Williams

(White Rock Missionary Baptist Church,
Durham, NC)

Jacqueline Robinson

(Statesville Avenue Presbyterian Church,
Charlotte, NC)

Donald Chisholm

(St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church,
Charlotte, NC)

Stephanie Kirkpatrick

(Rocky Ridge Missionary Baptist
Church, Concord, NC)

Bruce Thompson

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(704) 392-0316—FAX

musicatfmba@yahoo.com—EMAIL

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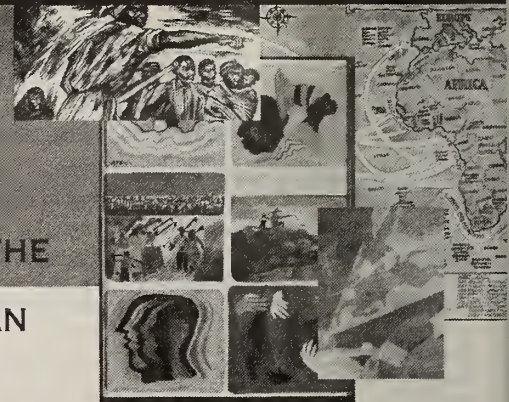
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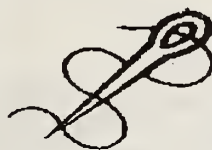
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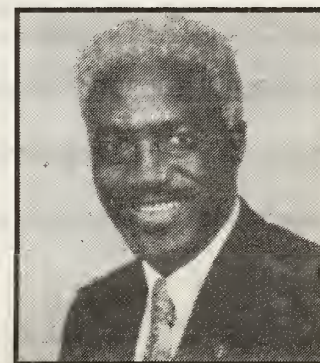
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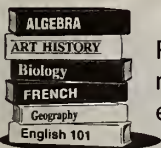
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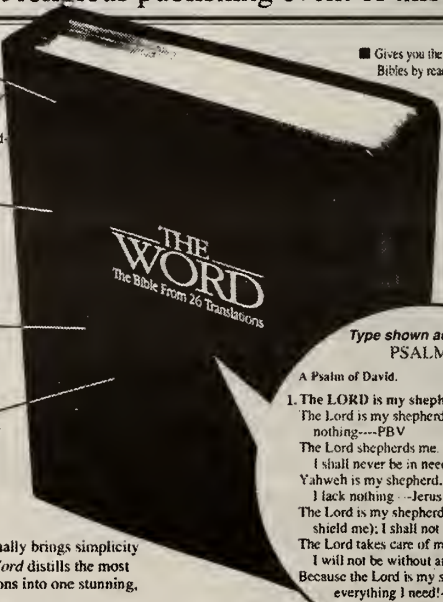
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PSALM 23

A Psalm of David.

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The Lord is my shepherd; therefore can I lack nothing---PBV
The Lord shepherds me.
I shall never be in need ---Har
Yahweh is my shepherd.
I lack nothing ---Jerus
The Lord is my shepherd (to feed, guide and shield me); I shall not lack---Amp
The Lord takes care of me as his sheep.
I will not be without any good thing---Bas
Because the Lord is my shepherd, I have everything I need!---Tay

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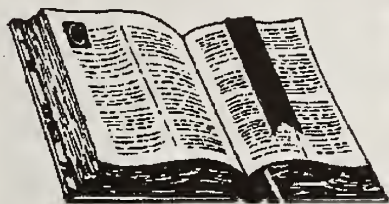
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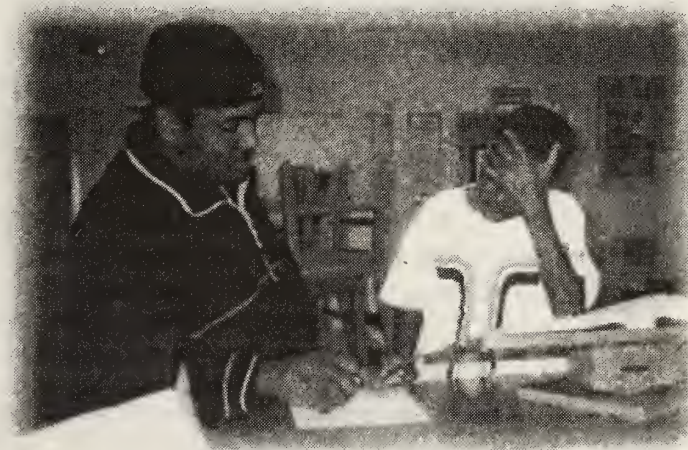
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Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc.
Voice of 500,000 North Carolina Baptists

February 2001

Baptist Informer

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BAPTIST INFORMER

Volume 124, Number 3

Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C. Inc.
Voice of 500,000 North Carolina Baptists

March 2001

General Baptist State Convention Stewardship Outreach A Success

By Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr.
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

On January 29-30, 2001 at the Saint Stephen's Missionary Baptist Church in Elizabeth City, NC, Rev. Ricky Banks, Pastor, the GBSC held its first GBSC Stewardship Outreach Conference. The theme for this year's outreach is "Stewardship and the Church." The sessions talk about the need for strong church administration and management. Also how the church should take care of and compensate the Pastor.

Over 500 persons attended the sessions each night. Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Archie D. Logan Jr.; Congress Field Worker, The Rev. Dr. Robert Horne; Rev. Dr. Robert E. McGowan, Pastor Galilee Missionary Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, NC and Pastor Ricky Banks lead the sessions. During the workshop session Dr. Horne emphasized church stewardship and benefits for the Pastor. Also he talked about the need for the church leaders to function, "decent and in order." Dr. McGowan closed each session with a powerful message. State Missions offerings were received each night and members of the Roanoke Missionary Baptist Association, Moderator James H. Rogers assisted in the services.

On February 2, 2001 the Headquarters staff went to Saint Phillips Missionary Baptist Church, Pollocksville, NC, Rev. Dr. Spencer Williams, Pastor in Trent River Oakey Grove Missionary Baptist Association, Moderator, W.K. Raynor. We had workshops on Stewardship lead by myself; Mrs. Portia Brandon; and Rev. Dr. Robert Horne; Rev. Dennis Leach preached a powerful sermon to end the session. The Association and its churches gave a very substantial gift to State Missions: *PRAISE GOD!*

The GBSC is very concerned about the spirituality and stability of our Churches, Unions and Associations. We must work together Pastor and Pew to promote EVANGELMS and KINGDOM BUILDING. The days when the "so-called" head deacon or the pastor can be a dictator in our churches are over. No one person or one family makes the decisions for an entire congregation anymore.

We are traveling across the State providing workshops, teaching and training for our churches in this area of concern. Also, our *New Millennium Pastor's Salary Guideline Booklet* will be available March 15, 2001. Below are some of the themes covered in the new publication.

The Pastor's Salary

Several months ago I was participating in a stewardship workshop in the GBSC and a trustee said: "Let the church keep the pastor poor and God can keep him humble." How often has this statement been made or one similar in your congregations when the issue of providing support for the pastor has been addressed? Or you are working on a new budget for the church? The apostle Paul wrote to Timothy, "The elders who rule well are to be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who work hard at preaching and teaching. For the Scripture says, 'You shall not muzzle the

ox while he is threshing,' and 'The laborer is worthy of his wages'" (1 Timothy 5:17-18). Many times we want to follow the Bible word for word EXCEPT when it comes to supporting our pastors.

Today few GBSC pastors are compensated fairly. We have a very small percentage of full-time pastors who receive adequate support. A reasonable income is based on what would ordinarily be paid for like services by a similar organization under similar circumstances. Many persons serving in our GBSC pulpits today are highly trained and well educated. In obedience to God, congregations should compensate ministers what they are worth. This problem is not unique to North Carolina. We have a small number of African-American full-time clergy nationwide. Our churches suffer for lack of full time leadership.

Pastoral compensation is a two-edged sword: Pastors should be compensated what they are worth, but the ministers should be worth what they are paid. Income paid to pastors should be fair and a reasonable indication of the pastor's worth. Yet, it should also relate to the responsibilities, the size of the congregation, the economic level of the locale, and the experience of the pastors.

An annual review of a pastor's compensation package is vital and the pastor should know exactly what to expect from the congregation during the coming year. However, if a church does not increase the pastor's pay each year by at least the cost of living, it has in effect reduced the salary. Moreover, just as the members of a congregation expect their employers to provide them with a cost-of-living pay increase each year, a pastor should expect the same.

Working Outside the Church

In some situations, pastors are forced to seek outside employment in order to supplement low salaries. If pastors feel committed to earn their living outside the church, so they will not have to take money from church members, then that commitment must be from God. As such, pastors should be given the freedom to pursue second jobs without fear of stigma. But if pastors are working because their churches will not support them, then that is wrong, because it is a lack of commitment on the part of God's people and a lack of faith on the part of the pastors (see Philippians 4:19).

Before pastors take outside jobs, the church officers should honestly determine if the church has the resources to assume their full and adequate support of the shepherd. Are we as church leaders committed to a STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY? Are we going to give our tithes, talents, temples and time? If pastors are torn between the loyalty of a job in which they earn a living to provide for their families (1 Timothy 5:8) and the call of ministering to people, they will have divided minds and the overall stability of their churches and its ministries very well and could suffer.

Inadequate income does produce consequences. When church congregations are not committed to STEWARDSHIP MIN-

ISTRY. Pastors who are concerned about providing the basic needs of their own families may not have the emotional energy to concentrate on the needs of their churches. Financial burdens may contribute to a lack of enthusiasm, a low self-esteem, and a negative attitude toward the ministry. Ultimately, that will harm the congregation. Pastors must be free to move under the anointing of the Holy Spirit. General Baptist must LIBERATE our pastors. "Appreciate those who diligently labor among you, and have charge over you in the Lord." (1 Thessalonians 5:12).

Stewardship Giving and Tithing

The GBSC, Inc., promotes Stewardship as the basis for the support of the Christian ministry. Poverty was no stranger to the first century church at Macedonia, yet their generosity was so great that it continues to be a model for giving over 2,000 years later. The source of that generosity lay in the spiritual wealth of the Macedonians, which overflowed in such abundant giving that the apostle Paul made note of it repeatedly in his epistles. Paul says the Macedonians were pleased to give, and God loves a cheerful giver. They gave of their own accord, not grudgingly or under compulsion. They begged Paul for the opportunity to give, not having to be begged. And they entreated Paul for the favor of helping support the saints. For them, giving was a privilege. More than anything, however, giving seemed to come naturally to the Macedonians. It is that type of giving that is done in love, requires no audience, and is followed by no reasoning or regrets. It springs from a deep spiritual relationship that puts God in the proper perspective: as owner of all things. Our churches are Bible based. We must have faith in the "WORD." God is true to His promises.

Psalms 24:1 declares, "The earth is the Lord's, and all it contains." Deuteronomy 8:18 says it is God who gives us power to make wealth, not we ourselves. In 1 Corinthians 4:7, Paul asks, "And what do you have that you did not receive?" When we recognize that God owns everything and all blessings come from Him (including our ability to work), our role as managers, or stewards, becomes evident. We also see the multitude of blessings we have to be thankful for. In response, we should view ourselves as God's servants, ready always to do His will. That is why we call Him Lord, meaning "ruler" "owner" "sovereign" "king."

How Much Do We Give? How Much Stewardship?

Being a good steward, is giving back to God a portion of what He's entrusted to us. It is not that God "needs" our money or stewardship resources. Rather, stewardship giving serves as an external, material testimony that God owns both the material and spiritual things of our lives. It also supports the greatest, most enduring work ever conducted in this world: the Lord's work and Kingdom Building. We have GBSC, Inc. objectives that we support: Shaw University, Shaw University Divinity School, Cen-



Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr.

tral Children's Home, Lott Carey and State Missions.

One of the first standards of giving found in the Bible is the tithe, a word which means "tenth." Abraham tithed in Genesis 14 after returning from the daring rescue of his nephew Lot from four enemy kings. He encountered the priest Melchizedek and voluntarily surrendered to him one-tenth of all the spoils he had taken from his enemies. It is often said that the tithe is Old Testament "legalism," but Abraham tithed some 430 years before the Law is given to Moses.

Although the tithe is mentioned in the Law, no punishment was indicated for not tithing. Consequences for not tithing included withholding of blessings, but this is not to be construed as punishment. Tithing has been, and always will be, a voluntary act on the part of God's people. But although not tithing brings about a withholding of God's blessings, tithing with proper motives invokes God's blessings: "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house, and test Me now in this," says the Lord of hosts, 'if I will not open for you the windows of heaven, and pour out for you a blessing until it overflows'" (Malachi 3:10).

In order to bring our tithes into the "storehouse," it is necessary to determine exactly what the storehouse is. In Biblical time it was a physical place where the Jewish People would deliver their offerings of grain or animals. A storehouse had specific functions according to God's Word.

- To feed the tribe of Levi (Numbers 18:24-29). The tribe of Levi and the priests would be equivalent today to pastors and other church staff, missionaries, and evangelists.
- To feed the Hebrew widows and orphans living within the Hebrew city (Deuteronomy 14:28-29). They would be equivalent to the widows, orphans, poor and needy served in local churches.
- To feed the Gentile poor living in the Hebrew city (Deuteronomy 14:28-29). Today's equivalent would be the unsaved people in the community surrounding a local church.

Stewardship ministry must reach beyond our local church doors.

Ideally, the local church could serve as the storehouse in God's economy today. Then people's tithes would simply be given to the church. After all, God has designed the church to carry out vital social functions among Christians and non-Christians.

(Continued on page 2)

From The Desk of the Executive Secretary-Treasurer Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Ed.D.

GBSC Stewardship

(Continued from page 1)

These functions also include ministering to the sick, teaching families to care for themselves, and taking the Gospel to the lost at home and abroad. Economic empowerment is now new to the church. Jesus' ministry reached through the religious and secular society.

As General Baptist we must have "STEWARDSHIP VISION." What do we do when the church does not want to give? What can I do to promote stewardship in my church? If you see possible areas of ministry that are lacking in your church, share your concerns with the church leadership in an open, loving manner. If there is no response, prayerfully consider whether this is the church that God wants you to attend. When you have fundamental disagreements and concerns about God's work in your church do not fight the preacher; shake the dust off your shoes and move on to a more productive congregation and ministry. God has a place for each person. Do not play with God or play church!

Those who play church do not fear God. Learning to Fear God is the ground of being for our faith. During Moses' time, the tithe was established so that the children of Israel might learn to fear God. Deuteronomy 14:22-23 says, "You shall surely tithe all the produce from what you sow, which comes out of the field every year. And you shall eat in the presence of the Lord your God, at the place where He chooses to establish His name, the tithe of your grain, your new wine, your oil, and the first-born of your herd and your flock, in order that you may learn to fear the Lord your God always."

Answers to Questions

About Stewardship Tithing

These are a few of the most often asked questions about stewardship tithing and how we should manage our blessings from God.

- When I calculate my tithe, should it be on my net or my gross income? Proverbs 3:9-10 says that God has asked for our firstfruits, which is the first and best of all that we receive. That means we should tithe from our total income before taxes (gross). Dr. Wyatt Tee Walker, Pastor Canaan Baptist Church of Christ, New York, when asked whether to tithe from our gross or net says: "Do you want a gross blessing or a net blessing from God?"

- Should I tithe if I am in debt? The tithe of a good steward helps us to fear God, which is the beginning of wisdom. If there is anybody in the world who needs God's wisdom in the area of finances, it is a person who is already in debt.

- Is it okay to take my tithe money and put it toward Bible college tuition? Malachi 3 says we are actually stealing from God if we do not pay an honest tithe, as well as give liberal offerings as we are blessed. As noble a thing as saving for a Christian education is, God cannot bless it if you have sacrificed the tithe in favor of it.

- Could tithe money be used to support secular organizations? The tithe is given in God's name and should be used specifically for His work.

- Should I tithe from the profits from the sale of my house? Any profit made from the sale of a house ought to be tithed upon, because it is, in fact, part of your firstfruits. Even if the profits are to be reinvested in a new home, a tithe should first be given.

- Should a person tithe on an inheritance? Because an inheritance is part of our "increase," we should give a portion of it back to the Lord to honor Him.

- What about insurance payments received upon the death of a spouse — should a person tithe on the lump sum, or just on the interest earnings? Again, look at the principle of tithing on our "increase." If insurance proceeds are paid in a lump sum distribution, a tithe should first be paid on the entire amount, afterwards a tithe should be paid on any increase received (interest, dividends) from the investment of those funds. If the proceeds are held in trust and distributed periodically, then a tithe should be paid on each distribution.

- If my parents or grandparents are in great need, can I give a part of my tithe money to help them? In Matthew 15:5-6 Jesus condemns the Pharisees' practice of consecrating their possessions to God while their parents suffered need. In light of this, if the tithe is the only resource available to help your parents, give it to them. However, be sure you have sacrificed your portion before you decide to give what belongs to God.

- Should I tithe on alimony or child support from my ex-husband? Alimony is part of your income from

which a tithe should be given, but child support belongs to the children and isn't part of your personal "increase."

- Would not you be exempt from tithing if you were on a fixed income (Social Security, pension, annuity) and barely making ends meet? As already stated, God does not "need" our money. His desire is to bless His children, and it is for our good that He has instituted the principle of tithing in His Word. Remember the widow who put two "mites" into the treasury? Jesus knew her situation and commended her by saying, "This poor widow put in more than all the contributors to the treasury; for they all put in out of their surplus, but she, out of her poverty, put in all she owned, all she had to live on." (Mark 12:43-44).

Finally, What must Christians do when spouses disagree about stewardship giving? Because tithing involves money, it is a prime candidate for controversy between a husband and wife (many marital problems stem from finances). However, if both spouses are Christians, they should have a desire to please the Lord. It is important for both spouses to be trained in God's principles of finance. That way, they will understand stewardship giving is God-ordained, not just a personal desire that the wife is trying to impose on the husband, or vice versa.

The problem becomes more complicated when one spouse is an unbeliever. If the wife is an unbeliever, the husband must obey the Lord's direction. He must realize; however, that the Lord is more concerned about his wife's soul than his money and resources. If stewardship giving becomes a stumbling block to his wife, he should consider not tithing temporarily in order to win his wife to the Lord.

If the unbelieving spouse is the husband, then the believing wife should submit to his wishes, trusting that her submissive attitude may win him to the Lord (1 Peter 3:1-6). But she may still ask him to let her give an amount smaller than the tithe for at least a year. If, at the end of a year, they are worse off financially as a result of her giving, she will cease to give. But if they are better off, she will be allowed to give more. In Malachi 3:10 the Lord says to test Him in tithing. Often, this is just the opportunity for God to prove Himself to an unbelieving spouse.

Giving With The Right Attitude

Like every other facet of serving God, all stewardship giving (including tithe, talent, temple and time) should be done with the right attitude. When giving is viewed as a rule and done out of a sense of duty, it becomes legalism. But it is not legalistic to give if we do so in thanksgiving to the Lord. We have plenty to be thankful for, including our ability to work. Giving in the hope that you will receive two or three times as much is also a wrong attitude. Romans 11:35 says: "Or who has first given to Him that it might be paid back to him again?" If we give only to receive, then we are no better than Simon, described in Acts 8, who offered money to the apostles in hopes of receiving spiritual power. His offer brought a stern rebuke from Peter, who answered, "May your silver perish with you, because you thought you could obtain the gift of God with

money!"

Another wrong attitude is giving out of fear. Reverence and respect toward God, when tempered with confidence in His love, are signs of spiritual maturity. This is not the kind of fear I refer to. What I warn against is giving because someone has told you that if you do not give, God will punish you. If you give because you feel intimidated, then you are giving under compulsion, which is contrary to what is taught in 2 Corinthians 9:7.

Never support a ministry that uses threats as a stewardship gimmick. Finally, we should never give to impress others. In Matthew 6:2-4, Jesus gave us the following warning: "When therefore you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be honored by men. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing that your alms may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will repay you." People who have a problem with pride need to do their giving in a modest and humble way. This doesn't mean that all giving must be done entirely in secret. It simply means that we are not to draw attention to ourselves when we give.

It would be very difficult for Christian ministries to prepare yearly budgets if they didn't have an idea how much to expect from their supporters; therefore, letting a ministry know that you will contribute a certain amount each year is helpful. Allowing your children to witness your giving, particularly when sacrifice is involved, will teach them the importance of commitment. Giving for applause or approval from others, however, is unscriptural.

How To Be A Good Steward

How are we to be guided as stewards? What guides our giving?

- Knowing the difference between faith promises and pledges — A faith promise is a commitment to give a certain amount, which allows ministries to prepare good, logical financial planning for the year. It's understood that if God doesn't provide the funds, you're not obligated to give them. A pledge, on the other hand, is an absolute commitment to pay something. This type of giving is presumptuous, but a faith promise is scriptural. "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." (Hebrews 11:1).

- Donating something other than money, stewardship is more than money! We also can give time, talent and our services to an organization or non-cash gifts such as food, furniture, and clothing. PLEASE Avoid giving useless or junk gifts. If you would not like to receive something do not give it away: Junk is junk! You may also give something with an appreciated value (an asset you bought at a low price that is now worth much more). This includes such things as stocks, bonds, jewelry, real estate, or anything that grows in value. CONSIDER LEAVING YOUR CHURCH, ASSOCIATION AND GENERAL BAPTIST CONVENTION IN YOUR WILL.

(Continued on page 3)

The Baptist Informer

Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
Voice of 500,000 Baptists
(USPS 042-680)

Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Editor

Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie, Executive Editor

Ms. Carol J. Smith, Managing Editor

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THEME: "By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness..." (II Corinthians 6:7)

GBSC Stewardship

(Continued from page 1)

The late Rev. Dr. E.L. Clark Sr., former Pastor of the Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, NC, for his Church, Association and GBSC, Inc. in his will

- Drawing the line when it comes to borrowing — Some organizations encourage people to borrow to give. In my opinion, this is not the best approach to stewardship giving. It does not require much trust to borrow money. Deuteronomy 15:4-6 says that if we obey and trust God, we will not have to borrow money. There is no example in Scripture of God ever using a loan to manifest His will in the lives of His people.

- Taking a balanced approach to sacrificial stewardship giving is best. Sacrificing to give is a way to honor God, but, once again, this should be the result of a heart attitude and not a desire to impress others. All of us have been called to suffer for Christ according to Philippians 1:29. In this generation, that may not include great physical sacrifice, but it does require an understanding that the purpose of our abundance is to further the Kingdom of God. It is clear that neither a voluntary rejection of all wealth nor a display of material success is part of a balanced Christian walk. In America, however, very few have a problem with sacrificing too much. We are a blessed people and nation. We must put stewardship giving at the top of our priority list.

Conclusion:

God and Stewardship

God says that if we pray for anything in His will, believing, it will be given to us. But God's will and His ways are not always coincidental with ours. So, when we turn our finances over to God, we also must be willing to accept His direction. Too often we impatiently seek our own way within any clear direction from Him, sometimes even borrowing money to do His work. We forget that God says He will not frustrate His work for the lack of money (see Luke

22:35). There is nothing wrong with asking God's direction, but it is wrong to go our own way without waiting for God's answer.

In conclusion we must understand that Christian stewardship is merely a medium of exchange. It is the misuse and abuses or our stewardship resources that cause problems in our churches. When we are poor stewards, poor managers, and weak administrators God does not bless our work. How can we become better stewards? What can we do to have available the resources for full-time pastors and church ministry? **HOW DOES GOD WORK IN A STEWARDSHIP CHURCH?**

1. God uses Christian stewardship to strengthen our trust in Him. It is often through financial resources that God can clearly and objectively show us that He is in total control, it we will trust Him and accept our positions as stewards and managers of His possessions (see Matthew 6:32-33).to develop our trustworthiness. This principle is important because our lives generally revolve around making, spending, saving and using financial resources. If He can trust us with financial resources, then He can trust us with greater responsibilities and His true riches (see Luke 16:11).

2. God uses Christian stewardship to develop our trustworthiness. This principle is important because our lives generally revolve around making, spending, saving, and using financial resources. If He can trust us with financial resources, then He can trust us with greater responsibilities and His true riches (see Luke 16:11).

3. God uses Christian stewardship to prove His love. Scripture tells us that God assumes the responsibility of providing the basic necessities for everyone who trusts in Him. (see Matthew 7:11).

4. God uses Christian stewardship to demonstrate His faithfulness. Moses reminded Israel that it was God who would give them the power to make wealth. Our security is in God, not our bank accounts. Discovering His faithfulness though financial needs encourages reliance on Him. **GOD IS ABLE!**

5. God uses Christian stewardship to

unite Christians in blessings. God will use the abundance of one Christian to supply the needs of another. God has given surplus resources in our lives for the purpose of helping those who are in need. **GOD DOES NOT BLESS US JUST TO BE BLESSED — BUT TO BE A BLESSING TO OTHERS!**

6. God uses Christian stewardship to provide direction. There is probably no way God can direct our lives more meticulously than through the abundance or lack of stewardship resources: \$\$\$Money\$\$\$ Too often we believe God directs our lives through the abundance of blessings and money, but He also will lead us down His directed path by withholding blessings and money.

7. God uses Christian stewardship to cultivate self-control. One of the fruits of

the Spirit is self-control, a key aspect of successful financial management.

8. Finally, God uses Christian stewardship to clarify spiritual maturity. Many temptations clamor for Christians' attention. A great deal can be learned about our personal character and spiritual maturity by noticing how we handle our financial resources and determine financial priorities.

God offers us as General Baptist countless financial principles, intended to make our lives meaningful, because He is interested in us and how we earn and spend money. Once we understand how God uses a good steward and why He chooses to use us in a particular way, we will become more familiar with His plans and purposes for our lives and are able to recognize and comprehend His directives.

From the Moderator of Moderators' Committee

Resolving Grievances

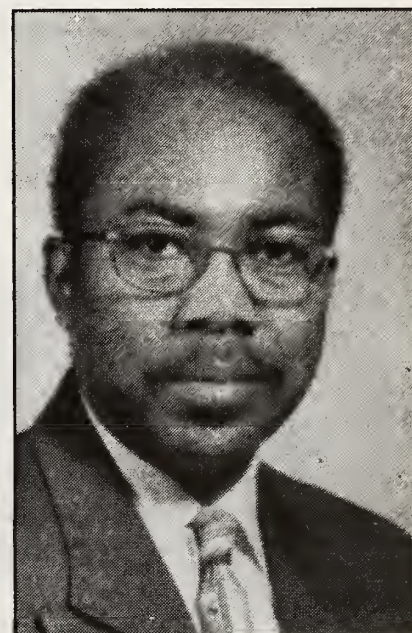
First and foremost, I wish to congratulate the Middle District Association for conducting such great workshop on Church Conflict and Legal Awareness Issues. This was a four night workshop that was held February 5-8, 2001. Approximately one hundred-fifty folk attended each night with lively and interesting questions and discussions. I was privileged to lead this workshop and again it was excellent. Moderator Andre Carr, Dr. Jasper Reed and all other officers of Middle District Association who labored to make it a success are to be commended.

We have been sharing with you and lifting up issues that we trust have been helpful in some way. Church Conflict, if not handled properly, will eventually lead us into court. So it would seem that a church would do well to establish a procedure for dealing with disputes, disagreement, or grievances which are bound to develop in spite of the best of Christian intentions. It is tragic when such disputes make it to the court system to be resolved. Every effort should be made to settle such matters within the framework of the church structure. If you are a very large church with a number of employees, you may want to establish a written procedure for dealing with employee grievances. Such procedure may include the following ideas.

The immediate supervisor should be the first person involved when an employee has a problem. A written record should be made of the grievance and the attempt to deal with it. Several efforts may have to be made to resolve the issue. If the difficulty cannot be dealt with at this level, then the next level of supervision should be involved. All of the records of the attempts to solve the problem should be reviewed, and additional solutions explored.

If the supervisors cannot develop a satisfactory solution, it is helpful to have some type of a committee (personnel, pastor relations) made up of qualified church members who relate to personnel matters. These persons should be brought into the discussion to give greater insight into possible solutions. Every effort should be made to deal with such matters in the church rather than securing an attorney and going to court. The above matters are things Bruce P. Powers talks about in his book, "Church Administration Handbook."

Now, there is nothing that I am aware of that can stop a church or church members from taking each other to court But if a church



Rev. James W. Smith, J.D.

would consider placing some type of language into her bylaws that would require the church or members to exhaust the church's remedy before going to court, such conflicts may be resolved prior to court. Language such as the following could be helpful.

"Neither the church nor her members shall bring a legal action against the church and members shall not bring a legal action against each other without first exhausting his/her administrative remedy. For this purpose, administrative remedy shall include: (1) allowing the moderator and/or independent council of the association of the church's membership or a designate of the General Baptist State Convention of NC (example, Moderator of Moderators' Council) to assist in mediating and resolving such issues: or (2) allowing an independent professional mediation or dispute resolution agency assist in resolving such issues."

It is believed that once these steps are taken, the parties are more likely to arrive at some solution and thereby eliminate the need to proceed to court.

Try this, you might like it.

If you wish our services in any way, please contact us at the following:

Rev. James W. Smith, JD

5 Bracken Ridge Place
Hillsborough, NC 27278

(919) 479-0501

Email: Jsmith9450@aol.com

Rev. W.J. Cox

107 Gray Street, Goldsboro, NC 27534
(919) 751-9899

Dr. Joshua J. Hair, Jr.

P.O. Box 53803, Fayetteville, NC 28305
(910) 323-1508

New Millennium Church Stewardship & Minister Salary Guidelines



2001-2002 Edition

General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
(Pastors, Moderators, Deacons, Trustees, Budget Committees)

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(919) 821-2826 • (800) 639-GBSC
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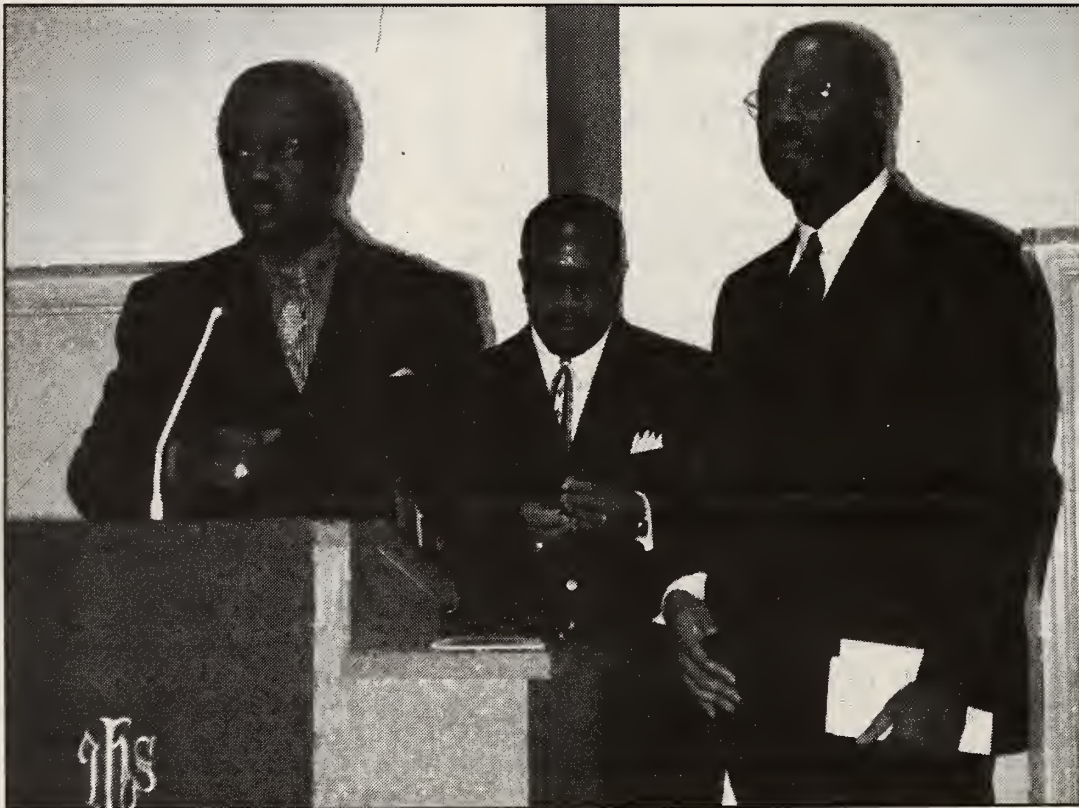
From The Desk of Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President

President Fuller Receives Award "Distinguished Alumnus"



Dr. John D. Fuller Sr.

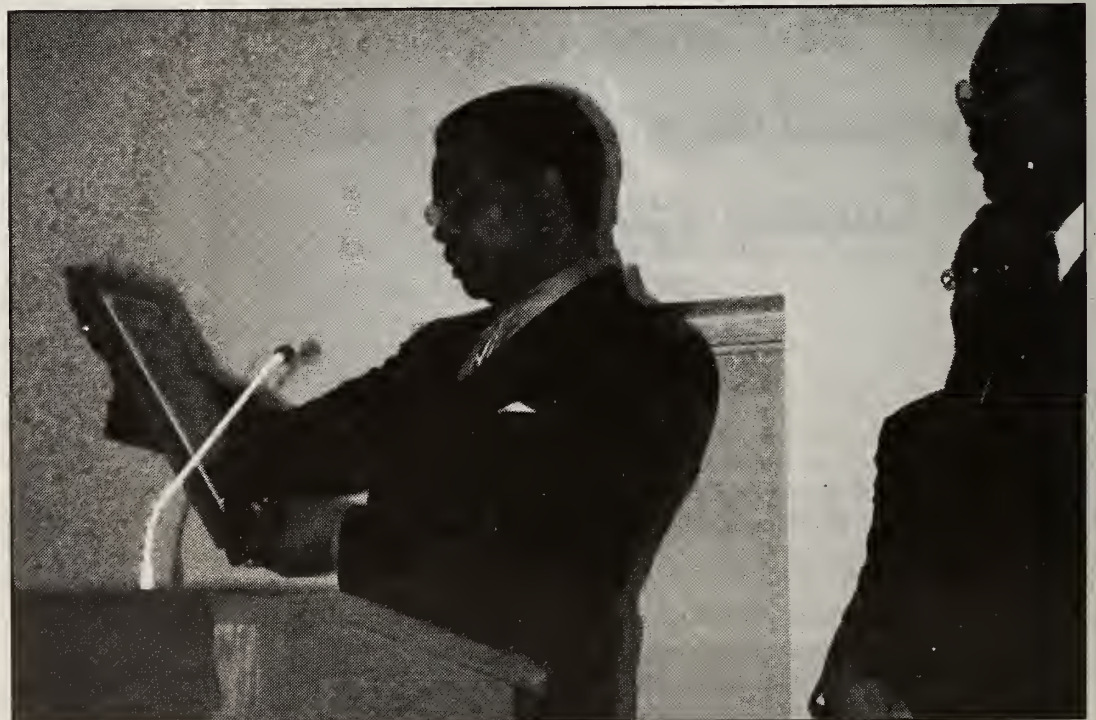
On Feb. 13, 2001, at the Interdenominational Theological Center, during the annual Morehouse School of Religion 134th Founders' Day observance, and C.D. Hubert Lecture Series in Atlanta, Ga., Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., was awarded the "Distinguished Alumnus" award by Dean William T. Perkins. The award recognizes alumni who distinguish themselves by providing outstanding leadership, and service to the church and their communities. The General Baptist State Convention can be proud of the accomplishments of our President.



Dr. William T. Perkins shares a litany of the accomplishments of Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., GBSC President. Dr. E. Thurman Walker is in the background.



Dean Perkins and Dr. Fuller with Distinguished Alumnus Award.



Dean William T. Perkins Morehouse School of Religion presents Distinguish Alumnus Award to Dr. John D. Fuller Sr.

Women's Page Highlights

What A Joy To Share!

By Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

For a time of fellowshiping, sharing, caring, and instructing, we invite all of you to attend the **State Wide Leaders' Workshop on Saturday, April 7, 2001**. The session begins at 9 a.m. All persons will meet in the Raleigh Civic Center. There will be individual sessions for Seniors, Young

Adults, and Youth. The Rev. Dr. Thurman Everette, pastor of Bryant Swamp Baptist Church, Bladenboro, will preach the sermon for the session. Let us pray for a rewarding session. Please pre-register now and receive your pre-registration card! Pre-registration is \$5 per person; on-site registration is \$6 per person. We should appreciate your bringing a liberal offering.

Our budget for 2000-2001 is \$796,357: Shaw University - \$47,500; Shaw Divinity - \$33,500; Foreign Missions - \$80,200; Central Children's Home - \$36,500; Baptist Assembly - \$40,000; State Missions - \$556,157. The approximate amount needed to reach the budget is \$663,273.

Some other important dates to remember are : **Ministers' Wives and Widows Spring Retreat - May 5, 2001 at the Baptist Assembly**. All persons who plan to attend should pre-register. For persons attending on Saturday only, pre-registration is \$18; on site, \$20. For persons needing to stay on Friday night, the pre-registration is \$25; on-site \$26; **Young Adults Retreat - June 2, 2001 at the New Kenansville First Baptist Church, Rev. Roger Gore, pastor; Leadership Training Conference - June 4-8, 2001 at the Baptist Assembly**; (Please write to the Office of the Woman's Convention for an application.) **Youth Bible Camp - First Week: June 10-15; Second Week: June 17-22; Third Week: June 24-29, at the Baptist Assembly**; (Please write to the Office of the Woman's Convention for applications.) **The 117th Annual Session of the Woman's Baptist Home And Foreign**



Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

Missionary Convention of North Carolina - July 22-26, 2001 at the Benton Convention Center, Winston-Salem. Shiloh Baptist Church and the Rev. Paul Lowe will be the hosts. **Banquet Tickets (\$30.00 each, \$31.00 each at the door)** and **housing reservation forms** are available from the Woman's Convention Office. The address is Woman's Baptist State Convention, P.O. Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602. Please make your checks payable to the Woman's Baptist State Convention.

Do come and share in joy with other Christian believers at the above ministries/programs of the Woman's Convention.

WOMAN'S BAPTIST HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONARY CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, AUXILIARY TO GBSC 2001 CALENDAR

APRIL

7 — State-Wide Leaders' Workshop, Raleigh Civic Center
15 — Easter

MAY

5 — Ministers' Wives Retreat, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill

JUNE

2 — Young Adults' Retreat
4-8 — Leadership Training Conference, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill
10-15 — First Week of Youth Bible Camp, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill
17-22 — Second Week of Bible Youth Bible Camp, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill
23 — MISSIONS PRAYER DAY (County Unions, et. al.)
24-29 — Third Week of Youth Bible Camp, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill

JULY

22-26 — Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention

AUGUST:

(Prayer month for the Family)
27-31 — Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention, Columbus, Ohio

SEPTEMBER

4-7 — National Baptist Convention
22 — Family Missions Conference, New Ahoskie Baptist Church, Ahoskie

OCTOBER

(Prayer month for SHAW UNIVERSITY AND SHAW DIVINITY SCHOOL)
13 — WBSO Institute Workers' Workshop, Baptist Headquarters

NOVEMBER

3 — Youth Evangelism Conference, Cumberland County Memorial Auditorium, Fayetteville
5 — World Day of Prayer (BWA — Woman's Department)
22 — Thanksgiving Day

DECEMBER

25 — Christmas Day

POSITION OPEN: SECRETARY

The Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention, Auxiliary to GBSC, is accepting applications for a Secretary. Applicants should meet the following qualifications.

- Have completed high school and have had several business courses beyond high school
- Have knowledge of business English
- Have efficient knowledge of computer operations, especially word processing and spreadsheets
- Have good typing speed and accuracy
- Have the ability to relate to people.

The salary is negotiable, good benefits.
Please send resume to the address below:

The Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary
Convention of North Carolina, Auxiliary to GBSC
PO Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602
Telephone: (919) 833-4823
Fax: (919) 833-7599

POSITION OPEN: ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

The Woman's Baptist Home & Foreign Missionary Convention, Auxiliary to GBSC, is accepting applications for an Administrative Assistant. Applicants should meet the following requirements.

- Have a baccalaureate degree, preferably in Business Management (some courses in Christian education with some years of experience)
- Have supervisory expertise
- Have communicative and organizational skills
- Be able to maintain lists, schedule(s)
- Be able to work with minimal supervision
- Have proficiency in business English
- Have knowledge of preparing and reporting state and federal taxes preparation
- Have proficient computer skills
- Have a pleasant personality and telephone skills
- Have team spirit.

Salary is negotiable, good benefits.

Please send a resume to: The Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina,
Auxiliary to GBSC, PO Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602
Telephone: (919) 833-4823 • Fax (919) 833-7599

POSITION OPEN: Office Secretary/HELPER Coordinator for the WBH&FMC

The Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention now is receiving applications for the position of Office Secretary/HELPER Coordinator. Qualifications:

- Should have good secretarial skills.
- Should have efficient computer skills, especially word processing and spreadsheets
- Should have an appropriate degree associate or bachelor and some experience
- Should have team spirit

Salary is negotiable; good benefits
Please send immediately a resume to:
The Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign
Missionary Convention
of North Carolina, Auxiliary to GBSC
PO Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602
Telephone: (919) 833-4823
Fax: (919) 833-7599

More Women's Highlights

By Mrs. Lucille Griswald-Paige,
Mrs. Elsie Lassiter
and Mrs. Jearlene Rhines

The 48th Annual One-Day Session of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina met at the Raleigh Civic and Convention Center, January 13, 2001, at 9:00 a.m., with the theme, "Reaching The Family Through Effective Leadership." Third Vice President, Mrs. Audrey P. Battle, presided at the session. The congregational hymn was "Blessed Assurance." Mrs. Mattie Johnson, Worship Chairperson, led the Praise and Worship moments along with members of the Kenansville Association. Mrs. Lottie Windley read the scripture, Psalm 73:24 and Joshua 24:12-16; Mrs. Delores Washington gave the prayer. The theme discussion, led by Mrs. Leola Coston, centered on Joshua, who demonstrated his faith in God as a leader of the people of Israel. His obedience to God was displayed and his commitment to God was pleasing. We cannot be committed and not live a righteous life; a righteous relationship with God has to be established. Joshua could stand and say, "Choose you this day whom you will serve; as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." Let the Lord shine in you. The people chose God because of Joshua. The Spirit has a way of drawing others and us to God. Presidential Moments included remarks and greetings by the President, Dr. Maggie M. White. Mrs. Battle led the Martin Luther King Jr., Litany.

Mrs. Marian H. Bass read highlights of the Executive Committee and Board Minutes, which were approved by the body. It was reported that President White received an honorary doctorate degree from Shaw University during the Founder's Day convocation for her years of service taught; the Young Adult Department has a new director, Ms. Vanessa Gregory; the Youth Department has a new supervisor, Mrs. Ellender LeMay.



3rd Vice President Audrey P. Battle presiding.

**Rev. Terry said,
while leading the
Bible study
"Do You Not Know?
Have You Not
Heard?"**

Serve With Patience

Dr. John Fuller, President of GBSC, extended greetings as well as Dr. Ernest Pickens in the absence of Dr. Talbert Shaw. Dr. Anita Holmes brought greetings and information about the Department of Human Services for GBSC.

The Rev. J. Vincent Terry, pastor of Mount Peace Baptist, Raleigh, led the Bible study from Isaiah 40:28-31, "Do You Not Know? Have You Not Heard?" People are faced with tough times: teens in conflict with parents and teachers; married couples experiencing stress; middle age crisis, the age when you are near retirement so you focus on retirement income; those in their senior years are managing to survive. Even addicts are experiencing tough times, but there is a word for the depressed, the afflicted, the abused and the neglected from Isaiah 40:28-31. The Lord is the everlasting God, the creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youth grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength; they will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary; they will walk and not be faint. In his writings, Thomas Paine wrote, "These are the times that try men's souls." Tough times! Our problem, however, is impatience. The employee can't wait for a job promotion. The soldier can't wait for orders to be given. There is spiritual warfare in the church. The devil, he is real and never ceases to bring trouble and corrupt our land. The good news is, God knows about our troubles. He is not dumb or blind. Jesus knows and cares about our struggles. We must learn how to be patient and wait on the Lord. So many have missed their

blessing by being impatient. Wait; faithfully wait in Jesus; wait in prayer; wait in hope. Isaiah wrote, Have you not heard about God? He is holy. He is love. He is real. We must believe and trust in the Lord. We have a God who knows all about our struggles. He knows if our aims are right. His mercy is good. His heart is kind. His yoke is easy and his peace is perfect. Every child of God should be like the eagle — cool, calm, and collected. The eagle has extraordinary power in his wings. When the storm comes he rises above the storm.

Mrs. Tropzie McCluney, daughter of President White, and principal of a middle school, gave a special presentation on "Closing the Academic Achievement Gap Through Effective Leadership." She gave out copies of Student Accountability Standards at all grade levels, and requirements for College and Career Courses of Study. Parents are urged to inquire about subjects and courses needed to graduate; know about the four school tracks; be alert about grade averages and levels. Also, be aware of tests given and credit requirements. An Achievement Conference to improve minority at-risk students will be conducted in Greensboro at the Sheraton Four Seasons Koury Convention Center, March 26-28, 2001. It is open to all teachers, student service personnel, principals, superintendents, parents, school administrators, university and college faculties, and community and business representatives. Mrs. McCluney urged everybody to take an interest in our children and become involved. Give one hour per week or more to help our children. The parents, educators and churches will be held accountable for the failure of our children's education and achievements.

Mrs. Ethelda King brought greetings from the Lott Carey Woman's Auxiliary. She asked that we make contributions to our partners in Liberia so that they can purchase a bus. She presented a token of appreciation to the daughter, Ms. Jewyl Dunn, and Ms. Jewelyn Dunn, granddaughter of the late Dr. Luella D. Edwards, in memory of her work for the Lott Carey Convention.

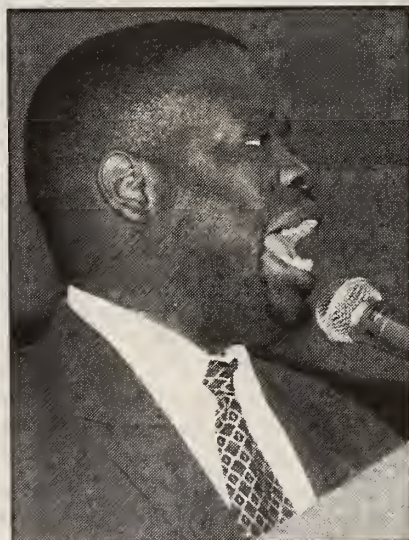
Recognition was given to ministers and visitors, A-1, and Lydia Circles, Unions, Auxiliaries and District Conferences and 25-year honorees.

The following reports were given: Executive Secretary-Treasurer's Report - Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie; Committee On Committees - Mrs. Bronnie Daniels; Christian Education - Mrs. C. Brenda Jones.

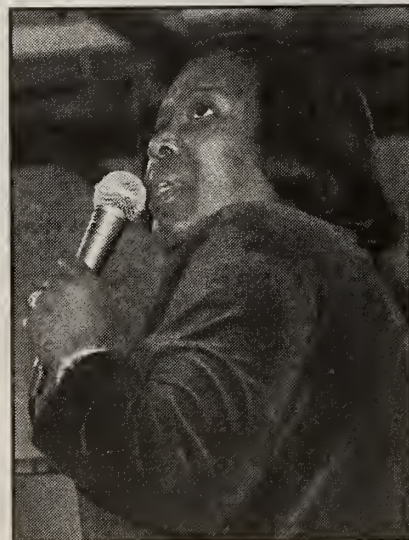
Mrs. Elsie Lassiter did the "Soul Winning" and Offertory Appeal and Prayer. The Departmental Highlights were given by Ms. Vanessa Gregory, Young Adult Director, and Mrs. Ellender LeMay, Youth Supervisor. Ms. Gregory reported 356 in attendance. Mrs. LeMay reported approximately 1100 in attendance, with 397 first timers and four youth from the Central Children's Home.

Convention officers were installed by Rev. J.W. Freeman. Rev. Frederick L. Gordon, moderator of the Mud Creek Association, introduced the preacher. Rev. Dr. John Grant, pastor of Mount Zion Baptist, Asheville, gave a sermon from Matthew 13:24, entitled, "Let Them Grow Together." Jesus is The Planter, but the devil also plants. There are believers and unbelievers, the good and the bad, the righteous and the wicked, the holy and the hypocrites. God has not appointed anyone to separate them; that's not our job. Our job is to grow, stay rooted, do good not evil, and remain rooted until the harvest. God will do the separating. The Mount Zion choir rendered music. The benediction by Rev. Dr. Grant closed the 48th One-Day Session of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina.

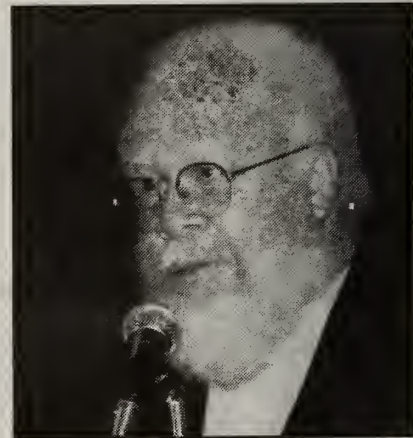
Highlights of the 48th One-Day Session, January 2001 Raleigh Convention Center



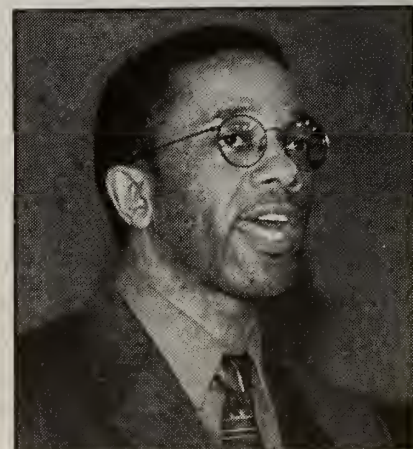
Rev. Vincent Terry, Bible study mentor, pastor of Mt. Peace (Halifax) Baptist Church, Raleigh.



Mrs. Tropzie McCluney, daughter of President White, giving the main presentation: "Closing the Academic Gap."



Rev. Freddie Gordon, Mud Creek Moderator, introducing preacher.

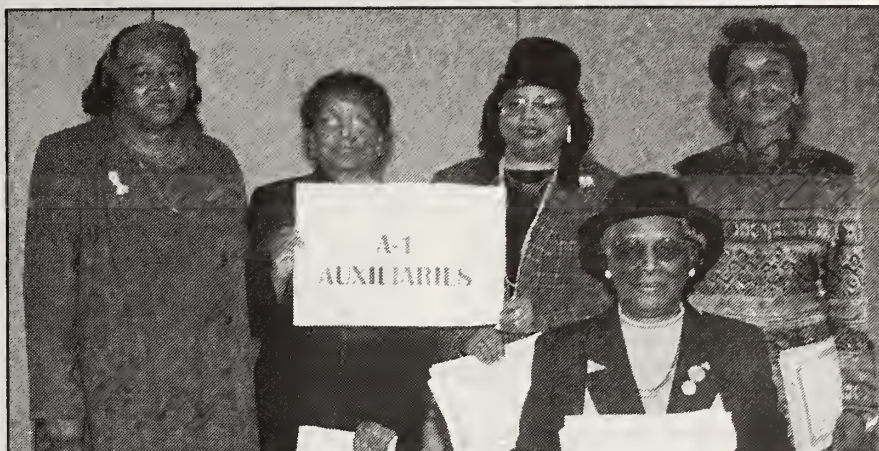


Dr. John Grant, pastor, Mt. Zion Asheville, preaching.

More Women Highlights of the 48th One-Day Session



Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr. (Executive Secretary-Treasurer) giving greetings.



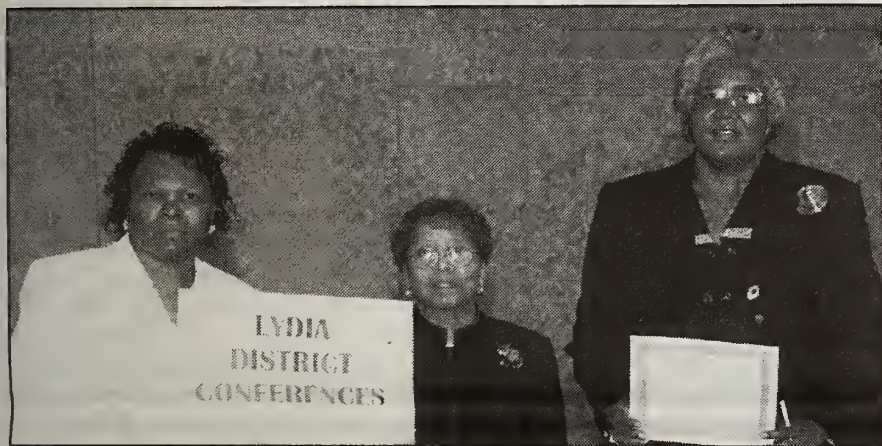
A-1 Auxiliary Representatives.



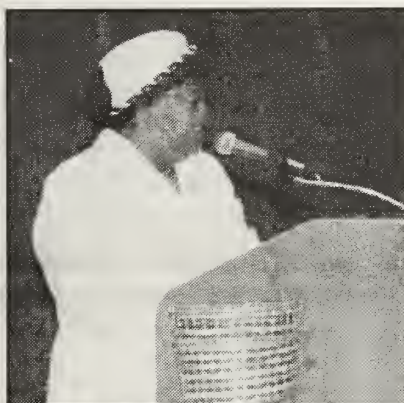
Left to right: Dr. John Fuller Sr., GBSC President; Mrs. Ethelda King, Lott Carey W. Auxiliary President; Dr. Maggie M. White, WBH&FMC President; Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, WBH&FMC.



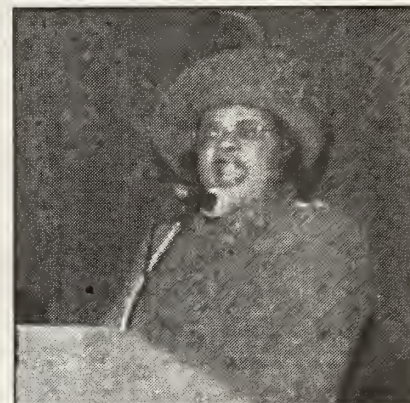
A-1 Circle Representatives.



Lydia District Conference Representatives.



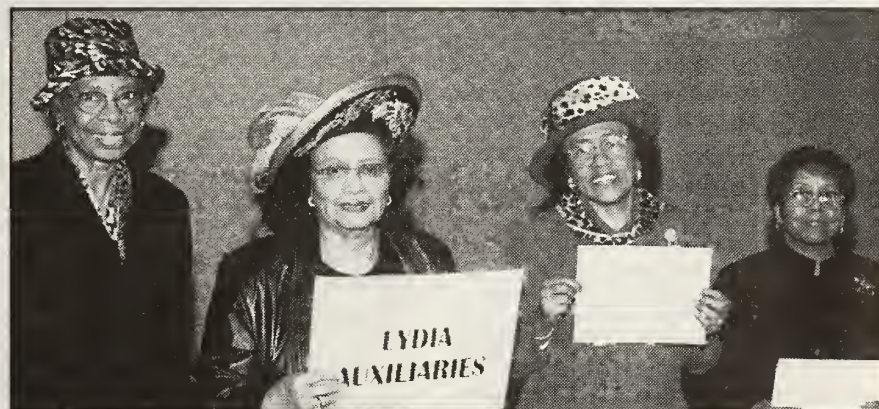
Ms. Linda Inman, 4th Vice President, giving greetings at the Young Adult Session.



1st Vice President, Julius McDonald, giving greetings at the Youth Session.



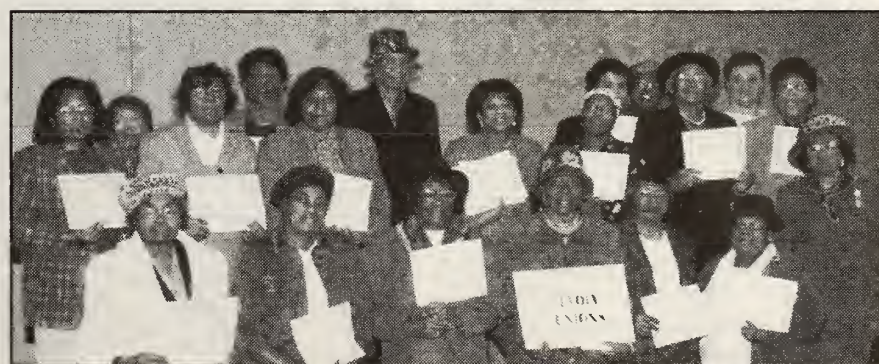
Pastors and Ministers in Attendance.



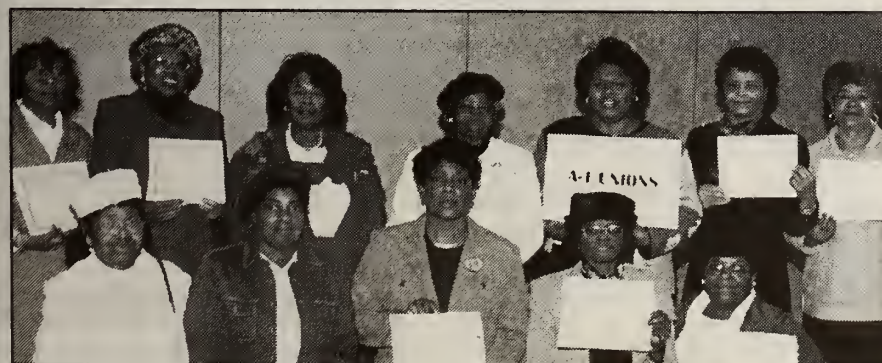
Lydia Auxiliary Representatives.



Lydia Circle Representatives.



Lydia Union Representatives.



A-1 Union Representatives.



Youth Department in Action. Mrs. Ellender W. LeMay, Supervisor and Ms. Louise Lassiter, Associate Supervisor.

LAYMEN'S LEAGUE NEWS

Laymen's League Plans For Banquet and Session

By Romas L. Hales

The State Laymen's League of General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc., is making plans for the Mid-Annual Banquet and One-Day Session. The time is fast approaching. We hope you have it on your calendar of events and are making plans to attend.

The Mid-Annual Banquet will be held Friday, April 20, 2001 at 7 p.m. at First Baptist Church, 302 Moore Street, Fayetteville, N.C. The banquet tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for youths twelve and under. You may purchase tickets from Baptist Headquarters, Laymen, or at the door. We hope that most of you will purchase your tickets in advance for adequate preparation purpose.

The One-Day Session will be held on Sat-

urday, April 21, 2001 at the First Baptist Church in Fayetteville. The day will start with a Fellowship Breakfast at 7:30 a.m. at the church. Registration will start and the Executive Committee will meet at 8:30 a.m. The regular session will start at 9:30 a.m. Let us be there in large numbers to give our support to our president, officers and program participants.

If you are planning to spend the night of April 20, 2001, you can make reservations at one of the three Motels:

Villager Lodge

521 Ramsey Street, Fayetteville, NC 28301
(910) 483-2621 (910) 483-3881 FAX
\$36.00 per room + tax

This motel is located behind the church

Ramada Inn

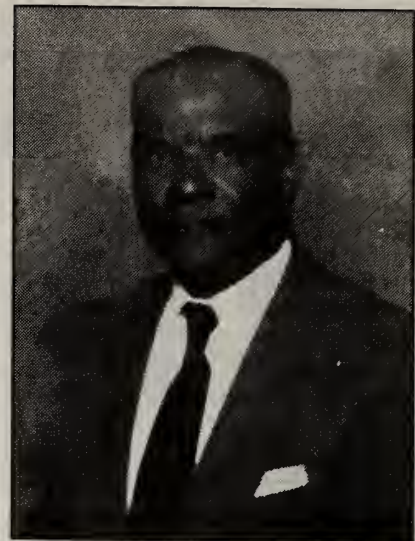
511 Eastern Blvd. (Business 95)
Fayetteville, NC
(910) 484-8101 or 1-800-434-8101
\$49.95 per room + tax

Holiday Inn Bordeaux

1707 Owen Drive, Fayetteville, NC
(910) 323-0111 • \$60.00 per room + tax

Please make your reservation before April 1, 2001 and let them know you are with the General Baptist State Convention.

Each church and association has been asked to give an Annual Assessment of \$300.00. If your church has not done so, please bring it to the Mid-Annual Session. We are praying for this to be a successful day in attendance and financially. Please send



Romas Hales
Laymen's League Coordinator

a representative from your church and bring your gentlemen. Registration fee is \$10.00 per person.

May God Continue to Bless You

From The Second Vice President Dr. Howard W. Parker Jr.

News From The Foreign Field: The Lott Carey

Greetings in the Name of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

I am pleased to share with you articles from the foreign field. This news is informative and will hopefully inspire. Many GBSC members are actively working to improve the lives of those in other countries. Allow me to document your foreign field work in the Baptist Informer. Please send your report to me as follows:

Dr. Howard W. Parker Jr., Pastor
Sycamore Hill Baptist Church
P.O. Box 6012, Greenville, NC 27835
252-756-4869 (o) • 252-756-4539 (fax)
Sychurch@skantech.net (e-mail)

The Missionary Baptist Churches of North Carolina has been a long time supporter of the Lott Carey Convention. In speaking with Dr. David E. Goatley, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention, we will share with you monthly news from the foreign field as it relates to Lott Carey.

The Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention helps churches extend their Christian witness to the ends of the earth through: (1) Giving that supports evangelism, education, health care, hunger relief, and disaster assistance; (2) Going on short-term mission service and exposure tours; and (3) Growing through workshops, seminars, and messages that help Christians grow in their commitments to be God's people on mission to the world.

The Liberia Project

One of the most urgent needs of all of our mission partners around the world is transportation. Roads are in disrepair, public transportation is limited, and distances are great.

During the 103rd Annual Session of the Lott Carey in Norfolk, Virginia, the Laymen's League and the Women's Auxiliary agreed to jointly sponsor a project to purchase a new 29 seat bus for our Lott Carey Baptist Mission School in Liberia. Dr. Jeremiah Walker, who is the superintendent of the Liberian School, made an appeal during the session that fell on fertile soil. Sister Ethelda King, Women's Auxiliary President, and Brother Johnny L. Duncan, Laymen's President, both agreed to encourage their respective units to work together to raise the \$40,000 needed for the vehicle.



Dr. Howard W. Parker Jr.

For each \$30.00 contribution toward this project, the International Office will forward a copy of the Women's Auxiliary's Centennial Journal that was released at the last Annual Session. The attractive, hardbound, mauve colored souvenir journal holds important historical information about Lott Carey women in mission.

The Lott Carey Youth Seminar

One of the most significant events for the Lott Carey family each year is the Youth Seminar that is held during the summer on the campus of Shaw University in Raleigh. The 47th Annual Youth seminar will be held June 23-29, 2001.

The week consists of Bible Study, Mission Action, Small Group Nurture, and Christian Fellowship. The seminar has been a place for us to plant and water seeds of mission, consciousness and commitment in the lives of youth. Each year, some young people are inspired to extend themselves further as Christian witnesses in word and deed.

Registration materials are available, as of January 15, 2001, from the Lott Carey International Office:

Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention
300 I Street, NE—Suite 104
Washington, DC 20002
E-mail: LottCarey@aol.com

Early Registration Fee is \$180.00 per person between January 15 and April 30, 2001. Late Registration Fee is \$200.00 per person., May 1 through June 1, 2001. One chaperone is required for every seven (7) youth in attendance. Ages are 14 - 18 years.

Greater St. John Baptist Church Laymen's League Conference

Submitted by Clifton E. Bell Jr.
President Laymen's League

Dear Brothers in Christ:

The Laymen's League of Greater St. John Baptist Church invites you to attend their third annual Laymen's Breakfast and Men's Conference.

Our theme this year is "The Whole Duty of Man." The purpose of this conference is to exhort and encourage Christian men to begin to take their rightful position of leadership in our churches, working with our youth. We believe that by living and acting as men of God, we can and must make a positive difference in our homes,

our communities, our churches and the world.

This special event will be held in the church fellowship hall on Saturday, March 10th, 2001, beginning at 9 a.m. Please let us know no later than March 2nd, 2001, that you will be attending. We need to know in advance in order to prepare an adequate amount of food for attendees. We hope this date is convenient for you to attend.

We are looking forward to your sharing with us in this important mission. Please call one of the telephone numbers listed below to confirm your attendance. See you on March 10th, at 9 a.m.

Deberry & Hand, P.L.L.C.

Attorneys and Counselors at Law

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Focusing On "Church and Nonprofit Law"

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 - Conduct your title searches
 - Represent you in your real estate closing (purchase, refinance, building and or renovation)
 - Assist you in establishing your Day Care or Elder Care programs
 - Even represent you in civil mediation, arbitration and litigation
- We are also available to conduct educational workshops and seminars for your church or nonprofit organization such as:
- What every Pastor should know BEFORE stepping into the pulpit—Protecting yourself from accusations of misconduct
 - Accountability Doesn't Have To Equal Liability—The Pro's and Con's of Incorporation
 - Maintaining your tax-exempt status—How to help protect your church or nonprofit organization from IRS audits
 - How to Secure Grant Funds—Knowledge and Planning are Key!
 - "Faith Without Works is Dead!" — How to put your church's plan for community development into action

Our Firm is committed to providing reliable and knowledge legal services. Allowing Churches and other Nonprofit Organizations to effectively "Help Others"

We Are Anticipating Your Call!

Please Contact Attorney Stephany C. Hand

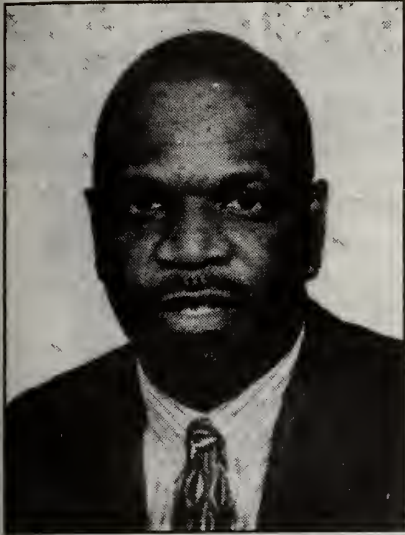
919-956-7971 * 919-956-9443 (Fax)

413 East Chapel Hill Street
P.O. Box 1128
Durham, NC 27702

Evangelism Corner

By Dr. H.C. Miller, Chairman Evangelism Committee

Chairman Miller Announces Conference Details



Dr. H.C. Miller

Greetings to our Convention family.

The time is quickly approaching for the Statewide Evangelism Conference. We your Evangelism Committee are asking the entire Convention family to support this great anointed Conference. We make a special plea to the Pastors across our state to mobilize the saints to meet us in Fayetteville.

We are thankful that God has allowed us to put together a tremendous Conference. Please make note of the following Conference details.

Date: April 16 - 19, 2001

Place: Lewis Chapel Baptist Church
Fayetteville

Conference Registration Fee:

Churches: \$100.00

Individuals: \$10.00

(Evening Sessions open to public)

Conference Preacher:

Dr. Charles Boothe

Conference Lecturer:

Dr. Mack King Carter

Conference Special Guest:

Dr. Susan Johnson Cook

Headquarters Hotel:

Holiday Inn Bordeaux,

1707 Owens Drive,

Fayetteville, NC

Phone #: (910) 323-0111

Conference Special Rate: \$69.00 +tax

Special encouragement to Pastors: We ask that GBSC Pastors will do the following:

1. Pray for the Conference
 2. Attend the Conference
 3. Financially support the Conference
 4. Announce the Conference to your congregation
 5. Make transportation arrangement for your church membership
- Plans have been made, God has blessed, something great is going to happen.

Please meet us in Fayetteville.

For more information I can be contacted at (919) 834-7249

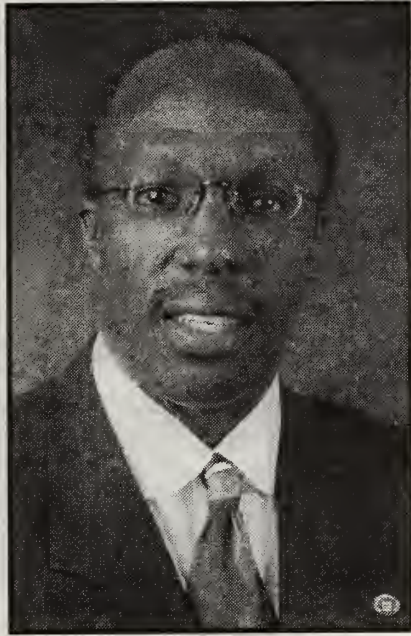
or e-mail: tupperm@mindspring.com

Yours for the cause of Christ

Dr. H.C. Miller

Chairman of Evangelism

**Support our
Conference**



Dr. Charles E. Booth

EDUCATION

- Graduate of the Baltimore City Public Schools
- Bachelor of Arts Degree, Howard University, Washington, DC, June 1969
- Master of Divinity Degree, Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Philadelphia, PA, May 1973
- Doctor of Ministry Degree (Proctor Fellow), United Theological Seminary, Dayton, OH, May 1990
- Honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree, Virginia Seminary, Lynchburg, VA, June 1980

SIGNIFICANT INVITATIONS

- Guest Lecturer in Biblical Hermeneutics, 85th Hampton Ministers Conference, Hampton, VA, June 1999
- Baccalaureate Preacher, Lincoln University, Oxford, PA, May 1999
- Guest Preacher, The 48th Annual John Malcus Ellison Convocation, The Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology

AWARDS & OUTSTANDING EVENTS

- The James Stamp Alumni Recognition Award for outstanding contributions to young people attending UNCF and Historically Black Institutions, Inter Alumni Council of the United Negro College Fund, June 1999
- Vertner Woodson Tandy Award for community service, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity (Alpha Rho Lambda Chapter), December 1998
- *Ebony* Magazine, Listed on Honor Roll of Great Preachers, November 1993

PUBLICATIONS

- Author, **Bridging the Breach: Evangelical Thought and Liberation in the African American Preaching Tradition**, published by Urban Ministries (2000).

LISTINGS

- Who's Who Among African-American's 2000

DENOMINATIONAL INVOLVEMENT

- Member, Baptist Global Mission Bureau, Progressive National Baptist Convention

TEACHING INVOLVEMENTS

- Currently serving as Professor of Preaching, Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Columbus, OH

PASTORAL EXPERIENCES

- Pastor of Mt. Olivet Baptist Church, Columbus, OH (1978 - Present)



Dr. Mack King Carter

EDUCATION

- A.A. Degree, Central Florida Community College, 1967
 - B.A. Degree, University of Florida, 1970
 - Master of Divinity Degree, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, 1976
 - Doctor of Ministry Degree, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, 1978
- In 1998 Dr. Carter was awarded an honorary Doctorate from Bethune Cookman College. In the year of 2000, he was also awarded an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from Florida Memorial College.

PASTORAL EXPERIENCE

Presently serving as Pastor of Mount Olive Baptist Church, Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Professor of Theology, Simmons Bible College, Louisville, Kentucky
Church History, Simmons Bible College, Louisville, Kentucky

LECTURE EXPERIENCE

C.D. Hubert Lectures, Morehouse College, School of Religion, Atlanta, Ga.

Lectured in Germany

James Herbert White Lectures at Mississippi Valley State University. A regular Conference and Revival Preacher. Lecturer in the National Baptist Convention's Congress of Christian Education U.S.A., Inc.

PUBLICATIONS

Four books now in Publication Entitled: **A Catechism For Baptists, To Calvary and Beyond, A Quest For Freedom, and Interpreting The Will of God.**

PREACHING EXPERIENCE

Has served as a guest Preacher in both the Progressive National Baptist Convention and the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc.

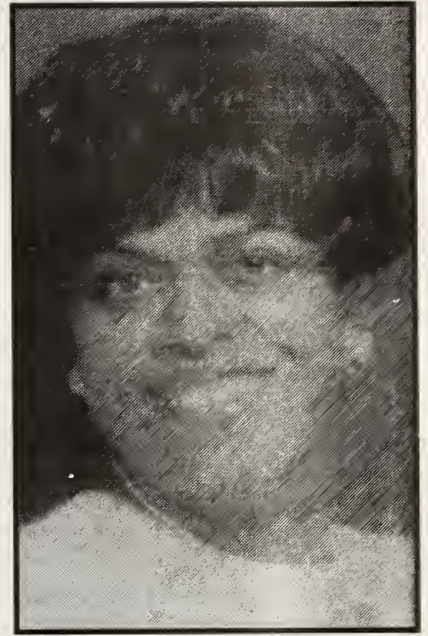
TRAVEL EXPERIENCE

Has traveled throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico, Germany, France, Italy, Austria, Puerto Rico, The Virgin Islands, West Africa, The Holy Land, England, Scotland and Wales.

In 1993 Dr. Carter was cited by *Ebony* Magazine as one of America's outstanding pulpiteers.

OTHER AFFILIATIONS

Morehouse School of Religion; Trustee Board of Florida Memorial College of Miami, Florida.



Suzan D. Johnson Cook (Sujay)

Rev. Dr. Suzan D. Johnson Cook lives in New York City with her husband, Ronald, and their two sons: Samuel David and Christopher Daniel.

After a 13 year pastorate at the historic Mariners' Temple in lower Manhattan, she became the founder and senior pastor of the Bronx Christian Fellowship, the Bronx's fastest growing new church.

For more than 20 years Dr. Johnson Cook has been a champion of civil rights, a motivational speaker, pastor, public servant and community leader. She was the only African-American woman and faith community leader appointed by President Clinton to the historic President's Initiative on Race.

A pioneer and trailblazer, she is uninhibited in the midst of challenge. She is New York City Police Department's only female and only African American Chaplain and the first African-American woman to be elected to an American Baptist Church in its 200 year history. Multifaceted and comfortable in diverse settings, she was selected by *Ebony* Magazine in 1997 as one of the top 15 women in ministry in the nation and in the same year by *Time Out* magazine as one of New York's Top Five preachers. She has made her mark as a creative, compassionate, savvy, sensational, electrifying, inspirational orator and speaker, making messages relevant, relational and engaging.

Having served on the Domestic Policy Council in the White House in 1993, and with HUD Secretary for Faith Initiatives from 1994-1997, she is comfortable in many arenas, including Government, private sector and Grassroots communities. Her clients include: Corporations, Churches, Colleges, Conventions and Conferences. She is in demand throughout the United States, the Caribbean and the continent of Africa.

Most recently, she is co-founder and Chief Operating Officer of JONCO Productions, Inc. which organizes conferences and handles her speaking tours and media/book distributions. An advocate for children and youth, she is the Executive Director of the Multi Ethnic Center for Children and Families.

A graduate of Boston's Emerson College (B.S. cum laude); New York's Columbia University Teacher's College and Union Theological Seminary (M.A. & M.Div.) and Ohio's United Theological Seminary (D.Min) she has combined her academic preparation and communications skills to teach at Harvard and other institutions and can often be seen and heard hosting radio and television shows.

Dr. Cook's book, *Too Blessed to be Stressed: Words of Wisdom for Women on the Move* (Nelson: Nashville, 1998) emerged out of her national seminars for women. It is a bestseller and the book of choice for women's conventions and book clubs. Her latest book which she compiled, *Sister Strength* (Nelson: Nashville), 1998 is a Collection of Devotionals for and From African-American Women, and includes 48 authors.

The month of March is the time when we say goodbye to Winter and welcome to Spring. I am hearing from a lot of people who are waiting to do just that. For many this has been an unusually depressive Winter. As for me I find refuge in a little known book of the Bible, "Songs of Solomon." Turn with me if you please to chapter two and verses 11 through 13 and read them. "For, lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone; the flowers appear on the earth; The time of the singing of the birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land; The fig tree putteth forth her green figs, the vine with the tender grapes give a good smell. Arise my love, my fair one, and come away." Certainly as we read this description of the time our mood changes as we anticipate a better life in Spring.

The scene changes from the dark damp days of winter to the bright warm days of spring with the expressions of life, new or renewed or revived, taking place all around us. These are truly exciting times. Our daily prayer should be that our lives be spared to share in these joyful events as they unfold once again. O how we long to see the flowers, a manifestation of God's presence, burst through and bloom. Again, giving reverence to God, we should praise Him when we hear the birds as they praise Him with songs.

Having been made to feel good by this passage I began to search for a deeper meaning of these verses. As I return to review a-fresh this book I discovered that it is probably one of the most mysterious and misunderstood books of the Bible. It has been interpreted from at least six different vantage points. For a challenging study we might want to examine these various view points. I want to see it as an allegory, which means that this book and these verses in particular represents a hidden spiritual meaning. Those very words that we cherished, as we read them, represents a deeper

A Christian Education Moment

By Dr. Jasper P. Reed, President
Congress of Christian Education

Goodbye to Winter, Welcome Spring

more profound meaning than the feel good attitude that we attributed to them. There are those who believe that this entire book is a view of God's love for His people. While others view the book as Christ's love for his Bride the Church

How do we, as believers, apply the language of this book and especially of these verses? Could it be that the normal progression we see in this book moves logically from courtship to marriage to maturation in a relationship? Is this what coming to Christ is like? We yearn to come out of the dark world of sin into the marvelous light of a relationship with Christ and to see the maturational aspects of this relationship manifest themselves before us daily? If, in fact, this is Spring my prayer for all of us is that God will hasten its coming. For the world needs more brightness than darkness.

A Christian Education Moment for Our YOUTH and Young-At-Heart—Quiz

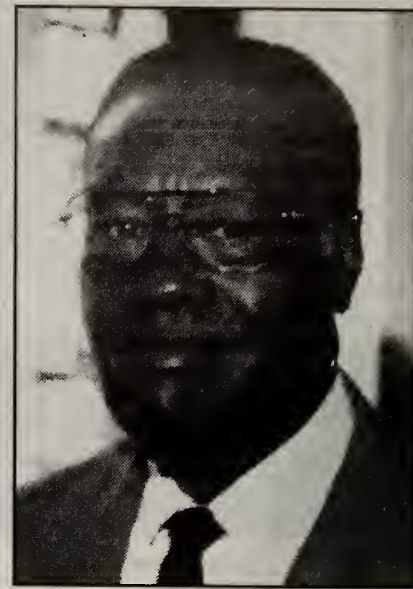
Spring is in the air. Please hurry and rescue us from the clutches of Winter.

1. What caused the earth to bring forth the grass, herbs and fruit trees? Genesis 1:11.
2. Which season is not mentioned but implied in this scripture? Genesis 8:22.
3. Spring was a time when Kings went to war. Where was David when Israel went to war? II Samuel 11:1.

4. According to Solomon how does the earth announce the presence of spring? Proverbs 27:25.

5. How can we relate to the work of God? Isaiah 61:11.

6. Our lack of knowledge is contrasted with what events in spring? Jeremiah 8:7.



Dr. Jasper P. Reed, President
Congress of Christian Education

Christian Education for the 21st Century

By Portia Brandon, M.Div., Christian Education Coordinator

25-Teaching Method

The only bad teaching method is one you use all the time!

1. Storytelling: can gain and hold attention for all ages. Relate events as they happen.

2. Overhead projectors: When using an overhead projector, you do not have to darken the room. Therefore, the leader can maintain eye contact with the learners and can reveal the material.

3. Direct Bible Study: addresses the following questions (1) what does the text say (2) what does the text mean, and (3) what does the text mean to me?

4. Study Quarterly: may be used to compare answers, refer to a point made in the lesson, or to check the assignment.

5. Discussion: allows student to interact with one another on a subject in order to arrive at some conclusion. The discussion should move from one phase to another under the guidance of the leader, allowing time for other to take part.

6. Buzz Groups: a variation of discussion in which the group is divided into small groups. Each small Group should have a leader and a selection or well-worded questions.

7. Question and Answer: Asking good questions take skill. Teachers are often guilty of asking questions with only their answer in mind. The student may suggest a different response.

8. Lecture: a good technique for teaching, the best method for reaching the aim.

9. Listening Teams: Two or more small groups within the larger group may be asked to listen to a speaker, a recording, role play, etc. Later they share their finding with the rest of the group.

10. Panel: three to five persons discuss among themselves a subject that has previously been assigned to them.

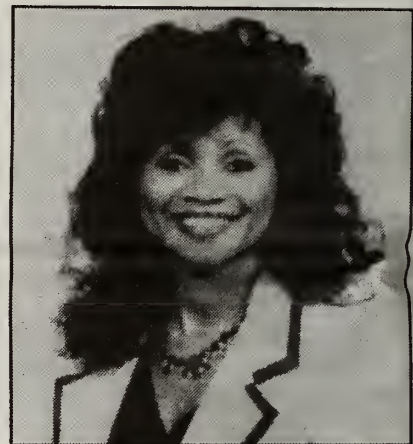
11. Forum: when you invite experts in, and the class asks questions in which they answer.

12. Debate: two opposing views on a subject given. Arguments and rebuttals are given one at a time.

13. Demonstration: Students may portray Bible stories characters, everyday situations, plays and skits. Pantomimes (acting without speaking).

14. Research Reports: assignments are made prior to class time and a report given on the subject. Students should be able to find the information.

15. Team Teaching: two or three persons



Portia Brandon, M.Div.
Christian Education Coordinator

plan and teach a class together. If this method is used, care should be taken to involve the class in the learning process.

16. Testing: this may be used to introduce a lesson, or to test knowledge gained in the lesson.

17. Projects: Activities carried on after the class to solve problem, foster learning, or implement the aim of the lesson.

18. Creative play: young children can be effective, using toys, books, create a learning environment that makes teaching effective.

19. Crafts: cutting, pasting, paper folding, painting, writing, is creative ways younger students can enjoy learning the truth of God's Word.

20. Brainstorming: throwing questions out to students, which allow them to respond with short answers. No response is criticized, but all are listed on a chalkboard or paper.

21. Case Studies: describe a life situation and allow the class to discuss the solution.

22. Puppet Show: socks, or paper bag puppet can be made quickly and used effectively. The puppets can be used as biblical characters or as biblical truth in given situations.

23. Home grown training packets, video cameras and audiotape cassette tape recorders. Christian Education committee can create their own training resources by recording their training sessions.

24. Visual and Audiovisuals: Includes maps, chalkboard, bulletin boards, films and videos.

25. Slides. Slides can be an exciting addition to a session, particularly if the person took the pictures used in the slides or made the slides themselves.

Go to: www.gbsc.org

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Rev. John Wilkins
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Raleigh, NC

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We also design and host websites!

UPDATE: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

By Dr. Joseph C. Paige

Introducing Shermanique and Dominique:

Friendly and outgoing, this brother and sister are both sweet, loving children. They enjoy playing with other children and get along well with everyone. Shermanique and Dominique are both athletic, with basketball being their favorite sport.



SHERMANIQUE

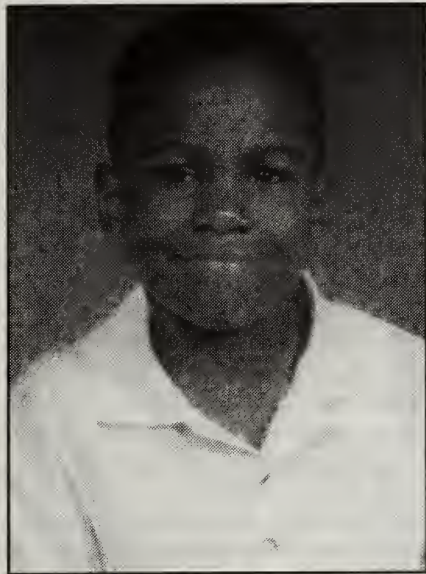
Birthday: August 13, 1990

A Closer Look at Shermanique:

Big sister Shermanique enjoys playing house, playing with her dolls, board games and video games. Shermanique likes school and spending time at the Boys and Girls Club where she loves to swim. She takes pride in her appearance and enjoys doing her hair and nails. Shermanique does best when she is kept busy and on a structured schedule, without much lax time.

A Family for Shermanique and Dominique:

Shermanique and Dominique have been in separate foster homes and they hope to find a family that will love them and welcome them both. They need a family who can provide support, encouragement and guidance. They also need lots of reassurance that they are special, wanted and



DOMINIQUE

Birthday: August 26, 1992

A Closer Look at Dominique:

Dominique is a bit shy at first, but he warms up quickly and then you're blessed with a smile full of dimples. He is active, very outgoing and likes talking to people. Besides basketball, Dominique enjoys playing video games. In school, his favorite subject is math. He takes medication to help him focus and this has helped him control some impulsive behavior, as well.

loved.

You can give them that reassurance. Open your hearts.

(NC #033-702) (NC #033-701)

For more information on these children or adoption in general, please call NC Kids at 1-877-625-4371.

The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. and the N.C. African-American Faith Communities United for Children: Adoption and Foster Care Finding Adoptive & Foster Care Homes For African-American Children

Touch a Life Forever ... ADOPT!

Children waiting for adoptive families are ...

- Sisters and brothers who want to be adoptive together
- Children who have experienced neglect, abuse or abandonment
- Older children who want a permanent family
- Children who need families who care and are willing to make a lifetime commitment

You can adopt if you ...

- Are single, married or divorced
- Can provide a stable home
- Have the ability to care for a child not born to you
- Are willing to take on the responsibilities, joys and challenges of parenting

Families who adopt ...

- May be homeowners or renting
- May have a fixed income
- May be an adult of any age

North Carolina Needs More Foster Homes

Thousands of children in North Carolina, ranging in age from infants to 18 years old, enter the foster care system each year. These children may have been neglected, abused, or abandoned and need a safe place to stay temporarily. The number of children coming into care is increasing faster than the number of foster homes in our state.

You Can Become A Foster Parent If You ...

- Are between the ages of 21 and 65
 - Are willing to be fingerprinted and have a criminal record check
 - Have a stable home and income
 - Are able to provide a safe, temporary place for children until they can be in a permanent home
 - Complete all required training and be licensed by the State of North Carolina
- You do not have to be married, wealthy or own your own home to be a foster parent.**

Our 2001 Plea! Our Challenge For The New Year!

By Dr. Joseph C. Paige

Every Church: Appoint an Adoption/Foster Care Coordinator to assist us in your area!

Every Church: Encourage and assist at least one member in becoming an Adoptive and/or Foster Parent. Contact us. We will help you.

Please help us help our children. It's the spirit of Christ!

Please call me: Dr. Joseph C. Paige, 2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27610

Phone (919) 231-9774 • Fax (919) 212-3656

E-Mail: joepaigesr@aol.com

ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

Ministry of the GBSC State & Convention of N.C., Inc.

By Dr. Joseph C. Paige, Chairperson

Greetings and Peace on the name of Jesus Christ. We would like to request your active participation and support of the North Carolina African-American Faith Communities United for Children: Adoption and Foster Care.

This Initiative is a cooperative partnership between the General Baptist State Convention and Human Services, Division of Social Services. Ours is an exciting and challenging journey, and a real opportunity to make a serious contribution to a real serious cause at this time.

The African-American Children's Initiative Adoption and Foster Care, as a cooperative church-based effort designed to help identify African-American single persons and couples who are interested in adoption African-American children or becoming foster parents to African-American children. This initiative is based on the fact that every child deserves a long, nurturing and caring home.

At the present time, there are many African-American children in the North Carolina Foster Care System, both boys and girls, who are currently eligible for this effort. The goal is to help speed up the adoption process. Time is of profound essence. There is also an urgency to identify potential Foster Care parents.

We are anxious to make a real difference within the next few months and we can do this only with your help. Volunteers will receive additional guidance from us on marketing strategies in your respective areas just as soon as I hear from you. In addition, we are in the process of soliciting and identifying volunteers to work with us throughout the state in the following categories, and we are requesting your assistance.

1. County Adoption/Foster Care Recruitment Volunteer Coordinators (one volunteer for each county).

2. Church Adoption/Foster Care Recruitment Volunteer Coordinators (one per church)

3. We are also requesting Adoption/Foster Care Recruitment Volunteer coordinators to work with us at the town, city, and area levels, to help us spread the word that all children need and deserve a loving and caring home.

If you agree to serve as a volunteer or if you know someone who is willing to serve with us, write me today and mail it to me at the address below:

Dr. Joseph C. Paige, Chairperson
The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry

PO Box 24273
Raleigh, NC 27611-5273

Please don't hesitate to call me if you have any questions (919) 231-9774. Or you can e-mail me at JoePaigeSr@aol.com or you can also e-mail me at JoePaigeSr@aol.com.

I look forward to working with you.

SHARE THE VISION WITH US!! HELP US SPREAD THE WORD THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC. & THE NORTH CAROLINA AFRICAN-AMERICAN FAITH COMMUNITIES UNITED FOR CHILDREN: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

Making A Difference in the Life of a Child

Finding Adoptive and Foster Care Homes for African-American Children

The North Carolina African-American Faith Communities United for Children, a partnership with North Carolina Division of Social Services, is comprised of African-American congregations and community organizations from across the State, NAY-KEL and the North Carolina Association of Black Social Workers committed to finding adoptive and foster homes for African-American children.

Yes, I'd like to do my part ...

Please complete and return to Dr. Joseph Paige.

I'd like someone to call me.

Please send me information about adoption. Please send me information about foster care.

I'd like to be a field worker.

I am interested in being an adoptive parent. I'd like to be a county volunteer.

I am interested in being a foster care parent.

I'd like to be a church volunteer. Other (please specify)

Name _____

Phone Number _____

Address _____

City

State

Zip

County: _____

Contact Dr. Joseph C. Paige at 2610 Albemarle Ave., Raleigh, NC 27610,
919-231-9774, 919-618-8343, mobile • e-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com

MORE ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

Our Children Are Special! They Are Precious!

Please Help Us Help Them!

By Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr.

I greet you again in the BLESSED NAME of our Lord and SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST!

As always, our prayers for each of you, are that January 2001, the first month of our new year, was PROSPEROUS and that your BLESSINGS were and continue to be many. GOD IS GOOD! I repeat, GOD IS GOOD.

GOD continues to bless our Ministry in so many special ways. So much good is happening, so many people volunteering to assist us — both ministry and laity, that at times we repeat some of the words to the song, "He keeps on Blessing Me." "...we know we don't deserve all the good things that He does, but He keeps right on BLESSING US! Ours are humbling experiences.

Just as I predicted, January 2001, was off with a BIG BAND! And February 2001, was met with even greater successes in terms of telephone inquiries, e-mail, and letters requesting information, or simply stating: "I'm ready now. I'm ready to adopt." or "...I'm ready to become a foster parent." This is good news to and for our ministry — It is good for the children already in the North Carolina Foster Care System and ready and waiting to be

adopted. And, as I said earlier in this article, "...Blessings after blessings keep on coming our way," and give God the glory, the honor and praise!

THE EVERY CHURCH ADOPT ONE PROJECT

The EVERY CHURCH ADOPT ONE PROJECT continues to gain broad statewide support and participation. Again, we give God the honor and the praise. As we have stated in earlier reports, this is an inter-faith initiative, and we strongly encourage all churches to join us in this special challenge. Join the growing number of churches uniting for children. This HELPING AND CARING MINISTRY is being pushed by bishops, elders, presidents, moderators, ministers and assorted church laity. Many church missionary departments have designated this ministry as a primary focus for the year 2001.

For additional information, please call, write or e-mail us! Dr. Joseph C. Paige, 2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, North Carolina, 27610. (919) 231-9774; FAX (919) 212-3656; email: joepaigesr@aol.com.

VOLUNTEERS

Again, the response for adoption and foster care volunteers has been incredibly successful. People from all walks of life, clergy, laity (men and women) and missionaries, representing practically all of the African-American faith communities have responded to God's call (and it is God calling all to "help his little children") to help find loving homes for His children.

The volunteers, both men and women, couples and singles, representing broad spectrum from the faith communities and from the business and civic communities have not only a desire to work with us as volunteers but they have been actively re-

cruting referrals as well.

We now have adoption and foster care volunteer coordinators in many counties both rural and urban areas, and from county civic and social organizations. They all believe as we do, that every child observes a loving and caring home, and they are committed to helping make this happen. A special thanks to the Moderators, Pastors and Presidents of auxiliaries for your support.

Yet, with our successes, we are still seeking additional volunteers to work with us at the state, regional and local levels. We need more people to help us spread the word! Please contact us. Dr. Joseph C. Paige, Sr. Project Director, or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige, Field Coordinator — FAX: (919) 212-3656; Phone: (919) 231-9774; e-mail: joepaigeSr@aol.com

FOSTER CARE and ADOPTION NEWS

We urgently seek to identify persons interested in becoming Adoptive and/or Foster Care Parents in each of the 100 counties. There is an urgency. Every child deserves a loving and caring home.

Please contact at:

Dr. Joseph C. Paige or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige
2610 Albemarle Avenue 27610
919-231-9774 • E-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com

The Central Children's Home Corner

To all in the General Baptist Family, the beloved of God and called to be saints:

"Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ." (Romans 1:7b, NIV)

In the New Testament, particularly the King James Version, the word "quicken" is used in various forms and tenses. In several passages, it means to vitalize, to make alive, to give life (John 5:21; 6:3; Rom. 4:17; 8:11; Eph. 2:1; 1 Tim. 6:13; 1 Pet. 3:18, to name a few). In a world that tends to sensationalize chaos and death, it is relieving to know that the Spirit of God can "quicken" dead things and dead people! The price is often heavy, but the gain is worth the pain.

In the music world of R&B, Betty Wright sang some years ago, "No Pain, No Gain." In the world of gospel music, Vickie Winans put it this way, "No Cross, No Crown." In essence, the Holy Spirit can "quicken" us, but first there must be something to be quickened. The Holy Spirit can "quicken" our biblical understanding only if we read the Bible. The Holy Spirit can "quicken" our prayer life only if we pray. The Holy Spirit can "quicken" our stew-

From the Desk of the 4th Vice President By Rev. Nilous M. Avery II

'Quicken' Is Used In Various Forms and Tenses In New Testament

ardship only if we live a life of love, service, compassion, and cheerful giving. We must offer something to be "quicken."

God's kingdom work is performed through willing hands, surrendered hearts, and committed lives. Can God count on us? Are we ready, willing and able to let God work through us? With our preparation and God's power, our labor and God's love:

- The sorrowful can receive peace...
- The weary can find rest...
- The forsaken can experience companionship...
- The untouchable are touched, the unreachable are reached, the uncomfortable are comforted, and the unlovable are loved.

Jesus declared that the greatest commandment is to love God will all we are — all we have, and to love our neighbor as much as we love self (Matt. 22:37). Our children at the Central Children's Home in Oxford are eager to experience the love of the General Baptist family. They are excited about the possibility of benefiting from Associations, Churches and individuals who have been "quicken," made alive in Christ. They are more than ready to share in the joys and challenges of this ministry.

You are ready too! So give Mr. Michael Alston a call today! Invite him and his staff to your area for the opportunity to share how you can make a difference. Bless this ministry with your financial, physical, and spiritual support, I



By Rev. Nilous M. Avery II

am awaiting your call to come and share with you the possibilities that exist for this ministry. Feel free to contact me at:

(704) 637-0954 (church; leave messages);
(704) 637-1137 {fax}; or
E-mail AveryRevKin@gateway.net

Again, remember that there is POWER IN ONE IN 2001 as we continue to serve with a PASSION FOR GOD and COMPASSION FOR PEOPLE! "The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. My love to all of you in Christ Jesus. Amen" (1 Corinthians 16:23-24, NIV).

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603 South Wilmington St., Raleigh, NC 27601

From the Office of the Chairman of the Board of Central Children's Home Rev. N.T. Davis

Pray For All

Peace be unto you from God the Father and His only Son Jesus Christ and may you be led by His Holy Spirit, to support the ministry of The Children's Home.

We need all of our Pastors, Churches, Associations, Unions, Missionary Depart-

ments and Clubs to remember us with your gifts and prayers. Please pray for the Third Vice President and Chairman of the Board.

It is wonderful to be able to serve at a time like this. God has called us to serve.

Rev. Michael R. Smith Sr.
Chairman

"Rivers of water run down from my eyes, because men do not keep your law." Psalm 119:136

The newspaper front page headlines are filled daily with news about crime, court trials, and persons being sentenced to prison terms. Most recently, the trial of Rae Carruth, the former Carolina Panther wide receiver who was convicted of conspiracy to murder and sent to state prison here in North Carolina. Many persons watched the trial on Court TV from beginning to end. The drama of the trial played out through the many witnesses called on behalf of both the defense and the prosecution. The tragic results are a young woman is dead, a young child has no father or mother, two families are left grieving, and a young man is now incarcerated. My concern is how do crimes like this affect those who are disciples of Jesus Christ? From what perspective do we analyze these tragic consequences? What is the Christian response to crime and its consequences?

I believe the Christian response should be one of compassion. There must be compassion for both the victim and the perpetrator. Only compassion can be the proper motivation for those who seek to bring healing, reconciliation, and restoration to the consequences of crime. Maybe you are one who believes the offender should get what they deserve for the crime. You are right, the offender should be justly punished for the wrong. You are right if you believe the

From the Office of Institutional and Specialized Ministries

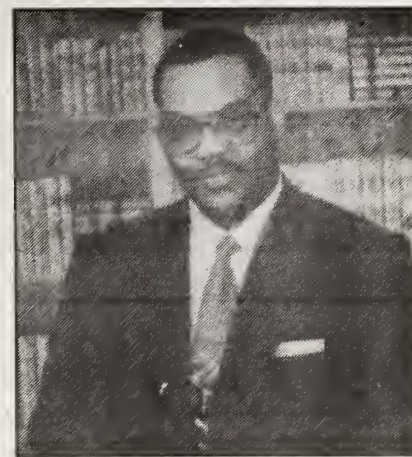
Crime and Compassion

victim should be justly compensated for their loss. But, if you are a disciple of Jesus Christ, there is another dimension to crime we must consider. What can I do to minister to the crime problem? I have found the apathy of many when it comes to responding to crime is a lack of Christian compassion. It is very rare to see prison ministry as priority for a local congregation. The fastest growing mission field is no longer overseas, it is the prisons of our land. Our church budgets reflect our priorities. The church can no longer ignore or be apathetic to the crisis of crime and incarceration. The future of our communities depend upon our compassionate response.

Today, there is heated discussion over President Bush's faith based initiatives to help the homeless, poor and prisoners. The federal government is making money available to faith based efforts to help the hurting. Before you criticize Bush's faith based initiative plan, ask yourself this question. What is my church doing to reach the pris-

oner and victims of crime? Ask yourself, am I willing to put money in place to provide ministry for at-risk youth, persons in prison or coming out of prison? Do I have enough compassion to do something to make a difference?

The Psalmist said, "Rivers of water run down from my eye because men do not keep your law." This is statement of compassion. When is the last time you cried like the Psalmist over the rampant crime in our society? Matthew 9:36 records, "But when Jesus saw the multitudes, He was **moved with compassion** for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd." Our prisons represent a multitude of people who have lost their way through their wrong choices in life. The victims of their crimes represent a multitude of people who need healing from their loss and pain. These inmates and victims of crime are our brothers, sisters, fathers, mothers, aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. They are from our communities and even



Rev Michael R. Smith Sr.

our churches. Where is your compassion for the prisoner and the victim of crime? Jesus said, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore, pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest" in Matthew 9:37-38. My prayer is many more GBSC churches will be moved with compassion in responding to crime and incarceration.

A CALL TO ALL PASTORS

I encourage all Pastors and church leaders to have a special service or program in your local church to highlight the crisis of crime and incarceration in 2001. The goal is to inspire, educate and train local churches to get more involved in ministering to at-risk youth, victims of crime, to persons in prison, or persons coming out of prison. Contact the OISM if we can be of assistance at GBSC Headquarters 800-639-4272 or my office 919-575-3900 ext. 6203.

By
Rev. Sandra Holland Trotter
Pastor/Shiloh Temple of Faith
Missionary Baptist Church,
Fayetteville, NC

Suffering brings **Faith, Strength, Obedience, Endurance and Motivation.** It builds **Character, Confidence and Commitment!**

(1 Corinthians 3:13) Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.

The word fire is mentioned over five hundred and fifty times in the word of God (The Bible). God uses the elements and essence of His environmental nature to speak to His people. **Earth, Wind, Water and Fire!**

He set a bush on fire to get the attention of Moses. The bush burned, but it was not consumed. The bush had no gender, no age and no particular color. It was a bush set on fire for the purpose of God. The bush was in the right place, at the right time to be used for the glory of God. The bush was not asked permission from God to use it, nor was the bush asked what method did it prefer God to use. **God just set it on fire!** The bush was chosen years before Moses was even a thought in his mother's womb.

Although it is true that fire will not destroy gold, it is important to know that fire purifies gold. When God gets ready to polish His gold, He uses fiery trials. Nothing brings radiance to your character and commitment to your heart like opposition.

The finished product is a result of the fiery process. Whenever you see someone shining with the kind of brilliance that enables God to look down and see Himself, you are looking at someone who has been through the furnace of affliction.

God places His prize possessions in the fire. The earthen vessel that He draws the most illuminate glory from, often are ex-

New Pastor's Corner

Snatching Victory From Disaster "The Power of Suffering"

posed to the fires of distress. We will be persecuted for His namesake. On the other side of that coin if you are in the fire, God controls the thermostat! He knows how hot it needs to get to accomplish His purpose in your life. I don't know about you, but God is the only one I would trust with the thermostat in my furnace of life.

God uses faith as the vehicle to get us through the suffering of this journey we call life, this wilderness we call earth and this mountain we call ministry.

Just as many ways as God has called us to the ministry, God has many ways for our test and degrees of test for our furnace called suffering. We are God's seeds — seeds that have been planted in good ground. We are that fertile ground — broken by trouble, enriched by failures, watered with tears, bent at the knees, stood by grace, raised by opposition and shining through the fire — until God can see His face in us — until we are brought forth as pure gold!

God turned a burning furnace into a passage through His gateway of grace for the three Hebrew boys. They kept their faith in God even in the furnace.

Faith cannot alter purpose: it acts as an agent to assist in fulfilling the predestined purpose of God. Christ is the Author and the Finisher of our Faith!

There are many lessons learned from suffering. The lesson of **Humility, Eternal Hope, First Love and Empathy**, for others — just to name a few.

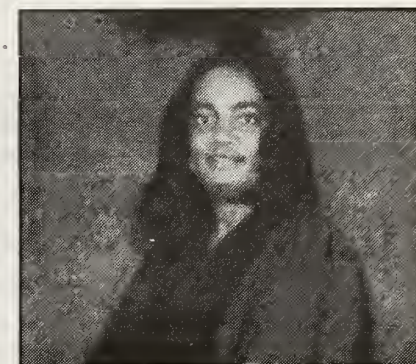
We must come to know the paradoxes of suffering as Paul did. We are troubled on every side yet not distressed: we are

perplexed, but not in despair. (II Corinthians 4:8) We learn endurance in suffering as Paul writes; Therefore, since we have this ministry, as we receive mercy, we do not lose heart. (II Corinthians 4:1)

The word "steps" is the Greek *ichnos*, meaning, "live of footprints" or tracks.

We are to follow in the tracks of Jesus because the path to glory that He walked is the path of righteousness, and the path of righteousness in an unrighteous world is also a path of unjust suffering.

Remember Jesus suffered. He taught The Theology of Suffering!!! Weeping may endure for a night, buy joy cometh



Rev. Sandra Holland Trotter

in the morning!

No matter what disaster we find ourselves in, whether it is a fiery furnace, a black pit, an ocean in front of you, up a tree, a lions den, an issue of blood or a grave yard experience — **There is Power in Suffering!**

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Transportation

Contact: Dabble Garner, Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, 704-392-0392

Martin Luther King Banquet

Submitted By Lucille Griswold Paige

Dr. Wyatt T. Walker was the speaker for The General Baptist State Convention Banquet in Memory of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., at the Raleigh Civic Center, Friday, January 12, 2001 at 6:30 p.m. Dr. Walker was a pusher for the King Holiday. He stated that the celebration should have been on the date of his death instead of his birth, because the significance is in the reality of his death. Too many use his holiday for their own benefit.

Dr. Wyatt's subject was "Derailing the Dreamer." The text was Genesis 37:19. "Here comes that dreamer."

Not only was Dr. King a dreamer — he did something about his dream.

1. He emancipated our mind set. He changed a hundred years of history in 15 years. He let the world know that segregation was no longer accepted. He told us that we were somebody because we were God's children.

2. Dr. King is a child of the Black church. More than 150 books have been written about him looking through the lens of how white

people viewed him. They wondered what writers impressed him more. The writers that influenced him more were Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. His mission and message was of the crucified carpenter.

3. He is an authentic American hero. He had the capacity to get into a struggle without knowing whether he could win. He made a definite speech at Riverside Church, July 4, 1967 against the Vietnam War.

4. **The Primary Significance:** He was the only spiritual genius in religion that the western world has produced. He brought up the issue of the right to vote in Selma, Alabama. People came together under Martin Luther King. You can't serve Jesus and talk about killing thousands of people. King mirrored the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. If you can't accept a commitment, find some niche to use your talent to fight poverty.

We must not let King's dream end at the celebration. Going back to business as usual is a travesty. What do you do the other 364 days?

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About the Author:

Dr. Serenus T. Churn Sr., received his Doctor of Ministry Degree from Drew University, Madison, N.J., in 1979, his Graduate Certificate in Pastoral Care from the Foundation for Religion and Mental Health, Grasslands Hospital, Westchester County, N.Y., in 1970, his Master of Divinity Degree from Howard University, School of Religion in Washington, D.C., in 1969, his Bachelor of Divinity Degree from Howard University, School of Religion in 1965 and his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Morgan State College, Baltimore, Md., in 1962.

He was born in Camden, N.J., to the late Dr. Charles H. Churn Sr., and Violet M. Churn and was licensed to preach at the age of 15. He is married to the former Shirley Brown of Washington, D.C., and

has two sons. Dr. Churn is currently the Senior Pastor of Mount Zion Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, N.C. Member of Novant Health Board of Trustees, Mount Zion Site Director and Adjunct Instructor, Shaw University Divinity School and Drew University Divinity School. He is the Radio Host of God's Trombone WPOL. He has preached across the United States, Great Britain and India.

Place your book orders to:

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Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ! During the annual Martin Luther King, Dr. Wyatt Tee Walker challenged us to remember not only Dr. King's birthday, but also his death. We are asking each church to celebrate Dr. King's life and ministry on the 1st Sunday in April 2001.

Please take a special offering; designated as: The Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Mission Offering and send it to Baptist Headquarters. Dr. King was a modern-day Moses. Moses symbolized in the Old Testament the coming Christ! Dr. King, like Christ was a martyr who birthed through death the resurrection of liberation and freedom for the oppressed of the world.

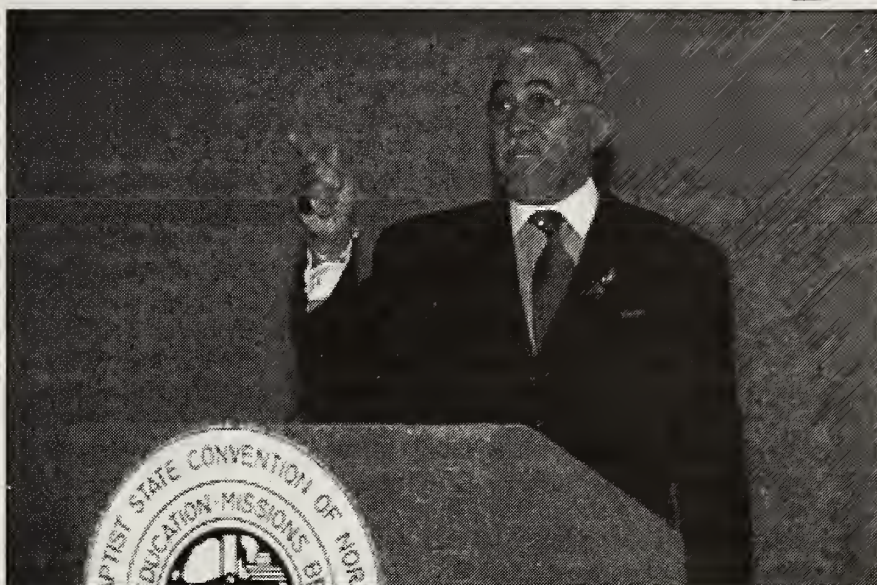
These contributions will be used to promote our new State Missions Outreach Program. We are moving across the state teaching stewardship and the pastor's salary guideline book.

For more information contact: Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Baptist Headquarters, 603 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, N.C. 27601-2338, 800-639-4272 or alogan@gbsc.org, or www.gbsc.org.

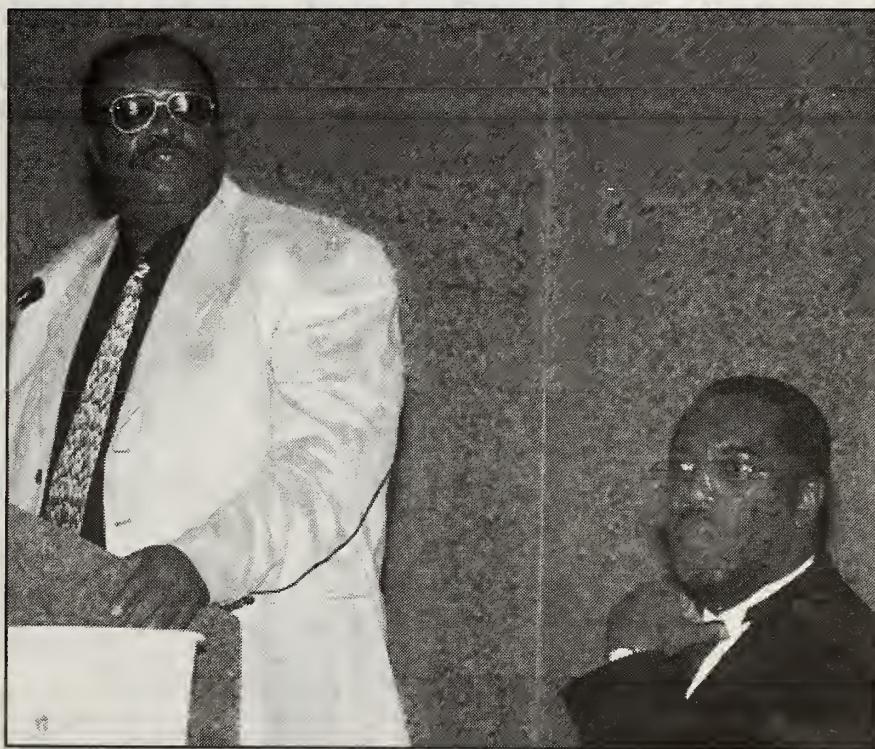
Martin Luther King Jr. Banquet Highlights



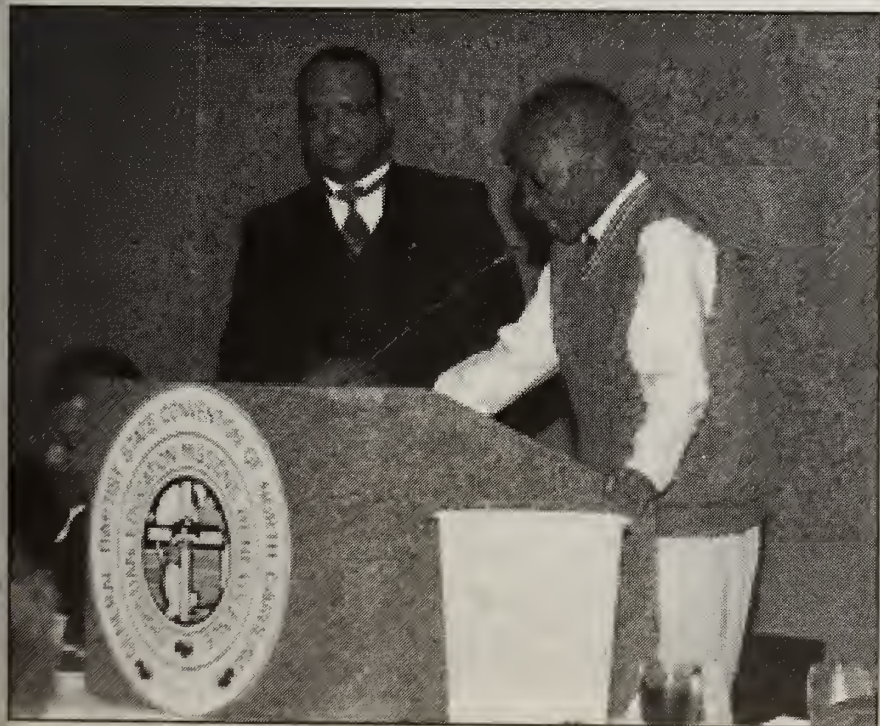
Rev. Norman T. Davis



Dr. Wyatt Tee Walker



Dr. Howard Parker, Dr. John D. Fuller Sr.



Dr. John Mendez

Martin Luther King Jr. Millennium Awards



Left to right: Dr. John D. Fuller, Mrs. Margarie Dunn, Rev. Nilous Avery II.



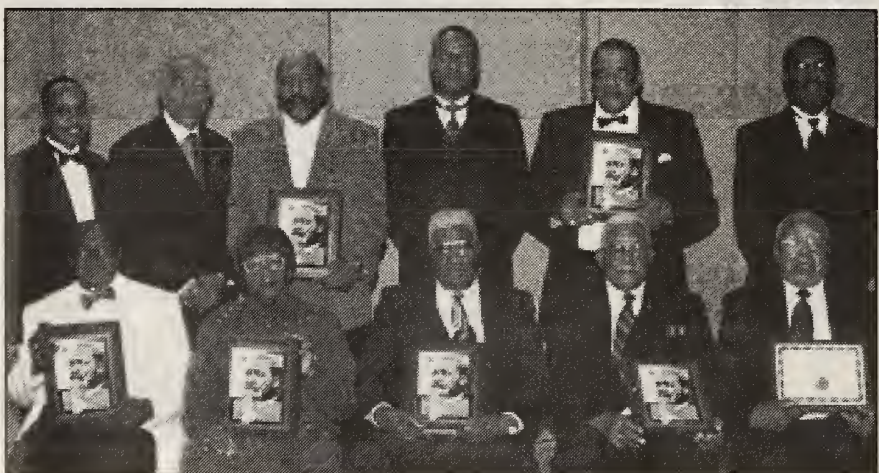
Left to right: Rev. Nilous M. Avery Jr., Mrs. M. Breeden, Rev. Theodore Breeden, Dr. John D. Fuller Sr.



Left to right: Dr. John D. Fuller, Dr. Nilous Avery, Dr. H.R. Codgell and family members.



Left to right: Dr. Nilous Avery, Dr. Hugene Fields, Dr. John D. Fuller.



Left to right: top row, Rev. N.M. Avery II, Dr. Wyatt Tee Walker; Rev. Theodore Breeden, Dr. Archie D. Logan, Dr. Harold Diggs, Dr. John D. Fuller; bottom, from left, Dr. C.C. Craig, Mrs. Margarie Dunn, Dr. Aaron Johnson, Dr. H.R. Codgell, Dr. Hugene Fields.



Left to right: top row, Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., Dr. C.C. Craig, Mrs. Craig, Rev. Nilous Avery II, Dr. Archie O. Logan Jr.



Left to right: Dr. Nilous Avery, Rev. Jamale Johnson, Mrs. Mattie Johnson, Dr. Aaron Johnson, Dr. John Fuller.



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Conference Pastor



Conference participants over 500 attended each night.



Conference participants.



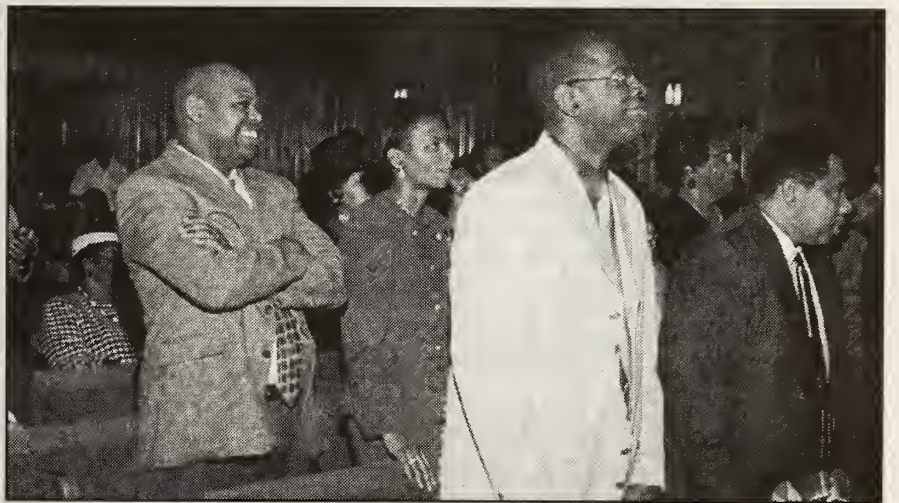
Youth choir.



Dr. Robert Horne, leads Stewardship workshop.



Dr. McGowan closes out worship services.

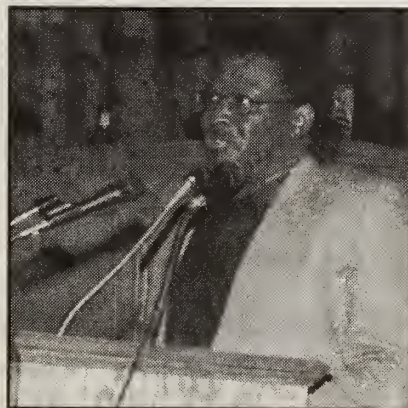


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Health & Human Services

Submitted by
Dr. Anita Holmes

Correction: The article, "Five Fiber Boosts" published in the February issue of the "Baptist Informer" was submitted by Carol Smith. Ms. Smith's continuous support of Health and Human Services is greatly appreciated. We look forward to her continuing contributions!

Is The Glass Half Full or Half Empty

As each of us faces life's challenges and opportunities, it is often too easy to focus on the negative. We may choose to see only what is missing and not what is present. We see a glass half empty, when it is half full.

The following article, is an account of one woman's half filled (or filled) glass. It focuses on a path she chose in her life "battle" with cancer. As you deal with life's complexities, how full will you allow your glass to be?

ONE WOMAN'S PERSONAL STORY
TURNING CANCER INTO A POSITIVE FORCE IN YOUR LIFE

By Bobbi de Cordova-Hanks, director, Bosom Buddies of the Women's Center of Jacksonville, Fla.

When I first used the words "cancer survivor" 14 years ago, I never realized they would become two of the most important words in my life. I remember the experience vividly.

I was at the airport to meet my mother and sister, who were coming to be with me for my mastectomy surgery. I had undergone a lumpectomy several years before to remove a very large tumor, leaving me with 85 staples across my chest. Suddenly as I went through security, the alarm sounded. As I patted my pockets looking for my keys. I realized the staples had set off the alarm.

I pulled a female security officer to the side and said, "I'm a cancer survivor and I have staples across my chest. Tomorrow I'm having my breast removed and I'm here to meet my family." She gently patted me down, walked me alongside the entrance and wished me God-speed.

As I walked down the long corridor I thought how easily I said "cancer survivor." I never said "victim." For the first time since my diagnosis of late stage 3 breast cancer several days before, I saw the light at the end of the tunnel. I made a conscious choice at the moment to focus on life and not the disease. When my mother, sister and I walked past security, I gave them the thumbs up sign and they all stood there applauding saying they would keep me in their prayers. How could I lose the battle with even total strangers praying for me?

As the doctor prepared me for the worst, I looked over my shoulder to see who he was talking to. It couldn't be me. I was healthy as a horse and no history of breast cancer in my family. Little did I know that one of the biggest risk factors is just being a woman. As I listened to all the terrible statistics, I thought, this doesn't have to be me. Statistics are written about dead people, but as long as I'm alive and kicking, I can prove the statistics wrong.

That's when my life changed dramatically. I began to think how wonderful it would be to have someone to talk to who had been through this before. Since there were no support groups in my area, I set about educating myself as best I could about this disease and made a silent pact with God. I promised God if I survived I would reach out to help other women through their breast cancer journey. And that's when the seeds of Bosom Buddies were planted.

As Bosom Buddies grew and I became more focused on survivorship, I learned that we are a nation of 8.4 million survivors, most of us living five years after our diagnosis. I also learned we need to advocate for equal job opportunities

after a diagnosis, and should have the right to health insurance coverage, regardless of preexisting conditions. More than anything, I learned to be proud to be a cancer survivor.

When I was diagnosed with metastasized thyroid cancer in 1999, I suddenly found myself revisiting old myths and fears. The words "you have cancer," are words I never expected to hear again.

I thought about my life and my work and cancer survivorship over the last decade. At that moment I decided that cancer had been a positive force in my life. It made me stop and smell the roses. It gave me the opportunity to tell my family and friends how much I loved them, and more than anything, it gave me the chance to make a difference in the world. I knew from that moment on I would always continue to seek knowledge, never lose hope, and always take action. How lucky I am to be a cancer survivor!

For more information on *Bosom Buddies at the Women's Center of Jacksonville, Fla.*, call (904) 356-3300. To book a speaker, contact: Hanks-Livingston, Inc. (904) 739-1510.

Source: Office of Minority Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. "Closing the Gap," August 2000.

10 SOURCES OF HELP IN PRAYING FOR CANCER SERVICES

By Houkje Ross

Bobbi de Cordova-Hanks was working as an editor for a music publication when she was diagnosed with cancer. "Soon after my company found out I had cancer, I was fired. For two years I didn't have a job or health insurance," she said. She ended up with a \$14,000 medical debt. "I didn't know that pharmaceutical companies could have helped me pay for my medications," she said. Here are some places to look for extra help:

1. **Pharmaceutical Companies.** Almost all pharmaceutical companies have an Indigent Drug Program that provides medications to people who cannot afford them. A patient or a physician can call the pharmaceutical company for an application. Amounts and eligibility vary from program to program. For a list of companies who participate in these programs, contact: Cancer Care Inc. toll-free at 1-800-813-HOPE, or visit its Web site: <http://www.cancercareinc.org>. NeedyMeds also provides information on pharmaceutical company programs. Visit its Web site at: <http://www.needymeds.com>.

2. **Hill Burton Program.** This is a program through which hospitals receive construction funds from the federal government. Hospitals that receive Hill-Burton funds are required to provide services to people who cannot afford to pay for hospitalization. A brochure about the program is available by calling 1-800-638-0742; or visit, <http://www.brsa.dhhs.gov/osp/dfor>. The brochure is also available in Spanish.

3. **Community Voluntary Agencies.** Service organizations like the Salvation Army, Lutheran Social Services, Jewish Social Services, Catholic Charities, and the Lions Club may offer help. Some churches also provide financial help or services to their members. Look in your phone directory.

4. **Cancer Fund of America.** This organization is dedicated to providing direct aid to financially-indigent patients in the form of goods, including canned foods. Call CFA at 1-800-578-5284 or visit its Web site at: <http://www.cfoa.org>.

5. **Helping Hands Resource Database.** Cancer Care Inc.'s database maintains organizations by state, name, or type of services provided. Information is available on the following types of services: transportation, housing, finances, elderly, children, homecare/hospice, counseling, rehabilitation, and survivor concerns. Call Cancer Care Inc. at 1-800-813-HOPE, or visit its Web site: <http://www.cancercareinc.org>.

6. **United Way Agencies.** Many local United Way agencies operate an information and referral service (often called First Call for Help, or Helpline) that lists a variety of local services.

Check your phone directory for a United Way office in your area.

7. **Medicare.** The program provides colorectal and prostate cancer screenings, as well as annual mammograms. All women, regardless of age, are eligible for pap smears once every three years. For most of these services, patients pay 20 percent of the total amount. On June 7, 2000, the White House announced an executive order that mandates Medicare to pay for patient care and treatment costs for patients enrolled in clinical trials. For more information, call 1-800-772-1213; or browse its Web site: <http://www.medicare.gov>.

8. **Medicaid.** This medical assistance program provides health insurance for low income and the poor elderly, blind, or disabled, as well as certain groups of children. Each state program is different. Contact your local department of social services or the Social Security Administration.

9. **Airlifeline.** Airlifeline provides free flights to patients who cannot afford the cost of commercial airfare when traveling to their medical facility. There is no charge for patients or medical facilities. For more information, call toll-free 1-877-AIR-LIFE; visit its Web site at <http://www.airlifeline.org>.

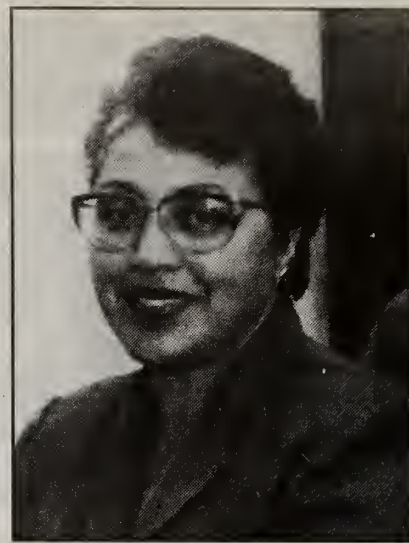
10. **American Cancer Society.** The Guestroom Program is a cooperative effort between ACS and Westin Hotels that provide free overnight accommodations for needy cancer patients who must travel to receive treatment. ACS also has 16 Hope Lodges in 13 states. Hope Lodges are temporary residential facilities that provide sleeping rooms and related facilities free of charge for any cancer patient undergoing outpatient treatment and their family members. For more information on these programs, call your local ACS chapter.

RESOURCES

Cancer Information Service (CIS)
National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health
(800) 4-CANCER • <http://cis.nc.nih.gov>
Provides information on the latest in cancer news, facts, and research. Free resources and publications.
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Division of Cancer Control and Prevention
4770 Buford Hwy., NE MS K-64
Atlanta, Ga. 30341-3717
(888) 842-6355 or (770) 488-4751
<http://www.cdc.gov/cancer>
Indian Health Service
Division of Community and Environmental Health Cancer Programs
5300 Homestead Road, NE
Albuquerque, NM 87110
(505) 248-4132 • <http://www.ihs.gov>

MINORITY RESOURCES

African-American Breast Cancer Alliance
PO Box 8981, Minneapolis, MN 55408
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Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations
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Oakland, Calif. 94612
(510) 272-9536 • <http://www.aapcho.org>
Cancer Information Research Center and Learning Exchange (Native C.I.R.C.L.E.)
Charlton 6, Room 282
200 First Street, SW, Rochester, MN 55905
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National Alliance for Hispanic Health
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Dr. Anita Holmes

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Colon Cancer Alliance
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<http://www.ccalliance.org>
Kidney Cancer Association
1234 Sherman Avenue, Suite 203
Evanston, IL 60202-1375
(800) 850-9132 • <http://www.nkca.org>
Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of America
600 3rd Avenue, New York, NY 10016
(800) 955-4572
<http://www.leukemia-lymphoma.org>
Provides grant information and education materials and publications.
National Alliance of Breast Cancer Organizations (NABCO)
9 East 37th Street, 10th Floor
New York, NY 10016 • (212) 889-0606
<http://www.nabco.org>
National Children's Cancer Society
1015 Locust, Suite 600
St. Louis, MO 63101 • (314) 241-1600
<http://www.children-cancer.org>
Provides financial assistance.
National Patient Advocate Foundation/ National Managed Care Resource Network
753 Thimble Shoals, Suite B
Newport News, VA 23606 • (800) 532-5274
<http://www.patientadvocate.org>
Provides referral services to patients in need of support in negotiating state and national public assistance programs.
Us Too International, Inc.
930 North York Road, Suite 50
Hinsdale, IL 60521
(800) 80-USTOO • (630) 823-1002
<http://www.ustoo.com>
Provides information on prostate cancer.

Source: Office of Minority Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. "Closing the Gap," August 2000.

There is much we can do to decrease the impact of cancer on families, communities and ourselves. Please be advised and stay informed. You may receive a free copy of the complete newsletter and/or a subscription by contacting the Office of Minority Health at 1-800-444-6472 or through their web site at <http://www.omhrc.gov>.

The Church Conference

By Rev. Dennis Leach, BS.M.Div.

The Church conference, or business meeting in the Black Baptist church has long become the stuff of folklore. The tales of their atmospheric ferocity, and heated encounters have left an indelible mark on the collective conscious of the churches membership. It has been alleged by some that a "church conference" is not to be attended by the faint of heart. Stories of knock down drag-out affairs at church conferences circulate throughout the Baptist Church. While having breakfast with several ministers from the Asheville area I posed the question; what is it about a church conference that makes it such a difficult undertaking? Dr. C.R. Mosely a Convention elder statesman and pastor commented that: "the very thought of a church conference has caused cardiac-arrest for some preachers." He also mentioned that during his tenure as a pastor that he had to often put on battle gear in preparing to attend "church conference." He joked that sometimes he would go prepared to do battle, and the membership would be kind, and agreeable this he said made him upset as we all laughed. Another pastor in attendance said two days prior to each church conference he would suffer from a diarrhetic condition that would subside immediately following the "conference." Traditionally, the "church conference" has received a great deal of negative press from without, and within. I'm not sure I can do this pertinent subject in the life of all Baptist churches and much justice, but I feel we fail at any attempt pertinent to the issues of our life, situation, or circumstances if we neglect to consider the "why."

As products of societal influences we develop a "personality pattern" unique to each of us as individuals. My personality pattern is to observe, and reflect upon the "why" behind any given situation. The "why" of the "church conference." Besides meetings for worship and Christian education, the "church meeting or conference" has had a prominent place in the life of Baptist churches. It has been the means by which God's will has been humbly sought and Christ's rule acknowledged. While certain executive responsibilities are assigned to the pastor, deaconate, and other officers, the Baptist church has held that the entire membership is responsible to discuss, debate, and decide matters of basic concern to the life of that particular church. Thus the church conference is the place where basic decisions and policies are made. Only by such participation will there be a genuine sense of ownership of policies and programs. Essentially, what people take ownership of they will give full support to.

From personal observation it is my belief that the tension between pulpit and pew, between pastor, and people that comes to fruition in the midst of a church conference can be attributed to leadership styles. The need for "vision" has been clearly articulated throughout the churches history, "Where there is no vision, the people perish." (Proverbs 29:18). "Vision," relative to the contemporary times in which the church finds itself is crucial in the life of the church. The tension in my estimation surrounds "ownership" of the vision. Whose vision is it, anyway? I joined the church twenty-six years ago, and I've had the opportunity to attend several church conferences. Some of those conferences were like war zones, while on the other hand some went smooth as butter. The difference between two outcomes, I would like

to compare the "church conference" in the life of two Baptist churches. *A Case Study:* In both churches the vision began with the pastor. In both instances it involved a building project. In both churches building projects were in order. In both churches the vision was brought before the body at church conference. In the first instance the vision remained with the pastor and was communicated as a divine directive. That pastor's vision was met with heated resistance from the membership. People left the conference angry and un-apologetic. That particular church never followed through with the pastor's vision, and succeeding conferences were heated, lengthy, and contentious. In the second instance the vision was brought before the congregation by the pastor at church conference. It was presented as an agenda item to be considered by the entire membership. The vision was not brought before the body to be approved, but to be researched as a possibility. After sometime the will of the congregation was sought concerning the matter and voted on. It approved unanimously. Before adjourning a committee consisting of ten groups comprised of ten people from all areas of the church were formed to look into the pros and cons of the project. The meeting was adjourned peacefully. The committee would report periodically to the pastor and membership. Almost two years passed between the formation of the committee and the vision being brought before the congregation for approval. It passed unanimously. The difference in the two cases was the vision began with the pastor in one case and remained with the pastor. But, in the other case it began with the pastor and was given to the people who then took ownership of that vision.

The church conference, then, is the place where the whole church gathers to consider matters of importance to its common life. Some business matters should come before it, but it is not just a "business meeting." Calling it that is a symptom of the restricted conception of its purpose, which has come to prevail. The adoption of a budget, the admission of members, and setting of policies fall within its necessary realm, but execution of decisions and policies should be left to the designated boards and committees. The church conference includes relating worship to the internal life of the church, the personal concerns of its members in daily living, community needs, and public policy. If the spirit and values of the "congregational" system are to be preserved, ways are needed to foster Christian fellowship, to involve individual members in worship, study, and decisions of the church, and to prepare members to make informed Christian judgments in personal and social issues. Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President of the GBSC says he made a decision early in his ministry to hold all church conferences in the sanctuary. He said his reason for doing so, was so that the congregation could make a direct correlation between the worship service and the church conference.

Church meetings can be scheduled monthly, however if that is not feasible quarterly meeting can be held. Where there is a regular mid-week service, it might be used as an occasion for a church meeting to discuss common concerns. Some churches have experimented with an older pattern, having dinner at the church following Sunday morning worship, and then holding the church conference in the afternoon. This has two advantages. It places the church meeting within the context of

the common worship of the church, and it provides an opportunity for the pastor in the sermon to provide instruction pertaining to the topic to be discussed. The church conference may deal with a particular theological point that needs to be clarified in terms of the church's witness; it may consider the church's missionary obligation in some specific fashion; it may discuss some moral issue facing the community in order to provide guidance for members. Whatever the subject to be considered, the discussion needs to be informed by whatever light the pastor can bring to bear upon it from his or her understanding of God's word.

Guidelines for an Effective Church Meeting

The congregational meeting has had a place of special emphasis in Baptist Church life. Therefore, Baptist in the past were careful to define certain procedures necessary to properly constitute a church meeting. The intention was to make it as clear as possible that the entire congregation was engaged in seeking the mind of Christ. There is a movement in some Baptist churches that re-appropriates the governance of the body with a selected few with the pastor acting as the CEO. This approach is more Presbyterian in nature than Baptist. The autonomous nature of Baptist churches has made for some interesting governmental arrangements to say the least.

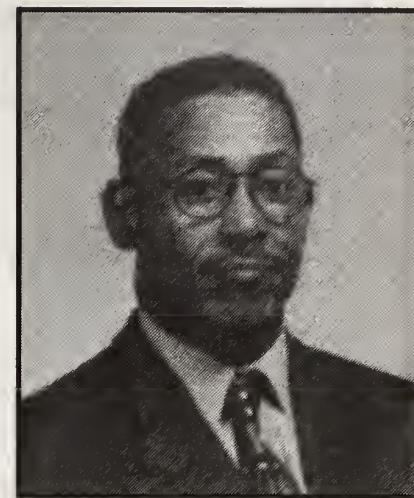
A Competent Moderator

In the past, Baptist almost always held that the pastor should be the moderator. They spoke of "presidential authority," by which they meant the pastor's right to preside at all meetings of the church. Occasionally, it was regarded as wise that someone else serve in such a capacity, but only in exceptional circumstances.

The reason for such a requirement was that it seemed necessarily related to the pastoral office. The pastor had been chosen to be the leader of God's people in a particular church; and to permit someone else to preside might obscure the pastoral image. Furthermore, the pastor was seen as the expert interpreter of Scriptures, and as chairperson could give the competent theological guidance needed in the determination of questions. Among Missionary Baptist, American Baptists, and Southern Baptist this practice is standard. Ordinarily the presiding officer does not have liberty to participate in discussions. Some churches allow for a layperson to serve as moderator, but each church should weigh the arguments for and against the pastor serving as moderator, and make a decision based on its own local situation.

Rules of Order for the Meeting

The meeting should be opened with a prayer invoking God's presence and the guidance of God's Spirit in all the deliberations. The minutes of the previous meeting should be read and approved. Routine business should be quickly dispatched so that discussion of such matters is not unduly prolonged. The major subject to be considered by the meeting should then be clearly stated, so that there may be a proper division of time allotted to each. The meeting should be closed with prayer, asking



Rev. Dennis Leach, M. Div.

God's blessing upon decisions based on its own local situation.

The church conference should provide the opportunity for all to be heard. The church meeting is an inquiry by the entire church, and the possibility must always be kept in mind that the Holy Spirit may speak through the humblest member. The more articulate and self-assertive members should not be allowed to monopolize the discussion to the exclusion of others. Each person who wishes must be given full opportunity to speak. Consensus is to be sought in the church meeting. The purpose and objective of the church meeting is not to win a vote, it is to discern the mind of Christ. In matters of basic policy, which affect the church as a whole, however, every effort should be made to find time to reach a clear consensus before a decision is made.

Dividing the church is to be avoided. A primary obligation resting upon the church is to "maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." If a consensus cannot be reached, it is usually preferable to delay the decision, rather than risk dividing the church. Often a church may feel that it must make a decision on a controversial matter before it reaches a common mind and before unanimous consent can be reached, but under such circumstances no action should be taken which cannot command at least a two-thirds affirmative vote. Even then the action can be taken only with grave misgivings and regret. Furthermore, if such action threatens to divide the church, the decision should be postponed until the counsel and advice of the Convention, the Association moderator, or a senior pastor can be obtained.

In conclusion, counsel and advice are to be sought. It is the custom of Baptist churches in the GBSC when confronted by perplexities to address inquiries to the Association, or Convention. Especially in cases where something threatens to divide a church, the Association, or Convention office should be invited to send representatives qualified to act as consultants to help reconcile opposing parties and reach a satisfactory conclusion. The church conference need not be a place of hostility and bitterness. From the Baptist perspective the work of God involves an entire membership. No person surrenders his or her right to participate in the process upon entering a conference meeting. Whatever the case, if a proposition, proposal, or agenda item is voted down in church conference don't take it personal. Love should be the light that guides, respect the path upon which the conference travels, and decency the order of the delay. Amen.

Go to: www.gbsc.org

FAITH AND FITNESS

Will You Be Destroyed Because You Are Not Taking Care Of Your Health?

By Charlotte H. Leach, M.S.

My prayer is that while you have been reading the **Faith and Fitness** articles that you have also been taking some **action** based on knowledge that you have received. One scripture that comes to mind is, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge," which is written in the book of Hosea Chapter 4, and verse 6.

This scripture let's us know that we are being destroyed. First, we are destroyed because we do not know. For whatever reason, we have not been made aware of things that could help us to avoid destruction. We are perishing in many areas due to not knowing. Keep in mind that the knowledge that God wants us to obtain will always be based on his written word and will help us to be better prepared to do his will. It may be that our finances are in disarray and we need to seek knowledge concerning the proper way that a Christian should spend. We would need to see a Financial Planner for this knowledge. It may be that we have so many pressures on us that we can't seem to cope. If this is the case, we may need to seek knowledge from a Counselor. If we have health related problems and have been told by the doctor that we must take steps to get more exercise, eat better, and reduce stress, we must obtain knowledge in order to work toward improving our health. The best scenario with regard to our health is that we learn before we become obese, get hypertension, diabetes, or heart disease that knowledge can help us to avoid possible destruction due to these healthy traps.

This Word of the Lord from the prophet

Hosea continues by saying that "thou has rejected knowledge." This is the second way that we are destroyed. We have been given the knowledge, but instead of heeding and taking action, we reject what we hear. If the Financial Planner takes the time to help us to set up a plan to get our finances on track, but we continue to spend and handle our money the same as in the past, we have rejected the sound advice that could help us work toward financial freedom. If the Counselor gives us biblically-based advice to help us to handle our stresses and pressures, but we refuse to try any of the suggested changes, we are allowing ourselves to be destroyed. If we know that we need to incorporate changes into our life to improve or maintain our health, and receive advice that is ignored, we may be allowing ourselves to be destroyed.

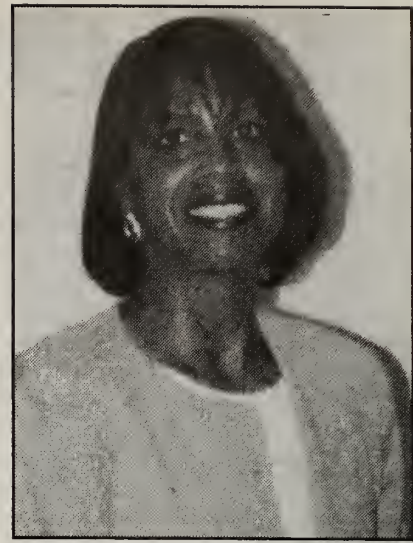
The purpose of the **Faith and Fitness** Articles is to help us to avoid destruction by receiving knowledge. I have given information which regard to nutrition and exercise along with other health related topics. The next question is "Is the knowledge being rejected?" I have been encouraging you to take steps toward improving your overall health for almost a year now. The purpose of the information in each article is to provide education and motivation for you to "**DO SOMETHING**" to improve our health.

I would like to know that you are "doing something" positive to improve your health to be a better witness for God. Believe me, I know that it takes work and de-

termination. It takes prayer and persistence. It takes a determination to change, which we tend to try to avoid at all cost.

Since I have been working with the group at my church, I realize the hardest part of the change is with regard to our nutrition. Most of the group has remained pretty consistence with regard to coming for walking and aerobics. We have a discussion on nutrition on Saturday mornings, and this seems to be the subject to avoid. Fortunately, there is no pressure to share information that one really is not comfortable sharing. Quite possibly, no one knows our true habits. But remember that God knows and sees everything. So we must at least take the first step and be honest with ourselves regarding what we eat and drink. We must be willing to be honest with God about our struggles and our weaknesses. I believe that some of us are so set in having it our way that we refuse to open our eyes for an examination to determine if we are setting ourselves up for an early destruction. I have heard people comment that "this is what I'm used to eating, this is what I like to eat and if it is going to kill me, then I will die happy." A statement like that rejects knowledge. It says that regardless of what research says, regardless of what I witness everyday with my own eyes, and regardless of the fact that I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me, that I am going to play the odds that may lead to an early destruction.

Why should we take action to avoid an early destruction due to health issues? Why does God want us to stay around a



Charolette H. Leach, M.S.

long time and to live a life of good health? God wants us to be effective in the work that he has called us to do all to his glory. My encouragement to work toward improving our health is not so that we can say how good we look or brag about how healthy we are. My encouragement is for one reason and only one reason. We want to be able to run this race doing what God wants us to do to win souls for his kingdom. We want to be able to run long and hard. Yes, I know that many of our sisters and brothers have been able to contribute to kingdom building even while sick and with frail bodies. Praise God for what he is able to do even in difficult situations, but I believe that God wants us first to do what we can do to maintain and improve our health.

If you have been reading this article on a regular basis, you have been receiving knowledge and encouragement regarding your health. **You** are the only one that can decide what you will do with it. Will you accept the knowledge and take action, or will you reject the knowledge and take a chance on a road that may lead to destruction? **You** and you alone can answer this question. Be Blessed!

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Saint Patrick: The Man and His Life



Delores Griffey

There are many legends about St. Patrick, but this is his story. Much of Patrick's life is shrouded in mystery. Historians disagree on many dates and places in his life story. Patrick was born sometime around 380 in Scotland or Wales. His parents were Calpurnius and

Conchessa, who were Romans living in Britain in charge of the colonies. His real name was believed to be Maewyn Succat as he took the name Patrick (or Patricus) after he became a priest.

As a boy of about fifteen or sixteen, he was captured during a raiding party. He was taken to Ireland as a slave to herd and tend sheep for an Irish chieftain named Milchu who lived on Slemish Mountain in County Antrim. Patrick's captivity lasted six years. He escaped after he had a dream from God in which he was told to leave Ireland by going to the coast. After a journey of 200 miles, he found a ship which took him back to Britain, where he was reunited with his family.

After his return to Britain, he had another dream in which the people of Ireland were calling out to him "We beg you, holy youth, to come and walk among us once more." He recorded his call to his vocation (and other dreams from God) in the "Confessio," his spiritual autobiography. It is one of his few writings that have survived. He left the comfort of his family for France where he began his studies for the priesthood in continental monasteries. Many believed he was ordained by St. Germanus, the Bishop of Auxerre, France, whom he had studied under for years. Later, Patrick was ordained a bishop. His only other writing to survive, "Epistola" pleads the case for the Christian Irish at the hands of their British conquerors. Both writings show him as a humble, gentle man of faith.

It is believed that Patrick was sent to Ireland as a bishop to replace Saint Palladius who died in 431. He arrived in Ireland in 432 or 433, at Slane. One legend says that he met Dichu, a chieftain of one of the tribes, who tried to kill Patrick. Patrick converted Dichu after he was unable to move his arm until he became friendly to Patrick. Dichu gave Patrick a barn at Saul, county Down for his first church.

Despite constant threats to his life, Patrick traveled widely through Ireland, baptizing, confirming, and preaching. He converted thousands and began building churches, monasteries, and schools all over the country. Through the power of Patrick's message, Kings, their families, and entire kingdoms converted to Christianity. It is said that he and his disciples converted almost all the population of Ireland. He eventually made his headquarters in Armagh.

One legend had him spend 40 days on a mountain in county Mayo, now known as Croagh Patrick. He was harassed by demons in the form of blackbirds, clustered so densely that the sky was black, but he continued to pray, and rang his bell to disperse the assailants. An angel then appeared to tell the saint that all his petitions for the Irish people would be granted, and that they would retain their Christian faith until Judgment Day.

Patrick is credited with banishing all the snakes from Ireland. This is probably a metaphor for his driving the pagans from Ireland as snakes were often associated with pagan worship. Another well known legend had Patrick using the shamrock (which resembles a three leaf clover) to explain the Trinity as the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. It has been associated with him and the Irish since that time.

After years of living in poverty, traveling and enduring much suffering he died March 17, 461. He died at Saul, where he had built the first church and is reputedly buried at nearby Downpatrick.

Read the Confession of St. Patrick to get a better understanding of the man.

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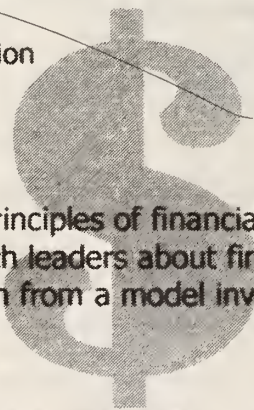
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FOR CAMPUS MINISTRY

Each year our students plan to attend the National Baptist Student Union Retreat as part of their campus activities for Christ. This year the National Retreat will observe its 56th Session in Norfolk, Va., at the Marriott and Sheraton Hotels, March 22-24, 2001. The theme for this session is "Living as a Citizen of the Kingdom."

Schools planning to attend are:

Shaw University	North Carolina Wilmington	St. Augustine's College	North Carolina Asheville
Fayetteville's State University	Duke University	Winston-Salem State University	Livingston College
North Carolina Central University	Barbar Scotia College	Johnson C. Smith University	North Carolina A&T University

Your Baptist Student Fellowship is currently working to provide group travel for the students to attend the Retreat. This is an annual effort and this year we are asking your support in a special way.

The Baptist Student Fellowship is currently working to provide group travel for the students to attend the Retreat. This is an annual effort, and this year we are asking your support in a special way.

The Baptist Student Fellowship is in search of Three Hundred (300) Church Fellowships willing to provide assistance for the students to travel to the National Retreat in March. BSF asks \$100 per church to provide bus travel for each school group. Will you help us?

CAN THE STUDENTS COUNT ON YOU?

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If you would help, you may send your support by March 1, 2001.

Make checks payable to: GBSC North Carolina Inc.

Mail to: General Baptist Headquarters

c/o Dr. Percy R. Chase, State Director

603 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27601

Please call my office for further information. (919-821-7466) or (919) 544-1319)

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Again, thank you GIDEONS for your support.

Yours because of His Resurrection,

Dr. Percy R. Chase, State Director

The 56th National Baptist Student Union Retreat

March 22-24, 2001

Marriott & Sheraton Norfolk Hotels Waterside, 235 East Main St., Norfolk, Va. 23510

Theme: "Living as a Citizen of the Kingdom" Job 16:19 & St. Matthew 6:33

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National BSU Retreat

Mail to: National Baptist Student Union Retreat

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Again, Thank You, Dr. Percy R. Chase • THE NATIONAL DIRECTOR • 919-847-4735 or 919-821-7466

Announcing The 56th National Baptist Student Union Retreat Marriott and Sheraton Hotels Waterside, Norfolk, Va.

Registration for the Retreat is \$65 Per Person

March 22-25, 2001

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Job 16:19 & St. Matthew 6:33

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2001, Year of the "Unified Church" (Part 2)

By Dr. James W. Washington Sr.
Field Worker GBSC

PS 133:1 "Behold, how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

When, Christ gave us peace; He commanded us to be in agreement, and of one mind! He charged that the bonds of love and charity be kept uncorrupted and perfect. Paul, the apostle teaches and testifies, saying, "And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing" 1 Cor 13:2-3.

So, what does Charity have to do with Unity? "Well Charity," says He, "never faileth." For she will endure forever in the Kingdom; she will endure in the unity of brotherhood and sisterhood! She will endure to the rewards of Christ, who said, "this is my commandment, that ye love one another, even as I have loved you..."

Discord cannot reach the Kingdom of Heaven! He who has no Charity, has no GOD; because "GOD is love!" He that dwelleth in love, dwelleth in GOD, and GOD dwelleth in him. You cannot dwell with GOD, and not be of one mind (unified) in GOD's Church. There must be unity!

The Lord Himself forewarns, "Many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ, and shall deceive many!" You cannot gain Heaven, unless you walk in the righteousness and justice of GOD. Yes, there is a great need for righteousness; we must look to GOD, our judge; we must obey His precepts, we must heed His warnings, so that we may one day arrive at our reward.

The best example of Unity, can be found in the Apostles; even when Judas betrayed Christ, they did not let it destroy their Unity!

They were not mad with discord, they did not divide the Church, and destroy the faith, they did not fight, grumble, fuss, cuss, criticize, or complain, they did not disturb the Peace, break down Charity, or blaspheme the sacraments! No, they were of one accord; working in unity!

The Holy Spirit foretells and forewarns saying, 2 Tim 3:1-15 "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good. Traitors, heady, high minded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness,

but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts, Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. Now as Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith. But they shall proceed to further, for their folly shall be manifest unto all men, as theirs also was. But thou hast fully known my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, long-suffering, charity, patience!"

Christ, warns us to turn away and avoid such people; because they are perverted, abnormal, deviated, corrupt, sinful, misguided, distorted, crazed, and wicked. They are evil, bad, wrong, immoral, depraved, deranged, and harmful. They are disgusting, gross, loathsome, offensive, vulgar, dirty, and most foul! What does such things have to do with Unity? How can such a person experience Unity? They are separated from the Church, and are condemned already!

He who separates himself from the Church and its people; he who speaks against the Church, he who resists disciples, he who rebels against Christ, is disobedient, profane, hostile; he dares to ignore the preaching of the Word, he even dares to set up another altar, offer false sacrifices, and pray to other GODS! And he will be punished eternally!

Look at the people, who challenged Moses in the wilderness. The earth opened up and swallowed them. The fire went out from the Lord consuming them with terrible revenge, to admonish them and show what happens when we mere mortals try to overthrow GOD's Church in opposition to His Divine commands. Remember the sons of Aaron, who placed strange fire upon the altar, which the Lord had not commanded; they were at once extinguished in the presence of an avenging GOD!

The world is full of "false prophets" who bring trouble into GOD's house! They despise GOD's traditions, customs, and beliefs; they seek after strange doctrines, and bring in false teachings which the Lord rebukes and reproves. The Gospel warns, "Ye reject the commandment of GOD, that ye may keep your own tradition." This is a very grievous crime. The "False Prophet" is engaged in wickedness. He understands that he has sinned; but he is arrogantly puffed up in his heart, he is pleased with his crimes!

He is an agent of Satan; who tries to separate sons from the fathers; and entice sheep from the Shepherd. His primary aim is to start trouble in the Church; he seeks and recruits followers from the ranks of the Church; and he sins daily! He teaches fraud, fornication, and adultery. This person will have no

Crown! Thus, saith the Lord, "Hold fast that which thou hast, lest another take thy crown!" My brother, my sister...don't let anyone take your Crown! When righteousness departs, the Crown of righteousness must depart also.

Unity has nothing to do with injustice; unity has nothing to do with arrogance; unity has nothing to do with treachery! The true Christian is meek and humble, lowly and quiet, modest and disciplined. He is a Peacemaker, a co-worker, a helper, a confidant, and friend! Christ humbled Himself on earth. How could He love arrogance, dissension, depravity, trouble and strife? Don't let your tongue speak evil; don't let it be agitated; don't let it speak violence; don't let your tongue threaten, don't let your tongue quarrel, speak hurtful things and break the Unity!

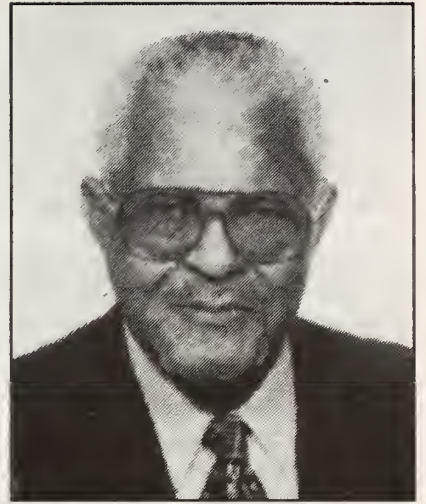
No, GOD wants us to use our tongue to Praise His name; to uplift each other, to uphold each other, to sing of His goodness; to spread His word to a dying world. Not, to hurt each other; downgrade each other; malign each other; gossip about each other; lie on each other, slander each other, and tear down each other! Where is the Unity in that? Where is the love, patience and Peace in that? Surely, GOD will frown upon such actions, no matter who performs them. And His punishment is sure, you can rest upon it!

Indeed, I desire that none of my brothers or sisters should perish, and that we all dwell in unity. Yet, we must beware of the leaders of schisms, and the originators of dissension, who are rushing many into destruction daily! But you, my readers, I beg you, please, don't be deceived by craftiness and cunning.

Please, untangle yourselves from the nets of deceit; please, free yourself from error, please, keep to the straight way and the Heavenly Road! Yes, the Lord demands that we withdraw, disassociate, part, separate, detach, disconnect, disengage, and flee from the wicked, and doers-of-evil, who have left the straight and narrow, and walk in disunity!

Saints, GOD is ONE; and Christ is ONE; and His Church is ONE; and the faith is ONE. Thus, His people must be joined and cemented in the bonds of Unity...as ONE! Unity cannot be severed, cut off, separated, or disjointed. Unity cannot be cut apart, disconnected, disassociated, or torn asunder! Unity means ONE! It cannot be torn to pieces; it cannot survive in a state of isolation, solitude, separation, loneliness, and disconnection! We must come together, work together; stay together, fight together; and pray together...as ONE!

The Holy Spirit speaks, and says, 1 Pet 3:10-11 "For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile: Let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensure it." Saints, we are to



Dr. James W. Washington Sr., Th.D.

seek peace, and ensue it.

How can you say you love your brother or sister, when there is no Peace? How can you be on the same accord, when there is no Peace? How can you uplift and uphold each other, when there is no Peace? How can you work in harmony, for the uplifting of GOD's Kingdom, when there is no Peace? I claim this to be impossible!

GOD has promised us all the gifts and rewards we could ever dream of...or hope for. GOD is good, full of grace and mercy. Slow to anger, and quick to forgive. He makes these promises to us as His "Obedient" children. If we are fellow brothers and sisters of Christ, and co-heirs of the Kingdom with Christ; if we are sons and daughters of GOD, then, we ought to be "Peacemakers!" it behooves us to be Peacemakers, gentle in heart, simple in speech, humble in character, agreeing in affection, faithfully, and lovingly, linked to one another in the bonds of Unity!

Saints, today, there is no fear of the Wrath of GOD, in the law of righteousness, in love, in labor; no one takes to heart "The Day of the Lord," or, the punishment to come upon unbelievers, and the eternal torment of the faithless! So, let us, beloved brothers, and sisters, arouse ourselves as much as we can from our slumber and our indifference. We must be ever watchful and heed the Lord's commandments; the greatest of which is, and always shall be, "Love one another, as I have loved you!"

My dear reader the Holy Spirit has blessed me in a "Mighty Way" during the writing of this two part series. I hope, and pray that something I have been inspired to write down, and transfer to you on this paper, will touch your heart of hearts, and that you will make "UNITY IN GOD'S HOUSE IN 2001" First on your lists of New Year's resolutions! May HIS blessings rain upon you, and yours in this, year of our Lord 2001. And, I say...AMEN!

NOTE: Pastors, Deacons, Trustees, Church Leaders; I have prepared a dynamic Sermon/lesson called: "Let There Be Unity in the House of GOD!" Let me bring this timely, needed message to your Church! Please call me (first) at my Study. (919) 859-2262, or at my GBSC office: (919) 821-7466.

By Dr. James W. Washington Sr., Th.D.
Heb. 6:12 That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

Recently, I spoke about the virtues of patience. This month I feel it only fitting to expound on the dangers of impatience! Let me begin by saying that those who have renounced the devil, and the world, will suffer mischief, setbacks, slander, abuse, oppression, torment, trials and tribulations from the devil, with more frequency...and more violence than ever before!

He will attack deliberately, relentlessly, cruelly, ruthlessly, mercilessly, murderously, with all malice! This is why we should always be patient, so we may be able

to bear, and endure this persistent persecution by Satan and his band of demons!

"He that endureth," Saith the Lord GOD, "unto the end, the same shall be saved." Brothers and Sisters, we must endure and persevere with faith, hope and patience. Paul warns that: "We are saved by hope; but hope that is seen is not hope, for if a man seeth, what doth he hope for, but if we hope for that which we see not, then we by patience wait for it." Rom. 8:24.

Therefore, waiting and patience is required, if we are going to fulfill what we have begun to be, and receive what we have begun to believe and hope for!

Moreover, The Apostle Paul instructs the righteous and doers of good works, not to faint in well-doing; no man should impatiently faint in his labors, and be overcome by temptations and cease and desist in the midst of praise and the way to glory! No, we must push on in patience and courage

Impatience

towards the crown, which is now near at hand.

So, let us take an up-close look at this word IMPATIENCE. Let me say right here, that patience, beloved brothers and sisters, not only keeps watch over what is good, but it repels that which is evil. In harmony with the Holy Spirit, patience struggles with all its strength against the deeds of the flesh and body; where the soul is constantly battered, assaulted, bombarded, besieged and plagued by Satan!

Let us look at a few things, out of many that is brought on by impatience. Please understand that adultery, fraud and manslaughter are mortal crimes. So let patience (See next page)

Impatience

be steadfast in your heart, and let neither your body (the sanctified temple of GOD) be polluted by adultery, nor let your innocence and righteousness be tainted by the contagion of fraud, nor let your hand be spotted with savagery of blood and violence!

We must also understand that Charity is the bond of brotherhood, the foundation of peace, the holdfast and security of our unity, which will abide with us always. Now, if your take patience away from it, it has no roots or strength. To patience and endurance... We must add charity. Because, Charity is large-souled, charity is kind, charity is not puffed up, it is not provoked, it thinketh no evil, it loveth all things, it beareth all things, and beareth all things.

Unity, nor peace, can be kept unless we brothers and sisters in Christ learn to cherish and tolerate one another in patience. The Word of GOD says: "that you should not swear or curse, you should not seek your goods when taken from you, when you receive a strike on one cheek, you should give the other to the striker also; you should forgive your brother that sins against you, not only seven times...but seventy time seven times!"

But above all, you should love your enemies, you should pray for your adversaries and persecutors, you should not return hate for hate, nor abuse for abuse. How can you accomplish all these things unless your sustain in the steadfastness of patience and endurance? Look at Deacon Stephen; when he was stoned and slain by the Jews, he did not ask vengeance against them! No, he asked for pardon for his murderers, "Lord, lay not this sin to their charge."

Stephen was not only a preacher of the Lord's passions, but he was also an imitator of His patience and gentleness. What can I say of the anger, bitterness, hatred, venom, ill-will, malice, discord and strife

that is found in our impatient Christian brothers and sisters today? I SAY, "THIS OUGHT NOT BE!" Let there be patience in your heart and spirit, and these things can have no place in your life.

And if they do try to enter, they are quickly ejected, so that peace may continue to abide in your heart, where it delights the GOD of peace to dwell. "Grieve not the Holy Spirit of GOD!" Let all bitterness, and anger, and wrath, and clamor, and blasphemy be put away from you. Because when the Christian has departed from the shores of the storms and hurricanes of rage, carnality, contention, and resentment, they shall soon see the tranquil harbor of Christ; O' those peaceful shores where neither impatience, anger, discord, or hatred can survive...nor is evil ever returned for evil!

Beloved brothers and sisters consider the mischief impatience can cause. For as surely as patience is the benefit of Christ, so is impatience the mischief of the devil! Just as the man who walks in the ways of Christ is found to be patient, so does the impatient man walk with Satan! Briefly, let us go back to the very beginnings. The devil suffered with impatience because man was made in the image of GOD. Hence, he was the first to perish and ruin others.

Adam went against the heavenly command with respect to deadly food, and by impatience fell into death. Why were the Jewish people unfaithful and ungrateful in respect to the divine benefits of GOD? Didn't impatience cause them to depart from GOD? Impatient with Moses, they asked for profane gods...they called the head of a ox and earthen images to be their GOD! Furthermore, impatience makes dissidents in the Church, and they rebel against peace, patience and charity. But, you need to know that absolutely everything that is patient builds up glory...while impatience leads us into ruin!

So, brothers and sisters, after having dili-

gently observed both the benefits of patience, as well as the evils of impatience, it is plain that we should hold fast, and watch with patience so that we must ever imitate our Lord and master, Jesus Christ. The virtues of patience are widely known; through its streams we find glory, perseverance, peace, tolerance, love, honor, fellowship, understanding, kindness, meekness, and the long-suffering of our Lord, Jesus Christ!

It is patience which commends and keeps us to GOD. It is patience, too, which soothes anger. Patience bridles the tongue, governs the mind, guards the peace, rules discipline, controls the force of lust, represses the violence of pride, extinguishes the fires of animosity, it checks the power of the rich, soothes the trials of the poor, protects the blessed integrity of virgins, preserves the purity of the widow, it makes men humble in prosperity, brave in adversity, gentle towards wrongs and contempt!

Furthermore, patience teaches to quickly pardon those who wrong us; and to ask pardon of those that we have wronged. It resists temptation, suffers persecution, perfects emotion, it fortifies our faith, and increases our hope! It is this which directs our actions, so that we may walk in the way of Christ, while we imitate the patience of GOD!

Impatient people, are not necessarily bad people; but impatience leads us into bad habits and sin. Yes, impatient people lie, cheat, curse, and complain. Impatient people rob, steal, conspire, plot, scheme, contrive, and connive! Impatience places them on the path of the unrighteous...Impatience causes them to disobey the Will of GOD...Impatience seats them among the transgressors, and thus, into conflict GOD!

WHAT IS THE ANSWER? How will we fight impatience? Where is our hope? When shall we be avenged? Malachi, the prophet declares; "Behold, the day of the Lord cometh..." Isaiah declares; Behold, the Lord shall come like a fire...to render ven-

geance in anger...for in the fire of the Lord they shall be judged! Surely this is the Lord, our GOD. He did not cry...His voice was not heard in the streets, He was not rebellious, He offered His back to stripes, and His cheeks to the palms of their hands, He neither turned his face away from the foulness of spit!

So, we shall see that He who has held His peace before, will not hold His peace forever! Christ was led as a sheep to the slaughter, but He opened not His mouth. He did not cry, He did not fight, He was not rebellious, He never threatened, contradicted, or complained. But, you need to know, that this is our GOD! The GOD of all, not just the religious, not just the pious, not just the righteous!

No, He is the GOD of the prostitute, He is the GOD of the thief...He is the GOD of the liar...He is the GOD of the dope addict...He is the GOD of the crack head, the murderer, the drunk, the downtrodden...HE IS Lord OF ALL THE UNIVERSE! Vengeance is mine, saith the Lord! Vengeance is not yours...vengeance is not mine! Vengeance is mine...saith the Lord!

Oh yes, my brother, yes, my sister, I know that you are tired of being treated wrong...you are tired of the pain...you are tired of being cheated on, lied on, talked about; you are tired of turning the other cheek...you are tired of people hurting you...mistreating you, misusing you! And I know that you are tired of people disrespecting you...ignoring you...talking about you...taking you for granted...taking advantage of you...and expecting you to understand!

So, let us wait for Him, beloved; let us wait for our Judge and Avenger. He shall avenge the congregation of His Church, and all the righteous from the beginning of the world! Impatience hinders our progress. So with patience wait...WAIT, I say, upon the Lord! And, I say AMEN!

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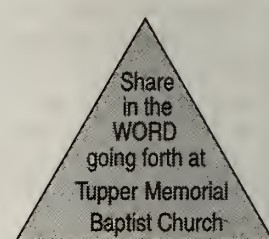
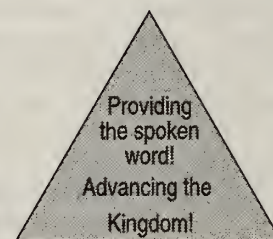
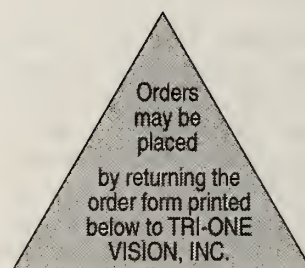
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NEWS AROUND THE STATE

More Than 1,400 Attended The One-Day Session of the State Baptist Congress of Christian Education

By Felecia P. McMillan

The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. (GBSC) began in 1867. Based on the three cardinal virtues of Christian education, missions and benevolence, the convention has endured for 134 years. This year's State Convention Theme is "The Challenge Is the Same: Reach the Masses." The Congress Sub-theme is "Catching the Vision of Christ Through Christian Education. In the spirit of outreach and service, more than 1,400 Baptists from around North Carolina met in Winston-Salem at the M.C. Benton Convention Center on Saturday, Feb. 10. Emmanuel Baptist Church of Winston-Salem served as the host church for the convention. The president of the GBSC is Dr. John D. Fuller Sr. and the president of the Congress of Christian Education is Dr. Jasper Reed.

The Rev. Ann Dalton of Emmanuel Baptist Church, welcomed the gathering to the city. Dr. John Mendez, Pastor of Emmanuel was host pastor.

"We are blessed and pleased to be the host church today. We hope you felt the warmth of welcome when you entered our city. We are grateful God gave you traveling grace and mercy, and we hope you feel our welcome and feel the Spirit of God moving on your hearts. We welcome you in the name of Jesus Christ," Dalton said.

Dr. Jasper P. Reed, Congress President, presided over the opening assembly. Dr. Willette Campbell Wooten, of Rouse Chapel Missionary Baptist Church in La Grange, NC was the keynote speaker. The Youth Choir of Emmanuel

Baptist Church, under the direction of Rev. Dwight Davis, offered special music. During the Worship Period, the Rev. Dr. Robert I. McClowen Sr., pastor of Galilee Missionary Baptist Church offered the Congress Sermon. During this service, the Galilee Missionary Baptist Church Choir offered special music.

The purpose of the State Baptist Congress of Christian Education is to enrich those church leaders who contribute to the teaching ministries of the Baptist churches. For example, the congress held classes for ministers, directors of Christian Education, Sunday School superintendents, Baptist training leaders, church music leaders, church membership chairmen, Sunday School teachers and youth workers. Dr. Campbell-Wooten addressed the congress theme during the opening assembly.

"We are living in a global society. There are pockets of hunger, pockets of homelessness, but the message is clear. The challenge is the same...Reach the Masses by Catching the Vision of Jesus Christ," she said. "We are God's instruments. We are channels. All we have to do is tap into the power God has given us."

Campbell-Wooten spoke words of exhortation and motivation to the listening assembly.

"Start moving with a sense of purpose, a sense of urgency. Catch the Vision of Christ through Christian education. Be bold! Stand up inside of yourself. Call those things that be not as though they were. Speak the word," she said. "Let there be a deep hunger in you that you will not be denied...Refuse to turn around. Press toward the mark. It has to happen inside of you. It is an inside job."

"Many of us believe only the things we can see. I serve a supernatural God, she said. "Take on the challenge. Expand your horizons to meet this challenge...Go back to your many towns, and hamlets knowing how you fit into the vision. Go back with a change based on your mission and purpose. Bloom where you are planted. Whose report are you going to believe? Go forth! Go forth! Go forth!"

Educated in the Bladen County Public Schools, Campbell Wooten received her B. S. in Biology from Fayetteville State University. Having earned her M.S. from North Carolina A&T State University, and her M.Ed. from East Carolina University, she became the first African American female to complete her Ph. D. in Education from North Carolina State University. She currently works for the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. A member of the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority and of the East-ern Star, she serves well in the community and owns Educational Dimensions, Inc. (www.edlearning.com).

Several leaders offered words of greeting during the assembly also. Dr. Archie Logan Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer, admonished the gathering assembly about the urgency of the state of public educational systems across the state.

"The General Baptist State Convention is very concerned about the ABC's of education. Your children, grandchildren, great grandchildren in the public schools are in need of your help. We want you to go back home and find out the status of your children on the end-of-year testing. If your children are not on course for the end-of-year tests, I am asking the super-

intendents to set up evening testing programs to help them," Logan said.

"I want you to get retired teachers to help kids learn that material. They are not having social promotion in North Carolina. This is a non-nonsense issue. Talk to your principals. You need to bother them. We need more teaching and training in our churches," said Logan.

Others who brought greetings included Dr. Charles Bullock, Vice President at large GBSC, Jarvis Morgan, President, Laymen's League, Charles Fletcher, President, Usher's Convention and Dr. Leonzo Lynch, President, Minister's Council.

The Youth assembly program took place during the breakout teaching sessions. Under the direction of Diane Newell, 2nd Vice President, the program was based on the theme "Black History in a Musical and Oral Tradition." Musical director Octavia Ivory taught the students the Negro National Anthem "Lift Every Voice and Sing." The Acts of Worship, a mime duo from Savannah Baptist Church in Fayetteville, NC, presented "To Close" by The William's Brothers, "Open My Heart" by Yolanda Adams and "More Than I Can Bear" by Kirk Franklin. Dressed in African Kente drape and cummerbund, with their faces painted white on one side, Dana McDonald and Darius McNair wowed the crowd with the messages in their movements.

Dr. Jasper Reed summed up the one-day session in his own way.

"We've had a hallelujah good time in here today. Come on in. There is room at the cross for you," he said.

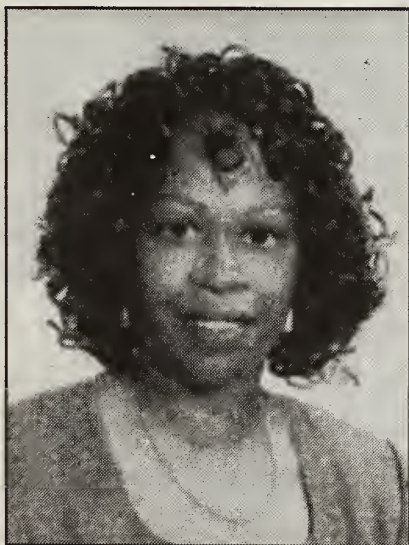
Congress of National Black Churches Elects Bishop

Submitted By Carol J. Smith,
Associate Editor

The Board of Directors of the Congress of National Black Churches, Inc. (CNBC) elected its new chairman, Bishop Cecil Bishop at its Black Church Leadership Conference in Kansas City, Missouri, December 5, 2000. Bishop Cecil Bishop served as Vice-Chairman-at-Large of the Board under outgoing chair Dr. Wallace S. Hartsfield, Sr. A native of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Bishop now resides in Charlotte, N.C. His term as chairman begins January 2001.

Bishop Cecil Bishop is the presiding prelate for the Tenth Episcopal District of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church. He received his Master of Divinity Degree from Howard University and his Doctor of Divinity Degree from Livingstone College. He served as Pastor at a number of churches including John Wesley A.M.E. Zion Church in Washington, D.C. and Trinity A.M.E. Zion Church in Greensboro, N.C. before being appointed Bishop. He is a member of the Board of Trustees at Livingstone College, and Vice Chairman of the Hood Theological Seminary Board where he was previously the associate professor of practical theology.

Bishop will serve as Chairman for a term of three years. Other officers elected include: Dr. W.T. Snead Sr. (National Missionary Baptist Convention of America), Vice-Chair-at-Large; Bishop John R. Bryant (African Methodist Episcopal Church), Vice-Chair; Bishop E. Lynn Brown (Christian Methodist Episcopal Church), Secretary; Bishop Roy L. H. Winbush (Church



Carol J. Smith, Associate Editor

of God in Christ), Treasurer; Edward Dixon, Esq. (National Baptist Convention of America, Inc.), Parliamentarian; and Bishop Lawrence L. Reddick III (Christian Methodist Episcopal Church), Historian. General Vice Chairmen are Dr. C. Mackey Daniels (Progressive National Baptist Convention); Dr. William J. Shaw (National Baptist Convention USA, INC.); and Dr. E. Edwards Jones (National Baptist Convention of America, Inc.).

The election of new officers was one of many items the Board addressed during its Black Church Leadership Conference. Executive Director Sullivan Robinson and conference co-



Pictured from left to right (standing): Dr. E. Edward Jones, President, National Baptist Convention of America, Inc.; Bishop Roy L.H. Winbush, Church of God in Christ; Bishop E. Lynn Brown, Christian Methodist Episcopal Church; C. Mackey Daniels, Progressive National Baptist Convention; (seated) Bishop Cecil Bishop, Chairman, CNBC Board of Directors, African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church; Bishop John Hurst Adams, CNBC founder and chairman emeritus, African Methodist Episcopal Church; Dr. William J. Shaw, President, National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.

chairs Bishop John Hurst Adams, CNBC founder and chairman emeritus, and Dr. W. Franklyn Richardson, CNBC board member and pastor of Grace Baptist Church, led participants in discussions on how the Black Church could collaborate to close the health, education, technological, economic, and social justice divides within the black community. Speakers at the Black Church Leadership Conference included Ambassador Andrew Young; *Black Enterprise* CEO and publisher Earl Graves; Rev. Wyatt T. Walker; and Surgeon General and Assistant Secretary for Health, David Satcher.

Founded in 1978 and based in Washington, D.C., CNBC is an ecumenical coalition of eight

major historically African American denominations: African Methodist Episcopal; African Methodist Episcopal Zion; Christian Methodist Episcopal; Church of God in Christ; National Baptist Convention of America, Inc.; National Baptist Convention USA, Inc.; National Missionary Baptist Convention of America; and Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc. Together, these denominations represent 65,000 member churches and a congregation membership of more than 20 million people. CNBC's mission is to foster Christian unity, charity, and fellowship and to collaborate in ministries that promote justice, wholeness, fulfillment, and affirm the moral and spiritual values of our faith.

SHAW UNIVERSITY DIVINITY SCHOOL

PRESENTS THE

28th Annual James Z. Alexander/Albert W. Pegues

MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

"Equipping the Saints for the Work of Ministry in the New Millennium"

March 18-21, 2001

SUNDAY, MARCH 18, 2001

6:00 p.m. Public Worship Service, Thomas J. Boyd Chapel, Dr. Edward Wheeler

MONDAY, MARCH 19, 2001

9:00 a.m. Conference Registration, Leonard Hall
 1:00 p.m. Opening Session
 2:00 p.m. Concurrent Workshops
 5:00 p.m. Reception, Meet the Speakers
 6:30 p.m. Devotional
 7:00 p.m. Evening Worship, Dr. Edward Wheeler

TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 2001

8:00 a.m. Registration
 8:30 a.m. Devotional
 9:00 a.m. Morning Lecture, Dr. Cain Hope Felder
 11:00 a.m. Alumni Workshop, Dr. Frederick Terry
 1:00 p.m. Alumni Luncheon
 3:00 p.m. Afternoon Preaching Hour, Dr. Cynthia Hale
 5:30 p.m. Devotional
 6:00 p.m. Evening Worship, Dr. Edward Wheeler
 8:30 p.m. Late Worship Hour, Elder Patrick Wooden

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21, 2001

8:00 a.m. Registration
 8:30 a.m. Devotional
 9:00 a.m. Morning Lecture, Dr. Cain Hope Felder
 11:00 a.m. Closing Worship, Dr. Cain Hope Felder

WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

DIRECTIONS: Please indicate your preference of workshop(s) and include this with your conference registration by March 1, 2001.

Monday, March 19 • 2:00-3:30 p.m.

- Church Music**
"The Word & Music: A Fruitful Partnership" • Dr. James Abbington
- Old Testament • Dr. James Ashmore**
- New Testament • Dr. Eric Greaux Sr.**
- Preaching Clinic • Dr. Rudolph Tripp, Dr. James Arnette**

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Please complete registration form, including your workshop selections and return to Shaw University Divinity School by March 1, 2001, with your \$85 registration fee.

Name _____

Title _____

Home Address _____

Phone/Extension _____

E-Mail Address for acknowledgement of registration _____

Church & Pastor _____

Do you have a MDiv Degree? Yes _____ No _____. If yes, would you be interested in a DMin Degree from Shaw University Divinity School? Yes _____ No _____

Dr. Talbert O. Shaw, President

Dr. J.T. Roberson Jr., Dean

Dr. R. Tripp, Coordinator, Continuing Education

Shaw University

"Strides to Excellence: Why Not The Best?"

CONFERENCE PREACHERS

Dr. Edward L. Wheeler, President

Christian Theological Seminary, Indianapolis, IN

Dr. Cynthia Hale, Pastor

Ray of Hope Christian Church, Decatur, GA

CONFERENCE LECTURER

Dr. Cain Hope Felder, Professor

New Testament Language & Literature

Howard University, Washington, DC

ALUMNI PREACHER

Dr. Frederick D. Terry, Pastor

Trinity Presbyterian Church, St. Petersburg, FL

LATE WORSHIP HOUR

Elder Patrick L. Wooden Sr., Pastor,

Upper Room Church of God in Christ, Raleigh, NC

Hotel Accommodations

For your convenience, we have reserved rooms at hotels listed below. Please call directly to the hotels to make your reservation. Inform the hotels that you are with the Ministers' Conference at Shaw University Divinity School. All hotels are within a two mile radius of the university.

THE SHERATON CAPITOL CENTER

421 S. Salisbury St.
 Raleigh
 (919) 834-9900
 Rate: \$99

THE COMFORT INN

1602 Mechanical Blvd.
 Garner
 (919) 779-7888
 Rates: \$65 Double
 \$59 King/Queen
 Rates include continental breakfast

HOLIDAY INN STATE CAPITOL

Downtown
 Hillsborough St.
 Rate: \$71
 Rate includes two breakfast buffets

RED ROOF INN

1713 S. Saunders St.
 (919) 833-6005
 Rate: \$39.99

THE DAYS INN SOUTH

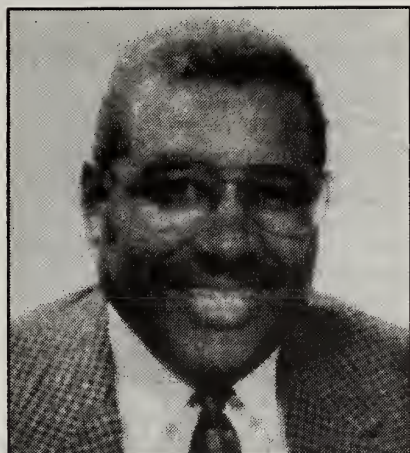
3701 South Wilmington St.
 Garner
 (919) 772-8900
 Rate: \$44
 (continental breakfast)

SHAW UNIVERSITY NEWS

*From the Office of the
Third Vice President*

Rev. N.T. Davis

**Shaw University and Shaw
Divinity School News**



Rev. N.T. Davis

Praise God from whom all Blessings come. Spring time is just around the corner. The flowers are budding and blooming. The trees are taking on new life and it is a great time to be alive.

Paul wrote to the Church at Corinth saying "If any man be in Christ, He is a new creature, old things have passed away and behold all things are new."

As spring comes to us, let us be reminded that winter is pass, new life is already begun.

Let us rededicate our lives to the causes of Christ, Let us commit all our way to His way. For His way is not like our ways. His way is the best way, the right way.

Shaw University and the Divinity School is doing well, we praise God for our leader, and pray that every church in the General Baptist State Convention will give full support to our school.

Sometime we praise other ponds, It is a poor frog that does not praise his own pond. Spring is here, graduation is just around the corner and old students will be departing for jobs all over the USA.

New students will be arriving on campus as Summer school starts and the fall

Shaw University's Assistant Professor To Speak For The Faculty Colloquy

Shaw University's Assistant Professor, Dr. James P. Ashmore, Professor of the Old Testament at Shaw Divinity School was the speaker for the Faculty Colloquy on Friday, January 26th in the William B. Lewis Lecture Hall in the historic Leonard Building. Dr. Ashmore's lecture was entitled "Ambiguity in the Old Testament."

Universities throughout the country have colloquium speakers in their academic faculty meetings, at which time scholars address important issues in their specialties. Shaw University's graduate theological school faculty members speak on theological issues germane to the church, com-

term begins.

Please lift us up in your prayers daily, and with your gifts. The same God who created us in 1865, is still alive, and is lifting us up. We need the full support of 2000 churches and 500,000 members from across the state for our school. The Ministers Conference is coming up and all our Pastors need to give support and pray for our leader.

To educate the youth of our day is of great importance to all. They are our future. Let us give freely generously and humbly. God loveth a cheerful giver.

If I can be a help to any Association, Union or Missionary Group, to have a Shaw or Divinity School Day, please call me at 919-362-7057. I'll be happy to help. May God Bless you all.

Do not forget State Missions or the other objectives of our Convention.

munity and nation.

Dr. Ashmore received his bachelor of arts degree from Davidson College (Davidson, NC) his master of divinity from Union Theological Seminary (Richmond, VA) and his Ph.D. from Duke University (Durham, NC). His dissertation, "The Social Setting of the Law in Deuteronomy," applied insights from the social sciences to the laws in chapters 12-26 in Deuteronomy.

Dr. Ashmore was ordained in the Presbyterian Church (USA) and has served churches in Virginia and North Carolina. He is married to Ginny. They are the proud parents of two children: Claire and Layton.

External Advisory Board Meeting Held On Overcoming Racial Health Disparities

Shaw University's Department of Sponsored Programs under the direction of Dr. Daniel Howard held the first External Advisory Board Meeting for the Center of Excellence on Overcoming Racial Health Disparities on Friday, January 26.

This Center is a joint project between the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Shaw University and North Carolina Central University in Durham. This program is funded by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, the Glaxo-Wellcome Foundation, the UNC

School of Public Research. The principal investigators are Dr. Tim Carey and Dr. Paul Godley of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Medicine.

Currently, three research projects are funded and underway. One is a study of patient-provider concordance within treatment for hypertension being conducted by Dr. Daniel Howard of Shaw University and Dr. Thomas Konrad of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Other research includes studies of prostate cancer and HIV service coordination.

Shaw Univeristy Holds Religious Emphasis Week

Rev. Charles Booth, Pastor of Mt. Olivet Baptist Church in Columbus, OH, spoke at Shaw University during Religious Emphasis Week — Sunday, February 11th through Wednesday, February 14th. The Sunday

service began at 6 p.m. and Monday - Wednesday (Feb. 12-14) services were held at 11 a.m. in the Thomas J. Boyd Chapel. All events were free and open to the public.

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraterntiy To Host Six Tuskegee Airmen

Shaw University's Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc., Beta Rho Chapter were host to six of the Tuskegee Airmen on Thursday, February 15th at 7 p.m. in the Willie E. Gary Student Union Ballroom

The Tuskegee Airmen spoke for approximately 40 minutes. Immediately following the presentation, the Airmen allowed the student body the opportunity to ask questions.

University's Department Of Humanities Hosted Lecturer For Black History

Shaw University's Department of Humanities along with the Department of Education sponsored a lecture concerning "Black History" on Thursday, February 1st in the lecture hall of the Talbert O. Shaw Living Learning Center.

Mrs. Bridget Davis, author of "Mommias Purle" was the lecturer. She discussed her book, as well as facts concerning Princeville, NC, the historical Charter Black Town. Shaw University's faculty and student body attended this special event.

MUSIC CONFERENCE APRIL 27-28, 2001

**MRS. OCTAVIA IVORY AND
DR. JAMES ABBINGTON**

**VISITING GUEST:
MRS. SONYA HAMM
"The Light 103.9 Breakfast Club"**

**HOST PASTOR:
REV. DR. CLIFFORD A. JONES SR.
MINISTER OF MUSIC:
MR. TONY MCNEIL**

**FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST
CHURCH**

**3301 BEATTIES FORD ROAD
CHARLOTTE, NC**

704-392-0391

**PLEASE SEND YOUR
MINISTERS OF MUSIC,
CHOIR DIRECTORS,
MUSICIANS
AND
CHOIR MEMBERS.**

SUPPORT SHAW'S EVENTS!!

VACANT POSITIONS

EMMANUEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENT

Seeking Full-time Christian Minister of Music, Loyal and Committed to God's program. Must possess people skills, be trained as a Musician, Conductor and Choir Director. Salary: Commensurate with training and experience. Interested persons may send resume/portfolio to:
Attention: Trustees
Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church
913 N. Highland Street, Gastonia, NC 28052

CHURCH MUSICIAN

We are seeking to employ a person of Christian faith and character to serve as musician/director for the music department of the church. Responsibilities include teaching music for church choirs, choir directors and other musicians. Proficiency in reading music is a requirement and some versatility in "playing by ear" will only serve to enhance the church's music department. Applicants are asked to send resumes and references to:
United Institutional Baptist Church
Rev. Johnny R. Freeman, Pastor
802 East Market Street, Greensboro, NC 27401
Phone: (336) 272-0822*Fax: (336) 230-0274
**Salary is negotiable and is commensurate with training and experience.*

FIRST AFRICAN BAPTIST CHURCH

803 East Harris St., Goldsboro, N.C. 27530
Pastor: Dr. Freddie I. Barnes

POSITION AVAILABLE: DIRECTOR OF CHURCH MUSIC

First African Baptist Church is a congregation of over 350 members with a Music Ministry that consist of four choirs, Sunshine Choir, Male Chorus, Unity and Praise Choir, Chancel Choir. Music in this ministry consists of gospel (traditional and contemporary) praise and worship, hymns, spirituals and anthems. Applications and further information may be obtained by contacting Mrs. Johnnie Ingram, Personnel Committee Chairman or Rev. Jerry Dortch at 919-734-4935.

MINISTER OF MUSIC WANTED

Wake Forest congregation seeks Minister of Music. Duties to include working directly with the Pastor in order to assist and cooperate with him in Christian Worship; playing during Sunday morning worship service; rehearsing with various choirs one night per week; and accompanying the Pastor on engagements to other churches. Please forward a cover letter and resume to:
Evans Grove Missionary Baptist Church • 12700 Creedmoor Road, Highway 50
Wake Forest, NC 27587 • (919) 870-8874

CEDAR GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

14600 Railroad St., Gibson, NC 28343
CHURCH MUSICIAN

The Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church of Gibson, N.C., is seeking a person to serve as Church Musician. **Qualifications:** Should be a Christian who lives and acts responsibly and has a good character and reputation. **Musician requirements:**
*Be able to play a piano, keyboard, organ and be able to work well with a diverse range of singers with directions for musical selections.
*Be available for necessary rehearsals and Sunday Worship Services.
*Be available to accompany the pastor and choirs to all church functions when requested.
Salary negotiable. Please send resume to Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church at the above address.

CHURCH MUSICIAN

The New Hope Baptist Church, Gates, N.C., is seeking a person to serve as Church Musician. **REQUIREMENTS:**
1. Able to play organ and/or organ.
2. Able to play diverse music.
3. Able to accompany the pastor and choir to church engagements if possible.
SALARY NEGOTIABLE:
Send resume to:
New Hope Baptist Church, PO Box 91, Gatesville, NC 27938
Attn: Fannie M. Spivey, Secretary
Inquiries may be made by calling (252) 357-1061 after 4:30 p.m.

CHURCH MUSICIAN

Mount Olive Baptist Church of Lewiston is seeking a musician for a station church, a Christian who is responsible, has good character and a good reputation. **Requirements:**
*Plays the organ and piano *Able to work with a diverse group of singers
*Experienced in all sacred music *Reads music and is versatile in playing by ear
Send resumes or responses to: Mount Olive Baptist Church
PO Box 214, Lewiston-Woodville, NC 27849 • Attention: William W. Peele Jr.

FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

P.O. Box 213, Hamlet, N.C. 28345

The officers and members of Friendship Missionary Baptist Church are accepting resumes for the position of Pastor. All interested ordained Missionary Baptist ministers should submit resumes to: Elizabeth Pulley, Pulpit Committee Chairperson
P.O. Box 213, Hamlet, N.C. 28345
Qualifications
1. Must be a born again, spirit filled, ordained missionary Baptist minister with sound knowledge of Baptist doctrine.
2. Must be willing to work with the Pee Dee Missionary Baptist Association.
3. Must proclaim the Bible publicly and with conviction.
4. Must be willing to serve as an ex officio member of church ministries.
5. Must demonstrate strong leadership in directing all church ministries.
6. Must have a good report.
7. Must be a servant/leader with a God given vision for the church.
8. Must be more than Sunday morning minister-visible in the community.
9. Must have good written and oral communication skills with seminary training.

First Missionary Baptist Church

The First Baptist Church is now seeking a pastor to serve as its spiritual leader, teacher, counselor and administrator. All interested persons should submit a letter of interest and resume to the Pulpit Search Committee.
Qualifications
Born Again Christian
Ordained Missionary Baptist Minister
Knowledge of Baptist Doctrine and Faith
Seminary Training preferred
Teaching Bible Study Weekly
Proficient in church organization and ability to train Church
Pastoral Experience Preferred
Family Oriented
Able to Plan and implement innovative youth programs
Interested Applicants should Mail Resumes to:
Pastoral Search Committee
First Baptist Church
ATTENTION: Deacon Calvin Graham Jr., Chairman
P.O. Box 679, Stedman, North Carolina 28391

St. Francis Baptist Missionary Baptist Church is looking for a Pastor

This person should be:
I. Missionary Baptist
II. Have good organizational and leadership skills
III. Commuting Distance
IV. Family Oriented
V. Experience Preferred

Interested parties should send resume to:
c/o Pulpit Committee
St. Francis Missionary Baptist Church
P.O. Box 736, Windsor, NC 27983.

PASTOR — IMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH,

the largest African-American Missionary Baptist congregation in New Haven, Connecticut, is seeking an experienced, ordained pastor to replace their retiring spiritual leader. In a community with great potential for church growth and expansion, we require a leader with a sound spiritual foundation. The church has 175 years of rich history and is housed in modern, spacious facilities. The church owns and operates low income housing properties, manages a 70-bed homeless shelter and is active in other community support missions. Candidates must have a depth of formal education, demonstrated leadership abilities and strong administrative skills. Resumes and inquiries should be addressed to: Deacon William A. Batts, Chairman, Pulpit Search Committee, Immanuel Baptist Church, 210 Curtis Drive, New Haven, CT 06515, Facsimile: (203) 785-8673.

Progressive Missionary Baptist Church

2504 Creech Road, Raleigh, NC 27610
Rev. William H. Brock Sr., Senior Pastor
Rev. Dr. Leo Williams Jr., Assistant Pastor
Rev. James Richardson, Minister of Youth

Growing young Missionary Baptist Church in southeast Raleigh, Seeking a Christian Church Musician who can play piano/organ. Specifically organ. Must be able to read music as well as play by ear. Should be able to play hymns, anthems, spirituals, gospel.
Call church office to arrange interview (919) 828-8373.

First Baptist Church

Third and Mulbury Street, Weldon, North Carolina 27890

The Pulpit Committee of First Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of Pastor. Mail resumes to:
Deacon Stanley Edwards, 908 Country Club Rd., Weldon, NC 27890
Applicants must have the following qualifications:
• Born again Christian
• Must be able to preach and teach God's Word
• Preach quality sermons
• Possess strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, policies and practices
• Able to lead and communicate with all age groups
• Able to work effectively with church boards and committees
• Some college and seminary training preferred

Sandy Grove Missionary Baptist Church

PO Box 290, 1600 Martin Luther King Drive, Lumberton, NC 28358

Sandy Grove Missionary Baptist Church is accepting resumes for a full-time pastor. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:
1. Must be licensed, ordained, firmly rooted in the holy spirit, born again, and divinely called.
2. Must have strong family and community values.
3. Must possess or be in the process of pursuing a college degree and theological training from an accredited college or university.
4. Must be able to preach and teach God's holy word.
5. Must be willing to follow the Baptist doctrine, policies and practices.
6. Must be an effective leader, administrator, counselor and must work cooperatively with church officials.
7. Must be willing to work with all age groups, with particular emphasis on the spiritual growth and development of our youth.
8. Must plan for the future growth and development of the church.
9. Must be able to be tactful, just and fair with everyone.
10. Must establish office hours for the benefit of the members.
11. Must visit and commune with sick, shut-ins members and bereaved families.
Interested applicants should provide the following information:
1. A resume of relevant pastoral experience (if applicable).
2. A copy of college degree (s), certificate of license and ordination.
3. Proof of completion of all accredited theological training.
4. Name, address, and telephone number of four (4) personal references—excluding relatives.
Please mail all requested information to:
The Pulpit Committee
Sandy Grove Missionary Baptist Church, P.O. Box 290, Lumberton, NC 28358

VACANT POSITIONS

GREATER LOVELY HILL BAPTIST CHURCH

The Pulpit Search Committee of the Greater Lovely Hill Baptist Church, located in Warren County, N.C. is searching for applicants for its pastoral vacancy. Currently the Greater Lovely Hill Baptist Church has regular worship services twice monthly, on the first and third Sunday.

Qualifications:

1. Must be an experienced licensed ordained Missionary Baptist Minister living according to First Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9.
2. The applicants should have a vision for the church.
3. Must possess the ability to work with all age groups, with particular emphasis in youth development and community outreach, and with all auxiliaries of the church.
4. Must possess effective oral and written communication skills.
5. Must be community oriented.
6. Must possess strong and proven administration experience with a broad knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and practices.

Education:

Must possess a high school diploma (or equivalent) preferring a degree or courses in Seminary Training from an accredited college or university.

Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume of relevant experience.
2. A copy of the certificate of license and ordination.

Send resumes to: Mrs. Lucy E. Branch, PO Box 52, Warrenton, NC 27589

PULPIT VACANCY

The pulpit search committee of the Mount Zoar Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of pastor. Applicants must possess the following qualifications/responsibilities.

Qualifications

- Born again, spirit-filled, ordained and divinely called with strong family and community values.
- Be a licensed, ordained Missionary Baptist Minister.
- Must be able to preach and teach Bible Study
- Must be able to work with all age groups with emphasis on youth department
- Strong knowledge of the Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures
- Experienced as a senior pastor, but will consider years of experience as an associate pastor
- Must be willing to attend Sunday School and teach Bible Study
- Spiritual maturity; preach and teach God's word
- Willingness to administer communion and perform baptismal service
- Possess strong and proven administrative experience
- College degree preferred but will consider a combination of education and experience

Responsibilities

- Plan, prepare and deliver sermons
- Visit and commune with sick and shut-in members and bereaved families
- Plan and implementation of activities and projects designed to promote the church's progression and encourage active participation.

Interested applicants should mail resume with a recent photograph to address below.

Special notes: Photograph will not be returned

Mount Zoar Missionary Baptist Church
C/O Ann Dixon
Pulpit Search Committee
PO Box 71736, Durham, NC 27704

NOTICE OF VACANCY

Liberty Hill Missionary Baptist Church of Catawba, South Carolina is actively searching for a bi-vocational Minister for their congregation. Liberty Hill is a congregation that has great potential. Congregational size is approximately 135 members, however attendance varies from 75-150 persons, depending upon the season.

We are a small family community located ten miles south of Rock Hill, SC and ten miles north of Fort Lawn, SC, off of Highway 21 and the historic Landsford Canal Park, respectively. Forty-five miles south of Charlotte, North Carolina and seventy-five miles north of Columbia, South Carolina.

We are an autonomous Missionary Baptist Church that is affiliated with the Sandy River Baptist Association (Upper Division), in York County, South Carolina; South Carolina Baptist Educational and Missionary Convention. Our congregation represents all ages, all backgrounds, and is multi-talented.

Our pastor must be a strong spiritual leader, administrator, and teacher. One who will proclaim the Good News in a meaningful way that will help members to apply Biblical concepts to our everyday lives. One who has a passion for equipping that saints to do the work of the ministry; allowing them to discover their gifts and put them into practice in service to others.

Responsibilities will include Sunday church services, Holy Communion, Induction of New Members, Baptism, Annual Revival Services, Prayer group, Adult Sunday School/Bible Study and assistance in initialing or enhancing other ministries. The minister is an ex-officio and spiritual consultant of all auxiliaries, and serves on both the Diaconate and Advisory Council. The Diaconate meets once per month; the Advisory Council and church meetings are quarterly.

Weddings, funerals, along with christening/dedications are also required of the minister, if requested by the parishioners. The pastor's presence is expected in times of serious illness and in times of serious conflict within families or among church members. Counseling may also be requested. Must participate in other church sponsored activities, i.e. Prayer Brunch, Senior and Youth Programs, Anniversary Programs, etc.

Qualifications desired in our New Pastor:

- Pastoral ministry experience
- Graduate of an accredited seminary
- College training
- Pastor's Ordination Certificate
- Be a strong, motivating speaker
- Be moderate to liberal in preaching style with an emphasis on New Testament teachings
- Have excellent teaching skills
- Possess strong leadership skills
- Be caring and sensitive
- Be skilled in conflict resolution
- Value youth development

All interested persons should send a resume and/or write for an application to Liberty Hill Missionary Baptist Church, The Pastor Search Committee, P.O. Box 10067, Rock Hill, South Carolina 29731.

For further information e-mail: Clara Feely Gray (as4603spcgra@infoave.net), Vivian T. Robinson (vrob58.bellsouth.net), or leave a message at (803) 324-0120.

MT. OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

P.O. Box 98

Kings, Mountain, NC 28086

Mt. Olive Baptist Church is currently seeking a Pastor and is accepting resumes from interested licensed, ordained Baptist ministers. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

1. Spiritual maturity.
2. A minimum of three years experience as a pastor, but will consider years of experience as associate pastor.
3. Administrative and leadership skills.
4. Community oriented.
5. Must be able to work with all age groups with specific emphasis on youth department.
6. Strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures.
7. Good oral and written communication skills and ability to communicate with all age groups.

Responsibilities include:

Planning, organizing and implementing programs that encourage participation from youth and young adults and promote church growth and progression.

Please send resume to:

Mt. Olive Baptist Church
P.O. Box 98
Kings, Mountain, NC 28086
c/o The Pulpit Committee

PENN AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH

225 West McClanahan Street, Oxford, N.C. 27565

Rev. Willie S. Darby, Pastor

(919) 693-5396 • (919) 693-1015, Pastor's Office

The Penn Avenue Missionary Baptist Church of Oxford, N.C. is currently seeking a MINISTER OF MUSIC.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- *Must be a born again Christian.
- *Must be able to play the piano, keyboard and/or organ.
- *Must be able to read music and is versatile in playing by ear.
- *Must be able to work well with a diverse range of singers and age groups.
- *Must be able to teach and direct hymns, anthems, spirituals, gospels and other sacred music.
- *Must be able to rehearse choirs at a scheduled time unless otherwise notified.
- *Must be available for Sunday morning worship services.
- *Must be available to accompany the pastor and choirs when requested or provide a qualified substitute.
- *Must be able to assist in the selection of appropriate songs for worship and services.
- *Will be responsible with the pastor's approval in hiring other musicians if deemed necessary.

Salary: Negotiable

Penn Avenue Missionary Baptist Church is a warm, spirited-filled church that has worship services 52 Sundays a year and at present there is one musician available for 2nd Sunday worship services. Service begins each Sunday at 11 a.m. with the exception of 5th Sunday services which begin at 10 a.m.

Please send resume to the above listed address or inquiries may be made by calling one of the above listed numbers.

FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

715 West Willis Ave.

High Point, NC 27260

CHURCH MUSICIAN

The Friendship Missionary Baptist Church are accepting resumes for a Church Musician.

Qualifications:

Should be a Christian who lives and acts responsibly and has a good character and reputation.

Musician requirements:

- Be able to play a piano, keyboard, organ and be able to work well with a diverse range of singers with directions for musical selections.
- Must have experience in church music (anthems, hymns, spirituals, praise and worship, etc.) of gospel traditional and contemporary.
- Be available for necessary rehearsals and Sunday Worship Services.
- Be available to accompany the pastor and choirs to all church functions when requested.

Salary negotiable:

Please send cover letter and resume to:
Friendship Missionary Baptist Church
Attn: James W. Flake, Pastor
909 Barbee Avenue

NOTICE PASTOR NEEDED

at
Friendship Baptist Church
Whiteville, NC

For Application Write:

Pastor Selection Committee
PO Box 1365, Whiteville, NC 28472

VACANT POSITIONS

GOOD HOPE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

4209 Smithfield Road, PO Box 441 Knightdale, North Carolina 27545
Telephone: 919-266-0217

JOHN L. THATCH, PASTOR

POSITION: MINISTER OF MUSIC

Principal Functions: Supervised by the pastor, the minister of music will be responsible for the development and promotion of the music program of the Church.

Primary Responsibilities: The minister of music will be responsible for the following:

1. Plan, organize, conduct and evaluate the comprehensive music program for the Church, including choirs, vocal and /or instrumental ensembles.
2. Prepare choirs for each Sunday morning's worship services.
3. Teach and direct sacred music (hymns, anthems, spirituals and gospel music).
4. Work with all choirs in selecting appropriate music for Sunday mornings' services and other worship services as his/her services are needed.
5. Work in cooperation with the pastor, other musicians and other choir members to set and implement guidelines for choir members' rights, responsibilities and ethical conduct while representing the Church in the glorification of God.
6. Work with the pastor, other musicians and choir members in scheduling and observing schedules for choir rehearsals.
7. Supervise the maintenance of the Church's musical instruments, hymnals, sheet music, music library and training materials, etc.
8. Work with the pastor to plan all services of worship (including funerals, weddings, revivals, special projects, etc.) and will accompany the pastor and Church when they are called upon to provide services for worship services at other churches.
9. Keep abreast of music methods, materials, promotion and administration, and cooperate with the Church process to enlist and train leaders for the Church music ministry.
10. Prepare an estimated annual budget and administer the approved budget.
11. Perform other duties as assigned by the pastor.

Qualifications:

1. Must be a Christian
2. Must possess people skills
3. Must be formally trained as a musician, conductor and choir director
4. Must be loyal and committed to the service and glory of God

Salary: Commensurate with training and experience

Interested persons may send resumes/portfolios to:

John L. Thatch, Pastor

Good Hope Missionary Baptist Church, PO Box 441, Knightdale, NC 27545

MINISTER OF MUSIC WANTED

Wake Forest Congregation seeks Minister of Music. Duties to include working directly with the Pastor in order to assist and cooperate with him in Christian Worship; playing during Sunday morning worship service; rehearsing with various choirs one night per week; and accompanying the Pastor on engagements to other churches. Please forward a cover letter and resume to:

Evans Grove Missionary Baptist Church, 12700 Creedmoor Road, Highway 50
Wake Forest, NC 27587 • (919) 870-8874

Littlefield Missionary Baptist Church

4465 Newton Grove Highway
Newton Grove, NC 28366

The Littlefield Missionary Baptist Church is accepting resumes from interested Missionary Baptist Ministers for the position of Pastor.

1. Born-again Christian and Role Model with strong leadership abilities.
 2. Able to manage Church's administrative functions effectively.
 3. Must be able to preach and teach God's Word.
 4. Knowledgeable and believes in The Baptist Doctrine
 5. Local proximity to Church, willingness to visit the sick and shut-in.
 6. Seminary and/or Theological experience (preferred)
- Services are second, third and fourth Sundays.

OAK GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

PO Box 1977, Enon Road
Oxford, North Carolina 27565

The officers and members of Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Church are accepting resumes for the position of Pastor. All interested ordained Missionary Baptist ministers should submit resumes to:

Deacon Joseph M. Lindsey
PO Box 1977
Oxford, NC 27565

Qualifications

1. Must be a born again, spirit filled, ordained missionary Baptist minister with sound knowledge of Baptist doctrine.
2. Must be willing to work with the East Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Association.
3. Must proclaim the Bible publicly and with conviction.
4. Must be willing to serve as an ex officio member of church ministries.
5. Must demonstrate strong leadership in directing all church ministries.
6. Must have a good report.
7. Must be a servant/leader with a God given vision for the church.
8. Must be more than a Sunday morning minister-visible in the community.
9. Must have good written and oral communication skills with seminary training.

POSITION AVAILABLE: DIRECTOR OF CHURCH MUSIC

First African Baptist Church is a congregation of over 350 members with a Music Ministry that consist of four choirs, Sunshine Choir, Male Chorus, Unity and Praise Choir, Chancel Choir. Music in this ministry consists of gospel (traditional and contemporary) praise and worship, hymns, spirituals and anthems.

Applications and further information may be obtained by contacting, Mrs. Johnnie Ingram, Personnel Committee Chairman or Rev. Jerry Dortch at 919-734-4935.

UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

110 Lincoln Ave., Lexington, NC 27292

Needed: Minister of Music or Organist.

Please send resume to:

Union Baptist Church, 110 Lincoln Ave, Lexington, NC 27292. Attn: Rev. Darrell L. Thomas.
Or call 336-243-1648 and leave your name and number.

CHURCH MUSICIAN

First Missionary Baptist Church of Clinton is seeking a person to serve as musician. The responsibilities include playing for the Adult Choir on the First Sunday, and accompanying the other choirs on the remaining Sundays.

Qualifications:

Should be able to play the piano and the organ, and be able to work well with diverse groups of singers.

Experience in sacred music is a must as well as the ability to read music and play by ear.

The musician is also expected to accompany the pastor and choirs to outside functions when necessary.

Interested persons may send resume to: First Baptist Church, 900 College St., Clinton, N.C. 28328.

WANTED

First Missionary Baptist Church of Smithfield, NC, desires to make contact with the preachers who served it before 1928 or their families, also with two pastors in the 1940's: Rev. M.L. Mason and Rev. T.H. Brooks, and with Rev. J.H. Jones who served in the 1950's.

Send letters to Mrs. Myrtle Sanders, 303 Pine Street, Smithfield, NC 27577

ZION BAPTIST CHURCH SEEKS PASTOR

On April 20, 2000, Rev. Curtis E. Bender, pastor of Zion Baptist Church in Omaha, Nebraska, tendered his resignation. He has blessed Zion and the Omaha community with his leadership for more than 20 years. Although we will miss our Pastor, we humbly submit to the Will of God. Consequently, the recently formed Zion Baptist Church Pulpit Search Committee would like to solicit your help in this search. Please notify the members of your District/Convention that the Zion Baptist Church pulpit is vacant and that we have begun accepting applications for Pastor. Among other things, we require applicants who:

- Are Called by God. (1 Timothy 3:1-7)
- Are Graduates of an accredited and respected seminary.
- Have had a minimum of 10 years as pastor of a large Black Baptist Church. (500 or more members).
- Are members in good standing and with a track record of membership in the National Baptist Convention U.S.A., Inc.
- Have proven leadership and training skills.

Interested candidates are asked to request **in writing** applications from:

Zion Baptist Church
Pulpit Search Committee
2215 Grant Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68110

Please pray for our effort and thank you for your help in this notification.

Yours in Christ,

Dea. Jesse Sharpe, Committee Chairman, Sis. Jacqueline C. Hart, Church Clerk

MUSICIAN WANTED

Progressive Church Music Department looking for Director of Music to provide leadership for growth spiritually and musically. Must have experience in church music (anthems, hymns, spirituals, etc.) or equivalent. Able to read music and direct/accompany. Available on 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays. On call as needed. To apply call 252-442-4623.

Progressive Church Music Department looking for Director of Music to provide leadership for growth spiritually and musically. Must have experience in church music (anthems, hymns, spirituals, etc.) or equivalent. Able to read music and direct/accompany. Available on 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays. On call as needed. To apply call 252-442-4623.

MINISTER OF MUSIC • ST. MATTHEW BAPTIST CHURCH

P.O. BOX 1710, OXFORD, NC 27565

1. Must be a Christian to serve as minister of music each Sunday.
2. Will prepare choirs for Sunday morning worship services and special services.
3. Will teach and direct hymns, spiritual selections and other sacred music.
4. Will implement and/or carrying out guidelines pertaining to choir members' conduct.
5. Will rehearse choirs at a scheduled time unless otherwise notified.
6. Will be available to accompany the Pastor and choir to church functions requested.

Please send resume to the above address: Attention Pastor. Inquiries may be made by calling (252) 492-9046 or (919) 603-0620.

JONES CHAPEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

148 Jones Chapel Church Road
Louisburg, NC 27549

The Pulpit Committee of Jones Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, Louisburg, N.C. is currently accepting resumes for the position of Pastor.

Qualifications:

- I. Must be a born again, licensed and ordained Missionary Baptist Minister who is Spirit filled and abides by I Timothy 3:1-7 as well as Titus 1:6-9.
- II. Pastoral experience preferred.
- III. Must have a vision for the church. (Proverbs 29:18)
- IV. Prefer one who has BA or BS degree from a college or university and a degree from and accredited and respected Seminary.
- V. Ability to preach and teach God's Word.
- VI. Must have excellent oral and written communication skills.
- VII. Must have proven leadership abilities and administrative skills.
- VIII. Ability to work with all age groups, particularly seniors and youth.
- IX. Must be community oriented.
- X. Must have knowledge of the Baptist Doctrine, church policies, and procedures.

Only interested applicants need apply and provide the following:

1. Recent resume.
2. Copy of licensure and ordination certificates.
3. Three professional references.

Please forward resumes to the following:

Jones Chapel Missionary Baptist Church

Attn: Pulpit Committee

148 Jones Chapel Church Road

Louisburg, N.C. 27549

Please respond by April 1, 2001

VACANT POSITIONS

FIRST BAPTIST CHARITY CHURCH

Greenevers, N.C.

The First Baptist Charity Church of Greenevers, N.C. is accepting resumes from interested Missionary Baptist Ministers for the position of pastor.

Qualifications:

1. Divinely called spirit-filled, born-again Christian with strong Family values.
 2. Pastoral experiences is required.
 3. Must work closely with the officers of the church.
 4. Must have at least 2 years of college or seminary training.
 5. Must be able to preach and teach.
 6. Must have good leadership and communication skills.
 7. Family oriented.
 8. Have knowledge of and willing to follow Baptist doctrines, policies and procedures.
 9. Must be willing to visit and commune with the sick and shut-ins.
 10. Must be willing to work with all age groups.
- Services are first, second, third and fourth Sundays with Sunday school beginning at 10:00 a.m. and morning service beginning at 11:00 a.m.

Please send resumes to:

Deacon Fernald Rawls, Jr.
920 Pasture Branch Road, Rose Hill, NC 28458

MT. OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

PO Box 98, Kings Mountain, NC 28086

Mt. Olive Baptist Church is currently seeking a Pastor and is accepting resumes from interested licenses, ordained Baptist ministers. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

1. Spiritual maturity
2. A minimum of three years experience as a pastor, but will consider years of experience as associate pastor.
3. Administrative and leadership skills.
4. Community oriented.
5. Must be able to work with all age groups with specific emphasis on youth department.
6. Strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures.
7. Good oral and written communication skills and ability to communicate with all age groups.

Responsibilities include:

Planning, organizing and implementing programs that encourage participation from youth and young adults and promote church growth and progression.

Please send resumes to:

Mt. Olive Baptist Church
P.O. Box 98
Kings Mountain, NC 28086
% The Pulpit Committee

UNION GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH

Warrenton, North Carolina

The Union Grove Baptist is currently seeking and accepting resumes from interested licensed, ordained Baptist ministers. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

1. Spiritual maturity
2. A minimum of three years experience as a pastor, but will consider years of experience as associate pastor
3. Administrative and leadership skills
4. Must be able to work with various age groups with specific emphasis on youth development.
5. Strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures.
7. Good oral and written communication skills and ability to communicate with all age groups.
8. Have excellent teaching ability.

Other responsibilities include:

Planning, organizing and implementing programs that encourage participation of youth and young adults that promote church growth and progress.

Please send resumes to:

Brother Alonza Jones, Board Chairman
Route 2, Box 128, Norlina, N.C. 27563
% The Pulpit Committee

MINISTER OF MUSIC VACANCY SPRING GREEN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

PO Box 924

Warrenton, NC 27589

Rev. Dennis G. Lindsay, Pastor

The Spring Green Missionary Baptist Church seeks a Minister of Music to provide musical direction and accompaniment for 4 choirs in the church. This person will work closely with the Pastor to provide spiritual leadership in the ministry of Jesus Christ through music, i.e. hymns, spiritual songs, and praise and worship music that glorifies God.

We are accepting resumes from candidates with the following qualifications:

1. Born-again Christian, Spirit-filled, and divinely gifted in music ministry.
2. Willingness to spiritually align the music ministry with Pastoral vision.
3. Able to play the piano, keyboard and/or organ; able to read music and versatile.
4. Able to prepare choirs for Sunday morning worship services and other services.
5. Able to teach, as well as direct choirs, with humility and love.
6. Able to rehearse with all choirs on schedule, and available for all Sunday services
7. Able to accompany Pastor and choirs to other services as required (or ensure qualified substitute is available).

8. Able to select appropriate hymns and songs for worship service.

Please submit resumes to the address above. Any inquiries, please contact Pastor Lindsay at (919) 361-3003.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

POSITION:

Interim Pastor to provide pastoral leadership and duties to a congregation of 400 active members located in the North Philadelphia area of the city.

ORGANIZATION:

Miller Memorial Baptist Church
1518 North 22nd Street
Philadelphia, PA 19121

DESCRIPTION

The Miller Memorial Baptist Church is currently seeking an individual to perform in the capacity of **INTERIM PASTOR**. This position is not intended or expected to lead to the role of permanent pastor. This role requires you to focus on the pastoral task in the congregation during the interim period to help free the leaders of the congregation to focus on seeking a new pastor. You will provide leadership and stability in a positive manner during this transitional period of our church. The ability to settle issues and migrate the congregation from the former pastor to the new pastor, is critical. You will be working closely with the chairpersons of the Deacon Board and Trustee Board when addressing issues that effect the congregation at large. While the duration of this position is unknown as this time, you must be available for any period from two months to two years if needed.

Major Duties and Responsibilities:

- Plan and lead worship that is sensitive to the needs of the congregation
- Attend to the spiritual development of the congregation
- Provide administrative leadership to the congregation, secretarial, and pulpit staff
- Counsel members having personal, family and/or work related problems
- Support and/or lead religious programs for children, youth and adults
- Develop and instruct weekly bible study classes
- Actively and visibly support the church's financial program
- Directly involve the congregation in the planning and leadership of existing church programs and ministries
- Meet regularly with the chairpersons of the Deacon, Deaconess and Trustee Boards for planning and direction
- Work closely with the Superintendent of the Sunday School
- Visit the sick, shut in and bereaved in the hospital and at home
- Preside at funerals and weddings
- Support the world mission of the church
- Participate in local community activities, issues and problems
- Present social issues before members

QUALIFICATIONS - EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

- Bachelors Degree in Divinity, Masters of Divinity Degree preferable
- Ordained for a minimum of five years
- Five years experience as a pastor or assistant pastor of a Baptist Church
- Experience in working as an interim pastor is a plus.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

For immediate consideration, please send a cover letter and your resume to the following address:

Miller Memorial Baptist Church
Attention: Deacon David Pridgen
1518 North 22nd Street
Philadelphia, PA 19121

POSITION DESCRIPTION North Carolina Council of Churches COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATE

Job responsibilities

Develop and implement a communications plan including at least the following:

Print media

- Write, edit, and produce Church Council Bulletin
- Write, edit, and produce regular information piece for "Interested Persons"
- Produce quarterly one-page information piece for distribution by judicatories
- Prepare and distribute press releases to secular and religious press
- Coordinate production of other printed resources

Electronic communications

- Design and maintain web site
- Develop electronic versions of CCB and Raleigh Report, including e-mail summaries
- Propose other uses of electronic communications technology

Develop and staff the Communications Committee

Qualifications

Compatible with Council's mission of ecumenism and social justice
Member of a faith community affiliated with the NC Council of Churches (preferred)

Four-year communications degree (preferred)

Two years work experience (preferred)

Excellent computer skills in MS Office, especially Word, Publisher and FrontPage

Other

Responsible to Executive Director

Attend meetings of House of Delegates and Executive Board

Salary and benefits package: \$17,000-\$19,000 for half-time employment.

Telecommuting from within the Triangle is preferred, with semimonthly in-office staff meetings.

The North Carolina Council of Churches does not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, ethnicity, or sexual orientation.

To apply, send a resume and writing sample to George Reed, 1307 Glenwood Avenue, Suite 162, Raleigh, NC 27605.

Or e-mail to nccofc@nccouncilofchurches.org.

Pray for great blessings for this year!

Update of The National Baptist Congress of Christian Education, Charlotte, North Carolina, June 18-22, 2001

National Congress of Christian Education is the "Teaching arm of the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc. Delegates, members and friends have an opportunity to participate in more than 2000 courses, mini-course, seminars and workshops facilitated by highly-qualified personnel.

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Events/Meeting Sites: Charlotte Convention Center

National Baptist Congress of Christian Education Pre-Congress Musical 2001

Host Church:

FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

3301 Beatties Ford Road, Charlotte NC 28216

Dr. Clifford A. Jones, Senior Minister/Host Pastor

Mr. Tony McNeill, Pre-Congress Musical Director

WHEN: Monday, June 18, 2001

TIME: 6:00 pm — Official Welcome

6:45 — Concert

WHERE: Charlotte Convention Center

TICKETS: \$10.00 per person

Join us as we present a Spirit-filled evening of Worship and Praise with a 500-Voice citywide, interdenominational choir and other talented musicians offering a diversified program of Sacred/Gospel Music. There is a BLESSING in store for EVERYONE! MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND! Servants Affirming God's Word Globally

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(Memorial Presbyterian Church, Charlotte, NC)

Frank Williams

(White Rock Missionary Baptist Church, Durham, NC)

Jacqueline Robinson

(Statesville Avenue Presbyterian Church, Charlotte, NC)

Donald Chisholm

(St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church, Charlotte, NC)

Stephanie Kirkpatrick

(Rocky Ridge Missionary Baptist Church, Concord, NC)

Bruce Thompson

(Mt. Carmel Missionary Baptist Church, Charlotte, NC)

Minister Avis D. Graves

(University Park Missionary Baptist Church, Charlotte, NC)

Patrick Love

(The Temple of Refuge, Charlotte, NC)

and

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For more information:

Tony McNeill, Director of Music Ministries

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church
3301 Beatties Ford Road
Charlotte, NC 28216

(704) 392-0392—OFFICE

(704) 392-0316—FAX

musicatfmba@yahoo.com—EMAIL

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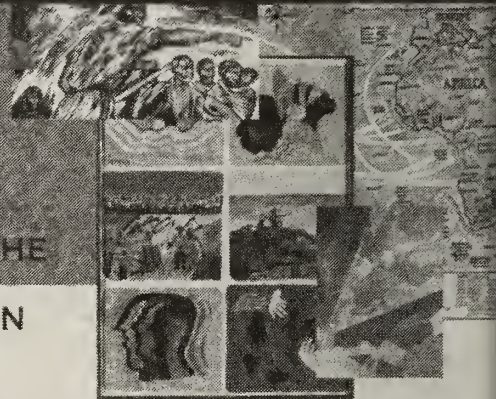
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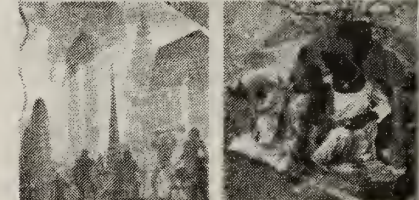


The African American Jubilee Edition Bible

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It is an excellent tool for studying the Bible through the African American experience and in connecting God's Word to the lives of African Americans today. Ideal for examining the Scriptures from four perspectives: people, place, culture, and story.



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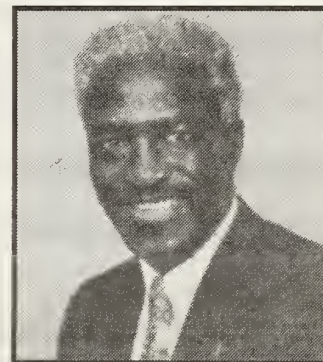
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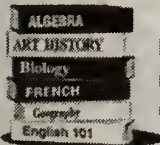
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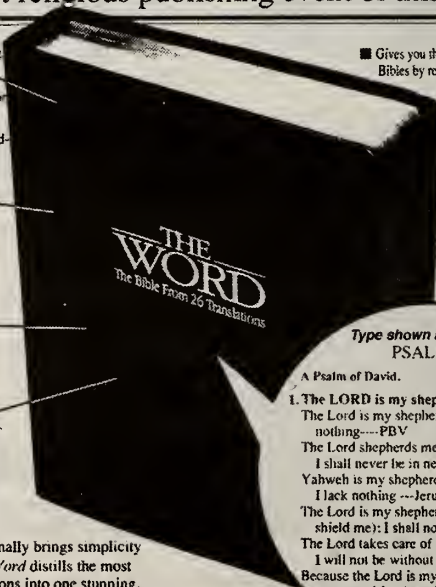
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The Lord is my shepherd (to feed, guide and shield me): I shall not lack...Amp
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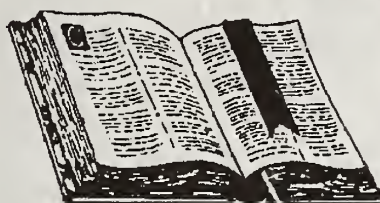
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| 29. Warm in a Cold Situation | 65. I Just Want To Know Why |
| 30. That's the Way He Died But That's Not The End Of The Story | 66. What Do You Do When Life Is Not Fair |
| 31. What You See Is What You Get | 67. Why Do Bad Things Happen To Good People |
| 32. What's Faith Got To Do With It | 68. What Do You Do When Your Brook Runs Dry |
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| 34. I Just Want To Say ... "Thank You Lord" | 70. Who Is He |
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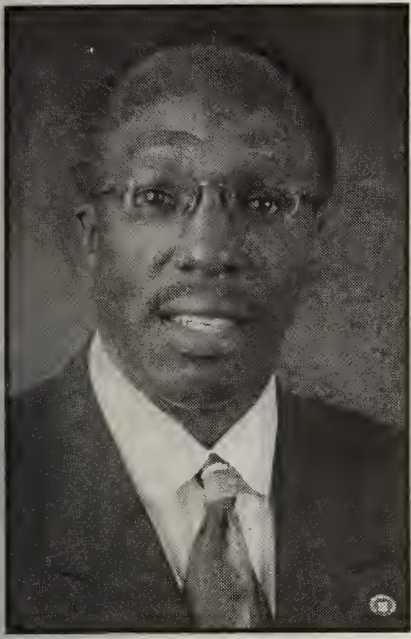
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Volume 124, Number 4

Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C. Inc.
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General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina Inc. Evangelism Conference Presents: Youth Explosion 2001



Dr. Charles E. Booth

EDUCATION

- Graduate of the Baltimore City Public Schools
- Bachelor of Arts Degree, Howard University, Washington, DC, June 1969
- Master of Divinity Degree, Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Philadelphia, PA, May 1973
- Doctor of Ministry Degree (Proctor Fellow), United Theological Seminary, Dayton, OH, May 1990
- Honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree, Virginia Seminary, Lynchburg, VA, June 1980

SIGNIFICANT INVITATIONS

- Guest Lecturer in Biblical Hermeneutics, 85th Hampton Ministers Conference, Hampton, VA, June 1999
- Baccalaureate Preacher, Lincoln University, Oxford, PA, May 1999
- Guest Preacher, The 48th Annual John Malcus Ellison Convocation, The Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology

AWARDS & OUTSTANDING EVENTS

- The James Stamp Alumni Recognition Award for outstanding contributions to young people attending UNCF and Historically Black Institutions, Inter Alumni Council of the United Negro College Fund, June 1999
- Vertner Woodson Tandy Award for community service, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity (Alpha Rho Lambda Chapter), December 1998
- *Ebony* Magazine, Listed on Honor Roll of Great Preachers, November 1993

PUBLICATIONS

- Author, *Bridging the Breach: Evangelical Thought and Liberation in the African-American Preaching Tradition*, published by Urban Ministries (2000).

LISTINGS

- Who's Who Among African-American's 2000

DENOMINATIONAL INVOLVEMENT

- Member, Baptist Global Mission Bureau, Progressive National Baptist Convention

TEACHING INVOLVEMENTS

- Currently serving as Professor of Preaching, Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Columbus, OH

PASTORAL EXPERIENCES

- Pastor of Mt. Olivet Baptist Church, Columbus, OH (1978 - Present)



Suzan D. Johnson Cook (Sujay)

Rev. Dr. Suzan D. Johnson Cook lives in New York City with her husband, Ronald, and their two sons: Samuel David and Christopher Daniel.

After a 13 year pastorate at the historic Mariners' Temple in lower Manhattan, she became the founder and senior pastor of the Bronx Christian Fellowship, the Bronx's fastest growing new church.

For more than 20 years Dr. Johnson Cook has been a champion of civil rights, a motivational speaker, pastor, public servant and community leader. She was the only African-American woman and faith community leader appointed by President Clinton to the historic President's Initiative on Race.

A pioneer and trailblazer, she is uninhibited in the midst of challenge. She is New York City Police Department's only female and only African American Chaplain and the first African-American woman to be elected to an American Baptist Church in its 200 year history. Multifaceted and comfortable in diverse settings,

she was selected by *Ebony* Magazine in 1997 as one of the top 15 women in ministry in the nation and in the same year by *Time* magazine as one of New York's top Five preachers. She has made her mark as a creative, compassionate, savvy, sensational, electrifying, inspirational orator and speaker, making messages relevant, relational and engaging.

Having served on the Domestic Policy Council in the White House in 1993, and with HUD Secretary for Faith Initiatives from 1994-1997, she is comfortable in many arenas, including Government, private sector and Grassroots communities. Her clients include: Corporations, Churches, Colleges, Conventions and Conferences. She is in demand throughout the United States, the Caribbean and the continent of Africa.

Most recently, she is co-founder and Chief Operating Officer of JONCO Productions, Inc. which organizes conferences and handles her speaking tours and media/book distributions. An advocate for children and youth, she is the Executive Director of the Multi Ethnic Center for Children and Families.

A graduate of Boston's Emerson College (B.S. cum laude); New York's Columbia University Teacher's College and Union Technological Seminary (M.A. & M.Div) and Ohio's United Theological Seminary (D.Min) she has combined her academic preparation and communications skills to teach at Harvard and other institutions and can often be seen and heard hosting radio and television shows.

Dr. Cook's book, *Too Blessed to be Stressed: Words of Wisdom for Women on the Move* (Nelson: Nashville, 1998) emerged out of her national seminars for women. It is a bestseller and the book of choice for women's conventions and book clubs. Her latest book which she compiled, *Sister Strength* (Nelson: Nashville), 1998 is a Collection of Devotionals for and From African-American Women, and includes 48 authors.



Dr. Mack King Carter

EDUCATION

- A.A. Degree, Central Florida Community College, 1967
- B.A. Degree, University of Florida, 1970
- Master of Divinity Degree, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, 1976
- Doctor of Ministry Degree, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, 1978
- In 1998 Dr. Carter was awarded an honorary Doctorate from Bethune Cookman College. In the year of 2000, he was also awarded an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from Florida Memorial College.

PASTORAL EXPERIENCE

Presently serving as Pastor of Mount Olive Baptist Church, Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Professor of Theology, Simmons Bible College, Louisville, Kentucky
Church History, Simmons Bible College, Louisville, Kentucky

LECTURE EXPERIENCE

C.D. Hubert Lectures, Morehouse College, School of Religion, Atlanta, Ga.

Lectured in Germany

James Herbert White Lectures at Mississippi Valley State University. A regular Conference and Revival Preacher. Lecturer in the National Baptist Convention's Congress of Christian Education U.S.A., Inc.

PUBLICATIONS

Four books now in Publication Entitled: *A Catechism For Baptists, To Calvary and Beyond, A Quest For Freedom, and Interpreting The Will of God.*

PREACHING EXPERIENCE

Has served as a guest Preacher in both the Progressive National Baptist Convention and the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc.

TRAVEL EXPERIENCE

Has traveled throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico, Germany, France, Italy, Austria, Puerto Rico, The Virgin Islands, West Africa, The Holy Land, England, Scotland and Wales.

In 1993 Dr. Carter was cited by *Ebony* Magazine as one of America's outstanding pulpites.

OTHER AFFILIATIONS

Morehouse School of Religion; Trustee Board of Florida Memorial College of Miami, Florida.

Monday, April 16
Lewis Chapel Missionary Baptist
Church Fellowship Hall
5422 Raeford Road, Fayetteville, NC 28304
3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Featured Groups:

LEWIS CHAPEL YOUTH CHOIR
MT. OLIVE PRAISE DANCE ENSEMBLE
MT. SINAI PRAISE DANCE ENSEMBLE
and other local youth groups participating in choirs, church step teams, and drama groups!

COME AND BE BLESSED OF GOD THROUGH THIS MOVE OF THE SPIRIT!

(Continued on page 19)

From The Desk of the Executive Secretary-Treasurer Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Ed.D.

All Roads Lead To Wilmington, N.C.

By John D. Fuller Sr., President
and Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr.
Executive Secretary

Greetings and Peace to you! I am proud to announce our 2001 MILLENNIUM MID-YEAR SESSION! Executive Secretary-Treasurer Archie D. Logan Jr., and Program Committee Chairman, Dr. Freddie Barnes have worked with our staff and committees to plan an exciting program. Please continue praying for the success of the SESSION. This year's session will be unique because we will have the Prayer of Dedication Service for our Navassa low-income housing project (WE ARE ASKING EACH CHURCH ASSOCIATION AND GBSC MEMBERS THAT CAN AND WILL TO BRING \$500 TO HELP LIQUIDATE THIS DEBT). Special guests for the session: Dr. Geoffrey V. Guns, President, Virginia Baptist Convention; Dr. E. V. Hill, National Baptist Convention and Professor Lynn R. Buzzard, Norman Adrian Wiggins School of Law, Campbell University. We will meet May 6-9, 2001 at the First Baptist Church, Wilmington, NC. Below are Program Highlights. You will receive more information about the session from our Headquarters Office.

We are asking each church to send along with your pastor, four messengers to this session. We have several workshops planned for church leaders: Deacons, trustees, Pastor's Aid, budget committee and finance committee members. Also our SECOND VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL CLINIC WILL CONVENE during the session. It is important that you plan to join us Monday, May 7, 2001 for special SENIOR CITIZENS SESSION. Many issues affect senior members of our congregations. Our convention continues to grow and prosper by the GRACE OF GOD. Grace to you!

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Sunday, May 6, 2001

- 6:30-8:30 p.m. CHILDREN/YOUTH/TEEN FELLOWSHIP SERVICE Singing/Fun/Pizza Party

Monday, May 7, 2001

- 9 a.m. Tee Time (SHOTGUN) Captain's Choice (Echo Farms Golf and County Club, 4114 Echo Farm Blvd., Wilmington, NC, 910-791-9318; \$55.00 per/player,

call GBSC, Inc. 800-639-4272 to register.

Sponsored by the Laymen's League — trophies/prizes and fellowship. Sign-up your team now!

- 9 a.m.-12 Noon "SENIOR CITIZENS WORKSHOP" (First Baptist Church, Wilmington, NC)

** 9 a.m. Continental Breakfast at the church **

- 2-4:30 p.m. INSTITUTIONAL MINISTRY WORKSHOP, HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES WORKSHOPS

Monday, May 7, 2001

First Baptist Church Wilmington NC Evening Worship

- 7 p.m. Local Program
- 8 p.m. Opening Sermon
- 9:30 p.m. Evangelism Late Night Service, Dr. H.C. Miller, Evangelism, Chairperson

Tuesday Morning, May 8, 2001

First Baptist Church Wilmington, NC

- 8:30 a.m. Registration
- 9:30 a.m. OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE 2001 MILLENNIUM MID-YEAR SESSION
Dr. John D. Fuller Sr. President
- 9:20 a.m. Inspirational Message
- 9:45 a.m.-1 p.m. Vacation Bible School Clinic III, First Baptist Church
- 10-11:30 a.m. GBSC Moderators/Ministers/Preachers/Deacons/Trustees & Saints
Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President, Presiding
- 11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m. Ministers Council Session
- 1-4 p.m. Adjourn to Navassa, NC - FREE LUNCH - Tour & View GBSC, Inc., Site

Tuesday Afternoon, May 8, 2001 Navassa, NC

- 3:30-5 p.m. STEWARDSHIP SEMINAR: Finance Committee, Pastor's Aid, Budget Committee and Trustees

Tuesday Evening, May 8, 2001

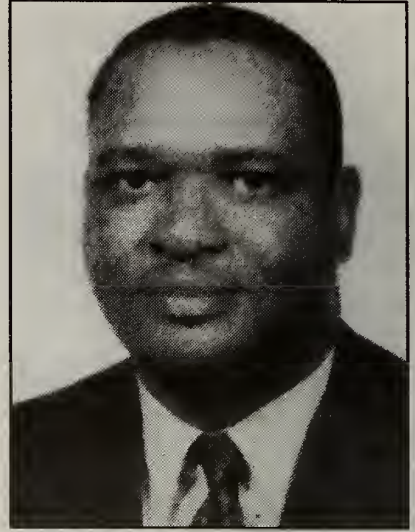
First Baptist Church Wilmington, NC

- 7:30 p.m. Devotional Period.

- 7:45 p.m. Workshop: SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP A GUIDE TO DEVELOPING SPIRITUAL LEADERS IN THE CHURCH. Dr. Geoffrey V. Guns, Pastor Second Calvary Baptist Church, Norfolk, VA, President, Virginia Baptist State Convention
- 8:30 p.m. Mid-Year Theme Sermon/ Address — "The Challenge Is The Same: Reach the Masses" John 12:32
- 9:30 p.m. Evangelism Late Night Service

Wednesday Morning, May 9, 2001 PRESIDENTIAL SESSION

- 8:30 a.m. REGISTRATION
- 9 a.m. Devotional Period
- 9:30-11 a.m. Worship: CHURCH DISCIPLE, LEGAL ISSUES FACING CHURCHES — Professor Lynn R. Buzzard, Norman Adrian Wiggins School of Law, Campbell University, Buies Creek, NC
- 11 a.m. Business Session



Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr.

• 12:00 noon

PRESIDENTIAL REFLECTIONS

Dr. John D. Fuller Sr.

Closing Sermon: Dr. Geoffrey V. Guns, President, Virginia Baptist State Convention

Adjournment President Fuller

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Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
Voice of 500,000 Baptists
(USPS 042-680)

Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Editor

Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie, Executive Editor

Ms. Carol J. Smith, Managing Editor

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THEME: "By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness..." (II Corinthians 6:7)

From The Desk of Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President

Bible Study and the Church

By Rev. Dennis Leach, BS. M.Div.

Bible study has been deemed; "The personal or communal study of the Scriptures, usually with a focus on the practical implications for contemporary living and Christian devotion."

In his study of the Old Testament and the discipline of education, Walter Brueggeman reminds us that, "every community that wants to last beyond a single generation must concern itself with education." At first glance his statement affirms the writing and work of pastors and Christian educators who, for decades, have diligently attended to the task of sustaining churches as viable communities of faith.

With more reflection it reminds us that our Christian educational strategies mean little if we do not have a clear understanding of the community that is the object of our efforts. The whole purpose of Bible study is to educate members of the faith community in order to sustain the community in its faith, and perpetuate the work, and health of that fellowship. Bible study further helps us in the process of becoming better disciples, and Christian representatives of Jesus the Christ. This I believe is crucial to the life of the church in light of the mean-spirited practices permeating Christian-dome.

The task of practicing the lifestyle of the Christian community extends into the deliberate instruction of persons in the knowledge, behaviors, and attitudes crucial to the continuity of the community. The church's continuity depends upon the disciplined practice of the perceptions; and behaviors which reveal our relationship to the life and work of the Christ who modeled their practice. To be Christian is to be like Jesus.

Bible study teaches us about Jesus, Jesus

teaches us about God, and God teaches us about ourselves and each relationship. Perhaps there is no dimension in contemporary church life that is more confusing than that found in the efforts of Christians to be relevant to the social, economic, and political issues of their day. Over recent years the tendency in church education is to focus attention upon congregational life and problems of personal coping with life, which usually diminishes the gospel message and isolates congregations from the needs outside their walls. The focus on individuality has weakened the church's witness to both members and non-members.

The preoccupation with the quest for self-fulfillment and focus on individual goals may strengthen the individual, but it weakens the faith community. We are confronted with the necessity of finding new ways to describe the relationship of the church to the world. The church has not, does not, and will never exist in a bubble. What I mean by that is that the world into which the church was born exercised some influence on it, and in it. The church was born into a society with social, political, moral, economic, and religious norms.

The local pastor acts as the primary agent of "Vision" in the Education of the community of faith, as a result the pastor must:

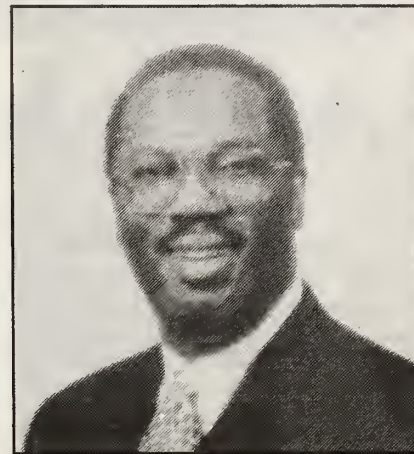
1. Help develop a curriculum for the congregation.
2. He or she must be grounded in biblical studies.
3. They must act as a resource person, interpreter, and teacher.
4. Must be concerned with the Spirituality of God's people.
5. Act as the leader of an educational team.

The study of the Bible involves look-

ing at it in the context of its history, culture, and environment religious, social and political. This is called "exegesis," and it involves interpretation that draws "out" of the passage what is in it. "Exegesis" stands in contrast to "eisegesis," which means reading meaning "into" a biblical text, as opposed to "out" of a biblical text. As we seek to teach, this becomes very important for it allows us to "contextualize" the Biblical record in its own setting. This is important because of the important matter of "relevance." What did it mean then, what does it mean now? It is a matter of seeking the truth, the whole truth. On one occasion when Jesus talked about the truth he said: **"And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32).** The truth of the matter is that the church in general has gone through so many changes that it appears to be suffering from an identity crisis. The understanding and visualization of the church's identity is key to those who are members of it. The church is not a building, but a community

After years of neglect, Baptist as well as other Protestants have been rediscovering how crucial is the place of the church in God's redemptive purpose. Unawareness of the divine dimensions of the church has often led us to treat it as an institution, which could be explained in sociological terms alone. An inadequate concept of the church encourages members to be careless about their responsibilities, to attend its services only when convenient, and to give leftovers of money and energies. The weakened impact of the church upon the world today is partially due to the fact that Christians have had an inadequate understanding of its role.

The term that denotes the body of believers local, and universal comes from the Greek work *ekklesia*, "church," and *kyriakon*, "thing belonging to the Lord." In addition from the Latin word *ecclesia*, we get "assembly." The New Testament presents various images of the church that the early church struggled with as it sought its self-understanding in light of the gospel and controversies. An important element in any definition of the church must be the purpose of its gathering: to do the work of the gospel or to be "in mission." In any regard when the Christian community loses focus of its mission, institutional goals may become primary concerns. The profile of the church is, in fact, shaped by its prevailing sense of evangelization and mission as the Kingdom of God. The church is to be a sign of God's kingdom, making an appeal to human beings to accept God's rule of faith,



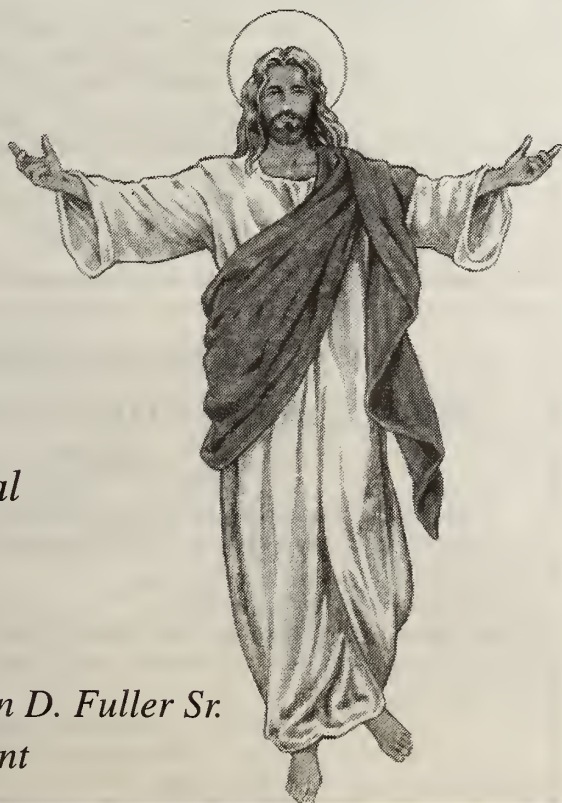
Dr. John D. Fuller Sr.

obedience, and gift of salvation. The terms that Jesus used expressed his expectation that a community of disciples would succeed him, and the major part of his ministry was directed to the preparation of a company of disciples who would continue his mission (Matt. 28:16-20). Jesus sent forth to preach the kingdom of God was at hand (Matt. 10:7). To proclaim the kingdom was to bid humans to accept God's rule, to enter God's fellowship, to receive God's saving power and to yield their lives in obedient service.

The sovereign God announced by Jesus was a loving parent who invited lost men and women to accept forgiveness and become reconciled to the family as children of God. Thus the kingdom announced by Jesus was a new set of relationships, vertical and horizontal. It was a community uniting humanity with God and one another, which was being proclaimed by Jesus and created through the power of the Holy Spirit. What Jesus left was a fellowship of those who had been convinced that he was the long awaited Messiah in whom God was uniquely manifested to human beings once and for all. In Paul's letter to the church at Ephesus he appeals for them to lead a life worthy of the calling to which they had been called (Eph. 4:1). In effect, he is urging the church to be the church in spirit and in deed! He wants the people of God to be clear about their identity and their mission, to know what God has called them to be and to do. The church is seen as the unified and ministering body of Christ. Paul employs several complementary images to describe his pastoral ideal of a Christian community. In his early response to the divisions within the Corinthian community the apostle insists on a redemptive unity that is rooted in one Spirit and one Lord (1 Cor. 12:11).

So then, the church is a "disciple group," gathered by the power of the Holy Spirit in the name of Christ to proclaim his "good news" — the actualization of the kingdom of God. By its very nature the church cannot be divorced from the way it pastorally cares for the people of its time around the world. Amen.

Please plan to worship with your family and friends during Holy Week April 8-15. Join the GBSC Family in special prayer and meditation...



Dr. John D. Fuller Sr.
President

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... And He Has Risen!

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Women's Page Highlights

After Jesus' Resurrection

By Executive

Secretary-Treasurer Brodie

With joy and peace, as we reflect upon the season of Easter, the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, we see the expansion of the radiating and illuminating effects of His being THE LIGHT of the world. For after the Resurrection, there are many events which confirm HE IS THE LIGHT of the world. Many people gather to Jerusalem for Pentecost, and yet do not know Jesus. Thus when Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, preaches the good news of and about Jesus, about 3,000 people in darkness see the Light, and they repent and re-

ceive baptism.

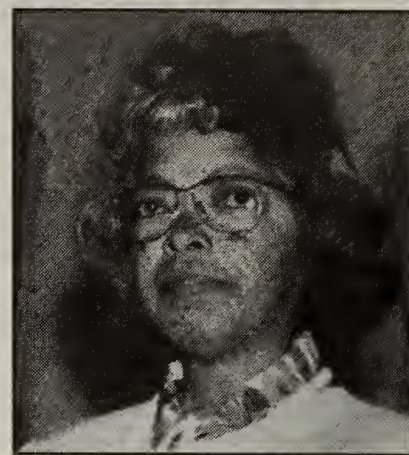
Another time when Peter and John are about to enter the temple to pray, Peter fastens his eyes on a lame man at the gate, Beautiful, and tells him in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth to rise up and walk. The man immediately receives his word, springs to his feet, enters the temple with them, and praises God. His "darkness" leaves him.

During the early days of persecution of the church at Jerusalem, they scatter throughout different regions carrying the word of and about Jesus Christ. Philip goes down to Samaria and preaches Christ to a bewitched people by a sorcerer named

Simon; they believe and receive baptism. This "darkness" of the ones who believe Christ leaves. What a light they now have!

An Ethiopian eunuch of great authority under Candace, Queen of Ethiopians, reads, Esaias as he sits in his chariot bound for his home. He does not understand what he reads, but the Holy Spirit is aware of his plight and sends Philip to evangelize him. Philip preaches Jesus, and this man believes and then receives baptism. His "darkness" disappears.

One of the early persecutors of the church is on his way to Damascus to perpetuate his crime there against believers in Christ, when suddenly a light from heaven shines about him and he hears a voice ask, "Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?" Here begins a holy conversation with one of the greatest missionaries of the church. Saul, who loses his sight, asks who the Lord is, and the response is "I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks." He receives instruction from the Lord Jesus, and in the meantime this same Lord Jesus instructs a disciple named Ananias to visit Saul so that he may regain sight and be filled with the Holy Ghost. Saul receives the Lord Jesus' com-



Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

mission for him from Ananias and the scales fall from his eyes; he sees, arises, and receives baptism. Because of his trust and obedience in his encounter with the Lord Jesus and the Lord Jesus' disciple, Ananias, his "darkness" vanishes. This man goes on to share The Light of the World, the Lord Jesus, to many, many, many people through teaching, preaching, and even writing many books/letters which the Bible contains.

Time does not permit us to recall all of the church history in this setting, but let us not forget such carriers of THE LIGHT of the world as Rev. Lott Carey, Dr. Benjamin Mays, Dr. Howard Thurman, Dr. Mary O.

(See next page)

WOMAN'S BAPTIST HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONARY CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, AUXILIARY TO GBSC 2001 CALENDAR

APRIL

7 — State-Wide Leaders'
Workshop, Raleigh Civic Center
15 — Easter

MAY

5 — Ministers' Wives Retreat,
Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill

JUNE

2 — Young Adults' Retreat
4-8 — Leadership Training
Conference, Baptist Assembly,
Laurel Hill
10-15 — First Week of Youth Bible
Camp, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill
17-22 — Second Week of Bible Youth
Bible Camp, Baptist Assembly,
Laurel Hill
23 — MISSIONS PRAYER DAY
(County Unions, et. al.)
24-29 — Third Week of Youth Bible
Camp, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill

JULY

22-26 — Woman's Baptist Home and
Foreign Missionary Convention

AUGUST:

(Prayer month for the Family)
27-31 — Lott Carey Baptist Foreign
Mission Convention, Columbus, Ohio

SEPTEMBER

4-7 — National Baptist Convention
22 — Family Missions Conference,
New Ahoskie Baptist Church,
Ahoskie

OCTOBER

(Prayer month for SHAW
UNIVERSITY AND SHAW
DIVINITY SCHOOL)
13 — WBSC Institute Workers'
Workshop, Baptist Headquarters

NOVEMBER

3 — Youth Evangelism Conference,
Cumberland County Memorial
Auditorium, Fayetteville
5 — World Day of Prayer
(BWA — Woman's Department)
22 — Thanksgiving Day

DECEMBER

25 — Christmas Day

POSITION OPEN: SECRETARY

The Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention, Auxiliary to GBSC, is accepting applications for a Secretary. Applicants should meet the following qualifications.

- Have completed high school and have had several business courses beyond high school
- Have knowledge of business English
- Have efficient knowledge of computer operations, especially word processing and spreadsheets
- Have good typing speed and accuracy
- Have the ability to relate to people.

The salary is negotiable, good benefits.

Please send resume to the address below:

The Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary
Convention of North Carolina, Auxiliary to GBSC
PO Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602
Telephone: (919) 833-4823
Fax: (919) 833-7599

POSITION OPEN: ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

The Woman's Baptist Home & Foreign Missionary Convention, Auxiliary to GBSC, is accepting applications for an Administrative Assistant. Applicants should meet the following requirements.

- Have a baccalaureate degree, preferably in Business Management (some courses in Christian education with some years of experience)
- Have supervisory expertise
- Have communicative and organizational skills
- Be able to maintain lists, schedule(s)
- Be able to work with minimal supervision
- Have proficiency in business English
- Have knowledge of preparing and reporting state and federal taxes preparation
- Have proficient computer skills
- Have a pleasant personality and telephone skills
- Have team spirit.

Salary is negotiable, good benefits.

Please send a resume to: The Executive Secretary-Treasurer

Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina,
Auxiliary to GBSC, PO Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602
Telephone: (919) 833-4823 • Fax (919) 833-7599

POSITION OPEN: Office Secretary/HELPER Coordinator for the WBH&FMC

The Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention now is receiving applications for the position of Office Secretary/HELPER Coordinator. Qualifications:

- Should have good secretarial skills.
- Should have efficient computer skills, especially word processing and spreadsheets
- Should have an appropriate degree associate or bachelor and some experience
- Should have team spirit

Salary is negotiable; good benefits

Please send immediately a resume to:

The Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign
Missionary Convention
of North Carolina, Auxiliary to GBSC
PO Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602
Telephone: (919) 833-4823
Fax: (919) 833-7599

More Women's Highlights

After Jesus' Resurrection

Ross, Miss Minnie C. Lyon, Mrs. Cora Pair Thomas, Dr. David R. Hedgley, Dr. Ella Alston, Dr. Berthenia Home, as well as others.

How grateful we should be that the effects of Jesus' resurrection have illuminated a pathway even down to the present generation of peoples across the world who are in and have darkness. Oh, Yes! Jesus is THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD, and we, as His disciples "lights," must carry and live His gospel that others may receive and have holy illumination because of the effects of Jesus' resurrection. O, Victory In Jesus, The Light of the World!

Victory in Jesus

I heard an old, old story, how a Savior came from glory,

How he gave His life on Calvary to save a wretch like me:

I heard about His groaning, of His precious blood's atoning,

And somehow Jesus came and brought to me the victory.

I heard about His healing, of His cleansing pow'r revealing,

How he made the lame to walk again and caused the blind to see;

And then I cried, "Dear Jesus, come and heal my broken spirit,"

And somehow Jesus came and brought to me the victory.

Chorus

O victory in Jesus, my Savior, forever!

He sought me and bought me with His redeeming blood;

He loved me ere I knew Him, and all my love is due him —

He plunged me to victory beneath the cleansing flood.

Eugene M. Bartlett

The Day of Resurrection

Our hearts be pure from evil, THAT WE

MAY SEE ARIGHT
THE LORD IN RAYS ETERNAL OF
RESURRECTION LIGHT;

And, list'ning to His accents, May hear, so calm and plain,
His own "All hail!" and, hearing, May raise the victorstrain.

John of Damascus, early 8th century
Translated by John M. Neale

REMINDERS

1. **Ministers' Wives and Widows Spring Retreat** is May 5, 2001, at the Baptist Assembly. (Please contact the office for information). **Leadership Training Conference** convenes at the Baptist Assembly June 4-8, 2001. (See brochure). **Youth Bible Camp** consists of three separate weeks: June 10-15; June 17-22; June 24-29. (See brochure).

2. **Scholarships.** The Woman's Convention gives scholarships to qualified youth and young adults. (See brochure).

3. **Staff Positions.** Persons interested in sharing in the headquarters' ministry of the WBH&FMC, please see our ads.

4. **Child Abuse Prevention.** April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. (See brochure).

5. **2000-2001 Budget.** Let us not forget the 2000-2001 Budget: \$47,500 — Shaw University; \$33,500 — Shaw Divinity; \$80,200 — Foreign Missions; \$36,500 — Central Children's Home; \$40,000 — Baptist Assembly; \$556,157 — State Missions, resulting in \$796,357. Please make checks/MO's payable to the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention or the Woman's Baptist State Convention. If your church has not received a suggested quota for 2000-2001 to help the Woman's Convention realize the 2000-2001 budget, please call (919) 833-4823 or write to: PO Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602.

HAPPY EASTER!

Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention Scholarships

PURPOSE?

The Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention Scholarships, established in 1994, provide annual scholarships to a Youth and a Young Adult to encourage, support and enhance post high school training and career success.

AMOUNT OF SCHOLARSHIPS?

A \$500 non-renewable scholarship will be awarded to a Youth and a \$500 non-renewable scholarship will be awarded to a Young Adult.

WHO MAY APPLY?

YOUTH — a high school graduating senior, or equivalent.

YOUNG ADULT — enrolled in a technical school, college, or university.

CRITERIA?

- The applicant must be:
- an active member of a missionary Baptist church that supports the Woman's Convention.
- well-disciplined academically and socially.
- an active member of the local missionary

- department (as a youth).
- endorsed by his/her pastor.
- selected by the State Scholarship Selection Committee.

WHERE TO SERVE AND SEND APPLICATIONS?

Applications may be obtained from and sent to the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention Office.

WHAT ARE THE TIMELINES?

Applications must be received by the Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Woman's Convention on or before May 31.

Notification to award recipients will be on or before July 30. Awards will be made during the Annual Session of the Convention in July.

HOW WILL SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS BE PROCESSED?

Scholarship recipients will provide the Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Woman's Convention official notification from the institution to which funds are to be sent.

All funds will be sent directly from the Convention to the school, college, or University.

YOUTH BIBLE CAMP 2001

J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill, N.C.

June 10-June 29, 2001

Sponsored by:

Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina, Auxiliary to GBSC

Dr. Maggie M. White, President

Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie, Advisor

Mrs. Phylisa F. Kelly, Director

Mrs. Faye Dunbar, Assistant Director

CAMPERS' COMMENTS

"I think that this was FUN..."

"I REALLY like it here!"

"I think that this was very educational."

"I like the people and some of the activities!"

1st Week Campers 2000

"The food was okay"

"I was alright"

"I had WONDERFUL teachers!"

"I wish to come back"

"They teach great things!"

"I enjoyed swimming!"

2nd Week Campers, 2000

"It was fun, and I enjoyed myself!"

"The food was GOOD to me!"

"My teacher was always ready for her lessons"

"This camp is a GREAT WAY, to experience the Lord!"

3rd Week Campers 2000

Please detach forms and mail with deposit.

REGISTRATION FORM

Please complete and return to:

THE WOMAN'S BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION

PO Box 1818

Raleigh, NC 27602

Telephone: (919) 833-4823

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Church _____

Pastor _____

Location _____

Age _____ Sex _____

Parent's Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Grade in School _____ Have you attended the camp before? _____

Special Interest(s) _____

Have you any known physical defects? _____

Time of Arrival _____ Car _____ Bus _____

Time of Arrival _____ Car _____ Bus _____

Are you to be a day camper or a regular camper? _____

Indicate Camp Week _____

(Continued on next page)

More Women's Highlights

YOUTH BIBLE CAMP (WBH&FMC)

Please complete the following form and return with the registration form.

Sometimes an emergency requiring hospitalization and/or surgery may develop. Since minors, as a rule, may not be administered an anesthetic or be operated upon without the written consent of the parent or guardian, we request that you sign the following statement.

Your signing will help to prevent dangerous delay in case an emergency occurs and we are not able to contact you, the parent or guardian.

In the event of the injury or illness to my child

Name _____

born _____ (Date) I hereby authorize the Youth Bible Camp director or a staff member to secure whatever treatment is deemed necessary, including the administration of an anesthetic and surgery.

Is the child allergic to any medication? Yes _____ No _____

If yes, please name them. _____

I shall not hold the Woman's Convention or GBSC liable for any injury which happens at the Youth Bible Camp at the J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly to my child or the child named above.

(Parent or Guardian's Signature) _____

Date _____

* The health form and camper's fee or deposit must be returned with this form and the registration form.

Please have form filled by your physician HEALTH FORM

I have examined _____

and believe _____ is qualified to attend the SUMMER YOUTH BIBLE CAMP, and to take part in swimming and outdoor sports.

Operation, or serious illnesses, accidents within the past year? _____

Nature of Heart's Function _____

Lungs _____ Athlete's Foot _____

History of epilepsy, diabetes, convulsions, hysteria? _____

Is he/she allergic to any medications? _____

If yes, please give the name(s) _____

Date Examined _____

Doctor's Signature _____

Address _____

Pastor's Signature _____

Address _____

NOTE

A Health Examination, taken more than 12 months prior to the date of the camper's attendance, will not be accepted.

* Must accompany registration form, parental statement and camper's fee or deposit.

INTERNET SAFETY TIPS FOR FAMILIES

1-800-354-KIDS

What to do if you suspect your child is communicating with an E-predator online:

- Talk openly with your child about your suspicions and tell them the dangers of computer sex offenders.
- Review the contents of your child's computer, including the temporary web files.
- Use Caller ID to monitor the people calling your child, and block numbers are suspects.
- Monitor your child's access to all types of live electronic communications like chat rooms, instant messages, and e-mail.
- Contact law enforcement if anyone in your household has received child pornography or if your child has been solicited in any way by someone who knows the child is under 18.

if their new Internet friend asks to see them in person or wants your child to send a picture of him or herself.

- Let your children know that they can come to you if they are receiving messages that make them feel uncomfortable.
- Establish rules to follow when using the Internet.
- Keep the computer in a high traffic part of the house. You can monitor your children's activities without appearing to be watching over their shoulders.
- Spend time on the Internet with your children. Give them a chance to show you what they have learned or the things that they like.
- Find websites you think your children will enjoy and "bookmark" them. This will help you direct your children away from using search engines.
- Teach your children about "netiquette" (etiquette on the Internet), so they will know how to behave appropriately on the Internet and will be able to recognize inappropriate behavior on the part of others.

Prevent Child Abuse

North Carolina
3344 Hillsborough Street
Suite 100-D, Raleigh
North Carolina 27607

919-829-8009 (voice) • 919-832-0308 (fax)
1-800-354-KIDS • www.childabusenc.org

Source: Information compiled from the FBI's A Parent's Guide to the Internet and Prevent Child Abuse America's Internet Safety Tips for Families and Keeping Kids on the Internet

Internet Safety Tips

- Ask your Internet provider about features that allow parents to block their children's access to adult-oriented sites, chat rooms, and bulletin boards. A variety of programs are available.
- Set up guidelines that deal specifically with meeting people on the Internet. Talk to your children about what to do

Signs that your child may be at risk online:

- Your child spends extensive time online, especially at night.
- You find pornography on your child's computer.
- Your child receives phone calls from someone you don't know or is making calls, sometimes long distance, to numbers you don't recognize.
- Your child receives mail, gifts or packages from someone you don't know.
- Your child turns off the computer monitor or quickly changes the screen when you come into the room.
- Your child becomes withdrawn.

PURPOSE

To provide boys and girls (ages 9-16) the opportunity to discover themselves through worship, Bible study, counseling, nature study, crafts and recreation in a Christian environment.

Though the camp is sponsored by Baptists children of other denominations are welcome.

ACTIVITIES

Campers may participate in dramatization, Bible study, hikes, nature study, special events, basketball, music, crafts, softball and talent/fashion shows.

WHAT TO BRING

Two sheets, bath and face towels, one pillow and case, soap and other toiletries, a blanket, flash light, Bible, pencils and paper, bathing suit, and cap. Please bring two churchly outfits: one for the Banquet and Fashion/Talent Show on Wednesday and one for Worship Service on Thursday. Please do not bring the large box radios!

FEES

Regular Camper

Total room and board cost & T-shirt \$160

Deposit (non-refundable; the deposit is a part of the total cost) \$10

Day Camper

(Only for Laurel Hill and surrounding communities youth)

Total camping fee and T-shirt \$100

Deposit (non-refundable; the deposit is a part of the total cost) \$10

CAMP PERIOD

___ 1st Week ___ June 10-June 15

___ 2nd Week ___ June 19-June 22

___ 3rd Week ___ June 24-June 29

Campers are taken on first come basis until available facilities are filled. Registration Form, Health Form, Parental or Guardian Statement Form and the Campers Fee or Deposit must be returned together. Begin sending these now! Room Assignment on Sundays near 2 p.m.

- Your child is using an online account that belongs to someone else.

TALK TO YOUR CHILDREN, TELL THEM THEY SHOULD ...

- NEVER give out personal information over the computer.
- NEVER arrange to get together with someone they meet online.
- NEVER send a picture of themselves to someone they meet online.
- TELL parents immediately if they come

across any information that makes them uncomfortable.

- UNDERSTAND that not everything they read online is true.
- REMEMBER that people online may not be who they seem.
- NEVER open attachments sent from someone you don't know.
- WATCH OUT for junk e-mail or "spam," which may include unwanted solicitations.

LAYMEN'S LEAGUE NEWS

The Lenten Season

By Romas Hales

Lent is a religious season observed in the spring by Christian churches. It begins on Ash Wednesday, 40 days before Easter, excluding Sundays, and ends on Easter Sunday. The term Lent comes from the Old English word *lencten*, which is meant "Springtime." The word also means "the lengthening of days" and is a term used for the period of preparation before Easter. Most churches hold religious services, meetings or preaching missions to honor the Lenten season. Some churches prescribe a special book of devotions for Lent and some prescribe a daily scripture reading for each of the 40 days during the Lenten season.

Many Christians observe Lent by fasting, performing penance, giving alms, and abstaining from amusements. The season originated as one of spiritual preparation for Easter in remembrance of the passion, death, and resurrec-

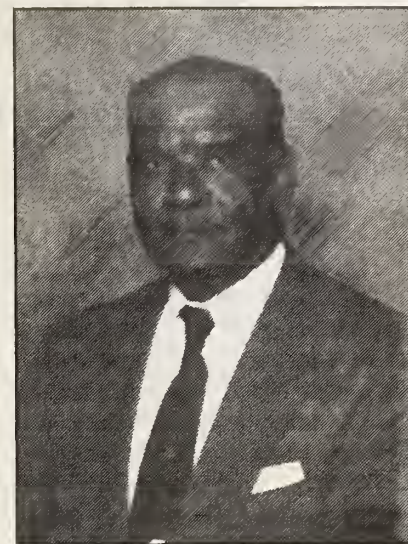
tion of Jesus Christ. It also symbolized the mourning of the church, the bride, for the departure of Christ, the bridegroom.

The period of 40 days draws its significance from the Jewish Passover and from Jesus' 40 days of fasting and praying. Lent remains a time of corporate and personal spiritual renewal. Worship during Lent should focus on self-examination in light of Christ's life, deepening of spiritual discipline, opportunities for public and private dedications, and an overall emphasis on commitment. The spiritual strength gained from the Lenten observance should help Christians do work of love and kindness to the poor and needy people in our community.

Laymen, just as the Lent season lead us up to the celebration of the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, let us let it resurrect our dedication to our Laymen's League. May we be mindful of our objective to "save souls for

Christ" and go out seeking the lost. May we take this opportunity during this season of the year to resurrect those Laymen Leagues in our churches and associations that may be taking a downward slide. Christ may be seeking you to spearhead the organizing of a Laymen's League in your church and/or association. This would be a good time for all Christian Laymen to rededicate our lives to Jesus Christ and to his work through the Laymen movement. Keep in mind those projects we can take on to aid the poor, to feed the hungry, to care for the aging, to comfort the sick, to help a lost boy or girl, man or woman to find the way, and to fellowship with other Christians in the church and the community.

"The harvest truly is plenteous, but the la-



Romas Hales
Laymen's League Coordinator

borers are few; pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into the harvest." Matthew 9:37-38.

HAVE A HAPPY EASTER

Laymen's Quarterly Meeting

By Romas L. Hales

The State Laymen's League Quarterly study commissions meeting was held on Saturday, March 10, 2001 at Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church, Kings Mountain, N. C. where Rev. Clinton A. Feemster serves as pastor. The executive Committee Meeting was held at 9 a.m. and the regular session started at 10 a.m. prior to the regular meeting we were entertained by the Ellis Chapel Male Choir with spiritual and gospel songs. The First Vice President, John Gladden called the meeting to order. Following the devotion by the host Laymen we had a warm welcome by the host Laymen President Brother Fred Smith Jr. Brother Roy Harris of Asheville gave the response to the welcome. We had greetings from President Jarvis Morgan, Rev. L. Littlejohn, and the host pastor Rev. Clinton A. Feemster.

Brother Theodore David, Laymen Third Vice President conducted the Christian education session. He used for a theme, "If A Man Die Will He Live Again." He used the scripture Luke 16:19-31. Mr. David discussed the after death of Lazarus and the rich man. He put emphasis on the four statements. (1) We shall be alive after we die. (2) We will be conscious or aware of things after we die. (3) We shall be with Christ if we live a proper Christian life. (4) After we die our resting will be forever. Mr. David gave the statistics that seventy-eight percent of the American people believe there is a heaven. Sixty-eight percent believe there is a hell. He stated Christianity is not a hope so religion but a know so. In discussing Lazarus and the rich man, he pointed out we still have the rich man brothers with us today.

The Study Commission Workshop was conducted by the Chairman, Brother Dallas Foster. The workshop covered the topics, "Christian Men and the Vision of Victory and Christian Men and the Vocabulary of Victory." These two topics concluded a series of discussions that the laymen had under the general title of, "Christian Men preparing for spiritual warfare in the twenty first century." If Christian men are to experience and know victory in their spiritual warfare against the devil, they must have a "vision" that is, a clear idea and concept of the kind of Christian man God is calling them to be. Then they must move toward that vision with faith, hope and courage. As it is with the people; so it is with the individual, where there is no vision the individual will perish (read Proverbs 29:8). Christian men must be courageous enough to envision that they can improve and become better and more Christ-like, regardless of their

past and regardless of what people may say. Christian men must understand that their vision of themselves, if it is to be Godly it must include them openly, exhibiting the fruit of the spirit (read Matthew 7:20 and Galatians 5:22-23). Brother Foster quoted from George Barnes book, "The Power of Vision." "Vision is foresight with insight based on hindsight, and vision is seeing the invisible and making it visible." Christian men must realize that they must speak the right words and phrases to themselves and to each other. The word "Cannot" is foreign to their tongues, but the words "Can" and "Will" are common in their daily expressions. The workshop was interesting and inspiring to me.

We had a business session following the workshop conducted by President Jarvis Morgan. There were reports from the executive committee, the youth, finance and the field worker. The youth topics for their discussions were "Tithing and Serving God." The session was meaningful and well attended. We really believe this was the largest attendance we have ever had at a study commission meeting. We had over two hundred in attendance. There were fifty boys from across the state.

Thanks to Rev. Feemster, the Laymen and members of Mount Zion Baptist Church and the Ebenezer Association for hosting the meeting. We had a wonderful full meal and a warm welcome. May God continue to Bless You.

Laymen Mid — Annual Sessions

Pastors, Laymen and Members of the Convention, we are looking forward to seeing you at the Laymen Mid Annual Banquet and One Day Session. The banquet will be held on Friday, April 20, 2001 at 7 p.m. at the First Baptist Church, 302 Moore Street, Fayetteville, N.C. The banquet tickets are twenty dollars (\$20.00), Children twelve and under (\$10.00) ten dollars. The guest speaker for the banquet will be Rev. Carl Brinkley, Pastor of Mount Olive Baptist Church of Fayetteville.

Please make plans to attend the one day session on Saturday, April 21, 2001 at the First Baptist Church of Fayetteville. Rev. S. Lee Downing, Pastor of Friendship Baptist Church of Fayetteville will deliver the Laymen Session. The day will start with a fellowship breakfast at 7:30 a.m. at the church. Registration and the Executive Committee meeting will start at 8:30 a.m. The regular session will start at 9 a.m. Registration For the Mid Annual Session is \$10.00 per person. Please bring your Laymen, your youth and your Church Assessment of \$300.00 and help us have a successful session.

From 2nd Vice President Dr. Howard W. Parker Jr.

NEWS FROM THE FOREIGN FIELD: THE LOTT CAREY

The Lott Carey Convention is announcing its first symbolic image of those who are actively fighting against the further spread of HIV/AIDS and are supporting the care for their families by launching the HIV/AIDS SIGNS OF HOPE CAMPAIGN. The SIGNS OF HOPE are beaded pins, produced in South Africa by women who participate in and benefit from an income generated program for people infected and affected by HIV/AIDS. The sign can be worn by both male and female supporters and is easily attached to the person's garment for a constant reminder of the threat of the disease, as well as the demonstration of the wearer's commitment to supporting the active fight against it in their community and around the globe. The AIDS ribbon displayed on the pin is the universal symbol of hope that HIV/AIDS will be stopped and eradicated, as well as the hope that those who are currently living with HIV/AIDS will have the best quality of life possible in the love of God.

The program is available to all persons who are actively engaged in the fight against HIV/AIDS and can be participated in directly by individuals, churches, organizations, agencies, and communities of service. For example, entire faith communities can decide to wear the HIV/AIDS Sign of Hope during certain special worship services and ceremonies that focus on this threatening pandemic. They may also provide them in training environments and annual gatherings (Sunday school classes, weekly study classes, seminars, annual meetings and conventions, etc.) as an outward demonstration of their commitment to collectively battle this disease.

Additionally, the HIV/AIDS Sign of Hope may be utilized as an award to those who are going above and beyond the ordinary response to the pandemic and may be combined with a special letter of note or certificate from the presiding officer of their organization. There are many avenues in which this Sign of Hope may be used. Lott Carey will provide these signs to your organization, along with suggested means of using them, in return for a significant contribution from an individual and/or organization that supports the fight against HIV/AIDS.

Churches may participate in this campaign by providing at least \$500 to Lott Carey during the period between March-August 2001, to support the HIV/AIDS Initiative. In return, the church will receive seven signs to be worn by their leaders (pastor, assistant ministers, deacons, deacons, mission leaders, trustees, health ministers, youth leaders, etc.) who are leading the fight against this disease in a more direct



Dr. Howard W. Parker Jr.

and on-going way. An official letter of "thanks" will accompany the signs from the Lott Carey leadership to the church. Also, the church and its chief shepherd/servant will be listed as a leading member of the global Sign of Hope wearers on the Lott Carey Official Website for the entire world to witness their commitment of support. Finally, the church and its HIV/AIDS leadership will be publicly recognized at the Lott Carey Annual Convention in August 2001 in Columbus, Ohio.

To acquire the Lott Carey HIV/AIDS Sign of Hope:

1. An individual may make a contribution of \$10 and receive one sign for each contribution.

2. A church and/or organization may make a contribution of at least \$500 and receive seven signs for each \$500 contribution, a special letter/certificate of "thanks" from the Lott Carey leadership, placement of the name of the church/organization/agency on the Lott Carey Website, and public recognition at the Lott Carey 2001 Annual Convention.

3. Organizations of the church or subsidiaries of other agencies may secure a number of the Lott Carey Signs of Hope for contributions of their members and others in order to provide funds through Lott Carey's HIV/AIDS Initiative to those suffering in this pandemic. The proceeds will benefit the income generating programs of the women of South Africa impacted by HIV/AIDS who produce the signs and support the continuing work of the Lott Carey HIV/AIDS Initiative.

4. The first one thousand churches who give \$500 or more to the Lott Carey HIV/AIDS Initiative by July 31, 2001, will receive special recognition at the Lott Carey Annual Convention in August 2001 and are requested to wear their signs during the convention.

5. The Lott Carey mission site leadership abroad will also especially acknowledge all contributions of \$1,000 or more.

From the Moderator of Moderators' Committee

Role of Trustees

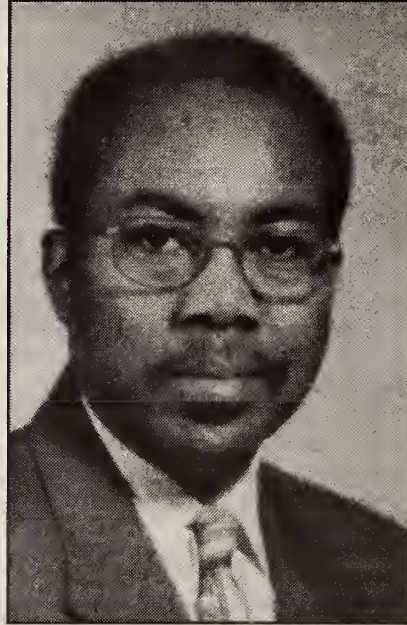
Grace and Peace to all of you, my brothers and sisters!

First, let me commend the General Baptist State Convention's staff and all other persons who contributed to making the workshop possible at the Caraway Convention Center in Sophia, N.C. It was entitled GBSC 2001 Leadership Summit for the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. We received excellent and informative materials relating to legal problems facing churches. Professor Lynn R. Buzzard of Campbell University Law School did an outstanding job. Personally, I believe the convention as a whole could benefit from this type of workshop and I would recommend it. Again, thanks to the staff of the GBSC.

I have chosen this topic, *Role of Trustees*, to discuss with you because it has legal significant. It also has the potential to cause conflict within the church if the role is not properly defined. Because the Role of Trustees has legal and business significant, many churches have mistakenly chosen persons with comparable backgrounds and relying less on spirituality. I think this can be a big mistake when choosing trustees in the church. If there is anyone who should be a Christian, it should be the trustee. Remember that the trustee function has legal and business significant.

The work of trustee in a church will vary according to the structure within which the church operates. In most instances they will be the official group to sign papers and otherwise represent the church in legal matters. They thus will act as the agent of the church in transacting business. In some cases the pastor acts as the agent of the church. It is important that the pastor or the trustees know and have evidence of the authority possessed in acting for the church. If a pastor or trustee enters into a contract outside that authority given them by the church, it could result in personal liability for any loss or damage to the church or any outside party. When acting for the church, there must be clear indication of the role of agent on behalf of the church. This will eliminate any personal liability in the case of a dispute. Advice from an attorney can be helpful in this area.

In some organizational structures trustees may perform additional responsibilities for the church. They may act as the Building and Grounds or Maintenance Committee, the Personnel Committee, or serve in functional areas relating to insurance and



Rev. James W. Smith, J.D.

like matters. However, it is important that they function in a professional, ethical and Christian manner. It is important for trustees to understand that they do not make the decisions for the church. They may recommend and suggest matters they feel will help improve the church. They may recommend and suggest matters they feel will help improve the church. Their primary function is not to make decisions but to carry out decisions and directives of the church. Because of the nature of the Role of Trustee, sometimes trustees take on a 'power mentality.' They forget that the power and authority in the Missionary Baptist Church is vested in the membership.

Let me give just a brief example of something for you to consider. Let's suppose that the church votes to do a project for the church so long as it does not exceed \$15,000. The trustees and or pastor if he is acting as agent decides that they know what is best for the church and enter into a contract to purchase a little more expensive material which ends up costing \$25,000. If the church decides not to ratify the actions of the trustees or pastor, they may be personally liable for the balance over what the church voted on. Just something for you to think about.

If you wish our services in any way, please contact us at the following:

Rev. James W. Smith, JD
5 Bracken Ridge Place
Hillsborough, NC 27278
(919) 479-0501

Rev. W.J. Cox
107 Gray Street, Goldsboro, NC 27534
(919) 751-9899

Dr. Joshua J. Haire Jr.
PO Box 53803, Fayetteville, NC 28305
(910) 323-1508

Pastors, if your church was not registered at the National Congress of Christian Education in Houston, Texas, in June 2001, chances are you have not received a Registration Packet for Charlotte in June 2001. You can get a packet by contacting, Mrs. Merrill-Jean Bailey, General Secretary, Post Office Box 777

Atco, New Jersey 08004

1-856-809-0025 and leave your address. The earlier the better. A special registration day for North Carolina will be held June 16 from noon until 5 p.m. in Charlotte, NC.

Thanks, Jasper

State Ushers News

By Alice W. McNair

Greetings in the name of Jesus!

The Western Union Association, Rev. Marvin T. Clowny, Moderator, held its Annual Cooperative Institute of Training on Feb. 19, 2001, at the Lisbon Street Baptist Church in Clinton, N.C.

The Rev. H.R. Cogdell is pastor. The instructors were: Ministers, Dr. G.K. Moss, Deacons and Trustees, Rev. Jessie Smith, Missionary and Daughters of Zion, Dr. Shirley Bullock, Christian Education and Sunday School, Rev. A. Jamel Johnson, Ushers, Rev. Haywood Gray, Youth, Rev. Eric Underwood and Ms. Pamela Spates, and Laymen's League, Mr. Jarvis Morgan.

Two powerful sermons were heard: Opening night Rev. Reginald Wells, pastor of New Christian Chapel Baptist Church in Rose Hill, N.C.; Closing night, Dr. David Forbes, pastor of Christian Faith Baptist Church in Raleigh, delivered the message.

The Institute was inspiring, educational, and well attended. Mr. Roy Williams is president of Western Union Ushers and Mr. Earlie Melvin is vice president.

First District III Ushers Annual Day will be Sunday, April 22, 2001, at 4 p.m. at the First Mt. Zion Baptist Church at 1515 Remount Road, Charlotte, NC. Dr. C.V. Owens, pastor, will be the speaker. Mt. Zion Choir will render the music. The theme will be "Striving for Success." All ushers are asked to be in full uniform. District III ushers will join First District III in their annual celebration at Mt. Zion. All seniors, young adults, youth ushers, and nurses of Ebenezer, Gaston County, Gold Hill, Guiding Light, Mecklenburg-General, Mt. Peace, Lane Creek, Rising Star and Stanley County Auxiliaries are asked to attend in full uniform.

For more information, contact Brother Forest M. Eaves Jr. District III president.

To all usher presidents who volunteered their services for the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education at the Charlotte Convention Center on June 18-22, rehearsal will be held at the St. Paul Baptist Church at 1401 N. Allen St. in Charlotte, N.C., Dr. G.K. Moss, pastor.

Saturday, April 14, 2001 at 10 a.m. and Saturday, May 12, 2001, at 10 a.m. For more information, contact Brother Forest M. Eaves or fax (704) 372-0014. The host church for this event will be Friendship Baptist, Dr. Clifford A. Jones, pastor.

From the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc., Dr. William J. Shaw, president, ushers, and nurses auxiliaries, Mrs. Sally N. Titus, president; to all co-workers; Our National Baptist Congress of Christian Education will convene in Charlotte, NC. The ushers and nurses will be serving. We will wear our national uniform.

A housing form must be completed with a \$100 deposit and mailed to NBC Housing and Convention Planning at 3340 Lakemont Blvd., Fort Mills, S.C. 29708. Fax # is (803) 802-3668. For housing forms and souvenir book forms, contact Brother Forest M. Evans, First Vice President or Mrs. Nancy High, State Coordinator of State Ushers. Tel. (919) 715-3948.

The one-day session of the N.C. Baptist Ushers Convention was held Saturday, Feb. 24, 2001, at the Benton Convention Center in Winston-Salem, N.C. It has hosted by Dr. James E. Linville and Piney Grove Baptist Church in Winston-Salem. President Charles Fletcher opened the session at 9 a.m. Devotions by Brothers Charles Dunn, Joseph Clyburn and Norman Dorsey.

Music was by Piney Grove Baptist Church. The theme address came from Rev. Theodore Breeden, pastor of Johnson Piney Grove Baptist Church in Clayton, N.C. The theme was Spirit-filled and inspiring. The welcome was given by host pastor, Dr. James T. Linville and response was by Mrs. Belle. President Fletcher made opening remarks and Mrs. Mary Williams gave oratorical contest information. Greetings were given by State Presidents, Layman's League, Central Children's Home, Congress of Christian Education and GBSC president, Dr. John D. Fuller.

A presentation was made to Dr. Logan and Dr. Fuller by the Rev. Victor Clark, whose grandfather, Dr. B.L. Clark, had given General Baptist State Convention \$10,000. The president and executive secretary thanked him graciously.

Mrs. Nancy High, State Coordinator, presented plaques to ushers who had worked long and dutiful over the years. Mr. Arthur Williams made the offertory appeal. Dr. Logan asked for the "Change for Change" offering. Guilford County ushers gave President Charles Fletcher a beautiful plaque for his years of service.

A workshop was given by Dr. Anita Holmes and Dr. Blackstone on health. Dr. Haywood Gray did the workshop for adult ushers. He gave pamphlets and spoke on "It's all about Attitude." Rev. Gray is a master teacher. It was truthful, funny and inspiring. Thank you, Rev. Gray! We will check our attitudes.

Dr. E.B. Turner did the nurses aid workshop. Introduction of the speaker was by Mr. Rosevelt Hopkins. Music was rendered by Carver High School Chorus. Rev. Joseph R. Samuel, pastor of St. Stephens Baptist Church in Winston-Salem chose Philippians 4:6 for his text. His subject was "Don't Let Nothing Worry You." It was a great message. He brought us to our feet with praise and thanksgiving to a good God. President Fletcher made the finance report. The ushers had raised \$27,000 that day and President Fletcher's Church, Bethlehem Baptist Church had donated \$10,000. The total was \$37,000-plus. Thanks President Fletcher and Bethlehem Baptist. That was a great thing to do. The session was well attended. Ushers came by the hundreds, by cars, church vans and buses. A great time in the Lord was had by all.

Deacon Milton T. Johnson, Roberts Chapel Baptist Church, Dr. Samson Buie, pastor, Goldston, N.C., sent an answer to the question: Who was the first ushers, door keepers, or gate keepers in the Old Testament? He gave me four names, but did not tell where to find it in the Bible. I need the name of the Book, chapter and verse. Write again and send additional information and it will be in next month's news, Deacon Johnson. Thanks for sending the answer.

May God bless all of you!

Send news to P.O. Box 105, Newton Grove, N.C. 28366.

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CONTACT: CECIL HOLLAR 919-484-7768

The month of April verifies the presence of Spring in many ways. It provides showers for May flowers, introduces the Baseball season, and heighten our emotional and physical outlook on life among others things. For a moment let's go back to the baseball season. Prior to this time the world of baseball has been busy trying to prepare for the season. They find it necessary to identify, train and select those that are most talented to represent them in the sports world. As I think on this I am confounded by the fact that the consuming public demands the best from the baseball players that freely accepts untrained, untried, and many times uncommitted persons in the world of God's work. As I reflect in retrospect over the past many years the sports world has always set standards of excellence for its performers. Take a moment to look afresh the standards and efforts expended to maintain and surpass these acceptable levels of performance.

Is this common practice or acceptable behavior throughout the carnal world? Let's travel to the Book of Daniel Chapter 1:3-5 for an early view of the world's stated standards and why. "And the King spake to Ashpenaz the master of the eunuchs, that he should bring certain of the children of Israel, and of the King's seed, and of the princes; Children in whom was no blemish, but well favored, and skillful in all wisdom, and understanding science, and such as had ability in them to stand in the King's Palace, and whom they might teach learning and tongue of the Chaldeans. And the King appointed them a daily provision of the King's meat, and a wine which he drank;

A Christian Education Moment

By Dr. Jasper P. Reed, President
Congress of Christian Education

The Month of April: What to Expect

So nourishing them three years that at the end thereof they might stand before the King." This passage deals with a King, a very visible and prominent representative of the carnal world during his time. Let us examine briefly the standards set by him that the children of Israel, the Lord's people, had to meet before they could stand before him as servants in his kingdom. It is obvious, as we look at verse 4 of the text, that he wanted the very best to represent him and his kingdom. Judge for yourself what he the king wanted. Let me see if we can paraphrase this verse in order to make it meaningful to us. He wanted children or if you please, representatives who were without hereditary faults, were good to look upon and mentally alert, intelligent, informed and prudent, possess vigor and strength with minds capable of receiving and imparting instructions and especially able to learn, understand and express the language of the world in which they lived and worked.

What standards do we as Christians and Christian Education workers hold for those

who represents us in the alien world in which we live? Are we as exciting as the ancient world of King Nebuchadnezzar or even the world of sports that we relate to on a daily basis? If we gave God our best how much faster would the world be moving toward peace and harmony? The King, in verse 5, wanted his servants to be trained at least three years before they stood before him. We as Christians should want our servants to be better prepared to do God's work than the workers in the carnal world. Simply put, if we are to win the battle against sin, we must be taught to put on the whole armour of God. This will require that we give unto the Lord our best to share the word in this fight against the devil.

A Christian Education Moment for our Youth and Young-at-Heart Quiz
How well versed are you with your State Congress or Christian Education? You can tell us by letting the "Informer" know.

1. Where was the State Oratorical Conference held in the year 2000?
2. When was it held?



Dr. Jasper P. Reed, President
Congress of Christian Education

3. Where was the National Oratorical Contest held in the year 2000?
4. When was it held?
5. Did the State have a contestant at the National Oratorical Contest?
6. Where will the National Oratorical Contest be held in the year 2001?
7. When will it be held?
8. Where will the State Oratorical Conference be held in the year 2001?
9. When will it be held?

If you failed to answer the above questions please request more information. Please consult the Baptist Informer, your Association or Church for additional information on any of these questions.

Christian Education for the 21st Century

By Portia Brandon, M.Div., Christian Education Coordinator

General Baptist State Convention
Congress of Christian Education
Vacation Bible School Clinics

A total of five Vacation Bible Schools have and are being planned as follows:
Laurel Hill, NC — March 24, 2001
Elizabeth City, NC — March 31, 2001
Far Western, NC — April 21, 2001 (TBA)

Salisbury, NC — April 28, 2001
Mid-Year GBSC — May 6-10, 2001
VBS Clinics

March and April 2001 • 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
Presiding: Janifer S. Campbell, Dean

8:30 a.m. Registration: \$10 per person including lunch

9 a.m. Devotion
Song

Scripture
Prayer
Greetings

9:15 a.m. VBS: Our Mission and review of instruction kits

9:45 a.m. Departmental Sessions
VBS Directors

Adult Department Teachers (Ages 19 and Over)

Youth Department Teachers (Ages 13 thru 18)

Intermediate Department Teachers (Ages 9 thru 12)

Primary Department Teachers (Ages 6 thru 8)

Preschool Department Teachers (Ages 2 thru 5)

11:30a.m. Break

11:45 a.m. Oratorical Update

12 noon Wrap Up

Departmental Reports
Questions and Answers

12:15 p.m. Remarks

Sister Janifer S. Campbell, Dean of the Congress of Christian Education
Dr. Jasper P. Reed, President of the Congress Christian Education

12:30 p.m. Remarks, Grace and Benediction

Host Pastor for the VBS Clinic

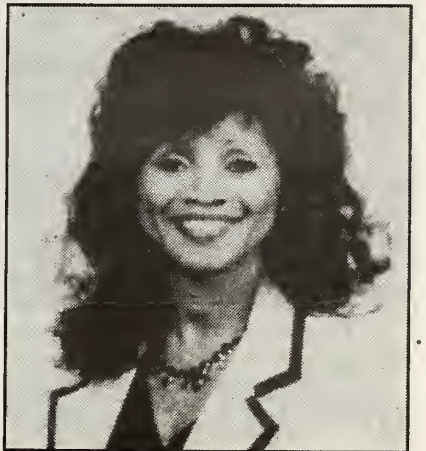
12:45 p.m. Lunch

PLAN YOUR WORK

- The planning committee
- The planning sessions
- Planning the budget

PREPARE THE STAFF

- The training sessions
- The course Components



Portia Brandon, M.Div.
Christian Education Coordinator

BE PRODUCT KNOWLEDGEABLE

- Teacher Manuel
 - Student Manuel and Folders
 - Course Components
- ### PUBLICIZE THE SCHOOL
- Rules to follow
 - When to publicize
 - Ways to publicize

PLAN NOW FOR THE YOUTH SEMINAR

One of the most significant events for the Lott Carey family each year is the Youth Seminar that is held during the summer on the campus of Shaw University in Raleigh, N.C. The 47th Annual Youth Seminar will be held June 23-29, 2001.

The week consists of Bible Study, Mission Action, Small Group Nurture, and Christian Fellowship. The seminar has been a place for us to plant and water seeds of mission consciousness and commitment in the lives of youth. Each year, some young people are inspired to extend themselves further as Christian witnesses in word and deed. To God be the glory!

Registration materials are available beginning January 15, 2001, from the Lott

Lott Carey World Missions

Carey International Office.

Early registration fee is \$180 per person between January 15 and April 30, 2001. Late Registration Fee is \$200 per person May 1 through June 1, 2001. One chaperone is required for every seven youth in attendance. Ages are 14-18 years. Make plans for your youth today!

JOIN US IN A PROJECT FOR LIBERIA

One of the most urgent needs of all our mission partners around the world is transportation. Roads are in disrepair, public transportation is limited, and distances are

great.

During the 103rd Annual Session of Lott Carey that met in Norfolk, Va., our Laymen's League and Women's Auxiliary agreed to jointly sponsor a project to purchase a new 29 seat bus for our Lott Carey Baptist Mission School in Liberia. The superintendent, Dr. Jeremiah Walker, made an appeal during the session that fell on fertile soil. Sister Ethelda King, Women's Auxiliary President, and Brother Johnny L. Duncan, Laymen's League President, both agreed to encourage their respective units to work together to raise the \$40,000

needed for the vehicle.

We will offer a special gift in appreciation for your support of this effort. For each \$30 contribution toward this project, the International Office will forward a copy of the Women's Auxiliary's Centennial Journal that was released at the last Annual Session. The attractive, hard bound, mauve colored souvenir journal holds important historical information about Lott Carey women in mission. It is sure to be a valuable addition to the libraries of all Christian people who live into their commitment to missions around the world.

Please make your contributions soon so that our children in Liberia will have safe and reliable transportation. We don't want to make them wait any longer. Thanks for your help!

The Central Children's Home Corner

To the beloved saints of the General Baptist family and all who love the Lord: "Grace, mercy, and peace from God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord" (I Timothy 1:2b, NKJV).

Throughout His earthly ministry, Jesus had a knack for glorifying the common things and common people. He defended the defenseless, healed the afflicted, received the outcasts, ate with the sinners, delivered the downtrodden, elevated the oppressed, gave worth to women, loved the lepers — you name it, Jesus did it. He shook up the foundation of political correctness and religious self-piety.

Because of Jesus, many insignificant things took on new significance. Light, salt, sparrows, lilies, a crown of thorns, an old rugged cross, a borrowed tomb, bread and wine. Nothing was too small...nobody was too insignificant to merit the attention of our Lord. This brings to mind the fact that in a few weeks, spring will break forth in all its splendor. New life will appear in all its colorful glory. The handiwork of God will once again provide a marvelous array of greenery and pageantry.

In all of this, the common dandelion will make its presence felt. The dandelion is

From the Desk of the 4th Vice President By Rev. Nilous M. Avery II

interesting. It will grow where nothing else will. It is not prejudice, picky, nor persnickety about where it will grow. It will grow in the yard of the rich or the poor. The dandelion could care less about the race, religion, culture, or creed of the yard's owner. It will grow wherever it can take root.

The amazing thing about the dandelion is its ability to persevere — to rise above its surroundings. No matter how high the grass grows or how dry the ground becomes. The dandelion, much to the dismay of many gardeners, will rise above it all!

Some people are like that. They rise above it all. Discouragement and troubles, they RISE! Distress and criticism, they RISE! Limited resources and a succession of failures, they RISE! Red seas in front, pharaohs in the back, mountains on the side, they RISE! Hungry lions, flaming furnaces, high walls, ungrateful murmurers, they RISE!

They rise above it all because, like the dandelion, they understand that nothing can keep them down when they reach up for God's sunshine. They refuse to be smothered and bound by circumstances. The dandelion not only adds color to the drab places of earth. It eventually scatters seed.

The Central Children's Home in Oxford is similar to the dandelion. It has been able to RISE ABOVE IT ALL throughout its existence. It has often been overlooked and unappreciated. But through it all, the "home" provided color in drab places for many young people. A great number have left the home and have become ambassadors of Christ through their service.

Your prayers and support have made this possible. Please continue to be good stewards of this ministry. Rise above the tendency to assume that all is well ... refuse to be smothered by daily routines and "busy-



By Rev. Nilous M. Avery II

ness" that may not always glorify God and edify others. Contact Mr. Michael Alston today and set up a Central Children's Home Day in your church or community. You may also contact me to come and share more about this glorious ministry: (704) 637-0954 (o); (704) 637-1137 (fax) AveryRevKin@gateway.net (e-mail).

I am looking forward to seeing you soon. "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen" (Philippians 4:23, NKJV).



Sister Lucy Wilson, President of New Home and Durham Missionary and Sister Maggie White, President of Woman's Baptist and Foreign Missionary Convention, Inc.

New Home and Durham Missionary Auxiliary Sponsors "Central Children's Home Day"

By Marion G. Miles

On Sunday, Jan. 21, 2001, the New Home and Durham Christian Assembly on Guess Road, Durham, N.C., was the setting for Central Children's Home Day. The event was sponsored by the New Home and Durham Missionary Auxiliary. This was the 28th year the Missionary Auxiliary has sponsored this service. Sister Lucy Wilson is president of the auxiliary, and Rev. James Freeman presently serves as Moderator of the New Home Baptist Association.

We were blessed to have as our guest speaker, Sister Maggie White, president of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of N.C. She was presented by Sister Barbara Faulk, First Vice President of the Durham County Missionary Union. Music for this occasion was

presented by the Northside Baptist Church of Durham. Rev. Brian Irving is pastor.

Mr. Michael Alston, Executive Director of the Central Children's Home, gave an overview of the Central Children's Home. Approximately 50 children and staff members accompanied him.

During the past 28 years, this auxiliary has given more than \$70,000 to the Central Children's Home. The Missionary Auxiliary wishes to say "Thank You" to everyone for support for this cause.

Pictured from left to right are: Sister Lucy Wilson, president of the New Home and Durham Missionary Union and Sister Maggie White, president of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of N.C.

From the Office of the Chairman of the Board of Central Children's Home Rev. N.T. Davis

Peace and Grace be unto you from our God and from His only son Jesus Christ and may the Holy Spirit guide you to the things the Father wants revealed unto us.

Spring is here. New life has begun and the whole earth is full of his Glory.

Planting time is here and we ask that you plant a little love for the Children's Home. If you will, it will come up and God will water it and His sunshine will make it grow and soon it will be harvest time. Please remember us with your prayer and match them with your gifts.

I am asking all Churches, Pastors, Unions, Associations, Missionary Unions, Women's Auxiliary, Clubs, Van Clubs, Eastern Stars, Masonic Lodges to reach out and help us to bring to the Children's Home a first quality of life for our children. These are our children. Pray for them. Adopt one of them. Show your genuine love for Christ by helping them.

A special thank you to all the board members who give of your time so unselfishly and may God bless you all.

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We accept ads by the column inch on a monthly or yearly basis. Due to our non-profit status ONLY ads that directly offer religious services to our member churches will be accepted. The cost of our "information service" will include ONLY the cost of printing your service-related ads.

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SHAW UNIVERSITY NEWS

From the Office of the
Third Vice President

Rev. N.T. Davis

Shaw University and Shaw
Divinity School News

I want to take a few moments to thank the faculty the President and his staff for the fine job you are doing and continuing to do for Shaw and the Divinity School.

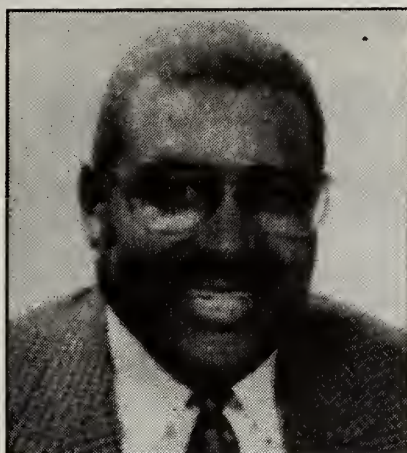
Everything is moving along just fine and graduation is on schedule. Many of our youth will enter the job market for the first time.

We ask your prayers and help for our youth as they begin their career.

The prayer of the righteous prevaileth much, God is still in control. We have come this far by faith.

Summer is just ahead, let us be prepared for his day and season.

God has been with us since the beginning of Shaw in 1865. Let us always remember that we all play a part in the struggle. God really does need us all. We



Rev. N.T. Davis

were created for his glory.

Let us not forget to put Shaw University and Shaw University School in our prayer as well as your budget. Don't forget State Mission, nor the Woman's Convention, Shaw will be having Special Meetings, Summer Training, Leadership Conference and Workshops. Let us support our school.

GBSC Partners with Shaw University to Sponsor the Students for the Choir's 2001 Spring Tour

The Shaw University Choir will leave on its' 2001 Spring Tour next month. The tour will include cities in New York, New Jersey, Florida, Georgia, and North Carolina.

April 6 through April 8, the choir will travel to New York and New Jersey with a concert on Friday, April 6, at 7:30 p.m. at the Trinity Baptist Church, Bronx, N.Y., Rev. Dr. Nathaniel Tyler-Lloyd is the pastor.

On Sunday, April 8, the choir will be in the 11 a.m. worship at the First Baptist Church of Lincoln Gardens in Somerset, N.J., Rev. Dr. DeForest "Buster" Soaries, pastor and in concert at 4 p.m.

April 16 through April 22 will leave on the southeastern portion of the choir and will present concerts in Fort Lauderdale,

Fla. (April 17); Orlando, Fla. (April 18); Savannah, Ga. (April 19); Atlanta, Ga. (April 21); and at the Friendship Missionary Baptist Church in Charlotte on Sunday, April 22, at 5 p.m., Rev. Dr. Clifford Jones, pastor.

The following students who are members of GBSC churches are being partially sponsored by the Convention:

Delois Smith, New Hope Church (Greensboro); Jewelyn Dunn, St. Matthew Church (Raleigh), Tideus Lewis, Central Heights Church (Goldsboro), Mercedes Davis, Tupper Memorial Church (Raleigh), Tramonn Bittle (First Baptist Carolina Park (Laurinburg).

The choir is under the direction of Dr. James Abbington and Lonjeta Cornwall, accompanist.

**Dr. Clifford A. Jones, Sr., Minister and
The Friendship
Missionary Baptist Church Dei-Vision of Music
proudly presents**

THE SHAW UNIVERSITY CONCERT CHOIR

Dr. James Abbington, Conductor In Concert

("Spring 2001 Tour")

Sunday, April 22, 2001 • 5 p.m.

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church Sanctuary

Admission: FREE

For more information contact:

Tony McNeill, Minister of Music

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church

3301 Beatties Ford Road, Charlotte, NC 28216

704-392-0392 or music at: fmbc@yahoo.com

Shaw To Host 28th Annual Ministers' Conference

Shaw University's Divinity School hosted its 28th Annual Ministers' Conference beginning on Sunday, March 18 through Wednesday, March 21, at the Thomas J. Boyd Chapel at Shaw University. The theme for the conference, which was entitled *The James Z. Alexander and Albert W. Pegues Ministers' Conference*, is "Equipping the Saints for the Work of Ministry in the New Millennium."

The speakers for the conference were: Dr. Edward L. Wheeler, President of Christian Theological Seminary, Indianapolis, IN.; Dr. Cynthia Hale, Pastor of Ray of Hope Christian Church, Decatur, GA.; Dr. Cane Hope Felder, Professor for New Testament Language and Literature, Howard

University, Washington, D.C.; Dr. Frederick D. Terry, Pastor of Trinity Presbyterian Church, St. Petersburg, FL.; and Elder Patrick L. Wooden Sr., Pastor of Upper Room Church of God in Christ, Raleigh, N.C.

The conference opened on Sunday, March 18 at 6 p.m. in the Thomas J. Boyd Chapel during Shaw University's weekly Vespers Service. Rev. Wheeler was the speaker for the occasion. He was named president of Christian Theological Seminary by action of the Board of Trustees in May 1997. He was dean of the chapel and professor of religion and society at Tuskegee University before coming to Christian Theological Seminary.

Shaw University Acquires R.L. Vann School Property

Shaw University recently acquired the property known as the R.L. Vann School in Ahoskie, Hertford County, N.C., as a permanent home for its Ahoskie Center for Alternative Programs in Education (CAPE).

The University has nine CAPE programs throughout North Carolina that allow students the opportunity to pursue an academic degree through flexible course scheduling, independent study, and credit for prior learning experiences. Students enrolled at the CAPE sites are predomi-

nantly working adults with families.

Since 1983, the Ahoskie CAPE site has occupied one wing of the school's campus as part of a rental agreement. With the acquisition of the property, the University's land includes three wings and an auditorium. Since its inception, more than 300 students have graduated from Shaw University's Ahoskie CAPE site, including some prominent area leaders.

Several years ago, Shaw University was informed that the facility would soon be completely vacated. This notification prompted

President Talbert O. Shaw to meet with the superintendent of schools to request first priority on purchasing the land. In June 2000, the facility was vacated and the property was turned over to the Board of County Commissioners. Shaw University negotiated the purchase and signed the deed on Dec. 6.

"Shaw University is very grateful to the Hertford County School Board for renting us a wing of the R.L. Vann School for 17 years," said President Shaw. "We are especially grateful to the County for selling the land to the University. This acquisition will allow the University to continue its mission of providing a quality education to persons who would not otherwise be afforded an opportunity to pursue a degree of higher learning. With the help of the county and the leadership of Shaw University Board member Dr. Dimple Newsome and others, the University has made a sound investment that will benefit not only Shaw University, but the citizens of Hertford,

Bertie, Northampton, Martin, Gates, and Halifax counties.

In addition to housing the Ahoskie CAPE site on the property, a committee has been established to explore other uses of the facility. Among the recommendations are:

- Teacher training workshops in preparation for the National Teacher Examination (NTE)
- Tutorial programs for school-aged children
- Child care for adult students taking classes at the Ahoskie CAPE site
- Office space for the West Roanoke Missionary Baptist Association
- Divinity training for ministers
- Smart Start Program
- Meeting place and office space for the Shaw Alumni Association

As part of the purchase agreement, Shaw University agreed that R.L. Vann School Alumni Association may use the auditorium located on the premises.

PRAISE GOD!

The General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc.
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Remember:

Easter Sunday Sunrise Service
April 15, 2001!

Health & Human Services

Submitted by
Dr. Anita Holmes

GBSC Wilson Area Diabetes Education and Outreach Coordinator in the News

Submitted by Dr. Anita P. Holmes
Executive Director Office of Health & Human Services

Edith Barron, Coordinator for the Wilson County GBSC Diabetes Education and Outreach Initiative, was recently featured in three area newspapers — *Making a Difference*, *The North Carolina Diabetes Advisory Council Supplement* to the *Herald-Sun* (Durham) *The Wilson Daily Times* and *The News and Observer* (Raleigh Edition). Mrs. Barron was one of the first persons to complete a special Diabetes Today Training initially offered at three demonstration sites in the Edgecombe, Nash and Wilson County area. The training was part of GBSC Diabetes Education and Outreach Initiative, a partnership between the Health Ministry of the General Baptist State Convention, the Diabetes Prevention and Control Unit of the N.C. Division of Health Services, and the Federal Centers for Disease Control.

Mrs. Barron read about the Convention's new diabetes project in the *Baptist Informer*. She called Joyce Page, who was serving as Project Director for this new GBSC Initiative, and informed her that she and other persons in her church had diabetes and that they readily needed the information. This eventually led to her church, Elm City Missionary Baptist pastored by Rev. Albert Baker, being selected as one of the initial project sites. Upon completion of the training, Mrs. Barron continued to work with her church and later with the Wilson County Missionary Association to expand diabetes education and support opportunities to all the Association's churches and to persons in the surrounding communities. The Association, under the leadership of Rev. Talmadge Watkins, formed a Health and Wellness Support Group that is coordinated by Mrs. Barron. Rev. Billie Coley serves as President. The current Moderator, Rev. Elijah Harris, and other members of the Association continue to support his initiative. The Auxiliary is presently preparing for its second health education series as part of the Association's Annual March Training Institute.

The GBSC Diabetes Education and Outreach Initiative serves as (1) a model program for providing diabetes education and outreach through the faith community,

(2) a provider of diabetes education and outreach to congregation members of affiliated churches and the communities they serve, and (3) a facilitator or bridge between human resource agencies and the faith community. Since the initiation of this project, training has been expanded to several additional sites. Further information about this project and other sites may be found in the Convention's 1999/2000 *Annual Report* or by contacting Anita Holmes at the Office of Health and Human Services. The Health and Human Services Advisory Committee is chaired by Rev. Cornelius Moore, Pastor, St. James Baptist Church. Ann Johnson, Education and Community Development Specialist with the State Diabetes Prevention and Control Unit, assists the Convention with Diabetes Today training and support.

Ms. Barron's Story (*The class referenced in the following article found in the March 2001 edition of "Making a Difference in Diabetes" refers to a diabetes class Mrs. Barron took at Wilson Technical Community College to further increase her knowledge and control of diabetes AND to share with others*):

MS. BARRON'S STORY

Wednesday's class was a success in Edith Barron's eyes. Although much of the information presented was a refresher course for her, sharing other's experiences helps, she said.

"It's always good to hear what other people have to say," she said "You hear that they are going through some of the same things you are."

Barron told her classmates about being diagnosed while she was pregnant. It came as a surprise.

Her grandmother's sister was a diabetic. Her daughter has diabetes, but her son, Michael, has tested negative for the disease.

When she was diagnosed, doctors began treating Barron's illness with pills to control blood glucose levels. She had to give herself an insulin shot if her blood sugar was more than 200.

After Jamie was born, Barron was able to get her diabetes under control with a combination of the pills and proper diet and exercise.

She would check her blood sugar every morning and then again at night. She

had to take her pill regardless, but only if her sugar was high did she have to give herself a shot.

But, as she now realizes, Barron made one dreadful mistake. When it looked like her diabetes was under control, she went back to her old habits.

"I wasn't extreme," Barron said, "but I did not control it."

For four or five years, she did not take the proper steps to control her disease. She didn't eat as healthy as she should have. She didn't take care of her skin and feet.

"And diabetes is a disease that if you do not make it your business to control it, it will control you," Barron said.

And it did.

After so many years of not taking good care of herself, Barron started having trouble with her teeth and gums. Her gums were constantly infected. She lost all but five of her teeth.

The disease attacked her eyes.

"I would wake up and it would feel like grit all in my eyes," she said.

Barron has had laser and retinal reattachment surgeries on her eyes. She can still drive during the day but has no night vision.

Barron's feet have also been damaged by diabetes. She can walk and get around on her own, but she doesn't have much feeling in her feet.

Two years ago, Barron was told that her diabetes was affecting her kidneys, and she may have to start dialysis.

But for about a year after that, she got along fine. Then, on Feb. 11, Barron had congestive heart failure. By Feb. 14, doctors had started her on dialysis.

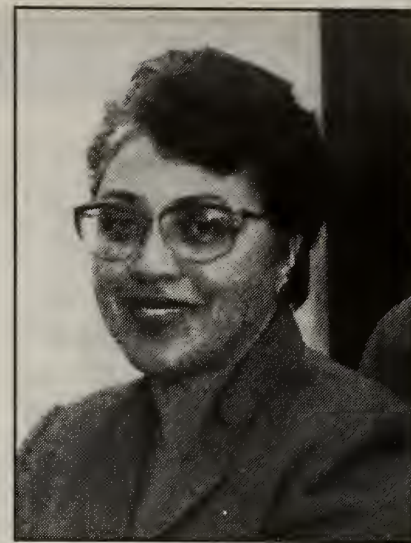
When she first started treatment, "I would sit there and cry and cry," she said.

But after talking several times with an elderly man who eventually lost both of his legs to diabetes, "I told myself, 'you can sit around here feeling sorry for yourself or you can take control and keep going.'"

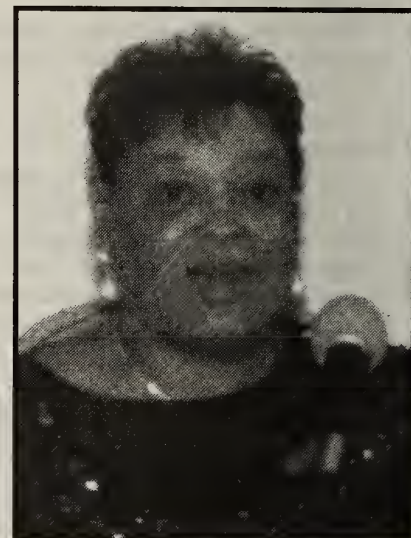
And so she did.

Barron's husband was a minister for several years at Elm City Missionary Baptist. There were several members of the congregation who had diabetes and other diseases, such as high blood pressure, prostate cancer and breast cancer.

The General Baptist State Convention,



Dr. Anita Holmes



Edith Barron at Diabetes Today Training Recognition Banquet, Rocky Mount.

of which Elm City Missionary Baptist Church is an affiliate member, was selected as one of the pilot churches for implementing the Diabetes Today Church Outreach Initiative. One of the activities included organizing a diabetes support group. The diabetes support group, which was started in 1997 as a result of the partnership with General Baptist State Convention and North Carolina Diabetes Prevention and Control Unit, continues to exist today.

Barron was one of several individuals from the three churches who were trained in Diabetes Today program sponsored by NCDPC. The support group meets on the second Saturday of each month from noon until 2 p.m. at the church.

The program has been in place three years, and Barron said in the group helps get her through tough times.

"I've found that when I'm by myself, I will do the way I want to do," she said. "But when I can be around people who know where I am coming from, who are in my shoes, it makes me think more.

"...Discussing it makes the fear go away, it makes the frustration go away."

The Union County Missionary Union Special Feature Program Black History Month

Today in observance of Black History month, we honor and recognize one of our very own.

This special lady grew upon the Marshville Township of the county. She was educated in the Union County Public School System. She possesses several exceptional qualities such as: commitment, dedication, faithfulness, unselfish sacrifice of her time, and full use of her talents. She is truly a willing worker for the Lord.

She has received several awards and recognition for her many years of dedicated service as President of the NAACP, NC State Membership Chairperson, Member of the State Registration Team, and also served as

Saturday, February 17, 2001

*In Recognition of Sister Louisiana Robinson
43 Years of Faithful Service as Secretary
of the Union Thank You!*

You have been a blessing to The Union.

President of the Missionary Circle at Walkers Grove Baptist Church, Wingate, North Carolina.

Today we have the privilege of honoring and recognizing our own. She has served as

Secretary of the Union County Missionary Union for more than 40 years. We commend her for her faithful service.

This special lady is — Sister Louisiana Robinson. Sister Robinson we honor you

today for a job well done. The service you have given speaks for you. We thank God for you, and your willingness to serve. You have been a blessing to the Union County Union.

We say thank you! On behalf of the Union County Missionary Union, President Wimberly, along with all the past and present officers. Sister Robinson, we thank you for your kind and humble spirit, as you served faithfully for so many years. You have set a good example of a willing worker for the cause of Christ in your service as secretary to the Union County Union. Thank you, Sister Robinson, for your faithful service.

FAITH AND FITNESS

Action Plus Faith Equals Results

By Charolette Leach

Last month was a strong encouragement for us to **do something** to improve our overall health. This does not have to equate to drastic means, but can be small steps that we know we should be taking. It could be cutting back by one serving the amount of meat that we eat for dinner and replacing it with an additional vegetable serving. It could mean determining that **I will** take a 10-minute walk during my break at least three days out of the workweek. It could mean that **I will** take the stairs rather than the escalator or elevator, when the opportunity arises.

The group of us that have been meeting at my church for about six months for exercise and to discuss nutrition, decided that we wanted to do something. We meet three times per week for walking or aerobics and on Saturday morning we meet to discuss nutrition for 30 minutes in our class entitled "Nutrition for Quality Life." During those 30 minutes, we discuss facts about fat, cholesterol, or vitamins to have knowledge about nutrition and we also discuss ways to improve the overall quality of what we eat and drink. We include a brief scripture lesson, because we know that it is the Word that is going to sustain and encourage us.

Our lesson on this past Saturday focused on the first three verses of the 12th Chapter of Hebrews, which states:

Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.

Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.

The end of the first verse states "And let us run with patience the race that is set before us." Every aspect of our Christian journey can be envisioned as a race. And as is the case in most instances, our race of becoming and remaining healthy must be viewed as a marathon and not a sprint. There are no quick fixes regarding becoming healthy. The changes that we must incorporate into our lives must be life-long. **Yes, we must make exercise and proper nutrition a way of life.** That is a simple fact that is not going away, if our goal is

for life-long health.

Because this race is a life-long endeavor, we see that patience and endurance are necessary. The focus on this scripture was deliberate, in order to remind the group that even if the results that we are working toward are slow in coming, that we must have patience and endurance. We must not be wearied and faint in our mind as we are reminded in verse 3.

We are also reminded of what Jesus endured on the cross. God is good in giving us what we need and reminds us that we can look to Jesus who is the author and finisher of our faith.

Our group began meeting in September of 2000 and we currently have about 10 who are dedicated and committed. Of course, the major goal of most of the group is to lose weight. And God in his faithfulness allowed some praise reports to come forth on this past Saturday. Weight is being lost, along with inches. Clothes are beginning to fit more comfortably. The one comment that was stated by several of the ladies that was the most rewarding was "I have more energy throughout the day."

Research has shown that improving and maintaining our health has so many benefits. One of the major benefits is just what



Charolette H. Leach, M.S.

the ladies are experiencing and witnessing to, more energy. Other benefits are a sharper mind and being able to concentrate better. Improving our health helps all aspects of our life and in the end will aid us in being better equipped to handle the work that God has assigned to us.

If we take steps to **Do something** and begin some **Action** toward improving our health and then stay focused on Jesus, the author and finisher of our **Faith**, we can expect **Results** that will allow us to feel better, to have more confidence in our abilities, and to be more effective in running the race that God has assigned to us.

God insures that if we take the action and then add some faith that the results will come. **Action plus faith equals results. Be blessed!**

He Is Risen

be afraid! I know you are looking for Jesus. Who was nailed to a cross. He isn't here! God has raised him to life, just as Jesus said he would. Come, see the place where his body was lying. Now hurry! Tell his disciples that he has been raised to life and is on his way to Galilee. Go there, and you will see him. That is what I came to tell you." The women were frightened and yet very happy, as they hurried from the tomb and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and greeted them. They went near him, held on to his feet, and worshipped him. Then Jesus said, "Don't be afraid! Tell my followers to go to Galilee. They will see me there." The Resurrection story appears in the Gospels.

TAKE AN *S.A.T.

*Scripture Awareness Test

1. What natural disaster occurred in Jerusalem when Jesus died?
2. Where were the disciples when Jesus died?
3. Who was Joseph of Arimathea?

4. What did Caiaphas ask Pilate to do?
5. What were the women taking to the tomb on the third day?
6. What did Peter and John think had happened to Jesus' body?
7. Who was the first person to see Jesus after he was resurrected?
8. Who bribed the guards to say they were asleep when Jesus' body disappeared?
9. Which disciple was not present when Jesus appeared to his followers the first time?
10. What miracle happened when the disciples threw their nets on the other side of the boat?
11. What did an angel say to the disciples after Jesus ascended to heaven?

ANSWERS:

TAKE AN S.A.T.

1. An earthquake occurred.
2. They were hiding at a house in the city.
3. He was the man who asked Pilate for Jesus' body.
4. He asked Pilate to place guards at the tomb.



Delores Griffey

5. They were taking spices and ointments.
6. They thought it had been stolen.
7. The first person to see Jesus was Mary Magdalene.
8. The chief priests bribed the guards.
9. Thomas was not in the room.
10. They caught so many fish they could not pull in their nets.
11. The angel said Jesus would come again.



By Delores Griffey

The Sabbath was over, and it was almost daybreak on Sunday when Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. Suddenly a strong earthquake struck, and the Lord's angel came down from heaven.

He rolled away the stone and sat in it. The angel looked as bright as lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. The guards shook from fear and fell down, as though they were dead.

The angel said to the women, "Don't

Faith Community Making A Difference — Apex Community Outreach & Mentor Program

By Carol Smith, Managing Editor

Pastors Lafayette Maxwell, David Dolby and Mark Royster Sr. are not only in agreement in their theological belief, but they, along with their respective congregations, are in perfect harmony when it comes to the value in educating the youth of their community.

The Mount Zion Baptist Church, Christian Chapel United Church of Christ, Cedar Rock Missionary Baptist church and the New Hill Baptist Church have combined their resources to form

the Apex Community Outreach, a determined group of volunteers to help improve the academic success of their youth.

On Saturday, Feb. 24, the group sponsored a homework and study skills workshop. The workshop provided an opportunity for 31 elementary, middle and high school students and their parents to receive instructions on how to improve their study skills. In addition to learning new and better study techniques, the session leaders shared the

new promotion standards and information on the end of grade and course testing.

Workshop leaders were Dorothy Johns, counselor at Apex Middle School, Barbara Harris, counselor at Fuquay Elementary School and John Ward, director of the Apex Youth Initiative.

It is hoped that this group will become a conduit for students and parents to obtain additional professional assistance that is available through the

public school system. Therefore, in addition to this workshop and others planned for the future, the group has adopted the Apex Elementary School and provides tutors and mentors for grades K-12 on a regular basis.

For more information, please contact Pastor Mark R. Royster Sr. at 932-2741, day phone or 942-7501 in the evening or Doug Walls, 467-1765, Francis Bullock, 231-1647, Jackie Lee, 362-0692, Delores Curtis, 362-8129 and Dixie Newsome, 460-9385.

UPDATE: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE



RONALD — Birthday: April 1, 1995
NELSON — Birthday: May 22, 1997

Introducing Ronald and Nelson:

Ronald and Nelson enjoy going to the park, playing games and having cookouts with their extended foster family. These

brothers are very close and are both quite affectionate.

A Closer Look at Ronald:

Ronald is a curious little boy who likes to play ball, swim, play with his toys and give his foster mom big hugs. He is eager to learn. At school Ronald gets help with his speech and attends a special classroom that helps him with other needs. Ronald is working hard at learning to share his toys and be friends with other children.

A Closer Look at Nelson:

Blues Clues and Little Bear easily capture Nelson's attention. Besides watching TV, his favorite thing to do is to fill his little backpack with his toys and treasures and carry it around the house. Nelson is a quiet little boy and shy around new people or situations. Nelson attends therapy to help with his speech, physical and oral-motor delays and he has made a lot of progress.



ANGEL Birthday: June 25, 1985
 Introducing Angel:

"I like to play sports and I like to sing. When I grow up I want to be a hairdresser. If I could go anywhere in the world, I would go to Sea World. My favorite colors are lime green and blue." Angel also likes to roller skate, sing in the church choir and partici-

pate in youth group activities, step dance and play varsity softball. She seeks stability in her life and looks realistically, but hopefully, toward the future.

Angel's social worker says, "Angel is a very resilient young woman who has made a tremendous effort over the past year to improve her life and relationships with others." She attends a special class at school to help her focus on studies and where she gets additional help in other areas.

A Family for Angel:

Angel is an older teenager who still needs the love, structure and security that only a permanent family can provide. She needs a family who can provide the patience and understanding necessary to raise an active teen. A stable and warm environment will help Angel feel secure and accepted and give her the attention she deserves. She has thrived in a home with a single mother and she loves to be the center of attention. Angel has a sister with whom she would like to keep in touch and hopes her new family will understand and agree. (NC #092-371)

For more information on these children, or adoption in general, please call 1-877-625-4371.

Adoption and Foster Care: Reflections of an Advocate

By Sheila Crump,
 Founder, Executive Director
 Sheila Crump Outreach Ministries,
 Inc., Moncure

I am writing to share the joy and excitement, and the blessings that I have experienced since becoming a volunteer Advocate/Spokesperson and Recruiter for the **NORTH CAROLINA AFRICAN-AMERICAN FAITH COMMUNITIES United for Children: Adoption and Foster Care**, the outreach arm of the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry. For me, it was a move whose time had come, and I am grateful to have been invited to work as a Volunteer Special Assistant to Dr. Joseph C. Paige, former President and Dean, and one of my most dedicated professors at the Shaw Divinity School.

You see, I am a minister in the United Church of Christ. And, hopefully, my colleagues in the GBSC sponsored North Carolina African-American Faith Communities United For Children: Adoption and Foster Care, will include other ministers and members of the United Church of Christ, AME, AME Zion, Seven Day Adventists and the various holiness and Pentecostal faiths, in addition to Baptist (Freewill, Missionary and Independent) — all of us working for the cause of our children — African-American children.

Our Mandate is two-fold:

1. To identify African-American singles and couples who are interested in becoming adoptive and/or foster care parents for African-American children already in the Foster Care System of the N.C. Division

of Social Services, and

2. To advocate, motivate and stimulate interest among African-American single and couples of the various faith communities in becoming adoptive and/or for parents for African-American children already in the Foster Care System of the N.C. Division of Social Services.

Part of my excitement comes from the number of people who call me each week expressing interest in adoption and/or foster care. Others want to volunteer their services. These are concerned fellow Americans, African-Americans or black Americans or Negroes, whatever ethnic designation you prefer, all of us coming together and working together to help our children find homes. Permanent homes for children adopted and temporary homes for children in foster care. The immediate long range goal, of course, is permanency — BRIDGING THE GAP TO PERMANENCY.

I feel blessed. I have five volunteers working with me and we made ten adoption referrals during the months of February and March.

The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care has made a difference in North Carolina. It serves as a national model for other states. We still need more volunteers.

While I am concerned and recruit statewide, I have agreed to be responsible for the following counties: Chatham, Moore and Lee. I will also do extended work in Orange, Alamance and Randolph counties.

For additional information, please call me at (910) 387-1728 or write me at: Rev. Sheila Crump, Outreach Ministries, Inc., P.O. Box 19, Moncure, N.C. 27559.

ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

Ministry of the GBSC State & Convention of N.C., Inc.

By Dr. Joseph C. Paige, Chairperson

Greetings and Peace on the name of Jesus Christ. We would like to request your active participation and support of the North Carolina African-American Faith Communities United for Children: Adoption and Foster Care.

This Initiative is a cooperative partnership between the General Baptist State Convention and Human Services, Division of Social Services. Ours is an exciting and challenging journey, and a real opportunity to make a serious contribution to a real serious cause at this time.

The African-American Children's Initiative Adoption and Foster Care, as a cooperative church-based effort designed to help identify African-American single persons and couples who are interested in adoption African-American children or becoming foster parents to African-American children. This initiative is based on the fact that every child deserves a long, nurturing and caring home.

At the present time, there are many African-American children in the North Carolina Foster Care System, both boys and girls, who are currently eligible for this effort. The goal is to help speed up the adoption process. Time is of profound essence. There is also an urgency to identify potential Foster Care parents.

We are anxious to make a real difference within the next few months and we can do this only with your help. Volunteers will receive additional guidance from us on marketing strategies in your respective areas just as soon as I hear from you. In addition, we are in the process of soliciting and identifying volunteers to work with us throughout the state in the following categories, and we are requesting your assistance.

1. County Adoption/Foster Care Recruitment Volunteer Coordinators (one volunteer for each county).
2. Church Adoption/Foster Care Recruitment Volunteer Coordinators (one per church)
3. We are also requesting Adoption/Foster Care Recruitment Volunteer coordinators to work with us at the town, city, and area levels, to help us spread the word that all children need and deserve a loving and caring home.

If you agree to serve as a volunteer or if you know someone who is willing to serve with us, write me today and mail it to me at the address below:

Dr. Joseph C. Paige, Chairperson
 The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry
 PO Box 24273, Raleigh, NC 27611-5273

Please don't hesitate to call me if you have any questions (919) 231-9774. Or you can e-mail me at JoePaigeSr@aol.com or you can also e-mail me at JoePaigeSr@aol.com.

I look forward to working with you.

\$1,000 BONUS! BONUS! BONUS!

We have decided, as our special way to say "Thank You," to provide a personal bonus of \$1,000, to the first individual, church or association that recruits a minimum of 20 potential adoptive and/or foster parents each month for the next five months (February, March, April, May and June) or a total of 100 recruits (verified) by June 30, 2001. Only one bonus of \$1,000 will be given. Persons interested in competing for the "bonus" should call, write or e-mail us!

Dr. Joseph C. Paige or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige, 2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27610; 919-231-9774; Fax 919-212-3656; E-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com or dotteddem@maxxconnect.net

WANTED!!

- ADOPTED PARENT • FOSTER CARE PARENT
 - VOLUNTEER ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE ADVOCATES
- URGENT!

Please contact: Dr. Joseph C. Paige or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige
 2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27610
 919-231-9774; Fax 919-212-3656; or e-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com
 or dotteddem@maxxconnect.net

MORE ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

By Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr.
and Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige

Again, with your continuing prayers, help and support, and with God's continuing blessings, the year 2001 will be an unprecedented banner year, for recruiting African-American adoptive and foster parents in our great state of North Carolina.

Greetings in the BLESSED NAME of our LORD and SAVIOR, JESUS CHRIST!

The year 2001 has indeed been a blessing for our ministry; hence, an unprecedented blessing to African-American children already in the North Carolina Foster Care System. **GOD IS GOOD! And we lift Him up with continuing praise and thanksgiving.**

January, February and March were delightfully encouraging.

Our prayers are that you too, experienced an outpouring of God's joy and blessings, both corporately and individually during this period. And, like me and our ministry, you are claiming even greater joys, successes and victories during the month of April.

We have claimed the doubling of our referrals for adoptive and/or foster parents during the month of April. **It will happen! God has empowered us** to be the guiding force in our state on matters of adoption and foster care for African-American children. Our support is growing not just among Baptists, but among the partnering faith communities as well. The organization of **The North Carolina Faith Communities united for Children: Adoption and Foster Care**, the outreach arm of the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry, and a vision from God, inspired by God and being directed by the Heavenly Leadership of the Holy Spirit, and we pray, listen and patiently wait for God's guidance.

A TRIPLING OF INTEREST

We recognize that these are all God's doing — a manifestation and reflection of His Spirit and His Special Blessings, all of the good things that are happening to us:

1. The daily phone calls requesting information have tripled. Our phones and answering machines are almost always busy.

People are calling from all over the state, wanting to discuss adoption and/or foster care.

2. E-mail traffic has increased incredibly, with inquiries averaging now between 30 to 40 e-mails per day. People are offering their services and assistance. Some are inquiring about adoption.

3. Invitations to speak and make presentations before meetings of **cooperating faith communities**, social and civic organizations, and before concerned groups have doubled. They want to learn more about our ministry. They are concerned. They want to help. **GOD IS WORKING WONDERS FOR US!** He is rewarding obedience and hard work!

Again, **ALL OF THIS IS VERY TOUCHING!** The commitment to help make a difference in the lives of our children is so overwhelming. Again, we must repeat, God continues to bless our efforts. And, as the song goes, **"Blessings after blessings keep on coming our way,"** and we continue to give God the glory, the honor and the praise!

THE EVERY CHURCH ADOPT ONE PROJECT

THE EVERY CHURCH ADOPT ONE initiative continues to gain broad support statewide, among the various faith communities and again, we give God the glory and the praise. This is an interfaith initiative, and we strongly encourage all churches to join us in this special challenge and opportunity. Join the growing number of churches uniting for children. This **HELPING AND CARING MINISTRY** is being pushed by moderators, conference leaders, elders, bishops, ministers, and assorted church laity. Many church missionary departments have designated this ministry as a primary focus for the year 2001.

For additional information, please call, write or e-mail us! Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr. or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige, 2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, N.C. 27610; (919) 231-9774; Fax: (919) 212-3656; e-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com or dottiedem@maxxconnect.net.

VOLUNTEERS

As I state repeatedly, while the response

for adoption and foster care volunteers has been incredibly successful statewide, we are still seeking additional volunteers to help spread the word. People from all walks of life, clergy, laity (men and women) and missionaries, representing practically all of the African-American faith communities have responded to God's call (and it is God calling all to "help his little children") to help find loving homes for His children. We thank God for the generous time and energy our volunteers give to our effort. We now have adoption and foster care volunteers coordinators in most counties and in both rural and urban areas, and from county civic and social organizations. They all believe as we do, that every child deserves a loving and caring home, and they are committed to helping make this happen. A special thanks to the Moderators, Pastors and Presidents of auxiliaries for your continued support.

Again, we are seeking additional volunteers to work with us. Please contact us. We will send you recruitment forms and related materials.

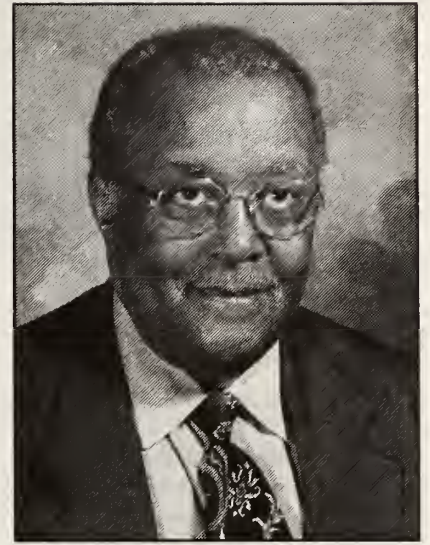
Please call, write or e-mail us! Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr. or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige, 2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, N.C. 27610; (919) 231-9774; Fax: (919) 212-3656; e-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com or dottiedem@maxxconnect.net.

TRAINING OF VOLUNTEERS

Again, we thank NAY-KEL for assisting us in training of volunteers. Paul and Evelyn Jervay, owners and co-Publishers of *The Carolinian*, and NAY-KEL founders, assisted by Pamela W. Taylor and Letisha Anderson, continue to play special roles in our training efforts.

SPECIAL STAFF

Joycelyn Curry, our UNC-CH Intern, is helping us to identify contacts in underserved areas. Evangelist Michele Montgomery, continues to work with the media and as a special volunteer assistant. She is indispensable. Rev. Shelia Crump, Rev. Jon Murphy and Linda Murphy, and Dr. James T. Roberson and Ms. Beverly Roberson serve us well as volunteer Adoption and Foster Care Advocates. We are grateful that they are willing to take time from their already



Dr. Joseph C. Paige

busy schedules to work with us.

THE OFFICE STAFF

Rev. Anthonette Wright, Director of Church Relations and Regional Consultant, and Earl Horton, Director of Public Relations and Consultant, are people to watch in the Adoption and Foster Care Ministry. Rev. Wright is a graduate of Appalachian State University and the Shaw Divinity School. Earl Horton is a graduate of A&T University. Rev. Wright has responsibility for the western and central counties of the state, including the following five target counties in this region: Buncombe, Guilford, Gaston, Mecklenburg, Forsyth. Mr. Horton has responsibility for the eastern counties and five target counties in this region: Wake, Durham, Cumberland, New Hanover and Robeson.

You may contact Rev. Wright or Mr. Horton as indicated below:
Rev. Anthonette Wright, GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry, 211 W. Martin Street, Suite 120, Raleigh, NC 27601; 919-754-8800; e-mail: Nwrightgbsc@aol.com or Mr. Earl Horton GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry, 211 W. Martin Street, Suite 120, Raleigh, NC 27601; 919-754-8333; e-mail gbsceh@aol.com.

SHARE THE VISION WITH US!! HELP US SPREAD THE WORD THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC. & THE NORTH CAROLINA AFRICAN-AMERICAN FAITH COMMUNITIES UNITED FOR CHILDREN: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

Making A Difference in the Life of a Child

Finding Adoptive and Foster Care Homes for African-American Children

The North Carolina African-American Faith Communities United for Children, a partnership with North Carolina Division of Social Services, is comprised of African-American congregations and community organizations from across the State, NAY-KEL and the North Carolina Association of Black Social Workers committed to finding adoptive and foster homes for African-American children.

Yes, I'd like to do my part ...

Please complete and return to Dr. Joseph Paige.

I'd like someone to call me.

Please send me information about adoption. Please send me information about foster care.

I'd like to be a field worker.

I am interested in being an adoptive parent. I'd like to be a county volunteer.

I am interested in being a foster care parent.

I'd like to be a church volunteer. Other (please specify)

Name _____

Phone Number _____

Address _____

City

State

Zip

County: _____

Contact Dr. Joseph C. Paige at 2610 Albemarle Ave., Raleigh, NC 27610, 919-231-9774, 919-618-8343, mobile • e-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com

The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. and the N.C. African-American Faith Communities United for Children: Adoption and Foster Care Finding Adoptive & Foster Care Homes For African-American Children

Touch a Life Forever ... ADOPT!

Children waiting for adoptive families are ...

- Sisters and brothers who want to be adoptive together
- Children who have experienced neglect, abuse or abandonment
- Older children who want a permanently family
- Children who need families who care and are willing to make a lifetime commitment

You can adopt if you ...

- Are single, married or divorced
- Can provide a stable home
- Have the ability to care for a child not born to you
- Are willing to take on the responsibilities, joys and challenges of parenting

Families who adopt ...

- May be homeowners or renting
- May have a fixed income
- May be an adult of any age

North Carolina Needs More Foster Homes

Thousands of children in North Carolina, ranging in age from infants to 18 years old, enter the foster care system each year. These children may have been neglected, abused, or abandoned and need a safe place to stay temporarily. The number of children coming into care is increasing faster than the number of foster homes in our state.

You Can Become A Foster Parent If You ...

- Are between the ages of 21 and 65
 - Are willing to be fingerprinted and have a criminal record check
 - Have a stable home and income
 - Are able to provide a safe, temporary place for children until they can be in a permanent home
 - Complete all required training and be licensed by the State of North Carolina
- You do not have to be married, wealthy or own your own home to be a foster parent.**

MORE ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

By Dr. James T. Roberson and Mrs. Beverly Roberson
Volunteer Adoption and Foster Care Advocates

It is our pleasure to again greet you in the BLESSED NAME of our LORD and SAVIOR, JESUS CHRIST.

And again, we bring you greetings from THE NORTH CAROLINA AFRICAN-AMERICAN FAITH COMMUNITIES UNITED FOR CHILDREN: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE, the outreach arm of the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry.

We are pleased to report that God continues to bless our ministry. February and March were exciting months for all of us. Our ministry is highly respected among the cooperating Faith Communities, and we

Bridging The Gap To Permanency

have emerged as a national model for other states. We give God the Glory!

Many new referrals were made during the months of February and March. Likewise, several persons agreed to serve as volunteer recruiters during this period. Again, we thank you — the people in the field, **singles (males and females) and couples**, concerned and caring African-Americans, for opening your hearts and your homes for our children. Our goal is to **"BRIDGE THE GAP TO PERMANENCY"** and **with your continuing prayers and support, we can.**

As advocates and spokespersons for this important ministry, we are buoyed, so to

speak, when you respond to our pleas for help. We are adoptive parents, and we understand the concerns one must consider and the planning, and personal adjustments necessary, for the new adoptive and/or foster parents. In recruiting foster parents, our desire and prayers are that the foster parent-child relationship will ultimately lead to adoption, and a permanent home. Again, we believe strongly that **every child deserves a home — a loving, caring, nurturing and supportive family.**

While we thank God for all of our successes to date, we are still seeking additional volunteers to work with us at the state, regional and local levels. We need

more people to help us spread the work! We need more people to advocate for us at meetings, or radio, TV, and in social and work settings.

Both of us are committed to doing all that we can to help "BRIDGE THE GAP TO PERMANENCY" You can help us by becoming an adoptive and/or foster parent. or, you can become a volunteer Adoption and Foster Care Advocate, as we are, helping us identify potential adoptive and/or foster parents and by helping us spread the word that there are gross disparities in the adoption of African-American children already in the North Carolina Foster Care System.

Please contact us, Dr. James T. and Beverly Roberson, office, 919-549-8570; or Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr. or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige, 919-231-9774.

From the Office of Institutional and Specialized Ministries

Crime and Justice

By Michael R. Smith Sr., Chairman

"You shall appoint judges and officers in your gates, which the Lord your God gives you, according to your tribes, and they shall judge the people with just judgment. You shall not pervert justice; you shall not show partiality, nor take a bribe, for a bribe blinds the eyes of the wise and twist the words of the righteous. You shall follow that which is altogether just, that you may live and inherit the land which the lord your God is giving you." Deuteronomy 16:18-20a

Justice is defined as "The upholding of what is just, especially fair treatment and due reward in accordance with honor, standards, or law."

The American Heritage College Dictionary, 3rd Edition, (Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston), 1993, p. 738.

The Rodney King court verdict is the early nineties resulted in the slogan "NO JUSTICE, NO PEACE." After the verdict, communities became gatherings for mobs who retaliated by robbing, looting, and assaulting people. The reality is when a society no longer pursues the goal of justice in response to crime; the result will always be social disorder and chaos. Criminal acts demand a response for true justice. Our judicial system is supposed to pursue the goal of justice in response to criminal behavior. The laws of our land are supposed to be just laws that are fair to all people. So my question is, where do we find our point of reference for what is true justice? This question is critical today because we live in a postmodern society. Many people today no longer believe in absolute truth. Many believe all truth is relative, meaning what is true depends on an individual's personal opinion. No longer is God the standard point of reference for what is right or wrong. This mindset has led to a secularized American society, a society where God's truth is being removed from the public arena and social life. That is why recently a court judge had to fight to keep the Ten Commandments up in his courtroom. He also was scrutinized for beginning his day

in court with prayer. Why? When God is not wanted in the public arena, people believe outward signs of faith are imposing one's particular beliefs or values on them. Therefore, your personal religious beliefs should be privatized and kept to yourself. The recent confirmation of Attorney General John Ashcroft is another example of how a person of strong Christian convictions will be severely scrutinized by this secular mindset.

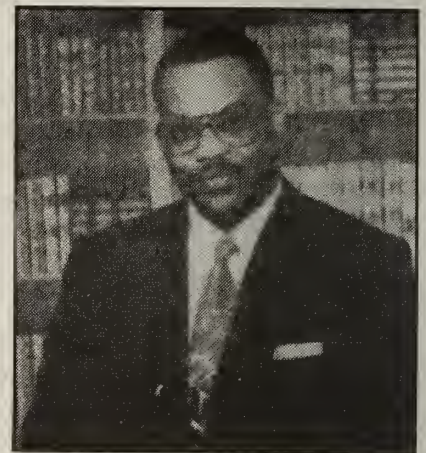
This leads to my main point. When the truth of God is no longer welcome in our society, what will happen to the pursuit of justice in response to crime? What point of reference will those in the judicial system go by in seeking justice? What standard of right and wrong will be the norm? In many criminal cases, we are beginning to see the pursuit of justice is no longer the goal. Our prisons are filling up at an alarming rate largely fueled by "conspiracy laws" that target not only the actual offender, but also persons who through prior association can be tried and convicted as well.

It is just to give someone the same amount of time in prison and they were not personally involved in the "actual crime?" Another perversion of justice is in the area of "plea bargains?" This is where a person can bargain for a lesser sentence by confessing to a crime. In some cases a crime that they did not commit, but they had no legal way out of the trial. Plea bargains are an option only for the purpose of reducing court costs and expediency. Our courts are so bogged down with cases, justice is no longer the goal, but the goal is how can we get this case out of the way as quickly and cost effectively as possible. The result usually is the perversion of justice.

Lastly, I want to speak about the death penalty. This is one of the most controversial legal issues today. Presently, Timothy McVeigh, the convicted Oklahoma City bomber is scheduled to be executed in May of this year. He has waived his legal rights to an appeal. The question many people ask me is, "Do you believe in the death penalty?" I have come to understand the goal

of the courts in a capital case is not, the death penalty, but justice. Therefore, the correct question to ask is, "Do you believe in justice?" If the pursuit of justice is the goal of our judicial proceedings in capital cases, I believe we are working to ensure the good order and stability of our society. If we pursue justice, innocent people will not be sentenced to death row, the guilty will not get away, and the inequities of our laws/judicial system will be corrected. Crime must be justly dealt with for the sake of the victim as well as the stability of society. A court's goal is to pursue justice, not the personal feelings of pro or anti death penalty advocates. My heart is heavy because I sense that justice is no longer the goal in much of our response to crime. If the abandonment and perversion of justice continues in America, we will experience more social chaos and increasing crime because the Rodney King slogan is a sad reality, "NO JUSTICE, NO PEACE."

God our Father is a God of justice (ref. Psalm 89:14). He is no respecter of persons and deals justly with all persons. Everyone will stand before God one day and be justly judged with perfect righteousness. It is unrealistic to expect our earthly judicial system to be perfect. It can never be perfect because the people who seek to make it work are imperfect. But we cannot afford to take the road of secularization. If we take



Rev Michael R. Smith Sr.

God and His truth out of our pursuit of justice, we will discover what Isaiah saw when he said, "No one calls for justice, nor does any plead for truth. They trust in empty words and speak lies; They conceive evil and bring forth iniquity." (ref. Isaiah 59:4). Therefore, it is crucial that we look to God and His truth as our divine point of reference in our pursuit of justice in responding to crime.

Please call the OISM if you need training or leadership in reaching, reconciling and restoring lives impacted by crime and incarceration. Call the GBSC Headquarters or me at 919-575-3900, Ext. 6203.

General Baptist State Convention, Inc. "Reaching, Reconciling, Restoring Lives"

OFFICE OF INSTITUTIONAL AND SPECIALIZED MINISTRIES
PSALM 89:14

AT RISK YOUTH & VICTIMS OF CRIME MINISTRY
COMMUNITY

PRISON MINISTRY
INSTITUTIONS & DETENTION CENTERS

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COMMUNITY

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TO PROVIDE PRE-RELEASE TRAINING
TRANSITIONAL SUPPORT CHURCH HOME COMMUNITY RESOURCES

The Office of Institutional and Specialized Ministries is an outreach of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc. Our mission is to reach, reconcile and restore human lives which have been impacted by crime and incarceration. Our four strategic goals are to minister to at-risk young people, victims of crime, persons in prison, and persons transitioning from prison back to the community. Our desire is to extend the message of the Gospel of Christ by equipping GBSC churches to respond effectively in these mission fields. Our prisons represent the fastest growing mission field in this country. Through competent leadership, strategic planning and committed service, our prayer is God our Father will use this office to help many people learn to walk with Jesus the Christ from crime to healing and contribution for His honor and glory.

By
Rev. Sandra Holland Trotter
Pastor/Shiloh Temple of Faith
Missionary Baptist Church,
Fayetteville, NC

New Pastor's Corner

The Cost of Being a Pastor



Rev. Sandra Holland Trotter

The harvest is truly plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest. (Matthew 9:37-38).

With time and magnitude as the main constrains in accomplishing the task, basic laws of economics demand a large labor force to finish the harvest in the limited time available to us. But something strange is happening when it comes to the economics of the gospel ministry.

Here we find a vast shortage of labor in spite of the great magnitude of the harvest. In fact, if the great magnitude of sheep "scattered" were all to be assigned shepherds, the gospel ministry would potentially rate as the number one employing occupation in the world.

But what do the actual facts reveal? The labourers are few. In spite of the great need, there seem to be no plenteousness in the labor force. Why is this the case? Does it have something to do with church management or church people? What is it about this job that causes the basic laws of supply and demand to break down? Why do the economics of ministry appear to follow a different set of rules than any other field affected by supply and demand? The answer: There are wolves in the sheepfold.

Do you pay your tithes faithfully or do you only pay them when you like? The latter is the act of a wolf in sheep's clothing and this frustrates the system. Tithing is God's word and it supports God's house (The Church). Too many Christians think

that tithes are for the pastor — this is not true. Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of host, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. (Malachi 3:10).

However, as our world marches more and more into perilous times, the task of being a pastor becomes increasingly difficult. The world's population is increasing, and iniquity is at an all time high. We need full time pastors. Too many men and women of God are bi-vocational. Your pastor's duties require him/her not only to labor for salvation of souls, but also to watch over the souls in his/her charge, as we must give account. (Hebrews 13:17)

The pastor's job is very important. It's no surprise that Satan is fighting to eliminate the ministers of the Gospel.

Why are so many pastor's walking away from the ministry? Why are so many churches splitting or closing down? Pastor's after God's own heart are endangered species. Satan's efforts have effectively caused many local assemblies to dismiss, despise, frustrate, and render powerless both pastor and his/her office.

A pastor is a man/woman well grounded in the Word and knows his/her responsibility before God, to answer his/her call as well as provide for his/her family. These two responsibilities should not have to be contrary to one another. However, let's look at some statistics and financial realities of

servicing the Body of Christ as a pastor.

The following statistics have been drawn from the book *Pastors at Risk* by H.B. London and Neil B. Wiseman.

These statistics reveal:

- 33% of pastors surveyed considered leaving the ministry in the last three months.
- 70% of pastors indicated that their compensation contributed to conflict in their marriage.
- 22% feel forced to supplement their church income.
- 73% felt they were underpaid.
- 74% of Clergy report experiencing major distress.
- 81% say their marriage problems were a result of insufficient time spent together.
- 71% say it was a result of the use of money.
- 70% say it was a result of the income level.

Some members of the church feel that they are pastor's employers. In seeking for labourers in the gospel, the Lord is not looking for "prophets for hire." God Himself has called and chosen certain persons for the ministry of the Gospel.

A pastor has a divine appointment, and so is the pay. Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel (I Corinthians 9:14). No amount of pay will truly compensate the pastor for his/her work; neither can our reward for supporting pastors be measured in earthly terms.

Needless to say, Satan tries to create a roadblock to keep Christians from supporting their pastors. Many members are envious of pastor's salaries. Some members do not like the idea that pastors may receive salaries greater than what they may receive on their jobs. You should be ashamed of yourself if you feel this way.

A pastor must be free to preach the uncompromised Gospel of Jesus Christ. They have a commitment to God to stay and faithfully feed the sheep. Yet God's calling to his servants does not negate our obligation to provide for them in abundance according to the Word.

"Let the Pastor be the Pastor"
"Take Good Care of Your Pastor"

ANNOUNCEMENT

ATTENTION NEW PASTORS:

The New Pastor's Committee would like to welcome all new pastors to the New Pastor's Luncheon on Wednesday, April 18, 2001, at Lewis Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, Fayetteville, N.C.

During the Evangelism Conference Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President of the General Baptist State Convention and Pastor of Lewis Chapel Missionary Baptist Church will be the host pastor.

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MUSIC CONFERENCE CONTINUED...

DIRECTIONS TO FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH FOR MUSIC CONFERENCE.

3301 Beatties Ford Road, Charlotte, NC 28216
 ((704) 392-0392

From Concord: Take I-85 South to Exit 37 (Beatties Ford Road). At the top of the exit ramp (at light), turn left on Beatties Ford Road (you will cross the highway). McDonald's Cafeteria will be on your right. Continue straight on Beatties Ford Road approximately 1/4 mile. You will see the church located on the left. You will see the church located on the left. Turn left onto Fairdale Drive (into brick entrance of Northwood Estates) and make an immediate right into the church parking lot. Enter through the rear of the church. **The Enrichment Center is immediately before you get to the church. Turn left into the parking lot.**

From Gastonia: Take I-85 North to Exit 37 (Beatties Ford Road). At the top of the exit ramp (at light), turn left onto Beatties Ford Road (you will cross the highway). Follow the remainder of the instructions above.

From Huntersville/Lake Norman area: Take I-77 South to Exit 13B (I-85 South) and I-85 South to Exit 37 (Beatties Ford Road). Follow the remainder of the instructions above.

From Carowinds area and South Carolina: Take I-77 North to Exit 13B (I-85 South) and I-85 South to Exit 37 (Beatties Ford Road). Follow the remainder of the instructions above.

From Salisbury: Take I-85 to Exit 37 (Beatties Ford Road). Follow the remainder of the instructions above.

Hotels within 3 miles of church.
Travel Love (Beatties Ford Road)
 704-394-4817 (approx. 1/4 mile from church. Contact person: Regina Special rate for Friendship Missionary Church, \$51 + tax

Sleep Inn: 704-399-7778. Brand new Sheraton Airport: 704-392-1200 Hwy. 85 at Billy Graham Parkway Super 8 Motel: 704-598-7710 Hwy. 77 and Sunset Road

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 GENERAL BAPTIST STATE
 CONVENTION OF NC, INC. PRESENTS
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**Theme: "Announcing the Kingdom of God"
 April 16-19, 2001**

at

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 Mt. Olivet Baptist Church, Columbus, Ohio**

**Conference Lecturer: Dr. Mack King-Carter
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About the Author:

Dr. Serenus T. Churn Sr., received his Doctor of Ministry Degree from Drew University, Madison, N.J., in 1979, his Graduate Certificate in Pastoral Care from the Foundation for Religion and Mental Health, Grasslands Hospital, Westchester County, N.Y., in 1970, his Master of Divinity Degree from Howard University, School of Religion in Washington, D.C., in 1969, his Bachelor of Divinity Degree from Howard University, School of Religion in 1965 and his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Morgan State College, Baltimore, Md., in 1962. He was born in Camden, N.J., to the late Dr. Charles H. Churn Sr., and Violet M. Churn and was licensed to preach at the age of 15. He is married to the former Shirley Brown of Washington, D.C., and

has two sons. Dr. Churn is currently the Senior Pastor of Mount Zion Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, N.C. Member of Novant Health Board of Trustees, Mount Zion Site Director and Adjunct Instructor, Shaw University Divinity School and Drew University Theology School. He is the Radio Host of God's Trombone WPOL. He has preached across the United States, Great Britain and India.

Place your book orders to:

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**Dr. John D. Fuller, Sr. President GBSC
 Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer
 Mrs. Octavia Ivory & Dr. James Abbington,
 Music Conference Coordinators**

APRIL 27-28 2001

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VISA AND MASTERCARD ACCEPTED: VISA _____ MASTERCARD _____

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 Remember that DAY and WHY!
 April 13, 2001!**

96th Annual Session

NATIONAL BAPTIST CONGRESS of CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

June 18-22, 2001



Ambassador Form

HELP US welcome convention delegates and visitors to the city of Charlotte! Volunteers (Ambassadors) will be needed Saturday, June 16 through Friday, June 22. Please check your area of interest and available time.

	June 16 - 22	AM	PM
Hospitality	_____	_____	_____
Transportation	_____	_____	_____
	June 16 - 22	AM	PM
Usher	_____	_____	_____
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Home # _____ Work # _____

Please return form to:

Attn: Vertis Armstrong or Shirley Borders
Friendship Missionary Baptist Church
3301 Beatties Ford Road, Charlotte, North Carolina 28216

Meeting Headquarters

The Charlotte Convention Center, 501 South College Street
704-339-6000

Headquarters Hotels	Distance to Convention Center
Omni Hotel	3-1/2 blocks
Marriott City Center	3 miles
Hilton Charlotte & Towers	1/2 block
Hilton Executive Park	10 miles
Embassy Suites (overflow)	7 miles
Adam's Mark	4 blocks

Contact Marsha DuPont, *Housing Director*, 718-346-9290

Pre-Congress Musical—2001

Local and Renown Musicians

Contact: Tony McNeill, Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, 704-392-0392

President's Educational Banquet

Contact: Dr. Fred Gibson, Greater Providence Baptist Church, 704-532-6228

Transportation

Contact: Dabble Garner, Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, 704-392-0392

PRE-CONGRESS MUSICAL REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

FINAL

APRIL

Thursday, April 5	7-9:30 p.m.	FMBC
Thursday, April 19	7-9:30 p.m.	FMBC
Saturday, April 21	12 noon-2:30 p.m.	FMBC

MAY

Saturday, May 5	2-4:30 p.m.	FMBC
Saturday, May 12	12 noon-2:30 p.m.	FMBC
Thursday, May 17	7-9:30 p.m.	FMBC
Saturday, May 26	3-6 p.m.	FMBC

JUNE

Saturday, June 2	2-4:30 p.m.	FMBC
Tuesday, June 12	7-9:30 p.m.	FMBC
Thursday, June 14	7-9:30 p.m.	FMBC

SUNDAY, JUNE 17, 6-9:30 p.m. Conv. Center

PERFORMANCE: MONDAY, JUNE 18, 5:30-CALL TIME
CONVENTION CENTER

PROGRAM WILL START PROMPTLY AT 6:45 P.M.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER PRE-CONGRESS MUSICAL

Thursday, April 5, 2001 — All registration fees should be paid in full (\$15 per person)

Saturday, April 21, 2001 — Cut-off for singers and registration; no more new singers will be accepted after this date

Saturday, June 2, 2001 — All music should be memorized by this date!

Sunday, June 17, 2001 — Mandatory dress rehearsal at Convention Center, 6 to 9 p.m.

Monday, June 18, 2001 — Performance at Charlotte Convention Center; call time: 5:30 p.m.; program starts promptly at 6:45 p.m.

National Baptist Congress of Christian Education Pre-Congress Musical 2001

Host Church:

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church

3301 Beatties Ford Road, Charlotte, NC 28216

Dr. Clifford A. Jones, Senior Minister/Host Pastor

Mr. Tony McNeill, Pre-Congress Musical Director

When: Monday, June 18, 2001

**Time: 6 p.m. — Official Welcome
6:45 p.m. Concert**

Where: Charlotte Convention Center

Tickets: \$10 per person

Join us as we present a Spirit-filled evening of worship and praise with a 500-Voice citywide, interdenominational choir and other talented musicians offering a diversified program of Sacred/Gospel Music.

There is a BLESSING in store for EVERYONE!

MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND!

ATTENDANCE POLICY FOR PRE-CONGRESS MUSICAL

Attendance for each rehearsal will be tracked by the Section leaders!

PLEASE PLAN TO ARRIVE FOR REHEARSAL EARLY!

WE WILL BEGIN ON TIME!

AFTER APRIL 21st, THE "OFFICIAL CUT-OFF" YOU "MUST" ATTEND FIVE OUT OF THE LAST SEVEN REHEARSALS OR YOU WILL FORFEIT YOUR ELIGIBILITY TO PERFORM.

Sickness, death, work and family emergencies are excused absences. Please report all conflicts, including tardiness to your church representative! You must also advise your church representative of any reason you will be absent! Communicate with your church representative and listen intently to instructions during each rehearsal.

YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO BRING A TAPE RECORDER TO HELP YOU RETAIN YOUR PART!

REHEARSAL TAPES, (soprano, alto, tenor and bass) will be available March 31st. Cassettes are \$8; CDs are \$10.

Please be committed to this work! Be in prayer for every participant that the success of this event will be counted in souls won for Christ!

Pre-Congress Musical Mission Statement

The purpose of the 2001 Pre-Congress Musical of the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education shall be to glorify and praise God through the performance of a high-quality, diversified program of instrumental and choral/vocal music. The Musical shall be a full concert given by an interdenominational, interracial, citywide choir of 500+ voices from the greater Metro-Charlotte area and abroad. Choral/Gospel music directors and musicians from the Charlotte area and abroad have been selected to serve collaboratively as the musical staff. In addition, two well-respected, professional gospel artists have been chosen (Donald Lawrence and Richard Smallwood) as "Special Guests" and will render 3 selections each with the citywide choir.

It is hoped that through this process a genuine sense of unity and respect is developed and nurtured among gospel singers in the Charlotte area. It is also hoped that the music ministries represented will foster long-term partnerships and collaborations with other participating music ministries in future endeavors. It is hoped that God's kingdom will be enlarged and empowered by this gathering. **GOD BE PRAISED FOR THE GREAT THINGS HE HAS DONE!**

Jocelyn Thompson • Memorial Presbyterian Church, Charlotte

Jacqueline Robinson • Statesville Avenue Presbyterian Church, Charlotte

Stephanie Kirkpatrick • Rocky Ridge Missionary Baptist Church, Concord

Minister Avis D. Graves • University Park Missionary Baptist Church, Charlotte

Debra Sanders-Clyburn • Greater Galilee Baptist Church, Charlotte

Frank E. Williams • White Rock Missionary Baptist Church, Durham

Donald Chisholm • St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church, Charlotte

Bruce Thompson • Mt. Carmel Missionary Baptist Church, Charlotte

Patrick Love • Temple of Refuge, Charlotte

Minister Wayne Robinson • Greater Salem Church, Charlotte and

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Donald Lawrence • Producer/Songwriter, Director, Tri-City Singers

Charlotte, NC

Richard Smallwood • Producer/Songwriter, Director, Vision • Washington, DC

NEWS AROUND THE STATE & NATION

Gold Hill Association News

Submitted by

Rev. Charles L. Webber

Rev. Dr. E.M. Roberts, pastor of Jerusalem Baptist Church in Harris (Rutherford County) was recently honored along with his wife and family for his service as moderator. The services were conducted at White Oak Springs Baptist Church in Ellenboro. Dr. Roberts served as Moderator for three terms from July 1, 1997 to June 30, 2000. Dr. Roberts is active in the community and completed several objectives while servicing as moderator. The primary objective being the plan to rebuild the Association Assembly Building. He was known for his quiet demeanor and dedicated service.

A new moderator, Rev. Charles L.

Webber, pastor of Haynes Grove Baptist Church in Cliffside was elected at the annual session in July 2000. Rev. Webber holds the BA in Sociology and the Master of Public Administration degrees from UNC-Charlotte. He is currently enrolled in the Master of Divinity program at Gardner-Webb University. He serves as an adjunct instructor at Cleveland Community College and Gardner-Webb University. He is employed full time as Human Resources Director for the City of Shelby and serves on the Board of Directors of the United Way, Arts Council, Communities in School and Cleveland County Chamber. He is married to the former Audrey Ross and they have two children, Adam and Faith.

GBSC MILLENNIUM MID-YEAR SESSION

MAY 6-9, 2001

HOST CHURCH: FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

520 N. 5TH STREET, WILMINGTON, NC

HOST PASTOR: DR. JOSEPH WINDLEY

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University Park Baptist Church, Charlotte, N.C. Celebrates Milestone

I greet you in the name of Jesus Christ,

On April 15, 2001, University Park Baptist Church will celebrate a milestone in its walk with God by entering into a new sanctuary and Family Life Center. We, the members of "The Park," would like to extend to you a warm invitation to come, and share with us at any one of the three services that will be held on that day: 8 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. The evening service will be a special dedicatory service, and will involve many persons from various areas of our community. In an effort to commemorate this momentous occasion, we are producing a Commemorative Magazine and would love to have the honor of your being included.

Approximately 7,000 Commemorative Magazines will be printed and distributed among our congregation and guests. As you can imagine, the potential number of viewers can reach thousands due to the various industries represented by our diverse congregation. Banking, construction, technology, hospitals, beauty salons and entrepreneurs are just a few of the businesses represented within our congregation, as well as students and homemakers. Below is a price list for the advertisements.

Size	Advertisement	Price
Full Page (8x10)		\$1,000
Half Page (5x7)		\$750
One-quarter Page (3-1/2x2-1/4)		\$500
One-eighth Page (2x9-3/4)		\$250

The above prices are in effect if you submit your layout. However, please add \$350 if you need our Multimedia Ministry to complete the layout for you. Please submit your layout stating your commendation to our move, as well as your ad along with a check or money order for your advertisement to University Park Baptist Church, 2348 Keller Ave., Charlotte, NC 28216 no later than Friday, March 16, 2001. Your layout should be in the correct dimensions and any photos should be in color. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

On behalf of Pastor Alexander and the University Park Baptist Church family, I thank you for your support of the Lord's work within our midst.

Yours in Christ,
Dee Dee Latter,
Director of Multimedia

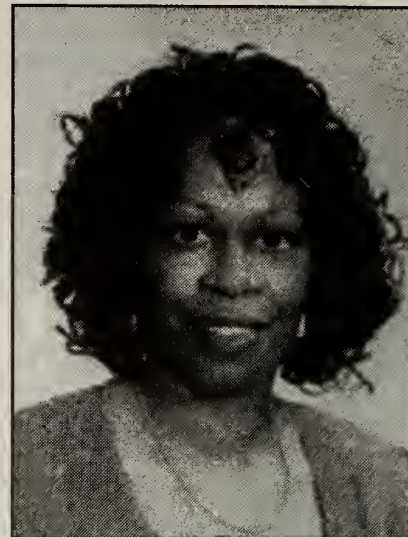
Church Council Trains Citizens Lobbyists

Submitted by Carol J. Smith
Associate Editor

Leading off with worship that included a mime for social justice, the North Carolina Council of Churches held its biennial Legislative Seminar recently. More than 200 participants from several dozen faith communities across North Carolina heard presentations from experts on the political process and its impact on ordinary people. One workshop, led by the Rev. Sidney Locks, a Baptist minister and former member of the N.C. House of Representatives, was titled "Politics and Prophets."

Workshop sessions on specific legislative issues include tax justice, a living wage, hog lagoons, the lottery, mental health needs, gun violence, health care, and the death penalty. Asked why he felt he had to be here learning politics, Episcopal Bishop Gary Gloster answered, "It's a mistake to think God is interested chiefly in religion. Because God desires a whole world, we are called to pursue justice and restoration through every path."

Presentation of the Council's "Faith



Carol J. Smith, Associate Editor

Active in Public Life" award to state Sen. Bill Martin occurred at lunch. Sen. Martin is well known in the General Assembly as a champion of civil rights, children and low income people. He is also a member of Providence Baptist Church in Greensboro.

GBSC MILLENNIUM MID-YEAR SESSION

REGISTRATION AND REPRESENTATION FORM

Dr. John D. Fuller, Sr. President GBSC

Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer

MAY 6-9, 2001

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Association _____

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NEWS A ROUND THE STATE & NATION

Minister Marks Milestone

By Iris Herring

Worshippers from across Robeson County gathered recently to celebrate the contributions of one of their pastors.

In a 2-hour service at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Marietta, N.C., Dr. John Campbell was congratulated and commended for his 20 years in the pastoral ministry.

"I applaud you, Pastor Campbell, for the endurance and faith you're demonstrating," said Dr. J. Gentile Everett, the guest speaker and pastor of Mill Branch Baptist Church in Fairmont.

"You have stood and fought so that the path to our future could be brightly lit," he said. "Continue to provide that light and legacy for Robeson County."

Educated at UNC-Pembroke, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary and Duke Divinity School, Dr. Campbell has enjoyed a broad ministry. While administering expansive Church programs, he has been long identified with the struggle for human justice. A former director of the Robeson County Human Relations Commission and a leader in the N.C. Human Rights Workers Association, he is currently the chairman of the Board of Education for the Public Schools of Robeson County.

"The struggle continues," said Dr. Lawrence Dowdy, the program's worship



Dr. John Campbell

leader and the pastor of Antioch Baptist Church in Proctorville.

"Continue the call to move forward. You can't turn around or go back," he told Pastor Campbell and Ebenezer. "God has already brought you through dangers seen and unseen."

Many elected officials, civic and church representatives attended, along with dozens of members of black service organiza-



Pictured left to right: Mr. Johnny Hunt, chairman of Robeson County Commissioners, Dr. John Campbell, Gov. Mike Easley, Commissioner Noah Woods and Mayor Lillie McKoy.

tions. Several leaders of the organizations stood to wish Dr. Campbell well and honor his service.

Dr. Campbell is married to Constance Williams Campbell, a media specialist for Lumberton Senior High School. They reside in Lumberton with their youngest child, John Jr., who is a sixth-grader at Carroll Middle School.

"I thank God for how far He has

brought us and what He is going to do for us as we journey together," said Dr. Campbell.

"I thank God for the Church. It has given me hope, opportunities but more importantly, a place to belong. And two words describe my attitude. 'I'm grateful.' Surely, God has been good to me."

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NEWS AROUND THE STATE & NATION

Greetings from Rev. David A. Lattimore Jr. Pastor of Mt. Ararat Baptist Church, Inc., Jacksonville, Florida

To all of my co-laborers in the Gospel Ministry. I greet you in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ. It is a blessed privilege to have the opportunity to share with you once again what **SERMCO Ministries** have to offer. As you go through the material listed, keep in mind that the research and layout of all materials are designed with you in mind. The material contained herein should prove especially helpful for the **BUSY PASTOR PREACHER**. Please notice that our newest addition of Bible Study Outlines are geared toward membership improvement through analysis of the Bible on specific topics: and to provide you an alternative to teaching your Sunday School lesson for Bible Study. The lessons outlined are easy to follow. Many Scriptures are inserted. Bible Study Topics offered in this catalog are prayer, evangelism (witnessing), victorious living, the second appearing of Christ, General Christian Growth, Studies in Acts, Studies in Proverbs, and The Life of Christ. Each topic contains a series of lessons. The

preached and taught Word of God is still the only weapon that we have with which to combat Satan, even in this new millennium. God's people need to have a clear understanding of what he expects of them, and what they are to do for him and others. They need to know the personality of God through his Word.

Our standard material includes sermons that have been thoroughly researched, and are homiletically arranged. The sermons contain inserted Scriptural passages, relevant songs and hymns as required. The script of each sermon is typed doubled spaced on single sided full (8.5"x11") paper. Sermons address issues of today. There are many sermons on each major occasion, such as, but not limited to Black History, Christmas, Communion, Easter, Mother's Day, Father's Day, Youth, Thanksgiving, Membership Improvement, Funeral, etc. These sermons are designed for all pastors/preachers, but, they should prove especially helpful for the **BUSY PASTOR/PREACHER**. These ser-

mons essentially preach themselves. They are pulpit ready as received. Very little studying or adaptation is required.

Our line of products also includes audio cassettes tapes, visual (VCR) tapes of almost every sermon listed, workshops for various areas of the church membership, compiled sermons in anthologies, composites, profiles, and now Bible Study outlines.

Take your time and look at the material that we have to offer. Make your selection. Place your order. Feel free to call us at any time to inquire about information that you don't see listed.

We also have a Web site. Feel free to visit us at <http://www.perfect.word.com/mtararat>.

COST AND SHIPPING AND HANDLING INFORMATION

All single sermons are \$6 each. Anthologies (Book of 26 sermons) are \$80 each. Sermon Composites (Book of 10 sermons) are \$45 each. Topic Profiles (12 Sermons on a specific topic) are \$55 each. Single Bible Study Lessons are \$7 each. Bible Study Guides (5 lessons on the same series) are \$30 each. Workshops that pertain to the entire Church Membership are \$35 each. Workshops that are auxiliary specific are \$25 each. Cassette tapes are \$6 each. Video (VCR) tapes are \$25 each. A Minimum of 5 single sermons must be ordered. A minimum of 5 single Bible study lessons must be ordered.

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| 04. Burn Up Or Burn Out For God | 41. A Good Man In A Bad Situation |
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| 06. Dangerous Minds | 43. Stand Up! Stand Up! For Jesus |
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| 09. Are You Full of the Stuff | 46. Go Ahead! Make My Day |
| 10. Let's Get on Board | 47. A Trip to the Cross |
| 11. God Picked Me To Be On His Side | 48. Jesus! Jesus! Jesus! He Is Somebody's Preacher |
| 12. Grace on the ace | 49. On the Day of Pentecost |
| 13. Grow Up or Blow Up | 50. Jesus Is All That! He Is Somebody's Preacher |
| 14. Hang In There | 51. Muddy Putty in the Potters Hands |
| 15. He Lifted Me Up Out of the Miry Clay | 52. When Stress Controls You Jesus Consoles You |
| 16. Look Where the Lord Has Brought Me From | 53. Black Men and Women, Young and Old, Changing A Generation |
| 17. If My People | 54. I Am Black, But I Am Somebody |
| 18. We Can Do It For A New Day Has Come | 55. Staying Afloat in a Sinking Boat |
| 19. I Know What Prayer Can Do | 56. He That Has A Friend Must Show Himself Friendly |
| 20. Put Some Clothes On Child | 57. Victory Is Mine/Starting All Over |
| 21. Watch Out and Keep Your Eyes Open/Righteously Wrong | 58. Occupy Till I Come |
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"Bip 'n' Sip" Prayer Covenant

Submitted by Martha D. Jones

Beginning a New Year on our Christmas journey together, a B.I.P. 'N' S.I.P. (Brothers in Prayer and Sisters in Prayer) covenant is recommended. This is a program in which pairs of youth voluntarily enter into friendship prayer covenants with each other.

The prayer covenants require the youth to know what's happening in their partners' lives and to pray regularly for each others' needs.

During their covenant time, partners must pray together at least once a week and must pray for their partners on their own at least one other time during the week.

Each youth would complete a B.I.P. 'N' S.I.P. and return it to the Youth Supervisors. The youth will have an opportunity to express to each other as to how their prayers have been answered by God and also share in revealing Christian experience through their faith in the power of prayer.

YOUTH PRAYER BREAKFAST

Over 140 youth, along with their supervisors, attended a Youth Prayer Breakfast on Sat-

urday, Jan. 27, 2001, at 9 a.m. at the Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church, Rocky Mount, N.C., where Rev. George E. Battle Sr., is the pastor. Sister Shameca Ricks, who is a member, and a UNC-Charlotte graduate, delivered a motivational and spirit-filled youth message entitled, "Attitudes" and music was rendered by Rev. Henry Sawyer and the Reign Singers from the Higher Ministries Church, Charlotte, N.C. During the time, youth were encouraged to enter into a "BIP 'N' SIP (Brothers in Prayer 'N' Sisters in Prayer) Covenant.

Guest youth representation were from the following churches: Morning Star Baptist Church, Pinetops, N.C.; Cornerstone Baptist Church, Williamston, N.C.; Longs Chapel Baptist Church, Hobgood, N.C.; Cherry Chapel Baptist Church, Elm City, N.C.; Simmons Grove Baptist Church, Roanoke Rapids, N.C.; Hickory View Baptist Church; Bethlehem Baptist Church; Hillsdale Baptist Church, New Hope Baptist Church-Edgemont of Rocky Mount, N.C.

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VACANT POSITIONS

EMMANUEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENT

Seeking Full-time Christian Minister of Music, Loyal and Committed to God's program. Must possess people skills, be trained as a Musician, Conductor and Choir Director.

Salary: Commensurate with training and experience.

Interested persons may send resume/portfolio to:

Attention: Trustees
Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church
913 N. Highland Street, Gastonia, NC 28052

CHURCH MUSICIAN

We are seeking to employ a person of Christian faith and character to serve as musician/director for the music department of the church.

Responsibilities include teaching music for church choirs, choir directors and other musicians. Proficiency in reading music is a requirement and some versatility in "playing by ear" will only serve to enhance the church's music department.

Applicants are asked to send resumes and references to:

United Institutional Baptist Church
Rev. Johnny R. Freeman, Pastor
802 East Market Street, Greensboro, NC 27401
Phone: (336) 272-0822*Fax: (336) 230-0274

*Salary is negotiable and is commensurate with training and experience.

FIRST AFRICAN BAPTIST CHURCH 803 East Harris St., Goldsboro, N.C. 27530

Pastor: Dr. Freddie I. Barnes

POSITION AVAILABLE: DIRECTOR OF CHURCH MUSIC

First African Baptist Church is a congregation of over 350 members with a Music Ministry that consist of four choirs, Sunshine Choir, Male Chorus, Unity and Praise Choir, Chancel Choir. Music in this ministry consists of gospel (traditional and contemporary) praise and worship, hymns, spirituals and anthems.

Applications and further information may be obtained by contacting Mrs. Johnnie Ingram, Personnel Committee Chairman or Rev. Jerry Dortch at 919-734-4935.

MINISTER OF MUSIC WANTED

Wake Forest congregation seeks Minister of Music. Duties to include working directly with the Pastor in order to assist and cooperate with him in Christian Worship; playing during Sunday morning worship service; rehearsing with various choirs one night per week; and accompanying the Pastor on engagements to other churches. Please forward a cover letter and resume to:

Evans Grove Missionary Baptist Church • 12700 Creedmoor Road, Highway 50
Wake Forest, NC 27587 • (919) 870-8874

CEDAR GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH 14600 Railroad St., Gibson, NC 28343 CHURCH MUSICIAN

The Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church of Gibson, N.C., is seeking a person to serve as Church Musician.

Qualifications: Should be a Christian who lives and acts responsibly and has a good character and reputation.

Musician requirements:

*Be able to play a piano, keyboard, organ and be able to work well with a diverse range of singers with directions for musical selections.

*Be available for necessary rehearsals and Sunday Worship Services.

*Be available to accompany the pastor and choirs to all church functions when requested.

Salary negotiable. Please send resume to Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church at the above address.

CHURCH MUSICIAN

The New Hope Baptist Church, Gates, N.C., is seeking a person to serve as Church Musician.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Able to play organ and/or organ.
2. Able to play diverse music.
3. Able to accompany the pastor and choir to church engagements if possible.

SALARY NEGOTIABLE:

Send resume to:
New Hope Baptist Church, PO Box 91, Gatesville, NC 27938
Attn: Fannie M. Spivey, Secretary
Inquiries may be made by calling (252) 357-1061 after 4:30 p.m.

CHURCH MUSICIAN

Mount Olive Baptist Church of Lewiston is seeking a musician for a station church, a Christian who is responsible, has good character and a good reputation.

Requirements:

*Plays the organ and piano *Able to work with a diverse group of singers
*Experienced in all sacred music *Reads music and is versatile in playing by ear

Send resumes or responses to: Mount Olive Baptist Church
PO Box 214, Lewiston-Woodville, NC 27849 • Attention: William W. Peele Jr.

FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

P.O. Box 213, Hamlet, N.C. 28345

The officers and members of Friendship Missionary Baptist Church are accepting resumes for the position of Pastor. All interested ordained Missionary Baptist ministers should submit resumes to: Elizabeth Pulley, Pulpit Committee Chairperson

P.O. Box 213, Hamlet, N.C. 28345

Qualifications

1. Must be a born again, spirit filled, ordained missionary Baptist minister with sound knowledge of Baptist doctrine.
2. Must be willing to work with the Pee Dee Missionary Baptist Association.
3. Must proclaim the Bible publicly and with conviction.
4. Must be willing to serve as an ex officio member of church ministries.
5. Must demonstrate strong leadership in directing all church ministries.
6. Must have a good report.
7. Must be a servant/leader with a God given vision for the church.
8. Must be more than Sunday morning minister-visible in the community.
9. Must have good written and oral communication skills with seminary training.

First Missionary Baptist Church

The First Baptist Church is now seeking a pastor to serve as its spiritual leader, teacher, counselor and administrator. All interested persons should submit a letter of interest and resume to the Pulpit Search Committee.

Qualifications

Born Again Christian
Ordained Missionary Baptist Minister
Knowledge of Baptist Doctrine and Faith
Seminary Training preferred
Teaching Bible Study Weekly
Proficient in church organization and ability to train Church
Pastoral Experience Preferred
Family Oriented
Able to Plan and implement innovative youth programs

Interested Applicants should Mail Resumes to:

Pastoral Search Committee
First Baptist Church
ATTENTION: Deacon Calvin Graham Jr., Chairman
P.O. Box 679, Stedman, North Carolina 28391

ST. FRANCIS BAPTIST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

is looking for a Pastor

This person should be:

- I. Missionary Baptist
- II. Have good organizational and leadership skills
- III. Commuting Distance
- IV. Family Oriented
- V. Experience Preferred

Interested parties should send resume to: c/o Pulpit Committee

St. Francis Missionary Baptist Church
P.O. Box 736, Windsor, NC 27983.

PASTOR — IMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH,

the largest African-American Missionary Baptist congregation in New Haven, Connecticut, is seeking an experienced, ordained pastor to replace their retiring spiritual leader. In a community with great potential for church growth and expansion, we require a leader with a sound spiritual foundation. The church has 175 years of rich history and is housed in modern, spacious facilities. The church owns and operates low income housing properties, manages a 70-bed homeless shelter and is active in other community support missions. Candidates must have a depth of formal education, demonstrated leadership abilities and strong administrative skills.

Resumes and inquiries should be addressed to: Deacon William A. Batts, Chairman, Pulpit Search Committee, Immanuel Baptist Church, 210 Curtis Drive, New Haven, CT 06515, Facsimile: (203) 785-8673.

PROGRESSIVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

2504 Creech Road, Raleigh, NC 27610
Rev. William H. Brock Sr., Senior Pastor
Rev. Dr. Leo Williams Jr., Assistant Pastor
Rev. James Richardson, Minister of Youth

Growing young Missionary Baptist Church in southeast Raleigh, Seeking a Christian Church Musician who can play piano/organ. Specifically organ. Must be able to read music as well as play by ear. Should be able to play hymns, anthems, spirituals, gospel.

Call church office to arrange interview (919) 828-8373.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Third and Mulbury Street, Weldon, North Carolina 27890

The Pulpit Committee of First Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of Pastor. Mail resumes to:

Deacon Stanley Edwards, 908 Country Club Rd., Weldon, NC 27890

Applicants must have the following qualifications:

- Born again Christian
- Must be able to preach and teach God's Word
- Preach quality sermons
- Possess strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, policies and practices
- Able to lead and communicate with all age groups
- Able to work effectively with church boards and committees
- Some college and seminary training preferred

SANDY GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

PO Box 290, 1600 Martin Luther King Drive, Lumberton, NC 28358

Sandy Grove Missionary Baptist Church is accepting resumes for a full-time pastor. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

1. Must be licensed, ordained, firmly rooted in the holy spirit, born again, and divinely called.
2. Must have strong family and community values.
3. Must possess or be in the process of pursuing a college degree and theological training from an accredited college or university.
4. Must be able to preach and teach God's holy word.
5. Must be willing to follow the Baptist doctrine, policies and practices.
6. Must be an effective leader, administrator, counselor and must work cooperatively with church officials.
7. Must be willing to work with all age groups, with particular emphasis on the spiritual growth and development of our youth.
8. Must plan for the future growth and development of the church.
9. Must be able to be tactful, just and fair with everyone.
10. Must establish office hours for the benefit of the members.
11. Must visit and commune with sick, shut-ins members and bereaved families.

Interested applicants should provide the following information:

1. A resume of relevant pastoral experience (if applicable).
2. A copy of college degree (s), certificate of license and ordination.
3. Proof of completion of all accredited theological training.
4. Name, address, and telephone number of four (4) personal references—excluding relatives.

Please mail all requested information to:

The Pulpit Committee
Sandy Grove Missionary Baptist Church, P.O. Box 290, Lumberton, NC 28358

VACANT POSITIONS

GREATER LOVELY HILL BAPTIST CHURCH

The Pulpit Search Committee of the Greater Lovely Hill Baptist Church, located in Warren County, N.C. is searching for applicants for its pastoral vacancy. Currently the Greater Lovely Hill Baptist Church has regular worship services twice monthly, on the first and third Sunday.

Qualifications:

1. Must be an experienced licensed ordained Missionary Baptist Minister living according to First Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9.
2. The applicants should have a vision for the church.
3. Must possess the ability to work with all age groups, with particular emphasis in youth development and community outreach, and with all auxiliaries of the church.
4. Must possess effective oral and written communication skills.
5. Must be community oriented.
6. Must possess strong and proven administration experience with a broad knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and practices.

Education:

Must possess a high school diploma (or equivalent) preferring a degree or courses in Seminary Training from an accredited college or university.

Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume of relevant experience.
2. A copy of the certificate of license and ordination.

Send resumes to: Mrs. Lucy E. Branch, PO Box 52, Warrenton, NC 27589

PULPIT VACANCY

The pulpit search committee of the Mount Zoar Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of pastor. Applicants must possess the following qualifications/responsibilities.

Qualifications

- Born again, spirit-filled, ordained and divinely called with strong family and community values.
- Be a licensed, ordained Missionary Baptist Minister.
- Must be able to preach and teach Bible Study
- Must be able to work with all age groups with emphasis on youth department
- Strong knowledge of the Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures
- Experienced as a senior pastor, but will consider years of experience as an associate pastor
- Must be willing to attend Sunday School and teach Bible Study
- Spiritual maturity; preach and teach God's word
- Willingness to administer communion and perform baptismal service
- Possess strong and proven administrative experience
- College degree preferred but will consider a combination of education and experience

Responsibilities

- Plan, prepare and deliver sermons
- Visit and commune with sick and shut-in members and bereaved families
- Plan and implementation of activities and projects designed to promote the church's progression and encourage active participation.

Interested applicants should mail resume with a recent photograph to address below.

Special notes: Photograph will not be returned

**Mount Zoar Missionary Baptist Church
C/O Ann Dixon
Pulpit Search Committee
PO Box 71736, Durham, NC 27704**

NOTICE OF VACANCY

Liberty Hill Missionary Baptist Church of Catawba, South Carolina is actively searching for a bi-vocational Minister for their congregation. Liberty Hill is a congregation that has great potential. Congregational size is approximately 135 members, however attendance varies from 75-150 persons, depending upon the season.

We are a small family community located ten miles south of Rock Hill, SC and ten miles north of Fort Lawn, SC, off of Highway 21 and the historic Landsford Canal Park, respectively. Forty-five miles south of Charlotte, North Carolina and seventy-five miles north of Columbia, South Carolina.

We are an autonomous Missionary Baptist Church that is affiliated with the Sandy River Baptist Association (Upper Division), in York County, South Carolina; South Carolina Baptist Educational and Missionary Convention. Our congregation represents all ages, all backgrounds, and is multi-talented.

Our pastor must be a strong spiritual leader, administrator, and teacher. One who will proclaim the Good News in a meaningful way that will help members to apply Biblical concepts to our everyday lives. One who has a passion for equipping that saints to do the work of the ministry; allowing them to discover their gifts and put them into practice in service to others.

Responsibilities will include Sunday church services, Holy Communion, Induction of New Members, Baptism, Annual Revival Services, Prayer group, Adult Sunday School/Bible Study and assistance in initialing or enhancing other ministries. The minister is an ex-officio and spiritual consultant of all auxiliaries, and serves on both the Diaconate and Advisory Council. The Diaconate meets once per month; the Advisory Council and church meetings are quarterly.

Weddings, funerals, along with christening/dedications are also required of the minister, if requested by the parishioners. The pastor's presence is expected in times of serious illness and in times of serious conflict within families or among church members. Counseling may also be requested. Must participate in other church sponsored activities, i.e. Prayer Brunch, Senior and Youth Programs, Anniversary Programs, etc.

Qualifications desired in our New Pastor:

- Pastoral ministry experience
- Graduate of an accredited seminary
- College training
- Pastor's Ordination Certificate
- Be a strong, motivating speaker
- Be moderate to liberal in preaching style with an emphasis on New Testament teachings
- Have excellent teaching skills
- Possess strong leadership skills
- Be caring and sensitive
- Be skilled in conflict resolution
- Value youth development

All interested persons should send a resume and/or write for an application to Liberty Hill Missionary Baptist Church, The Pastor Search Committee, P.O. Box 10067, Rock Hill, South Carolina 29731.

For further information e-mail: Clara Feely Gray (as4603spcgra@infoave.net), Vivian T. Robinson (vrob58.bellsouth.net), or leave a message at (803) 324-0120.

MT. OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

P.O. Box 98

Kings, Mountain, NC 28086

Mt. Olive Baptist Church is currently seeking a Pastor and is accepting resumes from interested licensed, ordained Baptist ministers. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

1. Spiritual maturity.
2. A minimum of three years experience as a pastor, but will consider years of experience as associate pastor.
3. Administrative and leadership skills.
4. Community oriented.
5. Must be able to work with all age groups with specific emphasis on youth department.
6. Strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures.
7. Good oral and written communication skills and ability to communicate with all age groups.

Responsibilities include:

Planning, organizing and implementing programs that encourage participation from youth and young adults and promote church growth and progression.

Please send resume to:

Mt. Olive Baptist Church
P.O. Box 98
Kings, Mountain, NC 28086
c/o The Pulpit Committee

PENN AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH

225 West McClanahan Street, Oxford, N.C. 27565

Rev. Willie S. Darby, Pastor

(919) 693-5396 • (919) 693-1015, Pastor's Office

The Penn Avenue Missionary Baptist Church of Oxford, N.C. is currently seeking a MINISTER OF MUSIC.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- *Must be a born again Christian.
- *Must be able to play the piano, keyboard and/or organ.
- *Must be able to read music and is versatile in playing by ear.
- *Must be able to work well with a diverse range of singers and age groups.
- *Must be able to teach and direct hymns, anthems, spirituals, gospels and other sacred music.
- *Must be able to rehearse choirs at a scheduled time unless otherwise notified.
- *Must be available for Sunday morning worship services.
- *Must be available to accompany the pastor and choirs when requested or provide a qualified substitute.
- *Must be able to assist in the selection of appropriate songs for worship and services.
- *Will be responsible with the pastor's approval in hiring other musicians if deemed necessary.

Salary: Negotiable

Penn Avenue Missionary Baptist Church is a warm, spirited-filled church that has worship services 52 Sundays a year and at present there is one musician available for 2nd Sunday worship services. Service begins each Sunday at 11 a.m. with the exception of 5th Sunday services which begin at 10 a.m.

Please send resume to the above listed address or inquiries may be made by calling one of the above listed numbers.

FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

715 West Willis Ave.

High Point, NC 27260

CHURCH MUSICIAN

The Friendship Missionary Baptist Church are accepting resumes for a Church Musician.

Qualifications:

Should be a Christian who lives and acts responsibly and has a good character and reputation.

Musician requirements:

- Be able to play a piano, keyboard, organ and be able to work well with a diverse range of singers with directions for musical selections.
- Must have experience in church music (anthems, hymns, spirituals, praise and worship, etc.) of gospel traditional and contemporary.
- Be available for necessary rehearsals and Sunday Worship Services.
- Be available to accompany the pastor and choirs to all church functions when requested.

Salary negotiable:

Please send cover letter and resume to:

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church

Attn: James W. Flake, Pastor

909 Barbee Avenue

NOTICE PASTOR NEEDED at Friendship Baptist Church Whiteville, NC

For Application Write:

Pastor Selection Committee

PO Box 1365, Whiteville, NC 28472

VACANT POSITIONS

GOOD HOPE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

4209 Smithfield Road, PO Box 441 Knightdale, North Carolina 27545

Telephone: 919-266-0217

JOHN L. THATCH, PASTOR

POSITION: MINISTER OF MUSIC

Principal Functions: Supervised by the pastor, the minister of music will be responsible for the development and promotion of the music program of the Church.

Primary Responsibilities: The minister of music will be responsible for the following:

1. Plan, organize, conduct and evaluate the comprehensive music program for the Church, including choirs, vocal and/or instrumental ensembles.
2. Prepare services for each Sunday morning's worship services.
3. Teach and direct sacred music (hymns, anthems, spirituals and gospel music).
4. Work with all choirs in selecting appropriate music for Sunday mornings' services and other worship services as his/her services are needed.
5. Work in cooperation with the pastor, other musicians and other choir members to set and implement guidelines for choir members' rights, responsibilities and ethical conduct while representing the Church in the glorification of God.
6. Work with the pastor, other musicians and choir members in scheduling and observing schedules for choir rehearsals.
7. Supervise the maintenance of the Church's musical instruments, hymnals, sheet music, music library and training materials, etc.
8. Work with the pastor to plan all services of worship (including funerals, weddings, revivals, special projects, etc.) and will accompany the pastor and Church when they are called upon to provide services for worship services at other churches.
9. Keep abreast of music methods, materials, promotion and administration, and cooperate with the Church process to enlist and train leaders for the Church music ministry.
10. Prepare an estimated annual budget and administer the approved budget.
11. Perform other duties as assigned by the pastor.

Qualifications:

1. Must be a Christian
2. Must possess people skills
3. Must be formally trained as a musician, conductor and choir director
4. Must be loyal and committed to the service and glory of God

Salary: Commensurate with training and experience

Interested persons may send resumes/portfolios to:

John L. Thatch, Pastor

Good Hope Missionary Baptist Church, PO Box 441, Knightdale, NC 27545

CHURCH MUSICIAN

First Missionary Baptist Church of Clinton is seeking a person to serve as musician. The responsibilities include playing for the Adult Choir on the First Sunday, and accompanying the other choirs on the remaining Sundays.

Qualifications:

Should be able to play the piano and the organ, and be able to work well with diverse groups of singers.

Experience in sacred music is a must as well as the ability to read music and play by ear.

The musician is also expected to accompany the pastor and choirs to outside functions when necessary.

Interested persons may send resume to: First Baptist Church, 900 College St., Clinton, N.C. 28328.

WANTED

First Missionary Baptist Church of Smithfield, NC, desires to make contact with the preachers who served it before 1928 or their families, also with two pastors in the 1940's: Rev. M.L. Mason and Rev. T.H. Brooks, and with Rev. J.H. Jones who served in the 1950's.

Send letters to Mrs. Myrtle Sanders, 303 Pine Street, Smithfield, NC 27577

ZION BAPTIST CHURCH SEEKS PASTOR

On April 20, 2000, Rev. Curtis E. Bender, pastor of Zion Baptist Church in Omaha, Nebraska, tendered his resignation. He has blessed Zion and the Omaha community with his leadership for more than 20 years. Although we will miss our Pastor, we humbly submit to the Will of God. Consequently, the recently formed Zion Baptist Church Pulpit Search Committee would like to solicit your help in this search. Please notify the members of your District/Convention that the Zion Baptist Church pulpit is vacant and that we have begun accepting applications for Pastor. Among other things, we require applicants who:

- Are Called by God. (1 Timothy 3:1-7)
- Are Graduates of an accredited and respected seminary.
- Have had a minimum of 10 years as pastor of a large Black Baptist Church. (500 or more members).
- Are members in good standing and with a track record of membership in the National Baptist Convention U.S.A., Inc.
- Have proven leadership and training skills.

Interested candidates are asked to request in writing applications from:

Zion Baptist Church
Pulpit Search Committee

2215 Grant Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68110

Please pray for our effort and thank you for your help in this notification.

Yours in Christ,

Dea. Jesse Sharpe, Committee Chairman, Sis. Jacqueline C. Hart, Church Clerk

MINISTER OF MUSIC WANTED

Wake Forest Congregation seeks Minister of Music. Duties to include working directly with the Pastor in order to assist and cooperate with him in Christian Worship; playing during Sunday morning worship service; rehearsing with various choirs one night per week; and accompanying the Pastor on engagements to other churches. Please forward a cover letter and resume to:

Evans Grove Missionary Baptist Church, 12700 Creedmoor Road, Highway 40
Wake Forest, NC 27587 • (919) 870-8874

Littlefield Missionary Baptist Church

4465 Newton Grove Highway
Newton Grove, NC 28366

The Littlefield Missionary Baptist Church is accepting resumes from interested Missionary Baptist Ministers for the position of Pastor.

1. Born-again Christian and Role Model with strong leadership abilities.
2. Able to manage Church's administrative functions effectively.
3. Must be able to preach and teach God's Word.
4. Knowledgeable and believes in The Baptist Doctrine
5. Local proximity to Church, willingness to visit the sick and shut-in.
6. Seminary and/or Theological experience (preferred)

Services are second, third and fourth Sundays.

OAK GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

PO Box 1977, Enon Road
Oxford, North Carolina 27565

The officers and members of Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Church are accepting resumes for the position of Pastor. All interested ordained Missionary Baptist ministers should submit resumes to:

Deacon Joseph M. Lindsey
PO Box 1977
Oxford, NC 27565

Qualifications

1. Must be a born again, spirit filled, ordained missionary Baptist minister with sound knowledge of Baptist doctrine.
2. Must be willing to work with the East Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Association.
3. Must proclaim the Bible publicly and with conviction.
4. Must be willing to serve as an ex officio member of church ministries.
5. Must demonstrate strong leadership in directing all church ministries.
6. Must have a good report.
7. Must be a servant/leader with a God given vision for the church.
8. Must be more than a Sunday morning minister-visible in the community.
9. Must have good written and oral communication skills with seminary training.

POSITION AVAILABLE: DIRECTOR OF CHURCH MUSIC

First African Baptist Church is a congregation of over 350 members with a Music Ministry that consist of four choirs, Sunshine Choir, Male Chorus, Unity and Praise Choir, Chancel Choir. Music in this ministry consists of gospel (traditional and contemporary) praise and worship, hymns, spirituals and anthems.

Applications and further information may be obtained by contacting, Mrs. Johnnie Ingram, Personnel Committee Chairman or Rev. Jerry Dortch at 919-734-4935.

UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

110 Lincoln Ave., Lexington, NC 27292

Needed: Minister of Music or Organist.

Please send resume to:

Union Baptist Church, 110 Lincoln Ave, Lexington, NC 27292. Attn: Rev. Darrell L. Thomas.
Or call 336-243-1648 and leave your name and number.

MUSICIAN WANTED

Progressive Church Music Department looking for Director of Music to provide leadership for growth spiritually and musically. Must have experience in church music (anthems, hymns, spirituals, etc.) or equivalent. Able to read music and direct/accompany. Available on 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays. On call as needed. To apply call 252-442-4623.

Progressive Church Music Department looking for Director of Music to provide leadership for growth spiritually and musically. Must have experience in church music (anthems, hymns, spirituals, etc.) or equivalent. Able to read music and direct/accompany. Available on 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays. On call as needed. To apply call 252-442-4623.

MINISTER OF MUSIC • ST. MATTHEW BAPTIST CHURCH

P.O. BOX 1710, OXFORD, NC 27565

1. Must be a Christian to serve as minister of music each Sunday.
2. Will prepare choirs for Sunday morning worship services and special services.
3. Will teach and direct hymns, spiritual selections and other sacred music.
4. Will implement and/or carrying out guidelines pertaining to choir members' conduct.
5. Will rehearse choirs at a scheduled time unless otherwise notified.
6. Will be available to accompany the Pastor and choir to church functions requested.

Please send resume to the above address: Attention Pastor. Inquiries may be made by calling (252) 492-9046 or (919) 603-0620.

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VACANT POSITIONS

FIRST BAPTIST CHARITY CHURCH

Greenevers, N.C.

The First Baptist Charity Church of Greenevers, N.C. is accepting resumes from interested Missionary Baptist Ministers for the position of pastor.

Qualifications:

1. Divinely called spirit-filled, born-again Christian with strong Family values.
2. Pastoral experiences is required.
3. Must work closely with the officers of the church.
4. Must have at least 2 years of college or seminary training.
5. Must be able to preach and teach.
6. Must have good leadership and communication skills.
7. Family oriented.
8. Have knowledge of and willing to follow Baptist doctrines, policies and procedures.
9. Must be willing to visit and commune with the sick and shut-ins.
10. Must be willing to work with all age groups.

Services are first, second, third and fourth Sundays with Sunday school beginning at 10:00 a.m. and morning service beginning at 11:00 a.m.

Please send resumes to:

Deacon Fernald Rawls, Jr.
920 Pasture Branch Road, Rose Hill, NC 28458

MT. OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

PO Box 98, Kings Mountain, NC 28086

Mt. Olive Baptist Church is currently seeking a Pastor and is accepting resumes from interested licenses, ordained Baptist ministers. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

1. Spiritual maturity
2. A minimum of three years experience as a pastor, but will consider years of experience as associate pastor.
3. Administrative and leadership skills.
4. Community oriented.
5. Must be able to work with all age groups with specific emphasis on youth department.
6. Strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures.
7. Good oral and written communication skills and ability to communicate with all age groups.

Responsibilities include:

Planning, organizing and implementing programs that encourage participation from youth and young adults and promote church growth and progression.

Please send resumes to:

Mt. Olive Baptist Church
P.O. Box 98
Kings Mountain, NC 28086
% The Pulpit Committee

UNION GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH

Warrenton, North Carolina

The Union Grove Baptist is currently seeking and accepting resumes from interested licensed, ordained Baptist ministers. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

1. Spiritual maturity
2. A minimum of three years experience as a pastor, but will consider years of experience as associate pastor
3. Administrative and leadership skills
4. Must be able to work with various age groups with specific emphasis on youth development.
5. Strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures.
7. Good oral and written communication skills and ability to communicate with all age groups.
8. Have excellent teaching ability.

Other responsibilities include:

Planning, organizing and implementing programs that encourage participation of youth and young adults that promote church growth and progress.

Please send resumes to:

Brother Alonza Jones, Board Chairman
Route 2, Box 128, Norlina, N.C. 27563
% The Pulpit Committee

MINISTER OF MUSIC VACANCY SPRING GREEN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

PO Box 924

Warrenton, NC 27589

Rev. Dennis G. Lindsay, Pastor

The Spring Green Missionary Baptist Church seeks a Minister of Music to provide musical direction and accompaniment for 4 choirs in the church. This person will work closely with the Pastor to provide spiritual leadership in the ministry of Jesus Christ through music, i.e. hymns, spiritual songs, and praise and worship music that glorifies God.

We are accepting resumes from candidates with the following qualifications:

1. Born-again Christian, Spirit-filled, and divinely gifted in music ministry.
2. Willingness to spiritually align the music ministry with Pastoral vision.
3. Able to play the piano, keyboard and/or organ; able to read music and versatile.
4. Able to prepare choirs for Sunday morning worship services and other services.
5. Able to teach, as well as direct choirs, with humility and love.
6. Able to rehearse with all choirs on schedule, and available for all Sunday services
7. Able to accompany Pastor and choirs to other services as required (or ensure qualified substitute is available).
8. Able to select appropriate hymns and songs for worship service.

Please submit resumes to the address above. Any inquiries, please contact Pastor Lindsay at (919) 361-3003.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

POSITION:

Interim Pastor to provide pastoral leadership and duties to a congregation of 400 active members located in the North Philadelphia area of the city.

ORGANIZATION:

Miller Memorial Baptist Church
1518 North 22nd Street
Philadelphia, PA 19121

DESCRIPTION

The Miller Memorial Baptist Church is currently seeking an individual to perform in the capacity of **INTERIM PASTOR**. This position is not intended or expected to lead to the role of permanent pastor. This role requires you to focus on the pastoral task in the congregation during the interim period to help free the leaders of the congregation to focus on seeking a new pastor. You will provide leadership and stability in a positive manner during this transitional period of our church. The ability to settle issues and migrate the congregation from the former pastor to the new pastor, is critical. You will be working closely with the chairpersons of the Deacon Board and Trustee Board when addressing issues that effect the congregation at large. While the duration of this position is unknown as this time, you must be available for any period from two months to two years if needed.

Major Duties and Responsibilities:

- Plan and lead worship that is sensitive to the needs of the congregation
- Attend to the spiritual development of the congregation
- Provide administrative leadership to the congregation, secretarial, and pulpit staff
- Counsel members having personal, family and/or work related problems
- Support and/or lead religious programs for children, youth and adults
- Develop and instruct weekly bible study classes
- Actively and visibly support the church's financial program
- Directly involve the congregation in the planning and leadership of existing church programs and ministries
- Meet regularly with the chairpersons of the Deacon, Deaconess and Trustee Boards for planning and direction
- Work closely with the Superintendent of the Sunday School
- Visit the sick, shut in and bereaved in the hospital and at home
- Preside at funerals and weddings
- Support the world mission of the church
- Participate in local community activities, issues and problems
- Present social issues before members

QUALIFICATIONS - EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

- Bachelors Degree in Divinity, Masters of Divinity Degree preferable
- Ordained for a minimum of five years
- Five years experience as a pastor or assistant pastor of a Baptist Church
- Experience in working as an interim pastor is a plus.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

For immediate consideration, please send a cover letter and your resume to the following address:

Miller Memorial Baptist Church
Attention: Deacon David Pridgen
1518 North 22nd Street
Philadelphia, PA 19121

POSITION DESCRIPTION

North Carolina Council of Churches COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATE

Job responsibilities

Develop and implement a communications plan including at least the following:

Print media

- Write, edit, and produce Church Council Bulletin
- Write, edit, and produce regular information piece for "Interested Persons"
- Produce quarterly one-page information piece for distribution by judicatories
- Prepare and distribute press releases to secular and religious press
- Coordinate production of other printed resources

Electronic communications

- Design and maintain web site
- Develop electronic versions of CCB and Raleigh Report, including e-mail summaries
- Propose other uses of electronic communications technology

Develop and staff the Communications Committee

Qualifications

Compatible with Council's mission of ecumenism and social justice

Member of a faith community affiliated with the NC Council of Churches (preferred)

Four-year communications degree (preferred)

Two years work experience (preferred)

Excellent computer skills in MS Office, especially Word, Publisher and FrontPage

Other

Responsible to Executive Director

Attend meetings of House of Delegates and Executive Board

Salary and benefits package: \$17,000-\$19,000 for half-time employment.

Telecommuting from within the Triangle is preferred, with semimonthly in-office staff meetings.

The North Carolina Council of Churches does not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, ethnicity, or sexual orientation.

To apply, send a resume and writing sample to George Reed, 1307 Glenwood Avenue, Suite 162, Raleigh, NC 27605.

Or e-mail to nccofc@nccouncilofchurches.org.

Pray for great blessings for this year!

VACANT POSITIONS

MOUNT PLEASANT MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

The Mount Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church, an African American congregation, located in Winston-Salem, North Carolina is seeking applications for a full-time pastor. Eligible candidates must be Baptist ordained.

The congregation of 300 members is looking for persons who possess the following skills: Counseling, Teaching, Community Involvement, Evangelism, Interchurch cooperation with Baptist and other denominations (Ecumenical), Preaching Pastoral Care, (social action), Leadership Development

The pastor's compensation is in keeping with other comparable area churches which include salary, housing allowance, medical and retirement benefits, plus convention expenses.

June 2, 2001 has been set as the deadline for receiving applications. Please send all inquiries to:

Pastoral Search Committee
 Mount Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church
 795 Northwest Crawford Place, Winston-Salem, NC 27105

ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

Philadelphia, Pa.

The Pastoral Search Committee of Zion Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of pastor.

Zion Baptist Church is a historically African-American congregation located in the northern section of Philadelphia, Pa. There are approximately 1,000 active members in the congregation, of which the majority reside within five miles of the church building located at 3600 North Broad Street. Other members live in the adjoining suburbs of Pennsylvania and New Jersey. Membership is diverse, representing all economic and educational levels. The church is not only active in the surrounding neighborhoods; but also has a national and international reputation due to the ministry of its Pastor Emeritus, the Rev. Leon H. Sullivan.

The Pastor, guided by the Holy Spirit, would be expected to envision the spiritual and temporal agenda of the church. The pastor's duties would include, but would not be limited to: a comprehensive ministry promoting Christian education, missions, pastoral care and visitation, evangelism, active community involvement and interfaith cooperation.

Pastoral applicants should be ordained Baptist ministers possessing at least bachelor and seminary degrees. Previous pastoral experience indicating outstanding preaching talent and the ability to effectively pastor a large congregation is also required.

Pastoral applicants should submit their resumes to:
 Zion Baptist Church, Pastoral Search Committee, PO Box 12218, Philadelphia, Pa. 19144
 Resumes should be postmarked by April 30, 2001.

SAVANNAH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

6675 Tabor Church Road, Fayetteville, NC 28301

The pastor's search committee of Savannah Missionary Baptist Church is accepting letters of interest/resumes for the position of Senior Pastor from licensed and ordained Missionary Baptist Ministers. Apply only if you are sincerely interested and meet all the qualifications.

- QUALIFICATIONS:**
1. Must be born again, filled with the holy spirit and called by God to preach the word.
 2. Must be family oriented and possess a strong, Godly character.
 3. Prefer college degree but will strongly consider a combination of education, training and experience.
 4. Possess a strong knowledge of the Missionary Baptist doctrine, church policies and practices.
 5. Be an effective leader, communicator, administrator and counselor with good interpersonal skills.
 6. Must have skills required to work with all age groups with emphasis on spiritual growth and development.
 7. Must have skills required for planning and implementing a vision for both spiritual and physical growth of the church.
 8. Must work effectively with boards, auxiliaries and committees.

Interested persons meeting all of the above qualifications should submit the following information:

- Letter of interest or resume
 - Copy of license and ordination certificate
 - Proof of educational degree, and additional theological studies transcript
 - The names, addresses, telephone numbers, email addresses of at least five references of which only two can be ministers.
- The committee will provide each candidate with an information packet.
 All correspondence must be addressed as follows:
 Savannah Missionary Baptist Church
 ATTN: Sister Ernestine Tucker, 6675 Tabor Church Road, Fayetteville, N.C.

THE UNITED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

- of Oxford, N.C., is seeking a pastor with the following qualifications:
- Dedicated Christian leader
 - Ordained minister
 - Educated in the word of God
 - Can relate to all age groups
 - Skilled in administrative duties
 - Prefers a college and seminary graduate
 - Interested in building a church
 - Radius of 60 miles of church
- Please send resumes to: ATTN: Deacon Rebecca Fuller, PO Box 2142, Oxford, NC 27565.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Deacon Leon BeCoats, Chairman, Pulpit Committee
 PO Box 1087, Fairmont, NC 28340

- POSITION:** Baptist Minister (Pastor)
SALARY: Negotiable (Commensurate with education and experience)
QUALIFICATIONS:
1. Must be a spiritually ordained Missionary Baptist Minister
 - a. A Christian Pastor divinely called.
 - b. Must be a good role model of moral and ethical conduct.
 2. Education
 - a. Graduate of University and or Divinity School.
 - b. Must have an excellent command of the English language and must be able to communicate well with all age groups.
 3. Must have five years experience in the Baptist church.
 4. Must be willing to follow the Baptist doctrines, policies and practices.
 5. Must possess leadership skills in promoting and directing Christian education and traditional church programs.
 6. Must be willing to serve with the General Baptist State Convention and the Lumber River Baptist Association, Inc.
 7. Must live and serve in a small multiracial community.
 8. Must have a philosophy of growth for the church and a vision for such.
 9. Must be family oriented.

Oakey Grove Missionary Baptist Church of Clayton

is searching for a pastor. Congregational size is about 100 members with attendance of 50-65 depending upon the season. Worship service is held twice monthly. We are a small rural church located about 5 miles east of Clayton and about 6 miles west of Smithfield on Hwy. 70 business. Our congregation represents all ages and all backgrounds.

Our pastor must be knowledgeable and believe in the Baptist Doctrine. Must be a strong spiritual leader, administrator and teacher. One who will proclaim the Good News in a meaningful way that will help members learn to apply Biblical concepts to their everyday lives.

We are an autonomous Missionary Baptist Church that is affiliated with the Johnston District Missionary Baptist Association and its auxiliaries and the General Baptist State Convention and its auxiliaries.

Please include in your resume the following:

1. Name/Address/Day and Evening Phone Numbers
2. Age
3. Marital Status
4. Education/Schools Attended
5. Pastoral Experience (Where, When, Number of Years)
6. References

Qualifications:

1. Ordained Missionary Baptist Minister
2. Possess Leadership, Administrative, and Counseling Skills
3. Willingness to follow Baptist Doctrines, Policies and Procedures
4. Able to lead and communicate with all age groups
5. Family oriented
6. Must possess good moral and ethical conduct

Interested persons should send resumes to:

Oakey Grove Baptist Church, Pulpit Search Committee
 Deacon Loomis Hodges, Chairperson, PO Box 2435, Smithfield, NC 27577

General Baptist Convention Recommends Study Books!

The Purpose and Power of Praise & Worship by Dr. Myles Monroe, \$12.99. This is another best selling book by Dr. Myles Monroe. It talks about a spirit-to-spirit relationship with God, as we understand the awesome purpose and power of praise and worship.

Learning to Worship His Name by Thomas E. Ward, \$3.00. This is a devotional guide that reveals the 30 different names of God. It will challenge the reader to a deeper understanding of God.

SALE BOOKS

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<i>A Splendid Enterprise History of The GBSC</i> by Dr. W.B. Lewis	\$39.95	\$25.00	\$3.00

Deacon Training in the Black Church
by Eric A. Mayes

\$12.95 \$10.00 \$1.50

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by Henry Webb

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Development of A Church Manual of Administrative Policies by Robert A. Young

\$10.95 \$9.00 \$1.50

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Update of The National Baptist Congress of Christian Education, Charlotte, North Carolina,

June 18-22, 2001

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Events/Meeting Sites: Charlotte Convention Center

National Baptist Congress of Christian Education Pre-Congress Musical 2001

Host Church:

FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

3301 Beatties Ford Road, Charlotte NC 28216

Dr. Clifford A. Jones, Senior Minister/Host Pastor

Mr. Tony McNeill, Pre-Congress Musical Director

WHEN: Monday, June 18, 2001

TIME: 6:00 pm — Official Welcome • 6:45 — Concert

WHERE: Charlotte Convention Center • TICKETS: \$10.00 per person

Join us as we present a Spirit-filled evening of Worship and Praise with a 500-Voice citywide, interdenominational choir and other talented musicians offering a diversified program of Sacred/Gospel Music.

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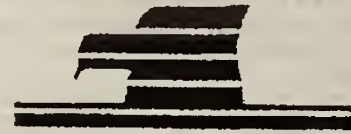
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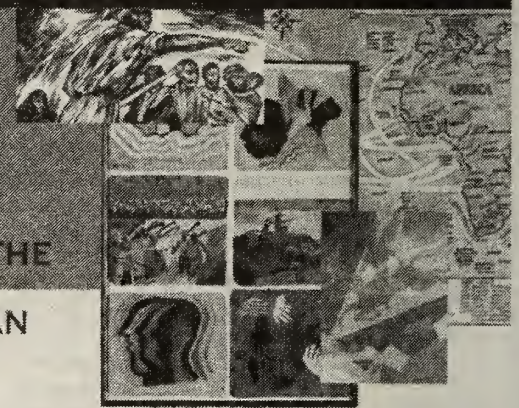
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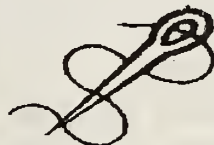
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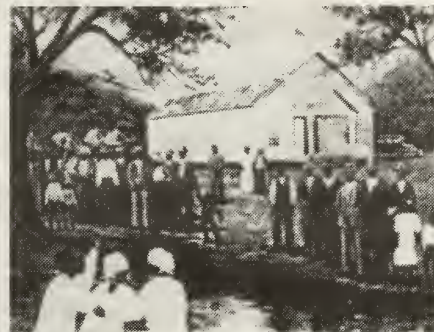


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Friday: April 27: 10 a.m. Registration • 12 p.m.: Open Convocation

7 p.m. "Special Concert" by *Friendship Baptist Church Music Ministry*

Friday evening: "Meet & Greet Fellowship Hour"

Saturday, April 28: Special Guest: Mrs. Sonya Hamm • "The Light 103.9 Breakfast Club"

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Vol. 124, No. 4

Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc.
Voice of 500,000 North Carolina Baptists

April 2001

All Roads Lead To Wilmington, N.C.

By John D. Fuller Sr., President

Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Secretary

The 2001 Millennium Mid-Year Session of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.

Theme:

"The Challenge Is The Same: Reach The Masses" (John 12:32)
To Convene At

First Baptist Church, 5th Street, Wilmington, NC

Rev. Dr. J.Z. Windley, Host Pastor

Area Associations

Moderator James Davis, Kenansville-Eastern Association

Moderator Andre Carr, Middle District Association

Moderator Freeman Gause, Ocean View Association

May 6-9, 2001

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Volume 124, Number 5

Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C. Inc.
Voice of 500,000 North Carolina Baptists

May 2001

The Mid-Year Session of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.

Theme:

*"The Challenge Is The Same:
Reach The Masses"* John 12:32
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Wilmington, North Carolina

Host Church

Rev. Dr. J.Z. Windley

Host Pastor

May 6-9, 2001

Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President, GBSC

Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr.,

Executive-Secretary-Treasurer, GBSC

Dr. Freddie Barnes, Program Committee

Chairman, GBSC

Program

Sunday, May 6, 2001

LOCAL & AREA YOUTH

MINISTRY PROGRAM

7-9 PM

First Baptist Church, Wilmington, NC

Motivation & Inspiration Hour—

Rev. Paul L. Anderson, &

Rev. Timothy A. Johnson

Baptist Grove Church, Raleigh, NC

Monday, May 7, 2001

9 AM Tee Time (SHOTGUN) Captain's Choice
(Echo Farms Gold and Country Club, 4114
Echo Farms Blvd., Wilmington, NC 28412)

9 AM Registration

9 AM Mid-Year Millennium Breakfast

First Baptist Church, Wilmington, NC

10 AM-12 Noon Senior Citizens Ministry

First Baptist Church, Wilmington, NC

(SPECIAL PROGRAM)

Monday, May 7, 2001

Afternoon Worship, First Baptist Church

Rev. Nilous Avery II, 4th Vice President,

Presiding

2 PM DEVOTION: Chaplain Michael Smith

2:15-5 PM GBSC Workshops & Training Sessions

2:15 PM Institutional Ministry

Committee Workshop

3:30 PM Health & Human Services Workshop

Monday, May 7, 2001

Evening Worship, New Hanover High School

Rev. N.T. Davis, 3rd Vice President, Presiding

7 PM Local Committee Program

8 PM Pre-Convention Worship Service

Dr. John D. Fuller Sr.

Greetings: Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission

Convention, Dr. David Goatley, Executive

Secretary Shaw University & Shaw Divinity

School, Dr. T.O. Shaw, President

Mid-Year Millennium Opening Sermon -

Dr. E.V. Hill, Pastor

Mount Zion Baptist Church, Los Angeles,

CA



9:30 PM Evangelism Late Night Service

Dr. H.C. Miller, Evangelism, Chairperson

Special Music Choir

Sermon Rev. M.T. Clowney, Pastor,

First Baptist Church, Clinton, NC

Moderator Western Union Missionary

Baptist Association

Tuesday Morning, May 8, 2001

First Baptist Church, Wilmington, NC

Rev. Dr. Howard Parker,

2nd Vice President, Presiding

8:30 AM Registration

10 A.M. OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE

2001 MID-YEAR MILLENNIUM SESSION

Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President

10 AM Devotional Period Local

Committee/Local Association

Greetings: Laymen's League,

Mr. Jarvis Morgan, President

Congress of Christian Education,

Dr. Jasper Reed, President

Ushers, Mr. Charles Fletcher, President

10:15-10:55 AM GBSC Workshop

First Baptist Church, Wilmington, NC

Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., Facilitator

11 A.M. Inspirational Message

Dr. Rev. Terry L. Henry, Wilmington, N.C.

11:30 A.M.-12:45 P.M. Minister's

Council Workshop

First Baptist Church, Wilmington, NC

Rev. E.V. Hill, First Baptist Church

Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch, Facilitator

8:30-10:45 A.M. Vacation Bible School

Clinic

First Baptist Church, Wilmington, NC

12:45 PM Housing Ministry Update

Dr. Thurman B. Everett

1:00 PM Adjournment to Navassa,

North Carolina Property

LUNCH/SITE TOURS/DEDICATION

PROGRAM/PRESS CONFERENCE

Tuesday Afternoon, May 8, 2001

First Baptist Church, Wilmington, NC

Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Secretary-

Treasurer, Presiding

4-5:30 PM STEWARDSHIP WORKSHOP

Trustees/Budget Committee/Finance

Committees/Pastor's Aids

5:30 PM Announcement/Adjournment

Tuesday Evening, May 8, 2001

First Baptist Church, Wilmington, NC

Dr. John H. Grant, 1st Vice President, Presiding

7PM Devotional Period Area Association

Special Music: Oxford, NC Community Mass Choir

7:30 PM Greetings: WBH&FMC,

Mrs. Maggie White, President

Central Children's Home,

Mr. Michael Alston, Director

7:45 PM Lecture: "Spiritual Leadership:

A Guide to Spiritual Leadership In the

Church" Dr. Geoffrey V. Guns,

President Virginia Baptist State Convention

Pastor Second Calvary Baptist Church,

Norfolk, VA

Stewardship Appeal

Introduction of Preacher

Dr. John H. Grant

Special Music

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8:30 PM 2001 Millennium Mid-Year

Sermon, Rev. Lacy Joyner, Pastor,

First Baptist Church, Oxford, NC;

Moderator United Shiloh Missionary

Baptist Association

Invitational Selection

Benediction

Moderator Joyner

9:30 PM Evangelism Late Night Service

Dr. H.C. Miller, Evangelism, Chairperson

Sermon Rev. T.R. Davis, Pastor,

Jones Chapel Baptist Church, Laurinburg, NC

Special Music

Area Choirs

Wednesday, Morning, May 9, 2001

First Baptist Church, Wilmington, NC

Dr. Charles T. Bullock,

Vice President at Large, Presiding

PRESIDENTIAL SESSION

8:30 AM REGISTRATION

9 AM Devotional Period Local Committee

9:30 AM Inspirational Message

Dr. Clifford A. Jones Sr., Past President 2001

Host National Baptist Convention USA, Inc.

Congress Christian Education, Charlotte, NC

10 AM GBSC Business Session

Reports: Dr. Charles T. Bullock, Vice-President-

At-Large, General Board Dr. Archie D.

Logan Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer

Attorney Stephanie Hand

10:30 AM Special Workshop Church Law,

Professor Lynn A. Buzzard Norman Adrian

Wiggins, School of Law, Campbell

University, Buies Creek, NC

Offertory Stewardship Appeal

12 Noon PRESIDENT'S HOUR

Dr. John D. Fuller Sr.

Closing 2001 Millennium Mid-Year Sermon

Dr. Geoffrey V. Guns, President Virginia

Baptist State Convention - Pastor Second

Calvary Baptist Church, Norfolk, VA

Adjournment President Fuller

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GUEST EVANGELIST

From The Desk of the Executive Secretary-Treasurer Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Ed.D.

The GBSC General Board Approves Millennium Stewardship Campaign

By Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr.

On Tuesday, April 17, 2001 the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc., General Board approved a 3 Million Dollar—30 Month Millennium Stewardship Campaign. President John D. Fuller Sr. and I presented the campaign at the Board meeting held at the Lewis Chapel Baptist Church, Fayetteville, NC.

In the presentation we highlighted the recent growth of the Convention ministry, staff and projects. The Convention has also begun its final phase of Hurricane Floyd Relief with the completing of a housing sub-division in Princeville, NC; projects in Nash/Edgecomb Counties; work in Eastern North Carolina; Navassa; and Laurel Hill. We will be calling on all General Baptist to participate in the Stewardship Campaign. Dr. Fuller said: "...not only are we trying to support our work but we are attempting to establish STEWARDSHIP PROGRAMS IN ALL GBSC, Inc. CHURCHES... too many of our churches are still having baby contests and fish fries to support the church."

The Campaign will be most ambitious of any African-American State Convention in history. A strong church means a strong Association, which means a stronger GBSC, Inc. Below is the Millennium Stewardship Campaign Announcement.

THE MILLENNIUM VISION OF THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC.

Seeing Beyond Where We Are

Deuteronomy 34:1-4 Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is across from Jericho, And the LORD showed him all the land of Gilead as far as Dan, all Naphtali and the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, the South, and the plain of the Valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees, as far as Zoar. Then the LORD said to him, "This is the land of which I swore to give Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, saying, 'I will give it to your descendants.' I have caused you to see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there." (NKJV)

THE MILLENNIUM STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

3 Million Dollars in 30 Months

INTRODUCTION

We have reached the NEW MILLENNIUM and God has truly blessed our work. The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina leads the African-American Faith-Based Community in MISSION/MINISTRY/MESSAGE. It is important that we continue to set a clear VISION of what God has called us to do as a Convention and how our SPIRITUAL AGENDA must proceed. We are led by the Holy Spirit to share with the GBSC, Inc. family:

Below we have outlined our work at the present time and where we must go to maintain our MISSION/MINISTRY/MESSAGE! We must have your prayers and support. This initiative will be the greatest and largest in GBSC, Inc. history. We must move our work from clearinghouse to Kingdom station. The funds received from this campaign will be used to build the infrastructure for the expanded GBSC, Inc., program initiatives including: Health & Human Services, Adoption & Foster Care, Housing and Faith-based Economic Development.

WHERE WE ARE: MISSION

The GBSC has five Auxiliaries: The Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina; the Congress of Christian Education; the Usher's Convention, the Laymen's League, and the Ministers' Council. The GBSC supports several major Objectives: State Missions; Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention, (Foreign Mission); Shaw University; Shaw University Divinity School; and Central Children's Home.

Each Auxiliary has a vital and important purpose in the structure of the GBSC, Inc. Family. The Congress is developing a Statewide Training and Teaching Ministry for our Churches and Associations: The Laymen's League has launched a major 2-year Evangelistic Crusade for more men, more men, and more men: The strayed, the lost, and the unsaved. We want a Laymen's group in every Church and Association. Our Ushers are working to reach the masses. The Minister's Council is moving across the State providing new and exciting ministry opportunities.

Our Constitution state that the OBJECT of the GBSC, Inc., is:

ARTICLE II—OBJECT

Section 1: This Convention shall undertake to promote and support Home and Foreign Missions, Christian and Higher Christian Education, ministerial relief, church building and development, social Christian services, publication and distribution of Baptist Christian literature; support children in the State of North Carolina who are in need of care, the study and distribution of the Bible, to cooperate with the other Missionary Baptist organizations to carry out the spirit of this Convention and engage in whatever other Christian endeavors as were deemed necessary to advocate the Kingdom of God.

Section 2: To enhance Christian fellowship among the Baptists of North Carolina in cooperation with the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina and to form a brotherly tie with Baptist and Christians around the world.

We continue to carry out the mandates of our Convention with convictions and commitment to the causes of Kingdom Building and Salvation. Our first responsibility is to support our Mission. The GBSC, Inc., gives more than any other African-American Baptist Convention to other "Objectives." The "Objectives are the ground of our Mission.

We also have renewed our relationship with the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina. Rev. James Richardson serves as a consultant to the work. We sponsor a joint Leadership Conference each August with the BSC. We plan to have a joint session the 2002 to rekindle the fellowship that began at our creation in 1867. We have done an outstanding job but we must look beyond where we are.

The Staff and Programs

For the past two years we have worked to upgrade our staff and provide more field workers and GBSC, Inc. events across the State. Our staff and travel budgets have grown significantly. Also, we work to provide you with GBSC, Inc. literature and materials in our training and workshop sessions. Many times these materials and literature are distributed at no cost to the participants. The Convention is more visible across the state. Also as leaders of the GBSC, Inc. we have tried to make ourselves available to you for worship, workshops, and activities in your churches and Associations. We have encouraged other GBSC officers to share with you in your churches and Association sessions. We have done an outstanding job but we must look beyond where we are.

• The Baptist Informer

Our GBSC Informer has been improved and provides helpful information for the GBSC Family. We spend a large amount of time and energy on our paper. We have done an outstanding job but we must look beyond where we are.

• The General Baptist Bookstore

We have re-opened our bookstore. As the leading and one of the largest African-American faith-based organizations in the country it was critical to our mission, growth and ministry that we have our own bookstore resource for Christian literature.



Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr.

It is important that we provide General Baptist literature for the Convention. It is expensive to operate a bookstore and provide GBSC, Inc. publications; however we have made the leap of faith and are committed to this enterprise. We have done an outstanding job but we must look beyond where we are. We need greater support from our Churches and Associations. We have done an outstanding job but we must look beyond where we are.

WHERE WE ARE: MINISTRY

Our GBSC, Inc. ministry has grown significantly the past few years; 1 John 3:2 reminds us: "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. (KJV). The Lord God has worked great miracles not only in the Convention but also in our Churches and Associations. The work is growing; God continues to bless our Pastors, Moderators and Leaders.

Let us pause to share in a bird's eye view what we are doing in several areas of ministry at the present time.

• NATIONAL BAPTIST CONGRESS

We are hosting the 96th National Baptist Congress of Christian Education in Charlotte, NC, and June 18-22, 2001. This will be the largest African-American Faith-based Convention of the Year. Plan to join us, make your reservations now!

• EVANGELISM

Our GBSC, Inc. Evangelism Committee is one of the most active of any African-American Baptist Convention. Each year we bring the leading Preachers, scholars and teachers to the State for your enrichment.

• HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Dr. Anita Holmes, one of the leading African-American health educators in the country has joined our GBSC, Inc. staff fulltime. She and the renowned scholar, Dr. John Hatch lead and direct our ministry. She has officers and directs a part-time and volunteer staff.

• ADOPTION & FOSTER CARE

Our Convention has partnered in matching-grant program with the State of North Carolina to increase the number of Adoptions and Foster Care homes for minority and at risk young people. We are committed to finding permanent homes for these children. The Federal and State Governments have cited us for the success of

(Continued on page 3)

The Baptist Informer

Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.

Voice of 500,000 Baptists

(USPS 042-680)

Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Editor

Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie, Executive Editor

Ms. Carol J. Smith, Managing Editor

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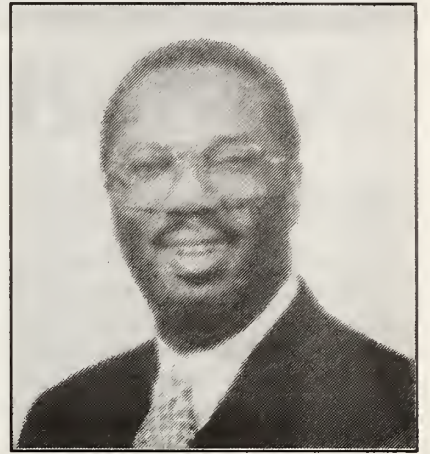
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THEME: "By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness..." (II Corinthians 6:7)

From The Desk of Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President

Support all of the GBSC's Upcoming Events!

From the Desk of Charles T. Bullock Office of Vice President At Large



Dr. John D. Fuller Sr.

What's The Church For?

A young man came into the church office a few weeks ago and asked to be given enough money for food and shelter for about three days. That, he said, would give him enough time to find a job and a permanent place to live. We had a long conversation, which included my telling him that we did not give out money, but we would assist him in getting food and shelter. He wanted money, refused our assistance, and then asked the question, "What's the church for?"

We live in an age of vast media and technology and it appears that many have become fascinated with the biblical information that they can receive from the computer and with the biblical preaching and teaching on radio and television (which has been called the electronic church). They asked the question, "What's the Church for?" Even though some churches are filled to capacity on Sunday morning, some with two and three services, yet there is another element asking, "What's the Church for?" Their are those in our society today when called upon to attend the church services

and support its activities are asking, "What For?" There are others who have read about the historical beginning of the church and found that there were those who sacrificed their lives for its growth and development, and ask, "why," "What's the Church for." There are those who have searched for the true church and the meaning of the various denominations and the reason for the Protestant Reformation and the question is asked, "What's The Church For?"

When Jesus spoke the words "Upon this rock, I will build my church ..." (Matt. 16:18), he was speaking directly to Peter, but also to men who had been called to be his disciples. When Jesus said, "I will build by church," he was not referring to a building or to an organization. He was referring to "the called-out fellowship," the "Ecclesia." Those who have known and know Christ as their personal savior have been called out from a rebellious world to

live lives of Christian faith and service. Thus, the church is a fellowship of the redeemed, a divine institution with a sacred mission on earth.

Gaines Dobbins in his book, **A Ministering Church**, states, "The church stands primarily for the salvation of the soul." The church is an organism that lives, feels and moves. It is a fellowship by which people are blessed. The church is for worship, to seek the divine presence and to do the will of God. The church is an outward expression of God's work of salvation. The church is for the proclamation of the good news of Jesus Christ. It is for the teaching and the implementation of the word of God. As one writer has said, "the church stands as a symbol of God presence for the proclaiming and witnessing the truths of God so that the unsaved can hear the truth of God, repent and believe.

"What is the church for?" The church is the sacred institution of God created in

the hearts of humankind for ministering to human needs. The church is an institution of Jesus Christ on earth for sharing the responsibility of administering to suffering humanity. The church gives assistance to those who seek the assistance of the church and helps to bring them to the knowledge of the saving power of Jesus Christ. Agencies cannot take the place of the church and minister with a compassionate spirit in the name of Christ. The church can, the church must. For this is what the church is for. Therefore, the church shares the ministry of institutions such as homes for the elderly, homes for children, hospitals, penal institutions and other agencies in our society that call upon the church to serve human needs. The church stands today as an oasis of truth in an erring world.

GBSC Board Approves

our work. North Carolina has been awarded bonus funds to continue the program because of the increase in placements.

• MODERATORS MINISTRY

We are developing a GBSC, Inc. Handbook on Polity and Governance for our Convention. We want to thank Moderators James Smith and J.J. Haire for heading this initiative and task.

• INSTITUTIONAL MINISTRY

Chaplain Michael Smith is heading up this important work formerly known as Prison Ministry. We are fortunate to have Chaplain Smith as a Volunteer staff supports person.

• OTHER CONVENTIONS

We support other State, National and International religious organizations. Also we have pledged to help the NBC-USA liquidate its debt on the "World Center."

• HOUSING MINISTRY

Our Housing Ministry has grown under the leadership of Dr. Thurman B. Everett. We have five major projects:

> Princeville—At the present time we are scheduled to complete Phoenix Village with the construction of thirteen, 13 homes. Our project is the next for town development and infrastructure.

> Laurel Hill—We are working with the J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly Committee to enhance and develop our property.

> Navassa—In Navassa we have purchased 130 acres in Brunswick County 3 miles from the Battleship North Carolina across the bridge from Wilmington, NC for low income housing and Hurricane Floyd Relief

> Edgecomb/Nash County—We have joined with Ebenezer Baptist Church,

Dr. Thomas Walker, Pastor and A.T.O.M., Inc. to restore and relocate Hurricane Floyd Victims. The first home is almost completed and will be dedicated during our Auxiliary Annual Session the week of July 16-20, 2001. Also Rev. Cornelius Moore, Saint James Baptist Church, Rocky Mount is working with victims of the flood who were not served by previous assistance. The Tarboro/Princeville CDC, headed by Pastor William Clayton is partnering with us to build homes for flood victims. Finally we are working with "Friends for Friends, Inc., headed by Dr. & Mrs. Simon Burney who head a ministry to assist persons in mobile homes and renters. The local municipalities in each area also endorse these partnerships and have agreed to co-sponsor our work.

> Statewide projects—Our Ministry also reaches statewide. We have assisted many people in the GBSC who have purchased new homes or who needed to qualify for mortgage loans. We are working with Pastors, Moderators, Churches and Associations to create affordable and low-income housing for our people.

• ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

We have responded to the Executive Committee's request and to call and concerns from Pastors about providing a comprehensive empowerment program for our Convention. We are working with Mechanics & Farmers; Centura; BB&T and South Trust Banks to put together programs that will benefit your congregations and organizations.

• THE GENERAL BAPTIST

FOUNDATION, INC.
• CONVENTION CONSULTANTS
Convention Planning
Health & Human Services
Housing
Congress of Christian Education
We have done an outstanding job but we must look beyond where we are.

WHERE WE ARE: MESSAGE THE MILLENNIUM STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

3 Million Dollars in 30 months
We are calling on all of our GBSC, Inc. churches to promote a STEWARDSHIP PLAN. The outline for this plan appears in our "New Millennium Church Stewardship & Minister Salary Guidelines 2001-2002 Edition." It is important that the local church is empowered and supports our VISION for the NEW MILLENNIUM. We encourage each church no matter how large or small to move toward full-time clergy and ministry. We must look beyond where we are as a Convention, Churches and Associations.

Our Stewardship Campaign will have four major components:

- ✓ STATE MISSIONS: We will ask each Church, Association, Union and GBSC Auxiliary to support the Campaign.
- ✓ GENERAL BAPTIST FOUNDATION, INC.; The GBF, Inc., will coordinate Corporate and Private Giving: \$3,000; \$30,000; \$300,000 gifts.
- ✓ PERSONAL CONTRIBUTIONS: Each General Baptist will be asked to contribute from \$300 to \$3,000.
- ✓ Change for CHANGE PROGRAM: Every church will be given a Change For CHANGE container to support the work.

The Executive Secretary-Treasurer, The President and Vice-Presidents will head this Campaign along with the Chairman of the Foundation, GBSC Staff and Convention Moderators. We have been given the VISION by GOD—come run with us to see what the end will be. We call on you to pray that God will lead us to do HIS work at such a time as this.

A & O CHURCH FURNITURE

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Women's Page Highlights

A Mother's Living Faith

By Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Brodie

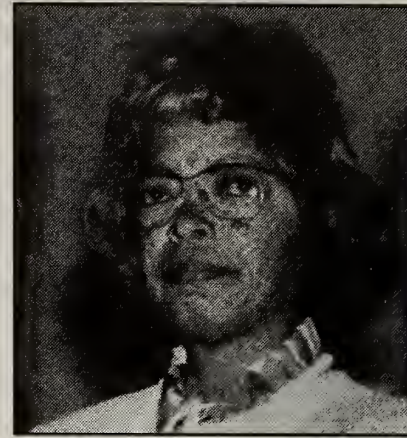
From the beginning has the home, the decisions of parents, the decision of a father, or the decision of a mother affected the world. How did sin become dominant in the first home? What problems resulted in their home, environment, even world because of the decision to disobey God's Word! What a fallout for generations born and yet to be born!

However, God's grace and mercy for deliverance from the shackles of sin do abound for parents or a parent who adheres to God's Word, God's Wisdom, God's Advice. Such is a mother whose name is mentioned scarcely in the Bible; yet her Godly wisdom and influence affected the world

while she lived and even after her death. She had great faith in God, her Creator.

Living in a world where the king/pharaoh commanded that all Hebrew baby boys be thrown into the river, the Nile, she put her son among the papyrus plants, in the Nile, and she tenderly tucked him into a special designed basket. Apparently she believed that God would take care, and He did. For He allowed the pharaoh's daughter to find and keep this baby boy as her own. He caused things to work together for the real mother, who loved him, for His purpose. Therefore, the real mother was summoned to nurse and care for the child for a period of time. Under the watchful eye of God, His chosen handservant reared her son early in his wisdom. This son God

would call and use to change the world, the environment of a people. God blessed this mother of faith not only with His leader and emancipator (Moses) of the Hebrew nation but also with an older son (Aaron, an high priest), and older daughter (Miriam, a prophetess). Oh how God rewarded the living faith of this mother, Jochebed! Oh, yes how important it is to reach the family, for then surely the masses will be reached for Jesus Christ!



Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

A Christian Home

"O give us homes with godly fathers,
MOTHERS,
Who always place their hope and trust in
Him;
Whose tender patience turmoil never
bothers,
Whose calm and courage trouble cannot
dim;
A home where each finds joy in serving
others,
And love still shines, tho days be dark and
grim."

Barbara B. Hart



HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

WOMAN'S BAPTIST HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONARY CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, AUXILIARY TO GBSC 2001 CALENDAR

MAY

5 — Ministers' Wives Retreat,
Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill

JUNE

2 — Young Adults' Retreat
4-8 — Leadership Training
Conference, Baptist Assembly,
Laurel Hill
10-15 — First Week of Youth Bible
Camp, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill
17-22 — Second Week of Bible Youth
Bible Camp, Baptist Assembly,
Laurel Hill

23 — MISSIONS PRAYER DAY

(County Unions, et. al.)
24-29 — Third Week of Youth Bible
Camp, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill

JULY

22-26 — Woman's Baptist Home and
Foreign Missionary Convention

AUGUST:

(Prayer month for the Family)
27-31 — Lott Carey Baptist Foreign
Mission Convention, Columbus, Ohio

SEPTEMBER

4-7 — National Baptist Convention
22 — Family Missions Conference,
New Ahoskie Baptist Church,
Ahoskie

OCTOBER

(Prayer month for SHAW
UNIVERSITY AND SHAW
DIVINITY SCHOOL)
13 — WBSC Institute Workers'
Workshop, Baptist Headquarters

NOVEMBER

3 — Youth Evangelism Conference,
Cumberland County Memorial
Auditorium, Fayetteville
5 — World Day of Prayer
(BWA — Woman's Department)
22 — Thanksgiving Day

DECEMBER

25 — Christmas Day

POSITION OPEN: ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

The Woman's Baptist Home & Foreign Missionary Convention, Auxiliary to GBSC, is accepting applications for an Administrative Assistant. Applicants should meet the following requirements.

- Have a baccalaureate degree, preferably in Business Management (some courses in Christian education with some years of experience)
- Have supervisory expertise
- Have communicative and organizational skills
- Be able to maintain lists, schedule(s)
- Be able to work with minimal supervision
- Have proficiency in business English
- Have knowledge of preparing and reporting state and federal taxes preparation
- Have proficient computer skills
- Have a pleasant personality and telephone skills
- Have team spirit.

Salary is negotiable, good benefits.

Please send a resume to: The Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina,
Auxiliary to GBSC, PO Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602
Telephone: (919) 833-4823 • Fax (919) 833-7599

POSITION OPEN: SECRETARY

The Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention, Auxiliary to GBSC, is accepting applications for a Secretary. Applicants should meet the following qualifications.

- Have completed high school and have had several business courses beyond high school
- Have knowledge of business English
- Have efficient knowledge of computer operations, especially word processing and spreadsheets
- Have good typing speed and accuracy
- Have the ability to relate to people.

The salary is negotiable, good benefits.
Please send resume to the address below:

The Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary
Convention of North Carolina, Auxiliary to GBSC
PO Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602
Telephone: (919) 833-4823
Fax: (919) 833-7599

POSITION OPEN: Office Secretary/HELPER Coordinator for the WBH&FMC

The Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention now is receiving applications for the position of Office Secretary/HELPER Coordinator.

Qualifications:

- Should have good secretarial skills.
- Should have efficient computer skills, especially word processing and spreadsheets
- Should have an appropriate degree associate or bachelor and some experience
- Should have team spirit

Salary is negotiable; good benefits
Please send immediately a resume to:
The Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign
Missionary Convention
of North Carolina, Auxiliary to GBSC
PO Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602
Telephone: (919) 833-4823
Fax: (919) 833-7599

More Women's Highlights

REMINDERS

1. The 21st Ministers' Wives and Widows Retreat is scheduled for Saturday, May 5, 2001, at the Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill. All ministers' wives/widows, along with their husbands, are invited. The advance fee for individuals who plan to come on Saturday is \$18; \$36 for couple (husband and wife). For those who come on Friday and spend the night, the advance fee is \$25; for couple (husband and wife) \$50. (People who spend the night need to bring bed linens and toiletries). For overnight stay, on-site donations are \$26 (for couple \$52) and for Saturday only, on-site donations are \$20 (for couple, \$40).

2. The Leadership Training Confer-

ence will convene the week of June 4-8, 2001 at the Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill. The fee is \$120 per person. Please send to the office for a form and return by May 18, 2001.

3. The Youth Bible Camp will be held June 10-15, 2001 (Week 1); June 17-22, 2001 (Week 2); June 24-29, 2001 (Week 3). The fee for the regular camper is \$160 and for the day camper is \$100. Campers are received on a first-come basis. The non-refundable deposit of \$10 must be sent along with the completed registration form, health form parental or guardian form. Please contact the office for forms.

4. Self-Denial Envelopes for the "penny-a-day" offerings can now be secured from the office. Funds should be sent

to the office by July 11, 2001.

5. The 117th Annual Session Pre-Convention Banquet tickets may be secured from the office now. Tickets in advance are \$30 and at the door, \$31. Please send your ticket request along with funds to the office now.

6. Housing Reservation forms for the 117th Annual Session are now available from the office. Please complete the form and send/fax it directly to the host hotel, Adams Mark, Winston-Salem. The Annual Session will meet July 22-26, 2001 at the Benton Convention Center, Winston-Salem.

7. Missions Prayer Day is June 23, 2001. Please send to the office: Women's Baptist State Convention, P.O. Box 1818, Raleigh,

NC 27602 for the free prayer materials.

8. Please see form/application that relates to the event of the Young Adult Department.

9. 2000-2001 Budget. Let us not forget the 2000-2001 Budget: \$47,500 — Shaw University; \$33,500 — Shaw Divinity; \$80,200 — Foreign Missions; \$36,500 — Central Children's Home; \$40,000 — Baptist Assembly; \$556,157 — State Missions, resulting in \$796,357. Please make checks/MO's payable to the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention or the Woman's Baptist State Convention. Please mail contributions and correspondence to: Woman's Baptist State Convention, P.O. Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602.

**To God
be the
glory
for the
State-wide
Leaders'
Work-
shop!**

An Open Letter of Gratitude

*My Dear Missionary Baptist Family In Christ:
To God Be The Glory!
Please allow me this opportunity to express written gratitude to all of you who shared appreciatory gifts with me during the special presentations coordinated by President White at the State-Wide Leaders' Workshop.
Please know that I am indebted to God through Jesus Christ, my parents and family, my pastor and church, you and all others whom God has used to forge my life for this journey. If through my life Christ can help somebody, then my living will not be in vain. Please continue to pray for and support this commission that God has assigned to our hands as His stewards.
May the grace and peace of God our Father in heaven through Jesus Christ be with each of you and may He ever keep you energized with His Holy Spirit.
"Then they that feared the Lord spoke often one to another: and the Lord hearkened, and heart it, and a book of remembrance was before him for them that feared the Lord, and thought upon his name. And they shall be mine, saith the Lord of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth His own son that serveth him." Malachi 3:16-17
Your Handmaiden In Christ,
Priscilla A. Brodie
Executive Secretary-Treasurer*

**We
appreciate
your
attending
and
sharing
in this
ministry.**

**Woman's Baptist
Home & Foreign
Missionary
Convention of
North Carolina
YOUNG
ADULT
RETREAT
Kenansville, NC
"Empowering
Young Adults
to Reach the
Masses"
Saturday, June 2
9 a.m.-2 p.m.**

PLEASE PRE-REGISTER — DEADLINE MAY 25, 2001

Advance Donation _____ \$10 per person _____ \$15 per couple (Husband & Wife)
On Site Donation _____ \$11 per person _____ \$16 per person (Husband & Wife)

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____ (Lunch to be provided)

Directions to New Kenansville First Baptist Church, Kenansville, N.C.: Take Interstate 40 East to Exit 373. Take a left at the stop sign. Go to the first traffic light and make a left. Go approximately 1 mile and you will pass a correctional facility on the left and the church will be on the left across from James Sprunt Community College. Or, take Hwy. 24 East until you get into Kenansville, make a right onto Hwy. 11, go approximately 1 mile and the church will be on the right across from James Sprunt Community College.

Please mail blank & money by
May 25, 2001 to:
Woman's Baptist State Convention
PO Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602

Name _____ Date _____

Mailing Address _____

Church _____ Pastor _____

Telephone # (_____) _____ E-mail address _____

Young Adult _____ Young Adult Director/Associate _____ Senior _____

My Child(ren) will attend the Youth Class: () Yes () No

Name of Child(ren) _____

Age(s) _____

I shall not hold the Woman's Convention of GBSC liable for any injury which occurs to my child(ren) during the Young Adult Retreat. (Lunch will be provided for the children)

Signed _____ Date _____

LAYMEN'S LEAGUE NEWS

Make Plans To Attend Quarterly Study Commission Meeting

By Romas L. Hales

Laymen, you are requested to start making plans to attend our next Quarterly Study Commission Meeting. This Meeting will be held June 9, 2001 at the Olive Branch Missionary Baptist Church in Elizabeth City, N.C. This will be our first time having the Laymen Study Commission Meeting in Elizabeth City. Please make plans to attend. They are looking for us to be there in large numbers. You will receive detail information in the May mailing per-

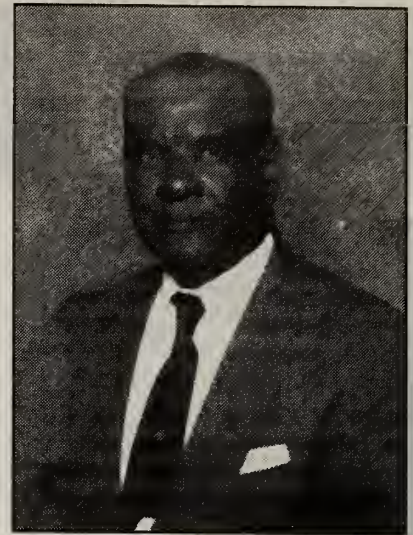
taining to this event.

It is a pleasure to witness the interest being generated in the Laymen's League Organization across the state. We know that a strong Laymen's League is an asset to the church. It is a vehicle to get our men and boys organized and involved in church work. Some are just waiting to be asked by someone to join an auxiliary or to participate in some activity. Let us be the one to extend that invitation and offer a helping hand to get some young person involved in

church work.

We need the support of the pastors and moderators to get more churches and associations to organize a Laymen's League and to carry out its objectives. We are asking for your total support in all of our objectives. Let us never forget that our main objective is to save souls for Christ.

Thank you for your prayers, thank you for your support and may God continue to bless you.



Romas Hales
Laymen's League Coordinator

GBSC Laymen's League Presents Mini Skills Conference 2001

The Mini Skills Conference is a youth talent exhibition open to all elementary through High School students. The purpose is to encourage our youth to develop and demonstrate their talents and abilities in various fields of academic interest.

Contestants may participate in one or both major categories.

I. Performing Arts: which include dramatics, music, oratory, etc.

II. Science and Arts Displays: which include Architecture, Computer Science, Drawing, Natural Science, Painting, Sculpture, Industrial Arts, etc.

May 19 • 10:00 a.m.

J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill, N.C.

Judging Criteria:

All judging will be done in three grade categories: elementary, middle and High School. Entries may be individuals or groups. Groups will be categorized by the grade of the oldest participant. All entries must display positive values.

Performing Arts entries will be judged on creativity, spirituality and quality of perfor-

mance. Displays will be judged on appearance, creativity, knowledge and understanding.

Awards and Prizes

Awards will be given in the Performing Arts Category for:

- Best Musical content
- Best Dramatic content
- Best Oratorical content
- Best Overall performance

Awards will be given in the Science, and Arts Display Category for:

- Best Scientific content
- Best Artistic content
- Best Technological content
- Best Overall Display

Best Overall Performance and Best Overall Display will receive monetary awards. Other awards will be Trophies ribbons and certificates.

For more information contact Michael Kendall:

919-872-6572 • mkendall@intrex.net

Notice to participants and coordinators:

- Plan to arrive at Baptist Assembly at 9 a.m. May 19 for registration and set-up.
- Fee of \$10 for each entry covers the cost of one meal and registration for one category. Registration in a second category requires additional registration fee.
- Additional persons attending as participants in a group entry or as spectators require \$5 to cover the cost of lunch.
- If a piano, electrical hook-up, or other special needs are required please specify on the special needs line of the application form.
- Program will begin at 10 and will conclude after the Awards Luncheon.
- Each church should specify an adult coordinator that we can contact if necessary.
- Each church should try to absorb the cost of their youth participants.
- Registration forms and fees need to be mailed no later than Friday May 11 to:

Baptist Headquarters
603 S. Wilmington St.
Raleigh, NC 27601
919-821-7466 • gbbsc@gbbsc.org

From 2nd Vice President Dr. Howard W. Parker Jr.

News From The Foreign Field: The Lott Carey

While watching one of your favorite shows on television, have you seen the commercial's asking for your help in saving a child in some foreign country, stating that 'you' could save a child? Were you lead to feel guilty because you did not or could not send them any money to save that one child?

The truth of the matter is, when we see the faces of the children on television, our heart does go out to them. But the commercial's intentions is also to make us feel guilty enough to take action.

However, the churches and individuals who support the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention need not feel guilty about seeing the faces of the children on television because you are helping to save 'the children' of the foreign field through the Lott Carey Convention.

The following is a break down of the on-going mission partnership of the Lott Carey.

Guyans

- > Six Churches
- > 1 Hospital
- > 1 Campground
- > Church leadership development
- > Youth outreach ministries

India

- > Three Churches
- > Seven schools with 5,000 students
- > Medical mission to over 500 patients in leprosy colonies
- > One faran
- > Women's skills training program
- > Empowerment groups for women and men

Jamaica

- > Youth outreach ministries
- > Skills Training Center
- > Kindergarten

Kenya

- > Sixteen Churches
- > Church leadership development



Dr. Howard W. Parker Jr.

> Women empowerment ministries

Liberia

- > One Church
- > Two schools with 750 students
- > Evangelism outreach ministries
- > One medical clinic

Nigeria

- > Sixty-two Churches
- > Four schools with 450 students
- > One Theological College
- > Tape Ministry

South Africa

- > 112 Churches
- > One Theological College
- > One Skills Training Center

Zimbabwe

- > One Theological Seminary
- > Agricultural Support

Please do feel guilty, however, to take action in maintaining funds for the foreign field from your respective churches, unions, auxiliaries, associations and families as we continue to support the cause of our foreign work through the General Baptist State Convention and the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention.

Mini Skills Conference Registration Form

Name _____

Age _____ Grade _____

Category _____

() Performing Arts type of performance _____

() Science & Arts Display type of display _____

() Individual entry

() Group entry (list other members) _____

Special Needs _____

Address _____

City State Zip

Church _____

Pastor _____

Church location _____

City _____

Mini Skills coordinator _____ Phone _____

Parental permission:

I _____

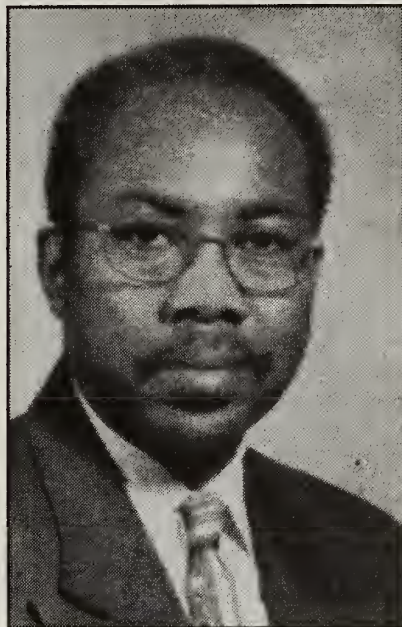
give my son/daughter/guardian _____ permission to participate in the Mini Skills Conference sponsored by GBSC Laymen's League to be held on May 19, 2001 at J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly Laurel Hill, NC

Signature _____

Date _____

From the Moderator of Moderators' Committee

Somebody, Please Help Us!!



Rev. James W. Smith, J.D.

Grace and Peace to all of you, my brothers and sisters!

During the past couple of months I have received some very interesting inquiries. As a matter of fact, the subject of one of the inquiries was "Somebody, Please Help Us." I want to discuss the issues that were raised in two of these inquiries. Now, I must confess that I have not responded to either of these inquiries because I am not sure of the correct response. However, I do wish to discuss them in this article and invite your comments.

One written inquiry was as follows: "A concern of many members of our association is, where can we find in the Bible that says that members can be put out of his or her membership church without first presenting a charge? SOMEBODY, PLEASE HELP US!!" Another telephone inquiry from a deacon was as follows: Does a pastor have the authority to remove a deacon from the deacon board/ministry without a vote of the membership."

I thought these were interesting inquiries and merited some discussion as possible church conflict issues. Before I tackle some of the issues I write about, I make it a point to get some feedback from some of my colleagues in the ministry and some responses to these inquiries were very intriguing. Let's look at the first inquiry. It appears that some association members were concerned that members were being put out of the church without a charge being presented against them. Well, in my discussion of this matter, I was informed that a church has the right to determine her members and if she wanted to put a member out with no reason, she could do so. I suppose this is in line with autonomy and the right of the membership to determine its members. If we were to follow this position, a church could vote members out because she does not like the way they look, their political affiliation, their financial status, their class status, etc. Well, I agree with the basic rights of the membership. But should members be voted out of the church just because they disagree with the pastor or cast a vote with the minority. If so, then what has happened to the right of the minority to dissent? This right should be recognized even in our churches. Maybe I am getting too legalistic, but it does seem to make sense that some type of charge should be made that would warrant the dismissal of a member. A showing of disagreeing for the sake of disagree-

ing solely for the purpose of impeding the progress of the church, moral issues, etc. may certainly be sufficient charges. Most folks would like to know the charges upon which they were convicted.

As to the second inquiry, it seems to depend upon the structure of the church. In some churches, the pastor has been given the authority by the church in the constitution and bylaw to select his or her own deacons. Whenever this is the case, it would reason that the pastor would have the authority to remove the deacon from the deacon board/ministry without a vote of the membership. The reasoning is if he/she has the authority to select, then he/she should have the authority to remove. However, in most churches, Acts 6:3 is the method, "...Look ye out among you..." Generally the church selects the deacons or the pastor/deacons recommend the church for her approval. The church then votes on the deacons. If this method were used, then it would reason that only the church has the authority to remove the deacon.

I am still being amazed at the things that causes conflict within our churches.

If you wish our services in any way, please contact us at the following:
 Rev. James W. Smith, JD
 5 Bracken Ridge Place
 Hillsborough, NC 27278
 (919) 479-0501
 Email: Jsmith9450@aol.com

Rev. W.J. Cox
 107 Gray Street
 Goldsboro, NC 27534
 (919) 751-9899

Dr. Joshua J. Haire Jr.
 P.O. Box 53803
 Fayetteville, NC 28305
 (910) 323-1508

State Ushers News

By Alice W. McNair

Greetings in the name of the Lord!

The Mount Pleasant M. Baptist Church, Clinton, N.C. celebrated their annual Ushers Anniversary on the first Sunday in Feb. 2001 at 6 p.m. Their guests were the Rev. Samuel McDonald, pastor of the First Baptist Church in Garland, N.C. and the Good Hope M. Baptist Church of Fayetteville, N.C. Also attending were his choirs and ushers. Eleven churches attended this event and all ushers were dressed in their uniforms. The ushers marched into the sanctuary in processional. What a beautiful sight to behold!! Bro. Earlie Melvin is president and Dr. Varnie Fullwood is pastor.

Announcing the National Baptist Convention, USA Inc.:

Ushers and Nurses Auxiliary
 National Baptist Congress of Christian Education of Charlotte, N.C.

To All Ushers and Nurse Volunteers:

Rehearsal is Sat., June 16, 2001 at 10:00 a.m. at New Charlotte Convention Center at 501 College Street, Charlotte, N.C. They will be going over the offering procedures at this time. Thank You for your cooperation. Mr. Forest M. Eaves Jr. is the first vice-president of North Carolina ushers. All ushers and nurses are asked to be present and on time.

National Congress Ushers Workshop

Fundamentals of Ushering

Course numbers 6-333-01-Ushers Manual, Dr. C.O. Jackson of S.C. and course number 6-330-02-Leslie Parrot, Rev. H.B. Robinson of Detroit, Mi. They will be held at the Adams Mark Symphony Hotel at 555 S. McDowell St. in Charlotte, N.C. on June 19-22, 2001. Usher class time is 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. and 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. Nurse class time is 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. and from 9 a.m. until 10 a.m. Please register for these classes.

First Baptist Church, Clinton, N.C., Rev. Marvin T. Clowney, pastor, honored one of their senior members with an appreciation Service on Sat., March 31, 2001 at 4 p.m. Mrs. E.V. Robinson was remembered for her many years of loyal and dedicated service. Among her many accomplishments was sect. of Western Union Ushers Convention for 18 years. Succeeding Mrs.

Robinson as sect. was Mrs. Mary Tate, also of First Baptist. She served Western Union Ushers for 8 years. Two dedicated ladies whom Western Union Ushers Convention appreciate for their long years of service. Mrs. Robinson and Mrs. Tate, We Salute You!

The Ushers State Convention will be held in July, 2001 in Rocky Mount, N.C. at the Ebenezer M.B. Church. Dr. Thomas Walker, pastor. Please make plans to attend. I'm not quite sure of the date but I'll let you know in advance.

My thanks again to Dec. Milton T. Johnson and his pastor, Dr. Samson Buie, of Roberts Chapel B. Church, Goldston, N.C., for their answer to the question, who was the first ushers or door keepers in the Bible? I have the names but I need where it is found in the Bible, book, chapter, and verse. I'm waiting to hear from you...

A list of Do's for all ushers and everyone else:

- Do be kind to others
- Do be good to others
- Do be careful of the other person's feelings
- Do sweep around your own front door before you try to sweep around mine
- Do honor and respect the seniors who have paved the way
- Do not join with a crowd against anyone unless you are so ordered by the Lord (he'll never order such)
- Do criticize constructively or not at all
- Do remember those who have tried to help you
- Do shun evil and cleave to that which is good
- Do be kind to those who are not kind to you. You will heap goals of fire on such
- Do pray for vision, for where there is no vision, the people perish
- Do show compassion, good will and sympathy
- Do attend to your own business and allow others to attend to theirs
- Do all the good you can, in all the ways you can, just as long as you can
- May God Bless You All!
- Send Ushers News to P.O. Box 105, Newton Grove, NC 28366.

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1/2 page — \$200	\$1,200

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CONTACT: CECIL HOLLAR 919-484-7768

The month of May is an important month in the life of the believer. Its importance began in the Old Testament and is cited in the New Testament as well. Let us go to 1st Kings 6:1 and note that this is a month of beginnings or commencing if you please. For this was the month, Ziv known as May, that Solomon was led to begin building the house of the Lord. Luke writing in the Acts of the Apostles, 7:47, affirmed this as he wrote "But Solomon built him an house."

The month of May in the present age is still eventful. It is of particular significance to our students of all ages whether they be young or young at heart. The month of May is when many if not most of our commencement exercises are held at all levels of academia. A process that describes the ending of one period and the beginning or commencing of another. Whether we are going from one level of academia to another or from academia to work we are still describing a new beginning. Each of these events present unknowns. For the saints of God each day is a commencement. Each new day brings its own unknowns. An event that we think God for daily, for we walk by faith.

This process, commencement, heralds the ending of something in order for something to begin. Listen as Jesus describes the process in John 16:7, "Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you." So in order for the Holy Spirit, our comforter and teacher, to come Jesus had to leave the earth in His bodily form.

A Christian Education Moment

By Dr. Jasper P. Reed, President
Congress of Christian Education

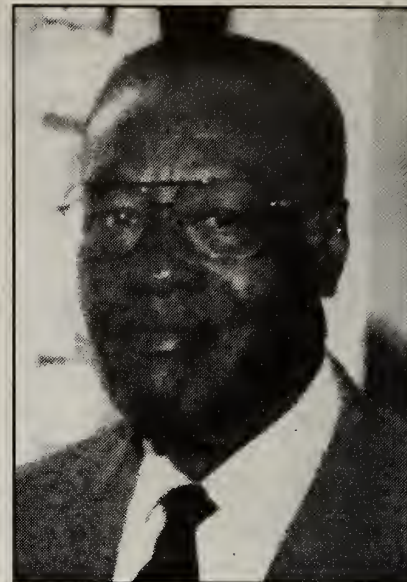
May Is An Important Month For Believers

Further, commencements bring about changes in our lives. With each new beginning we are faced with decisions concerning our secular and spiritual lives. Change is a threat to our comfort zone. It is amazing how quickly and firmly we develop what we know as a protectorate around our lives. It could be our supposedly well being in church life, work life, social life or family life. Each move causes us to reflect on the security of such a move. Jesus continues to speak to us the King of our lives for he knows our every need. His advice to us, as believers, is not to worry about change brought on by new beginnings, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you, Matthew 6:33." If we accept His advice we are never alone in our concerns. If we are faced with the next course, next program, next grade or next academic

level he is with us. If our new day introduces us to a new job, new school or a call to new ministries God is with us. There is nothing that God cannot do for us if we trust him in faith.

Our final thoughts on commencement or beginnings are found in Matthew 6, verses 31, 32 and 34. Here Jesus assures us that God the Father knows our every need and concerns. He asks us, in faith, not to waste our time and energy worrying about things we have no control over. So before we dash out to face the new situation in our life or to conquer the new world that awaits us, let us seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit under the auspices of God the Father and Christ our saviour.

A Christian Education Moment for Our YOUTH And The Young at Heart
— Quiz



Dr. Jasper P. Reed, President
Congress of Christian Education

1. What precedes the beginning of wisdom and what is the basis for a good understanding? Psalm 111:10
2. What did the Psalmist desire more than they that watched for the morning? Psalm 130:5-6
3. How does God prevent man from finding out His secrets? Ecclesiastes 3:11
4. How did God demonstrate His wisdom? Isaiah 46:10
5. Why do fools despise wisdom and instructions? Proverbs 1:7
6. Why did Paul want to spend time with the saints? 1 Timothy 3:14-15
7. What characteristic of Timothy did Paul defend? 1 Timothy 4:12

K.E.M.B. Usher's Association

Submitted by Sister Barbara Stephanie & Brother James Otis Sampson
Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.

Devotion: Rev. Franklin Faison — Larry Hooks

Deacon Archie Lofton states, "thinking about the goodness of Jesus, thanking God for being here one more time; thanking God for the blessing of being in the house of the Lord and thanking God for being here in his presence. Thanking him for being among the saints, thanking him for what he is going to do in the coming New Year. Give Glory Hallelujah! He didn't have to do it but he did.

Song: Can't Nobody Do You Like Jesus He's Sweet I Know.

Music: Friendship Pender Choir
Morning Services

Mission Offering taken

Ushers in charge: St. Johnson Wallace and Friendship Pender

Welcome: Rev. Franklin Faison

Host Church Response: Sister Willie Jones (Serving a common goal) "It's an honor to be in this service today." Commenting on what a wonderful devotional service it is this morning.

Greetings: President Deacon Archie Lofton

He informed that the 50th Anniversary Book is \$10, each. Mediator statement: "I know the Lord didn't bring me this far to leave me now." He knows the Lord will supply all of our needs, because the Lord is good, he is mighty good.

Several plaques were passed out. The Board Breaker Plaque is \$20. Several announcements were mentioned concerning Youth Day. All presidents were asked to meet on Feb. 3, 2001, (12 noon). All ministers were asked to meet at Wilson Chapter, that evening at 6 p.m. Members were asked to cook a covered dish. All ministers were asked to bring a plate they cooked and deacons were asked to serve the dinner. Letters will be out in the mail next week. Feb. 3, about the 6 p.m. dinner for ministers.
Usher Training: Sister Carolyn Merritt

giving honor to God.

1. President of each church (stands) received information from Lauren Hill. Each church is asked to take and share information with their pastors and ushers.

2. Ushers must stay on one accord.

3. Questions about duty as an usher.

4. You must realize you represent God and his people.

5. Attitude must be of Christ.

6. Duty is to make everyone comfortable.

7. Uniforms — there will be some changes going to pull off and put on. Make sure the pin is on the left above the badge.

8. Seating — seat to the front as near as possible.

9. Walk two steps in front of the person.

No one is to be seated while the scripture, prayer, or solo is being said. Ushers should treat all people the same and show no sign of favoritism. All should be one accord.

Brother Archie Lofton mentions that the National Baptist Christian Education will be held in Charlotte, NC, June 18-22.

National Convention

Offering: Congregation

Song: Joy to the World — Choir

Introduction of Speaker, Rev. Alderman His topic, "Why He Came," (John 3:1-16, John 3:1)

Sermon: "Why He Came" Rev. J.D. Morris

A teacher teaching a teacher, that which is born of the flesh is flesh and that which is born of the spirit, is spirit. It's dangerous to walk contrary of the word of God, by his word, before going to be judged. We all need to take heed of his word. Man cannot teach God's word without the Teacher, the Holy Ghost. As Nicodemus was taught by Jesus, "except a man is born again, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." Everyone has to come to the cross. You cannot put yourself ahead of Christ. Jesus said without me you cannot do anything. The

best way to let folks know you've been born again is by the way you love one another. Invitation was given:

Response: Brother Archie Lofton, Grace Recess: Lunch

2:30 p.m.

Devotion: Brother Archie Lofton

Scripture: Psalm 11:1-7 Brother Archie Lofton

Prayer: Rev. Powell

Music: Thank You Lord

Music: So Glad I'm Here

In Jesus Name

Youth Hour: Colleen Carroll

I feel a praise coming on

Usher Training Session: Sister Merrick

Usher Pin to be worn above the badge on left side. No changes to be made on the floor, stay involved with your ushers guide, be real, be yourself.

Introduction of Preacher: Rev. Willie Powell

Sermon: Rev. Ben Everett

Music: Rev. Everett's Choir

(Glad I Got Jesus Down In My Heart)

(Pouring Water On A Drowning Man)

Luke 24:48-51

Matt. 18:15, John 17:4, Matt. 1:21

As we approach the New Year, don't think you are going to the other side and do well, and not talk with your sister or brother here on earth, or forgive them. You can't enter the New Year with that same hateful attitude. We know that down through the years Jesus has been mighty good to all of us. The choice is yours if you want to be saved. Jesus is yours.

Invitation: Rev. Powell

Altar Prayer: Rev. Powell

Secretary Report: Sister Annie R. Bordeaux, \$1,1082. Banner: Mt. Roney

Deacon Ray Johnson, Vice President, gave love tokens to Rev. Everett and to the host church.

Remarks: Brother Archie Lofton, President

Closing with ushers' psalm's

Amen

Benediction: Rev. Ben Everett

Ushers attending were:

Sis Virginia Troy

Sis Annie B. Pryer

Sis Annie Dowe,

Sis Karen Marshall

Sis Dorothy Grady

Sis Erwin Davis Diver

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Christian Education for the 21st Century

By Portia Brandon, M.Div., Christian Education Coordinator

Update: National Baptist Congress Christian Education Conference • June 2001

The National Baptist Congress of Christian Education will bring together in one week of study thousands of people from hundreds of churches and other organizations throughout the family of the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc. These persons are inspired, trained, encouraged and they become important links in the chain of effort to provide a channel through which the National Baptist Convention seeks to improve Christian Education.

The influence of the Congress, is not limited to its one-week activity in the year. What happens in the week between the third and fourth Sundays in June is the result of year-round effort in planning, managing and evaluating on the part of hundreds of people who volunteer their time and effort for a more Christ Center Congress.



Portia Brandon, M.Div.
Christian Education Coordinator

HIGHLIGHTS

June 16, 2001 Special registration day for North Carolina, and South Carolina from noon until 5 p.m.

June 18, 2001 Congress Musical

This Musical will serve as the official welcome to some 25,000+ delegates and ministers from all over the United States who will descend upon the city of Charlotte **June 18-23, 2001** for a week full of classes, sharing, and worship. THE GOAL IS TO ORGANIZE A 500+ VOICE INTERDENOMINATIONAL, INTERRACIAL MASS CHOIR made up of the entire "gospel community" in the Charlotte area and neighboring cities. DONALD LAWRENCE and RICHARD SMALLWOOD will serve as SPECIAL GUEST ARTISTS

June 19, 2001 Presidential Education Banquet-Marriott City Center - 6:30 p.m. - \$40 per ticket-Chairperson - Rev. Dr. Fred Gibson (704) 532-6228

June 19, 2001 Dean's Address

June 21, 2001 Congress President's Address

June 22, 2001 Children and Youth Rally

TBA Undergraduate Scholarship Oratorical Contest

2001 Oratorical contest theme: "What Is It To Love? (John 15:12, 17)

Schedule at a Glance for the Charlotte Convention Center

Day	Activity	Time	Location
Thursday (6/14)	Pre Mark Up,	8 a.m.-5 p.m.	Exhibit Hall,
Friday (6/15)	Decorator, sound & light, contractor rigging & sound check		General Session Hall, Registration Concourses
Saturday (6/16)	Registration	Noon-5 p.m.	Registration Concourses
Sunday (6/17)	Exhibitor Set Up	8 a.m.-6 p.m.	Hall C
	Registration	1-5 p.m.	Registration Concourses
	Musical Rehearsal	5-8 p.m.	Hall A/B
Monday (6/18)	Registration Opens	9 a.m.-5 p.m.	Registration Concourse
	Pre-Faculty Administration Meeting	7-8 a.m.	Ballroom
	Faculty, Full Staff Meeting		
	Exhibitors Move In	9 a.m.-3 p.m.	Ballroom
	Exhibits Open	8 a.m.-noon	Hall C
	Congress Musical	Noon-7 p.m.	Hall C
		7-10 p.m.	Hall A/B
Tuesday (6/19)	Registration Opens	7 a.m.-7 p.m.	Registration Concourse
	Class Sessions	8 a.m.-1 p.m.	Meeting Rooms
	Exhibits Open	9 a.m.-7 p.m.	Hall C
	Dean's Address	1-4 p.m.	Hall A/B
	Evening Worship/Assembly	7-10 p.m.	Hall A/B
Wednesday (6/20)	Registration Opens	7 a.m.-7 p.m.	Registration Concourse
	Exhibits Open	8 a.m.-7 p.m.	Hall C
	Class Sessions	8 a.m.-1 p.m.	Hall C
	Plenary Sessions	1:45-5 p.m.	Meeting Rooms
	Evening Worship/Assembly	7-10 p.m.	Halls A/B
Thursday (6/21)	Registration Opens	9 a.m.-6 p.m.	Registration Concourse
	Exhibits Open	8 a.m.-7 p.m.	Hall C
	Class Sessions	8 a.m.-1 p.m.	Meeting Rooms
	Plenary Session	1:45-5 p.m.	Halls A/B
	Congress President's Address	7-10 p.m.	Halls A/B
Friday (6/22)	Registration Opens	9-5 p.m.	Registration Concourse
	Exhibits Open	9 a.m.-5 p.m.	Hall C
	Class Sessions	1:45-1 p.m.	Meeting Rooms
	Plenary Session	7-10 p.m.	Halls A/B
	Children & Youth Rally		Halls A/B

National Baptist Congress of Christian Education Pre-Congress Musical 2001

Host Church: Friendship Missionary Baptist Church
3301 Beatties Ford Road, Charlotte, NC 28216

Dr. Clifford A. Jones, Senior Minister/Host Pastor

Mr. Tony McNeill, Pre-Congress Musical Director

When: Monday, June 18, 2001

Time: 6 p.m. — Official Welcome • 6:45 p.m. Concert

Where: Charlotte Convention Center

Tickets: \$10 per person

Join us as we present a Spirit-filled evening of worship and praise with a 500-Voice citywide, interdenominational choir and other talented musicians offering a diversified program of Sacred/Gospel Music.

There is a BLESSING in store for EVERYONE! MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND!

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER PRE-CONGRESS MUSICAL

Saturday, June 2, 2001 — All music should be memorized by this date!

Sunday, June 17, 2001 — Mandatory dress rehearsal at Convention Center, 6 to 9 p.m.

Monday, June 18, 2001 — Performance at Charlotte Convention Center; call time: 5:30 p.m.; program starts promptly at 6:45 p.m.

PRE-CONGRESS MUSICAL REHEARSAL SCHEDULE FINAL

MAY

Saturday, May 5 2-4:30 p.m. FMBC

Saturday, May 12 12 noon-2:30 p.m. FMBC

Thursday, May 17 7-9:30 p.m. FMBC

Saturday, May 26 3-6 p.m. FMBC

JUNE

Saturday, June 2 2-4:30 p.m. FMBC

Tuesday, June 12 7-9:30 p.m. FMBC

Thursday, June 14 7-9:30 p.m. FMBC

SUNDAY, JUNE 17, 6-9:30 p.m. Conv. Center

PERFORMANCE: MONDAY, JUNE 18, 5:30-CALL TIME

CONVENTION CENTER

PROGRAM WILL START PROMPTLY AT 6:45 P.M.

ATTENDANCE POLICY FOR PRE-CONGRESS MUSICAL

Attendance for each rehearsal will be tracked by the Section leaders!

PLEASE PLAN TO ARRIVE FOR REHEARSAL EARLY!

WE WILL BEGIN ON TIME!

AFTER APRIL 21st, THE "OFFICIAL CUT-OFF," YOU "MUST" ATTEND FIVE OUT OF THE LAST SEVEN REHEARSALS OR YOU WILL FORFEIT YOUR ELIGIBILITY TO PERFORM.

Sickness, death, work and family emergencies are excused absences. Please report all conflicts, including tardiness to your church representative! You must also advise your church representative of any reason you will be absent! Communicate with your church representative and listen intently to instructions during each rehearsal.

YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO BRING A TAPE RECORDER TO HELP YOU RETAIN YOUR PART!

REHEARSAL TAPES, (soprano, alto, tenor and bass) will be available March 31st. Cassettes are \$8; CDs are \$10.

Please be committed to this work! Be in prayer for every participant that the success of this event will be counted in souls won for Christ!

Pre-Congress Musical Mission Statement

The purpose of the 2001 Pre-Congress Musical of the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education shall be to glorify and praise God through the performance of a high-quality, diversified program of instrumental and choral/vocal music. The Musical shall be a full concert given by an interdenominational, interracial, citywide choir of 500+ voices from the greater Metro-Charlotte area and abroad. Choral/Gospel music directors and musicians from the Charlotte area and abroad have been selected to serve collaboratively as the musical staff. In addition, two well-respected, professional gospel artists have been chosen (Donald Lawrence and Richard Smallwood) as "Special Guests" and will render 3 selections each with the citywide choir.

It is hoped that through this process a genuine sense of unity and respect is developed and nurtured among gospel singers in the Charlotte area. It is also hoped that the music ministries represented will foster long-term partnerships and collaborations with other participating music ministries in future endeavors. It is hoped that God's kingdom will be enlarged and empowered by this gathering. GOD BE PRAISED FOR THE GREAT THINGS HE HAS DONE!

Jocelyn Thompson • Memorial Presbyterian Church, Charlotte

Jacqueline Robinson • Statesville Avenue Presbyterian Church, Charlotte

Stephanie Kirkpatrick • Rocky Ridge Missionary Baptist Church, Concord

Minister Avis D. Graves • University Park Missionary Baptist Church, Charlotte

Debra Sanders-Clyburn • Greater Galilee Baptist Church, Charlotte

Frank E. Williams • White Rock Missionary Baptist Church, Durham

Donald Chisholm • St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church, Charlotte

Bruce Thompson • Mt. Carmel Missionary Baptist Church, Charlotte

Patrick Love • Temple of Refuge, Charlotte

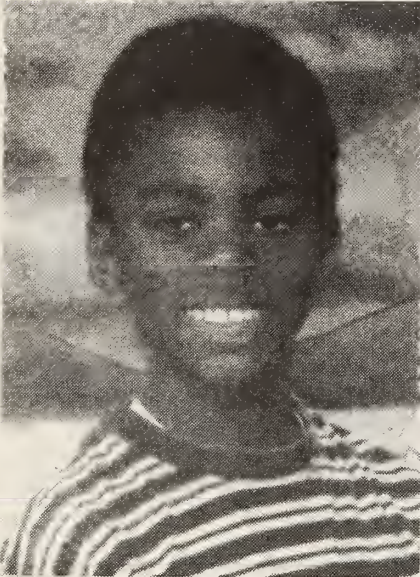
Minister Wayne Robinson • Greater Salem Church, Charlotte and

TWO STELLAR AWARD WINNING SPECIAL GUEST ARTISTS

Donald Lawrence • Producer/Songwriter, Director, Tri-City Singers, Charlotte, NC

Richard Smallwood • Producer/Songwriter, Director, Vision • Washington, DC

UPDATE: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE



Darius

DARIUS

Birth day: September 20, 1988

Introducing Darius...

Darius is a very insightful young man who expresses his feelings in writing very well. He is very creative and enjoys drawing and coloring. Darius has a good sense of humor, but he is also a very spiritual young man who talks openly about his faith. He enjoys watching TV, playing ball and doing other outdoor activities.

Darius is working on expressing his emotions and frustrations in appropriate ways. He also needs to work on what behaviors are appropriate and building his self-esteem. Darius attends counseling and is taking medication to help him focus and control his behaviors, which should help his schoolwork improve. He is committed to fulfilling his therapeutic goals.

A Family for Darius...

Darius is respectful, but cautious, when meeting new people. He is not comfortable discussing his feelings, but he would like to become part of a permanent family. His spirituality and insight are sure help in the adjustment. This young man has much to offer to the family willing to open their hearts and home. (NC #060-548)



Mildred

MILDRED Birth day:
February 25, 1991

Introducing Alex and Mildred:

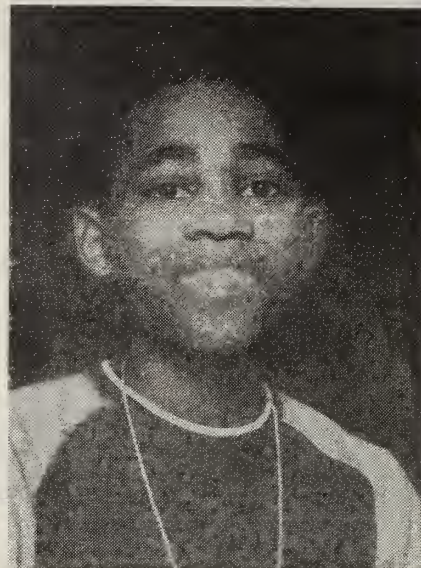
Well-adjusted and intelligent kids are how Alex and Mildred can easily be described. Alex is the peacemaker who always tries to make the best of any situation. Mildred is more outgoing and is easy to talk with. Both kids love school and do very well in their studies.

A Closer Look at Mildred:

Mildred is also very articulate and has a good sense of humor. She is a sweet and loving child who loves to read and sing in the church choir. Mildred also enjoys the outdoors, reading and playing computer games. Her foster mom says Mildred is an ideal child who occasionally needs to be reminded that she is still a child, but is a joy to parent.

A Family for Alex and Mildred:

Alex and Mildred both hope to find a forever family. Alex has always wanted a dad who can be a positive and loving role model. Mildred adjusts well to her environment and is ready to find the loving, stable family who will welcome them both. These kids plan to be successful adults and their new family should be prepared to support and encourage their desires to attend college. An exceptional brother and sister who deserve an exceptional and lucky family! (NC #082-423) (NC #082-422)



Alex

ALEX Birth day: January 27, 1988

A Closer Look at Alex:

Alex loves competitive sports and computers. He is a very intelligent young man and a high achiever who excels in most everything he attempts. Alex is an articulate speaker and he enjoys reading and writing. His teachers all say that they would love to have more students like Alex in their classes.



Angel

The incorrect photo for Angel was submitted for the April "Baptist Insider."

ANGEL Birth day: June 25, 1985

Introducing Angel:

"I like to play sports and I like to sing. When I grow up I want to be a hairdresser. If I could go anywhere in the world, I would go to Sea World. My favorite colors are lime green and blue." Angel also likes to roller skate, sing in the church choir and participate in youth group activities, step dance and play varsity softball. She seeks stability in her life and looks realistically, but hopefully, toward the future.

Angel's social worker says, "Angel is a very resilient young woman who has made a tremendous effort over the past year to improve her life and relationships with others." She attends a special class at school to help her focus on studies and where she gets additional help in other areas.

A Family for Angel:

Angel is an older teenager who still needs the love, structure and security that only a permanent family can provide. She needs a family who can provide the patience and understanding necessary to raise an active teen. A stable and warm environment will help Angel feel secure and accepted and give her the attention she deserves. She has thrived in a home with a single mother and she loves to be the center of attention. Angel has a sister with whom she would like to keep in touch and hopes her new family will understand and agree. (NC #092-371)

For more information on these children, or adoption in general, please call 1-877-625-4371.

FOSTER CARE and ADOPTION NEWS

We urgently seek to identify persons interested in becoming Adoptive and/or Foster Care Parents in each of the 100 counties. There is an urgency. Every child deserves a loving and caring home.

Please contact at:
Dr. Joseph C. Paige or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige
 2610 Albemarle Avenue 27610
 919-231-9774 • E-mail:
 joepaigesr@aol.com

WANTED!!

- ADOPTED PARENT • FOSTER CARE PARENT
- VOLUNTEER ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE ADVOCATES

URGENT!

Please contact: Dr. Joseph C. Paige or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige
 2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27610
 919-231-9774; Fax 919-212-3656; or e-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com
 or dottiedem@maxxconnect.net

\$1,000 BONUS! BONUS! BONUS!

We have decided, as our special way to say "Thank You," to provide a personal bonus of \$1,000, to the first individual, church or association that recruits a minimum of 20 potential adoptive and/or foster parents each month for the next five months (February, March, April, May and June) or a total of 100 recruits (verified) by June 30, 2001. Only one bonus of \$1,000 will be given. Persons interested in competing for the "bonus" should call, write or e-mail us!

Dr. Joseph C. Paige or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige, 2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27610; 919-231-9774; Fax 919-212-3656; E-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com or dottiedem@maxxconnect.net

Go to: www.gbsc.org

Just Off The Press ... Latest Release of
GBSC's Bible — Price \$49.95

Leather Bound

Check out the General Baptist Bookstore for the new release at
919-839-2211
1-800-627-1690 • Fax 919-839-2266

UPDATE: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

By Joseph C. Paige Sr.

and Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige

May is here already! We're now into the fifth month of the new millennium, and we are "up-beat" for children — neglected children, abused children, unwanted children — already in the North Carolina Foster Care System. And of course, we're concerned, too, about the children that move into the system each week, each month, each year, as a result of neglect or abuse by their birth parents or caregivers.

The cycle is a tough one — a rough one indeed for these children of neglect. These children have so much potential. They are special. They must be reclaimed by people like you and me — men and women of God. **They deserve a home, just like all of us. They deserve to be loved, just like all of us. They deserve a nurturing and caring home environment, just like all of us!** Our message, then is simple: **EVERY CHILD DESERVES A HOME, A LOVING AND NURTURING AND CARING HOME!**

And so, with God and you, our volunteers, and advocates — because of your continuing prayers, help and support, the year 2001 continues to be a year of hope and prosperity in our efforts to recruit African-American singles and couples interested in becoming adoptive and/or foster parents to African-American children already in the North Carolina Adoption and Foster Care System.

January, February, March and April, were delightfully encouraging months. There were so many new inquiries, so many phone calls, so many invitations to speak. We continue to praise God. We give God the glory! We continue to experience an outpouring of blessings — all for the children. They're all precious in God's sight.

As we generally repeat each month, our Mandate is two-fold: (1) To identify African-American singles and couples who are interested in becoming adoptive and/or foster care parents for African-American children already in the Foster Care System of the N.C. Division of Social Services, and (2) **To advocate, motivate and stimulate interest among African-American singles and couples of the various faith communities in becoming adoptive and/or foster parents for African-American children already in the Foster Care System of the N.C. Division of Social Services.**

We are convinced that our efforts, working through our ministry's statewide outreach arm, the GBSC sponsored North

Carolina African-American Faith Communities United For Children: Adoption and Foster Care, has made a difference in the increase in the number of adoptions by contract adoption agencies with the North Carolina Division of Social Services.

The North Carolina African-American Faith Communities United for Children: Adoption and Foster Care, is a volunteer collaborative partnership of representatives of African-American faith communities, community organizations, some members of the NAACP and the North Carolina Association of Black Social Workers, committed to helping find homes for neglected children. Faith community advocates include Missionary Baptists, Free Will Baptists, Independent Baptists, AME, AME Zion, United Church of Christ, Seven Day Adventists, and various Holiness and Pentecostal faiths.

THE EVERY CHURCH ADOPT ONE PROJECT

As we reported last month, **THE EVERY CHURCH ADOPT ONE** initiative continues to gain broad support statewide, among the various faith communities and again, we give God the glory and the praise. **This is an interfaith initiative, and we strongly encourage all churches to join us in this special challenge and opportunity.** Join the growing number of churches uniting for children. **This HELPING AND CARING MINISTRY is being pushed by moderators, conference leaders, elders, bishops, ministers, and assorted church laity.** Many church missionary departments have designated this ministry as a primary focus for the year 2001.

For additional information, please write or e-mail us! Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr. or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige, 2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, N.C. 27610; (919) 231-9774; Fax: 919-212-3656; e-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com or dottedem@maxxconnect.net.

VOLUNTEERS

As I state repeatedly each month, while the response for adoption and foster care volunteers has been incredibly successful statewide, we are still seeking additional volunteers to help spread the word. People from all walks of life, clergy laity (men and women) and missionaries, representing practically all of the African-American faith communities have responded to God's call (and it is God calling all to "help his little children") to help find loving homes for His children.

We thank God for the generous time and energy our volunteers give to our effort. We now have adoption and foster care volunteers coordinators in most counties and in both rural and urban areas, and from county civic and social organizations. They all believe as we do, that every child deserves a loving and caring home, and they are committed to helping make this happen. A special thanks to the Moderators, Pastors and Presidents of auxiliaries for your continued support. We are continuing our search for additional volunteers to work with us. Please contact us. We will send you recruitment forms and related materials.

Please call, write or e-mail us! Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr. or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige, 2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, N.C. 27610; (919) 231-9774; Fax: (919) 212-3656; e-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com or dottedem@maxxconnect.net.

TRAINING THE VOLUNTEERS

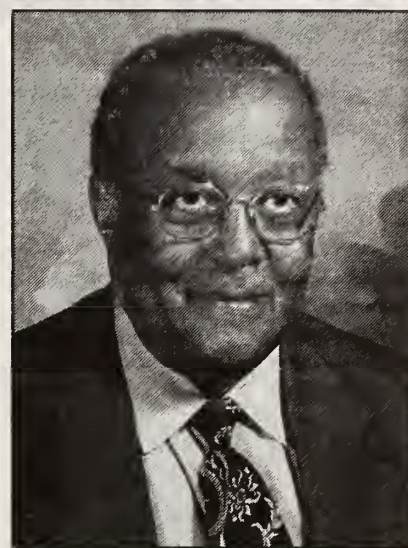
Again, we thank NAY-KEL for assisting us in training of volunteers. Paul and Evelyn Jervay, owners and co-publishers of The Carolinian, and NAY-KEL founders, continue to play special roles in our training and recruitment efforts.

SPECIAL STAFF

Joycelyn Curry, our UNC-CH Outreach Intern, is helping us to identify contacts in undeserved areas. Evangelist Michele Montgomery, continues to work with the media and as a special volunteer assistant. She is indispensable, Rev. Sheila Crump, Rev. Jon Murphy and Linda Murphy, and Dr. James T. Roberson and Ms. Beverly Roberson serve us well as volunteer Adoption and Foster Care Advocates. We are grateful that they are willing to take time from their already busy schedules to work with us.

THE OFFICE STAFF

Rev. Anthonette Wright, Director of Church Relations and Church Consultant,



Dr. Joseph C. Paige

and Earl Horton, Director of Public Relations and Church Consultant, are doing a great job in marketing our efforts (recruitment/referrals). Rev. Wright has responsibility for the western and central counties of the state, including the following five target counties in this region: Buncombe, Guilford, Gaston, Mecklenburg, Forsyth. Mr. Horton has responsibility for the eastern counties and five target counties in this region: Wake, Durham, Cumberland, New Hanover and Robeson. They are soliciting volunteers to assist us, especially in the TEN TARGET counties.

You may contact Rev. Wright or Mr. Horton as indicated: Rev. Anthonette Wright, GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry, 211 W. Martin Street, Suite 120, Raleigh, N.C. 27601; 919-754-8800; e-mail: Nwrightgbsc@aol.com or Mr. Earl Horton GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry, 211 W. Martin Street, Suite 120, Raleigh, N.C. 27601; 919-754-8333; e-mail: gbsceh@aol.com.

ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

Ministry of the GBSC State & Convention of N.C., Inc.

By Dr. Joseph C. Paige, Chairperson

Greetings and Peace on the name of Jesus Christ. We would like to request your active participation and support of the North Carolina African-American Faith Communities United for Children: Adoption and Foster Care.

This Initiative is a cooperative partnership between the General Baptist State Convention and Human Services, Division of Social Services. Ours is an exciting and challenging journey, and a real opportunity to make a serious contribution to a real serious cause at this time.

The African-American Children's Initiative Adoption and Foster Care, as a cooperative church-based effort designed to help identify African-American single persons and couples who are interested in adoption African-American children or becoming foster parents to African-American children. This initiative is based on the fact that every child deserves a long, nurturing and caring home.

At the present time, there are many African-American children in the North Carolina Foster Care System, both boys and girls, who are currently eligible for this effort. The goal is to help speed up the adoption process. Time is of profound essence. There is also an urgency to identify potential Foster Care parents.

We are anxious to make a real difference within the next few months and we can do this only with your help. Volunteers will receive additional guidance from us on marketing strategies in your respective areas just as soon as I hear from you. In addition, we are in the process of soliciting and identifying volunteers to work with us throughout the state in the following categories, and we are requesting your assistance.

1. County Adoption/Foster Care Recruitment Volunteer Coordinators (one volunteer for each county).
2. Church Adoption/Foster Care Recruitment Volunteer Coordinators (one per church)
3. We are also requesting Adoption/Foster Care Recruitment Volunteer coordinators to work with us at the town, city, and area levels, to help us spread the word that all children need and deserve a loving and caring home.

If you agree to serve as a volunteer or if you know someone who is willing to serve with us, write me today and mail it to me at the address below:

Dr. Joseph C. Paige, Chairperson
The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry
PO Box 24273, Raleigh, NC 27611-5273

Please don't hesitate to call me if you have any questions (919) 231-9774. Or you can e-mail me at JoePaigeSr@aol.com or you can also e-mail me at JoePaigeSr@aol.com.

I look forward to working with you.

ANNOUNCING

THE GUILFORD AREA ADOPTION & FOSTER CARE CONFERENCE 2001

SATURDAY, MAY 5, 2001

MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

Greensboro, NC

Bishop George W. Brooks, Pastor

Theme: The Greatest Gift...Love Beyond Measure
(For Clergy and Laity)

Please call me for additional information:

Rev. Anthonette Wright (919) 754-8800

e-mail: Nwrightgbsc@aol.com

MORE ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

A Note from the Director of Church Relations!



**By Rev. Anthonette Wright
Director of Church Relations
GBSC Adoption and Foster Care
Ministry**

*Attention from all African-American
Singles and African-American Couples!
Bridge the gap to permanency through
Adoption and Foster Care!*

The Scriptures remind us of how we are adopted into the family of God and that we have the Spirit of Adoption that we can call on our Father. *For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. (Romans 8:15)* Jesus himself was adopted. Joseph his earthly Father adopted him into his family. With this in mind, we should be compelled to do something about the rising number of children waiting for Adoption and Foster Care in the North Carolina Welfare System.

The need for more African-American Singles and Couples is still a serious issue in North Carolina. African-American Singles and Couples we need you to Adopt or Foster Care African-American Children in North Carolina. The number of children

coming into care is increasing faster than the number of homes in our state.

Help support this ministry by volunteering to recruit African-American Singles and Couples willing to adopt or foster African-American Children. With your help, we can make a difference in a child's life. **You may write me:**

**Rev. Anthonette Wright,
Director of Church Relations
211 West Martin Street Suite 120
Raleigh, N.C. 27601 or
e-mail me: nwrightgbsc@aol.com
or telephone me: 919-754-8800.**

**The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care
Ministry invite you to attend our Area
Conferences 2001...**

**Theme: The Greatest Gift...Love Beyond
Measure**

9:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

**Mt. Zion Baptist Church
Greensboro, NC**

**Bishop George W. Brooks, Pastor
For more information call me at: 919-
754-8800.**

Receiving the Gift — Prospective Adoptive or Foster Care Parents
Shirley Harris and Katrina McMasters,
Guilford County DSS
Workshop Facilitators

Breaking the Chains of Bondage — The Missing Pieces
Jackee Sturdivant, Adoptee and Helen
Alspaugh, Former Supervisor of Adoptions
Workshop Facilitators

Picking Up The Pieces — Training for Pastors and Congregation
Bishop George W. Brooks, Workshop Facilitator

Open Up Your Heart and Your Home to Children

**By Rev. Jon and Linda Murphy
Volunteer Adoption and Foster Care
Advocates**

We greet you in the BLESSED NAME OF JESUS!

We feel compelled by the Holy Spirit to share with you the pleasure we feel and experience as volunteer Advocates/Spokespersons and Recruiters for the **NORTH CAROLINA AFRICAN-AMERICAN FAITH COMMUNITIES UNITED FOR CHILDREN: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE.**

We have volunteered to help spread the news about the growing number of African-American children already in the North Carolina Adoption and Foster Care System now waiting to be adopted, and to encourage African-American singles and couples to become Adoptive and/Foster Parents to these African-American children.

Our mission is an exciting one. What an opportunity to serve and make a difference in the lives of our children!

This has been both a challenge and an opportunity for us. We speak before groups. We discuss the needs with our friends, and we aggressively seek their volunteer involvement with us in this great cause. The response has been overwhelmingly supportive.

While we make every effort to reach all of the African-American faith communities, we work mainly within the General Baptists and the Free Will Baptists faith communities as we stated earlier, the responses have been encouraging. We can make a difference. We are making a difference. Our plan is to expand our volunteer efforts. The need is great.

Our advocacy and recruitment is a "family affair," so to speak. Our daughters — Jamye, Vallyn, and Stephany work with us. We call them our "junior advocates, or junior volunteers." They are volunteers with us. They help us spread the word. They discuss the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry with their friends, and oftentimes with the parents of their friends, thus creating an "advocacy cycle." We thank God for their caring and concern.

We have made a lot of progress. And yet, there remains much work to be done.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer adoption and foster care advocate, please contact us:

Rev. Jon Murphy and Sis. Linda Murphy, (919) 858-7220 or you may contact Dr. Dorothy Demby-Paige or Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr. (919) 231-9774 or joepaigesr@aol.com.

For our Web site go to:
gbsc.org

**SHARE THE VISION WITH US!! HELP US SPREAD THE WORD
THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF
NORTH CAROLINA, INC. &
THE NORTH CAROLINA AFRICAN-AMERICAN FAITH
COMMUNITIES UNITED FOR CHILDREN: ADOPTION
AND FOSTER CARE**

Making A Difference in the Life of a Child

Finding Adoptive and Foster Care Homes for African-American Children

The North Carolina African-American Faith Communities United for Children, a partnership with North Carolina Division of Social Services, is comprised of African-American congregations and community organizations from across the State, NAYKEL and the North Carolina Association of Black Social Workers committed to finding adoptive and foster homes for African-American children.

Yes, I'd like to do my part ...

Please complete and return to Dr. Joseph Paige.

I'd like someone to call me.

Please send me information about adoption. Please send me information about foster care.

I'd like to be a field worker.

I am interested in being an adoptive parent. I'd like to be a county volunteer.

I am interested in being a foster care parent.

I'd like to be a church volunteer. Other (please specify)

Name _____

Phone Number _____

Address _____

City

State

Zip

County: _____

Contact Dr. Joseph C. Paige at 2610 Albemarle Ave., Raleigh, NC 27610,
919-231-9774, 919-618-8343, mobile • e-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com

**The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina,
Inc. and the N.C. African-American Faith Communities
United for Children: Adoption and Foster Care
Finding Adoptive & Foster Care Homes
For African-American Children**

Touch a Life Forever ... ADOPT!

Children waiting for adoptive families are ...

- Sisters and brothers who want to be adoptive together
- Children who have experienced neglect, abuse or abandonment
- Older children who want a permanently family
- Children who need families who care and are willing to make a lifetime commitment

You can adopt if you ...

- Are single, married or divorced
- Can provide a stable home
- Have the ability to care for a child not born to you
- Are willing to take on the responsibilities, joys and challenges of parenting

Families who adopt ...

- May be homeowners or renting
- May have a fixed income
- May be an adult of any age

North Carolina Needs More Foster Homes

Thousands of children in North Carolina, ranging in age from infants to 18 years old, enter the foster care system each year. These children may have been neglected, abused, or abandoned and need a safe place to stay temporarily. The number of children coming into care is increasing faster than the number of foster homes in our state.

You Can Become A Foster Parent If You ...

- Are between the ages of 21 and 65
 - Are willing to be fingerprinted and have a criminal record check
 - Have a stable home and income
 - Are able to provide a safe, temporary place for children until they can be in a permanent home
 - Complete all required training and be licensed by the State of north Carolina
- You do not have to be married, wealthy or own your own home to be a foster parent.**

By Dennis Leach BS. M.Div.

So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up (Gal. 6:9 RSV).

The apostle Paul sends these words of encouragement to embattled, beleaguered, Christian converts of Galatia, who are now engaged in a kind of theological wrestling match. There conversion is not seen as complete by Jewish believers, who would have them shackled to the never ending religious cycle of ceremonial Judaism tied-up in the Mosaic law. Not only were these none Jewish converts being bombarded by those so-called "Judaizers," but also overly liberal Gnostic elements were threatening to tip over their moral Christian balance. Paul; lays a foundation upon which Christian beliefs and practices would forever be grounded, "Justification by faith."

Human ceremonial acts alone lose relevance, and important in the presence of God's gift of grace obtained through faith. Although, rites and rituals play an important part in our many acts of worship, they remain on the periphery in the salvation equation, of which God's grace is central. We are forever "saved by grace through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God" (Eph. 2:8 KJV). God completed the work necessary for "salvation" through Jesus on Calvary. But as James put it, "Even so faith, if it hath not works is dead, being alone" (Jas. 2:17). Living, and practicing our faith in the midst of our society through ministry endeavors though enriching, and rewarding can somehow "zap" us of our vitalities. The stress that is associated with ministry can easily lead to a case of "burnout."

"Burnout" has been described as; "a condition, often occurring among persons working in helping professions, involving emotional and physical exhaustion, depersonalization, and a feeling of reduced personal accomplishment." Other symptoms can be physical such as; headaches, gastrointestinal disorders, lingering colds, loss of weight, sleeplessness, shortness of breath, feelings of tension and anxiety, overeating, overuse of coffee, or chocolate, memory loss, irritability, daydreaming, tendency to blame, withdrawal, cynicism, marital dissatisfaction, impatience, feelings of inferiority, emotional flatness, loss of interest in hobbies, preoccupation with one area of one's life, and spiritual dryness. The following is a list of causes and preventions.

1. Causes: There are several theories about the cause of burnout. Some social psychologist believe that "burnout" can be understood best by focusing on situational, environmental, and demographic factors, such as long working hours, little feedback regarding one's work, lack of family time, low salary, understaffing, life changes, unrealistic expectations, lack of time off, and inability to control ones schedule. This view

Ministry Burnout

supports the pastoral observation that people — whether church, school teacher, or pastor — do not "burnout" from overwork so much as from lack of support. Others have asserted that burnout can come as a result of personality tendencies. These include need for approval, workaholic qualities, authoritarianism, unassertive acts, overly sensitive reactions, "type A" personality, poor self-worth, and the "messiah" complex — the belief that only "I" can do everything best. Clinical pastoral experience along this line points also to identity issues, especially in pastors who attempt to fill diverse or conflicting roles and become confused about their pastoral identity. A third model used to understand "burnout" involves interplay between situational, interpersonal, physical, spiritual factors, and mental factors. The combination between these five factors leads to "burnout" when the balance among them is heavily weighted on one, and not compensated by another. To illustrate, individuals feeling the pressure of unrealistic expectations imposed by others (external) find it necessary to maintain balance by drawing on self-confidence, (internal) or spiritual resources. They may further enhance balance by directly confronting the person having the expectations (interpersonal). If these complimentary efforts do not compensate for external stress, the individuals are likely to experience "burnout."

2. Prevention: The following suggestions can enable pastors and others working in ministry to prevent "burnout."

a. Gain a clear understanding of personal strengths and weaknesses; this helps you distinguish between internal and external sources of stress and seek help when appropriate.

b. In order to gain a sense of purpose and priorities, carefully plan your directions, focus on essentials, and learn to say no without feeling guilt, or giving offense.

c. Structure changes in the environment that will relieve the stress, and adjust to factors that cannot be changed; such steps might include spreading unpleasant task between enjoyable ones, eliminating repetitive annoyances, learning to separate leisure activities from work, and attending workshops to gain new practical ideas.

d. Develop interpersonal relationships in which you can experience support and affirmation.

e. Take action to resolve interpersonal conflicts and differences.

f. Learn constructive ways of dealing with anger.

g. Achieve a balance between empathy for people and over involvement sympathy, which diverts you from central is-

sues.

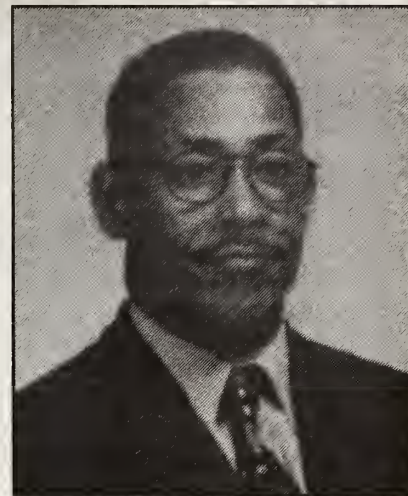
h. Develop relaxation and recreational outlets by learning at least one relaxation technique, exercising, getting proper rest, having a balanced diet, making occasional retreats to nature, avoiding states of helplessness by taking control, implementing a coping strategy in tough situations.

i. Seek professional help when that seems necessary.

The symptoms of "burnout" can be thought of as a built-in alarm system in the body signifying that life is out of balance. With proper attention to these symptoms, balance can be restored and burnout can be prevented. Those who are involved in ministry interact with many stressors, whether personal, interpersonal, internal, or external.

Ministry, for the most part inherently involves being in relationship with others. If the church has suffered, failed, or come up short it has been in the area of relationship building. In my travels in and around the state I would dare say that relationships for good, or for ill are a major source leading to ministry "burnout" among clergy and church staff. Whether it is between preacher and people, people and people, or between preacher and preachers. Today many of our ministry relationships remain strained, and estranged. Good and proper relationships are foundational to Christianity, and the health, vitality, and growth of our churches. Relationships with God, and with one another are the essence of what we are, and who we are (Luke 10:25-37). Dr. George O. McCalep in his book: **Faithful Over a Few Things** devotes the first chapter to the importance and priority of relationships. In chapter one he talks about six kinds of relationships those being: Between pastor and God, between members and God, between pastor and members, between members and members, and between the church and the world. In chapter six he writes:

Ken Hemphill identifies six kinds of relationships that must be cherished and prioritized for the church to flourish according to the will of God. These must be (1) a right relationship between the pastor and God; (2) a right relationship between the church members and God; (3) the right relationship between the pastor and the members, especially other church leaders; (4) the right relationship between the members and the pastor; (5) the right relationship among the members; and (6) the right relationship between the church and the world. Remember, church growth is a direct outcome of right relationships with God, and right relationships with God are manifested in right relationships among God's people.



Rev. Dennis Leach, M. Div.

If you are going to be empowered in ministry you must properly deal with stress, and you do that by building good relationship within your ministry-field. Although, there are many instances of turmoil within some local congregations, there are also churches experiencing growth and development within their ranks. The atmosphere of the church by virtue of its definition should not be a hostile environment. The enclave that we call our local church should be a place where leadership and people are empowered to know, grow and go. Growth should be personal and communal, knowledge should be useable, and going should be biblical.

In conclusion, a clear indicator of a church that has empowered its leadership and membership can be seen especially in times of leadership transition. There will always be times in the life of any given church that there will be leadership turnovers, or transitions due to retirements or death. Those churches that have empowered membership and leadership will not experience much difficulty during the transitions. Empowered leadership in the church evolves over time, and is a direct result of the leadership approach of those serving in ministry. I have personally adopted the philosophy that a good ministry ideology is that of a runner's mentality. But, not just any runner will do. A sprinter though fast and powerful runs alone. A marathoner the ultimate endurance racer also runs alone. Now, a relay race runner, for me is best suited for a ministry motif. He or she runs not just for himself or herself they have to run with others in mind. We are never alone in ministry there are others in the race. They are not our competitors; they are our colleagues, comrades, and co-laborers. Whether they run on a rural or urban track, have a large or small cheering section we are all on the same team. So run my brothers, and sisters you have our prayers, and best wishes for your ministry strength and vitality. Run, and be not weary in well doing for God's harvest is upon you. Amen!

Submitted by Rev. Pat Milan

Route 1, Box 132
Macon, N.C. 27551

By Luci Weldon
Assistant Editor

Nearly one year after First Baptist Church of Soul City burned, church members continue to meet for worship, but they are seeking funds which will enable the church to be rebuilt.

In May of last year, the church building, approximately two years old, was burned in an act of arson.

The Rev. Patricia Milam, pastor, said that membership has decreased since the church burned, but that some eight members gather at The Heritage House in Soul City to worship. The

Church Still Seeking To Rebuild In Wake Of Fire

church at one time was meeting at the Soul City Fire Department.

The main challenge the church faces is trying to raise the estimated \$40,000 needed to rebuild.

Milam said that the church has been unable to obtain a loan which would be used toward the rebuilding project, and that the cost to rebuild is greater than what the church's insurance covered.

"We don't have a place to have fund-raising services," Milam said. "It is hard to raise money on our own to rebuild."

"We had to send letters to other churches asking for donations. That is the only way the church can be built back. Without the aid of community, we will not be able to build back."

"I have been working on another avenue," Milam said. "If it works out,

we should start rebuilding in about a month."

She explained that the original church was built in order to provide a place of worship for the Soul City community.

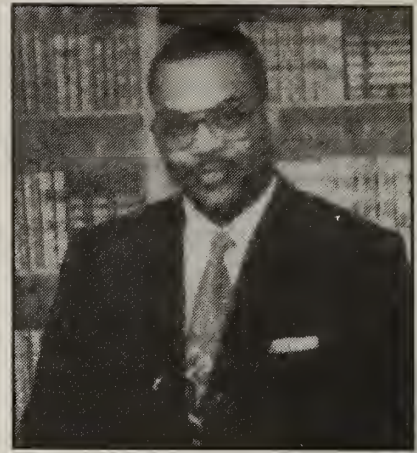
"The church is a landmark," she said. "It was built because there was not a church in the city. It was never built to have 500 or 600 members."

She stressed what the church means to the community.

"It was built for the community," she said. "It was built out of love."

Persons who wish to send donations to First Baptist Church of Soul City may mail them to P.O. Box 327, Manson, N.C. 27553.

From the Office of Institutional and Specialized Ministries



Rev Michael R. Smith Sr.

Upcoming Opportunities For Educational & Training Opportunities

“Redeeming the Time Because the Days Are Evil.”

Ephesian 5:16

I can never over emphasize the critical importance for quality training for persons involved in any aspect of prison ministry. Training is crucial for effective ministry with results. Many churches never get involved in prison ministry because they don't know where to start. The OISM is here to help you get started and to strengthen what you are already doing. I

pray many churches will take advantage of these upcoming educational and training opportunities. I am calling on all Pastors and Moderators to send your church or association representative for prison ministry. The time is now so don't miss it!

OISM MID-YEAR TRAINING WORKSHOP

The OISM will be conducting a work-

shop on Monday, May 7, 2001 from 2 - 4:30 p.m. at the GBSC Mid-Year Session at First Baptist Church in Wilmington, N.C. This workshop will provide important information to improve your Church's prison ministry and help start your prison ministry.

OISM TRAINING WORKSHOP IN GASTONIA, N.C.

The OISM will be conducting a training workshop on Saturday, May 26, 2001 at 10 a.m. at the Friendship Baptist Church, 221 W. Bradley Street in Gastonia, N.C. The Rev. John A. McCullough is the Pastor. This workshop will provide training that will certify key persons in your church to train others to be involved in prison ministry.

General Baptist State Convention of N.C. Inc. Office of Institutional & Specialized Ministries

“Reaching, Reconciling, Restoring” Human Lives

The Prisons of America are the fastest growing mission field in America. Many lives are ruined, broken, and destroyed through crime and incarceration. I believe the Church of Jesus Christ has a great opportunity to shine the light of the glorious gospel of Christ into the darkness of this tragic reality. The Office of Institutional & Specialized Ministries exists to help promote and equip churches to effectively respond to this crisis in 4 areas.

1. At-Risk Youth
2. Victims of Crime
3. Persons in detention or prison
4. Ex-offenders transitioning back to community

CONTACT INFORMATION

Rev. Michael R. Smith Sr. Chairman

Federal Correctional Complex, P.O. Box 1500, Butner, North Carolina 27509

Tel. # 919-575-3900 x6203 Fax # 919-575-4836 Email mrsmith@bop.gov

GBSC Headquarters, 603 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27601

ATTN: Carol J. Smith Tel. # 800-639-GBSC Fax # 919-836-0061

President - Dr. John D. Fuller, Sr.

Executive Secretary/Treasurer - Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr.

THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC. MID-YEAR GOLF TOURNAMENT MONDAY, MAY 7, 2001

ECHO FARMS GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

4114 Echo Farms Blvd., Wilmington, NC 28412

TEE TIME: 9 A.M.

Golf Tournament Registration

Golfer(s) Names:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Registration: \$55 per person (includes green fee, cart & driving range)

Number _____ @ \$55 per person = Amount enclosed \$ _____

Make checks payable to: GBSC

Mail registration to:

GBSC S. Wilmington St., Raleigh, NC 27601-2388

800-639-GBSC * 919-821-7466

(NO JEANS - APPROPRIATE GOLF ATTIRE)

Come and enjoy the celebration!!

96th Annual Session NATIONAL BAPTIST CONGRESS of CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



June 18-22, 2001

Ambassador Form

HELP US welcome convention delegates and visitors to the city of Charlotte! Volunteers (Ambassadors) will be needed Saturday, June 16 through Friday, June 22. Please check your area of interest and available time.

	June 16 - 22	AM	PM
Hospitality	_____	_____	_____
Transportation	_____	_____	_____
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Please return form to:

Attn: Vertis Armstrong or Shirley Borders

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church

3301 Beatties Ford Road, Charlotte, North Carolina 28216

Meeting Headquarters

The Charlotte Convention Center, 501 South College Street

704-339-6000

Headquarters Hotels	Distance to Convention Center
Omni Hotel	3-1/2 blocks
Marriott City Center	3 miles
Hilton Charlotte & Towers	1/2 block
Hilton Executive Park	10 miles
Embassy Suites (overflow)	7 miles
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Contact Marsha DuPont, Housing Director, 718-346-9290

Pre-Congress Musical—2001

Local and Renown Musicians

Contact: Tony McNeill, Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, 704-392-0392

President's Educational Banquet

Contact: Dr. Fred Gibson, Greater Providence Baptist Church, 704-532-6228

Transportation

Contact: Dabble Garner, Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, 704-392-0392

The Central Children's Home Corner

To the General Baptist family, "to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be holy, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ — Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ." (1 Corinthians 1:2-3, NIV).

WWJD? What would Jesus do? This phrase has become both popular and profitable. Bracelets, clothing, trinkets, books, etc. have all become a major enterprise in the world today. The life of Jesus, the Savior of the world, has been commercialized and dramatized in many forms on the stage, screen and at the checkout counter. Jesus, the one who said "I am meek and lowly in heart" has become a major box-office draw.

Now this is not all bad. For instance, all this attention has caused some individuals to view the historical Jesus as a real person who actually lived. Yet, the danger exists in that the real message, ministry and mission of Jesus may be hidden behind the commercialism. The world must understand what true believers already confess and profess: Jesus is the world's Savior. To think of Him in any other way is to demote Him from His rightful position as the Son of God.

Jesus is not a superstar. He is the world's Savior. The role of superstar is to entertain. We then become spectators who

From the Desk of the 4th Vice President By Rev. Nilous M. Avery II

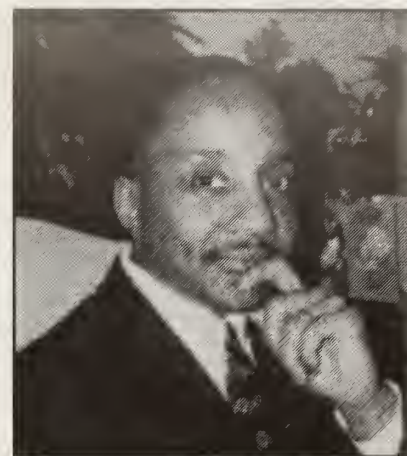
watch and enjoy their performances, Jesus Christ is the "Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world," (John 1:29, NIV). Therefore, Jesus is not an entertainment icon and we are not spectators. He is our Savior and we must become involved in His mission and ministry. We do not look to Jesus for entertainment, we look to Him for eternal life. We do not look to Jesus to enjoy His performance, we seek His pardon, peace, power, presence and provision.

And because Jesus is our Savior rather than our entertainer, we must obey Him. Instead of a standing ovation, we must be committed to giving Him our heart's devotion. We must move from tradition and transformation...from worry to worship...from thrilling the masses to reaching the masses...from meetings to ministry. We must respond to Jesus' marching orders: "...do you love me...FEED MY SHEEP... FEED MY LAMBS... FEED MY SHEEP!" (from John 21:15-17).

The opportunity exists for us to respond in a mighty way to Jesus' marching

orders. Feed the ministry that exists at the Central Children's Home in Oxford, NC with your stewardship {TIME, TALENT, TREASURE.} Contact Mr. Michael Alston and his hard-working staff today. They are ready and willing to come share the possibilities that are available for your church, community, and/or association in feeding this worthwhile ministry.

You may also contact me for more information on how this ministry can be a blessing to you and how you can be a blessing to it:



By Rev. Nilous M. Avery II

(704) 637-0954 {office}

(704) 637-1137 {fax}

or E-mail—AveryRevKin@gateway.net

From the Office of the Chairman of the Board of Central Children's Home Rev. N.T. Davis

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures, here below. For God is good all the time. Spring time is a great time to be alive. The flowers are blooming, trees budding, the ground is being tilted. The glory of God is all over the earth.

But this is a most critical time in the ministry of the Central Children's Home.

For the last few months, funds and gifts have been down. We really need your help, to carry out our daily operation.

Right now we need some tender loving care. From the General Baptist State Convention our Masonic Lodges, Eastern Star Chapters, Churches, Mission Ushers, Jr. and Sr. Missionary Groups, Van Clubs, Motor Cycle Clubs as well as individuals, Pastors, Brothers, and all, we need to hear from you soon.

We are asking the Community to please step up your giving, come and visit with us, and see the new picnic shelter and remember this is your place and these are our children. If I can be of service to you please call me at 919-362-7057.

New Millennium Church Stewardship & Minister Salary Guidelines



2001-2002 Edition

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Committees need
this publication.)

By
 Rev. Sandra Holland Trotter
 Pastor/Shiloh Temple of Faith
 Missionary Baptist Church,
 Fayetteville, NC

New Pastor's Corner

The Rivers of Joy and Sanctification

Ezekiel saw the throne of God in the great house of God. Out from the throne of God flowed a river of life to touch the world. Afterward, Ezekiel said, "He brought me again into the door of the house; and behold, waters issued out from under the threshold of the house eastward: for the forefront of the house stood toward the east, and the waters came down from under the right side of the house, at the south side of the altar. After measuring the water at first it was to the ankles, again it was measured and the water came to the knees, again it was measured and the waters were to the loins, again it was measured and the water was risen to swim in, a river that could not be passed over. And it shall come to pass, that everything that liveth, which moveth, whithersoever the rivers shall come, shall live: and there shall be a very great multitude of fish, because these waters shall comethither: for they shall be healed; and everything shall live wither the river cometh." (Ezekiel 47: 1-5, 8-9).

This is the mighty river of God. In this river there is indeed healing. Healing for the body, healing for the mind and healing

for the soul.

We can not survive spiritually without the Spirit's flow of living waters in our lives. The river of God flows into and out of the lives of believers from the giver of the Holy Spirit — Jesus Christ!

A person's new birth through the water and the Spirit marks the beginning of his or her Christian life. The Holy Spirit's work of regeneration makes us new creations in Jesus Christ and there is new and eternal life in the river of God.

The water cleans and purifies us. We need cleansing every day to wash away the old and refresh us with the new. The washing of God's Spirit flushes away sin through the shed blood of Christ. Confession opens the floodgates of God's river into our lives. "But if we confess our sins to Him, He is faithful and just to forgive us and cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9).

Have you ever been on a long road trip

and become very dry and thirsty? Then a roadside sign suddenly announced an upcoming place that had refreshments and before you ever arrived at the place of refreshing you could almost taste a cold drink!

The wilderness of sin produces an unquenchable thirst in us that there is no refreshment for, except the Holy Spirit. The only exit available from sins wasteland is repentance. The only way to open your heart to the flow of God's river is to turn from sin to Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord. Repentance opens the floodgates of God's refreshing waters that flood the parched wastelands of our soul.

Humility restores life where death once reigned. At the center of Ezekiel's prophetic temple is the holy of holies — the place where the Spirit of God dwells within the Ark of the Covenant. Ezekiel prophetically declares that the Spirit of God would flow



Rev. Sandra Holland Trotter

out from the temple and touch God's people.

First, people would be touched by the stream of God's Spirit on their ankles — representing their walk in the Spirit.

Then, the stream would rise to their knees — representative of praying in the Spirit.

Afterwards, the stream would rise to their waist — representing the girding up of one's loins to walk and serve.

Finally, the river would arise above a believer's head, so deep in fact, that one could only swim. The deep waters — represent the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Don't settle for wading in God's river. Go swimming! BE immersed into the deep waters of the Holy Spirit's river of joy and sanctifications.

Rev. Trotter can be reached at 910-867-6738 or 910-867-1380 fax

Reaching The World God So Loves Through Servant Leadership

By Rev. Dr. gloria gerald

Grace unto you and peace my sisters and brothers from God our Eternal Parent and Jesus our faithful sibling.

This article completes the three-part synopsis of the two-day joint adult morning lecture series on Effective Church Leadership presented during our 2000 All Baptist Assembly.

Summary

The lectures were based on the manner in which the church realizes its mission of reaching the world God so loves and subsequently making disciples of Christ.

Article one discussed the ongoing process that enables beloved communities to live out God's mission for the church. This ongoing process involves local congregations reaching out into life's marketplace (communities) and receiving individuals into beloved communities; encouraging individuals in their relationship with and commitment to God and Christ; providing opportunities for individuals to mature as disciples of Christ, that is, providing opportunities for celebration/worship, education, fellowship, nurture and faith application; and subsequently supporting and sending individuals back into life's marketplace to be channels of God's grace and mediators between God and the world God so loves. This sending back into life's marketplaces is primary to faith application. Individuals being transformed and empowered as disciples will move through the process at their own pace. Each disciple of Christ is called to participate in this ongoing process. However, theologically and biblically sound, right and reasonable Christian leadership is essential if we are to be effective disciples.

Article two discussed shared ministry — partnership, team work — as a theologically and biblically sound, right and reasonable model of Christian leadership that enables disciples to better live out their calling to reach the world God so loves.

Six texts discussed were: God's sovereign call and creation pattern where God calls male and female together to exercise freedom with and authority — servanthood — over the earth and animals (Genesis 1.27c, 28); Jesus' initial discipleship calling and sending out (Luke 6.12-13, 10.1-2); doctrinal/baptismal statement of the priesthood of believers. Each individual is called "to tell the wonderful things of God" (1 Peter 2.9); and the interdependent parts of God's church that are synergistically related, biblically directed and spiritually empowered (1 Corinthians 12 and 13). Integral to our common calling and interdependence is shared ministry/partnership.

Servant Leadership

This concluding article highlights servant leadership as core to shared ministry and the ongoing process of the church.

And Jesus called them to him and said, "You know that those who are suppose to rule over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their officials exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you; but whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be salve of all. For the son of [humanity] also came not to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many" (Mark 10.43b-45). Jesus knowing that the [Eternal Parent] had given all things into his hand...got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then he poured wa-

ter into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel (John 13.3-5).

What is servant leadership? It is unselfish, humble leadership that does not covet prestige or power, rather is comfortable sharing power. It is focused on others. It demands stewardship — an accountability not only for the leaders' actions but for the actions of others involved in the endeavor(s). It listens deeply and well for what is in the heart as well as in the head. It is a willow, it can bend — change its mind. It hears and mediates. It seeks justice, consensus, and win-win solutions. It leads by example. It is not without convictions and has vision; yet seeks shared vision.

What are some tools of servant leadership? **Listening** with all of your senses and with respect for what ministry members bring to the table. You cannot serve others without listening effectively to them and believing that they have something to contribute to the mission and ministry. Nor can you share vision effectively without also listening for the vision of others. However, before, during and after listening to others, you must listen to God. Seeking a **spirit of community**. The best way to do this is by **building trust**. You build trust by treating each ministry member with dignity and respect, supporting and investing in the other's development and meeting commitments to one another — keeping your word all the time is critical to building trust. There are times when it is not possible to keep your word. However, building trust means being honest and informing ministry workers of the condition that makes keeping a commitment impossible. Nevertheless, the best way to avoid breaking your word is by



Dr. gloria gerald

making commitments you can keep and keeping them. Being **accountable**. Be willing to be fully responsible, rather than blaming others or justifying an outcome when things do not go well. Seeking **win-win** resolutions when relating to ministry/team workers. Working toward **Consensus** or substantial agreement instead of always resorting to voting. Voting is win-lose — someone has to win and someone has to lose.

Hopefully each of us has an inner desire to be like Jesus — a servant leader who had a continuous process of conscripting followers, teaching, celebrating/worshipping, being with them, and subsequently sending them out into the marketplaces to be channels of God's grace. However, if we are to be *effective Christian leaders who live out God's mandate of reaching the world God so loves*, we must consciously work to make our external behaviors consistent with our inner desire to be like Jesus by continually calling on the Spirit of the Living God for guidance and subsequently celebrating, educating nurturing and applying our faith.

[NRSV with Inclusive Language]

Health & Human Services

By
John Hatch

Cornell West in "Race Matters" views nihilism as the greatest challenge to survival of community among marginalized black people. He holds that culture is as much a structure as the economy and politics. He views psychological depression, personal sense of worthlessness and social despair as diseases of the soul. Indeed it appears that many black people have bought into the notion that there are no rational grounds for legitimate standards of authority. West believes that the strongest buffers to the nihilistic threat consist of social structures of meaning, feeling, coherence and caring (West, 1993).

Many rural places throughout the south are shaped by long associations with the land and memories of pleasant happenings. The church and burial ground provide linkage to the present and the past. Marion Wright Edelman in recounting the experiences that shaped her life states, "The adults in our churches and communities made children feel valued and important. We always knew who we were and that the measure of our worth was inside our heads and hearts and not outside in our possessions or on our backs. Too many young people are unable to handle life in hard places. Without hope, without adequate attention and without steady internal compasses to navigate the morally polluted seas they must face, many are drowning in the meaninglessness of a culture that rewards greed and gile and tells them life is about getting rather than giving" (Edelman, 1993).

In the Southeast, the pattern of toxic waste dump location finds eighty percent

"Race Matters"

of these facilities located within and/or adjacent to black communities. The other twenty percent are located in and/or near low-income white populations. Industrial scale hog farms pollute the air, rivers and streams, and generally compromise the quality of life for persons in proximity to these places. Those most often exposed to hog farm pollution are black.

Black people are sicker and die younger, often from conditions amenable to prevention. Limited access to medical care is one of several factors thought to be implicated. Fanny Lou Hamer's quote "I'm sick and tired of being sick and tired" captures the pathos of life for many black people who face barriers to maintenance of good health. "Race" may well explain higher rates of morbidity and mortality found in the United States black population. Yet, race as a measure of biological difference is not a legitimate scientific concept. Social variables, such as access to mainstream opportunity structures and inherited advantage or disadvantage, better explain difference in indicators of well being such as health, education and wealth.

The pace of change has quickened over the past century. Social class and lifestyle

differences within the population of persons classified as black is broad. The means of earning daily bread shifted from a predominance of sharecropping and domestic service to industrial, and post-industrial occupations. However, the transition from oppressed freedmen to full participation in American society is yet to be realized. There is a need to understand ways these changes have influenced gender and age roles and shaped family and community life.

Research on black people has taken several directions. Some investigators continue to look for biological factors to explain differential outcome. Others examine health-related activity believed to be influenced by culture. Increasingly, racism is implicated in health status. Racism is defined as "the institutionalized manifestation of pseudoscientific about people perceived as intellectually and physically uniformly endowed and different from the dominant group."

Access to medical care is not the major determinant of health. Income, education, forces within the social and physical environment, lifestyle, and other health related factors are powerfully important. Much greater attention must be directed toward these forces. Additionally, interventions such as dietary change, smoking cessation, stress management, exercise, and enhanced self-esteem can be carried out by motivated well-trained community volunteers. More attention should be focused on methods and processes suited to mobilization of members of existing organizations



Dr. John Hatch

to become health and human rights advocates and facilitators.

The Convention's Office of Health and Human Services is working toward enabling the GBSC membership to play a stronger role in health promotion.

YOU'RE INVITED

The Health Cabinet of First Baptist Church, Wilmington, NC in conjunction with the GBSC Office of Health and Human Services is planning a very special Faith and Health Workshop for Monday, May 7, 2001 at 3:15 p.m. during the Mid-Year Conference (Information on the location will be provided at the Convention's registration desk).

Please come join us as we minister to the whole person — BODY, MIND and SPIRIT.

Please dress comfortably! For further information you may contact the GBSC Office of Health and Human Services (919) 831-8291.

By Charolette H. Leach, M.S.

Preparation to write each month's Faith and Fitness article includes prayer and meditation. Included in this process is also opening my heart to hear from God. In preparing to write this article and to hear from God regarding encouraging his people to take steps to improve their health, much has been on my mind and in my heart. There is a popular song right now that states, "We fall down, but we get up." The song points to the fact that no matter what we've done that we can count on God's grace and mercy to allow us to get back up again with some effort on our part. It reminds me of the scripture that lets us know that God's mercies are new every morning. Based on those new mercies, we can get back up everyday, if we need to. When we err, sin, or fall short, we don't have to stay in that state. It is good to know that we can always get back up again.

Also, included in preparing to write each article is research and observation. Much has been gained through research and observation over the last month. The research, observation, and contemplation have led to the question, "Do we have to fall down and get back up to give God glory? And of course I pose this question with regard to our health. Do we have to lose our health due to poor diet, lack of physical activity, and neglect in order to realize the need to take steps to preserve the health that God provides to us?"

It's kind of like asking the question, "Do we have to have rain to appreciate sunshine?" "Do we have to have sorrow to appreciate joy?" "Do we have to live a life with pain to fully appreciate pain-free days?"

As has been stated, over the last month or so there has been much thought and contemplation regarding encouraging health maintenance. Back around 1990, when my

FAITH AND FITNESS

Do We Have To Fall Down, Get Back Up to Give God Glory?

journey to truly seek the Lord began, a lady asked a question in Bible Study. She wanted to know if she really had a testimony, since her decision to seek the Lord was not based on any tragedy in her life. She has not had a serious illness, she had not been addicted to drugs, and she had not had to overcome alcoholism. Her question was, do I have a testimony, when I have not had to be delivered from anything that people want to hear about.

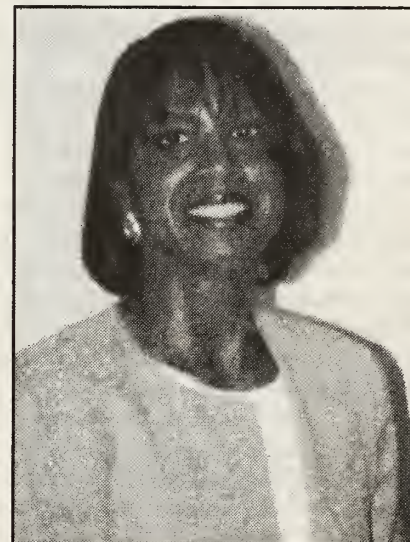
Her posing this question has never left me, I could relate to what she was feeling. Added to her thoughts was if someone testifies to the fact that God has kept them, has been there for them and allowed them to avoid tragedy and destruction, could this possibly be viewed as "bragging." My conclusion finally was that if God has been good to you, you should tell it, just as long as God is receiving the glory for what he has done. We must also keep in mind the words found in Revelation 12 and verse 11a. "And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony." Our testimony helps us to overcome the accuser which accuses us before God day and night.

Allow me to testify to the fact that through God's grace and mercy, our health can be maintained. This testimony comes without having had to fall down and get back up with regard to my health. This tes-

timony comes as a witness to a God who will give strength when it is needed to exercise even when you don't feel like it. God must receive glory for helping me to continue to work on my eating habits, because I know that this is an area in which I struggle. God receives the glory for allowing me to maintain a desirable weight and a healthy blood pressure. And yes, God receives the glory for allowing me to not be at risk of developing any of the major illnesses due to my own neglect. God receives all of the glory and the honor for what he has done.

Taking steps to maintain and improve our health is not an easy task. My fear is that Satan has convinced the church that we do not have to be overly concerned about our physical beings, as long as we know that we have a place in heaven. My concern is that many of us may be getting to that place sooner than we should. Many would say that when it is time to go, it is just time. Please allow me to disagree, if we have within our power the ability to alleviate some of the health problems that may plague us individually and that are running rampant today and sending Christians along with non-Christians to an early grave.

If we are not dying before our time, we may be suffering needlessly. Have we ever considered the hundreds, maybe thousands of dollars per year that we spend on



Charolette H. Leach, M.S.

visits to the doctor and medications? What about time lost from work? Consider the pain and suffering that we endure needlessly? The songwriter mentions "Oh what needless pain we bear, all because we just don't carry everything to God in prayer." Quite possibly our prayer should be, "Lord give me the strength and discipline needed to treat my body as I should to make it a temple acceptable to your Spirit's dwelling place." If we pray this prayer and allow God to lead us, we quiet possibly can give God Glory and Honor after we have fallen regarding our health and allowed him to help us to get back up. Quite possibly, if we pray this prayer and allow God to lead us, we can give God Glory and Honor without having to fall down and get back up.

Praise God that he is there for us regardless of our situation and circumstance, but know that God can receive glory and honor for keeping us and not letting us fall! Be Blessed!

NEWS AROUND THE STATE & NATION



Left to right: Rev. Ricky L. Banks and Rev. Vonner Horton.

Assistant Recording Secretary Installs First Female Pastor In The West Roanoke Association

Submitted by Doris James,
Church Clerk,

St. Stephen Missionary Baptist Church

On Sunday, Jan. 14, 2001, at 5 p.m., history was made in the West Roanoke Missionary Baptist Association and the Eastern part of North Carolina.

The Rev. Vonner Horton was installed as pastor of the Oxley Hill Baptist Church in Merry Hill, N.C., by the Rev. Ricky L. Banks, pastor of the St. Stephen Missionary Baptist Church in Elizabeth City, N.C., First Moderator of the Roanoke Missionary Baptist Association and Assistant Recording Secretary of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina.

The Rev. Horton is the first female to become the pastor of a Missionary Baptist Church in the area. Another history making event of the day was when a minister from one Association installed a pastor from another. Rev. Horton states that the Rev. Banks has been a mentor and friend to her, and has provided her with a wealth of encouragement and directions. She stated that is the reason he was called to preach her ordination as well as her installation messages.

The ceremony opened with the Rev. Willie J. Best Jr., Ashland Baptist Church in Merry Hill, N.C., serving as worship leader. The Rev. Elbert Lee, moderator of the West Roanoke Missionary Baptist Association gave the occasion. The church was filled to its capacity with standing room only.

The evening culminated with the message delivered by the Rev. Banks entitled **The Benefits For Being on the Lord's Side**. He cited Exodus 32:26 and informed the congregation that serving the Lord will pay off after a while. He compared the Rev. Horton to Moses who was given the respon-

sibility of leading Israel, to her responsibility of leading Oxley Hill. The Rev. Banks admonished her to stay on the mountain top looking to God as Moses did.

The Rev. Horton, an educator, is a graduate of the Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, N.C. She is employed by the Bertie County School System. She is married to Malcom R. Horton and has one daughter, Rovonne. The Rev. Horton states that she has been in church all of her life. She taught Sunday school at the age of 10.

The Rev. Horton's first visit to Oxley Hill was with a co-worker three years ago. She later joined and has been a member for three years. Within a one year period, she preached her initial sermon (Dec. '99), was ordained as a minister (Sept. 2000), and elected then present Pastor, the Rev. James R. Wiggins. She became Interim Pastor in January 1999 after the Rev. Wiggins was injured in an accident. The church membership is approximately 400 with approximately 250 active members. Under her pastorate, there have been 25 new converts and a Christian Education Ministry added from August 2000 to the present.

The Rev. Horton eagerly lets you know that her overall and most important mission at the church is winning souls for Christ. When asked what her vision is for the church, she stated "spiritual increase, adding new ministries, and reconstructing the church facilities."

The Rev. Horton attributes her guidance and directions over the past 7 to 10 years to her former pastor, the Rev. Charles H. Phillips of the Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church in Williamston, N.C.

The ceremony ended with remarks from Pastor Horton, stating **"To God be the glory for the great things that He has done in my life."**

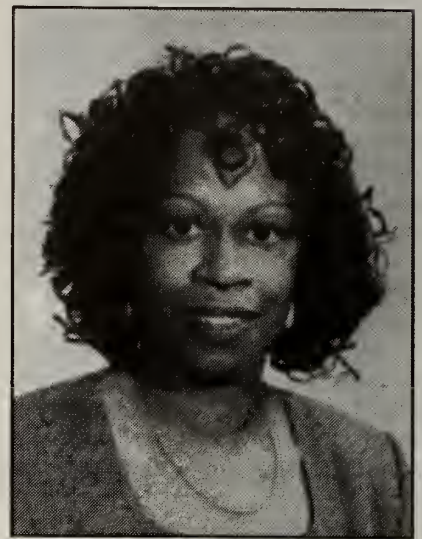
N.C. Legislative Black Caucus Foundation, Inc.

Submitted by

Carol J. Smith, Associate Editor

The Sixteenth Annual North Carolina Legislative Black Caucus Foundation's Scholarship Weekend Conference will be held June 22-23, 2001, at the Sheraton Imperial Hotel and Conference Center in the Research Triangle Park, N.C. We have planned an exciting weekend of activities, featuring informative issue sessions and an outstanding line of speakers.

The academic welfare of our youth is an integral part of our nation's future. It is of the utmost importance that we continue to invest in educating our youth. To our long-term sponsors, our Caucus appreciates and thanks you for your past and continuous support. If this is your first letter from the N.C. Legislative Black Caucus Foundation, we have enclosed information that will introduce you to our scholarship endeavor. Our goal, this year, with your assistance is to increase our effort in granting academic scholarships to deserving North Carolina youth. Your contribution is deductible under the Internal Revenue Code 501 (c) (3). Our Federal ID Number is 56-



Carol J. Smith, Associate Editor

1589364.

We need your support, participation and attendance to make our Sixteenth Annual Conference an outstanding success!

Sincerely,
Senator Luther Jordan, Chairman

New Zion Baptist Church Observes Pastor's Anniversary

On March 11, 2001, the second anniversary of Pastor Al Harrison was celebrated by members and friends of the New Zion Missionary Baptist Church family in Sanford, NC.

The day began at 9:30 AM with Sunday School called to order by Superintendent John D. Person. Eleven o'clock worship followed with messages from Rev. and Mrs. Charles White of Mebane, N.C. Music was rendered by the New Zion Mission Choir.

Mrs. White took charge of Youth Moments, capturing the attention of the old as well as the young as she demonstrated the manner in which various pastors deliver the word. She pointed out that the methods of delivery may vary, but each minister is commissioned to deliver the same Gospel of Jesus Christ, therefore, it is important to listen to the word of God.

Rev. White, Associate Minister of Burnett's Chapel United Church of Christ in Graham, N.C. delivered the morning message. His topic, **Jesus Is On The Main Line**, focused on the power of prayer. The text, Isaiah 38:1-3, described Hezekiah as one who walked before God in truth and with a perfect heart, doing that which was good in God's sight. While he was sick unto death, he turned his face to the wall and prayed unto the Lord. God heard his prayer, lengthened his life, and delivered him from his enemies. Rev. White drew an analogy of our use of the telephone where we may be put on hold, get busy signals, hear automated recordings of a list directions to follow, or discover that the party is not available. He reminded us that believers have direct access to God — that the line is never busy but is available to everyone at all times.

Following altar call, we celebrated the Lord's Supper. Upon dismissal, dinner was served in the Fellowship Hall.

Minister John Kevin Stokes presided over the afternoon services. After Call to Worship, a hymn of praise, **"O Magnify the Lord,"** was sung. Scripture was read by Sister Debra Judd and Deacon Azell Will-

iams offered prayer. The congregation stood and received the honorees, Pastor and Mrs. Harrison. Sister Aramentrius Downey gave words of welcome and Minister Rosa Rodgers of Siler City responded. The speaker, Rev. Barry Gary, pastor of First Baptist Church in Siler City, was introduced by his sister, Mrs. Katha Ross.

We were inspired by a powerful message, Topic: **You Ought To Finish What You Started**: Text: Ezra 1:1-6. The text focused on the problems and frustrations Cyrus King of Persia encountered while building the temple in Jerusalem. Leaders of today often encounter similar if not the same problems. Rev. Gray challenged pastors and members alike to hold to God's unchanging hand, and in spite of obstacles, strive to finish what you started.

Music for the afternoon was rendered by the combined choirs of New Zion. Songs fitting the occasion included **Hold to God's Unchanging Hand**, **Yes, God is Real**, **What A Wonderful God He Is**, and **Give God the Praise**.

Presentations to Pastor and Mrs. Harrison were made by Sister Carolyn Quick and the Usher Board, Sister Evelyn McAuley and the Deaconess Board, Brother La Vernie Murchison and the Board of Trustees, and Deacon Azell Williams on behalf of the deacons, members and Missionary Department. Other presentations came from Sister Cleo Thomas, Rev. and Mrs. Charles White, Rev. James Baldwin and members of Red Hill Baptist Church in Cameron, and Rev. Stanley Burnett and members of Burnett's Chapel United Church of Christ. Minister Stokes brought special remarks.

Pastor Harrison expressed appreciation to everyone for their presence, presentations and participation in this joyous celebration.

Out-of-town guests included the Pastor's former co-workers, family members, and friends from Durham, Snow Camp, Graham, Siler City and Burlington.

Following dismissal, an evening meal was served in the Fellowship Hall.

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SHAW UNIVERSITY



SHAW UNIVERSITY TO HOLD ANNUAL SPRING CONCERT

Shaw University's Jazz Ensemble I Band, under the direction of Mr. Charles Brown, Assistant Professor of Music and Director of Bands at Shaw University will be performing their annual Spring Concert on Sunday, May 6, at 6 p.m. in Estey Hall. The Jazz Band will be performing a variety of selections. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, call 919-546-8269.

University's Choir Performed In New York and New Jersey

The Shaw University Choir, under the direction of Dr. James Abbington, Director of Visual and Performing Arts, left on Thursday, April 5 to perform in New York and New Jersey.

The choir performed on Friday, April 6 at 7:30 p.m. at Trinity Baptist Church in Bronx, NY, and on Sunday, April 8 at 4 p.m. they were in concert at First Baptist Church of Lincoln Gardens in Somerset, NJ.



Shaw University's President Talbert O. Shaw and Dr. Thomas Boyd view a recent unveiled portrait of Dr. Boyd and his late wife Eugenia.

DR. THOMAS J. BOYD SPEAKS AT SHAW CHAPEL THAT BEARS HIS NAME

Dr. Thomas J. Boyd, pastor of Salem Missionary Baptist Church, Brooklyn, N.Y., was the speaker for the 1st Annual Thomas J. Boyd Sunday on March 25 in the Thomas J. Boyd Chapel. Dr. Boyd, who is a native of Brooklyn, N.Y., graduated from Shaw University in 1948. Dr. Boyd's sermon was entitled "Don't Leave God Out." The Salem Missionary Baptist Church Choir performed during the service and a \$10,000 donation from Salem Missionary Baptist Church to help finance the Eugenie Boyd Spiritual Enrichment Center was announced by Dr. Boyd. Also during the service, a portrait was unveiled of Dr. Boyd and his late wife Eugenie. The portrait will be hung in the foyer of the chapel. At the conclusion of the service, the Eugenie H. Boyd Spiritual Enrichment Center was dedicated to the memory of the late Mrs. Boyd. The center, which is located in the Thomas J. Boyd Chapel, is equipped with a television and VCR. The center will be used for viewing video tapes of past services held in the chapel.

Shaw's Vice President Was Keynote Speaker For Alpha Kappa Mu

Dr. Patricia Pierce Ramsey, Vice President for Academic Affairs at Shaw University was the keynote speaker at the National meeting of Alpha Kappa Mu during a Banquet on Friday, April 6 at 7 p.m. in Durham, NC.

Prior to Dr. Ramsey's appointment at Shaw, she has served as Associate professor of Biology and Associate Vice President for Development at Norfolk State University in Virginia. She has also been employed with Hampton University, Howard University, Trinity College and Livingston College.

Dr. Ramsey is a native of Scurry County, VA. She received her Ph.D., in Biology from Georgetown University, Washington, DC; master of arts degree in Biology from Harvard University, Cambridge, MA; master of science degree in Botany from Howard University, Washington, DC; and a B.S. degree in Biology from Norfolk State University, Norfolk, VA.

She is married to Dr. Roscoe Ramsey Jr., a physician and a minister, and they have three children, Roscoe III, Chenere and Olusola.

AND, I'LL SEE YOU
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What do they believe
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About the Author:

Dr. Serenus T. Churn Sr., received his Doctor of Ministry Degree from Drew University, Madison, N.J., in 1979, his Graduate Certificate in Pastoral Care from the Foundation for Religion and Mental Health, Grasslands Hospital, Westchester County, N.Y., in 1970, his Master of Divinity Degree from Howard University, School of Religion in Washington, D.C., in 1969, his Bachelor of Divinity Degree from Howard University, School of Religion in 1965 and his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Morgan State College, Baltimore, Md., in 1962.

He was born in Camden, N.J., to the late Dr. Charles H. Churn Sr., and Violet M. Churn and was licensed to preach at the age of 15. He is married to the former Shirley Brown of Washington, D.C., and

has two sons. Dr. Churn is currently the Senior Pastor of Mount Zion Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, N.C. Member of Novant Health Board of Trustees, Mount Zion Site Director and Adjunct Instructor, Shaw University Divinity School and Drew University Theology School. He is the Radio Host of God's Trombone WPOL. He has preached across the United States, Great Britain and India.

Place your book orders to:
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For more information and registration, at (336) 722-2325.

SHAW UNIVERSITY

*From the Office of the
Third Vice President*

Rev. N.T. Davis

Shaw University and Shaw
Divinity School News

God is good every day. He has blessed us and has kept us and brought us to where we are. He has never left us and will not leave us alone. We have come this far by faith trusting in the Lord. For those whom the Lord has brought we need to be a witness to the world about His goodness. The psalmist say, Let the redeemed of the Lord say so.

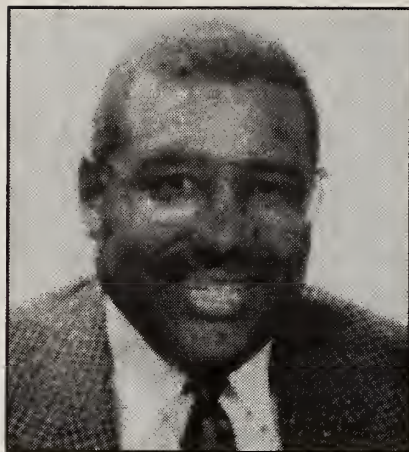
Many of our students will be leaving school for jobs for the first time. Some will be going home for the summer, and some will be in summer school. Pray for our children and the university staff.

Let us put Shaw University and Shaw Divinity School in our plans and budget for the future.

Also there will be a Leadership Conference for pastors and church leaders in June by Dr. Tripp.

Let us join him in teaching our leaders on How to be Good Stewards and Christians. As I travel around the state to speak, I can almost hear trouble of some sort in every Church. Deacons, Pastors, Trustees, Choir Members and Missionaries are invited to the Conference.

It is so important to have the right per-



Rev. N.T. Davis

son in the right job at any church. We must become a team or we will loose the war with Satan.

When we build our house on the sand the scripture says it will fall and the fall shall be great.

If we can become a team and build on Christ the Solid Rock, we shall stand, for all other ground is sinking sand.

The Moderator of Moderators have some neat information for you, in each Baptist Informer for you to consider.

Many of our Baptist Convention Pastors can help you if you are willing to set down and reason together. Please pray for our University, the Pastors, churches and the membership. May God bless you all. If I can help you with a Shaw Day, call me at 919-362-7057.

FAMU President Frederick's S. Humphries Is To Be Keynote Speaker at Shaw's Graduation

Florida A&M University (FAMU) President Dr. Frederick S. Humphries will be the speaker for Shaw University's Commencement Ceremony on Saturday, May 12 at 11 a.m. in the Raleigh Convention and Conference Center Complex. Approximately 400 students are expected to receive their bachelor's and master's degrees during the ceremony.

Dr. Humphries, who will leave his post as president effective June 30, has provided more than a decade and a half of service to FAMU. During his presidency, Humphries has worked to make FAMU one of the nation's premier institutions of higher learning. In fall 1997, FAMU was selected as the TIME Magazine-Princeton Review "College of the Year. In 1997, 1998 and 1999, FAMU was featured in Black Issues in Higher Education as the nation's No. 1 producer of African-Americans with baccalaureate degrees. FAMU surpassed Harvard in 1992, 1995 and 1997, becoming the leader in the recruitment of National Achievement Scholars, America's best and brightest students. In 2000, Harvard tried FAMU as the top recruiter of these students.

Other initiatives Humphries launched that have received national recognition are: the Graduate Feeder Program, an innovative approach to increasing the number of minorities attending graduate school; the Life-Gets-Better Scholarship, called by many the best

scholarship in the country for academically talented students; and a creative recruitment program that has made FAMU one of the fastest growing universities in the country.

High on Humphries' list of priorities was reestablishing the new College of Law at FAMU and increasing the number of minorities with Ph.D.s in the science-related fields. In 2000, the Florida Legislature agreed to reestablish a law school at FAMU with an anticipated opening date of fall 2003. Before his departure, Humphries plans to have a law school dean appointed. The University plans to offer new Ph.D. programs in physics, computer science, chemistry and biology by 2004.

More than \$130 million in construction has occurred under his leadership. The most recent capital improvement projects include: a \$6.3 million General Classroom Building, a \$19.3 million Science Research Building, a \$4.1 million East Wing Expansion to the School of Business; a \$15 million expansion to the FAMU/FSU College of Engineering; and a Student Services Center, including food service and bookstore facilities, administrative offices and a 400 car Parking Garage at a combined cost of \$10 million.

A 1957 magna cum laude graduate of FAMU, Humphries received his doctorate in physical chemistry from the University of Pittsburgh.

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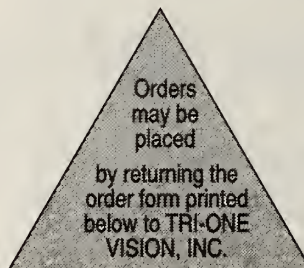
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"Helping You Make Sense of It All"

Where Does Your Money Go?

Submitted by Charles E. Forrest, CLU

It has been said that most people don't plan to fail, but when it comes to managing money, unfortunately, some people fail to plan. People often put off planning because they just don't know where to begin. If you're one of those procrastinators who would like to get smart about managing your money, here are five steps you can take now to put yourself on the right track.

1. Get Organized — Smart money management begins with organizing your important financial papers. A file drawer, or a cardboard file box, is all you need. By grouping documents according to categories (e.g., insurance papers, mutual fund account statements, bank statements, tax returns, etc.), you will be able to find files quickly when you need them.

2. Set Financial Goals — If you don't know where you're going, any road will take you somewhere, but is "somewhere" a good destination? Making the most of your money means having "financial destinations," targets which direct your overall saving and spending patterns. Although

specific goals may change over time, it's still a good idea to figure out what "the good life" means to you.

3. Find Out Where You Stand — It's hard to figure out where you want to go tomorrow if you don't know where you are today. Once your files are organized, you can start pulling out the information you need to construct a **net worth** statement and a **cash flow** statement. Your net worth is the difference between your assets (what you own) and your liabilities (what you owe).

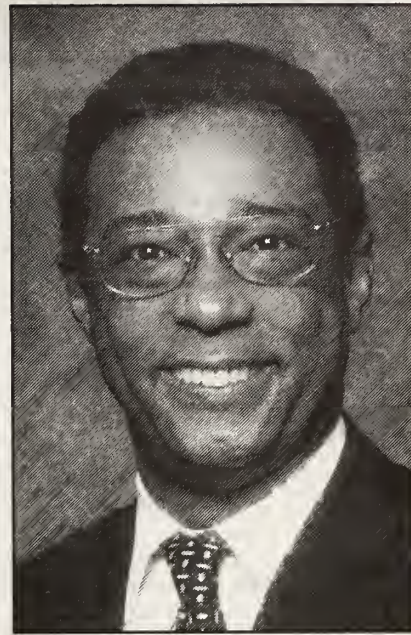
Your cash flow statement itemizes all your sources of income (e.g., salary, interest, rental income, etc.) and all your expenses (e.g., mortgage payments, food, clothing, etc.).

Once you're added it all up, what does it mean? A healthy situation is to have **positive net worth** (meaning you own more than you owe) and **positive cash flow** (meaning more money comes in than goes out). If your financial picture appears to be a little "under the weather," you'll be able to see where storm clouds may be form-

ing. One long-term financial goal worth pursuing is increasing your net worth from year to year.

4. Control Your Credit Cards — It's great to be able to say, "charge it," but *buying on credit* can sometimes make us feel wealthier than we really are, tempting us to buy things we really can't afford. And, if you carry large balances and make only minimum payments, the interest charges you ultimately pay will far *outweigh what you might* have saved buying at bargain prices. One useful guideline for controlling credit card spending is to have enough cash available (for example, in your checking or money market account) to pay off credit balances if you choose to do so.

5. Develop a Tax Strategy — Many people don't start thinking about taxes until it's time to file tax returns. Waiting until tax season may be too late for using some tax-saving strategies. While you probably don't want to spend a lot of your free time thinking about taxes, a little tax planning



Charles E. Forrest, CLU, LUTCF

on a regular basis may pay off with a better bottom line when you do file.

Good money management is all about control and knowing where your hard-earned dollars are going. If you start working on the steps outlined above, you'll go a long way toward making sure that your money is spent on the goods and services that are most important to you.

History: Reflections of the Ice Man's Journey To Enlightenment

By Dr. Aal-Anubia

Many remember and appreciate the coming of the Ice Man on a hot summer day bringing sighs of relief to a thirst-filled community on the back of a truck. Often times the Iceman would inquire how many pounds of ice we needed to make it through the day. I remember my grandmother saying, "twenty pounds will be fine Sir." After cracking that solid block of ice with his ice pick and grabbing it with large tongs he would insist on weighing the ice prior to placing it in my grandmother's icebox. He was so confident in his ability to break the ice clean that if he were a few ounces under he would give the ice away for free. Sarcasically my grandmother laughed, "that old man isn't dumb, he knows what he is doing, and he's not given nothing away for free."

In an utopist world where all things remain the same and nothing changes, the Ice

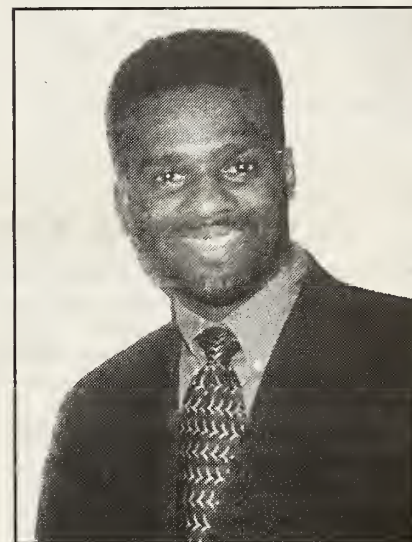
Man and his progeny would be full forever. The law of perpetuity would be a moot issue because his children could often use the same processes seasoned over many years to retain their equitable stake in the community. However, in a world full of change I must beg the following questions: Did the Ice Man know invest in refrigeration? Did the Ice Man invest in refrigeration? Did Ice Man's college educate children in lieu of changing times bring a report back to him explaining the changes just over the horizon? Like many of you reading this article, I admire the Ice Man's sentiment. I feel confident that he knew all to well about refrigeration. I imagine he just did not expect his loyal customers, some for many years, to be interested in or be able to afford or invest in a refrigerator. Why would they want to have their need for ice serviced on demand?

Today's Environment

For many the iceman is but a memory. However, some may consider his road to enlightenment his greatest legacy. The language of the day raffles news reports of globalization, downsizing, rightsizing, reorganizing, merging, acquisitioning, outsourcing, welfare reform, and convenience. Today's headlines read more like an obituary, \$60 billion loss annually in productivity due to lack of basic skills. Seventy-five percent of literacy challenged, unemployed adults could re-enter the workforce if they were Internet literate, while 30 percent of the economic growth is attributed to industries investing heavily in telecommunication and information technology. Given these lopsided statistics many believe America's competitive edge is declining as 650,000 jobs go perpetually unfilled.

The United Negro College foundation says, "A mind is a terrible thing to waste." Given credence to their preamble, International Data Corp. suggest that in a case study consisting of 65 of the world's top producing companies, business intelligence is key to its operations. The return of investment alone from intelligence data was over 400% during the past two and one-half years. Economists associated with Information Technology gurus, the Garter Group, expect on-line transactions to exceed \$7.4 trillion by 2004. In recent press reports President Bush suggested that Faith Based Organizations (amidst current challenges involving stewardship) bridge the gap created by hardships within our nation. Simple to the demise of many political pundits and believers alike the answer can be summed up in one word...CHANGE.

The truth is for many who have been on the battlefield; the battle itself is a constant. I do not imagine for many drivers who have had their driver's license for over 20



Dr. Aal-Anubia

years are driving the same car. So if their need for transportation like the battle is a constant, what changes other than their vehicle, prepared with new features and equipment more adept to handling the highways and byways of the day?

I am thankful to have been given the opportunity to serve the General Baptist State Convention by Dr. Logan following a conversation with my Pastor Dr. Dumas Harshaw of First Baptist Church downtown Raleigh on the corner of Morgan and Wilmington streets. Please join me in support of General Baptist State Convention's vision enabling the use of technology and the Internet to close the digital divide. Our goal is to spread missions around the world by extending its reach beyond physical boundaries enabling on-line collaboration, training, and development for God's people.

I would like to give special thanks to the Icemen (true pioneers and pilgrims) and others who have gone this way before me. Please look forward to my next article entitled "Stewardship and the Digital Divide."

You may find more information about me at <http://www.geocities.com/magienterprise/MagiSolution.html>. I am available for consultations please request form at <http://www.icn-computing.com>.

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By Dr. James W. Washington Sr.
Field Worker GBSC

2 Cor. 4:18: While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.

The singer Nina Simone penned a song years ago called "Everything must change!" In this song she stressed the fact that "nothing stays the same." This brings us to the point of this sermon. Today, we live in a world where all things are temporary and are passing away. Nothing on this earth is eternal; all will pass away, like dust in the wind.

Yes, all things we hold so dear; that husband, wife, child, lover, job, bank account, home, car, jewelry, song and dance, "(Whatever happened to the 'Boog-A-Loos' will all pass away; because they are not things eternal! Everything around us is dying and decaying, and coming to an end; we would have to be blind not to see this. Everything about us is dying except our souls.

Whether renowned or unimportant, gentle or cruel, rich or poor, young or old; we are all going, going, gone! Beauty itself, is only temporary. Jezebel, Bathsheba, Esther, Candace, Salome, Jessie, Maida, Reba, Cora, and Northanna are all gone! Sarah, was the fairest woman in the Court of Egypt; yet the day came when her husband Abraham said, "Sell me some property for a burial site here so I can bury my dead" Gen. 23:4. Keep your eyes on things eternal!

Bodily strength is only temporary. Sampson killed a thousand men with the jawbone of an ass; but he is gone. David, a mighty man of courage, the slayer of the lion and the bear, the champion over Goliath; yet in his old age David had to be nursed like a child. Wisdom is only temporary. Solomon was a marvel of knowledge; all kings came to hear his wisdom; yet, in his latter days, Solomon played the fool and allowed his wives to turn his heart after other GODS!

As painful as it may sound, my Brother, my Sister; the houses we live in, the homes we love, the riches we accumulate, the professions we follow, the plans we formulate, the relationships we enter into, the pleasures, the amusements, the recreations, the profits, these things so close to our heart and mind...are only for a time! What is seen is temporary. The world in its present form is passing away! These are not things eternal!

Yes, they will soon be over, they cannot last. Please, do not love them too much; please, do not hold them too tightly; please, do not make them your idols! You cannot keep them, and you must leave them! "Seek ye first the kingdom of GOD, and everything else will be given unto you." Again, "Set your mind on things above, not on earthly things!" Again, "The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of GOD lives forever!"

Oh, but, I also have some good news and words of cheer and comfort today. Because our trials, tears, heartaches, hardship, sicknesses, conflicts, sadness, grief, and sorrows are also temporary! They will soon come to an end, and they are working in you an eternal glory. Thus, saith the Scriptures, "For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; 2 Cor. 4:17.

So we must receive them patiently, bear them quietly; look upward, forward, onward and far beyond them! Bear your Cross daily; fight the Good Fight daily, eternal rest is not far off. Your Cross will soon be exchanged for a Crown; and you will sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the Kingdom of GOD! O' what a Promise; hold firm to that promise; because these are things eternal! Glory to GOD; we are moving to a world of things eternal!

Saints, how we live our lives in this world, brings consequences in the next! So, with the Bible in our hands, let us look at the "Unseen things that are eternal!" First, the future joy the righteous is eternal. It is something that has no end; it will never cease, never grow old, never decay, and never die! "God will fill us with joy in His presence, with eternal pleasures at His right hand" Psalm 16:11. Once we arrive in paradise we will never leave.

Things Eternal

Our inheritance can never perish, ruin or decrease. Our battle is won; the fight is over; our work is done! Never again will we hunger, never again will we thirst. Never again will we bear sicknesses and pain. We are traveling on towards Glory; to a home that will never be broken up, a meeting without a parting, a final Heavenly Family Reunion without end; a day without night! These are things eternal! As Paul says, "Encouraging each other with these words!"

Secondly, let us contemplate the fate of the unbelievers who are lost for all eternity. This is clearly revealed in the Scriptures; where eternal future happiness, and eternal damnation appear to stand side by side. If the joy of the believer is forever; then the sorrow of the unbeliever is also forever. If Heaven is eternal, so is hell! Paul says that, "the wicked will be punished with everlasting destruction." Jesus Himself spoke of "the wicked going away to 'eternal punishment,' while the righteous have 'eternal life!'"

Let me say right here, that I do not claim to have a great knowledge of the Scriptures. Daily, I feel my lack of wisdom. But, I do know enough to cry a warning, so that my Christian brothers and sister stay on their guard against the "Prince of Darkness! In the Garden of Eden Satan asked Eve the question, "Hath GOD said?" In the Garden of Eden Satan lied to Eve, "You will not surely die!" And today he is still lying that we can live in sin, and still be saved. So stick with the truth that, the saved will enjoy eternal happiness, while the sinner will suffer eternal torture. These are things eternal!

There is nothing that would please Satan more than that we should lower our guard; that we forget about a place called Hell; that we forget about eternal punishment. He rejoices when he hears a laymen, and especially when he hears the clergyman, deny that Satan and hell exists; because then he can make them and others his victims.

It all boils down to FAITH! What was the use of the Son of GOD taking human form, agonizing in Gethsemane, and dying on the Cross for our sins, if we can be saved without believing on Him? Where is the need for the Holy Spirit, if sinners can enter Heaven without Repentance, Conversion and Redemption?

I say, if a man or woman, without faith in Christ, or the blessing of the Spirit, can escape eternal punishment, then sin is no longer evil, the Holy Bible is fantasy, Heaven is no better than hell, the wicked shall inherit the earth, GOD is a liar, and there was no need for Christ to die on Calvary! GOD FORBID! GOD forbid such false interpretation of His Word! It is true, that if we take away the fear of hell from sinners, then we take away their hope!

If we believe in the Bible, then we must not downplay anything that it contains. If men are not saved it is because they refused to come to Christ! Men and women often talk about GOD's mercy, love, grace, and compassion, and leave out His Holiness and Purity, His justice and righteousness, His faithfulness and unchangeableness, and His hatred of sin! It is in the "In thing" these days to compromise the absolute vileness and filthiness of sin! They are really saying, "Down with GOD...up with Satan!"

Let us remember the passage that reads, "Yet He does not leave the guilty unpunished!" Unrepented sin, is an eternal corruption, and can never cease to be a sin, and one we will have to answer for before an "Angry GOD!" The words of Psalm 145 are tremendously beautiful, let me share them with you:

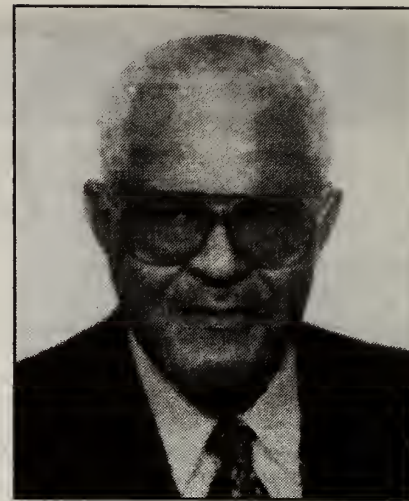
Ps. 145:8-21, *The LORD is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love! The LORD is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made. All you have made will praise you, O LORD; your saints will extol you. They*

will tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your might, so that all men may know of your mighty acts and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures through all generations. The LORD is faithful to all his promises and loving toward all he has made. The LORD upholds all those who fall and lifts up all who are bowed down. The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food at the proper time. You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing.

The LORD is righteous in all his ways and loving toward all he has made. The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. He fulfills the desires of those who fear him; he hears their cry and saves them. The LORD watches over all who love him, but all the wicked he will destroy. My mouth will speak in praise of the LORD. Let every creature praise his holy name forever and ever.

"YES, THIS IS OUR GOD...THIS IS OUR LORD AND SAVIOR...THIS IS OUR MASTER AND REDEEMER...THIS IS OUR BRIDGE OVER TROUBLED WATERS...THIS IS OUR REST IN A WEARY LAND...THIS IS OUR LILY OF THE VALLEY...THIS IS OUR MIGHTY COUNSELOR...THIS IS OUR BRIGHT



Dr. James W. Washington Sr., Th.D.

AND MORNING STAR...THIS IS OUR HEAVENLY FATHER!" O' GLORY TO GOD!

You got to know that our future state, depends on what we do today in the present. The life we live here on earth is short, and soon gone. The Psalmist says "We are just a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes." But the life that is before us is an endless eternity, a sea with no bottom, an ocean with no shore! In that world there will be no more time. Short, are our lives here; endless, they will be in eternity. My Brother, my Sister, our life after death, depends on what we do while we are "alive!" So keep your eyes on things eternal! May GOD Ever Bless you. And, I say...AMEN!

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| 12. Grace on the ace | 49. On the Day of Pentecost |
| 13. Grow Up or Blow Up | 50. Jesus Is All That! He Is Somebody's Preacher |
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| 18. We Can Do It For A New Day Has Come | 55. Staying Afloat in a Sinking Boat |
| 19. I Know What Prayer Can Do | 56. He That Has A Friend Must Show Himself Friendly |
| 20. Put Some Clothes On Child | 57. Victory Is Mine/Starting All Over |
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| 33. You Can't Make It Without God | 69. Diagnosis From Dr. Jesus, Go And See The Dr. |
| 34. I Just Want To Say ... "Thank You Lord" | 70. Who Is He |
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VACANT POSITIONS

EMMANUEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENT

Seeking Full-time Christian Minister of Music, Loyal and Committed to God's program. Must possess people skills, be trained as a Musician, Conductor and Choir Director.

Salary: Commensurate with training and experience.

Interested persons may send resume/portfolio to:

Attention: Trustees
Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church
913 N. Highland Street, Gastonia, NC 28052

CHURCH MUSICIAN

We are seeking to employ a person of Christian faith and character to serve as musician/director for the music department of the church.

Responsibilities include teaching music for church choirs, choir directors and other musicians. Proficiency in reading music is a requirement and some versatility in "playing by ear" will only serve to enhance the church's music department.

Applicants are asked to send resumes and references to:

United Institutional Baptist Church
Rev. Johnny R. Freeman, Pastor
802 East Market Street, Greensboro, NC 27401
Phone: (336) 272-0822*Fax: (336) 230-0274
*Salary is negotiable and is commensurate with training and experience.

FIRST AFRICAN BAPTIST CHURCH

803 East Harris St., Goldsboro, N.C. 27530

Pastor: Dr. Freddie I. Barnes

POSITION AVAILABLE: DIRECTOR OF CHURCH MUSIC

First African Baptist Church is a congregation of over 350 members with a Music Ministry that consist of four choirs, Sunshine Choir, Male Chorus, Unity and Praise Choir, Chancel Choir. Music in this ministry consists of gospel (traditional and contemporary) praise and worship, hymns, spirituals and anthems.

Applications and further information may be obtained by contacting Mrs. Johnnie Ingram, Personnel Committee Chairman or Rev. Jerry Dortch at 919-734-4935.

MINISTER OF MUSIC WANTED

Wake Forest congregation seeks Minister of Music. Duties to include working directly with the Pastor in order to assist and cooperate with him in Christian Worship; playing during Sunday morning worship service; rehearsing with various choirs one night per week; and accompanying the Pastor on engagements to other churches. Please forward a cover letter and resume to:

Evans Grove Missionary Baptist Church • 12700 Creedmoor Road, Highway 50
Wake Forest, NC 27587 • (919) 870-8874

CEDAR GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

14600 Railroad St., Gibson, NC 28343

CHURCH MUSICIAN

The Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church of Gibson, N.C., is seeking a person to serve as Church Musician.

Qualifications: Should be a Christian who lives and acts responsibly and has a good character and reputation.

Musician requirements:

*Be able to play a piano, keyboard, organ and be able to work well with a diverse range of singers with directions for musical selections.

*Be available for necessary rehearsals and Sunday Worship Services.

*Be available to accompany the pastor and choirs to all church functions when requested.

Salary negotiable. Please send resume to Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church at the above address.

CHURCH MUSICIAN

The New Hope Baptist Church, Gates, N.C., is seeking a person to serve as Church Musician.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Able to play organ and/or piano.
2. Able to play diverse music.
3. Able to accompany the pastor and choir to church engagements if possible.

SALARY NEGOTIABLE:

Send resume to:

New Hope Baptist Church, PO Box 91, Gatesville, NC 27938

Attn: Fannie M. Spivey, Secretary

Inquiries may be made by calling (252) 357-1061 after 4:30 p.m.

CHURCH MUSICIAN

Mount Olive Baptist Church of Lewiston is seeking a musician for a station church, a Christian who is responsible, has good character and a good reputation.

Requirements:

- *Plays the organ and piano
- *Able to work with a diverse group of singers
- *Experienced in all sacred music
- *Reads music and is versatile in playing by ear

Send resumes or responses to: Mount Olive Baptist Church

PO Box 214, Lewiston-Woodville, NC 27849 • Attention: William W. Peele Jr.

FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

P.O. Box 213, Hamlet, N.C. 28345

The officers and members of Friendship Missionary Baptist Church are accepting resumes for the position of Pastor. All interested ordained Missionary Baptist ministers should submit resumes to: Elizabeth Pulley, Pulpit Committee Chairperson

P.O. Box 213, Hamlet, N.C. 28345

Qualifications

1. Must be a born again, spirit filled, ordained missionary Baptist minister with sound knowledge of Baptist doctrine.
2. Must be willing to work with the Pee Dee Missionary Baptist Association.
3. Must proclaim the Bible publicly and with conviction.
4. Must be willing to serve as an ex officio member of church ministries.
5. Must demonstrate strong leadership in directing all church ministries.
6. Must have a good report.
7. Must be a servant/leader with a God given vision for the church.
8. Must be more than Sunday morning minister-visible in the community.
9. Must have good written and oral communication skills with seminary training.

First Missionary Baptist Church

The First Baptist Church is now seeking a pastor to serve as its spiritual leader, teacher, counselor and administrator. All interested persons should submit a letter of interest and resume to the Pulpit Search Committee.

Qualifications

- Born Again Christian
- Ordained Missionary Baptist Minister
- Knowledge of Baptist Doctrine and Faith
- Seminary Training preferred
- Teaching Bible Study Weekly
- Proficient in church organization and ability to train Church
- Pastoral Experience Preferred
- Family Oriented
- Able to Plan and implement innovative youth programs

Interested Applicants should Mail Resumes to:

Pastoral Search Committee
First Baptist Church
ATTENTION: Deacon Calvin Graham Jr., Chairman
P.O. Box 679, Stedman, North Carolina 28391

ST. FRANCIS BAPTIST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

is looking for a Pastor

This person should be:

- I. Missionary Baptist
- II. Have good organizational and leadership skills
- III. Commuting Distance
- IV. Family Oriented
- V. Experience Preferred

Interested parties should send resume to: c/o Pulpit Committee

St. Francis Missionary Baptist Church
P.O. Box 736, Windsor, NC 27983.

PASTOR — IMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH,

the largest African-American Missionary Baptist congregation in New Haven, Connecticut, is seeking an experienced, ordained pastor to replace their retiring spiritual leader. In a community with great potential for church growth and expansion, we require a leader with a sound spiritual foundation. The church has 175 years of rich history and is housed in modern, spacious facilities. The church owns and operates low income housing properties, manages a 70-bed homeless shelter and is active in other community support missions. Candidates must have a depth of formal education, demonstrated leadership abilities and strong administrative skills.

Resumes and inquiries should be addressed to: Deacon William A. Batts, Chairman, Pulpit Search Committee, Immanuel Baptist Church, 210 Curtis Drive, New Haven, CT 06515, Facsimile: (203) 785-8673.

PROGRESSIVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

2504 Creech Road, Raleigh, NC 27610

Rev. William H. Brock Sr., Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Leo Williams Jr., Assistant Pastor

Rev. James Richardson, Minister of Youth

Growing young Missionary Baptist Church in southeast Raleigh, Seeking a Christian Church Musician who can play piano/organ. Specifically organ. Must be able to read music as well as play by ear. Should be able to play hymns, anthems, spirituals, gospel.

Call church office to arrange interview (919) 828-8373.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Third and Mulbury Street, Weldon, North Carolina 27890

The Pulpit Committee of First Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of Pastor. Mail resumes to:

Deacon Stanley Edwards, 908 Country Club Rd., Weldon, NC 27890

Applicants must have the following qualifications:

- Born again Christian
- Must be able to preach and teach God's Word
- Preach quality sermons
- Possess strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, policies and practices
- Able to lead and communicate with all age groups
- Able to work effectively with church boards and committees
- Some college and seminary training preferred

SANDY GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

PO Box 290, 1600 Martin Luther King Drive, Lumberton, NC 28358

Sandy Grove Missionary Baptist Church is accepting resumes for a full-time pastor. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

1. Must be licensed, ordained, firmly rooted in the holy spirit, born again, and divinely called.
2. Must have strong family and community values.
3. Must possess or be in the process of pursuing a college degree and theological training from an accredited college or university.
4. Must be able to preach and teach God's holy word.
5. Must be willing to follow the Baptist doctrine, policies and practices.
6. Must be an effective leader, administrator, counselor and must work cooperatively with church officials.
7. Must be willing to work with all age groups, with particular emphasis on the spiritual growth and development of our youth.
8. Must plan for the future growth and development of the church.
9. Must be able to be tactful, just and fair with everyone.
10. Must establish office hours for the benefit of the members.
11. Must visit and commune with sick, shut-ins members and bereaved families.

Interested applicants should provide the following information:

1. A resume of relevant pastoral experience (if applicable).
2. A copy of college degree (s), certificate of license and ordination.
3. Proof of completion of all accredited theological training.
4. Name, address, and telephone number of four (4) personal references—excluding relatives.

Please mail all requested information to:

The Pulpit Committee

Sandy Grove Missionary Baptist Church, P.O. Box 290, Lumberton, NC 28358

VACANT POSITIONS

GREATER LOVELY HILL BAPTIST CHURCH

The Pulpit Search Committee of the Greater Lovely Hill Baptist Church, located in Warren County, N.C. is searching for applicants for its pastoral vacancy. Currently the Greater Lovely Hill Baptist Church has regular worship services twice monthly, on the first and third Sunday.

Qualifications:

1. Must be an experienced licensed ordained Missionary Baptist Minister living according to First Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9.
2. The applicants should have a vision for the church.
3. Must possess the ability to work with all age groups, with particular emphasis in youth development and community outreach, and with all auxiliaries of the church.
4. Must possess effective oral and written communication skills.
5. Must be community oriented.
6. Must possess strong and proven administration experience with a broad knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and practices.

Education:

Must possess a high school diploma (or equivalent) preferring a degree or courses in Seminary Training from an accredited college or university.

Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume of relevant experience.
2. A copy of the certificate of license and ordination.

Send resumes to: Mrs. Lucy E. Branch, PO Box 52, Warrenton, NC 27589

PULPIT VACANCY

The pulpit search committee of the Mount Zoar Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of pastor. Applicants must possess the following qualifications/responsibilities.

Qualifications

- Born again, spirit-filled, ordained and divinely called with strong family and community values.
- Be a licensed, ordained Missionary Baptist Minister.
- Must be able to preach and teach Bible Study
- Must be able to work with all age groups with emphasis on youth department
- Strong knowledge of the Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures
- Experienced as a senior pastor, but will consider years of experience as an associate pastor
- Must be willing to attend Sunday School and teach Bible Study
- Spiritual maturity; preach and teach God's word
- Willingness to administer communion and perform baptismal service
- Possess strong and proven administrative experience
- College degree preferred but will consider a combination of education and experience

Responsibilities

- Plan, prepare and deliver sermons
- Visit and commune with sick and shut-in members and bereaved families
- Plan and implementation of activities and projects designed to promote the church's progression and encourage active participation.

Interested applicants should mail resume with a recent photograph to address below.

Special notes: Photograph will not be returned

Mount Zoar Missionary Baptist Church
C/O Ann Dixon

Pulpit Search Committee, PO Box 71736, Durham, NC 27704

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

High Point, NC

The Pastoral Search Committee of Calvary Baptist Church is searching for applications for a full time pastoral vacancy.

Our church body would like for all applicants to have the following qualifications.

- A licensed and ordained Baptist minister who is Divinely called, spirit-filled and a born again Christian.
- Must be able to preach and teach God's word.
- Process six (6) to ten (10) years of Pastoral experience.
- Must have a college and seminary degree from an accredited college or university.
- Able to work effectively with church officials and ministry heads and able to lead and communicate with all age groups, with particular emphasis on the spiritual growth and development of our youth and the needs of the seniors.
- Strong and proven administrative experience and willing to follow Baptist doctrines, policies and practices.
- Proficient in church organization and ability to train church.
- Must be able to clearly develop and articulate a vision for church growth.
- Process strong oral and written communication skills.
- Must be able to be tactful, just and fair with everyone.
- Able to teach Bible Study and Church School
- Must have strong family and community values.
- Must establish office hours for the benefit of the members.
- Must visit and commune with the sick, shut-in members and bereaved families.

Interested applicants should provide the following information:

- A resume of relevant pastoral experience.
- A copy of certificate of license and ordination.
- Proof of completion of all programs of theological and academic degrees.
- Name, address and telephone number of four (4) personal references — excluding relatives.

All information should be forwarded to:

Pastoral Committee

Calvary Baptist Church
P.O. Box 682, High Point, NC 27261

FIRST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

The First Missionary Baptist Church is now seeking a pastor to serve as its spiritual leader, teacher and administrator.

Qualifications:

- Born again Christian
- Ordained Missionary Baptist Minister
- Knowledge of Baptist Doctrine and Faith
- Seminary Training preferred
- Pastoral experience preferred
- Capable in church organization and ability to train church
- Family oriented and community oriented
- Able to work effectively with church board and committees

Interested applicants should mail resume to:

Pastoral Search Committee

First Missionary Baptist Church, c/o Mrs. Mildred B. Sanders, Secretary
305 W. Noble Street, Selma, N.C. 27576

MT. OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

P.O. Box 98

Kings, Mountain, NC 28086

Mt. Olive Baptist Church is currently seeking a Pastor and is accepting resumes from interested licensed, ordained Baptist ministers. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

1. Spiritual maturity.
2. A minimum of three years experience as a pastor, but will consider years of experience as associate pastor.
3. Administrative and leadership skills.
4. Community oriented.
5. Must be able to work with all age groups with specific emphasis on youth department.
6. Strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures.
7. Good oral and written communication skills and ability to communicate with all age groups.

Responsibilities include:

Planning, organizing and implementing programs that encourage participation from youth and young adults and promote church growth and progression.

Please send resume to:

Mt. Olive Baptist Church
P.O. Box 98

Kings, Mountain, NC 28086

c/o The Pulpit Committee

PENN AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH

225 West McClanahan Street, Oxford, N.C. 27565

Rev. Willie S. Darby, Pastor

(919) 693-5396 • (919) 693-1015, Pastor's Office

The Penn Avenue Missionary Baptist Church of Oxford, N.C. is currently seeking a MINISTER OF MUSIC.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- *Must be a born again Christian.
- *Must be able to play the piano, keyboard and/or organ.
- *Must be able to read music and is versatile in playing by ear.
- *Must be able to work well with a diverse range of singers and age groups.
- *Must be able to teach and direct hymns, anthems, spirituals, gospels and other sacred music.
- *Must be able to rehearse choirs at a scheduled time unless otherwise notified.
- *Must be available for Sunday morning worship services.
- *Must be available to accompany the pastor and choirs when requested or provide a qualified substitute.
- *Must be able to assist in the selection of appropriate songs for worship and services.
- *Will be responsible with the pastor's approval in hiring other musicians if deemed necessary.

Salary: Negotiable

Penn Avenue Missionary Baptist Church is a warm, spirited-filled church that has worship services 52 Sundays a year and at present there is one musician available for 2nd Sunday worship services. Service begins each Sunday at 11 a.m. with the exception of 5th Sunday services which begin at 10 a.m.

Please send resume to the above listed address or inquiries may be made by calling one of the above listed numbers.

FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

715 West Willis Ave.

High Point, NC 27260

CHURCH MUSICIAN

The Friendship Missionary Baptist Church are accepting resumes for a Church Musician.

Qualifications:

Should be a Christian who lives and acts responsibly and has a good character and reputation.

Musician requirements:

- Be able to play a piano, keyboard, organ and be able to work well with a diverse range of singers with directions for musical selections.

8 Must have experience in church music (anthems, hymns, spirituals, praise and worship, etc.) of gospel traditional and contemporary.

- Be available for necessary rehearsals and Sunday Worship Services.

- Be available to accompany the pastor and choirs to all church functions when requested.

Salary negotiable:

Please send cover letter and resume to:

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church

Attn: James W. Flake, Pastor

909 Barbee Avenue

NOTICE

PASTOR NEEDED

at

Friendship Baptist Church Whiteville, NC

For Application Write:

Pastor Selection Committee

PO Box 1365, Whiteville, NC 28472

VACANT POSITIONS

GOOD HOPE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

4209 Smithfield Road, PO Box 441 Knightdale, North Carolina 27545
Telephone: 919-266-0217

JOHN L. THATCH, PASTOR

POSITION: MINISTER OF MUSIC

Principal Functions: Supervised by the pastor, the minister of music will be responsible for the development and promotion of the music program of the Church.

Primary Responsibilities: The minister of music will be responsible for the following:

1. Plan, organize, conduct and evaluate the comprehensive music program for the Church, including choirs, vocal and /or instrumental ensembles.
2. Prepare choirs for each Sunday morning's worship services.
3. Teach and direct sacred music (hymns, anthems, spirituals and gospel music).
4. Work with all choirs in selecting appropriate music for Sunday mornings' services and other worship services as his/her services are needed.
5. Work in cooperation with the pastor, other musicians and other choir members to set and implement guidelines for choir members' rights, responsibilities and ethical conduct while representing the Church in the glorification of God.
6. Work with the pastor, other musicians and choir members in scheduling and observing schedules for choir rehearsals.
7. Supervise the maintenance of the Church's musical instruments, hymnals, sheet music, music library and training materials, etc.
8. Work with the pastor to plan all services of worship (including funerals, weddings, revivals, special projects, etc.) and will accompany the pastor and Church when they are called upon to provide services for worship services at other churches.
9. Keep abreast of music methods, materials, promotion and administration, and cooperate with the Church process to enlist and train leaders for the Church music ministry.
10. Prepare an estimated annual budget and administer the approved budget.
11. Perform other duties as assigned by the pastor.

Qualifications:

1. Must be a Christian
2. Must possess people skills
3. Must be formally trained as a musician, conductor and choir director
4. Must be loyal and committed to the service and glory of God

Salary: Commensurate with training and experience

Interested persons may send resumes/portfolios to:

John L. Thatch, Pastor

Good Hope Missionary Baptist Church, PO Box 441, Knightdale, NC 27545

CHURCH MUSICIAN

First Missionary Baptist Church of Clinton is seeking a person to serve as musician. The responsibilities include playing for the Adult Choir on the First Sunday, and accompanying the other choirs on the remaining Sundays.

Qualifications:

Should be able to play the piano and the organ, and be able to work well with diverse groups of singers.

Experience in sacred music is a must as well as the ability to read music and play by ear.

The musician is also expected to accompany the pastor and choirs to outside functions when necessary.

Interested persons may send resume to: First Baptist Church, 900 College St., Clinton, N.C. 28328.

MUSICIAN WANTED

**Metropolitan Baptist Church
Rocky Mount, NC**

Progressive church music department looking for Director of Music to provide leadership for growth spiritually and musically. Must have experience in church music (anthems, hymns, spirituals, etc.) or equivalent. Able to lead music and direct/accompany. Available on 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays. On call as needed.

To apply call:

**Metropolitan Baptist Church
Rocky Mount, NC
252-442-4623**

ZION BAPTIST CHURCH SEEKS PASTOR

On April 20, 2000, Rev. Curtis E. Bender, pastor of Zion Baptist Church in Omaha, Nebraska, tendered his resignation. He has blessed Zion and the Omaha community with his leadership for more than 20 years. Although we will miss our Pastor, we humbly submit to the Will of God. Consequently, the recently formed Zion Baptist Church Pulpit Search Committee would like to solicit your help in this search. Please notify the members of your District/Convention that the Zion Baptist Church pulpit is vacant and that we have begun accepting applications for Pastor. Among other things, we require applicants who:

- Are Called by God. (1 Timothy 3:1-7)
- Are Graduates of an accredited and respected seminary.
- Have had a minimum of 10 years as pastor of a large Black Baptist Church. (500 or more members).
- Are members in good standing and with a track record of membership in the National Baptist Convention U.S.A., Inc.
- Have proven leadership and training skills.

Interested candidates are asked to request in writing applications from:

Zion Baptist Church
Pulpit Search Committee

2215 Grant Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68110

Please pray for our effort and thank you for your help in this notification.

Yours in Christ,

Dea. Jesse Sharpe, Committee Chairman, Sis. Jacqueline C. Hart, Church Clerk

MINISTER OF MUSIC WANTED

Wake Forest Congregation seeks Minister of Music. Duties to include working directly with the Pastor in order to assist and cooperate with him in Christian Worship; playing during Sunday morning worship service; rehearsing with various choirs one night per week; and accompanying the Pastor on engagements to other churches. Please forward a cover letter and resume to:

Evans Grove Missionary Baptist Church, 12700 Creedmoor Road, Highway 50
Wake Forest, NC 27587 • (919) 870-8874

Littlefield Missionary Baptist Church

4465 Newton Grove Highway
Newton Grove, NC 28366

The Littlefield Missionary Baptist Church is accepting resumes from interested Missionary Baptist Ministers for the position of Pastor.

1. Born-again Christian and Role Model with strong leadership abilities.
2. Able to manage Church's administrative functions effectively.
3. Must be able to preach and teach God's Word.
4. Knowledgeable and believes in The Baptist Doctrine
5. Local proximity to Church, willingness to visit the sick and shut-in.
6. Seminary and/or Theological experience (preferred)

Services are second, third and fourth Sundays.

POSITION AVAILABLE: DIRECTOR OF CHURCH MUSIC

First African Baptist Church is a congregation of over 350 members with a Music Ministry that consist of four choirs, Sunshine Choir, Male Chorus, Unity and Praise Choir, Chancel Choir. Music in this ministry consists of gospel (traditional and contemporary) praise and worship, hymns, spirituals and anthems.

Applications and further information may be obtained by contacting, Mrs. Verna Best, or Rev. Jerry Dortch at 919-734-4935.

UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

110 Lincoln Ave., Lexington, NC 27292

Needed: Minister of Music or Organist.

Please send resume to:

Union Baptist Church, 110 Lincoln Ave, Lexington, NC 27292. Attn: Rev. Darrell L. Thomas.
Or call 336-243-1648 and leave your name and number.

MINISTER OF MUSIC • ST. MATTHEW BAPTIST CHURCH

P.O. BOX 1710, OXFORD, NC 27565

1. Must be a Christian to serve as minister of music each Sunday.
2. Will prepare choirs for Sunday morning worship services and special services.
3. Will teach and direct hymns, spiritual selections and other sacred music.
4. Will implement and/or carrying out guidelines pertaining to choir members' conduct.
5. Will rehearse choirs at a scheduled time unless otherwise notified.
6. Will be available to accompany the Pastor and choir to church functions requested.

Please send resume to the above address: Attention Pastor. Inquiries may be made by calling (252) 492-9046 or (919) 603-0620.

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VACANT POSITIONS

FIRST BAPTIST CHARITY CHURCH

Greenevers, N.C.

The First Baptist Charity Church of Greenevers, N.C. is accepting resumes from interested Missionary Baptist Ministers for the position of pastor.

Qualifications:

1. Divinely called spirit-filled, born-again Christian with strong Family values.
2. Pastoral experiences is required.
3. Must work closely with the officers of the church.
4. Must have at least 2 years of college or seminary training.
5. Must be able to preach and teach.
6. Must have good leadership and communication skills.
7. Family oriented.
8. Have knowledge of and willing to follow Baptist doctrines, policies and procedures.
9. Must be willing to visit and commune with the sick and shut-ins.
10. Must be willing to work with all age groups.

Services are first, second, third and fourth Sundays with Sunday school beginning at 10:00 a.m. and morning service beginning at 11:00 a.m.

Please send resumes to:

Deacon Fernald Rawls, Jr.
920 Pasture Branch Road, Rose Hill, NC 28458

MT. OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

PO Box 98, Kings Mountain, NC 28086

Mt. Olive Baptist Church is currently seeking a Pastor and is accepting resumes from interested licenses, ordained Baptist ministers. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

1. Spiritual maturity
2. A minimum of three years experience as a pastor, but will consider years of experience as associate pastor.
3. Administrative and leadership skills.
4. Community oriented.
5. Must be able to work with all age groups with specific emphasis on youth department.
6. Strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures.
7. Good oral and written communication skills and ability to communicate with all age groups.

Responsibilities include:

Planning, organizing and implementing programs that encourage participation from youth and young adults and promote church growth and progression.

Please send resumes to:

Mt. Olive Baptist Church
P.O. Box 98
Kings Mountain, NC 28086
% The Pulpit Committee

UNION GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH

Warrenton, North Carolina

The Union Grove Baptist is currently seeking and accepting resumes from interested licensed, ordained Baptist ministers. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

1. Spiritual maturity
2. A minimum of three years experience as a pastor, but will consider years of experience as associate pastor
3. Administrative and leadership skills
4. Must be able to work with various age groups with specific emphasis on youth development.
5. Strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures.
7. Good oral and written communication skills and ability to communicate with all age groups.
8. Have excellent teaching ability.

Other responsibilities include:

Planning, organizing and implementing programs that encourage participation of youth and young adults that promote church growth and progress.

Please send resumes to:

Brother Alonza Jones, Board Chairman
Route 2, Box 128, Norlina, N.C. 27563
% The Pulpit Committee

MINISTER OF MUSIC VACANCY SPRING GREEN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

PO Box 924

Warrenton, NC 27589

Rev. Dennis G. Lindsay, Pastor

The Spring Green Missionary Baptist Church seeks a Minister of Music to provide musical direction and accompaniment for 4 choirs in the church. This person will work closely with the Pastor to provide spiritual leadership in the ministry of Jesus Christ through music, i.e. hymns, spiritual songs, and praise and worship music that glorifies God.

We are accepting resumes from candidates with the following qualifications:

1. Born-again Christian, Spirit-filled, and divinely gifted in music ministry.
2. Willingness to spiritually align the music ministry with Pastoral vision.
3. Able to play the piano, keyboard and/or organ; able to read music and versatile.
4. Able to prepare choirs for Sunday morning worship services and other services.
5. Able to teach, as well as direct choirs, with humility and love.
6. Able to rehearse with all choirs on schedule, and available for all Sunday services
7. Able to accompany Pastor and choirs to other services as required (or ensure qualified substitute is available).

8. Able to select appropriate hymns and songs for worship service.

Please submit resumes to the address above. Any inquiries, please contact Pastor Lindsay at (919) 361-3003.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

POSITION:

Interim Pastor to provide pastoral leadership and duties to a congregation of 400 active members located in the North Philadelphia area of the city.

ORGANIZATION:

Miller Memorial Baptist Church
1518 North 22nd Street
Philadelphia, PA 19121

DESCRIPTION

The Miller Memorial Baptist Church is currently seeking an individual to perform in the capacity of **INTERIM PASTOR**. This position is not intended or expected to lead to the role of permanent pastor. This role requires you to focus on the pastoral task in the congregation during the interim period to help free the leaders of the congregation to focus on seeking a new pastor. You will provide leadership and stability in a positive manner during this transitional period of our church. The ability to settle issues and migrate the congregation from the former pastor to the new pastor, is critical. You will be working closely with the chairpersons of the Deacon Board and Trustee Board when addressing issues that effect the congregation at large. While the duration of this position is unknown as this time, you must be available for any period from two months to two years if needed.

Major Duties and Responsibilities:

- Plan and lead worship that is sensitive to the needs of the congregation
- Attend to the spiritual development of the congregation
- Provide administrative leadership to the congregation, secretarial, and pulpit staff
- Counsel members having personal, family and/or work related problems
- Support and/or lead religious programs for children, youth and adults
- Develop and instruct weekly bible study classes
- Actively and visibly support the church's financial program
- Directly involve the congregation in the planning and leadership of existing church programs and ministries
- Meet regularly with the chairpersons of the Deacon, Deaconess and Trustee Boards for planning and direction
- Work closely with the Superintendent of the Sunday School
- Visit the sick, shut in and bereaved in the hospital and at home
- Preside at funerals and weddings
- Support the world mission of the church
- Participate in local community activities, issues and problems
- Present social issues before members

QUALIFICATIONS - EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

- Bachelors Degree in Divinity, Masters of Divinity Degree preferable
- Ordained for a minimum of five years
- Five years experience as a pastor or assistant pastor of a Baptist Church
- Experience in working as an interim pastor is a plus.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

For immediate consideration, please send a cover letter and your resume to the following address:

Miller Memorial Baptist Church
Attention: Deacon David Pridgen
1518 North 22nd Street
Philadelphia, PA 19121

POSITION DESCRIPTION

North Carolina Council of Churches COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATE

Job responsibilities

Develop and implement a communications plan including at least the following:

- Print media
 - Write, edit, and produce Church Council Bulletin
 - Write, edit, and produce regular information piece for "Interested Persons"
 - Produce quarterly one-page information piece for distribution by judiciatories
 - Prepare and distribute press releases to secular and religious press
 - Coordinate production of other printed resources
- Electronic communications
 - Design and maintain web site
 - Develop electronic versions of CCB and Raleigh Report, including e-mail summaries
 - Propose other uses of electronic communications technology

Develop and staff the Communications Committee

Qualifications

Compatible with Council's mission of ecumenism and social justice
Member of a faith community affiliated with the NC Council of Churches (preferred)

Four-year communications degree (preferred)

Two years work experience (preferred)

Excellent computer skills in MS Office, especially Word, Publisher and FrontPage

Other

Responsible to Executive Director

Attend meetings of House of Delegates and Executive Board

Salary and benefits package: \$17,000-\$19,000 for half-time employment.

Telecommuting from within the Triangle is preferred, with semimonthly in-office staff meetings.

The North Carolina Council of Churches does not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, ethnicity, or sexual orientation.

To apply, send a resume and writing sample to George Reed, 1307 Glenwood Avenue, Suite 162, Raleigh, NC 27605.

Or e-mail to nccofc@nccouncilofchurches.org.

Pray for great blessings for this year!

VACANT POSITIONS

ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

Philadelphia, Pa.

The Pastoral Search Committee of Zion Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of pastor.

Zion Baptist Church is a historically African-American congregation located in the northern section of Philadelphia, Pa. There are approximately 1,000 active members in the congregation, of which the majority reside within five miles of the church building located at 3600 North Broad Street. Other members live in the adjoining suburbs of Pennsylvania and New Jersey. Membership is diverse, representing all economic and educational levels. The church is not only active in the surrounding neighborhoods; but also has a national and international reputation due to the ministry of its Pastor Emeritus, the Rev. Leon H. Sullivan.

The Pastor, guided by the Holy Spirit, would be expected to envision the spiritual and temporal agenda of the church. The pastor's duties would include, but would not be limited to: a comprehensive ministry promoting Christian education, missions, pastoral care and visitation, evangelism, active community involvement and interfaith cooperation.

Pastoral applicants should be ordained Baptist ministers possessing at least bachelor and seminary degrees. Previous pastoral experience indicating outstanding preaching talent and the ability to effectively pastor a large congregation is also required.

Pastoral applicants should submit their resumes to:

Zion Baptist Church, Pastoral Search Committee, PO Box 12218, Philadelphia, Pa. 19144
Resumes should be postmarked by April 30, 2001.

SAVANNAH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

6675 Tabor Church Road, Fayetteville, NC 28301

The pastor's search committee of Savannah Missionary Baptist Church is accepting letters of interest/resumes for the position of Senior Pastor from licensed and ordained Missionary Baptist Ministers. Apply only if you are sincerely interested and meet all the qualifications.

QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Must be born again, filled with the holy spirit and called by God to preach the word.
2. Must be family oriented and possess a strong, Godly character.
3. Prefer college degree but will strongly consider a combination of education, training and experience.
4. Possess a strong knowledge of the Missionary Baptist doctrine, church policies and practices.
5. Be an effective leader, communicator, administrator and counselor with good interpersonal skills.
6. Must have skills required to work with all age groups with emphasis on spiritual growth and development.
7. Must have skills required for planning and implementing a vision for both spiritual and physical growth of the church.
8. Must work effectively with boards, auxiliaries and committees.

Interested persons meeting all of the above qualifications should submit the following information:

Letter of interest or resume

Copy of license and ordination certificate

Proof of educational degree, and additional theological studies transcript

The names, addresses, telephone numbers, email addresses of at least five references of which only two can be ministers.

The committee will provide each candidate with an information packet.

All correspondence must be addressed as follows:

Savannah Missionary Baptist Church

ATTN: Sister Ernestine Tucker, 6675 Tabor Church Road, Fayetteville, N.C.

THE UNITED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

of Oxford, N.C., is seeking a pastor with the following qualifications:

Dedicated Christian leader

Ordained minister

Educated in the word of God

Can relate to all age groups

Skilled in administrative duties

Prefers a college and seminary graduate

Interested in building a church

Radius of 60 miles of church

Please send resumes to: ATTN: Deacon Rebecca Fuller, PO Box 2142, Oxford, NC 27565.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Deacon Leon BeCoats, Chairman, Pulpit Committee

PO Box 1087, Fairmont, NC 28340

POSITION: Baptist Minister (Pastor)

SALARY: Negotiable (Commensurate with education and experience)

QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Must be a spiritually ordained Missionary Baptist Minister
 - a. A Christian Pastor divinely called.
 - b. Must be a good role model of moral and ethical conduct.
2. Education
 - a. Graduate of University and or Divinity School.
 - b. Must have an excellent command of the English language and must be able to communicate well with all age groups.
3. Must have five years experience in the Baptist church.
4. Must be willing to follow the Baptist doctrines, policies and practices.
5. Must possess leadership skills in promoting and directing Christian education and traditional church programs.
6. Must be willing to serve with the General Baptist State Convention and the Lumber River Baptist Association, Inc.
7. Must live and serve in a small multiracial community.
8. Must have a philosophy of growth for the church and a vision for such.
9. Must be family oriented.

Oakey Grove Missionary Baptist Church of Clayton

is searching for a pastor. Congregational size is about 100 members with attendance of 50-65 depending upon the season. Worship service is held twice monthly. We are a small rural church located about 5 miles east of Clayton and about 6 miles west of Smithfield on Hwy. 70 business. Our congregation represents all ages and all backgrounds.

Our pastor must be knowledgeable and believe in the Baptist Doctrine. Must be a strong spiritual leader, administrator and teacher. One who will proclaim the Good News in a meaningful way that will help members learn to apply Biblical concepts to their everyday lives.

We are an autonomous Missionary Baptist Church that is affiliated with the Johnston District Missionary Baptist Association and its auxiliaries and the General Baptist State Convention and its auxiliaries.

Please include in your resume the following:

1. Name/Address/Day and Evening Phone Numbers
2. Age
3. Marital Status
4. Education/Schools Attended
5. Pastoral Experience (Where, When, Number of Years)
6. References

Qualifications:

1. Ordained Missionary Baptist Minister
2. Possess Leadership, Administrative, and Counseling Skills
3. Willingness to follow Baptist Doctrines, Policies and Procedures
4. Able to lead and communicate with all age groups
5. Family oriented
6. Must possess good moral and ethical conduct

Interested persons should send resumes to:

Oakey Grove Baptist Church, Pulpit Search Committee

Deacon Loomis Hodges, Chairperson, PO Box 2435, Smithfield, NC 27577

FULL TIME DIRECTOR/RESS OF CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

Greater Mount Sinai Baptist Church

Dr. George Cook Jr.

Qualifications

≠ Masters of Divinity or Masters of Religious Education or an equivalent degree/experience.

≠ Possess skills in coordinating and working with various age groups.

≠ Having had experience in this area would be a plus.

≠ Demonstrate exceptional skills in interpersonal relationships, team building, team playing and delegation.

Appointment

≠ The Director/ress of Ministries shall be appointed by the Pastor upon recommendation by the Personnel Committee with final approval by the church.

Responsible To

≠ The Pastor

Status

≠ Full-Time (Forty-hour minimum schedule. Determined jointly between Director/ress and Pastor.)

Responsible For

≠ Supervising and coordinating all activities pertaining to ministries.

Salary

≠ Commensurate with qualifications, experience, achievement and commitment

≠ Salary range \$30,000 - \$35,000

≠ Fringe benefits will be offered.

Responsibilities

1. To have general oversight of outreach ministries.
2. To provide training for ministries on a scheduled basis to include, but not limited to, such areas as: partnering with God in prayer, planning, communication skills, servant leadership, volunteer enlistment and recruiting.
3. Make available specific ministry aids to assist in gaining greater knowledge regarding the specific ministry.
4. Establish accountability structures for each ministry.
5. Establish a "Ministry Standard" which outlines measurable checkpoints.
6. Maintain a church-wide Calendar of Events to include all ministry events and church-wide activities.
7. Provide a vehicle for communicating various ministries of church to the membership and visitors.
8. To work with auxiliaries and groups to resolve any procedural and scheduling conflicts they may run into.
9. To provide monthly reports, in writing, to the Pastor that reflects implementation progress as well as upcoming plans.
10. Establish and maintain a time line to monitor the productivity of each auxiliary.
11. To perform other duties as assigned by the Pastor.

To Apply

Qualified persons should submit the following items:

≠ A Cover letter stating your interest

≠ A resume or vitae

≠ Three letters of recommendation

≠ These materials will not be returned

Deadline

All materials should be postmarked no later than Saturday, November 17, 2001.

Candidates will be notified by Tuesday, January 15, 2002 concerning the status of the application.

Mail all items to:

GMSBC Personnel Committee

Greater Mount Sinai Baptist Church

1243 West Boulevard

Charlotte, NC 28208

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Update of The National Baptist Congress of Christian Education, Charlotte, North Carolina, June 18-22, 2001

National Congress of Christian Education is the "Teaching arm of the National Baptist Convention. U.S.A., Inc. Delegates, members and friends have an opportunity to participate in more than 2000 courses, mini-course, seminars and workshops facilitated by highly-qualified personnel.

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Events/Meeting Sites: Charlotte Convention Center

National Baptist Congress of Christian Education Pre-Congress Musical 2001

Host Church:

FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

3301 Beatties Ford Road, Charlotte NC 28216

Dr. Clifford A. Jones, Senior Minister/Host Pastor

Mr. Tony McNeill, Pre-Congress Musical Director

WHEN: Monday, June 18, 2001

TIME: 6:00 pm — Official Welcome • 6:45 — Concert

WHERE: Charlotte Convention Center • TICKETS: \$10.00 per person

Join us as we present a Spirit-filled evening of Worship and Praise with a 500-Voice citywide, interdenominational choir and other talented musicians offering a diversified program of Sacred/Gospel Music.

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(Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church, Fayetteville, NC)

Trent Dunston

(St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church, Charlotte, NC)

Jocelyn Thompson

(Memorial Presbyterian Church, Charlotte, NC)

Frank Williams

(White Rock Missionary Baptist Church, Durham, NC)

Jacqueline Robinson

(Statesville Avenue Presbyterian Church, Charlotte, NC)

Donald Chisholm

(St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church, Charlotte, NC)

Stephanie Kirkpatrick

(Rocky Ridge Missionary Baptist Church, Concord, NC)

Bruce Thompson

(Mt. Carmel Missionary Baptist Church, Charlotte, NC)

Minister Avis D. Graves

(University Park Missionary Baptist Church, Charlotte, NC)

Patrick Love

(The Temple of Refuge, Charlotte, NC)

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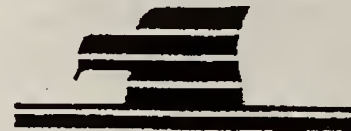
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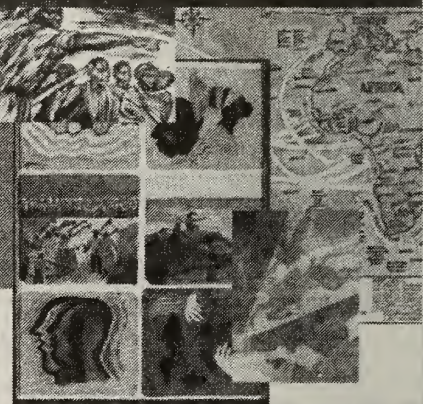
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Vol. 124, No. 5

Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc.
Voice of 500,000 North Carolina Baptists

May 2001

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# BAPTIST INFORMER

Volume 124, Number 6

Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C. Inc.  
Voice of 500,000 North Carolina Baptists

June 2001

## General Baptist State Convention Partners With EBC-ATOM, Inc. To Revitalize Local Community



Rev. Thomas Walker

Submitted by

Rev. Thomas Walker, Pastor

Dear Baptist Affiliates,

For over eighty years, the Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church (EBC) has served as an instrumental partner towards revitalizing and strengthening the Rocky Mount, NC community. To further expand our ministry, in 1998, Ebenezer Baptist Church-A Total Outreach Ministry, Incorporated (ATOM) was formed as a private 501(c)3 charitable organization. Through the leadership of ATOM's Board of Directors, Dr. Thomas L. Walker's thirty-one year tenure as Senior Pastor, EBC and generous donors, ATOM has provided much needed assistance to surviving citizens of the Hurricane Floyd's flood-ravished community. Our mission is "to identify and address the social, education, economical and cultural needs of low to moderate-income individuals through computer lit-

eracy training, job skills training, flood recovery efforts, health awareness initiatives, and homeownership."

Understanding the critical need to minister to our local communities, the GBSC has generously partnered with EBC-ATOM, Inc. to renovate EBC-ATOM, Inc.'s first affordable home located at 403 Rocky Street in Rocky Mount, NC. EBC-ATOM, Inc. has scheduled a ground-breaking ceremony for June 11, 2001.

Additionally, EBC-ATOM, Inc. is actively involved in rehabilitating 30 donated houses to provide affordable housing to flood victims and low income families within the Rocky Mount, NC community. Efforts such as installing personal computers in homes with school age children, providing free computer tutorials and energy efficient homes are only a few of the services EBC-ATOM, Inc. is focused towards providing to its community. We have contracted

reputable licensed contractors and mechanical partners to install new plumbing, heating, cooling and electrical work. EBC-ATOM, Inc. has contracted a reputable accredited health and environmental safety firm to ensure that all homes are free from potential asbestos and lead hazards. In addition to the current 30 home rehabilitation project, EBC-ATOM, Inc. also anticipates acquiring an additional minimum of 50 homes through prospective donors and acquisition within the next eighteen months.

To assist with this worthwhile effort, the GBSC and EBC-ATOM, Inc. strongly encourage all Baptist Affiliates, individuals, governmental, civic and community organizations to avidly collaborate with us in this effort to revitalize and strengthen the overall Rocky Mount community. In July, Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church, Rocky Mount, NC

will be hosting the Laymen's Annual Session, Congress of Christian Education Session and Usher's Convention. All are invited to witness GBSC and EBC-ATOM, Inc.'s commitment towards revitalizing the Rocky Mount Community. Should you have any questions or would like to make a difference in the lives of many families, please contact Rev. Louis Leigh Jr. at (252) 446-2378. All donations are tax deductible.

## GBSC Youth Oratorical Conference 2001 • June 27-30

NC A&T State University, Greensboro • Host: St. James Baptist Church, Rev. Vernon King, Pastor

Special Guest: Gil McGregor, Announcer, Charlotte Hornets

Congress of Christian Education, Dr. Jasper P. Reed, President

Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President

Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer, GBSC

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27, 2001

New Ballroom ..... Student Union  
12 Noon ..... Registration  
2-4 p.m. .... College Campus Tours & Greater Greensboro  
Bennett College, UNC-G, Aggie Land  
4-6 p.m. .... Dinner  
7 p.m. .... Welcome Program, Dr. Jasper Reed, Presiding  
Devotion-Welcome ..... Rev. Vernon King, St. James Baptist Church  
Greetings

Dr. Jasper Reed, President, Congress of Christian Education

Dr. John Full Sr., President GBSC

Dr. Archie Logan Jr., Exec. Secretary-Treasurer, GBSC

The Challenge ..... Ms. Mava Pittman, Youth Delegate NBC  
Music ..... St. James Baptist Church Youth Choir

Offering

Worship Period

Shiloh Baptist Church Step Team

Introduction of Speaker

Musical Selection ..... Shiloh Youth Choir

Opening Sermon ..... Dr. Paul Lowe, Winston-Salem, NC

Invitational ..... "Dictates of the Spirit"

Benediction ..... Dr. Paul Lowe

9-11 p.m. ... Registration of Oratoricals, Ms. Gainey, Mrs. McMillian and Mrs. Williams

ALL OTHER YOUTH ..... Choir Rehearsal, Mrs. Ivory

12 MIDNIGHT — CURFEW

THURSDAY, JUNE 28, 2001

7-8:30 a.m. .... Breakfast

8:35-10:05 a.m. .... Class Session I

Youth: Discipleship ..... Mrs. Diane Newell, Youth Supervisor

Rev. Jamale Johnson, Rev. Sylvia Bennett and Evangelist Claire Goode

Adults: ABC's Update — Gateways "2000" ..... Dr. Marvin Pittman, DPI

10:05-10:20 a.m. .... Break

10:25 a.m.-12 noon ..... Class Session II

Youth: The Music, The Madness & The Messiah ..... Dr. Robert Horne

Adults: Your Child and the law (Home, School & Land) ..... Judge Gregory Weeks

12-1:30 p.m. .... Lunch

1:30 p.m. .... Devotion, Mr. Timothy Freeman, Presiding

Offering

1:45-4 p.m. .... Preparatory Oratoricals, Mrs. Mary Williams

4-6 p.m. .... Dinner

6-8 p.m. .... Recreation, Softball, boys vs. girls

8:15 p.m. .... Mrs. Jannifer Campbell, Presiding

Evening Worship

Devotion ..... Officers

Congregation ..... Singing

Offering

Introduction of Speaker

Evening Messenger ..... Rev. Patrick Cheston, Reidsville, N.C.

Invitational Selection

Dictates of the Spirit

Benediction ..... Rev. Patrick Cheston

9:30-11 p.m. .... Choir Rehearsal, Mrs. Ivory

12 Midnight — Curfew

FRIDAY, JUNE 29, 2001

7-8:30 a.m. .... Breakfast

8:45-12 a.m. .... Class Session II

Youth ..... Mrs. Diane Newell, Youth Supervisor

Rev. Jamele Johnson, Rev. Sylvia Bennett, Evangelist Claire Goode

Effective Youth Leaders ..... Mrs. Hazel McLean, Mrs. Diane Newell, Presiding

10 a.m. .... Devotional Period

Offering

10:15 a.m. .... Jr. Division Oratoricals, Mrs. Valarie McMillian

12-1:30 p.m. .... Lunch

1:45-2 p.m. .... Devotional Period, Mr. Tyrone Richardson, Presiding

2 p.m. .... Sr. Division Oratoricals, Ms. Lula Gainey

3:30 p.m. .... Recreation on your own

(Student Union — Video Games, Ping Pong, Bowling, etc.)

4-6 p.m. .... Dinner

7 p.m. .... Evening Worship, Ms. Bobbie Stewart, Presiding

Devotion ..... GBSC-Youth

7:15 p.m. .... "Choices" Careers/Colleges, Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Brandon, Boston, Mass.

Offering

8 p.m. .... GBSC Youth Concert, Mrs. Octavia Ivory, Director

Benediction

Quiet Time ..... Dorms

12:00 Midnight, Curfew

SATURDAY, JUNE 30, 2001 — RON MCNAIR BUILDING

TIME — TBA ..... Breakfast

9:30 a.m. .... Closing Session, Dr. Jasper Reed, Presiding

Devotional

Moments of Reflections

Introduction of Guest Speaker ..... Dr. Archie Logan Jr.

Motivational Message ..... Mr. Gilbert McGregor, Charlotte Hornets

11 a.m. . Awards Ceremony, Mrs. Mary Williams, Ms. Valarie McMillian, Ms. Lula Gainey

Closing Remarks ..... Dr. Reed

Benediction

12 Noon ..... Check out at Dorms

# From The Desk of the Executive Secretary-Treasurer Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Ed.D.

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

**ATTENTION ALL MODERATORS,  
PASTORS, FINANCIAL  
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**THAT DID NOT ATTEND  
OR REPORT FOR**

**THE 2001 MILLENNIUM MID-YEAR SESSION  
MAY 6 - 9, 2001 IN WILMINGTON, N.C.**



Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr.

Please send your Representation, (\$300.00) and special STATE MISSIONS contributions, (\$500.00 or more) to Baptist Headquarters, c/o Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer, 603 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, North Carolina 27601-2338, 800-639-GBSC, alogan@gbsc.org.

As you know each year we depend on your stewardship support of our Annual Sessions. We need the additional stewardship contributions that are reported each May and October to meet our obligations. We missed seeing and hearing from several of you May 2001.

Please send your checks for the MINISTRY and the WORK. Call me I will be more than happy to visit your Association or church to receive your contributions (800-639-GBSC).

We have mailed information to you about what the GBSC, Inc.'s VISION is for the NEW MILLENNIUM. We need you help! Pray for the session of the GBSC, Inc., and PLEASE MAIL your STEWARDSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS TODAY.

James 4:2 says:

*"Yet you do not have because you do not ask." (NKJV).*

## The Baptist Informer

Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.  
Voice of 500,000 Baptists  
(USPS 042-680)

Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Editor  
Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie, Executive Editor  
Ms. Carol J. Smith, Managing Editor

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THEME: "By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness..." (II Corinthians 6:7)

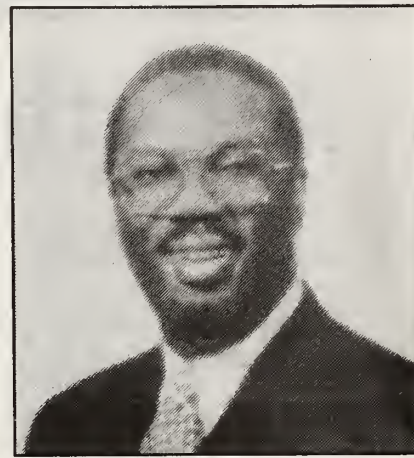


*Happy  
Father's  
Day on  
June 17!*



From The Desk of Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President

# Support all of the GBSC's Upcoming Events!



Dr. John D. Fuller Sr.

## Worthy Is The Pastor

By Rev. Dennis Leach, BS.M.Div.

In April I was asked to do a workshop on church finances, and the work of church trustees, near New Bern, N.C. for the East Carolina Progressive Educational Association. While preparing for that workshop, I was reminded of the many horror stories that I have heard surrounding the lack of, or in-adequate compensation being given to some pastors who have served a particular congregation most of their working lives. I once heard Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., GBSC President recount a sad and solemn situation that occurred when a long-standing pastor within the Convention died leaving little to nothing in place for his widow. I once heard an 86-year-old pastor say that the members of his church said he was preaching much better since he had his stroke. This senior pastor had also had to deal with cancer, and diabetes. I often wonder, was it that he could not retire, did not want to retire, or his members would not let him retire? While attending the Mid-Year Session in Wilmington, Dr. Hatch asked a 91-year-old minister was he still pasturing. He responded by saying his members made him retire at 80. As I prepared for the workshop I ran across some interesting statistics and material, some of which is the basis for this article.

A recent study points out that the average American pastor with a congregation of three hundred people earns a salary of \$18,875. One out of five ministers moonlights or is bi-vocational to supplement their income. In fact, one study done in 1999 indicated that only 10 percent of American ministers earn more than \$25,000 a year, and 15 percent earn less than \$15,000. Low pay for the pastor's isn't a new problem. But out of necessity many church governing boards are just now beginning to admit and acknowledge it.

Inadequate income does produce consequences. A pastor who is concerned about providing the basic needs of his or her own family may not have the emotional energy to concentrate on the needs of his church. Financial burdens may contribute to a lack of enthusiasm, low self-esteem, and a negative attitude towards the ministry. Ultimately, that will harm the congregation.

The salary pinch is no respecter of age. Many seminary graduates are forced to leave their first pastorate because they cannot support their families at an adequate standard of living. Meanwhile, combined low pay and substandard retirement programs cause some veteran pastors to stay in the ministry long after they should retire. Their fraying health and vigor hurt both themselves and the church.

The apostle Paul wrote to Timothy, "The

elder who rule well are to be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who work hard at preaching and teaching. For the Scripture says, 'You shall not muzzle the ox while he is threshing,' and 'The laborer is worthy of his wages' (1 Tim. 5:17, 18).

The phrase "worthy of double honor" does not mean two pats on the back followed by a rousing rendition of "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow." If financial support of "honor" is provided to the worthy widow (5:3), then a double dose is certainly due to the person who is the pastor. The context of 1 Timothy 5:17, 18 demands that, just as one provides an ongoing reward for the work of an animal, so also should a pastor be adequately compensated for their labor.

The Bible also exhorts us to "appreciate those who diligently labor among you, and have charge over you" (1 Thes. 5:12). The phrase "have charge over you" literally means "stands before you." This is best illustrated by a father standing before his family (1 Tim. 3:5); it denotes responsibility, duty and accountability.

The passage continues: "Esteem them very highly in love because of their work" (1 Thes. 5:13). The love mentioned here may well manifest itself through compassionate care, concern and generosity when it comes time for the annual salary review.

Just as the business community requires an evaluation of anyone in a position of responsibility, so should the church board, or ministry. Any pay increase less than the cost of living rate for the previous twelve months should not be considered a raise. On the other hand, keep in mind the local economy, business climate, and financial condition of the church.

A good rule of thumb is to pay the senior pastor the average wage of the church ruling board. Simply ask each leader to submit figures showing his or her salary plus the value of their benefits. Then add the totals and divide the sum by the number of persons participating.

In some situations, outside employment may be a feasible option for supplementing a low salary. Especially in smaller churches, the pastor should be given the freedom to pursue a second job without the fear of stigma. Even the apostle Paul worked as a tent maker to avoid placing a financial burden on his local church.

Before allowing the pastor to take that step, however, the church board must honestly determine if they have the resources to assume his, or her full and adequate support. Sometimes a congregation has more resources than it realizes.

In creating a compensation package, leaders should make every attempt to

stretch the dollars as far as they will go. A straight salary isn't the only avenue to explore. With just a little imagination, both the minister and the congregation can benefit. The following is a list of things that should be included in an adequate compensation package for pastors.

•**Reimbursement.** The congregation should pay for what it costs to have a pastor. This may involve a car allowance, professional dues, traveling expenses, and meals away from home — in other words, the same cost most businesses provide.

•**Benefits.** Any fair compensation package will include health and life insurance. Disability coverage may be added. And a good pension plan should also be provided. All benefits should be furnished to the minister at no cost, thereby allowing him or her additional tax-free income.

•**Housing.** If the church does not provide a parsonage, a stated housing allowance over and above the pastor's salary should be given. By giving him or her the opportunity to buy their home, the congregation helps the pastor to build and equity for their future. It is wise to implement the counsel of a church member who knows tax laws. Among other provisions, the Manse Allowance entitlement can be quite beneficial in handling federal taxes and saving tax dollars.

•**Salary.** Setting a fair salary is the most difficult part of establishing an equitable pay package. A small group of trusted members should consult the pastor, discussing his needs openly, honestly, and lovingly. Future discussion or debate should also be limited to a small group situation.

Many congregations today make a big mistake in committing funds to buildings

and programs rather than to people. God does not cause growth through bigger buildings or more programs but through highly motivated individuals who are loved and appreciated by their people. Faithfulness to God's Word and the effective labors of His servants are the keys to growth. Resources should be directed at people first, then programs and facilities.

"Let the church keep the pastor poor and God can keep him humble" is a faulty motto. Most people serving in pulpits today are highly trained, with the majority possessing advanced degrees. In obedience to God, a congregation should pay a minister what he, or she is worth. And God can still keep them humble.

Finally, at the conclusion of my last workshop a deacon who had been in attendance approached me, and he brought another deacon with him as a witness. He asked me a question concerning providing retirement for ministers, in light of the fact that many leave their first, or smaller pastorates for bigger situations. I did not answer his question, but I took note of it as one of the realities of the pastorate. After giving the deacon's question some thought, however I have developed an opinion concerning the matter. My opinion is based on modern business practices and my own retirement from military service. When I retired I received what is commonly referred to a DD form 214. On that form it list a number of things, to include your dates of service. My retirement from the military began with my first day of active service, and ended on my last day. When a company hires you, your retirement will be based on the date of hire not some adjusted date influenced by whether or not your employee liked you or not. So it is my opinion that an adequate retirement ought to be put in place from the beginning for all pastors, whether they stay or leave. Think about it?

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# Women's Page Highlights

## A Father's Living Faith

By Executive Secretary-Treasurer  
Brodie

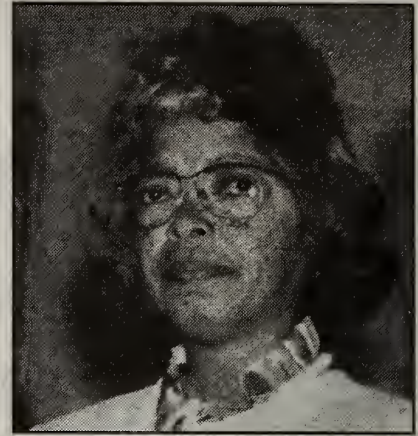
From the beginning has the home, the decisions of parents, the decision of a father, or the decision of a mother affected the world. How did sin become dominant in the first home? What problems resulted

in their home, environment, even world because of the decision to disobey God's Word! What a fallout for generations born and yet to be born!

However, God's grace and mercy for deliverance from the shackles of sin do abound for parents or a parent who adheres

to God's Word, God's wisdom, God's advice. Such is a father whose name is well known by Bible students. His Godly wisdom and influence affected the world while he lived and even after his death. He had great faith in God, his Creator.

Living at a time on earth when it "also was corrupt before God; and the earth was filled with violence" (Genesis 6:11), a preacher/father (2 Peter 2:5) trusted and obeyed God. When God decided to destroy "man, beast and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air" (Genesis 6:7), this preacher/father and his family were saved and were charged to be stewards of that which God placed in the ark of safety. This man was characterized as a "just man and perfect in his generations, and...walked with God" (Genesis 6:9). God informed him of His destruction plan and gave him instructions for building an ark for himself, his family, and certain animals, and for gathering food for himself, his family and the animals. This preacher/father, trusting and obeying God, built the ark and completed the assignment. God safely put him, his family (wife, three sons and their wives),



Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie  
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

and the animals in the ark and shut them in before He sent the devastating flood. After the flood was over, God gave Noah the permission for him, his family, and the animals to go out of the ark. As a man of faith in God, in gratitude, he built an altar where he worshipped God.

This episode shows a father trusting and obeying God and leading his family to do the same. It is written about this man: "And the Lord said unto Noah, Come, thou and all thy house into the ark; for thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation" (Genesis 7:1). Does God not give a father this responsibility and others as He gave Noah?

HAPPY FATHERS' DAY

## Guidance For Strong Witnessing

By Mrs. Lucille Griswald Paige

The 31st Annual State-wide Leaders' Workshop of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention met April 7, 2001, at the Raleigh Civic and Convention Center at 9 a.m. The theme was "Reaching The Family Through Effective Leadership: Accountability, Commitment, Dedication" (I John 12:32, Joshua 24:5).

Dr. Maggie White, President, brought greetings. Mrs. Bronnie H. Daniels, presided. The devotion was led by Mrs. Mattie Johnson. For the Introduction she read I Corinthians 1:18. The Bryant Swamp Choir and the audience sang, "Near The Cross." Mrs. Annie Gaynor gave a tribute and read John 3:16-18. Prayer was by Mrs. Brendolyn Shaw. Mrs. Carolyn Edwards expounded on "Strong Witnessing With Love and Soul Winning." The scripture references were Romans 10:9 and Matthew 5:6. Mrs. Debra Wilkins sang "Give Him The Praise."

Dr. Priscilla Brodie gave a financial report on the Convention and explained the "Nehemiah Prayer Chain." She asked the question, "Who is Christ to you? Does he reign in your life?"

The Bryant Swamp Choir from Bladenboro sang "He's An On Time God." President White used transparencies to

show an overview of the Convention. One of the objectives is: To increase the effectiveness of the Convention through effective planning. The purpose is to perpetuate the objectives. The Convention covers the area from Manteo to Murphy. Write the vision and make it plain. (Habakkuk 2:2)

**The Structure of the Convention:** 10 Districts, 23 groups, 100 counties, local churches, 1 circle per church, groups. The Convention is commissioned to carry out Christ's mission: to save souls, and to make lives richer physically, spiritually and mentally.

**District Alignment (Exodus 18:21-22):** Ms. Linda Inman spoke on what Districts 1, 2 and 3 were doing. Mrs. Bronnie Daniels spoke on what Districts 4 and 7 were doing. Mrs. Audrey Battle spoke on what Districts 8, 9 and 10 were doing.

"We are all ambassadors for Christ (I Corinthians 5). We must work together in unity, love and commitment. The harvest is great but the laborers are few. A new attitude determines your altitude. We must get involved in outreach projects."

"We should share our faith because of our character; work as a team in the church; show that Jesus Christ is in you. Read Prov

(Continued on next page)

## 117th Annual Session Events

By Executive Secretary-Treasurer  
Brodie

The 117th Annual Session of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina will convene in Winston-Salem, N.C., at the Benton Convention Center. Please begin praying and making preparation to attend and participate in this celebration.

The session convenes during the week of July 22-26, 2001, the Rev. Paul A. Lowe Jr. and Shiloh Baptist Church of Winston-Salem will serve as hosts. The host hotel is the Adam's Mark, Winston-Salem.

Among the activities are:

1. A Communion Service on Sunday evening, July 22, 2001, at 7 p.m. at Shiloh Baptist Church. There will not be a pre-convention musical on Sunday evening as in the past.

2. The Johnnie Blunt, McLester Pre-Convention Banquet on Monday evening, July 23, 2001, at 6 p.m. at the Benton Convention Center. You may secure tickets from the office of the Woman's Convention now. Tickets purchased by the advance deadline of June 22, 2001, are \$30 each. Tickets purchased on site are \$31 each. Please send to the office for tickets.

3. Missions Study Classes on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday (July 23-25, 2001), beginning at 8 a.m. in the Convention Center and Adams Mark Hotel. Pre-registration information is available for class registration. There will be classes for Pastors and Senior, Young Adult and Youth missionaries.

4. Youth Projects on Tuesday, July 24, 2001.

5. The Young Adult Missions Prayer Breakfast on Tuesday, July 24 at 6:45 a.m. The advance donation is \$15; at the door, \$16. Space is limited. Please send to the

office for tickets.

6. The Ministers' Wives and Widows Fellowship Luncheon on Tuesday, July 24 at 12:30 p.m. The advance donation is \$15; at the door, \$16. Space is limited. Please send to the office for tickets.

7. The Youth Prayer "Pizza Party" at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 25, 2001. The advance donation is \$7; at the door, \$8. Space is limited. Please send to the office for tickets.

8. Annual Address for President White along with the report of Executive Secretary-Treasurer Brodie on Wednesday morning, July 25.

9. Early Morning Prayer Hour from 6 a.m. to 7 a.m., Tuesday through Thursday.

10. Executive Board Meeting on Monday, July 23, at 10 a.m. The General Board will meet at 1:45 p.m.

Representation and Preregistration fees should be sent to the office by July 6, 2001. Fee information and forms have been mailed to District Chairpersons and Circle, Union and Auxiliary Presidents. Chairpersons and Presidents, please, contact the office if you have not received your Annual Session preregistration information.

Please be reminded that the 2000-2001 budget is \$796,357. We need approximately \$513,000 to reach the budget. Please bring or send, before the Convention, the greatest part of the balance of your quotas. Our fiscal year ends August 31, 2001. This is the tenth month of the fiscal year.

Please make checks/MO's payable to the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention or the Woman's Baptist State Convention. Please mail contributions and correspondence to: Woman's Baptist State Convention, P.O. Box 1818, Raleigh, N.C. 27602.

### WOMAN'S BAPTIST HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONARY CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, AUXILIARY TO GBSC 2001 CALENDAR

#### JUNE

- 2 — Young Adults' Retreat
- 4-8 — Leadership Training Conference, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill
- 10-15 — First Week of Youth Bible Camp, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill
- 17-22 — Second Week of Bible Youth Bible Camp, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill
- 23 — MISSIONS PRAYER DAY (County Unions, et. al.)
- 24-29 — Third Week of Youth Bible Camp, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill

#### JULY

- 22-26 — Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention

#### AUGUST:

- (Prayer month for the Family)
- 27-31 — Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention, Columbus, Ohio

#### SEPTEMBER

- 4-7 — National Baptist Convention
- 22 — Family Missions Conference, New Ahoskie Baptist Church, Ahoskie

#### OCTOBER

- (Prayer month for SHAW UNIVERSITY AND SHAW DIVINITY SCHOOL)
- 13 — WBSC Institute Workers' Workshop, Baptist Headquarters

#### NOVEMBER

- 3 — Youth Evangelism Conference, Cumberland County Memorial Auditorium, Fayetteville
- 5 — World Day of Prayer (BWA — Woman's Department)
- 22 — Thanksgiving Day

#### DECEMBER

- 25 — Christmas Day

# More Women's Highlights

## Banquet Speaker For The Women's Convention

On Monday, July 23, 2001, at 6 p.m. the Woman's Convention will host the Johnnie Blunt McLester Pre-Convention Banquet in Winston-Salem at the Benton Convention Center. Rev. Dr. James Terry Roberson Jr. will be the speaker.

Rev. Dr. Roberson, a native of Moss Point, Mississippi, presently serves as Dean of the Shaw University Divinity School, Raleigh, N.C. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Mathematics from Millsaps College, (Jackson, Mississippi, 1968), a Master of Science degree in Computer Science from New York University (1973), a Master of Divinity degree from New York Theological Seminary (1988), and a Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Administration degree from Fordham University (New York, 1993). His dissertation was titled, "A Multiple-case Study of Distance Education as a Paradigm for Theological Education

to Enhance Black Church Leadership" in which six non-degree pastors were mentored through a "Virtual Classroom" in an on-line church leadership class.

Dr. Roberson served as Associate Minister at the Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church, Peekskill, N.Y., from 1978 to 1989. He was called to the Mt. Carmel Baptist Church of Yonkers, N.Y., to serve as Assistant Pastor in 1989. In 1992 he was called to serve as Associate Dean at the United Theological Seminary, Dayton, Ohio. Prior to coming to serve Shaw University Divinity School he held the position of Dean of Doctoral Studies and Professor of Church Leadership at United Theological Seminary. As Dean of the Doctoral Studies program at UTS, Dr. Roberson had responsibility for mentor training.

Dr. Roberson regularly conducts two mentors' workshops for United Theological Seminary mentors. His own mentoring

experience includes co-mentor of a Doctor of Ministry group whose focus was **Black Church Leadership for the 21st Century** with Gayraud Wilmore, and also a group whose focus was a **Biblical Approach to Inclusive and Holistic Church Leadership** with Albert Aymer. He is currently mentoring a group on **Transformational Church Leadership** with Newell Wert and another group on **Proclamation and Leadership** with Robert H. Schuller.

Dr. Roberson has conducted workshops around the country on mentoring. He is a regular workshop leader at the International Mentors Association Annual Conference on Diversity on Mentoring. He has also conducted lectures and workshops throughout the country on "Church Leadership," and "Computers in the Church."

Dr. Roberson worked for 24 years with IBM corporation where he served in various capaci-



Rev. Dr. James Terry Roberson Jr.

ties, including a Systems Programmer, Development Manager and Product Manager. He is the president and founder of the **Black Religious Studies NETWORK (BRSNET)**>

## Guidance....

erbs 3:1-6 and John 9:4. What is your mission? We must be accountable and committed."

"The major objectives of our Convention are: Shaw University, State Missions, The Baptist Assembly, Foreign Missions, Central Orphanage and The Shaw Divinity School."

"We must know how to treat others and come with a positive attitude to our meetings. We need to be on time for our meetings; start on time, follow the agenda, and end on time. Don't discuss items that concern only a few people. Keep groups in mind when making decisions. Be hard on ideas but soft on people. Give truthful and thoughtful feedback. Celebrate successes. Respect and listen to ideas of other members."

"A good leader has courage, is loyal, under-

standing, innovative, and a servant leader committed to the missionary ministry. He or she should communicate, inspire, care, be receptive and enjoy the uniqueness of other persons."

Dr. Priscilla Brodie was presented for honor as the "Pastor" (Executive Secretary-Treasurer) of the Woman's Convention by Mrs. Brenda Jones. There were emotional and stirring expressions of appreciation for all the dedication and hard work for the Convention from the 10 districts and the staff. Dr. Brodie has served under six presidents. Dr. Brodie expressed her gratitude for all the accolades and led the audience in a spiritual praise song.

Departmental highlights from the Young Adults were given by Ms. Vanessa Gregory, Director. She presented Dr. Brodie with a cross representing Spirit and Wisdom. She reported that 500 young adults were in attendance; 126 first timers and 130 officers. They had a Spir-

itual Game Show. They are planning a retreat in June in Kenansville, N.C. The offering was \$834.

Mrs. Ellender LeMay reported that the Youth Department had 1,000 in attendance. There were 245 first timers; 95 supervisors; 45 presidents; 60 vice presidents; 30 secretaries. The offering was \$795.38. The contestant who won a trophy from the "Have-A-Heart" project sang "I Know I've Been Changed."

The Rev. Thurman B. Everett's sermon title was "Divine Guide." The scripture text was Psalm 119:105. "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." The Rev. Everett stated that we fall out over mundane things. "Some think that the church belongs to them and that no decision can be made without their approval. The church is a theocracy where God rules. "We have all been in trouble; just got out of trouble, or will get into trouble. We must never venture into the world without God. Some things

we have to wait on. Moral degeneration is at an all time high. Grandma and grandpa may not be able to use the computer, but they are able to teach you the right way to live. Our head needs illumination and our feet need guidance. It is time for God's people to say what we mean, and mean what we say. Every one must have rules. God's Word is the travel map and the believer's guide. It has led millions to find forgiveness. Train up a child in the right way and when he is old he will not depart. Train in the Word of God. God's Word is a guide for our daily living. His Word causes men and women to change and become loving husbands and parents. The Word opens our eyes; teaching gives us strength and joy. How can we follow him? Read John 1:14. "Jesus is our guide."

After a hymn was sung, Rev. Everett invited those who needed prayer to come to the altar. The benediction was given and the meeting was adjourned.

## LAYMEN'S LEAGUE NEWS

### Laymen's League Mid-Annual Session

By Romas Hales

The State Laymen's League of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc., held its Mid-Annual Banquet and One-Day Session on Friday and Saturday, April 20 and 21, 2001.

These events were held at the First Baptist Church of Fayetteville, where Dr. Cureton L. Johnson serves as pastor.

The banquet was held on Friday evening at 7 p.m. in the fellowship hall of the church.

There were approximately 150 people in attendance. The presiding officer was Brother David Brown, president of the Union Association Laymen's League.

Music was furnished by Deacon Ulysses Davis and Rev. Clifton Layton of First Baptist Church of Fayetteville.

The speaker for the evening was Rev. Carl Brinkley, pastor of Mount Olive Baptist Church of Fayetteville.

Rev. Brinkley used the subject "Divine Definition." The scripture was taken from Mark 1:9-11. He emphasized how we have an identity problem that we almost have an identity crisis. He discussed how so many people try to find

themselves through various means, such as business, power, money or other people.

The only way to find ourselves is through Jesus Christ. Jesus did not have an identity problem.

We were pleased to have had in attendance and remarks from Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., president of the General Baptist State Convention and pastor of Lewis Chapel Baptist Church of Fayetteville.

Also, Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the General Baptist State Convention.

State Laymen's League president, Brother Jarvis Morgan, gave remarks and an update on some of the activities of the Laymen's League.

We had closing remarks and benediction by the host pastor, Dr. Cureton L. Johnson.

The One-Day Mid-Annual Session started with a fellowship breakfast on Saturday at 7:30 a.m. at the First Baptist Church.

Deacon Terry Paige presided during the breakfast activities. The speaker for the breakfast was Rev. Richard A. Gerald, assistant pastor of First Baptist Church, Fayetteville.

He used for a subject, "Eating — Keep on

Eating." The background scripture was taken from John 4:31-34. Rev. Gerald emphasized how we need both physical food and spiritual food.

Registration started at 8:30 a.m. and also the Executive Committee meeting. First Vice President, Brother John Gladden called the General Session to order at 9:30 a.m.

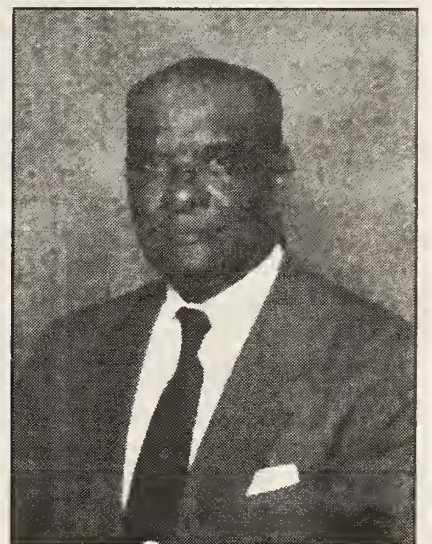
The host Laymen conducted the devotion. Brother Terry Paige gave the welcome and Brother Howard Graham gave the response to the welcome.

The First Baptist Church Male Chorus furnished the music.

President Jarvis Morgan gave reports on the Laymen activities and the Field Worker, Romas L. Hales, reported on the financial status of the Laymen's League.

The workshop was conducted by Brother James Allen of Raleigh. The topic for the workshop was "The Mentoring Network Program." Brother Allen discussed the mission of the program, the purpose, goals and the organizational structure of a mentoring program. It was a very meaningful workshop.

The worship service sermon was delivered



Romas Hales  
Laymen's League Coordinator

by Rev. S. Lee Downing, pastor of Friendship Baptist Church of Fayetteville.

The music was furnished by the Male Chorus of the Friendship Baptist Church. Rev. Downing spoke on the subject "The Hand of God." The scripture was taken from Ezra 7:10 and 8:21-23 and 31.

Thanks to the pastor and members of First Baptist Church for hosting the banquet and the One-Day Session.

Thanks to all the participants. It was a successful session. May God continue to bless you.

# LAYMEN'S LEAGUE NEWS

## Laymen's Retreat

The State Laymen's League men and boys summer retreat will be held on July 11-12, and July 13-14, 2001, at the J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly in Laurel Hill, N.C.

This is one of our annual major events and we certainly hope that you are making plans to attend one of the retreats.

If you are retired or are not employed during that week and are taking boys that are not employed, it would be helpful if you would consider attending the first retreat, which is on a Wednesday and a Thursday.

This would take some of the load off the second one, which is on Friday and Saturday. Please start recruiting boys now to attend and ask your church and fellow laymen to sponsor a boy that may not be able to attend.

The fee is \$25.00 per person. Please get your applications in as soon as possible and especially by June 26, 2001, so we can make final preparations.

You will be receiving more information about the retreats at a later date.

For additional information call Baptist Headquarters at 919-821-7466 or 1-800-639-4272(GBSC).

**THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE  
LAYMEN'S LEAGUE  
AUXILIARY  
sponsors the  
ANNUAL LAYMEN'S RETREAT  
FOR MEN AND BOYS**

*"The Challenge is The Same Reach the Masses"*

Session I — July 11-12, 2001

Session II — July 13-14, 2001

The Baptist Assembly  
Laurel Hill, N.C.

### PURPOSE

To provide men and boys the opportunity to participate in worship, Bible study,

counseling, Nature study, crafts and recreation in a Christian Environment.

### ACTIVITIES

The activities provided are Bible study, swimming, talent show, basketball, softball, horseshoe, checkers, lectures, Bible drills, worship services, workshops, watermelon feast and marshmallow roast.

### WHAT TO BRING

Two sheets, bath and face towels, one pillow, pillow case, soap and other toiletries, a blanket, flashlight, Bible, pencils and paper. **PLEASE DO NOT BRING RADIO OR VALUABLES!**

### FEE

\$25 PER PERSON

### SCHEDULE

Arrival time is 9:30-11:30 a.m. each session. Departure time is 1:30 p.m. each session.

### LOCATION

The location of the Baptist Assembly is on a rolling 62 acre tract, 10 miles northwest of Laurinburg in Scotland County on Bunch Road.

### IMPORTANT:

#### REGISTRATION POLICY

1. Campers are taken on first come, first serve basis until facilities are filled.

2. If the session you request is filled at the time your application is received, you may be reassigned to the other session, pending verification from the contact person indicated on your application. Please designate one contact person for each church.

3. Completed registration forms with required fees must be mailed by June 26, 2001.

4. There will be no on-site registration. For more information or directions to J.J. Johnson Assembly, call Baptist Headquarters (919) 821-7466.

### TALENT SHOW

**Ideals for Performances**

- Skits
- Songs
- Rap (That is considered with the theme)
- Oration
- Poems

act.

Please make copies of this form and complete an individual registration for each man or boy.

### Rules

- Must be Christian or theme oriented
  - No unsportsmanship (booing, heckling, etc.)
  - Men and Boys may participate
- We hope each church will have at least 1

Please detach registration form and mail with check payable to: General Baptist State Convention, The N.C. State Laymen's League, 603 S. Wilmington St., Raleigh, N.C. 27601 by June 26, 2001.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_

Location \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any known health problems or allergies? \_\_\_\_\_

Session Requested: 1. July 11-12 \_\_\_\_\_ II. July 13-14 \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Business Phone \_\_\_\_\_

## General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. Congress of Christian Education Registration Form Youth Conference for Oratorical Contestants Convenes at North Carolina A&T State University, Greensboro, N.C. Wednesday evening, June 27 through Saturday morning, June 30, 2001

Invitees: Contestants, Future Contestants for the State and National Oratoricals, Parents, Friends, and Supporters of the Oratorical Program will meet in the Student Union Building on the campus.

Check one:

Contestant: Senior \_\_\_\_\_ Junior \_\_\_\_\_ Developmental \_\_\_\_\_

Parent \_\_\_\_\_ Friend \_\_\_\_\_ Supporter \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Association \_\_\_\_\_

Moderator \_\_\_\_\_

Rooms: Campus Housing is \$15.00/Person/Night, 2-Persons in a room, 3 nights equals to \$45.00 per person for Wednesday, Thursday & Friday

Food: Campus meals are on the basis of a meal package plan which is \$22.00 for the plan.

Meal times:

Breakfast: 7-8:30 a.m. Lunch: 12 noon-1:30 p.m. Dinner: 4-6 p.m.

Registration fee: Youth: \$5.00, Adults: \$10.00

Total Fees Remitted for everything \_\_\_\_\_  
We need total cooperation from all campus registrants. Food service require that we pay them 2 weeks in advance. Please pay advance registration on or before June 12, 2001. Remember to bring your own pillow, linens, and towels. Sleeping bags are welcomed.  
Register with Mrs. Portia Brandon, GBSC Headquarters, 603 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, N.C. 27501. Phone: 1-800-639-4272.

Contestants remember to register with Mrs. Lula Gainey, 35 Rosewood Court, Stedman, N.C. 28391 ASAP. Please call her at 1-910-485-6752 for deadline.

## Ebenezer Baptist Church To Host Trinity Annual Sessions

By Rev. Thomas Walker, Pastor

Ebenezer Baptist Church, Rocky Mount, will host the Laymen Annual Session, Congress of Christian Education Session and Usher's Convention all during the week of July 16 through July 21. This upcoming convention marks the first time in the history of the GBSC that three departments have celebrated their annual conventions at the same location during the same week allowing a convenient and unique opportunity for General Baptist desiring to attend all three conventions. The term "Trinity Convention" will be resounding in many ways by the Ebenezer Baptist Church and surrounding churches and associations. For instance, there will be a 300 layperson candlelight march on Monday, July 16. There will be 300 Christian Education workers candlelight march on Wednesday, July 18 and closing the week with a 300 Ushers candlelight march on Friday, July 20. This is an exciting opportunity for Ebenezer Baptist Church and surrounding churches to host the GBSC's first annual "Trinity Convention."

All Baptists are urged to be present.

## From the Moderator of Moderators' Committee

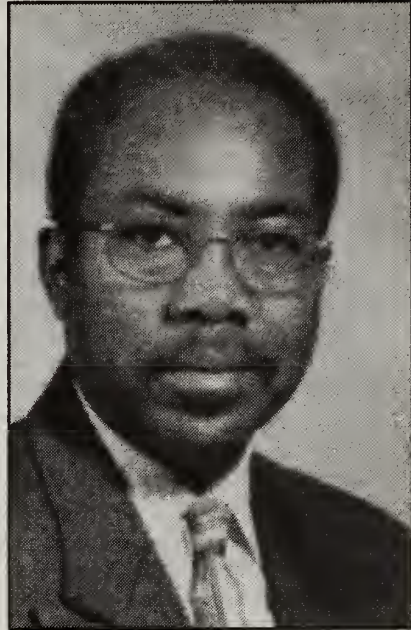
### Proposed Baptist Polity Manual, GBSC of N.C., Inc.

Grace and Peace to all of you, my brothers and sisters!

Over the last year, I have had privilege and pleasure of writing in this column on Church Conflict and Legal Awareness Issues as they affect churches and Pastors within our convention. The issues discussed are not just issues I have thought about but matters that have been brought to my attention by telephone calls or questions raised during workshops that I have facilitated for the churches and associations. As I have engaged the associations and churches, one thing I have found is that most of the conflict we are having in our churches could perhaps be avoided if pastors and church folks were more knowledgeable of Baptist Polity and the practice of the Missionary Baptist Church. The Moderator of Moderators' Committee has undertaken the task of assisting in helping to resolve church conflict as it has been and is a concern of our President, Dr. Fuller. With this in mind, I want to commend my counterpart, Moderator Haire, for taking the initiative to prepare a draft policy manual for the convention. He has worked very hard to bring this to fruition.

As Moderator of Moderator, I had the occasion during the Mid-year session in Wilmington to lend my ear to a number of questions and concerns. To put a few things I perspective for the benefit of our moderators and pastors, I wish to emphasize a couple of things. First of all, the manual is not an attempt to tell pastors and churches what to do. This committee understands autonomy within the Missionary Baptist Church and will in no way attempt to usurp it. However, we do believe that there are some things that make us Missionary Baptists and that are and should be common among Missionary Baptist Churches. Since "Polity" is the character of our denomination, than all of us ought to be knowledgeable of the things that distinguish us from other denominations. This in no means suggest that others are wrong and we are right but it does say who we are. What if one of our churches should say that she will no longer require immersion as her form of baptism. Autonomy would suggest that she may have the right to do it but the church would certainly be out of the character of the Missionary Baptist Church.

Secondly, I do not believe it is either the intention of this committee or Dr. Fuller to write a treatise on Baptist Polity. The committee will try to cover the most important issues but there may be many that will not be discussed at all. The manual, as I under-



Rev. James W. Smith, J.D.

stand it, is intended to be a guide and not a treatise on the matter. Some things are matters of practice within the Missionary Baptist Church that may not be discussed at all in the manual. As an example, I have received several calls from pastors and church members who have inquired about the practice of their pastor signing legal documents for the church. Now, I would suppose that if the church gave that authority to pastor by way of bylaws or some other documents, the pastor could sign legal documents. But it is certainly not the practice of the Missionary Baptist Church, as I understand it, for the pastor to sign legal documents. Pastors are not Chief Executive Officers of XYZ Missionary Baptist Church, Inc. The Pastor's authority is a moral and spiritual one and not a legal one.

Lastly, I am encouraging all of the moderators and board members to attend the summit in the hopes of resolving some of the matters that may give us some difficulty. I believe issues like whether we should say a pastor is "hired" or "called" can be resolved very quickly. Matters like whether one should take of the "Lord's Supper" only after baptism or after confession are issues worthy of our discussion. In any event, I believe something in print for our churches will be of great value to the convention, associations and churches and I encourage you to support this endeavor. Believe me, it will help us in our growing dilemma, "Church Conflict."

If you wish our services in any way, please contact us at the following:

**Rev. James W. Smith, JD**  
5 Bracken Ridge Place  
Hillsborough, NC 27278  
(919) 479-0501  
Email: Jsmith9450@aol.com  
**Rev. W.J. Cox**  
107 Gray Street, Goldsboro, NC 27534  
(919) 751-9899  
**Dr. Joshua J. Haire Jr.**  
PO Box 53803, Fayetteville, NC 28305  
(910) 323-1508

## From 2nd Vice President Dr. Howard W. Parker Jr.

### Lott Carey

#### HIV/AIDS Fact Sheet

Submitted By Howard W. Parker Jr.

"We look for peace, but no good came; and for a time of health, and behold trouble!" Jeremiah 8:15.

**WHAT IS HIV?** HIV (the human immunodeficiency virus) is a virus that kills your body's "CD4 cells," also called T-helper cells. These cells help your body fight off infection and disease.

**WHAT IS AIDS?** AIDS (acquired immunodeficiency syndrome) is a disease you get when HIV destroys your body's immune system. Normally, your immune system helps you fight off illness. When your immune system fails, you can become very sick and die. The first cases of AIDS were identified in the United States in 1981, but AIDS most likely existed in the U.S. and other parts of the world for many years before that time. In 1984 scientists proved that HIV causes AIDS.

**HOW IS HIV SPREAD?** HIV can be passed from person to person if someone with HIV infection: 1) has unprotected sex with another person, 2) shares drug injection needles with another person, or 3) a mother passes it to her baby before/during birth, or through breast-feeding. It is spread through blood, semen, vaginal fluids, or breast milk.

**HOW HIV IS NOT SPREAD.** You can't get HIV from casual contact like working with a person with AIDS or living with a person with HIV/AIDS.

**HOW CAN I PREVENT THE SPREAD OF HIV/AIDS?** Don't share contaminated needles and syringes. Abstain from sex before marriage (premarital sex). Practice marriage fidelity/fidelity (sex only between the husband and wife). Use condoms if a partner might be infected. If you have doubts or concerns about exposure to the virus, talk to a doctor or your local health department about being tested for HIV. Everyone should be tested for HIV.

**HOW DO I KNOW IF I HAVE HIV AND/OR AIDS?** You might have HIV and feel perfectly healthy. The only way to know for sure if you are infected or not is to be tested!

**WHAT IS LOTT CAREY DOING ABOUT THE HIV/AIDS PANDEMIC?** Lott Carey has begun an initiative to develop and promote effective, comprehensive, sustainable, and replicable faith-based health models that respond to the HIV/AIDS pandemic in African and other affected communities around the world. These models will empower communities to prevent and reduce the spread of HIV/AIDS, improve care for individuals and families impacted by HIV/AIDS, and enhance their roles of advocacy.

**WHERE IS THE FOCUS OF LOTT CAREY'S INITIATIVE?** Lott Carey is focused on the continent of Africa (particularly Zimbabwe and southern Africa), the Caribbean, and parts of southeast Asia.

**WHAT ARE THE CRITICAL HIV/AIDS ISSUES IN AFRICA?**

- HIV/AIDS is the leading cause of death in Africa.
- Of the over 36 million people worldwide infected with HIV as of 2000, over 25 million were in sub-Saharan Africa.
- More than 5,500 people of sub-Saharan Africa die of HIV/AIDS every day!



Dr. Howard W. Parker Jr.

- Every day, more than 11,000 people, globally, are infected with HIV — one every eight seconds! There are 1,700 new infections daily in S. Africa alone!
- 3.8 million Africans were newly infected with HIV/AIDS last year.
- In a number of sub-Saharan countries, including Zimbabwe, AIDS patients occupy 50-80% of all beds in urban hospitals.
- An estimated 12 women for every 10 in Africa are living with HIV/AIDS.
- More than 2.4 million adults and children in sub-Saharan Africa died from HIV/AIDS in 2000.
- UNAIDS estimates that at least 15% of adults live with HIV/AIDS in 8 African countries.
- 12 million children have been orphaned by HIV/AIDS.
- During the next decade, over forty (40) million children will be orphaned by AIDS!

**Sources:** UNAIDS Center for the Study of AIDS, Pretoria; CNN.com; AIDSINFONYC

**WHAT HAS LOTT CAREY DONE ABOUT IT?** Lott Carey has responded by:

- Sponsoring a conference of Zimbabwean pastors, spouses, youth leaders, local/national health officials, and hospital staff in 2000 to develop a plan for response to HIV/AIDS;
- Educating churches about the pandemic and our initiative;
- Initiating sustainable, comprehensive, replicable models to respond to HIV/AIDS;
- Supporting faith-based HIV/AIDS initiatives in Kenya, South Africa, Togo, & Uganda.
- Initiating partnership support arrangements with HBCU's around HIV/AIDS education.

**WHAT CAN YOU DO ABOUT IT?**

- Pray often about your role in this challenge to human life.
- Respond to this crisis with a special financial contribution to Lott Carey.
- Learn about and educate your family in HIV/AIDS prevention;
- Forward a brief list of your church's or faith-based agency's HIV/AIDS international/local community summary of activities to the Lott Carey Office;
- Secure a Lott Carey Sign of Hope as a symbol of your commitment to fight HIV/AIDS;
- Make a commitment to DO SOMETHING ABOUT HIV/AIDS for 2001!

Email: Lott Carey@aol.com Telephone: 202/543-3200 Fax: 202/543-6300  
Lott Carey International  
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CONTACT: CECIL HOLLAR 919-484-7768

As we approach the final three months of the Congress program year and the end of the GBSC budget year our daily supplication is, "Lord give us this day our daily bread." In answer to one of the disciples' request in Luke 11:1, "Lord, teach us to pray as John taught his disciples," Jesus taught them in Matthew 6:11 (NIV), "Give us today our daily bread," or as in Luke 11:3 (NIV), "Give us each day our daily bread." I am immediately attracted to the journey of the Children of Israel in the wilderness where the Lord gave them manna from heaven one day at the time except for the Sabbath they received enough for two days. There is another scripture that claims my attention as I utter these words of request. In Proverbs 30:7-9 (NIV) I get another point of view, "Two things I ask of you, O Lord; do not refuse me before I die: keep falsehoods and lies far from me; give me neither poverty nor riches, but give me only my daily bread. Otherwise I may have too much and disown you and say, 'Who is the Lord?' or I may become poor and steal, and so dishonor the name of my God."

The model prayer takes on a different meaning when we begin to study it. Particularly in our concerns for each day. It apparently calls for us to think of more than our physical needs when we refer to our daily bread. To get an eternal perspective of what Jesus had in mind we need to begin reading the gospel as recorded in John 6:25-58 (NIV). Jesus in a dialogue with his disciples addressed many of today's Christians when he answered their questions concerning his whereabouts. You are primarily interested in my well being because I have provided food for your physical body. You are not interested in the other things I have done. He, Jesus, went on to say that we

# A Christian Education Moment

By Dr. Jasper P. Reed, President  
Congress of Christian Education

*'Lord give us this day  
our daily bread...'*

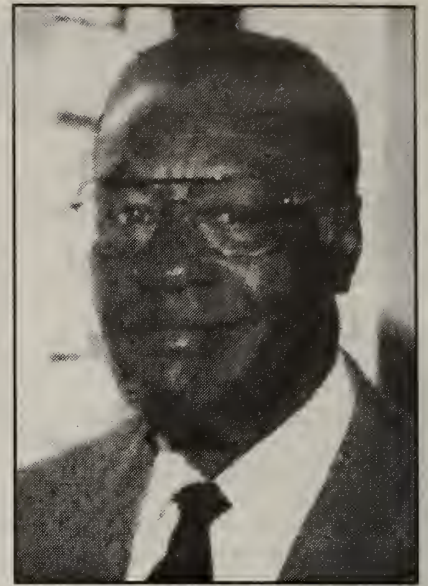
should not be working for food that will spoil, but rather food that will endure to eternal life. If we as Christians are only concerned about the here and now we have already lost the war to the devil. If our concerns are purely physical and not spiritual we have lost the war. Jesus is plainly saying that there is another side of us that needs his attention, that is our spiritual life. Further, He is implying that we are not using all the help that is available to us. In his declaration in John 6:35 (NIV), "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty." It is clear that he is talking about more than the loaf of bread we eat. Beyond the bread Jesus speaks to our need for water. There is no life without water. Take away water and life as we know it cease to exist. Taking this a step further Jesus in being baptized is saying to us water is significant in our spiritual life as well and he offers both when we believe in him.

He demonstrated this to his disciples as he went about saving souls by teaching and

preaching, and by taking care of physical needs by feeding and healing. We are blessed in that when he ascended to heaven he asked the Father to send the Holy Spirit to continue his work. Now we have this marvelous power, the Holy Spirit, who will minister to us in our spiritual as well as physical life. The presence of the Holy Spirit will lead us to walk in faith and test the Lord. Did He, God, not say bring whole the tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this, says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it, (Malachi 3:10 NIV)." The solution to whatever problems we encounter is in our faith. Are we willing to test God? We do so every day when we ask.

A Christian Education Moment for our YOUTH and Young-at Heart — Quiz. Dr. Jasper P. Reed, President, Congress of Christian Education.

The month of June celebrates two im-



**Dr. Jasper P. Reed, President  
Congress of Christian Education**

portant days. Children's Day and Father's Day. Each year we have addressed father's day to a greater degree than children's. Let us see how the scriptures speak to two area of interest concerning children.

**Part I:** Children who were adopted

Who was the adoptee (child) and who was/were the adopter (parent/parents)

1. Genesis 48:5
2. Exodus 2:10
3. Esther 2:7

**Part II:** Whose birth was predicted in advance. Name the baby and one or both parents.

4. Genesis 16:1
5. Genesis 18:10
6. Judges 13:3
7. Isaiah 9:6
8. Luke 1:13



## *'Just Like He Said He Would'*

Greetings to the General Baptist Family,  
Allow me to thank so many of you who traveled all across the state to support the statewide Evangelism Conference. God did indeed bless this event "just like He said He would." The Conference was a success in every way. During this week at Lewis Chapel Baptist Church we experienced God's presence and God's power, this week was filled with fellowship, instruction and inspiration.

Dr. Susan Johnson Cook came from New York and blessed North Carolina with her anointed teaching and preaching. Dr. Mack King Carter held us spell-bound as he lectured during the conference; he is indeed a national treasure to the Church of Christ. Words cannot even describe the awesome preaching delivered by Dr. Charles Booth; God the Holy Spirit used him to take us to another level. We were also blessed by the teaching and preaching of several members of our own state convention. We are indebted to our President/



**Dr. H.C. Miller**

Host Pastor, Dr. J. D. Fuller, and his staff for hosting this Conference in such a tremendous way. I want to thank the Fayetteville area churches, pastors, choirs and ushers for serving with such humility and selflessness, for the cause of Christ.

Finally, your Evangelism Committee will like to remind you that our work continues for the entire year. Please listen for upcoming events and continue to keep us in your prayers. If we can be of assistance in the area of evangelism, i.e. Revival, Workshop, Training or as an Information Resource, please contact us.

For the cause of Christ,  
Dr. H.C. Miller  
Chairman of Evangelism

## GERONTOLOGY • CARE MANAGEMENT

### *What Is A Geriatric Care Manager*

**Submitted by Dr. Elbert Lee**

A geriatric care manager is a professional who specializes in assisting older people and their families with long-term care arrangements.

GCMs have master's degree level training in nursing, social work, gerontology, or counseling.

GCMs can help:

- Conduct care-planning assessments to identify problems, eligibility for assistance, and need for services.
- Screen, arrange and monitor in-home help or other services.
- Review financial, legal, or medical issues and offer referrals to geriatric specialists to avoid future problems and conserve assets.
- Provide crisis intervention.

- Act as a liaison to families at a distance, making sure things are going well, and alerting families to problems.
- Assist families with moving an older person to or from a long-term care facility.
- Provide consumer education and advocacy.
- Offer counseling and support.

The National Association of Professional Geriatric Care Managers has established a nationwide network of GCMs to assist families who live far away from their older loved ones.

For more information or to find a geriatric care manager near you, call the National Association of Professional Geriatric Care Managers at 520-881-8008.

**Go to: [www.gbsc.org](http://www.gbsc.org)**

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*Wishing each Father a blessed  
Day on June 17!*

# UPDATE: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE



## Introducing Shantell and Donya...

These healthy, active girls enjoy participating in Sunday School and other church activities, as well as doing fun things with their foster family and each other. Shantell and Donya both enjoy singing, dancing and playing with their Barbie dolls. They are both well mannered, cheerful and make friends easily. Shantell and Donya both attend classes at school where they receive additional help at their own pace.

### A Closer Look at Shantell...

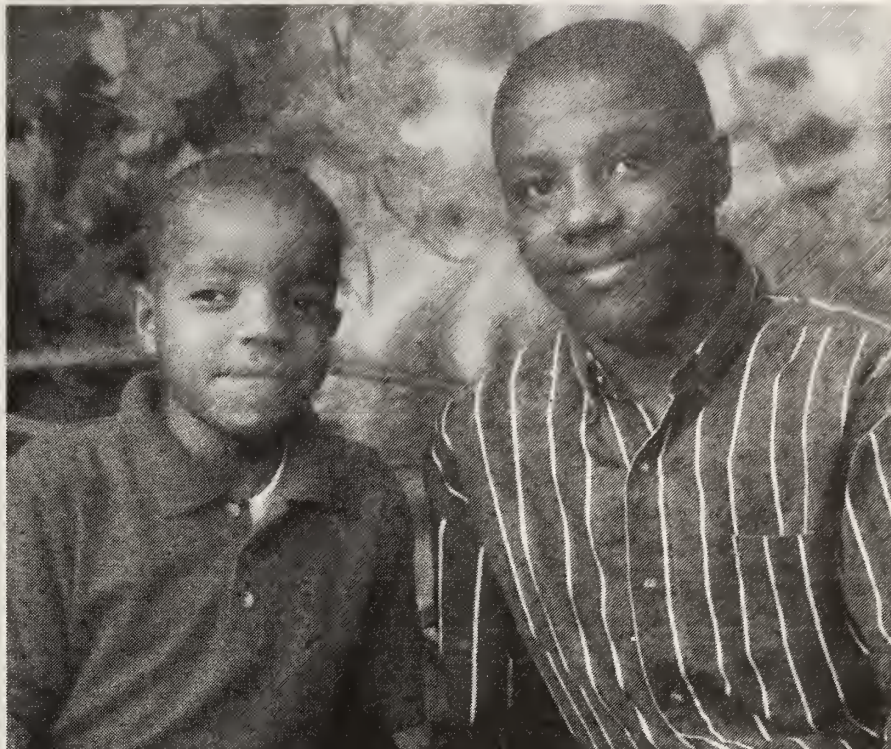
Shantell enjoys riding her bike, dancing and listening to music on her Walkman. She is very creative and likes drawing and doing crafts. Reading Harry Potter books keeps Shantell busy, too. Shantell's teacher says she is sweet, quiet and a hard worker.

### A Closer Look at Donya...

Donya likes to play Bingo checkers and other board games, but she especially loves outdoor games like Dodge ball. She loves to laugh and giggle and is quick to give hugs and kisses. Donya's teacher says she is joyful and easy to get along with. She makes good grades in her specialized classroom and received "commendable" in drama, dance, conduct and work habits.

### A Family for Shantell and Donya...

Shantell and Donya have positive outlooks and are doing very well. They hope for the stability, nurturing and love that only their own family can provide. With that reassurance, both girls should continue to thrive. They also have two brothers with whom they would like to keep in contact. (NC #092-792) (NC #092-791)



## Introducing Tony and Anthony...

Tony and Anthony are active boys with healthy appetites. Unlike many children, both boys love participating in church, the church choir and opening the church service and reading scripture in a nursing home. Tony and Anthony both are sweet, caring boys.

### A Closer Look at Tony...

Football, basketball and sports are Tony's favorite activities. Although he is usually quiet, except with friends, Tony has a good sense of humor and likes to joke. He is very independent and even irons his own clothes. In school Tony is on the honor roll, although he does have some reading and language disabilities. His foster mother keeps a daily chart for school to monitor his behavior and remind him to stay focused.

### A Closer Look at Anthony...

Anthony is not the least bit shy and everyone at church knows him. He has a vivid imagination and like to play "pretend church." Anthony loves attention and often clowns around to make people laugh. He is a loving, affectionate peacemaker who likes to please and adapts easily. In school Anthony needs a lot of repetition to learn, but he does try hard. He needs to work on staying in his seat in the classroom even when he'd rather jump up and play.

### A Family for Tony and Anthony...

These boys have been in the same foster home since going into care and they are quite attached to their foster family. Being older, Tony may test a new family, but a patient and stable family will take the time to let him learn to trust and bond with them. They will need to be consistent and firm with set guidelines about homework, school behavior and such, but their patience and consistency should be well rewarded with the love and commitment of these lovely, spiritual brothers. (NC #092-690) (NC #092-689)

For more information about these children or adoption in general, call NC Kids Adoption and Foster Care Network at 1-NCKIDS-1 (1-877-625-4371)

## WANTED!!

- ADOPTED PARENT • FOSTER CARE PARENT
  - VOLUNTEER ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE ADVOCATES
- URGENT!

Please contact: Dr. Joseph C. Paige or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige  
2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27610  
919-231-9774; Fax 919-212-3656; or e-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com  
or dottedem@maxxconnect.net

## \$1,000 BONUS! BONUS! BONUS!

We have decided, as our special way to say "Thank You," to provide a personal bonus of \$1,000, to the first individual, church or association that recruits a minimum of 20 potential adoptive and/or foster parents each month for the next five months (February, March, April, May and June) or a total of 100 recruits (verified) by June 30, 2001. Only one bonus of \$1,000 will be given. Persons interested in competing for the "bonus" should call, write or e-mail us!

Dr. Joseph C. Paige or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige, 2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27610; 919-231-9774; Fax 919-212-3656; E-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com or dottedem@maxxconnect.net

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# UPDATE: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

By Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr.  
and Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige

## Greetings in the Blessed Name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

Again, because of your continuing prayers, volunteer assistance and support, and with God's continuing blessings, the year 2001 will be an unprecedented banner year for recruiting African-American singles and couples to become adoptive and foster parents for African-American children already in the foster care system of our great state of North Carolina.

**God is Good!** And we continue to lift Him up with praise and thanksgiving. Our ministry seems to be blossoming in so many ways. More people are speaking out in support of our Adoption and Foster Care initiative. More people are calling, writing letters and sending e-mail.

The list of Adoption and Foster Care Volunteers and Advocates, continues to grow, all for the good and sakes of our children. They are the real beneficiaries. The Volunteers and Advocates are so important for our work. They help us identify potential adoptive and/or foster parents and help us spread the word that there are gross disparities in the adoption of African-American children already in the Foster Care System, when compared with whites. They help us make the needs known.

We claimed a doubling of referrals during the month of March and April. **We thank God that is happened!** We have claimed even greater results for the month of May.

### FAITH COMMUNITY SUPPORT

As our performance record will show, God has empowered our ministry to be the guiding force in our state on matters of adoption and foster care for African-American children. Our support is growing not just among Baptists, but among the partnering faith communities as well.

The organization of **The North Carolina Faith Communities United for Children: Adoption and Foster Care**, the outreach arm of the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry did not just happen. Rather, it is a vision from God, inspired by God and being directed by the Heavenly Leadership of the Holy Spirit. We pray fervently and listen and patiently wait for God's guidance in all that we do. The success of our ministry is further confirmation that with God, all things are possible.

### A HOLY ANOINTMENT

We are convinced that the organization of the **GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry** was inspired by God and that the ministry enjoys a special anointment from the Heavenly Father. The seemingly tripling of interest in finding permanent and temporary homes for children already in the North Carolina Foster Care System, and related expressions of concern are all of God's doing. They are a manifestation and reflection of His Spirit and His Special Blessing, all of the good things of our children.

As we previous reported:

1. The daily phone calls requesting information have tripled. Our phones and answering machines are almost always busy. People are calling from all over the state, wanting to discuss adoption and/or foster care.

2. E-mail traffic has increased incredibly, with inquiries averaging now between 30 to 40 e-mails per day. People are offering their services and assistance. Some are inquiring about adoption.

3. Invitations to speak and make presentations before meetings of **cooperating faith communities**, social and civic organizations, and before concerned groups have doubled. They want to learn more about our ministry. They are concerned. They want to help. God is working wonders for us! He is rewarding obedience and hard work!

As we repeat over and over again, **all of this — all of God's blessings, it is very touching!** The commitment to help make a difference in the lives of our children is so overwhelming. Again, we must repeat, God continues to bless our efforts. And, as the song goes, **Blessings after blessings keep on coming our way,** and we continue to give God the glory, the honor and the praise! Please continue to keep our ministry in your prayers.

### THE EVERY CHURCH ADOPT ONE PROJECT

THE EVERY CHURCH ADOPT ONE initiative continues to gain broad support statewide, among the various faith communities and again, we give God the glory and the praise. This is an interfaith initiative, and we strongly encourage all churches to join us in this special challenge and opportunity. Join the growing number of churches uniting for children. This **HELPING AND CARING MINISTRY** is being pushed by moderators, conference leaders, elders, bishops, ministers and assorted church laity. Many church missionary departments have designed this ministry as a primary focus for the year 2001. For additional information, please call, write or e-mail us! Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr. or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige, 2610 Albemarle Ave., Raleigh, N.C. 27610; (919) 231-9774; Fax: (919) 212-3656; e-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com or dottedem@maxxconnect.net.

### CATAWBA COUNTY

We want to lift up the planners of the Catawba Family Affairs Day sponsored by Smart Start. It was a huge success, attracting several thousand persons. Ms. Sherbia Jones and Ms. Janice Greenard represented our ministry, recruiting nearly 50 referrals and volunteers. This is an example of what good planning, dedication and commitment can do.

### CALDWELL COUNTY

Ms. Sherbia Jones, Pastoral Consultant for the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry, was guest speaker at **CELEBRATE FAMILIES: A DAY OF AWARENESS FOR FOSTERING AND ADOPTION**, which was held on May 19 from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Smith Memorial United Methodist Church in Lenoir. This special celebration was sponsored by the Lenoir and Caldwell County Department of Social Services. We want to thank Ms. Jones and the Caldwell County DSS for their involvement in this endeavor. Ms. Janice Greenard, Pastoral Consultant for Alexander, Burke and Lincoln counties accompanied and assisted Ms. Jones.

### VOLUNTEERS

As we repeatedly state, while the response for adoption and foster care volunteers has been incredibly successful statewide, we are still seeking additional volunteers to help us spread the word. People from all walks of life, clergy laity (men and women) and missionaries, representing practically all the African-American faith communities have responded to God's call (and it is God calling all to "help his little children") to help find loving homes for His children.

We thank God for the generous time and energy our volunteers give to our effort. We now have adoption and foster care volun-

teers coordinators in most counties and in both rural and urban areas, and from county civic and social organizations. They all believe as we do, that every child deserves a loving and caring home and they are committed to helping make this happen. A special thanks to the Moderators, Pastors and Presidents of auxiliaries for your continued support.

Again, we are seeking additional volunteers to work with us. **We are asking every church to appoint an Adoption and Foster Care Volunteer Coordinator to help us spread the word.** Please contact us. We will send you recruitment forms and related materials.

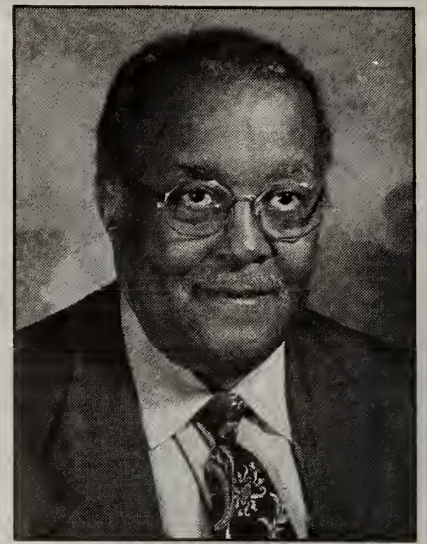
Please call, write or e-mail us! Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr. or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige, 2610 Albemarle Ave., Raleigh, N.C. 27610; (919) 231-9774; fax: (919) 212-3656; e-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com or dottedem@maxxconnect.net.

### THE CAROLINIAN CONNECTION

A hearty "thank you" to Paul and Evelyn Jervay, owners and co-publishers of **The Carolinian**, and NAY-KEL founders, for their continuing assistance and encouragement. Rev. Jervay assist us in interfaith relations, volunteer follow-up and training and outreach. Mr. Jervay donates time as our media consultant. They lend a special expertise to our efforts. Together, they help make a difference.

### MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH GREENSBORO

People are still talking about the special Guilford County Area Adoption and Foster Care Conference — 2001, held at Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Greensboro, on May 5, 2001. Bishop George Brooks, Pastor, one of the state's leading Adoption and Foster Care advocates, provided the organizational leadership and was a keynote speaker at the con-



Dr. Joseph C. Paige

ference. Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina Inc. represented the General Baptist State Convention.

Jackie Sturdivant and Helen Allspaugh of Mt. Zion, conducted a workshop on "Breaking the Chains of Bondage — The Missing Link."

Co-sponsors included the Guilford County Department of Social Services (represented by Shirley G. Harris and Katrina McMasters, and the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry (Rev. Anthonette Wright, Director of Church Relations and Church Consultant). Participants from GBSC, in addition to Dr. Logan and Rev. Wright, included: Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr., Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige, Rev. Evelyn Teasley and Mr. Earl Horton.

(See next page)

## ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

### Ministry of the GBSC State & Convention of N.C., Inc.

By Dr. Joseph C. Paige, Chairperson

Greetings and Peace on the name of Jesus Christ. We would like to request your active participation and support of the North Carolina African-American Faith Communities United for Children: Adoption and Foster Care.

This Initiative is a cooperative partnership between the General Baptist State Convention and Human Services, Division of Social Services. Ours is an exciting and challenging journey, and a real opportunity to make a serious contribution to a real serious cause at this time.

The African-American Children's Initiative Adoption and Foster Care, as a cooperative church-based effort designed to help identify African-American single persons and couples who are interested in adoption African-American children or becoming foster parents to African-American children. This initiative is based on the fact that every child deserves a long, nurturing and caring home.

At the present time, there are many African-American children in the North Carolina Foster Care System, both boys and girls, who are currently eligible for this effort. The goal is to help speed up the adoption process. Time is of profound essence. There is also an urgency to identify potential Foster Care parents.

We are anxious to make a real difference within the next few months and we can do this only with your help. Volunteers will receive additional guidance from us on marketing strategies in your respective areas just as soon as I hear from you. In addition, we are in the process of soliciting and identifying volunteers to work with us throughout the state in the following categories, and we are requesting your assistance.

1. County Adoption/Foster Care Recruitment Volunteer Coordinators (one volunteer for each county).

2. Church Adoption/Foster Care Recruitment Volunteer Coordinators (one per church)

3. We are also requesting Adoption/Foster Care Recruitment Volunteer coordinators to work with us at the town, city, and area levels, to help us spread the word that all children need and deserve a loving and caring home.

If you agree to serve as a volunteer or if you know someone who is willing to serve with us, write me today and mail it to me at the address below:

Dr. Joseph C. Paige, Chairperson

The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry

PO Box 24273, Raleigh, NC 27611-5273

Please don't hesitate to call me if you have any questions (919) 231-9774. Or you can e-mail me at JoePaigeSr@aol.com or you can also e-mail me at JoePaigeSr@aol.com.

I look forward to working with you.

# MORE ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

## SPECIAL STAFF

Joycelyn Curry, our UNC-CH Intern helps us to identify contacts in undeserved areas. Evangelist Michele Montgomery, continues to work with the media and as a special volunteer assistant. Rev. Shelia Crump, Rev. Jon Murphy and Linda Murphy, and Dr. James T. Roberson and Ms. Beverly Roberson serve us well as volunteer Adoption and Foster Care Advocates. We are grateful that they are willing to take time from their already busy schedules to work with us.

## THE OFFICE STAFF

Our office staff consists of Rev. Anthonette Wright, Director of Church Relations and Regional Consultant, and Earl Horton, Director of Public Relations and Regional Consultant, both are able and promising and are people to watch in the Adoption and Foster Care Ministry.

Rev. Wright has responsibility for the western and central counties of the state, including the following target counties in this region: Buncombe, Guilford, Gaston,

Mecklenburg, Forsyth. Mr. Horton has responsibility for the eastern counties and five target counties in this region: Wake, Durham, Cumberland, New Hanover and Robeson.

You may contact Rev. Wright or Mr. Horton as indicated below:

Rev. Anthonette Wright, GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry, 211 W. Martin Street, Suite 120, Raleigh, N.C. 27601; 919-754-8800; e-mail: Nwrightgbsc@aol.com or Mr. Earl Horton GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry, 211 W. Martin Street, Suite 120, Raleigh, N.C. 27601; 919-754-8333; e-mail: gbsceh@aol.com.

## THANKS

Thanks again for your continuing encouragement and support. You may reach us:

By phone: (919) 231-9774

By fax: (919) 212-3656

By e-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com

By regular mail: 2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, N.C. 27610.

## The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. and the N.C. African-American Faith Communities United for Children: Adoption and Foster Care Finding Adoptive & Foster Care Homes For African-American Children

### Touch a Life Forever ... ADOPT!

#### Children waiting for adoptive families are ...

- Sisters and brothers who want to be adoptive together
- Children who have experienced neglect, abuse or abandonment
- Older children who want a permanently family
- Children who need families who care and are willing to make a lifetime commitment

#### You can adopt if you ...

- Are single, married or divorced
- Can provide a stable home
- Have the ability to care for a child not born to you-
- Are willing to take on the responsibilities, joys and challenges of parenting

#### Families who adopt ...

- May be homeowners or renting
- May have a fixed income
- May be an adult of any age

#### North Carolina Needs More Foster Homes

Thousands of children in North Carolina, ranging in age from infants to 18 years old, enter the foster care system each year. These children may have been neglected, abused, or abandoned and need a safe place to stay temporarily. The number of children coming into care is increasing faster than the number of foster homes in our state.

#### You Can Become A Foster Parent If You ...

- Are between the ages of 21 and 65
  - Are willing to be fingerprinted and have a criminal record check
  - Have a stable home and income
  - Are able to provide a safe, temporary place for children until they can be in a permanent home
  - Complete all required training and be licensed by the State of north Carolina
- You do not have to be married, wealthy or own your own home to be a foster parent.

For our Web site go to:  
**gbsc.org**

### Advertise in Your Baptist Informer

We accept ads by the column inch on a monthly or yearly basis. Due to our non-profit status ONLY ads that directly offer religious services to our member churches will be accepted. The cost of our "information service" will include ONLY the cost of printing your service-related ads.

#### RATES:

|                                          |                    |
|------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| One time run of service notice (monthly) | 1 Year (12 issues) |
| 1/12 page — \$50 .....                   | \$300              |
| 1/8 page — \$80 .....                    | \$600              |
| 1/4 page — \$120 .....                   | \$900              |
| 1/2 page — \$200 .....                   | \$1,200            |

We also accept ads by the column inch on a monthly or yearly basis.

ADVANCED PAYMENT REQUESTED!

## RENEWAL & SUBSCRIPTION FORM

Please look at your mail label. It is time to renew your Baptist Informer. it is important that you renew your subscription to the paper.

Individual subscriptions per year are ..... \$10.00

( ) RENEWAL ..... ( ) NEW

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

CITY ..... ZIP .....

STATE .....

TELEPHONE ( ) .....

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED WITH ORDERS \$ .....

OFFICE OF THE EDITOR  
BAPTIST INFORMER

603 SOUTH WILMINGTON ST., RALEIGH, NC 27601  
800-639-GBSC or www.gbsc.org

## SHARE THE VISION WITH US!! HELP US SPREAD THE WORD THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC. & THE NORTH CAROLINA AFRICAN-AMERICAN FAITH COMMUNITIES UNITED FOR CHILDREN: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

*Making A Difference in the Life of a Child*

*Finding Adoptive and Foster Care Homes for African-American Children*

The North Carolina African-American Faith Communities United for Children, a partnership with North Carolina Division of Social Services, is comprised of African-American congregations and community organizations from across the State, NAYKEL and the North Carolina Association of Black Social Workers committed to finding adoptive and foster homes for African-American children.

Yes, I'd like to do my part ...

Please complete and return to Dr. Joseph Paige.

I'd like someone to call me.

Please send me information about adoption. Please send me information about foster care.

I'd like to be a field worker.

I am interested in being an adoptive parent.  I'd like to be a county volunteer.

I am interested in being a foster care parent.

I'd like to be a church volunteer.  Other (please specify)

Name .....

Phone Number .....

Address .....

City State Zip

County: .....

Contact Dr. Joseph C. Paige at 2610 Albemarle Ave., Raleigh, NC 27610, 919-231-9774, 919-618-8343, mobile • e-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com

## FOSTER CARE & ADOPTION NEWS

We urgently seek to identify persons interested in becoming Adoptive and/or Foster Care Parents in each of the 100 counties. There is an urgency. Every child deserves a loving and caring home.

Please contact at:

Dr. Joseph C. Paige or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige  
2610 Albemarle Avenue 27610  
919-231-9774 • E-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com

## From the Office of Institutional and Specialized Ministries

### A Theological and Reflection of Capital Punishment *Righteousness and Justice are the foundation of your throne; mercy and truth go before your face.*” Psalm 89:14 NKJV

By Rev. Michael R. Smith Sr.,  
Chairman

The execution of Timothy McVeigh was not carried out on May 16, 2001 at United States Penitentiary in Terre Haute, Indiana. I cannot help but reflect back on my ministry to men on death row at Central Prison in Raleigh, North Carolina. As one of the chaplains, I served as minister of record to two men who were executed in the 1993 and 1998 respectively. These two men had become my brothers in Christ and both asked me to be with them as their pastor in their last days and hours. Whenever I read or hear about an execution, I am touched in a special way. This is because of my personal experience in ministering during an execution and the on-going fellowship I have in Christ with my brothers still on death row at Central Prison. My personal ministerial involvement with these men who were executed has led me to come to grips with this controversial issue of capital punishment. I will always offer a special prayer for all chaplains who minister daily to men and women on death rows across this country.

Theologically, we understand God's character as one of both justice and mercy. These two attributes of God can appear to be in opposition to one another in regard to capital punishment. I have discovered through biblical study that the Cross of Christ is where we see justice and mercy

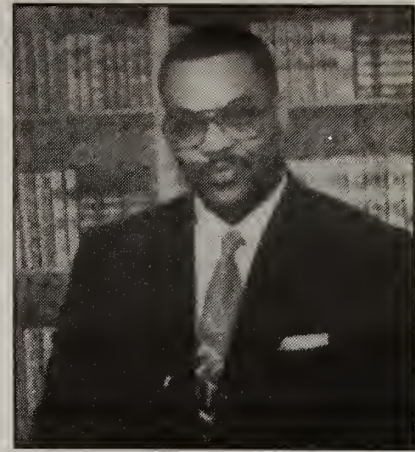
meet. In Luke 23:32-43, we see Jesus in the midst of two condemned thieves. Our Lord is the recipient of God's justice on sin because he took our sin upon Himself. Yet, He is also able to extend mercy to the repentant thief who places his trust in Him as the Son of God. At the cross, we can see justice and mercy working in harmony for the redemption of mankind through Jesus' atonement. Somehow today, we must seek to ensure justice and mercy continues to work in harmony as it relates to capital punishment. The present debate going on usually is shaped by the idea that justice and mercy are in opposition. The pro and con advocates of capital punishment will always be on two sides by the very nature of their perspectives. But God is not about taking sides in regard to the death penalty. Our Father's concern is that His justice and mercy work in harmony for some redemptive purpose.

I believe showing mercy is primarily an individual response and upholding justice is primarily a judicial response. Any individual person can choose to be merciful toward an offender. But it takes a legal judicial process to arrive at justice. Mercy is normally an individual response whereas justice is normally a group response through a court of law.

The fact that Jesus was in the middle of two thieves illustrates again God does not take sides, but is right in the middle of the

capital punishment issue. God's concern is to show redemptive mercy without setting aside His justice for crime. The repentant thief acknowledged his wrong and acceptance of the punishment. The result was redemptive mercy from the Lord. The unrepentant thief was only concerned about escaping his personal responsibility for his crime and getting out of the situation at any cost.

Much our debate today about capital punishment centers on the racial inequities of sentencing, mental retardation concerns, and inadequate legal representation. How do we correct these concerns? I believe we can begin to make serious reform by first looking to God whose divine character is the embodiment of true justice and mercy. We cannot take sides and arrive at the proper solutions. Taking sides will only ensure that justice and mercy will be seen as mutually exclusive instead of harmoniously inclusive. We can never forget in capital cases, there is both a victim and an offender. By taking sides a person will automatically gravitate away from either justice or mercy. I submit we must follow the example of Jesus and not take sides, but be led of the Holy Spirit to walk in the middle. Walking in the middle will help us to clearly hear and evaluate both sides of this controversial issue. The question that needs to be raised is **not**; do you believe in the death penalty? The question we need to raise and



Rev Michael R. Smith Sr.

answer is; do believe in justice and mercy? The challenge before us is how do we apply these attributes of God in the capital punishment debate? God Almighty's throne is founded upon justice and His face is forever reflecting redemptive mercy. Justice and mercy must work in harmony together if our society is to be orderly and humane.

**What do you believe in, the death penalty or justice and mercy?**

#### UPCOMING OISM EVENTS

OISM Training Workshop  
August 31 thru September 1, 2001

Location - TBA

OISM Official Meeting  
and Training Workshop  
GBSC Annual Session  
October 21-24, 2001  
Asheville, NC

OISM 1st Annual Crime  
and Incarceration Conference  
Shaw University Divinity School  
November 30 thru December 1, 2001  
Raleigh, NC

Contact Information

Rev. Michael R. Smith Sr., Chaplain  
Federal Correctional Complex-FMC  
PO Box 1500  
Butner, NC 27509  
Tel. 919-575-3900 x6203  
Fax 919-575-4836  
Email: mrsmith@bop.gov



## School Violence: A Biblical Response Rev. Gordon McClellan

sue. When Jesus asks us to "remain in him," he is asking us to focus solely on him, to answer only to him, to make him our master above all else so that our lives can bear Christ like fruit.

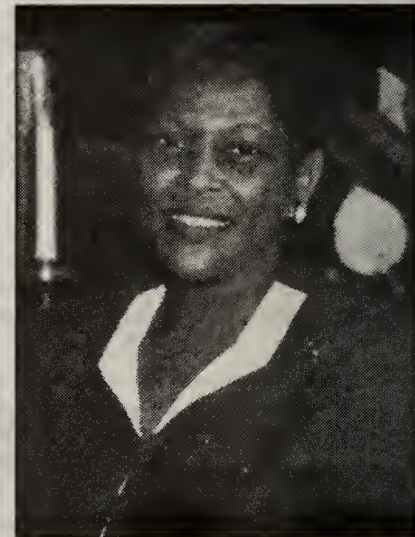
What type of fruit does your life bare? Have you made Jesus Christ your master? Many of us have not. We remain more committed to money, career or image than we do to Jesus Christ.

Jesus Christ asks us to have God as our master so that our decisions, the behavior we model to others...especially our children and teenagers...will reveal a commitment to living out God's will on this earth. How will this affect school violence? When we truly commit our lives, above all else, to Jesus Christ, we will begin to more effectively model in our own lives (and develop

within our children's) an attention to and embracing of the deeply committed love that God has for each one of us. It won't stop every incident, but the most effective antidote for further school violence is instilling within the souls of children a feeling for them. But the adults must lead the way.

Metal detectors...frisking students...none of this will ever cure the problem. Reevaluating the priorities we have in our own lives...making God our master...and bearing the fruits of this decision for all around us (especially the children) to see and feel — this is the cure.

So who is your master? Whatever it is that you honor above all else, is what determines the fruit your life will bare and the impact it will have on those around you.



Delores Griffey

In order to bear fruits of love, Jesus Christ must be your master. This is what our children need — role models who bear fruits of love as defined by God Himself. Only then will love — not violence — begin to reign on this earth.

*Proverbs 22:6: Train up a child in the way he should go, when he is old he will not depart.*

~~~ Fathers' — your day is June 17! ~~~

The Central Children's Home Corner

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).

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: 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 nonexistent at the beginning of the 20th century (the year 1900). Change is constant:

- From kerosene lamps to electric lights;
- From the horse-and-buggy to the automobile;
- From the Wright Brothers to supersonic aircraft and the space shuttle;
- From telegraph to cordless and cellular phones;
- Tape recorders, remote controls, microwaves, microchips, microdots, pagers/beepers, voice activation, TV's, VCR's, CD's, DVD's, VCD's, MP3's, PC's, laptops, palm organizers, software, hardware, Tupperware, superstores, condos, stereos, highways, parkways, pornography, cinematography, zoning, cloning, multi-

From the Desk of the 4th Vice President By Rev. Nilous M. Avery II

million dollar contracts for entertainers/athletes/CEO's/COO's,...and the beat goes on!

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 (in Matthew 26), Jesus' disciples became angry and complained. 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.

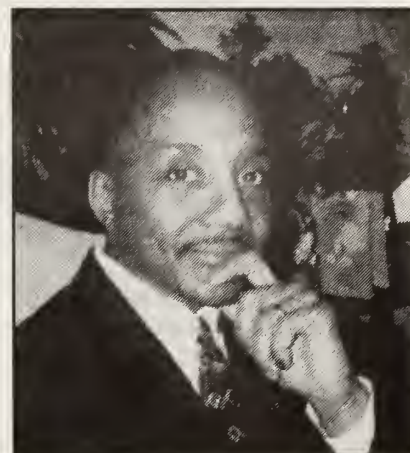
Some things do not change! People still need food because they get hungry. People still need comforting because they experience grief. People still need guidance because they get confused. People still need compassion and companionship because they get lonely. People still need forgiveness and a Savior because they (or should I say we all) sin. People still need hope because at some point we all die.

Some things do not change! God's grace, mercy, and love do not change. In Christ, God's image is not stained...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! God's purpose, power, presence, provision do not change. As disciples of Christ seeking to reach the masses, our methods may change, but the message is still the same: REACH THE

MASSES!

Are you helping to reach the masses? The Central Children's Home in Oxford is waiting to hear from you. Some things do not change: the home needs your support and prayers. Some things do change: the cost of living and the cost of maintaining the home increase each day. Some things do not change: 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.

The Children at the Central Children's Home are waiting to see and hear from you. Help out by setting aside Sunday, May 27, as the Central Children's Home **Family & Friends Day**. Send your prayers, offerings,



By Rev. Nilous M. Avery II

care products, volunteers, etc., to the home. If you need further information, please contact me:

(church) 704-637-0954; fax: 704-637-1137; e-mail: AveryRevKin@gateway.net.

"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).

From the Office of the Chairman of the Board of Central Children's Home Rev. N.T. Davis

Grace and peace be unto you from God the Father and from His only son the Lord Jesus.

Ecclesiastes 3:1 says, to everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven.

The writer is King Solomon, the wisest king of all. To the Baptist family we need your help. If we are to maintain our Children's Home and staff. It is giving time. Please come and see us and know where your money is going and how it is spent.

God bless you all for your support and pray for this ministry. This is a critical time for us here at the Home.

By
Rev. Sandra Holland Trotter
Pastor/Shiloh Temple of Faith
Missionary Baptist Church,
Fayetteville, NC

New Pastor's Corner

The Abundance of Blessings Through Stewardship (Part I)

When God entrusts us with His blessings, He gives us "stewardship" over them. In the New Testament, two different words describe a steward. One emphasizes guardianship over children and the administration of a master's household. The other stresses the role of a manager over property. In either case, a steward oversees the affairs and property of another person.

God is the owner of all that we possess and the total source of all of our supply. He has placed us in stewardship over these treasures. This principle applies not only to our financial resources, but also to all that we possess, including our time and talents, and to all that we are.

Stewardship over all that God entrusts to us in life is foundational to giving. He has put into our hands the administration of a portion of all that He owns, He holds us accountable for how well we manage what He entrusted to our care. (Matthew 25:14-30 — Romans 14:12)

Giving by faith is meant by God to be an exciting privilege. When you honor and praise God through your commitment and obedience to stewardship, He blesses us even the more.

I would like to share with you three principles that you can live by and receive

God's abundant blessings through your faithful stewardship:

First:

Everything you "own" actually belongs to God. The Psalmist records, The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof; the world and they that dwell therein. (Psalm 24:1) God has total ownership. God has placed in our trust a measure of time, a unique set of talents, and sufficient resources to carry out His will for our lives. Our task as faithful stewards is to manage those blessings in order to bring the maximum glory to His name.

Second:

Giving produces abundance. Acts 20:35 records the words of our Lord Jesus, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." Why? Because when you give freely of yourself and your possessions as a material expression of your spiritual obedience to Christ, God in turn meets your needs abundantly. (Luke 6:38)

This is true whether you are rich or not, whether you serve God in a land that is blessed with great material wealth or in a

poverty stricken part of the world. Most Christians have not learned to give either out of their abundance or out of their poverty and therefore, are not experiencing the reality of that promise.

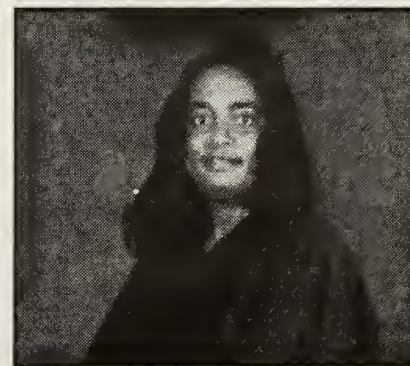
It is important to remember that God is the one who initiates this power of blessing. The purpose of the return is not just to reward you for giving, but to increase your ability to give more to further the cause of His Kingdom and help fulfill the Great Commission.

Third:

Give by Faith. Simply defined, giving by faith is taking God at His word and giving generously in anticipation of his faithful provision. Paul writes, "My God shall supply all of your need according to His riches and Glory by Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:19)

We see from this verse that the premise of giving by faith is three-fold:

1. God is the absolute source of our supply.
2. Giving is blessed on His resources, not our own.



Rev. Sandra Holland Trotter

3. Christ is our link to God's inexhaustible riches.

As children of God, we sit with Him in the heavenly places as joint heirs with Christ, blessed "in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessings in Christ." (Ephesians 2:6, 1:3) The moment we received Christ as our Savior and Lord, we received this inheritance (Ephesians 1:14) Because of our Lord's glorified position in heaven, and since He is with us now through His Holy Spirit, we have all sufficiency in Him. ((Principles by Bill Bright)

Now unto Him who is able to do exceedingly and abundantly above all we ask or think. (Ephesians 3:20-a)

Announcement:

All New Pastor's we would like to hear from you. Send your name, address and church information to us.

Attention: Rev. Sandra Holland-Trotter
P.O. Box 43337,
Fayetteville, NC 28309

The GBSC General June Update

Millennium Stewardship Campaign

3 Million Dollars in 30 Months

THE MILLENNIUM STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

3 Million Dollars in 30 Months

INTRODUCTION

We have reached the NEW MILLENNIUM and God has truly blessed our work. The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina leads the African-American Faith-Based Community in MISSION/MINISTRY/MESSAGE. It is important that we continue to set a clear VISION of what God has called us to do as a Convention and how our SPIRITUAL AGENDA must proceed. We are lead by the Holy Spirit to share with the GBSC, Inc. family.

We must have your prayers and support. This initiative will be the greatest and largest in GBSC, Inc. history. We must move our work from clearinghouse to Kingdom station. The funds received from this campaign will be used to build the infrastructure for the expanded GBSC, Inc., program initiatives including: Health & Human Services, Adoption & Foster Care, Housing and Faith-based Economic Development.

The campaign funds will also be used to construct the new Baptist Headquarters building and to endow the General Baptist Foundation, Inc.

Our Constitution state that the OBJECT of the GBSC, Inc., is:

ARTICLE II—OBJECT

Section 1: This Convention shall undertake to promote and support Home and Foreign Missions, Christian and Higher Christian Education, ministerial relief, church building and development, social Christian services, publication and distribution of Baptist Christian literature; support children in the State of North Carolina who are in need of care, the study and distribution of the Bible, to cooperate with the

other Missionary Baptist organizations to carry out the spirit of this Convention and engage in whatever other Christian endeavors as were deemed necessary to advocate the Kingdom of God.

Section 2: To enhance Christian fellowship among the Baptists of North Carolina in cooperation with the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina and to form a brotherly tie with Baptist and Christians around the world.

We continue to carry out the mandates of our Convention with convictions and commitment to the causes of Kingdom Building and Salvation. Our first responsibility is to support our Mission. The GBSC, Inc., gives more than any other African-American Baptist Convention to other "Objectives." The "Objectives are the ground of our Mission.

The Home and State Missions ministry work of our convention has grown.

The Staff and Programs

For the past two years we have worked to upgrade our staff and provide more field workers and GBSC, Inc. events across the State. Our staff and travel budgets have grown significantly. Also, we work to provide you with GBSC, Inc. literature and materials in our training and workshop sessions. Many times these materials and literature are distributed at no cost to the participants. The Convention is more visible across the state. Also as leaders of the GBSC, Inc. we have tried to make ourselves available to you for worship, workshops, and activities in your churches and Associations. We have encouraged other GBSC officers to share with you in your churches and Association sessions. We have done an outstanding job but we must look beyond where we are.

MILLENNIUM STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN VOLUNTEER FORM

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SEND TO: GBSC, INC. Stewardship Campaign,
603 South Wilmington St., Raleigh, NC 27601-2338
919-836-0061 Fax or 800-639-GBSC.

We need volunteers across the state to help us manage this campaign.

If you are interested, please fill out the above form and return or fax to:

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Stewardship Campaign
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Raleigh, NC 27601-2338
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Health & Human Services

By
James H. Carter

By James H. Carter, M.D., M.Div.,
L.F.A.P.A.

Professor of Psychiatry
Duke University Medical Center

Despite the fact that we live in a rich and industrialized society, we are jeopardizing the future of our nation by ignoring the proper training of our children. Today, there are growing numbers of African American children who are suffering needlessly because their emotional, behavioral, and spiritual developmental needs are neglected by parents and families. I specifically include families because I agree with Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton, that it does take an entire community to raise emotionally healthy children, i.e., grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, and traditional institutions such as the church.

As the nation moves into the twenty-first century, the increase in juvenile violence and victimization constitutes one of the most crucial challenges of the new millennium. However, African American youngsters have yet to become key figures in the diabolical shootings at schools across America; primarily confining themselves to "black on black" violence in African American communities. Yet, African American juveniles are over-represented at all stages of the juvenile justice system, when compared with their proportion in the population. By over-representation, I am referring to a situation where a larger proportion of African American youths appear at various stages within the juvenile justice system, such as detention, adjudication, and disposition. Justifiably, there are those who would argue that over-representation of African American youths in criminal justice systems results from discrimination. To wit, statistics reveal that secure detention was nearly twice as likely in 1996 for cases involving African American youth compared with similar crimes of whites. This finding would seem to support discrimination but we cannot and must not overlook the fact that in 1997, the Department of Justice reported that African American youth accounted for 26% of all juvenile arrests and 44% of arrests for violent crimes. African Americans between the ages of sixteen and seventeen committed 58% of the murders and non-negligent manslaughter compared to 40% for white youngsters. Moreover, African American juveniles of the same age group committed 55% of all robberies compared to 42% for whites. From 1987 through 1996, the property offense case rates for white adolescents were about half the rate for African American adolescents.

The most frequent question I am asked about African American youth today is, "Why are teenagers so violent?" This is usually followed by the question, "Why is it that teenagers have such little respect for themselves and others?" Invariably, my response is rather facetious, which is, "What's wrong with parents today?" I am struck by the fact that when a child has gone amok, most often there are parents or guardians who are also out of control. I do not wish to imply, however, that parents or guardians are totally responsible for the violence or misconduct of their children.

In Search of Solutions

I contend that the solutions to the problems we face today with teenagers are not new. I am surprised that my Biblical recommendations often seem strange, simplistic, and punitive to some parents and guardians. Whereas, I am confident that the Scriptures offer sound and solid blueprints for successful daily living and for the rearing of children. I never cease to be amazed how the character and behavior of most children can be molded and shaped. Of course, there are exceptions, such as children with di-

Teenagers and Violence: Properly Trained Children

agnosable mental illnesses; severe enough to cause some level of impairment. But even with mentally disordered children, improvement can be accomplished with early identification and appropriate intervention. This precludes the overuse of such medicines as Ritalin; most commonly used with African American males.

I am convinced that too often the recommendation by school officials to have African American children placed on medication is for the sole purpose of rendering them "manageable," and alternative to healthy engagement and responsible confrontation with love.

Conversely, I can find no Biblical basis for child abuse. Such appears to have been the case with the House of Prayer in Atlanta, Georgia (Time Magazine, April 2, 2001, page 47). A judge recently found the House of Prayer, pastor and congregation, guilty of "church sponsored beating sessions." Following a recent two-day hearing about corporal punishment at the House of Prayer, forty-one children were placed in foster care for a year after the pastor and parents refused to refrain from the whippings and forcing teenage girls to marry. The Time article reports that this one hundred and thirty member nondenominational church was put in the spotlight after children complained that they were hit with sticks, switches, and belts in front of the congregation; sometimes by their parents and at other times by church members. This case involved children between the ages of a few months to seventeen, with the pastor affirming that one particular sixteen-year old girl's beating lasted twenty to thirty minutes.

I question the validity of modern day research, which has shown that the more often parents use whippings, the more likely a child will be violent. A 1995 sociological survey revealed 28% of parents hit their children with objects like belts and paddles. Yet, I am reminded that years ago African American children were subjected to spankings and whippings, which clearly had no relationship to increased violence. A recent study at Duke University revealed that white African children who are physically punished do in fact become more aggressive in school. By contrast, African American children do not become more aggressive when physically punished by parents. It is speculated by these researchers that a child from a white American family may interpret physical punishment as parental hostility, anger and a lack of warmth or caring; signs of an out of control household. For African American children, a lack of discipline indicates to the child that parents have surrendered their role of parenting to others, such as teachers and law enforcement. Like the majority of African American parents, I do approve of the judicious use of corporal punishment under certain conditions and circumstances.

Biblical advice for parenting is patently clear as we are admonished not to provoke our children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord (Ephesians 6:4). From the wisdom book, Proverbs, we learn that he who spares his rod hates his son, but he who loves him disciplines him properly (Proverbs 13:24). We are further instructed to chasten children

while there is hope and not to set our hearts on their destruction (Proverbs 19:18). This suggests that early correction with children is absolutely necessary. The physical and sexual abuse of infants and children, which we read and hear about today, by so-called "boyfriends," is an abomination. The physical, emotional and/or sexual abuse of a child can have long-term devastating ramifications for everyone involved, including society. When we have trained a child in a way that we would have the child develop, we can rest assured that the child will be positively im-

Happy Father's Day on June 17!

acted by the training (Proverbs 22:6). Finally, Christian parents know that children are a blessing and "a heritage from the Lord" (Psalms 127:13). We know that the fruit of the womb is His reward and our children, and grandchildren are like "olive plants around our tables" (Psalms 128:3).

Bible Brain Twister

Contributed by John Kezer
Submitted by Carol J. Smith
Associate Editor

I once made a remark about the hidden books of the Bible. It was a lulu, kept people looking so hard for facts, and for others it was a revelation. Some were in a jam, especially since the names of the books are not capitalized, but the truth finally struck home to numbers of readers. To others, it was a real job. We want it to be a most fascinating few moments for you. Yes, there

will be some really easy ones to spot. Others may require judges to help them, I will quickly admit it usually takes a minister to find one of the 17, and there will be loud lamentations when it is found. A little lady says she brews a cup of tea so she can concentrate better. See how well you can compete. Relax now, for there really are the names of 17 books of the Bible in these sentences. (One preacher found 16 books in 20 minutes. It took him three weeks to find the seventeenth.)

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FAITH AND FITNESS

By Charolette H. Leach, M.S.

If you have been reading the Faith and Fitness articles for the last year, you may recall that at the onset, we considered five categories of fitness. These included spiritual, emotional, mental, nutritional and physical. You may also recall that the most critical fitness category was said to be spiritual. Please allow me to reiterate this point.

The focus of the Faith and Fitness articles during the last couple of months has been fitness for the physical body with an emphasis being placed on taking steps to avoid being placed at risk for major chronic diseases. There is an inverse relationship between chronic disease and physical activity and proper nutrition. Our chances of developing heart disease, hypertension, and diabetes decrease as physical activity and proper nutrition increase.

My degree is in Exercise Science. The course of study in this degree included exercise physiology, which takes a detailed look at how the body responds to exercise. The classes were fascinating and allowed me to learn much about something that had always interested me. Exercise has been a way of life for me for all of my adult life, which is why moving into the field of promoting exercise, was easy for me.

While the transition to this new field was easy, encouraging others to get and to stay motivated sometimes is a challenge. Even with it being a challenge, I still know that this is what I am called to do. We all know that God does not call us to a work without equipping us for that work. As I consider

Spiritual Exercise Is Crucial

ways to motivate others, of course I look to the Bible, our roadmap.

Since, we as Christians give much credence to what the Word of God says, I sometimes feel that God could have made it real easy. He could have added another commandment in Exodus, "Thou shalt exercise and eat healthy!" Could I be that lucky? The one reference to bodily exercise in the scriptures puts it this way in the King James Version, "For bodily exercise profiteth little." Boy that helps a lot. But before we use this scripture as an exercise, let's look a little closer.

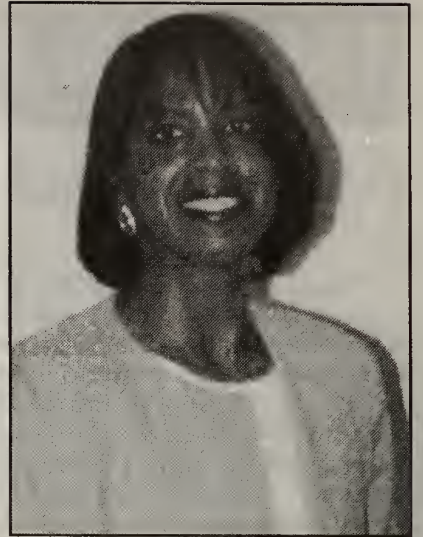
On Saturday mornings, our group who is now called "Believers Striving for Health" meet to discuss health issues prior to exercising. A scripture lesson is always included when we meet. Our last lesson focused on the 4th chapter of the book of First Timothy, where we find in verses 7 and 8 these words, "But refuse profane and old wives' fables, and exercise thyself rather unto godliness. For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come."

These same verses read in the Paraphrased Bible state:

"Don't waste time arguing over fool-

ish ideas and silly myths and legends. Spend your time and energy in the exercise of keeping spiritually fit. Bodily exercise is all right, but spiritual exercise is much more important and is a topic for all you do. So exercise yourself spiritually and practice being a better Christian, because that will help you not only in this life, but in the next life too."

Is it possible that in Biblical days as these words were written by the Apostle Paul to young Timothy, that the need for physical exercise was not as prevalent as it is today? Even with taking that into consideration, these instructions clearly instruct us to focus on becoming spiritually fit. How are we to do this? By exercising ourselves spiritually. The more important question to ask from this text is *why?* Why are we to exercise ourselves spiritually? Because spiritual exercise which will lead to spiritual fitness is profitable unto all things and is a tonic for all you do. Spiritual fitness has the promise of life that we live now and the life which is to come. Exercising ourselves spiritually will aid and assist us as we strive for physical fitness. This is definitely the case with "Believers Striving for Health." After we have discussed our lesson for the week and have exercised



Charolette H. Leach, M.S.

spiritually, we find it easier to make it through our physical exercise session. Some even find themselves needing the spiritual strength in the midst of the exercise session. This is evident by the words of one member just on last week. She stated that midway through her jogging when she felt that she could not finish that she called on the Holy Ghost. Of course he kicked in and she reached her goal thankful for what God had allowed her to accomplish.

Physical exercise is more profitable for us today than it was in Biblical days because of the fact we need it more than it was needed then, but nothing will ever be as beneficial and crucial as spiritual exercise. Let us continue to exercise spiritually in order to have the strength and motivation to exercise physically all to God's glory. Be Blessed!

Senior Center Honors Dr. Jones For Lifetime Achievement

The LifeTime Achievement Award is presented annually to an individual who has helped to make the Charlotte-Mecklenburg community a wonderful place to live, work, worship and raise a family. This year, the Charlotte Mecklenburg Senior Centers Inc. is recognizing Dr. Clifford A. Jones as its honoree to receive the LifeTime Achievement Award on April 24 at the Adams Mark Hotel.

The award originated in 1994, the year the new Senior Center opened its doors on Tyvola Road. The first recipient was Bill "BB" Parker, who chaired the senior center's capital campaign in 1993, followed by Edwin Latimer, who established an endowment for the Senior Center with the Foundation of the Carolinas. Parker and Latimer were original members of the board of directors for the Charlotte Mecklenburg Senior Centers. Other honorees included Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Smith, Crowder Falls, Pete Sloan and John Crosland Jr. All recipients are "community heroes" who have helped to make Charlotte a stellar city in the Southeast.

Jones is an excellent choice to receive Jones this honor in 2001. He is the senior minister of the Friendship Missionary Baptist Church and known throughout the nation for his leadership in fields of religion and education. Jones was born in Philadelphia and grew up in New Jersey. He is married to the former Carolyn Brenda Reynolds; they have a daughter Michelle, and a son, Clifford Anthony Jr.

Jones received a bachelor's degree from Maryland State College and master's degrees in Divinity and master's degrees in Divinity and theology from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest. He received a doctorate in ministry at

Boston School of Theology in Massachusetts. He continued his studies at Regents Park College in Oxford, England, and Baptist Theological Seminary, Ruschlikon, Switzerland.

He is active on many local, state and national boards of directors. Locally, Jones is a board member for A Child's Place and Discovery Place. He also serves on the board of trustees at Winston-Salem State University and Shaw University and Divinity School in Raleigh. Jones is recognized in Who's Who in Religion in America and in international Biographies, Oxford, England. As a contributing writer and editor, Jones' work is printed in numerous publications throughout the country. He has served as president of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina Inc. in Raleigh and the Lott Carey Foreign Baptist Convention in Washington, D.C. Jones has preached on five continents and Robben Island in Cape Town, South Africa.

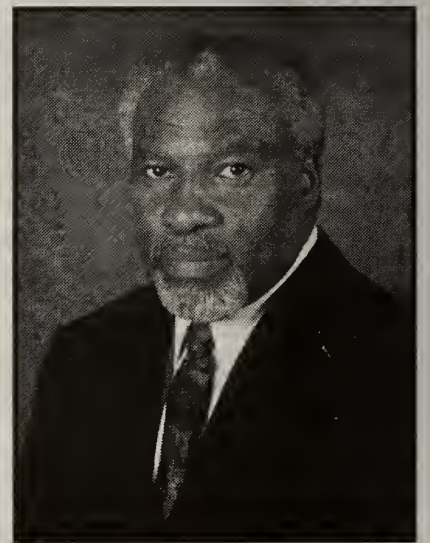
In 1995, the governor of North Carolina bestowed the Governor's Order of the Long Leaf Pine to Jones. In 1997, Jones was the recipient of North Carolina's NAACP Humanitarian Award. Recently Jones was listed in PRIDE Magazine as one of the top 50 most influential black men in the local community. In the article, Jones said "involving the church in the enhancement of the spiritual, social and political life of the community" is one of his greatest accomplishments.

The LifeTime Achievement Award Dinner is the annual fund raising event for the Charlotte Mecklenburg Senior Centers Proceeds from the award dinner help to support the programs and services provided at the Senior Center and its satellite sites. These services include senior employment

training, counseling and support groups, health and wellness programs such as free health screenings, exercise classes and a fitness center, multi-cultural programs for Russian, Hispanic/Latino and Asian seniors and GrandCare, which provides support and case management to grandparents and other relatives raising children.

The LifeTime Achievement Award Dinner is chaired by board member Cassandra Sloan, treasurer of the executive committee of the Senior Center and active member of Friendship Missionary Baptist Church. Committee members include Doris Buseman, Anita Ingram, Phyllis Chapman and John Spann. The dinner will be preceded by a reception and silent auction. The silent auction is chaired by Jane Carnes, former president of the board of directors, assisted by board member Maryalice Vann, staff member Marilyn O'Connor and community volunteer Mary Alexander.

The mistress of ceremonies for the evening will be Sonja Gantt, local television news personality for NBC Channel 6 WCNC-TV. Friends and colleagues of Jones will serve as "roasters and toasters." They include: the Rev. Clifford Matthews of St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church; the Rev. O.T. Tomes of Asheville; Harvey Gantt, former mayor of Charlotte; and Congressman Mel Watt. A short video of highlights of Jones' life and interviews with family members and friends who are hon-



Dr. Clifford A. Jones

oring him for the LifeTime Achievement Award will be shown.

Reservations are \$150 per person and must be made in advance. Anyone who is interested in attending the event should contact the Senior Center for an invitation. Corporate sponsorships are available, with opportunities for recognition in programs and other media releases and tables of eight for the dinner.

For further information, contact Stephanie Noonan at the Senior Center, (704) 522-6222.

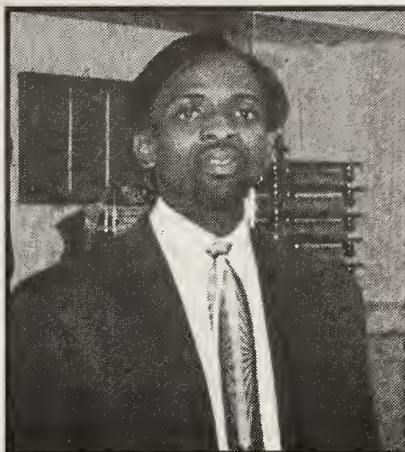
Taken from Charlotte Mecklenburg Senior Centers Inc.

"BLESSED ARE OUR FATHERS"

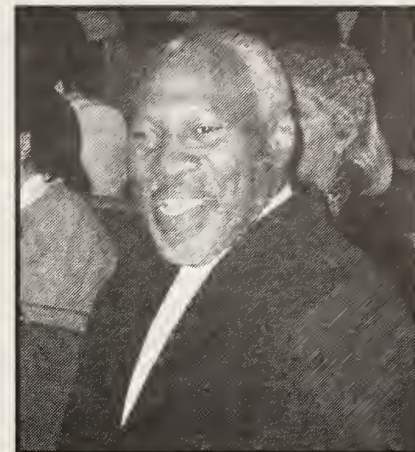
HIGHLIGHTS OF THE STATEWIDE MUSIC CONFERENCE OF THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC. • APRIL 27-28
Friendship Missionary Baptist Church • Host Pastor: Dr. Clifford A. Jones Sr.
Theme: "The Challenge Is The Same: Reach The Masses" John 12:32



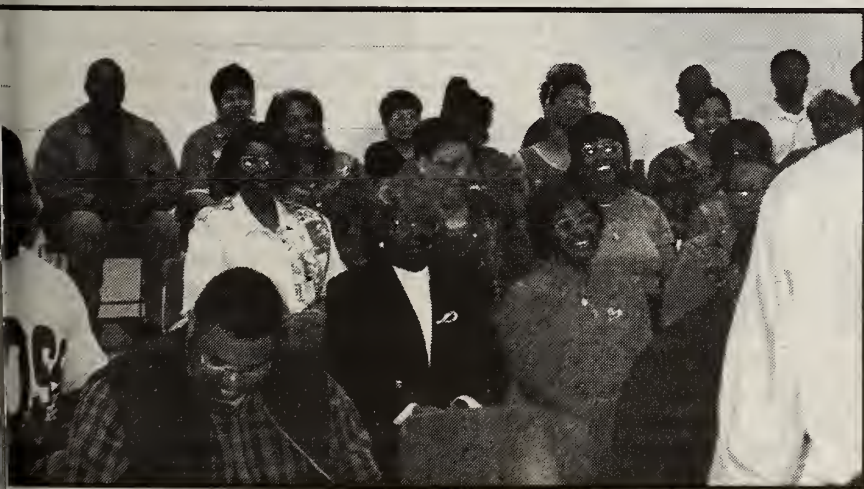
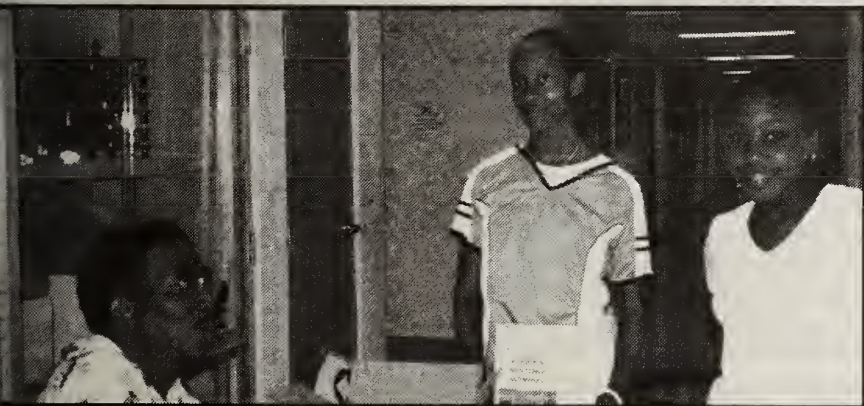
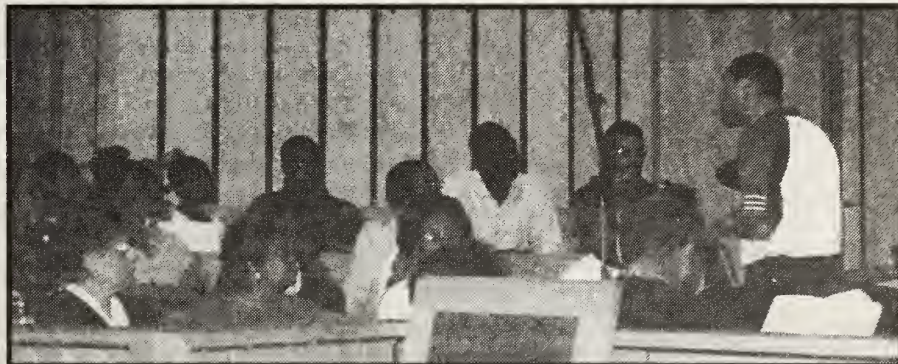
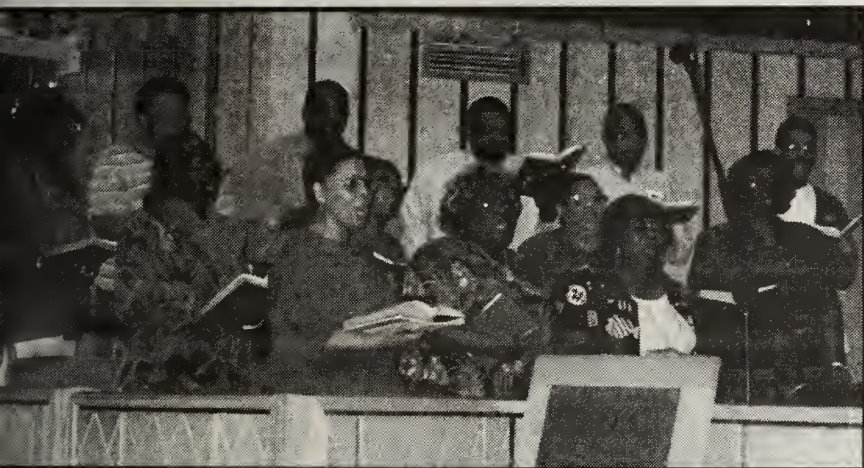
Mrs. Sonya Lamm, "The Light 103.9," Dr. James Abbington, conference director and clinician, Mrs. Octavia Ivory, coordinator.



Mr. Tony McNeill, minister of music.



Dr. Clifford A. Jones Sr.



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NEWS AROUND THE STATE & NATION

District 7, Group 1 Convenes With Good Hope

By Katy Tomlinson

It appeared that all roads were leading to the Good Hope Baptist Church, Knightdale, NC on April 21, 2001. Missionaries from Chatham, Harnett, Johnston, Lee and Wake Counties all met at Good Hope for our Annual One Day Conference.

Rev. John Thatch, pastor, and members of the church treated us in a most hospitable manner. The Good Hope Gospel Choir rendered soul stirring renditions such as "God Can," "The Old Rugged Cross," and "I Won't Complain."

Sister Thelma Turner responded to the warm welcome which was extended by the pastor. Union, auxiliary and circle presidents shared information about their progress during the year.

Nurse Lois Hodges from the Oakey Grove Baptist Church presented Health Tips about Diabetes. She stated that we need to watch what we eat, our life style, get plenty of exercise and take our medication in order to control diabetes.

Deacon Faye Dunbar, co-chairpersons of District 7 Group 1 gave us information about upcoming events in the Woman's Convention. Then we all enjoyed the Special Feature by Minister Shirley Johnson and the Children of Good Hope which em-

phasized The Family of God.

The Memorial Service was presented by Sister Faye Dunn, president of the Good Hope Missionary Circle and Anthony Hinton who played a lovely saxophone selection, (Close To Thee).

Dr. Joseph Rogers, moderator of the Johnston Association gave greetings after which we took our offering to the altar as the choir sang, "I've Got A New Home Over In Zion."

The speaker for the occasion was Dr. Shirley Bullock who used the missionary theme "Reaching the Family Through Effective Leadership, Accountability, Commitment, and Dedication." It was a dynamic message.

We were delighted to have Vice President Bronnie Daniels visit with us from Winston Salem, NC. Mrs. Dorothy Hicks, Chairpersons of The Deacon's Wives Fellowship, was one of the missionaries present from Bazzel Creek in Fuquay Varina. Rev. Annette Sanders, past president of the Conference, received a plaque presented for her meritorious service.

Our next meeting of the District 7, Group 1 One Day Conference will be held on April 20, 2002 at the First Baptist Church in Fuquay Varina, Rev. Thomas E. McCullers, Pastor. Sister Janie Clayton

Baptist Students Awarded Scholarships To Attend Wake Forest University

Submitted by Carol J. Smith
Associate Editor

Three students who are members of churches affiliated with the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina were each awarded a William Louis Poteat Scholarship to attend Wake Forest University in fall 2001.

The scholarship recipients are Edward Lindell Perry Jr. of Wake Forest, Terisha Trasina Davis of Durham and Jennifer Leigh Holland of Huntersville.

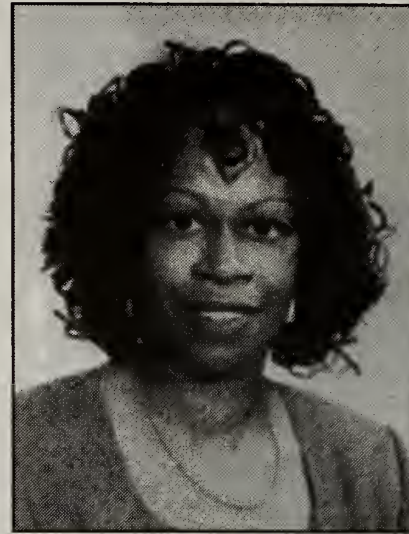
Perry, the son of Patricia and Edward Perry, will graduate from William G. Enloe High School. He is a member of Macedonia Baptist Church.

Davis, the daughter of Teresa and Thomas Davis, will graduate from Northern High School. She is a member of Mt. Zoar Baptist Church.

Holland, the daughter of Debbie and Edwin Holland, will graduate from North Mecklinburg High School. She is a member of Friendship Baptist Church.

Each Poteat scholarship recipient receives \$11,200 annually. The scholarship is renewable for four years. It recognizes students who are active members of churches affiliated with the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina or the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina.

Recipients show promise of making vi-



Carol J. Smith, Associate Editor

tal contributions to the church and the community during college and after graduation.

The scholarships are named for Wake Forest's president from 1905 to 1927.

Men's Day Speaker

By Dr. P.C. Holland, Pastor

Dr. William J. Shaw, President National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc., will be the Men's Day Speaker at First Baptist Church, Kannapolis, NC, where Pastor P.C. Holland Jr., is pastor.

The Pastor, Officers and Members extend an invitation to all Pastors, Ministers, and Members of the General Baptist State Convention to be our guest on this day, June 17, 2001 at 3 p.m. in the afternoon, if you cannot attend please pray that God will use us for the lifting up of His Son Jesus.

Human Relations Month

Pine Valley Baptist Church
Rev. Bill A. Maultsby, Associate Pastor

Prelude - Bro. Warren Murphy
Opening Selection - "Leaning On The Everlasting Arms" - Congregation

Invocation and Welcome -

Rev. Bill Maultsby

Selection - "Blessed Assurance"

Scripture Reading -

Rev. Dr. Joseph Z. Windley -

I Corinthians 3:0

Prayer - Rev. Bill Maultsby

Choral Response - "Holy Like You" -

First Baptist Mass Choir

Offering was given to a

shelter for the needy.

Special Music -

"Let There Be Peace On Earth"

Selection - "The Battle Is The Lord's"

Sermon - Rev. Dr. J.Z. Windley

Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, being the ninth hour, and a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple. Who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple asked an alms. And Peter fastening his eyes upon him with John said, "Look on us." And he gave heed unto them. Then Peter said, "Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have I give, In the name of Jesus Christ rise up and walk.

Joint Worship Service at First Baptist Church, Dr. J.Z. Windley Pastor, Feb. 11, 2001

And the people saw him walking and praising God. Rev. Windley stated — We are God's wise master builders. There were things in the Church God did not like. If we are people of God, you will not let this preacher strangle himself without some "Amen's." The flowers we see are beautiful and God made all different colors and sizes. When you get sick and get well, it was Doctor Jesus because He has healing hands. He is a healer, He is a builder, through us He builds dams, houses, sky scrapers, bridges and above all He builds places of worship. So why don't you let God build in your heart? There are those in the Church who are babies in the Church. They need help on their journey to the Kingdom. We grow together in God. We need to Grow every day. You need to grow spiritually.

The battle is the Lord's, not yours. Thank you choir for that number that shows how God put that song there to go with my sermon, "The Battle is the Lord's," not yours. That was what was wrong in the church of the Corinthians. They were not doing their job to fulfill the Church of the Living God. We need to take inventory of ourselves. Paul has us in mind when he wrote this letter. Be Godly and you won't have any trouble to keep you from our loving God. We are God's fellow workers. We're God's husbands. We meet and build our faith on Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Do you know Jesus Christ is first in your lives?

We are His fellow workers. Jesus laid the foundation and we must build on the foundation. Are you sure you are building on a solid foundation? You need to build on a solid rock and Jesus is the solid rock. There are people in the Church that won't give God his time. God put me on the wall to let mankind come to him and be saved, so that our souls won't be lost. The Battle is Not Yours, It's the Lord's. Those that worship Him and give God the praise and carry it everywhere you go are Godly. You strive to be like Jesus. My hope is built on nothing less, but Jesus' blood and righteousness. On Christ the Solid Rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand; all other ground is sinking sand.

Invitation to Discipleship - "Just As I Am" - Mass Choir

Closing Hymn - "I Will Trust in the Lord"

Invitation to Fellowship - Rev. Bill Maultsby

Ushers No. 2 auxiliary stood tall on the floor. No 1 did not show.

Benediction - "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow" - Mass Choir

The Mass Choir sang their souls happy. They were great. We had a great night in fellowship with God's people. We adjourned to the fellowship hall where there were all kinds of goodies.

James Otis Sampson

Church Reporter

Rev. Dr. J.Z. Windley

Pastor

COURTSEY VEHICLE DRIVERS NEEDED! JUNE 14-22, 2001

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If you are interested in being a courtesy driver for the upcoming conference to be held at the Charlotte Convention Center, contact NBC's local transportation committee members:

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NEWS AROUND THE STATE

National Baptist Congress College Workshop

Subject: Tennessee Minister selected to Lead College Workshop

Rev. Lawrence Ragland has been selected by National Baptist Congress Dean Dr. George Waddles to be the next Director of the College Workshop.

Upon his selection he is already on the job preparing for Charlotte. He is encouraging all churches to bring your college students this year to the workshop. He is looking forward to meeting the many college students that will be attending. After five years as mini-course instructor in the college workshop he was selected to fill the vacancy of Dr. Chris Jackson. This year workshop will meet at the Mayfield Memorial Baptist Church, 700 West Sugar Creek Road in Charlotte where Rev. Diggs is pastor. The week schedule is from 8 a.m. until 12:15 p.m. Tuesday-Friday. This year mini-courses are Tuesday: Secure in Christ, Wednesday: Baptist Christians, Thursday: How to Share Christ on Campus and Friday will be Bible Study. The workshop is for college students and those who will be attending college for the first time this fall. Additional information flyers, brochures and pamphlets will also be available on How to Make it in College, Into the World of Sharks, The Baptist Student Union and more.

Ragland residence in Jackson where he has 14 years of ministry to college students. At present is part-time director of campus ministries, a full time coordinator counselor at a drug rehab center and serves as an evangelist. The former pastor is a graduate of Union University with a Bachelor of Science degree and Trinity Theological Seminary with a Master of Practical Divinity Degree. You can reach him by e-mail at Iragl@hotmail.com

See you in Charlotte.

National Baptist Congress College Workshop

Rev. Lawrence Ragland, Director

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About the Author:

Dr. Serenus T. Churn Sr., received his Doctor of Ministry Degree from Drew University, Madison, N.J., in 1979, his Graduate Certificate in Pastoral Care from the Foundation for Religion and Mental Health, Grasslands Hospital, Westchester County, N.Y., in 1970, his Master of Divinity Degree from Howard University, School of Religion in Washington, D.C., in 1969, his Bachelor of Divinity Degree from Howard University, School of Religion in 1965 and his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Morgan State College, Baltimore, Md., in 1962.

He was born in Camden, N.J., to the late Dr. Charles H. Churn Sr., and Violet M. Churn and was licensed to preach at the age of 15. He is married to the former Shirley Brown of Washington, D.C., and

has two sons. Dr. Churn is currently the Senior Pastor of Mount Zion Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, N.C. Member of Novant Health Board of Trustees, Mount Zion Site Director and Adjunct Instructor, Shaw University Divinity School and Drew University Theology School. He is the Radio Host of God's Trombone WPOL. He has preached across the United States, Great Britain and India.

Place your book orders to:
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Dr. Ford Elected Worshipful Master

Dr. Edward L. Ford has been elected as Worshipful Master on November 7, 2001, along with other new officers.

Dr. Ford was duly installed officially on January 2, 2001, at a regular meeting.

He was invested with the jewel of Worshipful Master and clothed as such and was also presented with the gavel of authority by St. Mark Lodge No. 71 in Lakeview, S.C., in Prince Hall Affiliation Free and Accepted Mason.

Dr. Ford is a noted revival speaker. If your church would like for him to come and render a revival service or be a keynote speaker for Masonic and Eastern Star banquets, call him.

Dr. Ford has been a dynamic motivational speaker for over 30 ears in the Masonic Fraternity and 20 years in the Gospel Ministry.

Dr. Ford, Ph.D., has also written a book entitled, "The Black Ministries."

He is married to the former Evangelist Lene M. Jones. Dr. and Mrs. Ford have three sons. They have been married for more than 33 years.

For booking information, contact: Dr. Edward L. Ford, 726 Lewis Place, Lakeview, S.C., 27563 or call 843-759-2854 or 774-9505.

Dr. Ford has preached and teacher all the country. He has pastored churches in North and South Carolina. He is an Adjunct Professor for International Seminary, in Plymouth, Fla.



Dr. Edward L. Ford

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SHAW UNIVERISTY

*From the Office of the
Third Vice President*

Rev. N.T. Davis

**Shaw University and Shaw
Divinity School News**

God is Love, Love is of God, my sister and brother, we must love one another, by this all men shall know that we are of God and is His disciples. So let us love one another as the Father and Son has loved us.

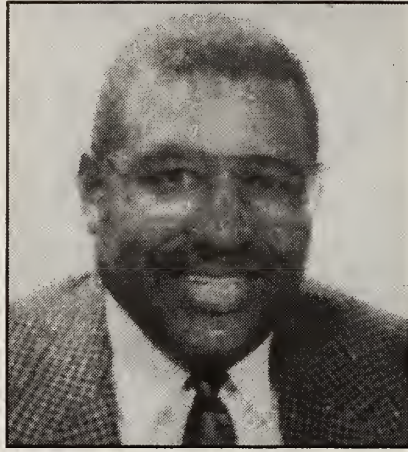
Shaw University shall always remain in our prayer and in our budget. Love is an action word. If we do not act we do not love. Love is not love until it is shared or given away.

Our institution need our love and care. It is not yet what it shall be.

When we as Black Baptist learn to give as God has prospered us, give willing, and give cheerfully. This University shall become what it is supposed to be, and to God will be the glory.

Shaw University will hold summer classes as well as the Divinity School.

Let us support the president and Dean for



Rev. N.T. Davis

the great work they are doing. Let us thank the staff and faculty for the fine job they do.

For the General Baptist State Convention Inc., we salute Shaw University and President Shaw, Dean Roberson and faculty for the great job you do.

To all pastors of the GBSC and churches, let us get behind our University and make it even greater.

Shaw's Divinity School Announces 64th Annual Church Leader's Conference

Shaw University's Divinity School announces the 64th Annual Church Leader's Conference to be held on the campus of Historic Shaw University on Saturday, June 23rd from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. The conference theme is "Educating Church Leaders for a New Century."

Listed below are the workshops offered for the conference. The workshops have been designed to prepare participants for the present age.

- Tools for Old Testament Study and How to Use Them
- Interpreting and Preaching Hard Text of the New Testament • A Preaching Clinic
- Building and Effective Ministry Team/The Role of the Associate Minister • Spiritually and Healing
- Calling All Youth • The Ministry of Music • Practical Stewardship • Visionary Leadership
- Ministerial Ethics • The Black Church Dealing With HIV/AIDS • Women in Ministry

Each person attending the conference is required to register. For more information, please call Shaw Divinity School at (919) 546-8569.

UNIVERSITY DIVINITY SCHOOL 17TH ANNUAL WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

July 28, 2001 • 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

W.B. Lewis Lecture Hall • 3rd Floor • Historic Leonard Building
816 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27601 • 919-546-8570

Theme: "Stir Up The Gift"

Shaw University Divinity School proudly invites you to be a part of Women's Conference 2001. We want to encourage you to take a step of faith and walk in the gift that God has given to you. Come prepared to learn how to stir up your gift.

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Worships!
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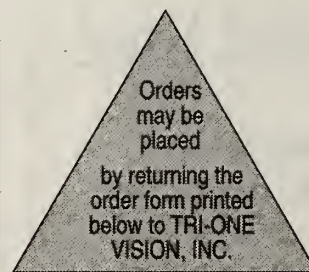
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- The Wind of the Spirit
- They Did Not Glorify God
- What the Enemy Wants From You
- When God Threw A Party... and Nobody Came
- When The Horses Show Up
- When The Wind Runs Out
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SHAW UNIVERSITY NEWS

The Shaw University Divinity School
Raleigh, N.C.

Department of Continuing Christian Education
announces

The 64th Annual Church Leader's Conference
On the Campus of Historic Shaw University
Saturday, June 23, 2001 • 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Registration Fee — \$35, Adults • Under 18 years old, \$20
Theme: "Educating Church Leaders for a New Century"

Please return the bottom portion by June 18, 2001 Lunch included in registration

Church Leader's Conference Pre-Registration

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Address _____

(If you need more space, attach a sheet of paper with name)

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- A Preaching Clinic (a.m.)
- Building and Effective Ministry Team/The Role of the Associate Minister (p.m.)
- Spirituality and Healing (a.m. & p.m.)
- Calling all Youth (a.m. & p.m.)
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| 10. Let's Get on Board | 47. A Trip to the Cross |
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| 15. He Lifted Me Up Out of the Miry Clay | 52. When Stress Controls You Jesus Consoles You |
| 16. Look Where the Lord Has Brought Me From | 53. Black Men and Women, Young and Old, Changing A Generation |
| 17. If My People | 54. I Am Black, But I Am Somebody |
| 18. We Can Do It For A New Day Has Come | 55. Staying Afloat in a Sinking Boat |
| 19. I Know What Prayer Can Do | 56. He That Has A Friend Must Show Himself Friendly |
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| 33. You Can't Make It Without God | 69. Diagnosis From Dr. Jesus, Go And See The Dr. |
| 34. I Just Want To Say ... "Thank You Lord" | 70. Who Is He |
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Pastor: Dr. Freddie I. Barnes

POSITION AVAILABLE: DIRECTOR OF CHURCH MUSIC

First African Baptist Church is a congregation of over 350 members with a Music Ministry that consist of four choirs, Sunshine Choir, Male Chorus, Unity and Praise Choir, Chancel Choir. Music in this ministry consists of gospel (traditional and contemporary) praise and worship. hymns, spirituals and anthems. Applications and further information may be obtained by contacting Mrs. Johnnie Ingram, Personnel Committee Chairman or Rev. Jerry Dortch at 919-734-4935.

MINISTER OF MUSIC WANTED

Wake Forest congregation seeks Minister of Music. Duties to include working directly with the Pastor in order to assist and cooperate with him in Christian Worship; playing during Sunday morning worship service; rehearsing with various choirs one night per week; and accompanying the Pastor on engagements to other churches. Please forward a cover letter and resume to:
Evans Grove Missionary Baptist Church • 12700 Creedmoor Road, Highway 50
Wake Forest, NC 27587 • (919) 870-8874

CEDAR GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

14600 Railroad St., Gibson, NC 28343

CHURCH MUSICIAN

The Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church of Gibson, N.C., is seeking a person to serve as Church Musician.

Qualifications: Should be a Christian who lives and acts responsibly and has a good character and reputation.

Musician requirements:

*Be able to play a piano, keyboard, organ and be able to work well with a diverse range of singers with directions for musical selections.
*Be available for necessary rehearsals and Sunday Worship Services.
*Be available to accompany the pastor and choirs to all church functions when requested.
Salary negotiable. Please send resume to Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church at the above address.

CHURCH MUSICIAN

The New Hope Baptist Church, Gates, N.C., is seeking a person to serve as Church Musician.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Able to play organ and/or organ.
2. Able to play diverse music.
3. Able to accompany the pastor and choir to church engagements if possible.

SALARY NEGOTIABLE:

Send resume to:
New Hope Baptist Church, PO Box 91, Gatesville, NC 27938
Attn: Fannie M. Spivey, Secretary
Inquiries may be made by calling (252) 357-1061 after 4:30 p.m.

CHURCH MUSICIAN

Mount Olive Baptist Church of Lewiston is seeking a musician for a station church, a Christian who is responsible, has good character and a good reputation.

Requirements:

- *Plays the organ and piano *Able to work with a diverse group of singers
- *Experienced in all sacred music *Reads music and is versatile in playing by ear

Send resumes or responses to: Mount Olive Baptist Church
PO Box 214, Lewiston-Woodville, NC 27849 • Attention: William W. Peele Jr.

MINISTER OF MUSIC

St. John Baptist Church, 8910 Old Annapolis Road

Columbia, Maryland 21045 • 410-992-6977

Overall Duty: To assist the Pastor in shaping, defining, and effectuating the musical elements of the worship experience.

I. MINIMUM QUALIFICATION:

- A. Bachelor's degree in music, or at least 5 years of experience as...
- B. At least 3 years of experience as accomplish/director for choral group(s)
- C. Proficiency in playing piano and organ
- D. At least 3 church-related references

II. OTHER QUALIFICATIONS

- A. Personal faith in Jesus Christ...
- B. Background (via education experience) in sacred music, including hymns, spirituals, traditional and contemporary gospel, and praise songs.
- C. Ability to relate well with directors and members of church choirs.
- D. Efficient administrative skills to ensure timely and effective communication with all elements of the musical worship experience.
- E. Ability to teach, direct, compose and play (by written notes or by ear) the various forms of sacred music.
- F. Ability to recognize and respond with appropriate music to the spiritual moods of the service.
- G. Excellent interpersonal and conflict resolution skills.

First Missionary Baptist Church

The First Baptist Church is now seeking a pastor to serve as its spiritual leader, teacher, counselor and administrator. All interested persons should submit a letter of interest and resume to the Pulpit Search Committee.

Qualifications

- Born Again Christian
- Ordained Missionary Baptist Minister
- Knowledge of Baptist Doctrine and Faith
- Seminary Training preferred
- Teaching Bible Study Weekly
- Proficient in church organization and ability to train Church
- Pastoral Experience Preferred
- Family Oriented
- Able to Plan and implement innovative youth programs

Interested Applicants should Mail Resumes to:

Pastoral Search Committee
First Baptist Church
ATTENTION: Deacon Calvin Graham Jr., Chairman
P.O. Box 679, Stedman, North Carolina 28391

ST. FRANCIS BAPTIST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

is looking for a Pastor

This person should be:

- I. Missionary Baptist
- II. Have good organizational and leadership skills
- III. Commuting Distance
- IV. Family Oriented
- V. Experience Preferred

Interested parties should send resume to: c/o Pulpit Committee

St. Francis Missionary Baptist Church, P.O. Box 736, Windsor, NC 27983.

GREEN CHAPEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

450 Hickman Hill Loop Road, Havelock, NC 28532

The Pulpit Search Committee of Green Chapel Missionary Baptist Church of Havelock, North Carolina is searching for applicants for a full time pastoral vacancy.

Qualifications:

1. Must be an experienced, licensed, ordained Missionary Baptist Minister living according to First Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9
2. The applicants should have a vision for the church according to Proverbs 29:18
3. Must possess the ability to work with all age groups, with particular emphasis in youth development, and with all auxiliaries of the church.
4. Must possess effective oral and written communication skills.
5. Must be community oriented.
6. Must possess strong and proven administrative experience, with a broad knowledge of the Baptist Doctrines, church policies, and practices.
7. Must be willing to work with the Old Eastern Missionary Baptist Association.

Education: Must possess a high school diploma (or equivalent) preferring a degree or courses in Seminary Training, and willing to do further study.

Interested applications should provide the following:

1. A resume of relevant experience.
2. A copy of certificate of license and ordination.
3. One business and two personal reference (NO FAMILY MEMBERS).

All interested applicants should send resume, and copies of certificates to:

Green Chapel Missionary Baptist Church
Pulpit Committee
450 Hickman Hill Loop Road, Havelock, NC 28532.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Third and Mulbury Street, Weldon, North Carolina 27890

The Pulpit Committee of First Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of Pastor. Mail resumes to:

Deacon Stanley Edwards, 908 Country Club Rd., Weldon, NC 27890

Applicants must have the following qualifications:

- Born again Christian
- Must be able to preach and teach God's Word
- Preach quality sermons
- Possess strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, policies and practices
- Able to lead and communicate with all age groups
- Able to work effectively with church boards and committees
- Some college and seminary training preferred

SANDY GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

PO Box 290, 1600 Martin Luther King Drive, Lumberton, NC 28358

Sandy Grove Missionary Baptist Church is accepting resumes for a full-time pastor. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

1. Must be licensed, ordained, firmly rooted in the holy spirit, born again, and divinely called.
2. Must have strong family and community values.
3. Must possess or be in the process of pursuing a college degree and theological training from an accredited college or university.
4. Must be able to preach and teach God's holy word.
5. Must be willing to follow the Baptist doctrine, policies and practices.
6. Must be an effective leader, administrator, counselor and must work cooperatively with church officials.
7. Must be willing to work with all age groups, with particular emphasis on the spiritual growth and development of our youth.
8. Must plan for the future growth and development of the church.
9. Must be able to be tactful, just and fair with everyone.
10. Must establish office hours for the benefit of the members.
11. Must visit and commune with sick, shut-ins members and bereaved families.

Interested applicants should provide the following information:

1. A resume of relevant pastoral experience (if applicable).
2. A copy of college degree (s), certificate of license and ordination.
3. Proof of completion of all accredited theological training.
4. Name, address, and telephone number of four (4) personal references—excluding relatives.

Please mail all requested information to:

The Pulpit Committee
Sandy Grove Missionary Baptist Church, P.O. Box 290, Lumberton, NC 28358

VACANT POSITIONS

GREATER LOVELY HILL BAPTIST CHURCH

The Pulpit Search Committee of the Greater Lovely Hill Baptist Church, located in Warren County, N.C. is searching for applicants for its pastoral vacancy. Currently the Greater Lovely Hill Baptist Church has regular worship services twice monthly, on the first and third Sunday.

Qualifications:

1. Must be an experienced licensed ordained Missionary Baptist Minister living according to First Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9.
2. The applicants should have a vision for the church.
3. Must possess the ability to work with all age groups, with particular emphasis in youth development and community outreach, and with all auxiliaries of the church.
4. Must possess effective oral and written communication skills.
5. Must be community oriented.
6. Must possess strong and proven administration experience with a broad knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and practices.

Education:

Must possess a high school diploma (or equivalent) preferring a degree or courses in Seminary Training from an accredited college or university.

Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume of relevant experience.
2. A copy of the certificate of license and ordination.

Send resumes to: Mrs. Lucy E. Branch, PO Box 52, Warrenton, NC 27589

PULPIT VACANCY

The pulpit search committee of the Mount Zoar Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of pastor. Applicants must possess the following qualifications/responsibilities.

Qualifications

- Born again, spirit-filled, ordained and divinely called with strong family and community values.
- Be a licensed, ordained Missionary Baptist Minister.
- Must be able to preach and teach Bible Study
- Must be able to work with all age groups with emphasis on youth department
- Strong knowledge of the Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures
- Experienced as a senior pastor, but will consider years of experience as an associate pastor
- Must be willing to attend Sunday School and teach Bible Study
- Spiritual maturity; preach and teach God's word
- Willingness to administer communion and perform baptismal service
- Possess strong and proven administrative experience
- College degree preferred but will consider a combination of education and experience

Responsibilities

- Plan, prepare and deliver sermons
- Visit and commune with sick and shut-in members and bereaved families
- Plan and implementation of activities and projects designed to promote the church's progression and encourage active participation.

Interested applicants should mail resume with a recent photograph to address below.

Special notes: Photograph will not be returned

Mount Zoar Missionary Baptist Church
C/O Ann Dixon

Pulpit Search Committee, PO Box 71736, Durham, NC 27704

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

High Point, NC

The Pastoral Search Committee of Calvary Baptist Church is searching for applications for a full time pastoral vacancy.

Our church body would like for all applicants to have the following qualifications.

- A licensed and ordained Baptist minister who is Divinely called, spirit-filled and a born again Christian.
- Must be able to preach and teach God's word.
- Process six (6) to ten (10) years of Pastoral experience.
- Must have a college and seminary degree from an accredited college or university.
- Able to work effectively with church officials and ministry heads and able to lead and communicate with all age groups, with particular emphasis on the spiritual growth and development of our youth and the needs of the seniors.
- Strong and proven administrative experience and willing to follow Baptist doctrines, policies and practices.
- Proficient in church organization and ability to train church.
- Must be able to clearly develop and articulate a vision for church growth.
- Process strong oral and written communication skills.
- Must be able to be tactful, just and fair with everyone.
- Able to teach Bible Study and Church School
- Must have strong family and community values.
- Must establish office hours for the benefit of the members.
- Must visit and commune with the sick, shut-in members and bereaved families.

Interested applicants should provide the following information:

- A resume of relevant pastoral experience.
- A copy of certificate of license and ordination.
- Proof of completion of all programs of theological and academic degrees.
- Name, address and telephone number of four (4) personal references — excluding relatives.

All information should be forwarded to:

Pastoral Committee

Calvary Baptist Church
P.O. Box 682, High Point, NC 27261

FIRST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

The First Missionary Baptist Church is now seeking a pastor to serve as its spiritual leader, teacher and administrator.

Qualifications:

- Born again Christian
- Ordained Missionary Baptist Minister
- Knowledge of Baptist Doctrine and Faith
- Seminary Training preferred
- Pastoral experience preferred
- Capable in church organization and ability to train church
- Family oriented and community oriented
- Able to work effectively with church board and committees

Interested applicants should mail resume to:

Pastoral Search Committee

First Missionary Baptist Church, c/o Mrs. Mildred B. Sanders, Secretary
305 W. Noble Street, Selma, N.C. 27576

MT. OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

P.O. Box 98

Kings, Mountain, NC 28086

Mt. Olive Baptist Church is currently seeking a Pastor and is accepting resumes from interested licensed, ordained Baptist ministers. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

1. Spiritual maturity.
2. A minimum of three years experience as a pastor, but will consider years of experience as associate pastor.
3. Administrative and leadership skills.
4. Community oriented.
5. Must be able to work with all age groups with specific emphasis on youth department.
6. Strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures.
7. Good oral and written communication skills and ability to communicate with all age groups.

Responsibilities include:

Planning, organizing and implementing programs that encourage participation from youth and young adults and promote church growth and progression.

Please send resume to:

Mt. Olive Baptist Church
P.O. Box 98
Kings, Mountain, NC 28086
c/o The Pulpit Committee

PENN AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH

225 West McClanahan Street, Oxford, N.C. 27565

Rev. Willie S. Darby, Pastor

(919) 693-5396 • (919) 693-1015, Pastor's Office

The Penn Avenue Missionary Baptist Church of Oxford, N.C. is currently seeking a MINISTER OF MUSIC.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- *Must be a born again Christian.
- *Must be able to play the piano, keyboard and/or organ.
- *Must be able to read music and is versatile in playing by ear.
- *Must be able to work well with a diverse range of singers and age groups.
- *Must be able to teach and direct hymns, anthems, spirituals, gospels and other sacred music.
- *Must be able to rehearse choirs at a scheduled time unless otherwise notified.
- *Must be available for Sunday morning worship services.
- *Must be available to accompany the pastor and choirs when requested or provide a qualified substitute.
- *Must be able to assist in the selection of appropriate songs for worship and services.
- *Will be responsible with the pastor's approval in hiring other musicians if deemed necessary.

Salary: Negotiable

Penn Avenue Missionary Baptist Church is a warm, spirited-filled church that has worship services 52 Sundays a year and at present there is one musician available for 2nd Sunday worship services. Service begins each Sunday at 11 a.m. with the exception of 5th Sunday services which begin at 10 a.m.

Please send resume to the above listed address or inquiries may be made by calling one of the above listed numbers.

FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

715 West Willis Ave.

High Point, NC 27260

CHURCH MUSICIAN

The Friendship Missionary Baptist Church are accepting resumes for a Church Musician.

Qualifications:

Should be a Christian who lives and acts responsibly and has a good character and reputation.

Musician requirements:

- Be able to play a piano, keyboard, organ and be able to work well with a diverse range of singers with directions for musical selections.
- Must have experience in church music (anthems, hymns, spirituals, praise and worship, etc.) of gospel traditional and contemporary.
- Be available for necessary rehearsals and Sunday Worship Services.
- Be available to accompany the pastor and choirs to all church functions when requested.

Salary negotiable:

Please send cover letter and resume to:

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church
Attn: James W. Flake, Pastor

909 Barbee Avenue

NOTICE PASTOR NEEDED at Friendship Baptist Church Whiteville, NC

For Application Write:

Pastor Selection Committee
PO Box 1365, Whiteville, NC 28472

VACANT POSITIONS

GOOD HOPE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

4209 Smithfield Road, PO Box 441 Knightdale, North Carolina 27545

Telephone: 919-266-0217

JOHN L. THATCH, PASTOR

POSITION: MINISTER OF MUSIC

Principal Functions: Supervised by the pastor, the minister of music will be responsible for the development and promotion of the music program of the Church.

Primary Responsibilities: The minister of music will be responsible for the following:

1. Plan, organize, conduct and evaluate the comprehensive music program for the Church, including choirs, vocal and /or instrumental ensembles.
2. Prepare choirs for each Sunday morning's worship services.
3. Teach and direct sacred music (hymns, anthems, spirituals and gospel music).
4. Work with all choirs in selecting appropriate music for Sunday mornings' services and other worship services as his/her services are needed.
5. Work in cooperation with the pastor, other musicians and other choir members to set and implement guidelines for choir members' rights, responsibilities and ethical conduct while representing the Church in the glorification of God.
6. Work with the pastor, other musicians and choir members in scheduling and observing schedules for choir rehearsals.
7. Supervise the maintenance of the Church's musical instruments, hymnals, sheet music, music library and training materials, etc.
8. Work with the pastor to plan all services of worship (including funerals, weddings, revivals, special projects, etc.) and will accompany the pastor and Church when they are called upon to provide services for worship services at other churches.
9. Keep abreast of music methods, materials, promotion and administration, and cooperate with the Church process to enlist and train leaders for the Church music ministry.
10. Prepare an estimated annual budget and administer the approved budget.
11. Perform other duties as assigned by the pastor.

Qualifications:

1. Must be a Christian
2. Must possess people skills
3. Must be formally trained as a musician, conductor and choir director
4. Must be loyal and committed to the service and glory of God

Salary: Commensurate with training and experience

Interested persons may send resumes/portfolios to:

John L. Thatch, Pastor

Good Hope Missionary Baptist Church, PO Box 441, Knightdale, NC 27545

MINISTER OF MUSIC WANTED

Wake Forest Congregation seeks Minister of Music. Duties to include working directly with the Pastor in order to assist and cooperate with him in Christian Worship; playing during Sunday morning worship service; rehearsing with various choirs one night per week; and accompanying the Pastor on engagements to other churches. Please forward a cover letter and resume to:

Evans Grove Missionary Baptist Church, 12700 Creedmoor Road, Highway 50
Wake Forest, NC 27587 • (919) 870-8874

PROGRESSIVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

2504 Creech Road, Raleigh, NC 27610

Rev. William H. Brock Sr., Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Leo Williams Jr., Assistant Pastor

Rev. James Richardson, Minister of Youth

Growing young Missionary Baptist Church in southeast Raleigh, Seeking a Christian Church Musician who can play piano/organ. Specifically organ. Must be able to read music as well as play by ear. Should be able to play hymns, anthems, spirituals, gospel.

Call church office to arrange interview (919) 828-8373.

POSITION AVAILABLE: DIRECTOR OF CHURCH MUSIC

First African Baptist Church is a congregation of over 350 members with a Music Ministry that consist of four choirs, Sunshine Choir, Male Chorus, Unity and Praise Choir, Chancel Choir. Music in this ministry consists of gospel (traditional and contemporary) praise and worship, hymns, spirituals and anthems.

Applications and further information may be obtained by contacting, Mrs. Verna Best, or Rev. Jerry Dortch at 919-734-4935.

UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

110 Lincoln Ave., Lexington, NC 27292

Needed: Minister of Music or Organist.

Please send resume to:

Union Baptist Church, 110 Lincoln Ave, Lexington, NC 27292. Attn: Rev. Darrell L. Thomas.
Or call 336-243-1648 and leave your name and number.

CHURCH MUSICIAN

First Missionary Baptist Church of Clinton is seeking a person to serve as musician. The responsibilities include playing for the Adult Choir on the First Sunday, and accompanying the other choirs on the remaining Sundays.

Qualifications:

Should be able to play the piano and the organ, and be able to work well with diverse groups of singers.

Experience in sacred music is a must as well as the ability to read music and play by ear.

The musician is also expected to accompany the pastor and choirs to outside functions when necessary.

Interested persons may send resume to: First Baptist Church, 900 College St., Clinton, N.C. 28328.

MUSICIAN WANTED

Metropolitan Baptist Church

Rocky Mount, NC

Progressive church music department looking for Director of Music to provide leadership for growth spiritually and musically. Must have experience in church music (anthems, hymns, spirituals, etc.) or equivalent. Able to lead music and direct/accompany. Available on 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays. On call as needed.

To apply call:

Metropolitan Baptist Church

Rocky Mount, NC

252-442-4623

ZION BAPTIST CHURCH SEEKS PASTOR

On April 20, 2000, Rev. Curtis E. Bender, pastor of Zion Baptist Church in Omaha, Nebraska, tendered his resignation. He has blessed Zion and the Omaha community with his leadership for more than 20 years. Although we will miss our Pastor, we humbly submit to the Will of God. Consequently, the recently formed Zion Baptist Church Pulpit Search Committee would like to solicit your help in this search. Please notify the members of your District/Convention that the Zion Baptist Church pulpit is vacant and that we have begun accepting applications for Pastor. Among other things, we require applicants who:

- Are Called by God. (1 Timothy 3:1-7)
- Are Graduates of an accredited and respected seminary.
- Have had a minimum of 10 years as pastor of a large Black Baptist Church. (500 or more members).
- Are members in good standing and with a track record of membership in the National Baptist Convention U.S.A., Inc.
- Have proven leadership and training skills.

Interested candidates are asked to request in writing applications from:

Zion Baptist Church

Pulpit Search Committee

2215 Grant Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68110

Please pray for our effort and thank you for your help in this notification.

Yours in Christ,

Dea. Jesse Sharpe, Committee Chairman, Sis. Jacqueline C. Hart, Church Clerk

MINISTER OF MUSIC • ST. MATTHEW BAPTIST CHURCH

P.O. BOX 1710, OXFORD, NC 27565

1. Must be a Christian to serve as minister of music each Sunday.
 2. Will prepare choirs for Sunday morning worship services and special services.
 3. Will teach and direct hymns, spiritual selections and other sacred music.
 4. Will implement and/or carrying out guidelines pertaining to choir members' conduct.
 5. Will rehearse choirs at a scheduled time unless otherwise notified.
 6. Will be available to accompany the Pastor and choir to church functions requested.
- Please send resume to the above address: Attention Pastor. Inquiries may be made by calling (252) 492-9046 or (919) 603-0620.

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www.ebonyinvestor.com

VACANT POSITIONS

FIRST BAPTIST CHARITY CHURCH

Greenevers, N.C.

The First Baptist Charity Church of Greenevers, N.C. is accepting resumes from interested Missionary Baptist Ministers for the position of pastor.

Qualifications:

1. Divinely called spirit-filled, born-again Christian with strong Family values.
2. Pastoral experiences is required.
3. Must work closely with the officers of the church.
4. Must have at least 2 years of college or seminary training.
5. Must be able to preach and teach.
6. Must have good leadership and communication skills.
7. Family oriented.
8. Have knowledge of and willing to follow Baptist doctrines, policies and procedures.
9. Must be willing to visit and commune with the sick and shut-ins.
10. Must be willing to work with all age groups.

Services are first, second, third and fourth Sundays with Sunday school beginning at 10:00 a.m. and morning service beginning at 11:00 a.m.

Please send resumes to:

Deacon Fernald Rawls, Jr.
920 Pasture Branch Road, Rose Hill, NC 28458

MT. OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

PO Box 98, Kings Mountain, NC 28086

Mt. Olive Baptist Church is currently seeking a Pastor and is accepting resumes from interested licenses, ordained Baptist ministers. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

1. Spiritual maturity
2. A minimum of three years experience as a pastor, but will consider years of experience as associate pastor.
3. Administrative and leadership skills.
4. Community oriented.
5. Must be able to work with all age groups with specific emphasis on youth department.
6. Strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures.
7. Good oral and written communication skills and ability to communicate with all age groups.

Responsibilities include:
Planning, organizing and implementing programs that encourage participation from youth and young adults and promote church growth and progression.

Please send resumes to:

Mt. Olive Baptist Church
P.O. Box 98
Kings Mountain, NC 28086
% The Pulpit Committee

UNION GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH

Warrenton, North Carolina

The Union Grove Baptist is currently seeking and accepting resumes from interested licensed, ordained Baptist ministers. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

1. Spiritual maturity
2. A minimum of three years experience as a pastor, but will consider years of experience as associate pastor
3. Administrative and leadership skills
4. Must be able to work with various age groups with specific emphasis on youth development.
5. Strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures.
7. Good oral and written communication skills and ability to communicate with all age groups.
8. Have excellent teaching ability.

Other responsibilities include:

Planning, organizing and implementing programs that encourage participation of youth and young adults that promote church growth and progress.

Please send resumes to:

Brother Alonza Jones, Board Chairman
Route 2, Box 128, Norlina, N.C. 27563
% The Pulpit Committee

MINISTER OF MUSIC VACANCY SPRING GREEN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH PO Box 924

Warrenton, NC 27589

Rev. Dennis G. Lindsay, Pastor

The Spring Green Missionary Baptist Church seeks a Minister of Music to provide musical direction and accompaniment for 4 choirs in the church. This person will work closely with the Pastor to provide spiritual leadership in the ministry of Jesus Christ through music, i.e. hymns, spiritual songs, and praise and worship music that glorifies God.

We are accepting resumes from candidates with the following qualifications:

1. Born-again Christian, Spirit-filled, and divinely gifted in music ministry.
2. Willingness to spiritually align the music ministry with Pastoral vision.
3. Able to play the piano, keyboard and/or organ; able to read music and versatile.
4. Able to prepare choirs for Sunday morning worship services and other services.
5. Able to teach, as well as direct choirs, with humility and love.
6. Able to rehearse with all choirs on schedule, and available for all Sunday services
7. Able to accompany Pastor and choirs to other services as required (or ensure qualified substitute is available).
8. Able to select appropriate hymns and songs for worship service.

Please submit resumes to the address above. Any inquiries, please contact Pastor Lindsay at (919) 361-3003.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

POSITION:

Interim Pastor to provide pastoral leadership and duties to a congregation of 400 active members located in the North Philadelphia area of the city.

ORGANIZATION:

Miller Memorial Baptist Church
1518 North 22nd Street
Philadelphia, PA 19121

DESCRIPTION

The Miller Memorial Baptist Church is currently seeking an individual to perform in the capacity of **INTERIM PASTOR**. This position is not intended or expected to lead to the role of permanent pastor. This role requires you to focus on the pastoral task in the congregation during the interim period to help free the leaders of the congregation to focus on seeking a new pastor. You will provide leadership and stability in a positive manner during this transitional period of our church. The ability to settle issues and migrate the congregation from the former pastor to the new pastor, is critical. You will be working closely with the chairpersons of the Deacon Board and Trustee Board when addressing issues that effect the congregation at large. While the duration of this position is unknown as this time, you must be available for any period from two months to two years if needed.

Major Duties and Responsibilities:

- Plan and lead worship that is sensitive to the needs of the congregation
- Attend to the spiritual development of the congregation
- Provide administrative leadership to the congregation, secretarial, and pulpit staff
- Counsel members having personal, family and/or work related problems
- Support and/or lead religious programs for children, youth and adults
- Develop and instruct weekly bible study classes
- Actively and visibly support the church's financial program
- Directly involve the congregation in the planning and leadership of existing church programs and ministries
- Meet regularly with the chairpersons of the Deacon, Deaconess and Trustee Boards for planning and direction
- Work closely with the Superintendent of the Sunday School
- Visit the sick, shut in and bereaved in the hospital and at home
- Preside at funerals and weddings
- Support the world mission of the church
- Participate in local community activities, issues and problems
- Present social issues before members

QUALIFICATIONS - EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

- Bachelors Degree in Divinity, Masters of Divinity Degree preferable
- Ordained for a minimum of five years
- Five years experience as a pastor or assistant pastor of a Baptist Church
- Experience in working as an interim pastor is a plus.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

For immediate consideration, please send a cover letter and your resume to the following address:

Miller Memorial Baptist Church
Attention: Deacon David Pridgen
1518 North 22nd Street
Philadelphia, PA 19121

POSITION DESCRIPTION

North Carolina Council of Churches COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATE

Job responsibilities

Develop and implement a communications plan including at least the following:

- Print media
 - Write, edit, and produce Church Council Bulletin
 - Write, edit, and produce regular information piece for "Interested Persons"
 - Produce quarterly one-page information piece for distribution by judicatories
 - Prepare and distribute press releases to secular and religious press
 - Coordinate production of other printed resources
- Electronic communications
 - Design and maintain web site
 - Develop electronic versions of CCB and Raleigh Report, including e-mail summaries
- Propose other uses of electronic communications technology

Develop and staff the Communications Committee

Qualifications

Compatible with Council's mission of ecumenism and social justice
Member of a faith community affiliated with the NC Council of Churches (preferred)

Four-year communications degree (preferred)
Two years work experience (preferred)
Excellent computer skills in MS Office, especially Word, Publisher and FrontPage

Other

Responsible to Executive Director
Attend meetings of House of Delegates and Executive Board
Salary and benefits package: \$17,000-\$19,000 for half-time employment.
Telecommuting from within the Triangle is preferred, with semimonthly in-office staff meetings.

The North Carolina Council of Churches does not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, ethnicity, or sexual orientation.

To apply, send a resume and writing sample to George Reed, 1307 Glenwood Avenue, Suite 162, Raleigh, NC 27605.
Or e-mail to nccocf@nccouncilofchurches.org.

Pray for great blessings for this year!

VACANT POSITIONS

ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

Philadelphia, Pa.

The Pastoral Search Committee of Zion Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of pastor.

Zion Baptist Church is a historically African-American congregation located in the northern section of Philadelphia, Pa. There are approximately 1,000 active members in the congregation, of which the majority reside within five miles of the church building located at 3600 North Broad Street. Other members live in the adjoining suburbs of Pennsylvania and New Jersey. Membership is diverse, representing all economic and educational levels. The church is not only active in the surrounding neighborhoods; but also has a national and international reputation due to the ministry of its Pastor Emeritus, the Rev. Leon H. Sullivan.

The Pastor, guided by the Holy Spirit, would be expected to envision the spiritual and temporal agenda of the church. The pastor's duties would include, but would not be limited to: a comprehensive ministry promoting Christian education, missions, pastoral care and visitation, evangelism, active community involvement and interfaith cooperation.

Pastoral applicants should be ordained Baptist ministers possessing at least bachelor and seminary degrees. Previous pastoral experience indicating outstanding preaching talent and the ability to effectively pastor a large congregation is also required.

Pastoral applicants should submit their resumes to:

Zion Baptist Church, Pastoral Search Committee, PO Box 12218, Philadelphia, Pa. 19144
Resumes should be postmarked by April 30, 2001.

SAVANNAH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

6675 Tabor Church Road, Fayetteville, NC 28301

The pastor's search committee of Savannah Missionary Baptist Church is accepting letters of interest/resumes for the position of Senior Pastor from licensed and ordained Missionary Baptist Ministers. Apply only if you are sincerely interested and meet all the qualifications.

QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Must be born again, filled with the holy spirit and called by God to preach the word.
2. Must be family oriented and possess a strong, Godly character.
3. Prefer college degree but will strongly consider a combination of education, training and experience.
4. Possess a strong knowledge of the Missionary Baptist doctrine, church policies and practices.
5. Be an effective leader, communicator, administrator and counselor with good interpersonal skills.
6. Must have skills required to work with all age groups with emphasis on spiritual growth and development.
7. Must have skills required for planning and implementing a vision for both spiritual and physical growth of the church.
8. Must work effectively with boards, auxiliaries and committees.

Interested persons meeting all of the above qualifications should submit the following information:

Letter of interest or resume

Copy of license and ordination certificate

Proof of educational degree, and additional theological studies transcript

The names, addresses, telephone numbers, email addresses of at least five references of which only two can be ministers.

The committee will provide each candidate with an information packet.

All correspondence must be addressed as follows:

Savannah Missionary Baptist Church

ATTN: Sister Ernestine Tucker, 6675 Tabor Church Road, Fayetteville, N.C.

THE UNITED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

of Oxford, N.C., is seeking a pastor with the following qualifications:

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Interested in building a church

Radius of 60 miles of church

Please send resumes to: ATTN: Deacon Rebecca Fuller, PO Box 2142, Oxford, NC 27565.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Deacon Leon BeCoats, Chairman, Pulpit Committee

PO Box 1087, Fairmont, NC 28340

POSITION: Baptist Minister (Pastor)

SALARY: Negotiable (Commensurate with education and experience)

QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Must be a spiritually ordained Missionary Baptist Minister
 - a. A Christian Pastor divinely called.
 - b. Must be a good role model of moral and ethical conduct.
2. Education
 - a. Graduate of University and or Divinity School.
 - b. Must have an excellent command of the English language and must be able to communicate well with all age groups.
3. Must have five years experience in the Baptist church.
4. Must be willing to follow the Baptist doctrines, policies and practices.
5. Must possess leadership skills in promoting and directing Christian education and traditional church programs.
6. Must be willing to serve with the General Baptist State Convention and the Lumber River Baptist Association, Inc.
7. Must live and serve in a small multiracial community.
8. Must have a philosophy of growth for the church and a vision for such.
9. Must be family oriented.

Oakey Grove Missionary Baptist Church of Clayton

is searching for a pastor. Congregational size is about 100 members with attendance of 50-65 depending upon the season. Worship service is held twice monthly. We are a small rural church located about 5 miles east of Clayton and about 6 miles west of Smithfield on Hwy. 70 business. Our congregation represents all ages and all backgrounds.

Our pastor must be knowledgeable and believe in the Baptist Doctrine. Must be a strong spiritual leader, administrator and teacher. One who will proclaim the Good News in a meaningful way that will help members learn to apply Biblical concepts to their everyday lives.

We are an autonomous Missionary Baptist Church that is affiliated with the Johnston District Missionary Baptist Association and its auxiliaries and the General Baptist State Convention and its auxiliaries.

Please include in your resume the following:

1. Name/Address/Day and Evening Phone Numbers
2. Age
3. Marital Status
4. Education/Schools Attended
5. Pastoral Experience (Where, When, Number of Years)
6. References

Qualifications:

1. Ordained Missionary Baptist Minister
2. Possess Leadership, Administrative, and Counseling Skills
3. Willingness to follow Baptist Doctrines, Polices and Procedures
4. Able to lead and communicate with all age groups
5. Family oriented
6. Must possess good moral and ethical conduct

Interested persons should send resumes to:

Oakey Grove Baptist Church, Pulpit Search Committee

Deacon Loomis Hodges, Chairperson, PO Box 2435, Smithfield, NC 27577

FULL TIME DIRECTOR/RESS OF CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

Greater Mount Sinai Baptist Church

Dr. George Cook Jr.

Qualifications

≠ Masters of Divinity or Masters of Religious Education or an equivalent degree/experience.

≠ Possess skills in coordinating and working with various age groups.

≠ Having had experience in this area would be a plus.

≠ Demonstrate exceptional skills in interpersonal relationships, team building, team playing and delegation.

Appointment

≠ The Director/ress of Ministries shall be appointed by the Pastor upon recommendation by the Personnel Committee with final approval by the church.

Responsible To

≠ The Pastor

Status

≠ Full-Time (Forty-hour minimum schedule. Determined jointly between Director/ress and Pastor.)

Responsible For

≠ Supervising and coordinating all activities pertaining to ministries.

Salary

≠ Commensurate with qualifications, experience, achievement and commitment

≠ Salary range \$30,000 - \$35,000

≠ Fringe benefits will be offered.

Responsibilities

1. To have general oversight of outreach ministries.
2. To provide training for ministries on a scheduled basis to include, but not limited to, such areas as: partnering with God in prayer, planning, communication skills, servant leadership, volunteer enlistment and recruiting.
3. Make available specific ministry aids to assist in gaining greater knowledge regarding the specific ministry.
4. Establish accountability structures for each ministry.
5. Establish a "Ministry Standard" which outlines measurable checkpoints.
6. Maintain a church-wide Calendar of Events to include all ministry events and church-wide activities.
7. Provide a vehicle for communicating various ministries of church to the membership and visitors.
8. To work with auxiliaries and groups to resolve any procedural and scheduling conflicts they may run into.
9. To provide monthly reports, in writing, to the Pastor that reflects implementation progress as well as upcoming plans.
10. Establish and maintain a time line to monitor the productivity of each auxiliary.
11. To perform other duties as assigned by the Pastor.

To Apply

Qualified persons should submit the following items:

≠ A Cover letter stating your interest

≠ A resume or vitae

≠ Three letters of recommendation

≠ These materials will not be returned

Deadline

All materials should be postmarked no later than Saturday, November 17, 2001.

Candidates will be notified by Tuesday, January 15, 2002 concerning the status of the application.

Mail all items to:

GMSBC Personnel Committee

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Update of The National Baptist Congress of Christian Education, Charlotte, North Carolina, June 18-22, 2001

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Events/Meeting Sites: Charlotte Convention Center

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Host Church:

FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

3301 Beatties Ford Road, Charlotte NC 28216

Dr. Clifford A. Jones, Senior Minister/Host Pastor

Mr. Tony McNeill, Pre-Congress Musical Director

WHEN: Monday, June 18, 2001

TIME: 6:00 pm — Official Welcome • 6:45 — Concert

WHERE: Charlotte Convention Center • TICKETS: \$10.00 per person

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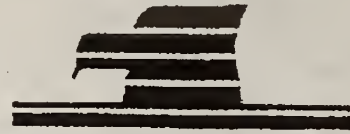
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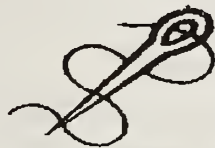
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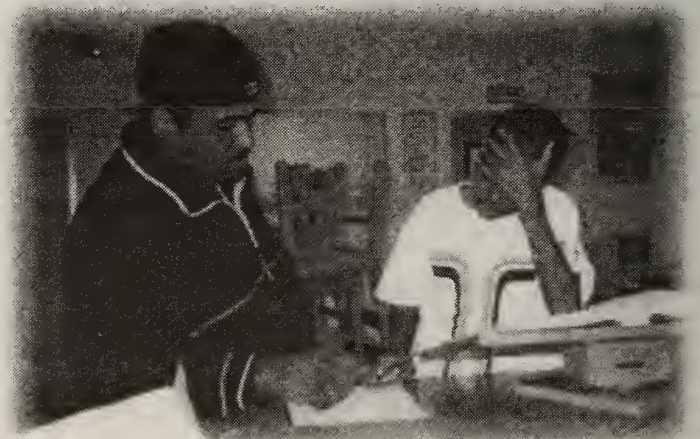
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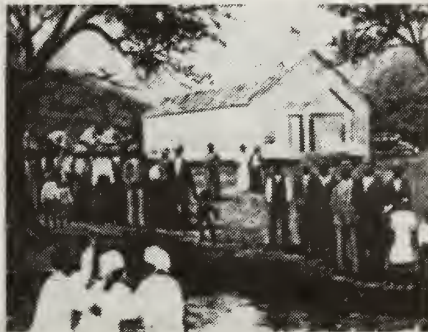


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The Bible teaches that no matter how insignificant by worldly standards, even the giving of a cup of cold water will not go unrewarded. What a deal! The Lord who takes not of the sparrow's fall also takes not of all the little things believers do for the Lord.

Are there some corrections you need to make in your financial life in order to have a "journey to financial freedom?" The longer you wait to make those changes, the greater your loss. So, don't put them off; get started today on a "journey to financial freedom," which includes making life's only lasting investment.

Purchasing your "Journey to Financial Freedom" workbook from Rev. Tyrone Martin. Workshop information available by calling: 919-266-4709.

Call Today to Start Your Journey!

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

GBSC AUXILIARIES

TO HOLD ANNUAL SESSION

JULY 15 - 21, 2001

(BEGIN MAKING YOUR PLANS TO JOIN US)

By Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer

The Laymen's League; Congress of Christian Education and the Usher's Convention of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina will celebrate their Annual Sessions, July 15 - 21, 2001, at the Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church, 652 Raleigh Road, Rocky Mount, North Carolina, 27803, Dr. Thomas L. Walker, Pastor.

We are attempting to co-ordinate our Convention Sessions more effectively and efficiently. This year will have our Auxiliary Annual Sessions in the same city, at the same church, during the same week. The Laymen's League will meet July 16 - 17, 2001; the Congress of Christian Education will meet, July 18 - 19 and the Usher's will meet July 20 - 21, 2001.

For the past few years we have been gathering feedback from you on how to improve our sessions. Many pastors and church leaders have suggested that we bring together our work and meet at a central location and during the same week. This eliminates having to meet at three separate city/church locations during three different weeks. PLEASE WORK WITH US AS WE TRY THIS NEW FORMAT. YOU WILL RECEIVE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE SESSION IN THE MAIL! PRAY FOR THE SUCCESS OF THESE AUXILIARY SESSIONS. CALL FOR MORE INFORMATION: 800-639-GBSC

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Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc.
Voice of 500,000 North Carolina Baptists

June 2001

Join the GBSC Family & Friends at the UPCOMING 2001 SESSIONS

GBSC YOUTH ORATORICAL CONFERENCE

JUNE 27-30, 2001

HOTEL: HOLIDAY INN
A&T UNIVERSITY, GREENSBORO, NC

LAYMEN'S ANNUAL SESSION

EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH, 652 Raleigh Road, ROCKY MOUNT, N.C.

JULY 16-17, 2001 • SEE PAGES 5, 22

CONGRESS OF CHRISTIAN

EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH, 652 Raleigh Road, ROCKY MOUNT, N.C.

JULY 17-19, 2001 • SEE PAGE 22

USHER'S CONVENTION

EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH, 652 Raleigh Rd., ROCKY MOUNT, N.C.

JULY 20-21, 2001 • SEE PAGE 22

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Mount Olive Pickle Company, Inc. Donates Change For Change Jars

By Archie D. Logan, Jr., Executive
Secretary-Treasurer

The Mount Olive Pickle Company, Inc., located at the Corner of Cucum-ber & Vine in Mount Olive, North Carolina, has donated 1,000 "Change for CHANGE" Jars to be distributed to General Baptist State Convention Associations and Churches. The pickle company was originally founded for the purpose of obtaining cucumbers to be sold to other pickling firms. On May 13, 2001, Dr. Thurman B. Everett, Mr. Alexander Killens and I traveled to Mount Olive, North Carolina to receive our first corporate gift for the Millennium Stewardship Campaign. We met Mr. William H. Bryan, President of Mount Olive Pickle Company. The company donated and transported the containers to our mail station in Raleigh, NC.

From a modest beginning in 1926, with only a 3,600 square foot building and \$15,875 in capital, the Company has grown to become the largest independent pickle company in the United States. Its products can be found from Florida to New Hampshire, and as far west as Texas and Oklahoma. It is the number one brand in the southeast, where its share of pickle sales in some markets approaches 70%. Mount Olive's 30-state distribution makes it the second-ranking brand of shelf stable pickles in the nation.

The company's facilities in Mount Olive, North Carolina are located on nearly 90 acres of land, which include over 830,000 square feet of production, office, and warehouse space. The com-

(THE MILLENNIUM STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN
RECEIVES FIRST MAJOR GIFT)



pany has over 1,000 fiberglass and plastic brine vats with storage capacity in excess of 40 million pounds of cucumbers. Each year, Mount Olive packs and sells more than 80 million jars of processed and fresh packed pickles, relishes and peppers.

Mount Olive began to "fresh pack" pickles in the late 1930's. In this process, cucumbers are packed immediately after picking, resulting in very crisp pickles. Demand for fresh pack pickles has grown appreciably, requiring an extension of Mount Olive's packing season.

Each year, Mount Olive uses 100 million pounds of cucumbers and peppers. About 35 million pounds of cucumbers are received from independent growers in North Carolina. For many years, the Spring Crop, which is received between early June and mid-July, was the only cucumber crop of the year. However, as a result of improved variety breeding for disease resistance, a second North Carolina crop is now possible, and cucumbers are also received from early September to mid-October. North Carolina is second in the nation in the agricultural produc-

tion of pickling cucumbers. At other times during the year, the company purchases fresh cucumbers from Florida, Texas, Georgia, Alabama, Missouri, Virginia, Maryland, Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin, Mexico and Honduras. Brined cucumber and pepper products are also purchased from India, Sri Lanka and Greece.

The company has developed close ties with research universities like N.C. State University in everything from horticulture to food science to engineering. These relationships have helped the company remain at the forefront of the industry with cucumber and pickle production developments, as well as waste management methods. As one example; Mount Olive Pickle Company was the first food processor in the nation to use high fructose corn sweeteners instead of sugar. The company also continues as one of the industry leaders involved in research directed at improving brining methods while further reducing the quantity of salt used in the process.

The Mount Olive Pickle plant has approximately 500 employees on a full-time basis and over 800 employees during the busiest part of the intake season. The company's management is particularly proud of its Employee Profit Sharing and Savings Plan, established in 1943 and one of the first in the country. The pickle company maintains its own direct sales force, which manages a network of food brokers to sell its products throughout its market area. The GBSC, Inc. thanks Mount Olive for its contribution to our Millennium Campaign.



From The Desk of the Executive Secretary-Treasurer Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Ed.D.

Ministers/Deacons/Deaconess Trustees & Health Leaders Conference

August 16-17, 2001 and September 27-28, 2001

By John D. Fuller, Sr., President
James Richardson, Baptist State
Convention of NC, Consultant
Archie D. Logan, Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer

THEME: A FRESH LOOK AT THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH

May the peace of God shine down on each of you. President John D. Fuller, Sr., Reverend James Richardson and I are pleased to announce the Second Annual Baptist State Convention and General Baptist State Convention Minis-

ters, Deacons, Trustees, Deaconess & Health Leaders Conference, August 16-17, 2001, to be held at the Indian Woods Missionary Baptist Church, Windsor, North Carolina, the Reverend Ralph D. White, Pastor. Also the Conference will be held September 27-28, 2001, at the Emmanuel Baptist Church, 913 North Highland Street, Gastonia, North Carolina, Moderator S. H. Barber, Jr., Pastor. The Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Congregational Services, Reverend James, Richardson, Consultant and the GBSC, INC are sponsoring the Conference. The Conference is in response to requests by church leaders for an ongoing dialogue about Church Ministry. We are requesting that Pastors along with their deacons, deaconess, trustees and health care leaders join us in Bertie County for this important and historic Conference.



Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr.

TENTATIVE PROGRAM August 16-17, 2001

THURSDAY

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Thursday, August 16, 2001 — Registration begins at | 12:00 Noon |
| August 16 — Welcome and Plenary Session I | 3:00-5:00 PM |
| BREAK | |
| August 16 — Workshops & Breakout Groups | 6:30-7:45 PM |
| August 16 — Worship Celebration | 8:00 PM |

FRIDAY

| | |
|--|------------------|
| Friday, August 17, 2001 — Plenary Session II | 10:00 AM-12 Noon |
|--|------------------|

BREAK

| | |
|---|---------------|
| August 17 Workshops & Breakout Groups | 3:00- 5:00 PM |
| August 17 Devotion & Workshop Summaries | 6:30- 7:45 PM |
| Ministers | |
| Health Care | |
| Trustees | |
| Deaconess | |
| Deacons | |
| August 17 Worship Celebration | 8:00 PM |

Closing Challenge:

Dr. James Richardson, Consultant, GBSC
Dr. John D. Fuller, Sr., President, GBSC

TENTATIVE PROGRAM September 27-28, 2001

THURSDAY

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Thursday, September 27, 2001 — Registration begins at | 12:00 Noon |
| September 27 — Welcome and Plenary Session I | 3:00-5:00 PM |
| BREAK | |
| September 27 — Workshops & Breakout Groups | 6:30-7:45 PM |
| September 27 — Worship Celebration | 8:00 PM |

FRIDAY

| | |
|---|------------------|
| Friday, September 28, 2001 — Plenary Session II | 10:00 AM-12 Noon |
|---|------------------|

BREAK

| | |
|--|---------------|
| September 28 — Workshops & Breakout Groups | 3:00- 5:00 PM |
| September 28 — Devotion & Workshop Summaries | 6:30-7:45 PM |
| Ministers | |
| Health Care | |
| Trustees | |
| Deaconess | |
| Deacons | |
| September 28 — Worship Celebration | 8:00 PM |

Closing Challenge:

Dr. James Richardson, Consultant, GBSC
Dr. John D. Fuller, Sr., President, GBSC

Church Representation is \$100.00; Personal Registration is \$10.00. Books for the Conference:

- John H. Walker, A Fresh Look At The New Testament Deacon, \$17.95
- John H. Walker, A Fresh Look At The New Testament Deacon Workbook, \$12.95
- Maurice Riley, The Deaconess Walking in the Newness of Life, \$12.00
- Maurice Riley, The Deaconess Workbook Walking in the Newness of Life, \$10.00
- Maurice Riley, The Deaconess Instructor's Workbook Walking in the Newness of Life, \$35.00
- National Baptist Guide to Church Nursing 2000, \$5.00

Books can be purchased or ordered from the General Baptist Bookstore, 603 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC, 27601-2338, Dr. Jimmie Whitehurst, Executive Manager, 919-821-7466 ** 919-839-2211 ** 800-639-GBSC.

ADDITIONAL BOOKS WILL BE ON-SITE AT THE CONFERENCE FOR TRUSTEES, HEALTH PROFESSIONALS AND MINISTERS

The Baptist Informer

Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
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THEME: "By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness..." (II Corinthians 6:7)

From The Desk of Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President

Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., GBSC, President Receives Appointment From Gov. Mike Easley

By Rev. Dennis Leach BS. M. Div.

In recognition of Dr. John Fuller's outstanding commitment to academic excellence, Gov. Mike Easley has appointed him to the board of trustees of Fayetteville State University. In doing so Gov. Easley praised Dr. Fuller's impeccable character, and long standing record in support of education. The appointment, which will be effective on the first of July 2001, is a four year term. The official oath of office ceremony will take place in September during the board's

annual meeting.

Dr. Fuller is an alumnus, (a Bronco) of Fayetteville State University, and he has set a marvelous example of service for his church and the community. FSU Chancellor Willis B. McLeod was among the many well-wishes extending congratulatory notes and welcoming Dr. Fuller to the board. As a board member, Dr. Fuller will share in the development of the university's major policies that relate to faculty, students and the general

management of the institution. President Fuller also currently serves on the Board of Directors at Morehouse School of Religion in Atlanta, Ga., and the Trustee Board of our historic Shaw University. At this time the General Baptist State Convention and its auxiliaries joins Gov. Easley, Chancellor McLeod, the board of trustees, and the Lewis Chapel Missionary Baptist Church family in congratulating Pastor Fuller on this noteworthy appointment.



Dr. John D. Fuller Sr.

African-American Church History

African-American Church History is a course offered on-line by the Shaw University Divinity School during the spring semester of this year. It was my distinct privilege to teach this course. There were thirty-three enthusiastic students enrolled. Assignments were posted on-line and students completed assignments, posted them and joined in an on-line discussion chain with other students. Each student responded periodically to other students in the discussion chain. Assignments were completed exemplifying evidence that reading and research had taken place. The responses on the discussion chain exemplified critical thinking on the part of the students.

As we focus attention on the Church in the African-American Experience, it would be helpful to give some consideration to the historical development, beliefs, practices and contemporary significance of the Black Church. The history of the church in the black religious community reveals a stable institu-

tion that emerged from slavery and became a center for black culture. As a result, other social institutions emerged — institutions such as schools, banks, insurance companies and others. The church also helped to nurture talent for black music, drama and art. The black church has also helped to provide an arena for political activities.

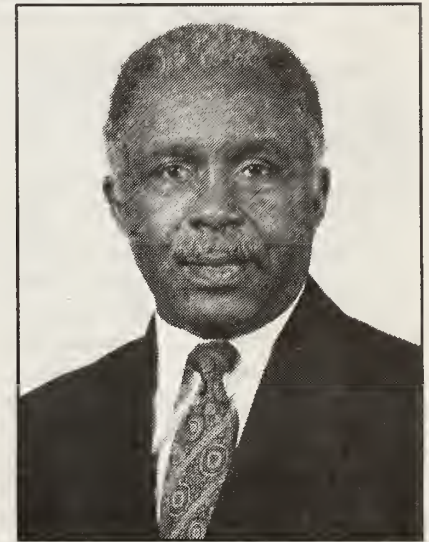
There are a number of books that provide an analysis of African American Church History. However, there are three in particular that I wish to recommend. C. Eric Lincoln and Lawrence H. Mamiya's book, *THE BLACK CHURCH IN THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN EXPERIENCE*, presents an analysis of the Black Church as it relates to the history of African Americans and to contemporary black culture. Gayraud S. Wilmore's book, *BLACK RELIGION AND BLACK RADICALISM*, gives an interpretation of the religious history of African-Americans; and J. Deotis Robert's book, *AFRICENTRIC CHRIS-*

TIANITY, provides a theological assessment of Africentrism and its relationship to Christianity. These texts provide not only the history of the African American Church, but also African-American History in general as well as out culture. I also recommended reading the history of the General Baptist State Convention, a book entitled *A SPLENDID ENTERPRISE* by Claude R. Trotter Sr., John W. Flemming and W.B. Lewis, coordinator.

As I seek the presidency of the General State Baptist Convention and should I be elected to serve the next term, I will seek opportunities to share in dialogue or workshops the history of the African American Church and even encourage registration in the on-line course at Shaw University Divinity School.

I believe the study of African-American History should be an ongoing study, not in the month of February only. In my opinions, we need to know our history and

From the Vice President At Large Dr. Charles T. Bullock



Dr. Charles T. Bullock

study our history so that it can be passed on to future generations.

What's Wrong With The Church, Anyway?

By Rev. Dennis Leach, BS.M. Div.

Just the other day, while at GBSC headquarters I was engaged in a conversation with co-workers. We were discussing the sometimes-chaotic state of affairs permeating some churches. During the course of the conversation, one of them asked me, Rev. Leach, what's wrong with you preachers, anyway? I did not answer her question then, not because I could not venture an opinionated guess, but I thought the question and answer should be given some more thought. I would hear the same question repeated a few days later in Fayetteville.

The fracturing of churches, congregations and ultimately people is an area of concern for church leadership, and of our Convention. Who's to blame when the local congregation falls out of fellowship, or in disarray with one another? Is it the preacher, or is it the people? Whatever the case guilt is a heavy burden for anyone, or any group to bear. I've listened to a preacher or two who points the finger of blame at their congregations, and I've listened to a member or two who points the finger at the preachers. It is my opinion that even when the blame may fall squarely on the shoulders of either the preacher, or the people, the acceptance of blame does not come easy, or can be met with denial. Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., GBSC President raised an interesting observation while sharing with a group of ministers at Lewis Chapel. Dr.

Fuller said he has not figured it out yet, how a church can run smoothly for many years, and then there is a change in leadership and the same church splits, or falls apart. Some of the causes of the turmoil defy explanation in light of the Bible, Baptist doctrine, and the Christian faith. I say this because in light of these three, the attitude and course of action taken by some individuals, or groups in the midst of divisions and turmoil in their local church are not biblical, or Christian in nature.

After having giving the question some thought it is my opinion that the problems we see in the local church are not confined to the pulpit, but it involves also the pew (the whole church). The late Dr. Samuel D. Proctor says that each church has its own personality and nuances. In a general sense personalities are formed, informed and influenced by the larger society in which they take shape.

From where I sit as I view the church I look at it in light of the larger society around it. And, the world around the church for the most part appears to have become an unforgiving place where the strong can prey on the weaknesses, or in-perfection's of others. This is no more apparent then in the political arena where mudslinging, and dirt diving can prevail. Many political public servants motis-operandi is to expose the weaknesses, and failures of their opponents. This stands in stark contrast to the Chris-

tian faith where the strong are encouraged to "bear the infirmities of the weak." And, the church environment where "love can cover a multitude of sin." There are some things that Christians and politicians have an affinity for, but more often than not they differ. Most Christians believe in redemption and reconciliation. That is why as a Christian, I felt good when the former mayor of Washington, DC, Marion Berry not only kicked his drug habit, but was re-elected mayor of that city. As Donny McClurken sings in his song: "he fell down, but he got back up again." There is something rejuvenating about the prospect of redemption, especially for the church, and people of color.

I'm inclined to enter into a long thesis about the strange bedfellows of politics, and religion dating from the conversion of Emperor Constantine. But I do not have the time or space in this article. Suffice it to say that for too long the church has allowed the world around it to define its religious moral parameters, and agenda. In some instances this has made for a "Grace-less" church devoid of God's mercy. This is always the case when the principles that govern the godless are thrust to the forefront of church life. It might work in politics, but it can mean disunity, and chaos for the church. Or, even worse a church out of tune with its God, but in tune with political societal norms. As in politics, redemption, res-

toration, and reconciliation are absent commodities. Those who stand at the helm of these religious ships are prophets for profit, and as political pawns they can without hesitation pronounce clean those mired in political dirt.

If, a survey were conducted and its aim was to define the person, and the work of the pastor, or clergy-person in the church its outcome would be as broad and as vast as the divergent differences, or expressions found throughout Christian-dome. The image and identity of the person called to do ministry in the church varies from place to place, from time to time, and from people to people. Ministry motifs, do not take shape in a vacuum, or sterile laboratory environment. Ministry ideologies, just like those in ministry are formed and developed amidst the influencing, informing human condition found in our local church settings. In-addition social, cultural mores have left an undeniable fingerprint on the identity and work of the pastor/minister and the church itself. Each minister brings the dispositions, experiences, traditions, heritage, and virtues that he or she has had cultivated in them. These "habits of the heart" develop from the communities to which we belong: our family, our church, our schools and our society.

Ministry Formation

At the heart of the issue is ministry formation (Continued on next page)

What's Wrong With The Church Anyway?

tion. Simply put, ministry formation has to do with how we conceptualize, visualize, and actualize the mandates of church ministry. How we visualize the church, and the role of its members is of vital importance to the life of the church. Ministry formation in the mind of those who teach, lead and follow in the church plays a crucial role in its state of affairs, for good or for ill. Whether, it is a pastor who thinks he or she should be a dictator, a board of deacons who think they are to be church bosses, or a board of trustees who act like they own the church, ministry formation is basic. Our understanding of the church has to do with what we have learned in and around the church setting. It is my belief that many of the upheavals, fights, and fallouts experienced in the church have to do with ministry formation. This is deeply rooted in the individual's Christian growth process, which is influenced by internal and external forces. Our growth should take place as a result of God, our personal and group Bible study, the Holy Spirit, and the church environment that helps to shape us. I don't believe you can get around it; ministry formation is crucial to individual, and church growth.

The Womb

The womb where ministry ideologies, and priorities take shape is the church itself. What we will do, and how we will act will be based on what we know. And, what we know has to do with what we have learned in or outside of the church environment.

Training for those engaged in ministry is crucial, whether it's formal or informal. Mentors for those who will, or are involved in ministry can be vital. Early on in my ministry, and even later I was fortunate to have pastors willing to invest in my ministerial development. Under able and willing leadership the church is where I learned how to pray, preach and teach. Some pastor felt it was his responsibility to train and influence me for future service. Some very

fine preachers acted as my "father" and mentor in ministry but not only that, I was a willing student, and did not act like I knew it all already. Early, God provided a seminary-trained chaplain, who made it a part of his responsibilities to provide classes for his associates. The opportunity to watch, and learn from him has had a lasting impression on my ministry ideology. And, latter over the last few years I've had the opportunity to look over the shoulder of a pastoral giant and gain valuable lessons.

Dr. John Fuller Sr., GBSC President said to Conventioneers at a Session this year, "if any of my sons in ministry have learned to steal, they did not learn it from me, if they learn to drink alcohol and take drugs, they did not learn it from me, if they learned to sleep around, they did not learn it from me, if they learn to curse, they did not hear it from me!"

None of us is where we are as a result of our own doing. I would surmise that those preachers who did not receive any nurturing or mentoring from a senior pastor tend to be loose canons in ministry. Often time they are not open to advice, and operate on the premise of a "direct-line" to God. Like a child left to its own devices, it will bring it parent to shame. The investments made by those who God placed us with should have returns. Nutritionist, say you are what you eat. Well, in ministry you do what you know, and believe to be right.

The Growth Process

A basic prerequisite for an ethical ministry is a clear understanding of the minister's calling. How does a person enter vocational Christian service? Does a candidate receive a divine calling from God or simply choose a career? The understanding that one has been "called" to ministry is essential in the Baptist denomination. So the question arises: To what is the minister called, a career or a profession? To an occupation or a special vocation? A call to ministry also is a call to preparation. Preparation in-

volves coming to grips with your calling, preparing to fulfill your calling, and entering into your calling. Jesus after calling the disciples taught them about God, about himself, about people and about ministry. Jesus also equipped the disciples with some intangibles (Matt. 10:1-10). Each person engaged in ministry must also ask, how are we to serve Christ in a congregation? Or to put it another way, Am I serving Christ as I serve the congregation? To build a ministry based upon integrity requires that a minister's sense of calling, and concept of service be biblical, ethical and Christ-like. No one can lead in the Christian cause unless they are first led by Christ. Jesus, not only called the twelve, but he also prepared them for service. H. Richard Niebuhr called the ministry of his generation a "perplexed profession." The situation has not changed much, for contemporary ministers can be equally puzzled. The moral ideal for the minister is integrity, a life of ethical wholeness and moral maturity. How does the person called by God to serve the church achieve integrity of character and conduct? The most naive believe that since the minister is set apart by God, ethics will take care of itself, for God calls only good people. Others believe that those who preach the gospel must surely live by Bible's precepts and principles.

In conclusion, we must be aware that even though God called us, we remain human and products of societal influences. What's wrong with the church, anyway? Well, as humans we process all that we receive from God through human filters, whether that be scripture, or spiritual insight and foresight. What can often happen as a result of the human filtering process, is that we can end up with less and less of God and Jesus, and more of us. We must remember, although the minister's primary loyalty is to God, this devotion must never be an excuse for avoiding pastoral duties. Ministry involves both privilege and responsibility. The minister's calling always must be worked out in the faith community, usually a local congregation. One can-

not serve Christ without serving people, for to serve people is to serve Christ (Matt. 25:31-46). The answer to what's wrong with the church is too complex for me, or anyone else to address alone it is something that the entire church needs to contemplate and seek its own healing and wholeness. The late Doctor Samuel D. Proctor, and Gardner C. Taylor write in their book: *We Have This Ministry*: Samuel D. Proctor

To undertake such a vocation for light and transient reasons, to use it as a quick leap to prominence or as gratification for a boundless and pathological egocentricity is to profane it. Persons who are pursuing answers to life's most imponderable questions, who are sorting out alternate lifestyles and competing paths to fulfillment, who are yearning for fellowship and conciliation with God, who are seeking strength sufficient to follow Jesus deserve to find something better than an impostor masquerading as God's servant. The pastor is called to give purpose, meaning, coherence, direction, and authenticity to the total human sojourn. Those who occupy this position, enjoying the trust and confidence of the people, have the unparalleled privilege of carrying out the most important function permitted by any human being. Gardner C. Taylor:

The one who called to preach the gospel must undertake thorough preparation and education-theological training. The one who lacks such preparation does not have a grasp of such issues as where the gospel comes from, how it grew up, how it grew out, and what effect it has had on people throughout history. It is almost impossible to obtain that through private study alone. The role of the minister involves more than preaching the gospel as a written record; it includes seeking a relationship with the God about whom the Word has dealt and the Christ towards whom it points. In other words, one is not called just to preach the Word, but to preach what the Word seeks to say. Amen.

PARAMOUNT'S KINGS DOMINION GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF N.C. INC. FAMILY DAY! AUGUST 25, 2001

PROGRAM INFORMATION

* Special discount admission tickets only \$22 ages 7 and above
You save \$16.99 off the \$38.99 regular general admission

* Children 3 to 6 save with special discount tickets only \$19.50

* Children 2 and under are admitted free.

* Tickets include unlimited use of all regular rides, shows and attractions except pay-per-experience attractions.

In ministering to youth, a very important aspect in the development of relationships is to share in moments of fellowship and recreation. In our on-going efforts to provide such opportunities for youth in the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc., we have established a relationship with Paramount's Kings Dominion.

This relationship exemplifies itself in the form of "GBSC of N.C., Inc. Family Day" at Paramount's Kings Dominion. On Aug. 25, 2001, in addition to the usual thrills and frills of the Park, the GBSC of N.C., Inc. will also be there.

Why not plan your Vacation Bible School activity, your Sunday school picnic, and your church family recreational event for this day?

"Join us at Paramount's Kings Dominion! We hope to see you there!"

Gather with your friends and family in the Pavilion from 12 noon to 1 p.m. for an all-you-can-eat picnic of roasted chicken, hamburgers, hot dogs, fresh fruit, potato salad, soft drinks, iced tea, frozen yogurt and flavored ices. Meal prices are \$9.50 for ages 7 and above, \$4.75 for ages 3 to 6.

No meal tickets will be sold at the Park on Aug. 25.
Order deadline is Aug. 15, 2001.

Purchasing a meal ticket allows you the opportunity to purchase an admission ticket valid any regular operating day during the 2001 season, after Aug. 25, for just \$19.50. See meal ticket stubs for details.

General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. Ticket Order Form Plan ahead! Order your tickets now!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Church Name _____

_____ Yes, we would like to attend GBSC of N.C., Family Day.

We are ordering _____ tickets x \$22 = \$ _____
(ages 7 and above)

_____ Yes, we would like tickets for children ages 3 to 6.
We are ordering _____ tickets x \$19.50 = \$ _____
(ages 3 to 6)

_____ Yes, please include us in the All-You-Can-Eat Picnic.

We need _____ meal tickets x \$9.50 = \$ _____
(ages 7 and above)

_____ Yes, please include us in the All-You-Can-Eat Picnic.
We need _____ meal tickets x \$4.75 = \$ _____
(ages 3 to 6)

Postage Fee \$5 _____

Total Amount Due \$ _____

(Payment Enclosed) \$ _____

Remember: Ticket order deadline is Aug. 15, 2001.

No refunds or rain checks. Make checks payable to: Paramount's Kings Dominion. Send payment to:

GBSC of N.C., Inc., PO Box 2000, Doswell, Va. 23047-2000

Women's Page Highlights

FEES AND SCHEDULE FOR THE 117TH ANNUAL SESSION OF WBH&FMC Benton Convention Center, Winston-Salem July 23-27, 2001



Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

| Representation Fee | Senior | Young Adult | Youth | Form Color |
|---------------------|--------|-------------|-------|------------|
| Church Circle | \$117 | \$47 | \$47 | Yellow |
| County/City Union | \$117 | \$47 | \$47 | Green |
| Woman's Auxiliary | \$117 | \$47 | \$47 | Pink |
| District Conference | \$117 | \$47 | \$47 | Gray |

Registration Fee (Note: Class registration is not included in individual registration fee.)
Advance: \$10 each (Deadline July 11, 2001); **On-Site Registration: \$11 each**

Year-round Committees/Fellowships
 Funds should be sent to the Woman's Convention office between June 1 and July 11, 2001. Collection stations will also be set up in Section II, South Main Hall, Upper Level, Convention Center

Dinner Banquet 6 p.m. — Monday, North Main Hall, Upper Level, Convention Center
 Advance Tickets: \$30 each (Deadline July 22, 2001); \$31 at the door.
 Available tickets may be purchased on site from the WBSC Finance Office or at the door.

Missions Prayer Breakfast — 6:45 a.m. — Tuesday, Mark Ballroom, Adam's Mark Hotel
 Advance Tickets: \$15 each (Deadline July 11, 2001); \$16 at the door.

Ministers' Wives Luncheon — 12:30 p.m. — Tuesday — Mark Ballroom, Adam's mark
 Advance Tickets: \$15 each (Deadline July 11, 2001); \$16 at the door.
 Available tickets may be purchased on site from the WBSC Finance Office or at the door.

Youth Prayer Pizza Party — 6:30 p.m. Wednesday — Mark Ballroom, Adam's Mark Hotel
 Advance tickets: \$7 each (Deadline July 11, 2001); \$8 at the door.
 Available tickets may be purchased on site from the WBSC Finance Office or at the door.

Missions Classes (Annual Session) — 8 a.m.-8:50 a.m. Tuesday-Thursday, Adam's Mark Hotel

| | Pre-registration | Registration On-Site | Form Color |
|----------------------------|------------------|----------------------|------------|
| Senior Class Part 1 | \$5 each | \$6 each | Blue |
| Senior Class Part 2 | \$5 each | \$6 each | Blue |
| Pastors (Only for Pastors) | \$5 each | \$6 each | White |

(Note: Part 2 is only for persons who participated in all classes during the 1999 Annual Session).

Class Preegistration/Registration is not required for Young Adults or Youth. Class fees do not include textbook. Preregistration deadline is July 11, 2001.

President's Address — Wednesday — Upper Level, Convention Center
 Advance donation: \$2 per copy (Deadline July 11, 2001);
 On-site donation: \$3 per copy.

Youth Projects — Tuesday — Convention Center
 Project forms with funds "should be sent to the Office of the Woman's Convention by July 8, 2001" for participants in the "Shaw," "Have-A-Heart" and "Youth Officers and Supervisors' Match."

Concession Area (Food) — Wednesday — Lower Level, Convention Center
 Open from 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. for breakfast and lunch. This arrangement is provided for the convenience of those who will be traveling long distances and in sessions all day on Wednesday, July 25, 2001.

 Make all checks/money orders payable to: WOMAN'S BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION. In order to avoid standing in long lines, send funds, along with the appropriate form(s), between June 1 and July 11, 2001, to:

Executive Secretary-Treasurer
 Woman's Baptist State Center
 P.O. Box 1818
 Raleigh, NC 27602

For additional information, forms, please contact the Convention's Office: Telephone: (919) 833-4823/Fax: (919) 833-7599 / E-mail: wbhfmcc@wbh-fmc.org

Thanks, God Bless!
 Priscilla A. Brodie
 Executive Secretary-Treasurer

HAPPY 4TH OF JULY! BE SAFE!!

WOMAN'S BAPTIST HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONARY CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, AUXILIARY TO GBSC 2001 CALENDAR

| | |
|---|--|
| JULY
22-26 — Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention | OCTOBER
(Prayer month for SHAW UNIVERSITY AND SHAW DIVINITY SCHOOL)
13 — WBSC Institute Workers' Workshop, Baptist Headquarters |
| AUGUST:
(Prayer month for the Family)
27-31 — Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention, Columbus, Ohio | NOVEMBER
3 — Youth Evangelism Conference, Cumberland County Memorial Auditorium, Fayetteville
5 — World Day of Prayer (BWA — Woman's Department)
22 — Thanksgiving Day |
| SEPTEMBER
4-7 — National Baptist Convention
22 — Family Missions Conference, New Ahoskie Baptist Church, Ahoskie | DECEMBER
25 — Christmas Day |

Join the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention and the Central Children's Home of North Carolina as they fellowship together in the Fourth Bi-Annual Central Children's Home Day Saturday, Aug. 18, 2001 • 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the campus of the Central Children's Home

211 West Antioch Drive, Oxford, NC 27565
 (919) 693-7617 or • (919) 693-1213

"Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord ..." Psalm 127:3
 Testimonials/Choir/Speaker/Food/Campus Tour/Games
 Mr. Michael Alston, Director, Central Children's Home
 Dr. Maggie M. White, President, WBH&FMC
 Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie, Executive Secretary-Treasurer

Group Registration Form

Fourth Bi-Annual Central Children's Home Day • Aug. 18, 2001

Name of Group/Organization _____

Number Attending: Adults _____ + Youth _____ = _____ Total

Time of Arrival: _____

Contact Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Please return Group Registration Form by July 20, 2001 to:
 Woman's Baptist State Convention
 PO Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602

More Women's Highlights

MISSIONS PRAYER BREAKFAST

Sponsored by the Young Adult Department of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention Auxiliary to GBSC
Tuesday, July 24, 2001

Adam's Mark, Winston-Salem • 6:45 a.m.-8:00 a.m.

200 spaces have been reserved (first-come, first-served). The advance donation is \$15 per person and \$16 per person at the door. The donation, along with form, should be sent no later than July 13, 2001, so that the breakfast ticket(s) can be mailed to you before the Convention. Seniors, Young Adults and Youth are invited.

(A feature of interest will be presented).

MISSIONS PRAYER BREAKFAST
Tuesday, July 24, 2001
Young Adult Department, WBH&FMC

Name _____ Date _____

Mailing Address _____

Church _____

Pastor _____

Amount Enclosed _____ Number of Tickets Desired _____

Telephone No. _____

Signed _____

Please mail form and money to:
Woman's Baptist State Convention
PO Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602
(Please return form with funds no later than July 13, 2001.)

MISSIONS PRAYER PIZZA PARTY

Sponsored by The Youth Department of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention Auxiliary to GBSC
Wednesday, July 25, 2001

Place to be Announced, Winston-Salem • 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

200 spaces will be reserved (first-come, first-served). The advance donation is \$7 per person, and \$8 at the door per person. The donation, along with form, should be sent no later than July 13, 2001, so that the ticket(s) can be mailed to you before the Convention. It is not planned that tickets be sold at the Convention. Supervisors and conventional Youth are invited.

(A feature of interest will be presented)

MISSIONS PRAYER PIZZA PARTY
Wednesday, July 25, 2001
Youth Department, WBH&FMC

Name _____ Date _____

Mailing Address _____

Church _____

Amount Enclosed _____ Number of Tickets Desired _____

Telephone No. _____

Signed _____

Please mail form and money to:
Woman's Baptist State Convention
PO Box 1818
Raleigh, NC 27602

(Please return form with funds no later than July 13, 2001)

WBH&FMC MINISTERS' WIVES LUNCHEON TUESDAY, JULY 24, 2001

Place To Be Announced, Winston-Salem

Advance Donation — \$15 per person

At The Door Donation — \$16 per person

(URGENT! Please Preregister by July 13, 2001)

WBH&FMC MINISTERS' WIVES LUNCHEON
Tuesday, July 24, 2001
Preregistration

Name _____ Date _____

Mailing Address _____

Church _____

Pastor _____

Amount Enclosed _____ Telephone# _____

Signed _____

Please mail blank and money to:
Woman's Baptist State Convention
PO Box 1818
Raleigh, NC 27602

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- Commercial Carpet
- Lecterns
- Coat Racks
- Nursery Cribs & Cots
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- Carpet
- Stained Glass
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Happy 4th of July!*

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- *Supplemental Health Coverage
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LAYMEN'S LEAGUE NEWS

Laymen's 51st Annual Convention

By Romas L. Hales

We hope you have completed your plans to attend the State Laymen's 51st Annual Convention on July 16-17, 2001. The Host Church will be Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church, 652 Raleigh Road, Rocky Mount, NC 27803, where Dr. Thomas Walker serves as pastor.

The Convention will start on Monday, July 16, 2001 with registration starting at 8 a.m. The Laymen Executive Committee Meeting will be held at 9 a.m. and the Laymen's Convention will be called to order at 10 a.m. We will have a Bible study and health workshop that we know you will want to attend.

The Laymen's Annual Banquet will be held on Monday at 5 p.m. in the fellowship hall of Ebenezer Baptist Church. The price of the tickets are \$20 each.

On Monday night starting at 7:30 p.m. the youth program will be held. Brother Gregory Gabriel will be presiding. Please plan to attend to support our youths.

There will be a Laymen Fellowship breakfast on Tuesday morning at 7 a.m. The breakfast will be held at the church. President Morgan will give his annual address on Tuesday morning. The 51st Annual Ses-

sion will end at 12 noon following the closing sermon. We are asking the members of the Christian Education and the ushers to come and give us your support. If you can Laymen, please stay the remainder of the week and give the Christian Education and the ushers your support.

Laymen Study Commission Meeting

The General Baptist State Convention Laymen's League held its Quarterly Study Commission Meeting on Saturday, June 9, 2001. The meeting was held at the Olive Branch Missionary Baptist Church, Elizabeth City, NC.

President Jarvis Morgan conducted an Executive Committee Meeting at 9 a.m. and the regular session started at 10 a.m. with first vice president John Gladden presiding. Following the devotion by the host Laymen and the welcome by Deacon John Holley, we had greetings from President Morgan and Deacon Norman Dorsey, Chairman of the Deacons of Olive Branch Baptist Church.

The Christian Education Session was conducted by Romas L. Hales in the absence of Vice President Theodore David. The topic for the session was "Each One Reach One For Jesus Christ." The scrip-

ture used were John 15:1-5 and 8. Galatians 5:22-24 and also John 4:35-36.

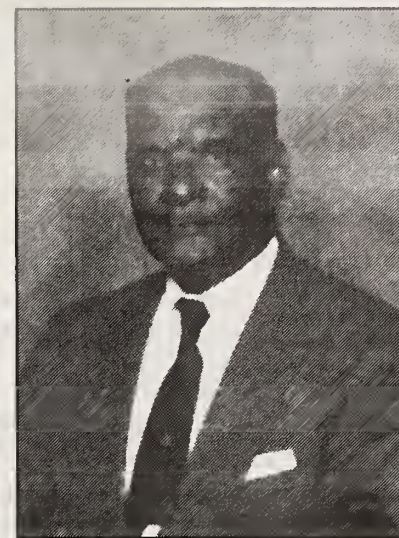
Dr. Clifton Bell of Winston Salem conducted the Study Commission Workshop for Chairman Dallas Foster. Dr. Bell conducted the workshop of youth gangs, signals that are used for communicating, gang behavior, and what to look for to determine if youth are involved in gang activities. It was a very interesting session.

A business session was held following the workshop. We had reports from president Jarvis Morgan, the youth department report by vice president Gregory Gabriel and the Field Worker's report by Romas Hales. Thanks to the Laymen and members of Olive Branch Missionary Baptist Church for hosting the meetings and providing us with a wonderful meal.

Mini Skills Exhibit for Youth

The State Laymen's League sponsored its Annual Mini Skills Exhibit for Youth at the J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill, NC on Saturday, May 19, 2001. The Mini Skills Exhibit was sponsored under the leadership of Michael Kendall.

Those that participated in the Mini Skills were as follows: Alex Kendall - Science Display; Bryan Kendall - Art Display;



Romas Hales
Laymen's League Coordinator

both of Watts Chapel Baptist Church of Raleigh, NC. Mark D. Mixon - Art; Matthew Mixon - Music, Piano, both of St. Jude Missionary Baptist Church of Hope Mills, NC. The Superior Steppers of Second Calvary Baptist Church of Charlotte, NC; Jeremy Melvin - Science and Art Display; James Burt Jr. - Performing Arts, both of Greater First Baptist Church of Cedar Creek, Fayetteville, NC. Sharina D. McCallum - Musical and Dance, Star of Bethlehem Baptist Church, Laurinburg, NC. All the participants were very good. Sharina D. McCallum was voted to overall best performer. Thanks to all the participants.

General Baptist State Convention Laymen's League Banquet July 16, 2001 • 5 p.m. \$20 per person

Brother Theodore David, Presiding

| | |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| Opening Hymn | Laymen's League Hymn |
| Scripture | Rev. Walker |
| Prayer | Rev. Walker |
| Music — Soloist | Rev. Walker |
| Welcome | Rev. Walker |
| Grace | Rev. Walker |
| Music | Rev. Walker |

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Dinner | |
| Introduction of State Officers | Brother |
| Introduction of Speaker | |
| Music | |
| Speaker | |
| Music | |
| Remarks | Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President, GBSC
Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer GBSC
Brother Jarvis Morgan, President, State Laymen's League |

Announcements
Closing Remarks and Benediction Rev.

Tuesday Morning, July 17, 2001

Ebenezer Baptist Church, Rocky Mount, N.C.
First Vice President John Gladden, Presiding

| | |
|------------|---|
| 7 a.m. | Laymen's Fellowship Breakfast, Rev. Lee |
| 8 a.m. | Registration |
| 8 a.m. | Devotion, Rev. Walker |
| 8:30 a.m. | Bible Study, Bernard Bullock |
| 9:30 a.m. | Recognition of Local Laymen's League Presidents and Officers
Presentation of Pastors and Ministers |
| 9:45 a.m. | Committee Reports |
| | Study Commission Brother Dallas Foster |
| | Christian Education Brother Theodore David |
| | Youth Division and Retreat Brother Gregory Gabriel |
| | Laymen Coordinator Brother Romas Hales |
| 10:30 a.m. | Presentation of Laymen's President Brother John Gladden |
| | Music |
| | President's Annual Address President Jarvis Morgan |
| | Music |
| | Stewardship Offering Laymen Finance Committee |

| | |
|------------|--|
| 11:15 a.m. | Presentation of Speaker
Laymen Closing Sermon Rev. Walker, Choir
Music
Remarks/Announcements
Benediction |
|------------|--|

Program

Tuesday Afternoon, July 17, 2001

Dr. Jasper P. Reed, President, Presiding

| | |
|-----------|---|
| 1:30 p.m. | Registration |
| 2 p.m. | Opening Assembly, Devotion, Scripture & Prayer
Rev. Walker and Octavia Ivory |
| 2:15 p.m. | Curriculum Workshop for Association Leaders:
Moderators, Directors of Christian Education,
Directors of Adult Teachers and Directors of Youth Teachers
Dr. William Thurston and Dr. Jasper P. Reed |
| 3:45 p.m. | Break |
| 4 p.m. | Curriculum Workshop Reassemble |
| 5:15 p.m. | Wrap up, Remarks and Dinner |

Tuesday Evening, July 17, 2001

| | |
|--------|---|
| 7 p.m. | Devotional Services, Rev. Walker, Music
Greetings
Dr. Thomas L. Walker, Host Pastor
Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President, GBSC
Dr. Maggie White, President, WBH&FMC
Music
Educational Advocacy Committee Report: Dr. Reed
Music
Offering Sunday School Teachers/
Superintendent BTU Workers
Presentation of The Congress President Rev. Reed
Presidential Remarks
Remarks
Benediction |
|--------|---|

DIRECTIONS TO TRINITY SESSION EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH

652 Raleigh Road, Rocky Mount, N.C. 27803 • 252-446-2378

From Raleigh, NC:

Take Hwy. 64 East to Rocky Mount. Take the Sunset Ave. Exit. Follow Sunset Ave. to Grace Street. Make a right on Grace Street and follow through to Raleigh Road. Take a right on Raleigh Road and go about 1/2 block. Ebenezer Church will be on your right.

From VA/Roanoke Rapids:

Take Hwy. 95 South to Hwy. 64 East. Take Hwy. 64 East to Rocky Mount. Take the Sunset Ave. Exit. Follow Sunset Ave. to Grace Street. Make a right on Grace Street and follow through to Raleigh Road. Take a right on Raleigh Road and go about 1/2 block. Ebenezer Church will be on your right.

From Tarboro, NC:

Take Alternate 64 West. Follow Hwy. 64 West into Rocky Mount. As you follow Hwy. 64 into Rocky Mount it will turn into Raleigh Street, Raleigh Street turns into George Street at the Fire Station (on your left), George Street turns into Raleigh Road at the foot of the Bridge. Go over the Bridge through two lights, then go about 1/2 block and Ebenezer Baptist Church will be on your right.

From Wilson, NC:

Take Hwy. 301 North toward Rocky Mount. Follow Hwy. 301 to Hwy. 97. Take a right on to Hwy. 96. Hwy. 97 will turn into Raleigh Road. Go through two lights. Ebenezer Baptist Church will be on your left.

From Greenville, NC:

Take Hwy. 43 North to Pinetops. Make a right at the 2nd light on hwy. 43 to Rocky Mount. Make a right on Fairview Ave/43. Make a left on Tarboro Street and follow through to George Street at 1st stoplight (beside the Firestation). Make a left onto George Street and George Street turns into Raleigh Road at the foot of the Bridge. Go over the Bridge through two lights, then go about 1/2 block and Ebenezer Baptist Church will be on your right.

REGISTRATION AND REPRESENTATION FORM USHERS CONVENTION

Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President
Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer
JULY 20-21, 2001
EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH
652 RALEIGH ROAD, ROCKY MOUNT, NC
DR. THOMAS WALKER, PASTOR

Church _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Pastor _____

Association _____

Phone # Church () _____ Phone # Pastor () _____

Your Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Your Phone () _____

Email address _____

Website _____

Personal Registration \$10 per person

Number of Messengers _____ @ \$10 ea. Amount \$ _____

Church Representation \$300 for the Year Amount \$ _____

Please Send Your Registration/Representation form to:
Baptist Headquarters, USHERS CONFERENCE
603 S. Wilmington St., Raleigh, NC 27601-2338 • 800-639-GBSC(4272) • 919/821-7466
Hotel: Comfort Inn, 200 Gateway Blvd., Rocky Mount, NC
252-937-7765 • \$57 + tax

Visa _____ Mastercard _____ Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

REGISTRATION AND REPRESENTATION FORM CONGRESS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President
Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer
JULY 17-19, 2001
EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH
652 RALEIGH ROAD, ROCKY MOUNT, NC
DR. THOMAS WALKER, PASTOR

Church _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Pastor _____

Association _____

Phone # Church () _____ Phone # Pastor () _____

Your Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Your Phone () _____

Email address _____

Website _____

Personal Registration \$10 per person

Number of Messengers _____ @ \$10 ea. Amount \$ _____

Church Representation \$300 for the Year Amount \$ _____

Please Send Your Registration/Representation form to:
Baptist Headquarters, CONGRESS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
603 S. Wilmington St., Raleigh, NC 27601-2338 • 800-639-GBSC(4272) • 919/821-7466
Hotel: Comfort Inn, 200 Gateway Blvd., Rocky Mount, NC
252-937-7765 • \$57 + tax

Visa _____ Mastercard _____ Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

REGISTRATION AND REPRESENTATION FORM LAYMEN'S LEAGUE ANNUAL SESSION

Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President
Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer
JULY 16-17, 2001
EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH
652 RALEIGH ROAD, ROCKY MOUNT, NC
DR. THOMAS WALKER, PASTOR

Church _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Pastor _____

Association _____

Phone # Church () _____ Phone # Pastor () _____

Your Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Your Phone () _____

Email address _____

Website _____

Personal Registration \$10 per person

Number of Messengers _____ @ \$10 ea. Amount \$ _____

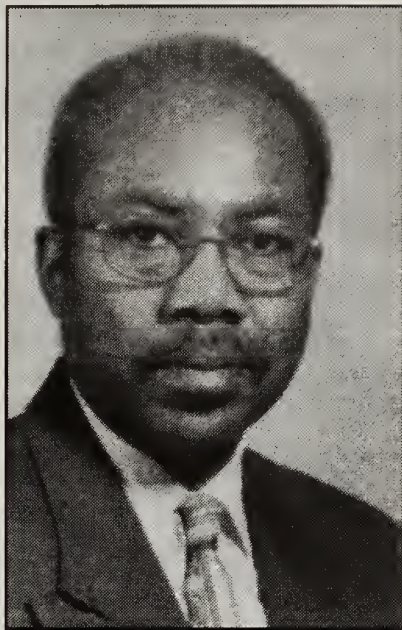
Church Representation \$300 for the Year Amount \$ _____

Please Send Your Registration/Representation form to:
Baptist Headquarters, LAYMEN'S LEAGUE
603 S. Wilmington St., Raleigh, NC 27601-2338 • 800-639-GBSC(4272) • 919/821-7466
Hotel: Comfort Inn, 200 Gateway Blvd., Rocky Mount, NC
252-937-7765 • \$57 + tax •

Visa _____ Mastercard _____ Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

From the Moderator of Moderators' Committee

Officers Running the Church without Input from Members



Rev. James W. Smith, J.D.

do you say? It is my feeling that this position may very well have been the main reason for his dismissal. In *Church Member's Handbook*, by Joe T. Odle, he states, "A Baptist church is simple in its organization. It is a self-governing body whose members have equal rights, privileges and duties. It is probably the purest democracy the world has ever known."

I have a position that may be controversial to many and I have shared it in workshops. Here it is. I believe if the Lord gives me a vision for the church and I share this vision with the church during our business session and the church does not vote to move in direction, I should not get mad and upset with the church. At the very least, I should go back and pray for the Lord to give me directions and guidance and help me to present what He has given me in such a way that the congregation will be agreeable. This seems to be the only way. Short of this, we are embarking upon conflict.

If you wish our services in any way, please contact us at the following:
 Rev. James W. Smith, JD
 5 Bracken Ridge Place
 Hillsborough, NC 27278
 (919) 479-0501
 Email: Jsmith9450@aol.com

Rev. W.J. Cox
 107 Gray Street
 Goldsboro, NC 27534
 (919) 751-9899

Dr. Joshua J. Haire Jr.
 PO Box 53803
 Fayetteville, NC 28305
 (910) 323-1508

From 2nd Vice President Dr. Howard W. Parker Jr.

Lott Carey

Submitted By Dr. Howard Parker

The following report was written by Wendy Ryan, Director of Communications, Baptist World Alliance and was submitted by the Lott Carey Convention.

Christians in the southern part of Sudan, the largest country on the African continent, are persecuted, their children kidnapped and taken by the government-sponsored militias to the North and raped. This in turn spread the HIV-Aids virus further in Sudan. All of this happens because the Muslim Sudanese Government is determined to make all of the country Muslim.

Now adding their voices to others in the international Christian community, the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention, USA, one of seven predominantly African-American Baptist groups that belong to the Baptist World Alliance, will look for ways to heighten awareness of the need for the global Baptist community to pressure the Government of Sudan to stop the civil war between the North and South.

At a meeting at the Lott Carey Headquarters in Washington, D.C., April 26, 2001, Canon Clement Janda, past President of the Sudan Council of Churches and the current head of the All African Conference of Churches, described the desperate situation in his country. "In the 18 year war more than two million Sudanese have died," Janda said.

Dr. David E. Goatley, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Lott Carey Convention, and Dr. John O. Peterson, President of the Baptist World Alliance, hosted the meeting. While the worst aspect of the war between the predominantly Christian south and the Dinka tribe and the mostly Muslim north has been the slave situation, Government backed militias continuously raid and kidnap thousands of children who are routinely raped. He described a recent find of more than 8,000 slaves in the Northeast and there are more who are being indoctrinated in Sudan to hate non-Muslims and everyone else.

The children are given new names and many contract the HIV virus that contributes to its spread through that country. In fact, Janda says that civil wars throughout the continent of Africa are directly responsible for much of the spread of the Aids virus, which is in epidemic proportion on the continent.

Janda said young people all over Africa are trained to fight and then they are given cocaine and other drugs which make them crazy. Consequently, they rape anybody and this helps to spread the Aids virus.

Janda says that the Government of Sudan wants to push the Dinka people from their area and create a new Muslim state. "They want to depopulate the area which has much oil and uranium and buy more arms," he says.

Janda pointed out that, for many years before the destabilization efforts of the Government, Muslims and Christians basically lived in peace both in the South and the North. Now he says that is all changed and Christians in the North are severely persecuted. He reported that in Khartoum, on Good Friday, the police invaded all of the Episcopal parishes with tear gas and arrested people.

"The church in the North is very much under stress," he said. "The Government does not allow the church to build new



Dr. Howard W. Parker Jr.

churches or to repair damaged ones. Church people are restricted in travel and church visitors are vetted while the Muslims are free to work and travel wherever they want." In the South the Christians are free and ironically Muslims who live in the South do not face similar persecution.

Janda said the Muslims do not want co-existence and they are prepared "to wipe out the people." "It is a movement of power," he says. "They say that Christianity, capitalism and Communism have all failed and now it is time for Muslims to rule."

While efforts to redeem Sudanese slaves have received much publicity and many Christians have been involved in this, Janda said more is needed. It is true that children are sometimes united with their families through this process, but the incentive for money causes them to be kidnapped many times over, he says, and increases the desire for the kidnapers to make money.

The New York Times editorial of April 27, 2001, says the financial incentives of slave-redemption encourage the taking of slaves. Moreover, the knowledge that foreigners with deep pockets are willing to pay to redeem slaves, reduces the incentive for owners to set them free without payment.

Janda outlined three proposals the International Christian community can implement to help:

1. Call for the exploitation of oil to stop. The area in the south that the Government is especially interested in is an oil and uranium rich area and profits from their sales buys arms that continue the war.

2. The Sudanese Government must be pressured to declare a "no fly zone" in areas of the south that are constantly being bombarded so that the Sudanese air force is denied entrance to the area. They bomb at any time and so there are no schools or hospitals because they have been destroyed. He wants to see the "no fly zone" and to deny the south Sudanese air force entry to that area.

3. Pressure for the Government of Sudan to accept the implementation of a clause in an agreement between the Government and the Sudanese People Liberation army that will give the Sudanese in the south the right of self-determination. Neither army has been able to defeat the other.

Janda described the Christian community as mostly Roman Catholic, Episcopalian or Anglican, followed by Presbyterians, then the Evangelical synod of the Nile. The next congregation group is Baptist, and the African Inland Church.

(More on next page)

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Lott Carey

Monrovia, Liberia

Submitted by Dr. Howard Parker

A visiting pastor from the North Ed Baptist Church in Rocky Mount, North Carolina, the Rev., Dr. Elbert Lee Jr., has toured several areas in Bomli County for possible assistance to the Liberian people. Dr. Lee said despite the negative views and perceptions about Liberia in the diaspora, he will forge partnership with several organizations to alleviate the current hardship and provide employment.

Speaking at the Providence Baptist Church in Monrovia, where he served as guest preacher, Dr. Lee said he is interested in how Liberians can have food, shelter and medical care at their disposal.

Visiting the Health Ministry, Old Folks Home, several learning institutions and parts of Bomli County, Dr. Lee promised to make a difference in the lives of the suffering masses.

Preaching on the topic: "The Beauty of Heaven, A Condition of Healing." Dr. Lee urged Liberians to carve out a development frame work for the survival of the nation.

Dr. Lee said the destruction of the country was enormous and needs urgent assistance from the international community in rebuilding.

The Baptist prelate said he took interest in Liberia since the Baptist Conference in North Carolina, when Dr. Pearl Younis Grayson of the Providence Baptist Church briefed him about the prevailing economic hardship.

Dr. Lee then promised to visit Liberia to get a glimpse of how the country looks and to find ways of alleviating the suffering of the people.

For her part, Dr. Grayson said as a patriot daughter of Liberia, she will explore all avenues that will bring peace and economic development in the county.

She said Liberia would be great if all peace loving citizens who are privileged to visit the international community attract investors to Liberia.

On February 5, 2001, Dr. Lee and Dr. Grayson, Chairman and President, respectively, of the non-profit enterprise, HOLY, HOLY Incorporated received a letter of support from Mr. Jonathan C. Taylor who is the Minister of State for Presidential Affairs and Chief of Staff of Liberia.

Dr. Lee states that Liberia needs: agriculture, food, healthcare, school supplies, clothing, footwear, bedding, household utensils, Bibles, hymn books, ministry tracts and transportation.

Portia Brandon, M.Div., Christian Education Coordinator

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Notes:

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Make check or money order payable to: Lott Carey 2001 Convention, PO Box 360927, Columbus, Ohio 43236

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A Christian Education Moment

By Dr. Jasper P. Reed, President
Congress of Christian Education

'It gave me great joy...'

and Ms. Marva Pittman in 2001. What really was Paul saying to his protégé and to our youth today? In the first sentence of this verse we are hard pressed as, youth or adult, to control attitudes or prevent personal opinions. Paul in recognizing this is saying that we have the task of changing these. Then he went on to make suggestions as to how we are to counteract these for if we do nothing then they become etched in the minds of believers not to mention non-believers. The message of all of our aspiring youth is clear. If you are sure of your calling to this ministry, Oration, then you should not be intimidated by your youthfulness neither should you allow what others say to deter you in your pursuit. Instead you are to demonstrate your maturity by living such a Godly life that those things Paul suggested will become a pattern for Christians to follow.

We give thanks to God for each aspiring

young person, and each contestant that put their aspirations into action. You are following Paul's advice not to allow anyone to steal your dream or thwart your aspirations. You can demonstrate your readiness to achieve your Christian goals in at least the five ways Paul recommends. Examine them carefully and apply them to your life. Having done these things prayerfully Our Father in Heaven will bless you to achieve the pinnacle of your life's aspirations. "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding," Proverbs 3:5, NIV. These same attributes that speaks to your level of Christian growth and maturity will with, God's help enable you to achieve in school and subsequent life a place of usefulness and honor in the world. **A Christian Education Moment for our YOUTH and Young-at-heart—QUIZ**

Ages of young Kings

1. How old was Uzziah when he reigned in Judah? II Chronicles 26:1
2. Who was chosen as King instead of his



Dr. Jasper P. Reed, President
Congress of Christian Education

father Amaziah? II Kings 14:21-22

3. Josiah was how old when he began to reign? II Chronicles 34:1
4. How old was Manassch when he began to reign? II Kings 21:1
5. Jehoahaz was 25 years old when he reigned in which city? II Chronicles 36:1
6. Zedekiah was how old when he ruled Jerusalem? II Kings 24:8
7. Jehoiakim, the son of Zebabah, was how old when he began ruling Jerusalem? II Kings 23:36
8. How old was Amon when he became King of Jerusalem? II Kings 21:1

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UPDATE: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE



DÉVON, Birthday: February 18, 1986

Introducing Dévon, Kashawn and Nicholas:

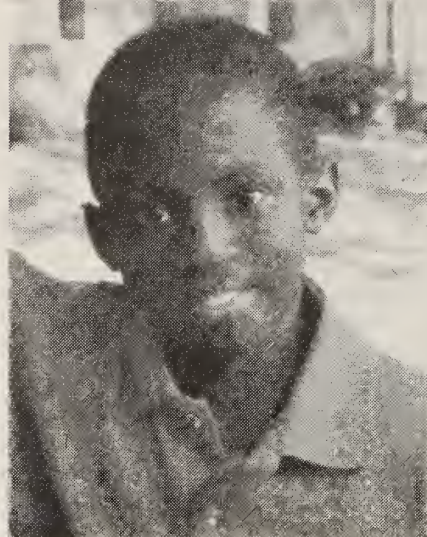
Dévon has a beautiful voice, Kashawn has an excellent memory and Nicholas has the sense of humor.

A Closer Look at Dévon:

"Dévon is the friendliest, most polite teenager I have met," says his caseworker. He is responsible, mature, honest and good at making others feel comfortable and accepted. Dévon enjoys singing, playing video games and going to church.

Dévon seems to excel at whatever he tries to do. In school Dévon is consistently on the honor roll and he is active in student government where he enjoys the role of leadership. Dévon appreciates and takes advantage of any opportunity he is given. Having had to be the caretaker for his younger brothers, Dévon has not had much of a childhood.

Perhaps that is the reason he views foster care and adoption as a benefit, rather



**KASHAWN,
Birthday: November 11, 1991**

than a punishment.

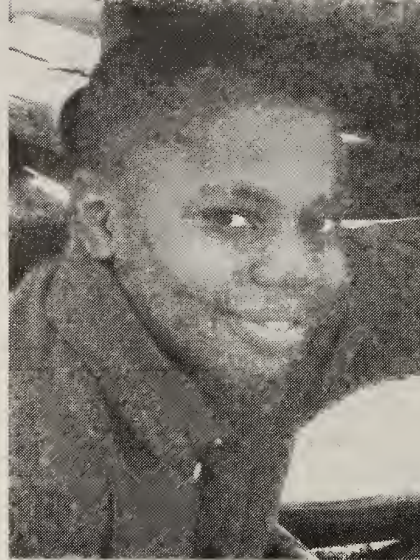
A Closer Look at Kashawn:

Active, outgoing and friendly, Kashawn doesn't understand the word "rest." He loves to be on the go. He loves football, wrestling, Play Station, and playing outside with his friends.

"Kashawn is the academic light of the group home," says his group home social worker. With help from his excellent memory, Kashawn makes straight A's in school. In spite of a difficult background, Kashawn is a happy, well-adjusted kid.

A Closer Look at Nicholas:

Nicholas is engaging, friendly and loves to joke around. His house parent says, "Nicholas' smile lights up a room." He is a sweet, affectionate and intelligent young man. Nicholas enjoys playing video games and basketball or football with his friends. He likes attending church, where he feels



NICHOLAS, Birthday: July 19, 1988

at home.

Nicholas is working on feelings of loss and separation. While he is friendly and outgoing, Nicholas needs to try to always get along with others, always tell the truth and to not taking things that don't belong to him.

A Family for Dévon, Kashawn and Nicholas"

All three of these boys are eager to be adopted and become part of a loving, supportive family. They would love to know the feeling of being wanted, loved and cared for. They have never had a father and would also love to have that experience. These boys are definitely aces in the hole; you can't help but win, hands down. (NC #055-784) (NC #05-815) (NC #055-814)

For more information on these children or adoption in general, please call 1-877-NCKIDS-1 (1-877-625-4371)



**Rev. Anthonette Wright
Director of Church Relations
GBSC Adoption &
Foster Care Ministry**

A note from the Director of Church Relations!

*By Rev. Anthonette Wright
Attention all African-American Singles
and African-American Couples! Bridge
the gap to permanency through Adoption
and Foster Care!*

May was an exciting month for Adoption and Foster Care in North Carolina. Mt. Zion Baptist Church—Greensboro, Inc. and Pastor George W. Brooks hosted the Guilford County Adoption and Foster Care Area Conference on May 5th. A record number of interested singles and couples were recruited to become Adoptive and Foster Care Parents. *Special thanks to Bishop George W. Brooks, Jackee Sturdivant, Adoptee and Helen Alspaugh, Former Supervisor of Adoptions, Shirley Harris and Katrina McMasters, Guilford County DSS, Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr. and the entire staff of the General Baptist State Convention Adoption and Foster Care Ministry.*

The need for more African-American Singles and Couples is still a serious issue in North Carolina. African-American Singles and Couples we need you to Adopt or Foster Care African-American Children in North Carolina. We have targeted 10 Counties that need more interested persons for this cause. These counties include: **Buncombe, Cumberland, Durham, Forsyth, Gaston, Guilford, New Hanover, Mecklenburg, Robeson and Wake.** The number of children coming into care is increasing faster than the number of homes in these counties as well as through out the state. The many children in The Central Children's Home of Oxford are a part of this ministry and it is our hope that these children and the others in the child welfare system will be placed in permanent, loving and nurturing homes.

Upcoming stops for special recruitment include Dr. George B. Jackson and First Baptist Missionary Baptist Church in Thomasville, Gaston County, Forsyth County and Buncombe County.

We need your help! Support this ministry by volunteering to recruit African-American Singles and Couples willing to adopt or foster African-American Children. With your help, we can make a difference in the life of a child. Please contact me for more information on what you can do to help make a difference in a child's life. You may write me; Rev. Anthonette Wright
Director of Church Relations
211 West Martin Street Suite 120
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601 or
E-mail me; Nwrightgbsc@aol.com
or telephone me; 919-754-8800

The Good Part...

**By Rev. Anthonette Wright
Director of Church Relations
GBSC Adoption and Foster Care
Ministry**

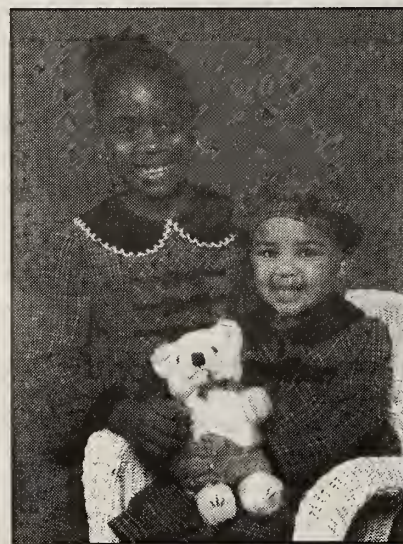
Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit...Praise God for the fruit of our labor. The Adoption and Foster Care Ministry are glad to share the good part of this ministry. Eight year old, **Angelique** and four year old, **Dominique Lucas** have been blessed with a permanent home. These two young girls were in the Foster Care System for 2-1/2 years in Knightdale, NC with **Kimberly A. Ferrell**, a GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry Volunteer and disciple of the *Now Faith Community Baptist Church, Dr. Tyrone Martin, Pastor.* Kimberly is very active in church and shared her ministry with the girls. She is a loving and caring foster mother. Kimberly's parents, **Deacon Charles Ferrell and Deaconess Dorothy Ferrell** were great Foster-Grandparents and will miss Angelique and Dominique dearly.

Angelique and Dominique moved into their new home on Monday, June 11, 2001. They now have a mother, a father, 3 brothers and 1 sister in their new family. Their greatest hope was to have a family that goes to church. Faith is still the substance of things hoped for and evidence of things not seen. By faith Angelique and Dominique have received their greatest hope.

Dr. Martin and the Now Faith Community Baptist Church family believe it really does **Take a Village to Raise a Child.** So they helped raise Angelique and Dominique over the past 2-1/2 years. These young girls were very active in the church. They participated in the youth choir and Sunday School. Angelique likes to clean-up, color pictures and draw the star of the week in school. She graduated to the 3rd grade and looks forward to her studies in her new home. Dominique loves to play with her Barbie doll and loves to give lots of hugs.

When finally the day of departure from their foster home arrived, emotions were high, Kimberly was speechless for a while, but then said she would miss the girls greatly but glad that they have a permanent loving home. Angelique said she was glad she had an opportunity to live with their foster mom, Kim. *I love my Kim and I think her for a good home.* Dominique said, *I love Kim too.* The ladies of Now Faith gave Angelique and Dominique a grand sent-off with a special meal and gifts. After the dinner the girls sang their favorite song and their personal testimony—***If It Had Not Been For The Lord On Our Side.***

Before Angelique and Dominique's departure, I visited them in their foster home. They are truly special children, and will always be one of the greatest gifts anyone has received. These young girls have a spe-



Angelique and Dominique Lucas

cial place in my heart and I am thankful to God that the work of this ministry is not in vain, but rewarding. If it had not been for God on our side where would we be? It is something to think about. Every child still deserves a home and now these two beautiful young girls can realize a dream come true. I challenge all of you to do something about this matter so that other children can realize their dreams of a permanent loving home.

For more information contact me at the following address and phone number:

**Rev. Anthonette Wright
211 West Main Street, Suite 120
Raleigh, NC 27601
Nwrightgbsc@aol.com**

UPDATE: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

By Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr.

Greetings in the Blessed Name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

The Fiscal Year just ending, July 1, 2000-2001, might be considered a banner year for us in terms of outreach and the recruitment of potential African-American adoptive and/or foster parents. We give God the glory.

We thank God for His continuing blessings as we "work the state," so to speak, making and responding to telephone calls, e-mail and general correspondence, speaking at churches, conferences, and meetings of associations, community groups, clubs and organizations, spreading the word of the need for adoptive and foster parents of the African-American children, statewide, who are already in the North Carolina Foster Care System.

We also thank God for those who have partnered with us as we expand our recruitment/referral efforts. It is only because of the expanded, continuing, collaboration, cooperation, and support, that we are able to realize the successes that we are experiencing.

As we stated in our report last month, our ministry seems to be blossoming in so many ways. More people are speaking out in support of our Adoption and Foster Care initiative. More people are calling, writing letters and sending e-mails. It is an exciting time for us.

PARTNERING WITH FAITH COMMUNITIES

The organization of **The North Carolina African-American Faith Communities United for Children: Adoption and Foster Care**, the outreach arm of the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry deserves both praise and thanks. Both ministers and laity, women and men, are actively spreading the word that children need love, that they need a nurturing and caring home environment.

This interfaith, interdenominational body, inspired by God and directed by the Heavenly leadership of the Holy Spirit, has been a God-send. We pray fervently and listen and patiently wait for God's guidance in all that we do. The success of our ministry is further confirmation that with God, all things are possible.

A HOLY ANOINTING

As we stated last month, we are convinced that the organization of the **GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry** was inspired by God and that the ministry enjoys a special anointing from the Heavenly Father.

The seemingly tripling of interest by churches and concerned person, singles and couples, in helping us find permanent and temporary homes for African-American children already in the North Carolina Foster Care System, and related expressions of concern are all of God's doing. They are a manifestation and reflection of His Spirit and His Special Blessing, all for the good things of our children. We solicit your continuing prayer and support.

THE RECORD

As our performance record will show, God has empowered our ministry to be the guiding force in our state on matters of adoption and foster care for African-American children. Our support is growing not just among Baptists, but among the partnering faith communities as well.

And, as we previously reported:

1. The daily phone calls requesting information have tripled. Our phones and answering machines are almost always busy. People are calling from all over the state, wanting to discuss adoption and/or foster care.

2. E-mail traffic has increased incredibly, with inquiries averaging now between 30 to

40 e-mails per day. People are offering their services and assistance. Some are inquiring about adoption.

3. Invitations to speak and make presentations before meetings of **cooperating faith communities**, social and civic organizations, and before concerned groups have doubled. They want to learn more about our ministry. They are concerned. They want to help. God is working wonders for us! He is rewarding obedience and hard work!

As we repeat over and over again, **all of this — all of God's blessings, it is so very touching!** The commitment to help make a difference in the lives of our children is so **overwhelming**. Again, we must repeat, God continues to bless our efforts. And, as the song goes **Blessings after blessings keep on coming our way,** and we continue to give God the glory, the honor and the praise! Please continue to keep our ministry in your prayers.

THE EVERY CHURCH ADOPT ONE PROJECT

THE EVERY CHURCH ADOPT ONE initiative continues to gain broad support statewide, among the various faith communities and again, we give God the glory and the praise. We will continue to push this initiative, statewide.

EVERY CHURCH ADOPT ONE is a highly successful interfaith initiative, and we strongly encourage all churches to join us in this special challenge and opportunity. Join the growing number of churches are uniting for children. This **HELPING AND CARING MINISTRY** is being pushed by moderators, conference leaders, elders, bishops, ministers and assorted church laity. Many church missionary departments have designed this ministry as a primary focus for the year 2001. For additional information, please call, write or e-mail us! Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr. or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige, 2610 Albemarle Ave., Raleigh, NC 27610; (919) 231-9774; Fax (919) 212-3656; e-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com or dottedem@maxconnect.net.

VOLUNTEERS

June was a very special month. We continued to expand our network of adoption and foster care volunteers, recruiting through our expanding church contacts, associations and conferences of the various faith communities. We are especially grateful to the moderators, elders, and overseers of the various faith communities for their continuing support of our efforts!

Our list of Adoption and Foster Care Volunteers and Advocates continues to grow, all for the good and sake of our children. The children are the real beneficiaries. The Volunteers and Advocates are so important for our work. They help us identify African-American singles and couples interested in becoming adoptive and/or foster parents of African-American children already in the North Carolina Foster Care System. They also help us spread the word that there are gross disparities in the adoption of African-American children already in the Foster Care System, when compared with whites. They help us make the needs known.

We thank God for the generous time and energy our volunteers give to our effort. We now have adoption and foster care volunteers in most counties and in both rural and urban areas, and from county, civic and social organizations. They all believe as we do, that every child deserves a loving and caring home and they are committed to helping make this happen.

WE STILL NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS

As we have repeatedly stated, while the response for adoption and foster care volunteers has been incredibly successful statewide, we are

still seeking additional volunteers to help us spread the word. We are asking every church to **appoint an Adoption and Foster Care Volunteer Coordinator to help us spread the word.** Please call, write or e-mail us! Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr. or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige, 2610 Albemarle Ave., Raleigh, N.C. 27610; (919) 231-9774; Fax: (919) 212-3656; e-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com or dottedem@maxconnect.net.

THE CAROLINIAN CONNECTION

A hearty "thank you" to Paul and Evelyn Jervay, owners and co-publishers of **The Carolinian**, and NAK-KEL Founders, for their continuing assistance and encouragement. Rev. Jervay assist us in interfaith relations, volunteer follow-up and training and outreach. Mr. Jervay donates time as our media consultant. They lend a special expertise to our efforts. Together, they help make a difference.

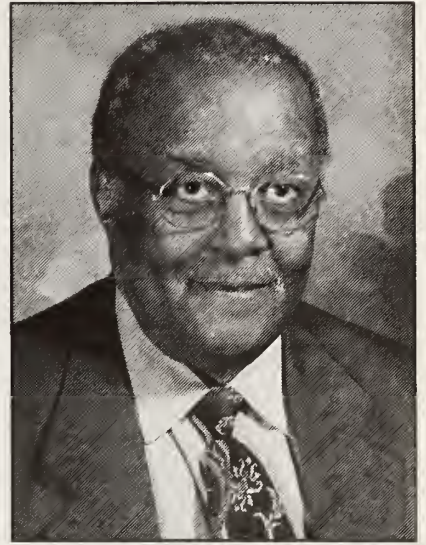
THE FULL-TIME OFFICE STAFF

Our office staff consists of Rev. Anthonette Wright, Director of Church Relations/Regional Consultant and Earl Horton, Director of Public Relations/Regional Consultant.

Rev. Wright has responsibility for the western and central counties of the state, including the following target communities in this region: Buncombe, Guilford, Gaston, Mecklenburg, Forsyth. Mr. Horton has responsibility for the eastern counties and five target counties in this region: Wake, Durham, Cumberland, New Hanover and Robeson.

You may contact Rev. Wright or Mr. Horton as indicated below:

Rev. Wright, GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry, 211 W. Martin Street, Suite 120, Raleigh, NC 27601; 919-754-8800; e-mail: Nwright@aol.com or Mr. Earl Horton, GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry, 211 W. Martin Street, Suite 120, Raleigh, NC 27601; 919-754-8800; e-mail: gbsceh@aol.com; 919-754-8333.



Dr. Joseph C. Paige

SPECIAL STAFF

Evangelist Michele Montgomery, continues to work with the media and as a special volunteer assistant. Also working diligently on our behalf, Ms. Sandra Strayhorn.

PASTORAL AND CHURCH CONSULTANTS/TEAM LEADERS

We are grateful to our pastoral and church consultants/team leaders:

Ms. Sherbia Jones
Ms. Janice Greenard
Ms. Janifer Campbell
Chaplain Jo Watson
Rev. Jesse Adams
Mr. Maurice Lane
Rev. Fred Gordan

THANKS

Thanks again for your continuing encouragement and support. You may reach us:

By phone: 919-231-9774

By fax: 919-212-3656

By e-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com

By regular mail: 2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27610

ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

Ministry of the GBSC State & Convention of N.C., Inc.

By Dr. Joseph C. Paige, Chairperson

Greetings and Peace on the name of Jesus Christ. We would like to request your active participation and support of the North Carolina African-American Faith Communities United for Children: Adoption and Foster Care.

This Initiative is a cooperative partnership between the General Baptist State Convention and Human Services, Division of Social Services. Ours is an exciting and challenging journey, and a real opportunity to make a serious contribution to a real serious cause at this time.

The African-American Children's Initiative Adoption and Foster Care, as a cooperative church-based effort designed to help identify African-American single persons and couples who are interested in adoption African-American children or becoming foster parents to African-American children. This initiative is based on the fact that every child deserves a long, nurturing and caring home.

At the present time, there are many African-American children in the North Carolina Foster Care System, both boys and girls, who are currently eligible for this effort. The goal is to help speed up the adoption process. Time is of profound essence. There is also an urgency to identify potential Foster Care parents.

We are anxious to make a real difference within the next few months and we can do this only with your help. Volunteers will receive additional guidance from us on marketing strategies in your respective areas just as soon as I hear from you. In addition, we are in the process of soliciting and identifying volunteers to work with us throughout the state in the following categories, and we are requesting your assistance.

1. County Adoption/Foster Care Recruitment Volunteer Coordinators (one volunteer for each county).

2. Church Adoption/Foster Care Recruitment Volunteer Coordinators (one per church)

3. We are also requesting Adoption/Foster Care Recruitment Volunteer coordinators to work with us at the town, city, and area levels, to help us spread the word that all children need and deserve a loving and caring home.

If you agree to serve as a volunteer or if you know someone who is willing to serve with us, write me today and mail it to me at the address below:

Dr. Joseph C. Paige, Chairperson

The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry

PO Box 24273, Raleigh, NC 27611-5273

Please don't hesitate to call me if you have any questions (919) 231-9774. Or you can e-mail me at JoePaigeSr@aol.com or you can also e-mail me at JoePaigeSr@aol.com.

I look forward to working with you.

MORE ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

The Loving Spirit of the Church and the Child

By Earl Horton

Director of Public Relations

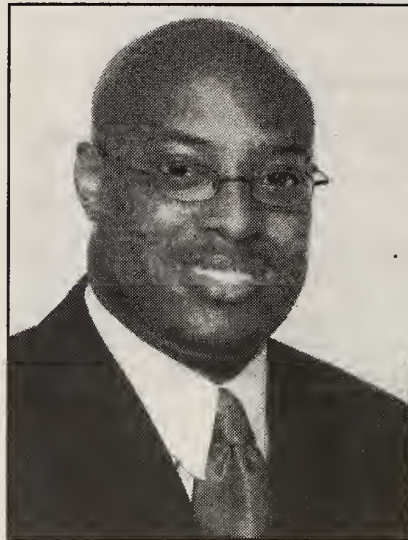
Throughout time African-American churches revolved around the family. The church instilled a loving spirit that would bring the family closer than before. Having the spirit of love in each individual family member is a wonderful feeling to have. What's the popular quote? "A family that prays together stays together." I find that quote to be truthful in meaning. Without the loving spirit the family will not bind together or be a close knit unit. As you read this in its entirety you may ask why write about the loving spirit of the church and the child? The reason is that in African-American churches and especially the GBSC I have met those persons who possess this warm, sincere and loving spirit. They carry that loving spirit that everyone does not possess. Those persons who carry the loving spirit are those individuals or couples that the Adoption and Foster Care Ministry are seeking.

The loving spirit of an individual or couple could instill that sense of love to a child that wants a permanent family to call his/her own. The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry wants to seek individuals and couples to become loving parent(s) to spread the love that our savior wants for all children. The church has the resources to provide that support system. Starting from the pastor and ending with the congregation, the family will be surrounded by people who will show their love and support. The love that the church can provide would engulf the family with the spirit of love that no insurmountable force can break. The Adoption and Foster Care Ministry need all churches affiliated with the GBSC and other faith communities to come together to become the extended family of the child and support the family in their transition.

The NC Department of Social Services has provided the statistics of children in the target counties where percentages are high. The target counties are Wake, Durham, Cumberland, New Hanover, Robeson, Guilford, Forsyth, Mecklenburg, Gaston and Buncombe. The numbers are as follows:

Target Counties

Wake 390, Durham 146, Cumberland 370, New Hanover 302, Robeson 89, Guilford 129, Forsyth 209, Gaston 257, Mecklenburg 583 and



Earl Horton

Buncombe 157.

The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry need to identify pastors and congregations that will commit to provide the spiritual nurturing for a family who has become adoptive/foster parents for that child. Especially in the 10 target counties we need a network of churches that will work together to find permanent homes for our saviors children.

There are families in the church that would adopt or even consider to foster a child but we need the assistance of pastors to appoint a representative from each church to be our church consultant. We need to build the network of support for these families who decided to open their hearts to a child that deserves to be loved and nurtured to become a wonderful citizen in society.

When I was a child, I spake as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things. I Corinthians 13:11 NJV

With the help of the pastors, congregations, and the family the child will be spiritually, mentally and emotionally prepared for what the world has to offer.

The Adoption and Foster Care Ministry is seeking every church in every county that GBSC covers in North Carolina to participate in the ministry. With every church effort we can find permanent homes for African-American children.

Will you, the GBSC community be there to support these families interested in adoption or foster care?

**The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. and the N.C. African-American Faith Communities
United for Children: Adoption and Foster Care
Finding Adoptive & Foster Care Homes
For African-American Children**

Touch a Life Forever ... ADOPT!

Children waiting for adoptive families are ...

- Sisters and brothers who want to be adoptive together
- Children who have experienced neglect, abuse or abandonment
- Older children who want a permanently family
- Children who need families who care and are willing to make a lifetime commitment

You can adopt if you ...

- Are single, married or divorced
- Can provide a stable home
- Have the ability to care for a child not born to you
- Are willing to take on the responsibilities, joys and challenges of parenting

Families who adopt ...

- May be homeowners or renting
- May have a fixed income
- May be an adult of any age

North Carolina Needs More Foster Homes

Thousands of children in North Carolina, ranging in age from infants to 18 years old, enter the foster care system each year. These children may have been neglected, abused, or abandoned and need a safe place to stay temporarily. The number of children coming into care is increasing faster than the number of foster homes in our state.

You Can Become A Foster Parent If You ...

- Are between the ages of 21 and 65
- Are willing to be fingerprinted and have a criminal record check
- Have a stable home and income
- Are able to provide a safe, temporary place for children until they can be in a permanent home
- Complete all required training and be licensed by the State of North Carolina

You do not have to be married, wealthy or own your own home to be a foster parent.

**SHARE THE VISION WITH US!! HELP US SPREAD THE WORD
THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF
NORTH CAROLINA, INC. &
THE NORTH CAROLINA AFRICAN-AMERICAN FAITH
COMMUNITIES UNITED FOR CHILDREN: ADOPTION
AND FOSTER CARE**

Making A Difference in the Life of a Child

Finding Adoptive and Foster Care Homes for African-American Children

The North Carolina African-American Faith Communities United for Children, a partnership with North Carolina Division of Social Services, is comprised of African-American congregations and community organizations from across the State, NAYKEL and the North Carolina Association of Black Social Workers committed to finding adoptive and foster homes for African-American children.

Yes, I'd like to do my part ...

Please complete and return to Dr. Joseph Paige.

I'd like someone to call me.

Please send me information about adoption. Please send me information about foster care.

I'd like to be a field worker.

I am interested in being an adoptive parent. I'd like to be a county volunteer.

I am interested in being a foster care parent.

I'd like to be a church volunteer. Other (please specify)

Name _____

Phone Number _____

Address _____
City State Zip

County: _____
Contact Dr. Joseph C. Paige at 2610 Albemarle Ave., Raleigh, NC 27610,
919-231-9774, 919-618-8343, mobile • e-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com

WANTED!!

- ADOPTED PARENT • FOSTER CARE PARENT
 - VOLUNTEER ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE ADVOCATES
- URGENT!**

Please contact: Dr. Joseph C. Paige or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige
2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27610 • 919-231-9774; Fax 919-212-3656;
or e-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com or dottiedem@maxxconnect.net

\$1,000 BONUS! BONUS! BONUS!

We have decided, as our special way to say "Thank You," to provide a personal bonus of \$1,000, to the first individual, church or association that recruits a minimum of 20 potential adoptive and/or foster parents each month for the next five months or a total of 100 recruits (verified). Only one bonus of \$1,000 will be given. Persons interested in competing for the "bonus" should call, write or e-mail us!
Dr. Joseph C. Paige or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige, 2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27610; 919-231-9774; Fax 919-212-3656; E-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com or dottiedem@maxxconnect.net

FOSTER CARE & ADOPTION NEWS

We urgently seek to identify persons interested in becoming Adoptive and/or Foster Care Parents in each of the 100 counties. There is an urgency. Every child deserves a loving and caring home.

Please contact at:

**Dr. Joseph C. Paige or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige
2610 Albemarle Avenue 27610
919-231-9774 • E-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com**

From the Office of Institutional and Specialized Ministries

“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.” Ephesians 6:12

A.W. Tozer, the noted Pastor of the Southwest Alliance Church in Chicago, Illinois, wrote a chapter in his book, *“God Tells The Man Who Cares,”* entitled, *This World: Playground or Battleground?* I think this is a relevant question to raise before the Church today. Is this world a playground or a battleground? When relating this question to crime and incarceration, one must conclude this world is a battleground. The Church is engaged in a daily spiritual warfare. Prison ministry is front line spiritual warfare because we seek to go on the devil’s territory and take back what rightfully belongs to God. I am calling every GBSC Church that does not have a ministry dealing with crime or incarceration to contact me so we can get you in that war. Many in the Church today are retreating from this kind of spiritual warfare (prison ministry). We are facing a crisis in our communities and only the Church is adequately equipped to fight this fight. I am calling on all GBSC pastors and other interested Church leaders to:

1. Pray for chaplains, ministers, volunteers and organizations presently engaged in prison ministry of some type throughout this state.
2. Pray for correctional administrators, wardens, superintendents, and staff who work in prisons, jails and halfway houses.
3. Every Church needs to have a special program or service dealing with crime

“JOIN THE OISM IN THE BATTLE”

and incarceration issues during the year. Invite prison chaplains, ex-offenders, or volunteers to come and speak and educate you about the prison ministry.

4. Every Church needs to get training to begin a prison ministry to at-risk youth, victims of crime, persons in prison, or persons coming out of prison.

If your Church does not have an active prison ministry outreach in some way, your Church is out of touch with the most pressing crisis in our society. I challenge you to get involved in this spiritual war because we need more soldiers who see this world as a battleground and not a playground. The OISM in partnership with Prison Fellowship certified over 30 persons for In-Prison Ministry at the Friendship Baptist Church in Gastonia, NC, where the Rev. John McCollough is the Pastor on May 26, 2001.

Upcoming Training and Events
OISM Meetings and Training Workshop
- Saturday, September 1 - 9 a.m. -
Raleigh, NC
Site to Be Announced in August
Informer

OISM Program at GBSC Annual Session
October 28-31, 2001 in Asheville, NC
OISM 1st Annual Crime and Incarceration Conference - November 30 -
December 1, 2001
Shaw University Divinity School -
Raleigh NC

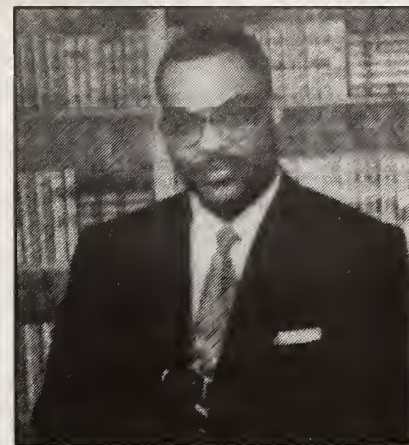
Contact my office at 919-575-3900
x6203 • mrsmith@bop.gov or
Headquarters at 800-639-GBSC
General Baptist State Convention of
N.C., Inc.

Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President
Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive
Secretary-Treasurer
Office of Institutional and Specialized
Ministries

Rev. Michael R. Smith Sr., Chairman
1st ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON
CRIME AND INCARCERATION
November 30 - December 1 - 2001
“Righteousness and Justice are the
foundation of Your throne; Mercy and
Truth go before Your face.”

Psalm 89:14 NKJV

The purpose of this conference is to bring together ministers, local churches, ex-offenders, judges, correctional administrators, lawyers, prison volunteers/organizations, community based organizations, and all other interested persons to be educated, equipped, and inspired to work for justice and mercy in responding to crime and incarceration. This can be accom-



Rev Michael R. Smith Sr.

plished through strategic dialogue and integration of creative ideas and effective strategies that can help reach, reconcile and restore lives broken through crime and incarceration. The Churches of this state will be challenged and inspired to come together in a unified effort to better respond to this growing crisis.

Theme

REACHING, RECONCILING, RESTORING BROKEN LIVES

This conference will strategically seek to address for major areas:
**AT-RISK YOUTH VICTIMS OF
CRIME PERSONS IN PRISON
PERSONS TRANSITIONING BACK
TO THE COMMUNITY
CONFERENCE RESOURCE
PERSONS**

This conference will be led by a diverse group of speakers and resource persons to include ex-offenders, pastors, prison chaplains, correctional administrators, lawyers, prison ministry volunteers, victims of crime, professors, and many other ministry organizations. This wealth of resources will make for a conference balanced with practical, theoretical, and experiential contributions. Conference attendees will have opportunities to listen, dialogue, and strategies in efforts to respond more effectively from their respective fields of ministry and service.

(See next page)



Delores Griffey

Read I Samuel 16:1-13. God has commanded Samuel the priest to find the next king of Israel. Answer the following statements TRUE or FALSE, based on what you learn.

- T F Samuel was sorry that Saul would no longer be king.
T F Samuel was worried Saul might kill him.
T F God told Samuel to prepare a sacrifice.
T F The elders in Bethlehem wanted to kill Samuel.
T F Samuel told the elders he did not come in peace.
T F Jesse's son Eliab seemed the

strongest physically.

- T F God told Samuel to reject Eliab.
T F Four of Jesse's sons were rejected as the new king.
T F The youngest son was watching the cows.
T F David was not very handsome.
T F God told Samuel to anoint David as the new king.
T F God told Samuel a person's heart was more important than his physical appearance.

There's some good news in that story for you. What does it say in verse 7? Unscramble that verse.

Samuel to But Lord said the, “not appearance Do consider his or height his, have I for him rejected. look does not Lord the things The at looks man at. at looks Man outward appearance the, heart at looks the Lord but” (I Samuel 16:7).

Do you see the good news? What is it?
“That Scripture tells me that God...”

God looks at the goodness of what's inside our hearts. That place within us where love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control abound (Galatians 5:22, 23)

These “fruit of the Spirit” have nothing to do with your body, but with the presence of God's Spirit in your life.

Psalm 8 was written as a psalm of praise to God by David (that's right, the guy Samuel anointed as the new king).

Leader: “O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!”

Students: Repeat the word “majestic”

five times very softly.

Leader: “You have set your glory about the heavens.”

Students: Raise your arms slowly over your heads in praise to God.

Leader: “From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise because of your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger.”

Students: Rock your arms like you are holding a baby and then place your finger on your lips for silence.

Leader: “When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him?”

Students: Look at your fingers and count them. Point to the stars. Point to yourself. Point to someone else.

Leader: “You made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor.”

Students: Wrap your arms around yourself in a big hug. Put your hands on your head in the shape of a crown.

Leader: “You made him rule over the works of your hands; you put everything under his feet; all flocks and herds, and the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, and the fish of the seas, all that swims the paths of the sea.”

Students: Put your arms and make muscles. Hop like a rabbit. Flap your arms like a bird. Get on your stomach and swim like a fish.

Leader: “O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!”

Students: Say the word “majestic” five times as loud as you can.

The Central Children's Home Corner

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ. So often we are bombarded with reminders of how dismal and discouraging it is to live in our world today. Yet, we are living in a time that provides opportunities to test our spirits and challenge our convictions. Adversity tends to bring out the best as well as the worst in humanity. It is the best that we strive for as blood-bought creatures of an awesome and amazing God. The golden opportunity for service awaits us at the Central Children's Home in Oxford, NC.

The Central Children's Home is our home. The children are our children. The home and the children belong to the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc. This is a vital ministry for every General Baptist Church, Pastor, Lay Person, and Association in our state. We are obligated to answer the call to ministry in this area:

From the Desk of the 4th Vice President By Rev. Nilous M. Avery II

"Be doers of the word, and not merely hearers...Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress..." [James 1:22, 27, NRSV].

There are critical needs that must be addressed immediately:

- Air conditioning for the gymnasium
- Renovation at Shepherd Dorm for older males [heating, possible asbestos, showers, etc.]

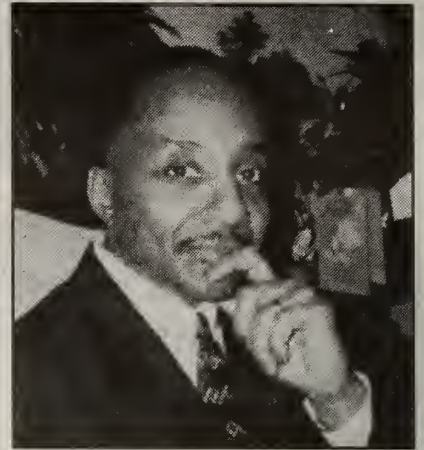
These needs are in conjunction with daily maintenance and housekeeping. Our total stewardship must extend beyond re-

sources. Every General Baptist Church is challenged to:

- Plan periodic visits to the home,
- Pledge to increase support for this ministry,
- Extend an invitation to Mr. Michael Alston, Executive Director of the home, to come share this ministry with your area.

For more information, please contact me at: (704) 637-0954; (704) 637-1137 fax; AveryRevKin@gateway.net/ E-mail

The challenge is the same: Reach the masses. Please do not forget the children. They are our responsibility, our heritage, and our hope. We have come to this point



By Rev. Nilous M. Avery II

in this ministry for such a time as this. May God bless and keep you as we serve together. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you!

By
Rev. Sandra Holland Trotter
Pastor/Shiloh Temple of Faith
Missionary Baptist Church,
Fayetteville, NC

Fourth:

What you sow, you will reap. On the third day of creation God commanded, "Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed and the fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth: and it was so."

While this passage refers to the cycles of nature, we see the principle at work in all aspects of life, spiritual as well as physical using the principle to emphasize spiritual truth, Paul wrote: Be not deceived; God is not mocked for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he reap. For he hath sowed to his flesh shall the flesh reap corruption; but he that sowed to the Spirit reap life everlasting. (Galatians 6:7-8). Making it clear that the law of sowing and reaping applies to our material goods as well, Paul

New Pastor's Corner

The Abundance of Blessings Through Stewardship (Part II)

said, "Now he that ministereth seed to the sower both minister bread for your food, and multiply your seed sown, and increase the fruits of your righteousness." (II Corinthians 9:10)

This was written to the Corinthians church in the context of giving financially to meet the needs of others, but it can apply to anything we give, — love, joy, peace, time to care for the sick, prisoners, or a needy widow. Sharing our talents to make our communities a better place to live. The law of sowing and reaping is simple: to

reap anything, we must first plant a seed. To reap a bountiful harvest we must sow our best seed. This means that the best of our life — the best of our time, the best of our talents, the best of our treasure, the best of everything we have — should be on the altar of sacrifice to God.

Fifth:

Give to the glory of God. As a steward of God's resources we have but one purpose — to glorify Him. It is easy to let the day-to-day demands on our finances turn our eyes from this aim unless we clearly define our priorities. God's word does this for us. Our number one priority is God. Our second priority is our spouse. Since the family was the first institution formed by God (Genesis 1:27-28). No conflict exists between the preeminence of God and the priority of family. Rather, meeting the needs of our families is a scriptural mandate and on evidence of faith. (I Timothy 5:8). But our top priority is to love, obey and glorify God. Putting God and the fulfillment of our Lord's Great Commission first in our time, talents and treasure must be the primary goal of our stewardship.

This involves giving to the kingdom of God through our local church and mission organizations that faithfully exalt the Lord.

Sixth:

Give from the heart. Motives are the essential part of good stewardship, for they determine our reasons for giving. We give to be a channel of God's abundant resources to a desperately needy world.

Maintaining right motives through the power of the Holy Spirit is essential if we are to accomplish this objective to the glory



Rev. Sandra Holland Trotter

of God.

Seventh:

God wants you to be financially free. This means having enough to meet all of your financial obligations, providing adequately for your household, and giving generously and joyfully to God's work.

God wants us to be financially free so we can put Him first in our life and be sensitive to His voice, to move on His command, where, when and how He leads. Many Christians live in bondage because they do not understand or obey Biblical principles of stewardship, and they surrender to the world's philosophy of money. Disobedience robs Christians of their joy, peace, victory and fruitful witness. (Principles by Bill Bright).

When we obey God in our giving, we place ourselves under His protection and unlock the windows of blessings. Outside of God's financial covering, however we are vulnerable to Satan's attack. The enemy delights in draining our resources, thereby robbing us of the ability to further God's kingdom.

But God has promised, I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground. (Malachi 3:11).

We must learn to walk in the abundance of God through stewardship. Jesus said, "Give and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down shaken together, and running over, shall men give unto your bosom. For with the same measure that you mete withal it shall be measured to you

Join the Oism

THE CRISIS

The prisons represent the fastest growing mission field in our country today. Crime and incarceration dominates the media to where we now speak of a "prison generation" of people along with the "prison industrial complex." Then there are over a million persons incarcerated in U.S. prisons. There are at-risk youth everywhere in need of preventive ministry to avoid being incarcerated. There are the victims of crime who cry out for justice and restitution. There are growing numbers of men and women incarcerated that leads to overcrowding and rapid prison construction. Lastly, there is the reality the most people will get out of prison and return to society. How are the churches or organizations responding to this crisis? This conference will help to make for a better response.

THEOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE

The Bible plainly reveals a God who is both just and merciful. God our Father delights in the land when the people understand justice and mercy. This conference will seek to examine these two attributes to God as they relate to the courts, prison life, and at-risk youth. Our foundation scripture is Psalm 89:14. This verse reveals justice

as foundational to the throne of God. Verse 14 also reveals mercy as ever present in the face of God. These two attributes of God's character must be properly understood in order to respond effectively. This conference will help us see this crisis from God's perspective.

CONFERENCE SITE

The conference will be hosted at the historic Shaw University Divinity School in Raleigh, N.C. on November 30-December 1, 2001. Dr. James T. Roberson Jr., Dean, has graciously allowed for our first conference to be held at this historical institution. Our worship services will be held in the Thomas J. Boyd Chapel on Shaw University's campus.

CONFERENCE INFORMATION AND CONTACTS

Individual Conference Registration — \$20
Local Church Conference Registration — \$40

Call or write

Rev. Michael R. Smith Jr.

@Office 919-575-3900 x6203

Email: mrsmith@bop.gov

Carol J. Smith @ GBSC Headquarters

Office 919-821-7466 or 800-639-GBSC

Email: cjs@gbsc@aol.com

JOIN US FOR THE FIRST CRIME AND INCERATION CONFERENCE!

Support our Ushers!

EXPERIENCE EGYPT

The Cradle of History and Human Culture

January 12-13, 2002

Hosted by Dr. Clifford Jones

SUMMARY OF YOUR DAILY ACTIVITIES

Day 1, Saturday, Jan. 12

CHARLOTTE/ATLANTA/PARIS

Depart Charlotte for Atlanta connecting with our Air France flight this evening for Paris. (meals aloft)

Day 2, Sunday, Jan. 13

PARIS/CAIRO

Morning arrival Paris and connection with flight on to Cairo. Transfer to **Cairo Sheraton Hotel**. (meals, aloft, dinner at hotel)

Day 3, Monday, Jan. 14

CAIRO/LUXOR

This morning we meet with our guide and transfer to the Cairo domestic airport for our flight to Luxor accompanied by an English speaking guide. Upon arrival at the Luxor airport, we meet and transfer to the new **Winter Palace Hotel** for check-in. This evening, we go to the Karnak Temple to attend the Sound & Light performance. Back to our hotel for overnight. (B)

Day 4, Tuesday, Jan. 15

WEST BANK/LUXOR

After breakfast we transfer to the Pier where we board our **Presidential Cruise** ship for a Nile cruise. We spend four nights on board, in air conditioned comfort, enjoying fine food, excellent service and all the special amenities of our luxurious vessel. In the afternoon, we visit the East Bank and the Temples of Karnak and Luxor. Karnak's scale is immense; for 2000 years, successive kings added monuments and shrines. We wander among the 134 columns of the great hypostyle hall — a forest of stone, 70 feet high. The towering Obelisk of Queen Hatshepsut is made of one huge block of granite. The waters of the Sacred Lake act as a reflecting pool for many of the statues and buildings. The Avenue of Ram-headed Sphinxes connects Karnak to the graceful Temple of Luxor, where the entrance is guarded by massive statues of Ramses II. We enjoy our dinner on board the cruise ship. (B,L,D)

Day 5, Wednesday, Jan. 16

WEST BANK/ESNA/EDFU

Today after crossing to the west Bank we visit Necropolis of Thebes and then we travel through a forbidding desert landscape to the Valley of the Kings, which for four centuries served as the burial ground of some of Egypt's greatest pharaohs. The Temple of Queen Hatshepsut lies in a dramatic setting beneath sandstone cliffs; amusing reliefs show the expedition to the Land of Punt, where the local queen rides a donkey and where Hatshepsut acquires incense trees, cattle and wild animals. We also see the Colossi of Menon and then have lunch on board. We sail to Esna and cross the lock, then on to Edfu. We have dinner and overnight on board. (B,L,D)

Day 6, Thursday, Jan. 17

EDFU/KOM OMBO/ASWAN

After breakfast on board ship we go to Edfu and visit the Temple of Horus, the falcon god, described as the best-preserved monument of the ancient world. Because the roof is intact, the play of light and shadow is much as it must have been in Ptolemaic times. In the courtyard is the famous granite statue of Horus as a falcon; reliefs on an outside wall show the defeat of Horus' uncle, Seth, shown as a hippopotamus. In the afternoon, sail to the Temple of Kom Ombo, which sits on a small hill overlooking the Nile. It is unique in being dedicated to two gods, the hawk-headed

Haroeris and the crocodile-headed Sobek. Peer into a chamber that still contains mummified crocodiles! We have dinner and overnight on board in Aswan. (B,L,D)

Day 7, Friday, Jan. 18

ASWAN

In the morning, we see the Aswan High Dam, which provides Egypt's electricity and has ended the disastrous Nile floods of times past. Continue to the quarries where pink-colored granite was mined; the unfinished obelisk shows how excavation took place. Then travel by boat to the exquisite Temple of Philae, which was the center of worship of the goddess Isis. Lunch on board ship and then on then this afternoon, sail in a traditional "felucca" sailboat around Kitchener Island, beautifully planted with flowers and shrubs. We will view the Elephantine Island and Agha Khan Mausoleum. We have dinner and overnight on board in Aswan. (B,L,D)

Day 8, Saturday, Jan. 19

ABU SIMBEL/CAIRO

This morning we disembark our cruise ship to meet with our guide and transfer to the airport for a domestic flight to Abu Simbel. This area is the site of Ramses II's greatest temples, is carved directly into the face of a cliff. The scale here is colossal. Four enormous statues of Ramses, each 65 feet high, guard the entrance and vivid reliefs inside depict in detail his triumphs in battle. The graceful nearby Temple of Hathor was built for Ramses' favorite wife, Queen Nefertari. An international rescue effort saved Abu Simbel from the rising waters of the Nile. Later we transfer back to the airport and fly to Cairo. Upon arrival, we are met by our guide and transfer to **Cairo Sheraton Hotel**. Dinner and overnight at our hotel. (B,D)

Day 9, Sunday, Jan. 20

MEMPHIS/GIZA/SAKKARA

This morning we drive south along the Nile through the lush green farmland of this rich river valley. Here, life has changed little from Biblical times. Women wash clothing at the river's edge; men work the fields with oxen and wooden plows. Arriving in Memphis, the ancient capital of Lower Egypt, we visit the Alabaster Sphinx and the gigantic statue of Ramses II (probably the pharaoh of the Exodus). Next we drive out to Giza, where the desert meets the Nile, and we are confronted with the towering mysterious Sphinx, the gigantic lion with a pharaoh's head, carved out of living rock and guarding the three great pyramids of Giza! Four thousand years ago, Abraham also probably stood here pondering the mystery of the silent Sphinx and awestruck by the giant pyramids which were already objects of antiquity, 600 years old in his day! If you wish, climb atop a camel's back and ride right up to the Great pyramid, one of the seven wonders of the ancient world. We will see the Papyrus Institute and Sakkara. Then back to our hotel for dinner and overnight. (B,D)

Day 10, Monday, Jan. 21

CAIRO

Today we explore Cairo! In this great metropolis of modern buildings, wide boulevards, flowering gardens and stately mosques we are struck with the contrast of old and new! Highrise hotels line the Nile River while the white-sailed feluccas (ancient native boats) ply the waters. As our luxury bus passes along modern streets, heavily laden two-wheeled donkey carts and bicycles

weave in and out of the traffic. We visit the fabled Egyptian Museum, bulging with the jeweled treasures and golden artifacts of ancient Egypt. Then on to the Citadel, Cairo's fortress built in 1183, and see the beautiful Mohammed Ali Mosque, one of the most beautiful in the Arab World. Later we see Coptic Churches, Ben-Ezra Synagogue and Khan El-Khalili Bazaars. Dinner at LePacha restaurant. (B)

Day 11, Tuesday, Jan. 22

CAIRO/ALEXANDRIA/CAIRO

Today, after breakfast, we meet our guide to start an all day trip to Alexandria by bus. We will visit the Greco-Roman Museum, which fills the gap between the country's several museums of pharaonic antiquities and Cairo's museums of Coptic and Islamic art. A charming sculpture garden in its grounds is a special treat. Next we visit the Amphi-Theatre and then on to the Catacombs. One's first visit to this underground complex is otherworldly, and spellbinding. On the area called Rotunda the decorations are fantastic and in a hodgepodge of styles. This is one of the most interesting sights in Alexandria. Next we visit Pompey's Pillar, a solitary 72 foot high pillar of pink Aswan granite which seems to defiantly touch the sky. Lunch will be served at "El-Saraya St. Giovanni, a local restaurant. In the afternoon we drive back to Cairo with a direct transfer upon arrival to **Cairo Sheraton Hotel** for overnight. (B,L)

Day 12, Wednesday, Jan. 23

PARIS/ATLANTA

Morning departure on our flight to Paris and then connecting to our flight to Atlanta. (B, meals aloft)

Visits to temples and specific tombs subject to opening schedule availability on day of visit, etc. Sites listed in the itinerary will be visited but the sequence and days may be altered to adjust to religious holidays, special closings of sites, air schedule changes, hotel confirmation, etc.

TOUR CONDITIONS

PRICE OF TOUR: from Charlotte \$3,399.

DEVIATION ITINERARY: Any adjustment in standardized air or land itinerary will carry a \$50 fee (for each change) in addition to any additional expense required. This fee is applicable for research projected and/or accepted. In an effort to ensure efficient handling of these requests, Dehoney Travel, Inc. will require that a tour deposit be received before a deviation request can be processed.

AIR TRANSPORTATION: Jet economy class on Air France or any other IATAN carrier. Supplement will apply for cities other than Charlotte.

HOTEL/SHIP: Deluxe hotel and twin-bedded outside cabins on board the Presidential Nile cruise ship. Tour price based on double occupancy. While Dehoney Travel Inc. will try to match roommates, we cannot guarantee a roommate will be available. In this case, the payment of single supplement will be required. When available, single rooms are often smaller than doubles. **Single supplement, \$425.**

MEALS AND SIGHTSEEING: Buffet Breakfast daily in Cairo and Luxor; three meals daily while on board ship. Lunches and dinners as indicated. Local transportation by bus or local conveyance as indicated, services of an English-speaking guide, entrance fees are included in the tour.

BAGGAGE ALLOWANCE: We have included portage for only one check-on bag (combination width, length and height not to exceed 62 inches) in tour cost. You may also take one carry-on which will fit under your airline seat or in the overhead compartment.

NOT INCLUDED: Gratuities of \$80; U.S. securities, customs and departure tax and Cairo departure tax (\$71); Egyptian visa/handling fees (currently \$27); supplemental air fare for your hometown departure (if other than Charlotte) added to the listed departure price. Price of optional tours, excess baggage and forwarding of baggage, passports, personal items such as laundry, tips for personal favors, travel protection plan, any costs resulting from absence or deviation from the itinerary, and any items not shown herein as being included.

PAYMENT: Payment can be made by cash, check or credit card (Discover, MasterCard or Visa). A deposit of \$500 of the tour price per person is required at the time of booking to confirm tour membership. Balance of tour price is due upon receipt of final invoice (approximately 8-10 weeks period to departure).

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*Subject to Governmental, IATAN, ARC and airlines regulation requirements in effect at the date of and during the tour. **Tour price based on a minimum of 32 passengers and the airfare, cost of land arrangements and value of the U.S. Dollar April 19, 2001 and is subject to any increases that may be imposed prior to departure.**

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Egypt continued...

No person, other than an authorized representative of Dehoney Travel, Inc. by a document in writing, is authorized to vary, add, or waive any term or condition in this brochure, including any term or condition set forth in the preceding provisions.

For further information, contact Dr. Clifford Jones
Friendship Missionary

Baptist Church
3301 Beatties Ford Road
Charlotte, N.C. 28216
Office (704) 392-0392
Fax (704) 392-0316

Dehoney Travel
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Preferred Name(s) for Nametag(s) _____

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Best time and place to call _____ Fax: AC () _____

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Please match me with a roommate (if available): Non-Smoking Smoking

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86th Anniversary Celebration New Zion Missionary Baptist Church

The 86th Anniversary of New Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Sanford, N.C., was observed on June 10, 2001. The Rev. Al Harrison is the pastor.

The day began with Sunday school and morning worship. Pastor Harrison delivered the morning message "Is Your Religion Homemade?" using Romans 10:1-10 as a basis for his text. Following Invitation to Discipleship and celebration of the Lord's Supper, we were dismissed to the dining room for dinner and fellowship.

Minister John Kevin Stokes presided over the afternoon service. The guest speaker for the occasion was Rev. Roy Flemings Jr. of Union Baptist Church in Durham. Brother Arthur Clegg and Sister Clemmie J. Simmons were crowned King and Queen 2001. The combined choirs of New Zion rendered music with Brother LaVernie Murchison and Sister Vanessa Murchison serving as musicians.

After call to worship by Minister Stokes, the choir and congregation sang "O Magnify the Lord." Mother Eva Williams, Deaconess, read the passage of scripture taken from I Kings 9:1-5. Prayer was offered by Deaconess Hattie Graham and words of welcome by Deaconess Lorean Murchison, the oldest church member, age 94.

Following the procession of the King and Queen, Sister Vanessa Murchison presented the church history and took us on a walk down memory lane.

New Zion began as a brush harbor from 1912-1914. It continued as a Sunday school that met in the home of its founder Rev. Simon Peter McNeill. On May 5, 1915, Rev. McNeill purchased one-quarter acre of land for \$25 and the first building was erected in 1917 on Highway 87.

Mr. J.G. Edwards donated the land where the present church stands. Sister Kate Mickle and Sister Lorean Murchison were instrumental in securing the property. The new edifice was completed and dedicatory service was held in 1970.

New Zion has had only eight pastors during its 86 years of existence: Rev. S.P. McNeill (1915-1917); Rev. Capel (1917); Rev. A.T. Tuck, the first minister called to pastor the church (1918-1930); Rev. Bland (1930-1931, a six-month period); Rev. C. Taylor (1931-1935); Rev. J.W. Mason (1935-1958) and Rev. E.N. Hooker (1958-1998). Rev. Hooker, after having fought a good fight of 40 years of dedicated service, finished his course Dec. 6, 1998. Rev. Al Harrison was installed as the pastor on June 6, 1999.

Rev. Harrison's leadership and vision and inspired the church in physical growth

and most importantly, spiritual growth. The church membership is steadily growing and there has been upgrading of the church grounds and building.

Sister Murchison reflected on life in the old church when:

- air conditioning was provided through open windows propped with a big stick and fans supplied by the local funeral homes;
- the dining area was a long wooden table underneath a shelter that stood by the side of the church;
- catered dinners meant huge baskets and cardboard boxes filled with food were prepared and served by the church sisters;
- all Sunday school classes met in the sanctuary because there were no classrooms.

The 86-year history of New Zion is filled with manifestations of God's goodness, His mercy and His grace. As we reflected on the past, the days when we worshipped in the little wooden church by the side of the road, we remembered the sacrifices, the struggles, the good times and the spirit-filled times, and the saints who prayed and worked diligently for the survival and growth of the church.

Sister Ella Flemings introduced the speaker of the hour. His message was preceded by two musical selections. The choir and congregation joined in as Rev. Flemings exhibited his beautiful musical talents by playing and singing "The Lord is Blessing Me" and "Thank You Lord." God used him mightily as he brought a powerful message. His topic "The Solid Rock" was taken from Matthew 16:13-18. We were reminded that the church should be a house of prayer — operated by the anointing rather than the appointing. Storms will arise. He challenged us to put aside pettiness, disagreements, power struggles, criticisms, and all of those things which tend to disrupt or destroy God's program. We must be truly committed with a willingness to serve. When we come together, learn the word, and operate according to God's word, then we are standing on solid rock.

The choir sang "What God Has For Me" as the invitation to discipleship was extended.

After the crowning of the King and Queen, presentations were made. Sister Clemmie Simmons was crowned and congratulated for being the top fund-raiser.

After remarks, the Rev. Flemings gave the benediction.

Pastor Harrison, officers, and members thank everyone who played a part in making this anniversary celebration a success.

Wake Forest University's Graduating Class Includes Poteat Seniors

Submitted by Carol J. Smith
Associate Editor

Wake Forest University's 2001 graduating class included the following William Louis Poteat Scholars who are members of General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina churches:

- Kala Conelia Blackwell of Reidsville, Crossroads Missionary Baptist Church, Bachelor of Arts
- Stacy Whichard Smallwood of Gatesville, New Hope Baptist Church, Bachelor of

Science, Cum Laude
• Shenika Ni' Cole Watlington of Reidsville, Bluestone Missionary Baptist Church, Bachelor of Arts, Cum Laude

Named for Wake Forest's president from 1905 to 1927, the Poteat Scholarship recognizes students who are active members of churches affiliated with the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, and the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of North Carolina.

Health & Human Services

By
James H. Carter

Be A Good Samaritan — Help Protect Yourself and Others from Mosquito and Tick Borne Diseases

It is warm weather once again. It bids us to take on more of the great outdoors and signals the beginning of mosquito and tick season. Because both mosquitoes and ticks can carry disease, it is important that we take precautions to protect others and ourselves.

In a May 2001 news release, state public health officials urged residents to become "Skeeter Defeaters" by taking steps to eliminate mosquito breeding grounds, reducing unnecessary exposure to mosquito bites, and reporting dead or dying birds. Nolan Newton, NC Public Health Pest Management Section Chief stated that, "We want people to know that by taking specific precautions, they can help protect themselves from our state's most traditional mosquito-borne viruses as well as West Nile virus, which was found last year in a Chatham County crow." Like Eastern Equine Encephalitis and LaCrosse Encephalitis, West Nile virus is transmitted to humans when a mosquito that has bitten an infected wild bird then bites a person.

Most people who are infected with the virus suffer no symptoms at all. However, it may cause headache, fever, swollen glands, muscle aches and often a rash. In severe cases, it may cause an infection of the brain called "encephalitis." People 50 years of age and older and those with health problems are most at risk for serious illness due to West Nile virus. Anyone who may be ill from West Nile virus should see a doctor as soon as possible. Although there is no cure for the infection, most people who are infected have only mild symptoms,

if any at all, and recover fully with supportive treatment. West Nile virus infection is extremely rare in all animals except for birds and horses.

While there is no vaccine for the virus, by avoiding mosquito bites you can greatly reduce your chance of becoming infected. To avoid bites:

- Wear long-sleeved shirts and pants.
- Avoid places where there are a lot of mosquitoes.
- Avoid being outdoors when there are a lot of mosquitoes, particularly at dusk and dawn.
- Use repellents containing DEET (30% or less for adults, 10% or less for children) to prevent mosquito bites, carefully following the label instructions.
- Keep screens on windows and doors in good repair.

You can also protect your self, your family and community from West Nile virus and other illnesses carried by mosquitoes by reducing mosquito breeding sites:

- Empty, destroy, recycle or cover containers like tires, tin cans, buckets and bottles that hold water where mosquitoes can lay their eggs.
- Change water in pet bowls and birdbaths at least once a week.
- Remove or empty dishes under potted plants.
- Stock pond and ditches with native fish.
- Cover unused pools.
- Clean clogged rain gutters.
- Repair leaky faucets.
- Put special "donuts" made with mosquito-

killing bacteria in water where mosquito eggs may hatch.

Help monitor for West Nile virus by reporting dead birds — especially crows, blue jays and hawks — to local health departments or the Public Health Pest Management Section at 1-877-790-1747. Only bird carcasses that are whole, appear to be less than 36 hours old, do not have an odor, and do not have maggots inside or outside of the bird should be reported.

Another pest that is both annoying and major carrier of disease in the state is the tick. Rocky Mountain spotted fever is a disease that is very common in the state. Ehrlichiosis is also very common and causes an illness much like spotted fever, but usually without spots. Lyme disease is found in North Carolina, but is not too common. All of these diseases are easily treated with antibiotics, if diagnosed early. It is important to remember the date when a tick has bitten. A flu-like illness 2-14 days after the bite could mean the start of a tick-carried disease. This should also be a signal for physician care. An unusual problem called tick paralysis occurs when a feeding tick produces a toxin (poison) that affects certain nerves. This is rare in people, but often found in dogs. Removing the tick stops the paralysis.

Usually ticks are a problem around the home because a pet dog has carried them into the yard or house. Female ticks on the animal feed, drop-off and lay eggs. The eggs hatch and thousand of larval ticks seek a meal — usually from the dog. Control-

ling ticks around the home means keeping the animal free of ticks with the use of a suitable dip, dust, or shampoo and a tick collar. Veterinarians have very good treatments against ticks that are applied to a pet's skin or given by mouth. Dogs can be deticked by hand, but remember to protect your fingers or use tweezers. Where ticks have become a problem around the home an insecticide labeled for tick control can be used. Brush, long grass, and leaf litter are places where ticks may rest or wait for a host. Removing this material by cutting, bagging or burning will help control ticks.

When outdoors people often become exposed to ticks. Several things can be done to prevent tick bites:

- Wear long-sleeved shirts and long-legged pants in areas infested by ticks.
- Tuck pants legs into socks and shirttails into pants. As ticks climb they cannot get beneath the clothing.
- Use repellents to discourage ticks.
- Remain on trails wherever possible.
- Check frequently for ticks on the body — ticks on the scalp are often overlooked.

The best way to remove ticks from a person or a pet, is to grasp the tick firmly with tweezers as close as possible to where it is attached to the skin. Fingers may also be used if protected by a tissue. Fluids from the tick could transmit disease. Slowly and steadily, pull the tick straight up. Do not twist, this will break-off the mouth parts. Treat the area with antiseptic. Note the date of the tick bite, in case of any signs of illness. Once a tick has become firmly attached to the skin, the use of Vaseline, fingernail polish, kerosene or a hot match will not dislodge it.

A special thank you is due Kimberly Hattaway, Public Information Officer, North Carolina Division of Environmental Health, for her substantial assistance in gathering the above information. For more information about mosquitoes, ticks and diseases related to these vectors/pests, you may contact your local department or the North Carolina Public Health Pest Management Section at (919) 733-6407 or view their web site at www.deh.enr.state.nc.us.

Operation Friends Helping Friends: A Call To Serve

By Dr. Simon A. Burney

Since November of 1999, Friends Helping Friends Outreach Ministries has been serving five FEMA devastated Eastern North Carolina. The Operation Friends Helping Friends outreach project is a component of the Friends Helping Friends Family Resource Center, Inc. The mission of Friends Helping Friends Family Resource Center is to support families in their healthy development and growth within the community.

To date, the outreach ministry of friends Helping Friends Family Resource, Inc. has assisted hundred of families with therapeutic pastoral counseling, food distribution, clothing, rental assistance, utility assistance, propane gas for heating mobile campers, and house furniture. The organization has sponsored many youth and teen educational enrichment workshops, recreational trips, provided family resource support services, employment resource referrals, and sponsored on-site Church services, along with mini revivals.

At present, many volunteers who have served in the rebuilding efforts; have gone back home to their families, jobs and their routines of daily living. The regional and local disaster agencies have done what they were setup to do, which was to respond during the emergency. Volunteers who helped feed, transport and minister to families have gone back to their former occupations. But the fact of the matter is; there are still many, many families and children in need of assistance. There are still so many heads

of households without employment. Although it has been almost two years since Hurricane Floyd devastated eastern North Carolina. There are still so many homes to be rebuilt.

Some have stated that the people should go back to their homes, because there was more than enough time and moneys released for assistance. Other persons not effected by the flood have said that some people are taking advantage of the system. However, the true facts of the matter is that most people have no idea of what the flood survivors have been going through or the bureaucratic red tape that they have to deal with, or the credit qualification hassles that bar them from qualifying for affordable single family homes. There is no way for anyone to really know what the flood survivors true pain and feelings are, unless you have lost everything yourself in the flood, and have to start rebuilding your life over again with nothing. There are still so many families trying very hard to move into suitable housing and reestablish an environment of stability for their lives and children.

There are still hundreds of people who formerly lived in public housing, of which construction will not be completed for another two or three years. This simply means that many senior citizens, single parent households, and low-income families will possibly be waiting for affordable housing for the duration of yet another three years. For many people, due to their economic condition, there is no other choice of affordable housing. They simply cannot af-

ford anything else. There are yet, still many homeowners seeking financial assistance for home repairs, while others are still waiting on *buy out funds* to purchase new homes.

There are also many families that are moving out of temp housing to live with other family members just to have some type of stability for their school age children. After waiting for nearly two years to find a home to rent, some families still have to wait yet another two months or more, before they can move into their place of residence; due to the fact that they have no furniture for their new place of residence. Friends Helping Friends Outreach Ministries continue to receive many calls for home furniture, household appliances, dishes, irons, bath towels, bedspreads, sheets, curtains, can foods, transportation assistance, one on one crisis intervention counseling, and the list goes on because the needs are so many. As you may have heard and can plainly understand, the opportunities to serve in response to the needs are so diverse. Form an analytical view, the truth of the matter is that, community resources, in-kind and financial contributions of assistance are so limited.

Dr. Simon A. Burney and Rev. Annie H. Burney are associate ministers of Mt. Zion, Missionary Baptist Church, of Beaufort, NC. Their pastor is the honorable Dr. James M. Moore. They are members of the Tri-City Ministerial Alliance under the leadership of Dr. N. H. Daniel's, President. They are also members of the Old Eastern Baptist Association of North Carolina, under the leadership of Dr. C.D. Bell,

moderator.

The Burney's are the missionary foot soldiers of Friends Helping Friends Outreach Ministries. In September of 1999 their plans was to move to Goldsboro, NC, where Dr. Burney was planning to transfer to work at Seymour Johnson Air Base. They had found a house to live in, and met new friends. However, after preparing to move, the Burney's were informed that the house that they were seeking was located in a flood zone area. After hearing of the devastation in Nash and Edgecombe counties, they prayed and sought the Lord concerning providing family resource support services to the mobile home campsites in Rocky Mount and Tarboro, NC.

After much prayer, council and meeting with many families who asked if they would please come and help them and the children. In response to the call of the Lord to serve, the plea of the people, and the cry of the children. The ministry of Friends Helping Friends relocated to the Nash and Edgecombe county region of North Carolina.

Dr. Burney had a burning desire in his heart to respond to a call to serve. So the work began on the Rocky Mount FEMA Fountain mobile home campsite. After making formal assessments to fully understand the needs of the people, he along with his wife Mrs. Annie Burney, organized and incorporated the Friends Helping Friends Family Resource Center. As of to date, the organization has served five FEMA mobile (See page 23)

~~ Highlights of 2001 Millennium Mid-Year Session ~~

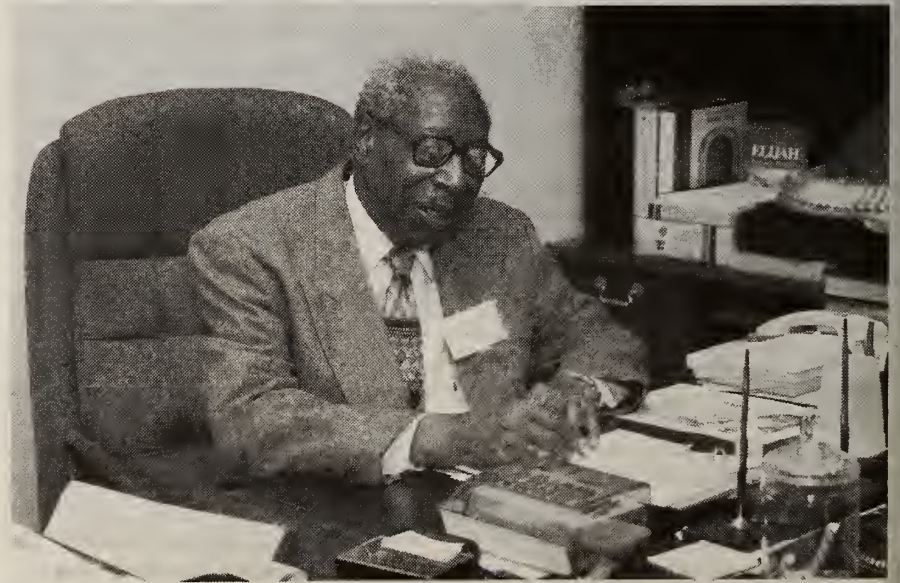
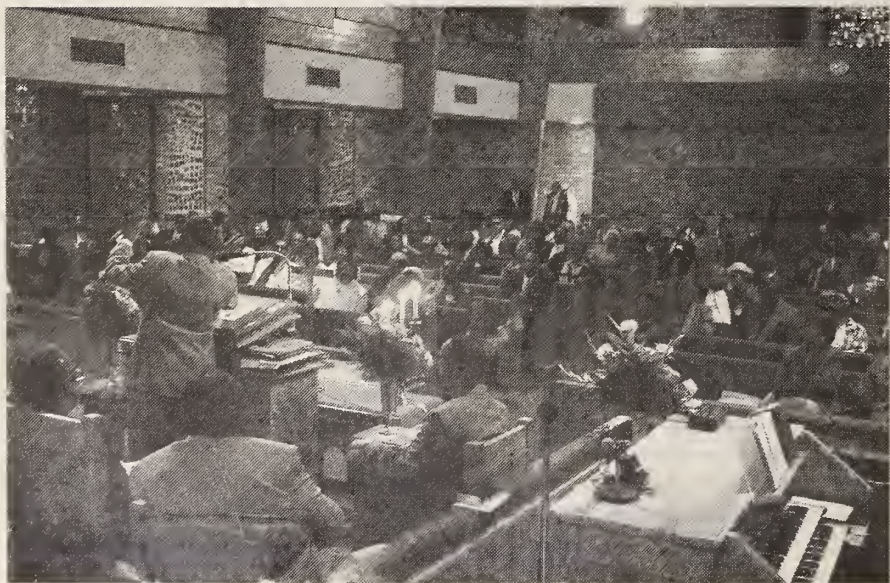
Host Church: First Baptist Church Wilmington • Dr. Joseph Windley, Pastor



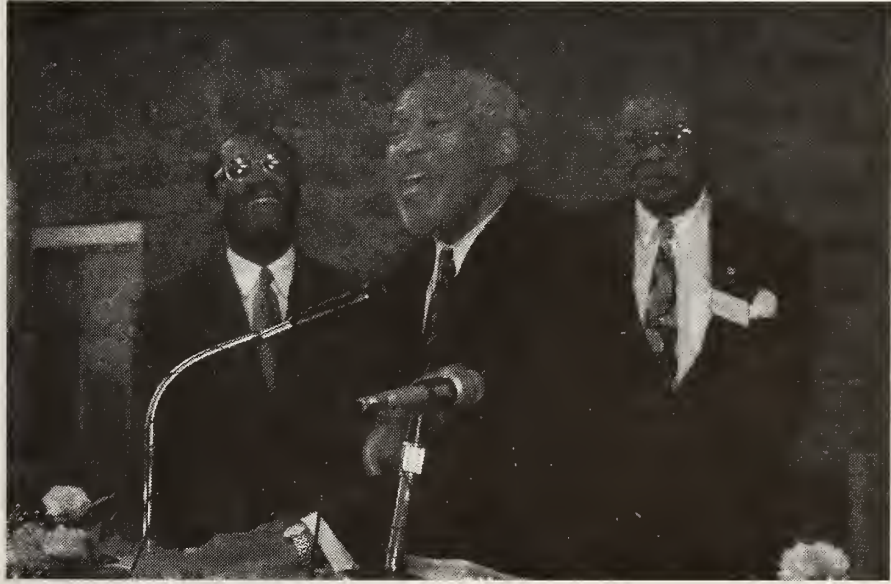
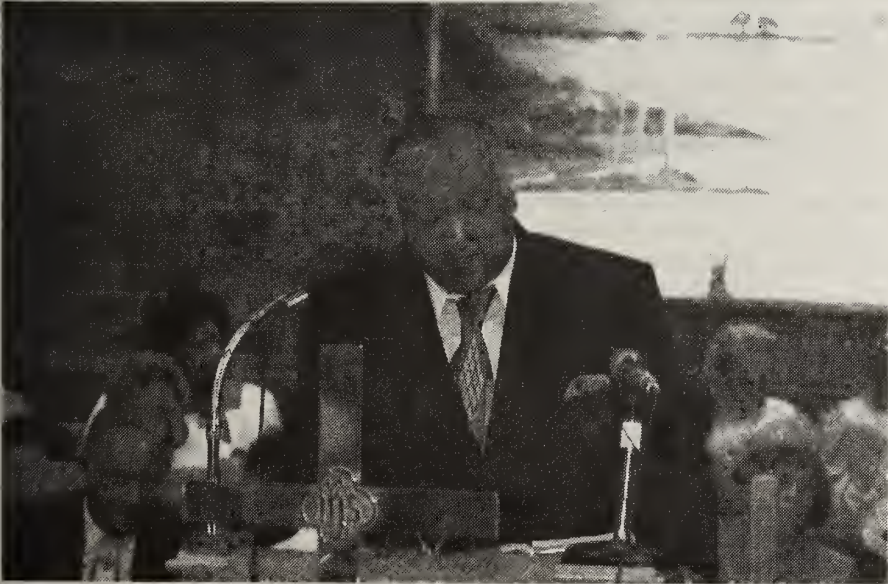
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~~ Highlights of 2001 Millennium Mid-Year Session ~~



By Dr. James W. Washington Sr.  
Field Worker GBSC

*All that the Father giveth me shall come to me, and him that cometh to me, I will in no wise cast out.* (John 6:37)

"Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out." This statement is meant for every living Child of God; it has no limitations; free Grace has been given to all believers! So whosoever pleases may come to Him, and be sure that they will not be refused, forbidden, rejected, or turned away. O' what a Glorious promise!

This passage of Scripture clearly states that God has chosen a people, and He has given them to Christ; and these people must come to Christ to be saved from hell and damnation! This passage also states that everyone who comes to Christ *shall* find Salvation; since they will not be cast out; they will be received and accepted into the bosom of the Savior. So, Come to Him!

When the mass of people rejected Christ, He said "Ye believe not, because you are not my sheep." And He knew in His heart that just as some would refuse Him; all would not do so. He knew that some of them would believe on Him. Therefore, He said, "All that the Father giveth me shall come to me." Saints, you **MUST** come to Christ, because it is the only way to Salvation. There is no other!

I put this question to you. If all that the Father giveth to Christ shall most surely come to Him, why shouldn't you come; why shouldn't I come; why shouldn't we be in that number? The devil will tell you that "you cannot come to Christ." Sometimes sin hampers you, doubt drags you down; sometimes you are so confused that you don't know what to do; that is the very time that you must seek Him wherever He may be found; and come to Him! He will in no wise cast you out!

To come to Him is your deliverance, it is your immediate concern, as laid down in His Word. Therefore, my brother, my sister, don't delay, don't hesitate, or falter. This is no time for procrastination! Don't shut yourself out as some do. Since it is written "All that the Father giveth to me shall come to me"... let's shut ourselves in! Why not come to him since He will welcome you with gladness, and receive you as His own?

Christ said, "All that the Father giveth me shall come to me." He also said "I will in no wise cast you out." Folks, you know real well that friends and family will reject you and cast you out; children you have nurtured and raised from birth, will cast you out; the boss that you have slaved for and helped build a business for 40 years, will coldly cast you out in your old age without a pension; social, political, and civic clubs will take your money and your expertise; but they will cast you out! But, thanks be to GOD for His Son Jesus; because He will in now wise cast you out! Praise GOD, He will n never cast you out!

No matter what you have done in the past; no matter how sinful and foul, no matter how degraded and vile, no matter how low or high, young or old, He will not cast you out. Come to him. Right now, poor sinner, come to him! Please come to Him.

Note, the passage says, "All that the father giveth to me, shall come to me." He put no limitations, terms, or conditions on this promise. Suppose I am weak, suppose I am sinful, suppose I am hundred time more sinful, wicked, corrupt and foul than anybody else. This is of no consequence. It does not depend on my character; but it depends on something that the Father and the Son has done for me. Therefore, why can't I come? There never was a sinner that was kept away from Christ. Because Christ

# Come To Him!

wants you a thousand times as much as you want Him! So come to Him! Why not come?

There is only one gate to Salvation and eternal life; and Christ is that gate! All that the Father has given to Christ must come in by this gate. This is the gate GOD has opened; there is no other; there never will be any other! The thief Dismas cried on the Cross, "Lord, remember me, when thy comest into thy kingdom!" Dismas, a thief and murderer found his way into heaven by coming to Christ. Why can't we get there in the same way? Come to Him!

Ask Peter, ask James; ask John, and Paul, and all the rest of them if they entered into heaven by a private path made for them alone, and they will tell you that they had to come to Christ like the lowest sinner. There is no private and secret Savior, there is no private gate for the Scribes and the Pharisees; there is no secret entrance for the rich and the noble; there is no hidden pathway for the proud and the pompous. No, beloved, we must all come to Christ! Come to Him now, while the blood runs hot in your veins; come to Him while the strength of youth fills you body; come to Him when you are old and feeble. Come to Him! There never was a day when the Lord can't save you!

The Bible plainly states, "There is none other name under the heavens whereby we might be saved!" Saints, there is no way around Jesus Christ! He is the doorway, He is the pathway, He is the gateway, He is the roadway, He is the highway, He is the *only* way to Glory!

"(O' I'm, Preaching now)! Mama can't get you in; daddy can't get you in; sons and daughters can't get you in; your best friend can't get you in; your money and high position can't get you in; Mohammed can't get you in; Farrakkan can't get you in; Bush can't get you in; your Pastor can show you the way, but he can't get you in; but, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ can get you in! GLORY HALLELUJAH! O' YEAH...O' YEAH...O' YEEAAHHHH, HE CAN GET YOU IN! So I beg you, come to Him; no...run to Him!"

"Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out!" This is one of the most wonderful promises between the covers of the Bible. "Him that cometh to me." This man or woman may have been guilty of the most heinous crimes; to awful to mention; but if they come to Christ they will not be cast out! He/she may have committed many other sins til the list is too full to mention; but if they come to Christ they will not be cast out! They may have hardened their hearts, and rejected Christ a thousand times; they may have sinned daily, and deeply, and willfully; but if they come to Christ they will not be cast out!

Perhaps there is a lowly sinner reading this sermon (O' I pray that some are), perhaps you are trying to find a way out; perhaps you think that you are too defiled; perhaps you think that you are too degraded; perhaps you think that you are lowest of the low, the worst of the worst; the vilest of the vile; perhaps you think that Salvation is beyond you; perhaps you think that Christ will surely reject you!

But, my friend this promise is especially to you, because Christ came to save that which was lost; Christ came to save the lowest sinner. So come to Him! This promise is for the lowest of the low; the worst of the worst; so come to Him! He loved you so much that He was nailed t the Cross; pierced in the side; spit on and ridiculed;

and he died on the Cross for you. Come to Him! Our Lord suffered so much for you! Don't let His death be in vain...come to Him and accept your crown!

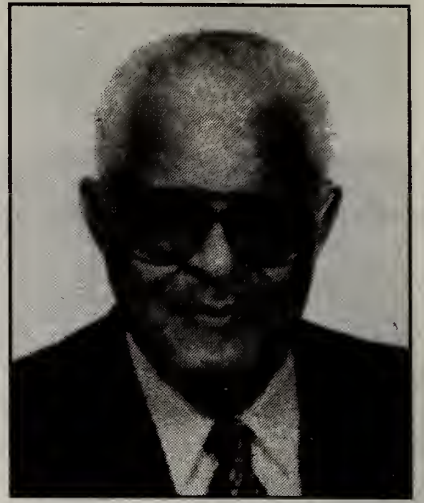
There is no reason why you should not come. No matter how weak and imperfect your faith, your salvation is still assured. There is no time limit placed on you. You are old enough to die, you are old enough to sin, and you are old enough to believe in our Savior Jesus Christ, so come to Him. If you thoughts think of Him; if your heart embraces Him; if your souls trusts in him; if you truly and diligently seek Him; He will not cast you out!

I learned about Jesus Christ from my dear, sweet mother, Jessie! Who was a deeply religious person. Most of us have known Christ from our childhood. His name was part the beautiful songs that our mothers used to sing. I can hear mama now; cleaning house singing "Just A Closer Walk with Thee, Grant it Jesus, if you please...!" His Eye Is on The Sparrow, I Know He Watches Me!" Thank God for mama and precious childhood memories!

So don't think that you have to be old and gray before you come to Christ! I have been blessed to see many boys and girls age ten, eleven, twelve be saved and baptized. And some of them can tell you more about Christ than many older men can, and they love Jesus just as much!

Let me remind you that, "Him that cometh to Me" applies to the old, as well as the young. Many hold the belief that if a person is not saved by the time they are forty-five, they will never be converted and come to Christ. I, myself, do not hold this belief. Many men and women have been baptized who are over eighty years of age! There is no age limit on the grace of GOD! However old you may be, come to Him, He will not cast you out!

So come to Him, hobbling on your cane; come to Him in your bifocals if your eyes are failing; come to Him with your hearing aid; come to Him with arthritis crippling your body; Come to Him in Chronic Pain; come to Him with your Pacemaker, come to Him in your wheelchair! But, come to



Dr. James W. Washington Sr., Th.D.

Him! Although you may have little time left on earth; eternity awaits you in heaven in you will only come to Him, now, before it is too late.

Come to Jesus! Come to Him in the coolness of the morning, while the dew is on the roses, He will not cast you out! Come to Him in the heat of noonday, when the sun shines hot, He will not cast you out! Come to Him in the twilight of evening, when the day is drawing to a close, He will not cast you out! Come to Him in the mid-night hour, when darkness covers you, He will not cast you out! The door to salvation is not shut; the gate of mercy is not closed; so come to Him!

"Him that Cometh to me I will not cast out!" He will never cast you out; on no condition; for no reason; on no pretense; for no motive whatsoever, in all time and eternity will he cast you out. All may come! So come to Him, all who are meek and humble; come to Him, all who are broken in Spirit; come to Him, all who are despised and hated by others; come to Him, liar and cheat; come to Him; dope addicts and murderers; come to Him robbers and backsliders; O' please come to Him, He will not cast you out!

The "River of Mercy" is free to all. All may come and drink to the full. The Mercy of GOD is free to sinner. That river runs near you this morning. Stoop down, all thirsty sinners, and drink and live. I pray that you will come to Him now, and find deliverance from sin and death. May GOD bless every one of you. And... I say AMEN!

## Ebenezer Baptist Church To Host Trinity Annual Sessions

By Rev. Thomas Walker, Pastor

Ebenezer Baptist Church, Rocky Mount, will host the Laymen Annual Session, Congress of Christian Education Session and Usher's Convention all during the week of July 16 through July 21. This upcoming convention marks the first time in the history of the GBSC that three departments have celebrated their annual conventions at the same location during the same week allowing a convenient and unique opportunity for General Baptist desiring to attend all three conventions. The term "Trinity Convention" will be resounding in many ways by the Ebenezer Baptist Church and surrounding churches and associations. For instance, there will be a 300 layperson candlelight march on Monday, July 16. There will be 300 Christian Education workers candlelight march on Wednesday, July 18 and closing the week with a 300 Ushers candlelight march on Friday, July 20. This is an exciting opportunity for Ebenezer Baptist Church and surrounding churches to host the GBSC's first annual "Trinity Convention."

All Baptists are urged to be present.

Go to: [www.gbsc.org](http://www.gbsc.org)

By Charolette H. Leach, M.S.

The group that has emerged to become the "Believer's Striving for Health" began at my church in September of 2000. At that time we had about 10 people who came together determined to improve their health by changing their exercise and diet habits. All participants complete a membership form. One question asked on the form is, "What would you like to gain by participating in the Health Ministry?" The member should check all that apply of options which include weight loss, cardiovascular improvement, more flexibility, fellowship, motivation to exercise, and overall health improvement. Of these six options, all new members generally check all six. Of course as I have been with these ladies for more than nine months, I know that the number one desire is for weight loss.

A couple of weeks ago I ran into a member who had come for a couple of weeks back at the beginning, but stopped and has not made it back. Her initial question was "Is the group still getting together for walking?" I was glad that I could respond with a YES. I was about to invite her to come back, but before I could she asked another question. "Has anyone lost any weight?" To this question, I responded with a weak, "I think so."

Initially, I was a little offended by her question. Was she saying that she might consider coming back if it could be shown that some weight loss had occurred? What about the fact that exercising and trying to eat properly can help with maintaining weight? What about the fact that us coming together on a regular basis provides motivation for some to exercise, who most likely would not do anything on their own?

## History Is Made In The Mecklenburg General Baptist Association

The Revs. Winston G. and Tanya B. Lassiter made history in the Mecklenburg General Baptist Association of Charlotte, NC, on Sunday, April 1, 2001. The Lassiter's were the first husband and wife to become Ordained Ministers on the same day in the Association's 80 year history, where the Dr. Norman E. Kerry Jr., Pastor of the Chappell Memorial Baptist Church, Charlotte, NC, is the Moderator.

The Chairman of the Association's Ordination Council, Dr. Fred Gibson, Pastor of the Greater Providence Baptist Church, Charlotte, NC, gave the Ordination Message; at the Mount Moriah Missionary Baptist Church, Matthews, NC, where the Rev. Larry W. Whitley, is Senior Pastor.

Rev. Winston G. Lassiter is Minister of Substance Abuse at Mount Moriah Missionary Baptist Church. He is a native New Yorker, who later moved to Greensboro, NC. While in Greensboro; Rev. Lassiter graduated from James B. Dudley High School. After High School he went on to receive his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology from Winston Salem State University. Years later, after moving to Charlotte,

## Operation Friends...

home campsites and other residents of Nash and Edgecombe counties.

If you have a heart for missions, and would like to know how you can still help, please contact Friends Helping Friends at (252) 266-2953. You may also pray about sending in-kind donations of support to the Friends Helping Friends Family Resource Center, Inc. at P.O. Box 1985, Rocky Mount, NC 27801.

Please continue to pray for the Friends Helping Friends diversified outreach ministries: as they continue to minister to the families of Nash and Edgecombe counties of North Carolina. Please pray that the Lord will save the lost souls by his grace as they lift up Jesus.

## FAITH AND FITNESS

### Has Anyone Lost Any Weight?

We know that we are not all where we need to be with regard to our health, but we are putting forth some effort. Does that not count for something? In order for us to be effective, does that mean that significant weight must be lost?

Yes, we have had testimonials of some weight loss, but I have also heard it said by one member that yes I have lost some pounds, but also gained them back.

It took me a few days, but after meditating about the question, I had to admit that this former member of the group was making a valid point. It would have been different if we had only been meeting for a couple of months. But nine months is enough time to accomplish some weight loss, if that is your goal.

God brought two scriptures to mind, as I meditated on this. The first one is in Psalm I and verse 3.

*And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.*

The first division of Psalms talks about what constitutes a "Blessed" person. This blessed person has his delight in the law of the Lord and meditates on that law day and night. Because of this, he is like a tree planted by the rivers that brings forth his fruit in his season. This persons' leaf does not wither and **whatever he does pros-**

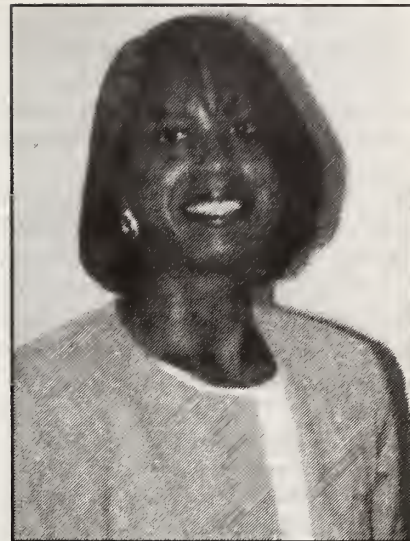
**pers.** This whatever could be working on a college degree, this whatever could be obtaining a promotion at work. This whatever could be remodeling a room in your home or giving a speech at the Youth Oratorical Contest. This whatever might also be losing weight. Whatever we do, as Christians should prosper. Whatever we do should be effective and beneficial for us and for others. And we should be able to accomplish what we set our minds to.

The second scripture that I would like to mention is in the Old Testament book of Joshua, Chapter 1 and verse 8.

*This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.*

Interesting enough, this verse, like Psalms 1, also mentions the importance of meditating on the law both day and night. We are instructed to meditate on the Word of God both day and night so that we can observe to do all that is written. After we do this, we then can make our way prosperous and then we can have good success. Prospering and succeeding mean results to me. It means changes for the better. It does not mean staying the same. If this means losing 15 or 20 pounds to have better health, this is what should take place.

The bottom line of each scripture is that we should be able to accomplish what we set our minds to do, because of who we are in Christ Jesus and the power that is available to us be-



Charolette H. Leach, M.S.

cause the Spirit of God dwells within us.

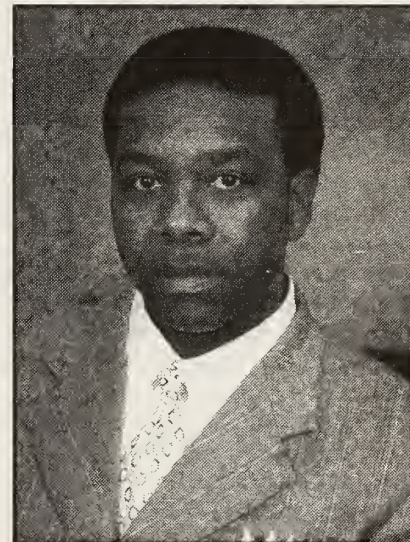
We should be examples of the difference that Christ can make in our lives and what this former member was looking for was this example. It took a couple days, but after much thought, I recognized this as a legitimate request.

A simple question was posed. *Has anyone lost any weight?* I could easily let this question die, if I did not know that this is the main goal of most of the members of the Believers Striving for Health. These ladies are not wanting to lose weight for cosmetic reasons. Shredding some pounds will aid and improve their overall health. This lets me know that I have more encouraging to do. I must do whatever I can to show that results are necessary, when you know that those results will lead to better health and ultimately an ability to be a better witness for Christ. We must also remember that we have the power through Christ to reach those results. Have you been able to reach your goals regarding improving your health? Remember, we are all Believers Striving for Health. Be Blessed!

## First Missionary Baptist Church Installs 14th Pastor

Dr. George B. Jackson was installed at First Missionary Baptist Church (FMBC), 103 Church Street, Thomasville, NC, as Pastor on April 29, 2001. The installation service concluded the month's celebration leading to this inspiring, soul-stirring event that occasioned the coming together of First Missionary's congregation as well as the Thomasville Community State, and Local Government Officials. Congratulations were made by Congressman Mel Watt, 5th Congressional District, State Representative Hugh Holliman, and Mayor Hubert Leonard from the City of Thomasville. The installation speaker was Dr. Jackson's father, Pastor William T. Jackson Sr. of Macedonia Baptist Church, Salisbury, NC. Sunday services of installation, beginning Sunday, April 1, 2001 and every Sunday thereafter, magnified the installation's theme "Behold I do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert." Isaiah 43:19. Dr. Jackson's ministry is paradigm of God's new thing for the new millennium since his call by FMBC in September, 2000. Eighty-six persons, seventy-two within the first six months of Dr. Jackson's administration, have given God their hearts and Pastor Jackson their hands to serve in his powerful, anointed ministry. The new church theme is "Empowering Kingdom Growth for the 21st Century."

Dr. Jackson comes to FMBC from New Bethlehem Baptist Church, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Jackson is a graduate of North Carolina Central University, Durham, NC, where he received his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science. Dr. Jackson received his Master's of Divinity degree with honors from Shaw University Divinity School in Raleigh, NC. He received his Doctorate of Ministry Degree from



Dr. George B. Jackson

Friends International Christian University, Merced, CA. Jackson is a Prince Hall Mason, one of four founders of Ebony Alpha Ebony Service Organization in 1980 at North Carolina Central University, and founder and chairman of the Martin Luther King Jr. Social Action Committee since 1986. Inspired by the prompting of providence, Dr. Jackson found New Covenant Missionary Baptist Church, Rock Hill, SC. Dr. Jackson, an avid community activist is a member of the Thomasville Branch NAACP.

"To God be the Glory for the Great Things He Has Done!" First Missionary's Congregation is experiencing God's power in awesome abundance. God has sent Pastor Jackson to FMBC and he has celebrated this great labor of love to the winning of souls to Christ, the edifying of the saints, building the cherished "beloved community" and empowering kingdom growth for the 21st century.

Wednesday, May 23, 2001

At this time, I would like to use the same words of Dr. W.T. Davis that he used in one of his addresses. His words were good for us at that time, and surely they are still good for us today.

Dr. Davis said, and I quote, "We need to be about our Father's business in the Roanoke Association. There's trouble in some of our churches, but we must not fight among ourselves because the world won't turn to us when we are showing unrest. All the auxiliaries in the Association are doing fine but don't make ourselves satisfied, for there is more work to be done. The churches need to come together and try to build up Roanoke Institute. If you sow bountifully you will reap bountifully."

This is election year for the Association. My tenure as Moderator is to an end. I do offer my full support to the newly elected Moderator. I will always want to be a part of this Association. I would like to thank Rev. Ricky L. Banks and Rev. W.M. Sawyer for their great support. I would also like to thank Sister Doris Jordan and Sister Nancy Alexander. I would like to thank Sister Emma Burke and Sister Mary Sharpe for all of their help.

The women of our Association, guided by the dedicated leadership of Sister Jean Ferebee, have made a wonderful contribution. You have given of your means and time to the extent that our Association has been able to move forward.

Our Union Meetings, under the leadership of Rev. J.W. Harris, Rev. W.M. Sawyer, and Rev. John Felton, have also moved forward in meeting the challenges of our time.

Our Trustees, with their chairman, Brother Dennis Stallings, have worked tirelessly to see that planned improvements were made on our building and that other matters assigned to their hands were carried out.

Our Executive Board, has kept the objectives of the Association in view and have given the program strong support.

Our Sunday School and BTU Congress, directed by President Sister Mary Sharpe, are doing a great job training our people.

Our Deacon and Layperson Union, under the leadership of Deacon Clinton Dilday, Deacon Dennis Stallings, and Deacon Wayne Rodgers, have enlarged the participation of the laity of the churches in our Association.

We thank the Lord for the Roanoke School for ministers, under the direction of Dr. L.W. Chase, who is the Dean of our School.

We thank God for Roanoke Theological Seminary, under the direction of Dr. John Trotman and Dr. Harold Murrill.

The Roanoke School for Ministers and Roanoke Theological Seminary are training our preachers to preach the gospel.

We thank the Roanoke Ministerial Alliance, under the leadership of Rev. R.L. Banks, for the good work and strong support to this Association.

We are grateful to the Christian Education Committee, chaired by Sister Mary Sharpe, for the great work they are doing.

We now want to thank everybody not only for your help and support to the Association, but also your help and support to me. **To God be the Glory!**

Now as I close this address, there is a word for the Lord, and as I stand between the end of my position as Moderator and the beginning of another's position, my mind now allows me to go back into history. I'm now reflecting to all the great Moderators who have also had a word from the Lord. My memory only sends me back as far as *Moderator J.E. Tillet*. I remember

## Roanoke Missionary Baptist Association

# Moderator's Annual Address

him delivering addresses, but not any parts. However, I do remember a question that was asked to him once, the question was: "Can a person go to heaven without paying tithes? Dr. Tillet had a word from the Lord for an answer. His response was as follows: "Do you think robbers are going to heaven?" Because God said, "You have robbed me in tithes and offerings!"

*Moderator Rev. R.R. McRay*: By the time he came to the end of his closing as Moderator, he had served for about 6 years. His health was failing, and his last word from the Lord was in the way of a testimony. He began by giving praises to God for His goodness, he then recalled how through the years the grace of God had brought us through. *Moderator Rev. R.R. McRay* urged the ministers to preach the word and reminding them that if they wanted their influence to help somebody, then they must be next to God.

*Moderator W.H. Trotman*: Being the next Moderator, he announced in the next annual session that *Moderator McRay* was ill and was not able to attend.

*Moderator H.L. Mitchell* was the next Moderator and he also served about 6 years. *Moderator Mitchell* left the office of Moderator with a word from the Lord. *Moderator H.L. Mitchell* talked about "Teaching and Preaching" using St. Matthew 28:19-20 and Mark 16:15 as his text. And it reads as follows: Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I'm with you always, even unto the end of the world, AMEN.

*Moderator H.L. Mitchell* spoke concerning the theme, which was: "The Missionary Baptist Church, Meeting Her Responsibilities." *Moderator Mitchell* said that these responsibilities are not man made, the Lord, who has commissioned, divinely gives them to the church that we should go forth and teach and go forth and preach, according to Matthew and Mark's gospel.

He quoted how Jesus Christ said, "Teach and preach. Tell the good news of Salvation in the most understandable way." You can say all you want to say, but if people don't understand it, they are not going to do much about it. There can certainly be no preaching without teaching. The church must therefore, accept the responsibility in teaching and preaching the Gospel in areas of life.

*Moderator W.H. Davis* was unable to deliver an address, he only reviewed the work of the Association.

*Moderator J.E. Barnes* served 3 years. In 1985, *Moderator Barnes* had a word from the Lord. This came from Leviticus 6:13. It reads as follows: The fire shall even be burning upon the altar, it shall never go out. *Moderator Barnes* chose for a subject: "The Continual Fire!" He made it known that you ought to walk so close to God that the fire will never go out.

When you get your heart right and Christ comes into your life, the fire will never go out. A fire won't burn if there are too many ashes in the fire. Move the ashes out of your heart and let the fire burn. When the fire burns, love will come into your heart and the fire will not go out.

*Moderator J.E. Griffin* delivered his closing message with a word for the Lord. His subject was "Stewardship." *Moderator Griffin* spoke from the 25th chapter of

St. Matthew concerning talents. He said whatever has been placed upon you, treat it with care. The harvest is great but the laborers are few. He said, the task is unfinished, and he challenged us to go and work.

*Moderator W.T. Davis* closed his last address as Moderator with a word from the Lord. Subject: "Brand New Through and Through" Text: 2 Corinthians 5:17. It reads as follows: Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

*Moderator Davis* said Paul was aware of our infirmities when he said this. To be in Christ, there are three new things we need: 1) new position; 2) new personality; 3) new potentials. Dr. Davis said, if you are a new creature you have a new position. You are in the position to make heaven your home. When earth can't afford you a home any more, you have a place to go.

To make it to heaven, you need a new personality. You can't be that same old person with those nasty attitudes. When you look at your hands, they should look new, when you look at your feet, they should too. When you get a new personality, jealousy and malice have all passed away.

When you become a new creature, you have new potentials. Potentials are what you are capable of being. Sometimes you wonder why God would choose this person, but with Christ there are no limitations, all things are possible through Christ. All of us have the potential to become one of God's chosen. Because when God gets through with you, you will become "Brand

New, Through and Through."

Now, it is my time to step down from this office of Moderator. Therefore, I have a word from the Lord. I would like to leave a question with you:

**Is Your All On The Altar?**  
(Romans 12:1-2)

**Romans 12:1:** I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

**Romans 12:2:** And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

**Altar:** A raised structure or places on which sacrifices are offered or incense are burned in worship.

**Uses of:**

- 1—Sacrifice Gen. 8:2
- 2—Incense Ex. 30:1,7,8; Luke 1:10-11
- 3—National Unity Deut. 12:5,6
- 4—A Memorial Ex. 17:15,16
- 5—Protection Ex. 21:13,14

**Made of:**

- 1—Earth Ex. 20:24
- 2—Unhewn Stone Ex. 20:25
- 3—Stone Deut. 27:5,6
- 4—Natural Rock Judg. 6:19-21
- 5—Bronze Ex. 27:1-6

**Built Worthily by:**

- 1—Noah Gen. 8:2
- 2—Abraham Gen. 12:7,8
- 3—Isaac Gen. 26:25
- 4—Jacob Gen. 33:18,20
- 5—Moses Ex. 17:15
- 6—Joshua Deut. 27:4-7
- 7—Eastern tribe Josh. 22:10,34
- 8—Gideon Judg. 6:26,27
- 9—Manoah Judg. 13:19,20
- 10—Israelites Judg. 21:4

(See next page)

# DIABETICS

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## Roanoke Missionary Association

11—Samuel I Samuel 7:17

12—Saul I Samuel 14:35

13—David II Samuel 24:18-25

14—Elijah I Kings 18:31,32

**New Covenant**

1—A place of spiritual sacrifices Romans 12:1-2

2—Christ, our pattern Heb. 13:10-16

"Learn to be different!" A father would tell his children who argued for doing something by pointing out that other children were doing it. One of the children, now grown, commented, "Now we're all so different daddy can't stand us."

Paul exhorts Christians to be different. This uniqueness is the very goal for which we were created and redeemed.

Paul calls on Christians to present to God their total person. This on their part, an act of intelligent worships, in thanks to God for his wondrous mercies. This will make us different.

Has your Christian experience made you different, or just odd?

We are in a great struggle. Will we reflect in our behavior the present age with its materialism, selfishness, and sin? Or will we reflect the age to come, with its spiritual power, its love, and its righteousness?

There are strong pressures on us to conform. Paul exhorts, Don't let the world around you squeeze you into its own mold, (Rom. 12:2—Phillips trans.)

The world around us does not always, observe the highest standards. Its goals are often shortsighted. The world about us is not famous for putting human values above material concerns, though the world may use them as an inducement for legalizing its vices.

Though we are strongly pressured to conform to the world around us, Christians have an experience that breaks the molds of worldly conformity. "Be transformed by the renewal of your mind." (12:2, RSV).

We have a new identification. Our life should be more involved with the "Age to Come." Earthly, human loyalties are superseded by our loyalty to the Kingdom of God. That is why Jesus said, "He who loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he who loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and he who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. (Matt. 10:37-38, RSV).

We have a new standard. We are inspired and constrained by the miracle of Christian love. Jesus held this up as the highest motivation when He said, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. You shall love your neighbor as yourself," (Matt. 22:37,39 RSV). As John puts it, "We love, because he first loved us." (I John 4:19, RSV).

What shall we say to these questions: Can a Christian do no better than to seek in everything the approval of the world? The

Christian is involved in powerful tensions in the world. However, he lives confidently today, because he is assured that the future is in God's hands. He can lay down his life even for those who persecute him and despiteful use him, because he is assured that God will use his sacrifices for the good and redemption of the ones for whom he suffers.

All to Jesus, I surrender, all to Him I freely give.

It is to surrender ourselves to God, that is to lay a good foundation. This is the spring of all duty and obedience you, brethren, Though he was a great apostle, yet he calls the meanest Christian brethren.

The duty pressed, to present our bodies a living sacrifices. Your bodies, your whole selves our bodies a living sacrifice. Your bodies, your whole selves, our bodies and spirits are intended. Christ, who was once offered to bear the sins of many, is the only sacrifice of atonement; but our persons and performances, tended to God through Christ, are as sacrifices of the acknowledgment to the honor of God. Presenting them a voluntary act, it must be a free-will offering.

The arguments to enforce this are as follows: First consider mercies of God: I beseech you by the mercies of God. There is a mercy that is in God and the mercy that is from God. God is a merciful God, therefore-let us present our bodies to Him. He will be sure to use them kindly. We receive from Him everyday the fruits of His mercy. Particularly mercy to our bodies: He made them, He maintains them, and He brought them. The greatest mercy of all is that Christ hath not made His body only, but His soul, an offering for sin. Let us render ourselves as an acknowledgment of all these favors. All we are, all we have, all we can do; and after all, it is but very poor returns, and yet, because it is all we have.

Secondly it is acceptable to God. If the presenting of ourselves please Him, we cannot do ourselves better.

Thirdly, it is our reasonable service. There is an act of reason in it, for it is the soul that presents the body. God does not impose upon us anything hard on unreasonable that is a reasonable service, which we are able and ready to give reason for. May the work I've done, speak for me  
May the work I've done, speak for me  
When I'm resting in my grave and there's nothing to be said  
May the work I've done, speak for me.

May the life I live, speak for me  
May the life I live, speak for me  
When the best I try to live, all my mistakes  
He will forgive  
May the life I live, speak for me

May the service I give, speak for me  
May the service I give, speak for me  
When I've done the best I can, and my friends don't understand  
May the service I give, speak for me

The work I've done, It seems so small  
Sometimes it seems like nothing at all  
But when I stand before my God  
I want to hear him say well done  
May the work I've done, speak for me.



### Forbes and Gilliard Earn Doctoral Degrees

The Rev. David Collins Forbes Sr. of Raleigh, Pastor of Christian Faith Church, and the Rev. Cathy Smith Gilliard of Durham, Assistant to the Pastor at White Rock Baptist Church, have been awarded the Doctor of Ministry Degree from the United Theological Seminary of Dayton, Ohio. In an in-context ceremony at Grace Baptist Church, Mount Vernon, New York, both Forbes and Gilliard were among thirteen clergy from across the nation to receive their degrees at ceremonies on May 26, 2001. The convocation message was delivered by Dr. Gardner C. Taylor. Under the mentorship of Dr. Wyatt Tee Walker of New York City and Dr. W. Franklyn Richardson of Mount Vernon, New York, Forbes and Gilliard and their doctoral cohort successfully completed the course of study which began in January, 1999. Forbes' dissertation is entitled, *The Beloved Community: A Paradigm for Christian Discipleship* and Gilliard's dissertation is entitled, *Biblical Literacy: Transforming Members into Disciples*.

A special service for celebration and the hooding of Drs. Forbes and Gilliard was to be held at White Rock Baptist Church of Durham, 3400 Fayetteville Street on Saturday, June 2, 2001 at 3:00 p.m. The celebrant for this service was to be author and academician, the Rev. Dr. Wyatt Tee Walker, former Field Director for the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., former advisor to the late Governor Nelson Rockefeller of New York, and currently pastor of Canaan Baptist Church of Christ of Harlem. Music was to be rendered by the Mass Choir of White Rock Baptist Church and the Adult Choir of Christian Faith Baptist Church. The service was to culminate with "the hooding" of both Drs. Forbes and Gilliard. The public was invited to attend.

## State Ushers News

By Alice W. McNair

The State Ushers Convention will be held July 20-21, 2001 in Rocky Mount, NC at the Ebenezer B. Church. Dr. Thomas Walker, pastor. Bro. Charles R. Fletcher, president, urges all usher presidents to remind their ushers to start making plans to attend this event.

We hope to see Mrs. Eva M. Boyce, president of Gaston County Ushers Ministry, and her ushers from Mt. Hebron Baptist Church, pastor Rev. Timothy H. Scott, at the State Convention in Rocky Mount, NC. Mrs. Boyce had a large group of ushers at our last meeting at Laurel Hill, NC. Bring your ushers again, Mrs. Boyce, you all were looking good in your uniforms!

Western Union Ushers Convention was held May 18, 2001 at the Bearshin Baptist Church, Clinton, NC. President Roy Williams did the workshop "The Right way to Usher." The sermon was delivered by the Rev. Bobby R. Faison, pastor of Chapel Hill B. Church. He chose for a text, Psalm 84:10. His subject was "Door keepers in the house of God." It was an inspirational convention.

Mrs. Mary C. Tate, a faithful, Christian usher, was funeralized on May 18, 2001 at

the First Baptist Church in Clinton, NC. The pastor, Rev. Marvin T. Clowney Sr., delivered the eulogy. Mrs. Tate served as president of ushers at First Baptist for 20 plus years and served as sect. of Western Union Ushers Convention for 8 years. She was a dedicated Christian who loved her Lord and her fellow man. She will be greatly missed by First Baptist and Western Union.

Mrs. Nancy High, State Ushers Coordinator, is very busy these days doing usher workshops. If your church have need of her services, contact her at the ushers convention in Rocky Mount, NC and make arrangements for her to come to you at your church. Mrs. High will be glad to assist you.

While attending the General Baptist State Convention last fall at the Watts Chapel B. Church in Raleigh, NC I met the pastor, Dr. Frank Weaver, and discovered he had written a book entitled, "Black Man with Malice Toward None." I secured one of these books and found it to be well written, interesting, informative and very good reading. Get one of his books if you can. Every church needs one!

Send ushers news to : P.O. Box 105, Newton Grove, NC 28366.

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# NEWS AROUND THE STATE

## North Carolina Council of Churches

Submitted by Carol J. Smith  
Associate Editor

Religious and lay leaders from across the state have been elected to serve on the Executive Board of the North Carolina Council of Churches. In their meeting earlier this month, members of the Council's House of Delegates chose officers to serve on the Board.

The Council is the state's largest organization of its kind, stressing ecumenism and social justice on local, state and national issues ranging from the environment to matters of race and gender. More than 1.5 million North Carolinians are members of congregations under the Council's umbrella.

The Rev. Joseph C. Brown Sr., is the new president. He is pastor of St. Luke African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church in Wilmington. The Rev. Brown, a graduate of Shaw University, has been active with the Council in a variety of roles for more than a decade. Bridget B. Johnson, of Greensboro, becomes immediate past president after serving as president for two years.

She represents the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and works as Parish Area Coordinator for the Greensboro satellite office of Catholic Social Services.

The Rev. William H. Tiemann, of Davidson, is the new first vice-president. A long-time pastor and Presbytery administrator in Texas and North Carolina, he represents the Presbytery of Charlotte. The Rev. Hope Morgan Ward is the new second vice-president. A resident of Raleigh and graduate of Duke University and Duke Divinity School, she serves as executive director of Connectional Ministries for the North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church.

The new third vice-president is the Rev. Dr. Conrad Pridgen, pastor of Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Greensboro. He holds degrees from Shaw University, Yale Divinity School and United Theological Seminary and has served churches in Raleigh, Kenansville, Kinston, Jackson and Charlotte. Barbara Volk of Pullen Memorial Baptist Church in Raleigh is fourth vice-president. She is president of the North Carolina unit of Church Women United

and serves on the Community Resource Council for the North Carolina Correctional Institute for Women.

Sandy C. Irving, also of Raleigh, has been reelected secretary. She is a member of Western Boulevard Presbyterian Church and represents the Presbytery of New Hope. She works as a research associate for the Collaborative Studies Coordinating Center in the School of Public Health at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Remaining as treasurer is the Rev. Dr. James W. Ferree, of Winston-Salem, representing the Western North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church. He has held various positions at all levels of the church and is a former president of the Council.

The Council's members are the governing bodies or judicatories of the following religious groups: African Methodist Episcopal Church, African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Christian Methodist Episcopal Church and Episcopal Church. Also among the members are the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, General Baptist State Convention, Moravian Church



Carol J. Smith, Associate Editor

in America, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Reformed Church in American, Religious Society of Friends, Roman Catholic Church, United Church of Christ, United Methodist Church and Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. In addition, six Baptist congregations, whose judicatory is not a member of the Council, are members.

## District III Ushers

By 1st Vice President  
Forest Eaves Jr.

### President of District III Ushers

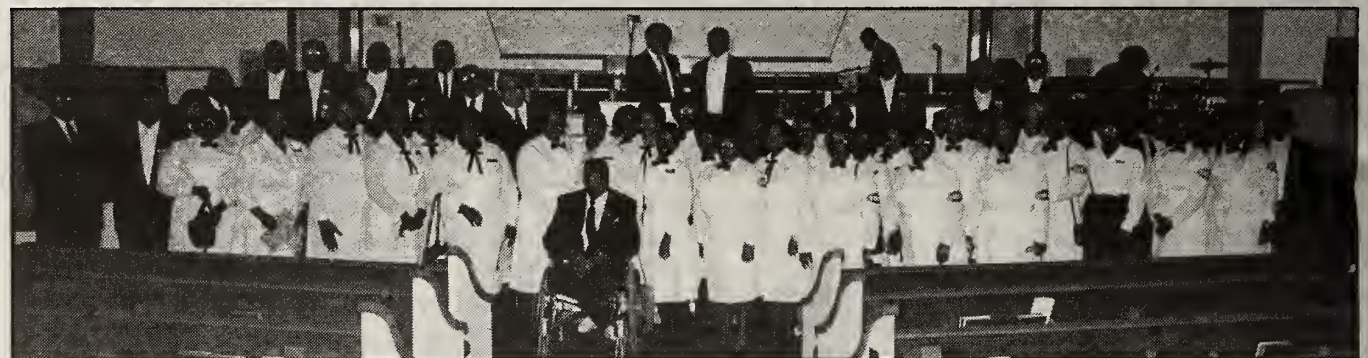
The District III Ushers, comprised of Ebenezer, Gaston County, Gold Hill, Guilding Light, Mecklenburg-General, Mount Peace Lane Creek, Rising Star and Stanley County Auxiliaries, observed their annual day on Sunday, April 22, as the host church, First Mount Zion, Charlotte, NC and pastor, Dr. C.V. Owens, open welcome doors to an estimated eighty to ninety ushers.

Dressed in their uniforms, men and women, marched into the 1st Mount Zion sanctuary to the theme of "Striving For Success."

State President, Charles Fletcher, greeted the door-keepers with words of encouragement, saying we are standing tall like the palm trees of Lebanon. We thank God. Continue to work hard and stay on the battlefield. These are not times to quit. It is time to do work for the Lord. It is time-out for part time ushers.

He expressed his joy in serving as state president and encouraged ushers to continue to work while it is day, night cometh and no man can work.

The worship service continued with spe-



cial attributes presented by several praise dance groups, boys and girls. Their performance was inspirational and brought the audience to give a standing ovation.

Host pastor, Dr. C.V. Owens, and Dean, delivered a dynamic message of encouragement and praise to each usher present.

Dr. Owens told the ushers we are worshipping the Lord Jesus Christ while we usher in the Lord's church. We are a part of what's going on in the Sanctuary. You don't come to church to serve God, we serve Him in our communities. Usher's work must be studied and done with enthusiasm. He urged ushers, while serving, serve not unto men

but unto God. This was a great message, delivered in an inspirational manner.

Music during this service was rendered by The Gospel Harmonetts of St. Luke Baptist Church, Charlotte, NC, and First Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Charlotte, NC.

Special Certificates were given to ushers for loyal and faithful service along with picture being taken with the state president.

The service concluded with the entire group posting to be photographed. This service was deemed a success.

## Graduation Announcement



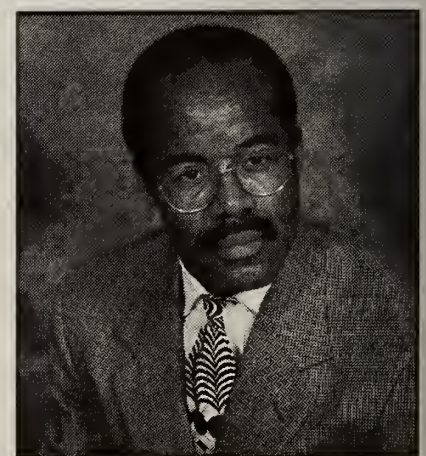
Rev. Fred Lee Jr.

All because of our Wonderful Savior Jesus Christ, the Rev. Fred Lee Jr. associate pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, Walnut Street, Chester, South Carolina will be graduating from Carolina University of Theology in Charlotte, NC, with a Master of Arts Degree in Christian Counseling of Psychology. The Graduation Ceremony was to be held on Saturday, June 16, 2001 at 10 o'clock a.m. in the Northside Baptist Church Sanctuary in Charlotte, NC. The church is located off I-85 North exit 41.

## Fullwood Receives His Doctorate

On May 26, 2001 Alfonza W. Fullwood received his Doctorate Degree in Expository Preaching from the Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest North Carolina. Fullwood is the pastor of the Riley Hill Baptist Church in Wendell, NC. (Riley Hill Baptist Church was numbered twenty one on the list of the top fifty churches in the General Baptist State Convention in terms of State Missions.) He is also an adjunct instructor of Homiletics (Preaching) at the Shaw University Divinity School and served as director of Church Relations and Alumni Affairs from 1983 through 1989. He received his Bachelor of Arts from Shaw University and a Master of Divinity from the Shaw University Divinity School.

His wife Marlene and oldest daughter, Kendra (who is an English Professor at Shaw) are both graduates of Shaw University. He has two other children. Ebony who is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Cedric a graduate of Fayetteville State University. Fullwood also have three brothers who matriculated at Shaw University. They are



Alfonza W. Fullwood

Kenny, Willie and Dr. Nathaniel Fullwood. A fourth brother Rev. Naconiel Fullwood attended Shaw Divinity School. Fullwood is the son of the late Rev. Willie and Bertha Fullwood. There are fourteen siblings of which four are preachers. His mother is an eighty three year old vibrant woman, an expository enthusiast, who continually urges him to "preach the gospel boy."

# SHAW UNIVERSITY

## 10th Anniversary Celebration Recognizes Achievements Of Programs

Shaw University in Raleigh hosted a 10th Anniversary Celebration of the "Research Apprenticeship Program for High School Students" on Saturday, May 26 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Gary Student Center. The program, which has been co-sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Research and Development since its establishment in 1990, targets Wake County high school students who have demonstrated a superior ability in math and science. The program's objective is to encourage students to pursue advanced degrees and careers in math, science and engineering. Of the 48 students who have completed the "Research Apprenticeship Program for High School Students," all have entered college and nearly 90 percent are majoring in either science, math or engineering.

"The Research Apprenticeship Program has a decade of academic excellence," said Dr. Ademola Ejire, Program Director and Assistant Professor of Biology and Environmental Science at Shaw University. "Graduates of the program are currently enrolled at various prestigious institutions of higher learning that include Shaw, NC State, Yale, NC Central, Duke, and Xavier Universities, and the University of NC at Chapel Hill. It was designed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in RTP to be a pilot program that could eventually be implemented on other college campuses across the country."

At the celebration, recognition will be given to students, teachers, and scientists who have participated in the program, and will honor individuals instrumental in initiating the program. The theme of the celebration is: *The Past,*

*Present, and Future of our Children.* U.S. Representative Bob Etheridge of North Carolina will be the keynote speaker.

LeRon Jackson, program graduate and senior at the University of NC at Chapel Hill, credits the program for having done more than just prepare her for college. "It has provided the driving force behind my quest for excellence. My experiences in the Shaw/EPA program have provided me with a clear example of what dedication and excellence should be. I learned to sacrifice things of lesser importance in order to achieve my academic goals, especially in sacrificing my Saturday mornings and my summer "free-time." Having the "edge up" that I gained while in the program has allowed me to remain one step ahead of my colleagues."

Students selected to participate in the four-year "Research Apprenticeship Program for High School Students" are required to attend educational programs three Saturdays a month during the School year and a six-week summer program. Both programs take place on Shaw University's campus and include classes and workshops in science, math and communications, plus monthly "hands-on" presentations by EPA scientists. Rising 12th graders serve as apprentices with mentors at the EPA in Research Triangle Park for the six-week summer program. Eight rising 9th graders are accepted into the program annually. The students must maintain high academic performance in high school to remain in the program.

For more information on the program, contact Dr. Ejire at 919-546-8204. Other program participant testimonials can be found at [www.shawuniversity.edu/special/programs.htm](http://www.shawuniversity.edu/special/programs.htm)

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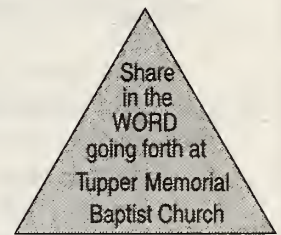
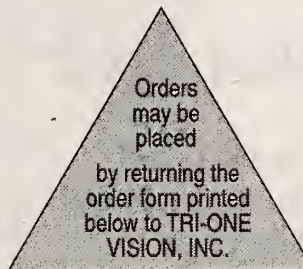
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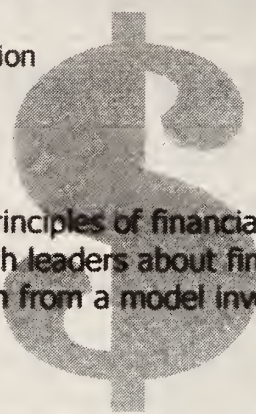
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| 16. Look Where the Lord Has Brought Me From                    | 53. Black Men and Women, Young and Old, Changing A Generation |
| 17. If My People                                               | 54. I Am Black, But I Am Somebody                             |
| 18. We Can Do It For A New Day Has Come                        | 55. Staying Afloat in a Sinking Boat                          |
| 19. I Know What Prayer Can Do                                  | 56. He That Has A Friend Must Show Himself Friendly           |
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About the Author:

Dr. Serenus T. Churn Sr., received his Doctor of Ministry Degree from Drew University, Madison, N.J., in 1979, his Graduate Certificate in Pastoral Care from the Foundation for Religion and Mental Health, Grasslands Hospital, Westchester County, N.Y., in 1970, his Master of Divinity Degree from Howard University, School of Religion in Washington, D.C., in 1969, his Bachelor of Divinity Degree from Howard University, School of Religion in 1965 and his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Morgan State College, Baltimore, Md., in 1962.

He was born in Camden, N.J., to the late Dr. Charles H. Churn Sr., and Violet M. Churn and was licensed to preach at the age of 15. He is married to the former Shirley Brown of Washington, D.C., and

has two sons. Dr. Churn is currently the Senior Pastor of Mount Zion Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, N.C. Member of Novant Health Board of Trustees, Mount Zion Site Director and Adjunct Instructor, Shaw University Divinity School and Drew University Theology School. He is the Radio Host of God's Trombone WPOL. He has preached across the United States, Great Britain and India.

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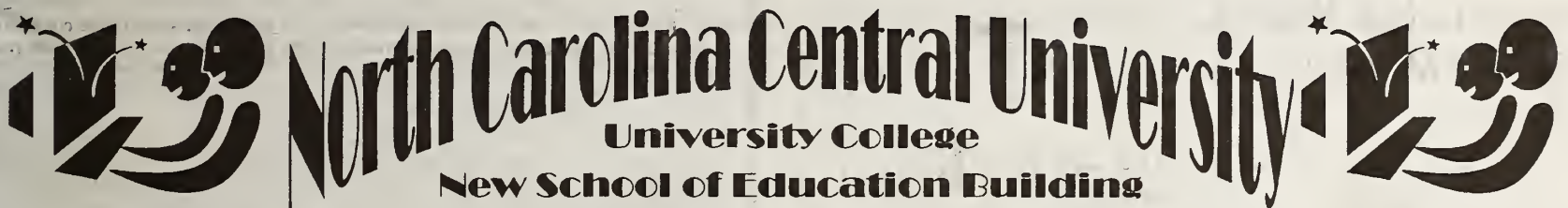
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**CHAUTAUQUA**  
CONFERENCE 2001

**JULY 19-21 2001**

**CHAUTAUQUA**  
CONFERENCE 2001

**OPEN TO PUBLIC**

### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Day of Peace

Technology Fair

Talk of the Nation

hosted by Juan Williams

Inter-Faith Covenant &

Commitment Plenary

Youth & Community Summit

Community Worship Program

Chautauqua Conference 2001 revisits the original vision of North Carolina Central University's (NCCU) founder, Rev. Dr. James Edward Shepard. From the founding of NCCU as a National Religious Training School and Chautauqua, Shepard recognized the profound need to empower both educators and citizens of a community socially and educationally. This started prior to 1910 and continues today here at NCCU. Shepard and the pioneers of the Chautauqua Movement in the 19th century envisioned this knowledge exchange taking place in the formats of theological study, musical entertainment, lectures, and community interaction.

The Chautauqua Conference planning committee is developing two (2) days of lectures, workshops in areas such as discussion of counselling and coping skills for youth and parents; helping children cope with demands of school; providing training for study skills and test-taking; renewal for religious and community care givers; the social as well as the financial challenges of economic development; strategic planning for an effective faith-based plan that serves the citizens and community where it is geographically situated; virtual citizen engagement and the changing definition of community; closing the technology access gap locally, statewide, and nationally; grassroots participation and interactions via the Internet; and a community and technology exhibition. The Conference expects to involve conference participants with one (1) local church for a Community Worship Service (revival) that would serve as a form of uplift and a meshing with the Durham and Triangle community - in particular.

**For registration and more info contact:**  
**The Chautauqua Conference 2001 Committee**  
**919-530-6324 - 919-530-7360**  
**rsmith@wpo.nccu.edu**  
**http://www.nccu.edu/univcoll/chautauqua2**

### Luncheons

100 Fathers/100 Children

Youth & Community

Summit

**Awards Receptions**

Chautauqua Pioneers

Champions for Peace

# VACANT POSITIONS

## EMMANUEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENT

Seeking Full-time Christian Minister of Music, Loyal and Committed to God's program. Must possess people skills, be trained as a Musician, Conductor and Choir Director.

Salary: Commensurate with training and experience.

Interested persons may send resume/portfolio to:

Attention: Trustees  
Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church  
913 N. Highland Street, Gastonia, NC 28052

## CHURCH MUSICIAN

We are seeking to employ a person of Christian faith and character to serve as musician/director for the music department of the church.

Responsibilities include teaching music for church choirs, choir directors and other musicians. Proficiency in reading music is a requirement and some versatility in "playing by ear" will only serve to enhance the church's music department.

Applicants are asked to send resumes and references to:

**United Institutional Baptist Church**  
Rev. Johnny R. Freeman, Pastor  
802 East Market Street, Greensboro, NC 27401  
Phone: (336) 272-0822\*Fax: (336) 230-0274

\*Salary is negotiable and is commensurate with training and experience.

## FIRST AFRICAN BAPTIST CHURCH

803 East Harris St., Goldsboro, N.C. 27530  
Pastor: Dr. Freddie I. Barnes

### POSITION AVAILABLE: DIRECTOR OF CHURCH MUSIC

First African Baptist Church is a congregation of over 350 members with a Music Ministry that consist of four choirs, Sunshine Choir, Male Chorus, Unity and Praise Choir, Chancel Choir. Music in this ministry consists of gospel (traditional and contemporary) praise and worship, hymns, spirituals and anthems.

Applications and further information may be obtained by contacting Mrs. Johnnie Ingram, Personnel Committee Chairman or Rev. Jerry Dortch at 919-734-4935.

## MINISTER OF MUSIC WANTED

Wake Forest congregation seeks Minister of Music. Duties to include working directly with the Pastor in order to assist and cooperate with him in Christian Worship; playing during Sunday morning worship service; rehearsing with various choirs one night per week; and accompanying the Pastor on engagements to other churches. Please forward a cover letter and resume to:

Evans Grove Missionary Baptist Church • 12700 Creedmoor Road, Highway 50  
Wake Forest, NC 27587 • (919) 870-8874

## CEDAR GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

14600 Railroad St., Gibson, NC 28343  
CHURCH MUSICIAN

The Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church of Gibson, N.C., is seeking a person to serve as Church Musician.

**Qualifications:** Should be a Christian who lives and acts responsibly and has a good character and reputation.

### Musician requirements:

- \*Be able to play a piano, keyboard, organ and be able to work well with a diverse range of singers with directions for musical selections.
- \*Be available for necessary rehearsals and Sunday Worship Services.
- \*Be available to accompany the pastor and choirs to all church functions when requested.

**Salary negotiable.** Please send resume to Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church at the above address.

## CHURCH MUSICIAN

The New Hope Baptist Church, Gates, N.C., is seeking a person to serve as Church Musician.

### REQUIREMENTS:

1. Able to play organ and/or piano.
2. Able to play diverse music.
3. Able to accompany the pastor and choir to church engagements if possible.

### SALARY NEGOTIABLE:

Send resume to:  
New Hope Baptist Church, PO Box 91, Gatesville, NC 27938  
Attn: Fannie M. Spivey, Secretary  
Inquiries may be made by calling (252) 357-1061 after 4:30 p.m.

## CHURCH MUSICIAN

Mount Olive Baptist Church of Lewiston is seeking a musician for a station church, a Christian who is responsible, has good character and a good reputation.

### Requirements:

- \*Plays the organ and piano \*Able to work with a diverse group of singers
- \*Experienced in all sacred music \*Reads music and is versatile in playing by ear

Send resumes or responses to: Mount Olive Baptist Church  
PO Box 214, Lewiston-Woodville, NC 27849 • Attention: William W. Peele Jr.

## MINISTER OF MUSIC

St. John Baptist Church, 8910 Old Annapolis Road  
Columbia, Maryland 21045 • 410-992-6977

Overall Duty: To assist the Pastor in shaping, defining, and effectuating the musical elements of the worship experience.

### I. MINIMUM QUALIFICATION:

- A. Bachelor's degree in music, or at least 5 years of experience as...
- B. At least 3 years of experience as accomplish/director for choral group(s)
- C. Proficiency in playing piano and organ
- D. At least 3 church-related references

### II. OTHER QUALIFICATIONS

- A. Personal faith in Jesus Christ...
- B. Background (via education experience) in sacred music, including hymns, spirituals, traditional and contemporary gospel, and praise songs.
- C. Ability to relate well with directors and members of church choirs.
- D. Efficient administrative skills to ensure timely and effective communication with all elements of the musical worship experience.
- E. Ability to teach, direct, compose and play (by written notes or by ear) the various forms of sacred music.
- F. Ability to recognize and respond with appropriate music to the spiritual moods of the service.
- G. Excellent interpersonal and conflict resolution skills.

## First Missionary Baptist Church

The First Baptist Church is now seeking a pastor to serve as its spiritual leader, teacher, counselor and administrator. All interested persons should submit a letter of interest and resume to the Pulpit Search Committee.

### Qualifications

- Born Again Christian
- Ordained Missionary Baptist Minister
- Knowledge of Baptist Doctrine and Faith
- Seminary Training preferred
- Teaching Bible Study Weekly
- Proficient in church organization and ability to train Church
- Pastoral Experience Preferred
- Family Oriented
- Able to Plan and implement innovative youth programs

Interested Applicants should Mail Resumes to:

Pastoral Search Committee  
First Baptist Church  
ATTENTION: Deacon Calvin Graham Jr., Chairman  
P.O. Box 679, Stedman, North Carolina 28391

## ST. FRANCIS BAPTIST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

is looking for a Pastor

This person should be:

- I. Missionary Baptist
- II. Have good organizational and leadership skills
- III. Commuting Distance
- IV. Family Oriented
- V. Experience Preferred

Interested parties should send resume to: c/o Pulpit Committee

St. Francis Missionary Baptist Church, P.O. Box 736, Windsor, NC 27983.

## GREEN CHAPEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

450 Hickman Hill Loop Road, Havelock, NC 28532

The Pulpit Search Committee of Green Chapel Missionary Baptist Church of Havelock, North Carolina is searching for applicants for a full time pastoral vacancy.

### Qualifications:

1. Must be an experienced, licensed, ordained Missionary Baptist Minister living according to First Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9
2. The applicants should have a vision for the church according to Proverbs 29:18
3. Must possess the ability to work with all age groups, with particular emphasis in youth development, and with all auxiliaries of the church.
4. Must possess effective oral and written communication skills.
5. Must be community oriented.
6. Must possess strong and proven administrative experience, with a broad knowledge of the Baptist Doctrines, church policies, and practices.
7. Must be willing to work with the Old Eastern Missionary Baptist Association.

Education: Must possess a high school diploma (or equivalent) preferring a degree or courses in Seminary Training, and willing to do further study.

Interested applications should provide the following:

1. A resume of relevant experience.
2. A copy of certificate of license and ordination.
3. One business and two personal reference (NO FAMILY MEMBERS).

All interested applicants should send resume, and copies of certificates to:

Green Chapel Missionary Baptist Church  
Pulpit Committee  
450 Hickman Hill Loop Road, Havelock, NC 28532.

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Third and Mulbury Street, Weldon, North Carolina 27890

The Pulpit Committee of First Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of Pastor. Mail resumes to:

Deacon Stanley Edwards, 908 Country Club Rd., Weldon, NC 27890

Applicants must have the following qualifications:

- Born again Christian
- Must be able to preach and teach God's Word
- Preach quality sermons
- Possess strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, policies and practices
- Able to lead and communicate with all age groups
- Able to work effectively with church boards and committees
- Some college and seminary training preferred

## SANDY GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

PO Box 290, 1600 Martin Luther King Drive, Lumberton, NC 28358

Sandy Grove Missionary Baptist Church is accepting resumes for a full-time pastor. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

1. Must be licensed, ordained, firmly rooted in the holy spirit, born again, and divinely called.
2. Must have strong family and community values.
3. Must possess or be in the process of pursuing a college degree and theological training from an accredited college or university.
4. Must be able to preach and teach God's holy word.
5. Must be willing to follow the Baptist doctrine, policies and practices.
6. Must be an effective leader, administrator, counselor and must work cooperatively with church officials.
7. Must be willing to work with all age groups, with particular emphasis on the spiritual growth and development of our youth.
8. Must plan for the future growth and development of the church.
9. Must be able to be tactful, just and fair with everyone.
10. Must establish office hours for the benefit of the members.
11. Must visit and commune with sick, shut-ins members and bereaved families.

Interested applicants should provide the following information:

1. A resume of relevant pastoral experience (if applicable).
2. A copy of college degree (s), certificate of license and ordination.
3. Proof of completion of all accredited theological training.
4. Name, address, and telephone number of four (4) personal references—excluding relatives.

Please mail all requested information to:

The Pulpit Committee  
Sandy Grove Missionary Baptist Church, P.O. Box 290, Lumberton, NC 28358

# VACANT POSITIONS

## GREATER LOVELY HILL BAPTIST CHURCH

The Pulpit Search Committee of the Greater Lovely Hill Baptist Church, located in Warren County, N.C. is searching for applicants for its pastoral vacancy. Currently the Greater Lovely Hill Baptist Church has regular worship services twice monthly, on the first and third Sunday.

### Qualifications:

1. Must be an experienced licensed ordained Missionary Baptist Minister living according to First Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9.
2. The applicants should have a vision for the church.
3. Must possess the ability to work with all age groups, with particular emphasis in youth development and community outreach, and with all auxiliaries of the church.
4. Must possess effective oral and written communication skills.
5. Must be community oriented.
6. Must possess strong and proven administration experience with a broad knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and practices.

### Education:

Must possess a high school diploma (or equivalent) preferring a degree or courses in Seminary Training from an accredited college or university.

Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume of relevant experience.
2. A copy of the certificate of license and ordination.

Send resumes to: Mrs. Lucy E. Branch, PO Box 52, Warrenton, NC 27589

## PULPIT VACANCY

The pulpit search committee of the Mount Zoar Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of pastor. Applicants must possess the following qualifications/responsibilities.

### Qualifications

- Born again, spirit-filled, ordained and divinely called with strong family and community values.
- Be a licensed, ordained Missionary Baptist Minister.
- Must be able to preach and teach Bible Study
- Must be able to work with all age groups with emphasis on youth department
- Strong knowledge of the Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures
- Experienced as a senior pastor, but will consider years of experience as an associate pastor
- Must be willing to attend Sunday School and teach Bible Study
- Spiritual maturity; preach and teach God's word
- Willingness to administer communion and perform baptismal service
- Possess strong and proven administrative experience
- College degree preferred but will consider a combination of education and experience

### Responsibilities

- Plan, prepare and deliver sermons
- Visit and commune with sick and shut-in members and bereaved families
- Plan and implementation of activities and projects designed to promote the church's progression and encourage active participation.

Interested applicants should mail resume with a recent photograph to address below.

Special notes: Photograph will not be returned

Mount Zoar Missionary Baptist Church  
C/O Ann Dixon

Pulpit Search Committee, PO Box 71736, Durham, NC 27704

## CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

High Point, NC

The Pastoral Search Committee of Calvary Baptist Church is searching for applications for a full time pastoral vacancy.

Our church body would like for all applicants to have the following qualifications.

- A licensed and ordained Baptist minister who is Divinely called, spirit-filled and a born again Christian.
- Must be able to preach and teach God's word.
- Process six (6) to ten (10) years of Pastoral experience.
- Must have a college and seminary degree from an accredited college or university.
- Able to work effectively with church officials and ministry heads and able to lead and communicate with all age groups, with particular emphasis on the spiritual growth and development of our youth and the needs of the seniors.
- Strong and proven administrative experience and willing to follow Baptist doctrines, policies and practices.
- Proficient in church organization and ability to train church.
- Must be able to clearly develop and articulate a vision for church growth.
- Process strong oral and written communication skills.
- Must be able to be tactful, just and fair with everyone.
- Able to teach Bible Study and Church School
- Must have strong family and community values.
- Must establish office hours for the benefit of the members.
- Must visit and commune with the sick, shut-in members and bereaved families.

Interested applicants should provide the following information:

- A resume of relevant pastoral experience.
  - A copy of certificate of license and ordination.
  - Proof of completion of all programs of theological and academic degrees.
  - Name, address and telephone number of four (4) personal references — excluding relatives.
- All information should be forwarded to:

Pastoral Committee

Calvary Baptist Church  
P.O. Box 682, High Point, NC 27261

## FIRST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

The First Missionary Baptist Church is now seeking a pastor to serve as its spiritual leader, teacher and administrator.

### Qualifications:

- Born again Christian
  - Ordained Missionary Baptist Minister
  - Knowledge of Baptist Doctrine and Faith
  - Seminary Training preferred
  - Pastoral experience preferred
  - Capable in church organization and ability to train church
  - Family oriented and community oriented
  - Able to work effectively with church board and committees
- Interested applicants should mail resume to:

Pastoral Search Committee

First Missionary Baptist Church, c/o Mrs. Mildred B. Sanders, Secretary  
305 W. Noble Street, Selma, N.C. 27576

## MT. OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

P.O. Box 98

Kings, Mountain, NC 28086

Mt. Olive Baptist Church is currently seeking a Pastor and is accepting resumes from interested licensed, ordained Baptist ministers. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

1. Spiritual maturity.
2. A minimum of three years experience as a pastor, but will consider years of experience as associate pastor.
3. Administrative and leadership skills.
4. Community oriented.
5. Must be able to work with all age groups with specific emphasis on youth department.
6. Strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures.
7. Good oral and written communication skills and ability to communicate with all age groups.

Responsibilities include:

Planning, organizing and implementing programs that encourage participation from youth and young adults and promote church growth and progression.

Please send resume to:

Mt. Olive Baptist Church  
P.O. Box 98  
Kings, Mountain, NC 28086  
c/o The Pulpit Committee

## PENN AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH

225 West McClanahan Street, Oxford, N.C. 27565

Rev. Willie S. Darby, Pastor

(919) 693-5396 • (919) 693-1015, Pastor's Office

The Penn Avenue Missionary Baptist Church of Oxford, N.C. is currently seeking a

MINISTER OF MUSIC.

### QUALIFICATIONS:

- \*Must be a born again Christian.
- \*Must be able to play the piano, keyboard and/or organ.
- \*Must be able to read music and is versatile in playing by ear.
- \*Must be able to work well with a diverse range of singers and age groups.
- \*Must be able to teach and direct hymns, anthems, spirituals, gospels and other sacred music.
- \*Must be able to rehearse choirs at a scheduled time unless otherwise notified.
- \*Must be available for Sunday morning worship services.
- \*Must be available to accompany the pastor and choirs when requested or provide a qualified substitute.
- \*Must be able to assist in the selection of appropriate songs for worship and services.
- \*Will be responsible with the pastor's approval in hiring other musicians if deemed necessary.

### Salary: Negotiable

Penn Avenue Missionary Baptist Church is a warm, spirited-filled church that has worship services 52 Sundays a year and at present there is one musician available for 2nd Sunday worship services. Service begins each Sunday at 11 a.m. with the exception of 5th Sunday services which begin at 10 a.m.

Please send resume to the above listed address or inquiries may be made by calling one of the above listed numbers.

## FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

715 West Willis Ave.

High Point, NC 27260

CHURCH MUSICIAN

The Friendship Missionary Baptist Church are accepting resumes for a Church Musician.

### Qualifications:

Should be a Christian who lives and acts responsibly and has a good character and reputation.

### Musician requirements:

- Be able to play a piano, keyboard, organ and be able to work well with a diverse range of singers with directions for musical selections.
- 8 Must have experience in church music (anthems, hymns, spirituals, praise and worship, etc.) of gospel traditional and contemporary.
- Be available for necessary rehearsals and Sunday Worship Services.
- Be available to accompany the pastor and choirs to all church functions when requested.

Salary negotiable:

Please send cover letter and resume to:

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church  
Attn: James W. Flake, Pastor  
909 Barbee Avenue

# NOTICE PASTOR NEEDED

at  
Friendship Baptist Church  
Whiteville, NC

For Application Write:

Pastor Selection Committee  
PO Box 1365, Whiteville, NC 28472

# VACANT POSITIONS

## GOOD HOPE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

4209 Smithfield Road, PO Box 441 Knightdale, North Carolina 27545  
Telephone: 919-266-0217

**JOHN L. THATCH, PASTOR**

**POSITION: MINISTER OF MUSIC**

Principal Functions: Supervised by the pastor, the minister of music will be responsible for the development and promotion of the music program of the Church.

**Primary Responsibilities:** The minister of music will be responsible for the following:

1. Plan, organize, conduct and evaluate the comprehensive music program for the Church, including choirs, vocal and/or instrumental ensembles.
2. Prepare choirs for each Sunday morning's worship services.
3. Teach and direct sacred music (hymns, anthems, spirituals and gospel music).
4. Work with all choirs in selecting appropriate music for Sunday mornings' services and other worship services as his/her services are needed.
5. Work in cooperation with the pastor, other musicians and other choir members to set and implement guidelines for choir members' rights, responsibilities and ethical conduct while representing the Church in the glorification of God.
6. Work with the pastor, other musicians and choir members in scheduling and observing schedules for choir rehearsals.
7. Supervise the maintenance of the Church's musical instruments, hymnals, sheet music, music library and training materials, etc.
8. Work with the pastor to plan all services of worship (including funerals, weddings, revivals, special projects, etc.) and will accompany the pastor and Church when they are called upon to provide services for worship services at other churches.
9. Keep abreast of music methods, materials, promotion and administration, and cooperate with the Church process to enlist and train leaders for the Church music ministry.
10. Prepare an estimated annual budget and administer the approved budget.
11. Perform other duties as assigned by the pastor.

**Qualifications:**

1. Must be a Christian
2. Must possess people skills
3. Must be formally trained as a musician, conductor and choir director
4. Must be loyal and committed to the service and glory of God

Salary: Commensurate with training and experience

Interested persons may send resumes/portfolios to:

John L. Thatch, Pastor

Good Hope Missionary Baptist Church, PO Box 441, Knightdale, NC 27545

## CHURCH MUSICIAN

First Missionary Baptist Church of Clinton is seeking a person to serve as musician. The responsibilities include playing for the Adult Choir on the First Sunday, and accompanying the other choirs on the remaining Sundays.

**Qualifications:**

Should be able to play the piano and the organ, and be able to work well with diverse groups of singers.

Experience in sacred music is a must as well as the ability to read music and play by ear.

The musician is also expected to accompany the pastor and choirs to outside functions when necessary.

Interested persons may send resume to: First Baptist Church, 900 College St., Clinton, N.C. 28328.

## MUSICIAN WANTED

**Metropolitan Baptist Church  
Rocky Mount, NC**

Progressive church music department looking for Director of Music to provide leadership for growth spiritually and musically. Must have experience in church music (anthems, hymns, spirituals, etc.) or equivalent. Able to lead music and direct/accompany. Available on 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays. On call as needed.

To apply call:

**Metropolitan Baptist Church  
Rocky Mount, NC  
252-442-4623**

## MINISTER OF MUSIC • ST. MATTHEW BAPTIST CHURCH

P.O. BOX 1710, OXFORD, NC 27565

1. Must be a Christian to serve as minister of music each Sunday.
  2. Will prepare choirs for Sunday morning worship services and special services.
  3. Will teach and direct hymns, spiritual selections and other sacred music.
  4. Will implement and/or carrying out guidelines pertaining to choir members' conduct.
  5. Will rehearse choirs at a scheduled time unless otherwise notified.
  6. Will be available to accompany the Pastor and choir to church functions requested.
- Please send resume to the above address: Attention Pastor. Inquiries may be made by calling (252) 492-9046 or (919) 603-0620.

## MINISTER OF MUSIC WANTED

Wake Forest Congregation seeks Minister of Music. Duties to include working directly with the Pastor in order to assist and cooperate with him in Christian Worship; playing during Sunday morning worship service; rehearsing with various choirs one night per week; and accompanying the Pastor on engagements to other churches. Please forward a cover letter and resume to:

Evans Grove Missionary Baptist Church, 12700 Creedmoor Road, Highway 50  
Wake Forest, NC 27587 • (919) 870-8874

## PROGRESSIVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

2504 Creech Road, Raleigh, NC 27610

Rev. William H. Brock Sr., Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Leo Williams Jr., Assistant Pastor

Rev. James Richardson, Minister of Youth

Growing young Missionary Baptist Church in southeast Raleigh, Seeking a Christian Church Musician who can play piano/organ. Specifically organ. Must be able to read music as well as play by ear. Should be able to play hymns, anthems, spirituals, gospel.

Call church office to arrange interview (919) 828-8373.

## POSITION AVAILABLE: DIRECTOR OF CHURCH MUSIC

First African Baptist Church is a congregation of over 350 members with a Music Ministry that consist of four choirs, Sunshine Choir, Male Chorus, Unity and Praise Choir, Chancel Choir. Music in this ministry consists of gospel (traditional and contemporary) praise and worship, hymns, spirituals and anthems.

Applications and further information may be obtained by contacting, Mrs. Verna Best, or Rev. Jerry Dortch at 919-734-4935.

## ZION BAPTIST CHURCH SEEKS PASTOR

On April 20, 2000, Rev. Curtis E. Bender, pastor of Zion Baptist Church in Omaha, Nebraska, tendered his resignation. He has blessed Zion and the Omaha community with his leadership for more than 20 years. Although we will miss our Pastor, we humbly submit to the Will of God. Consequently, the recently formed Zion Baptist Church Pulpit Search Committee would like to solicit your help in this search. Please notify the members of your District/Convention that the Zion Baptist Church pulpit is vacant and that we have begun accepting applications for Pastor. Among other things, we require applicants who:

- Are Called by God. (1 Timothy 3:1-7)
- Are Graduates of an accredited and respected seminary.
- Have had a minimum of 10 years as pastor of a large Black Baptist Church. (500 or more members).
- Are members in good standing and with a track record of membership in the National Baptist Convention U.S.A., Inc.
- Have proven leadership and training skills.

Interested candidates are asked to request in writing applications from:

Zion Baptist Church  
Pulpit Search Committee

2215 Grant Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68110

Please pray for our effort and thank you for your help in this notification.

Yours in Christ, Dea. Jesse Sharpe, Committee Chairman, Sis. Jacqueline C. Hart, Church Clerk

## POSITION:

Interim Pastor to provide pastoral leadership and duties to a congregation of approximately 200 members located in Goldsboro, NC.

## ORGANIZATION:

**Antioch Missionary Baptist Church  
601 W. Elm Street, Goldsboro, NC 27530  
(919) 734-2066**

## DESCRIPTION:

The Antioch Missionary Baptist Church is currently seeking an individual to perform in the capacity of **INTERIM PASTOR**. This position is not intended or expected to lead to the role of permanent pastor. This role requires you to focus on the pastoral task in the congregation during the interim period to help free the leaders of the congregation to focus on seeking a new pastor. You will provide leadership and stability in a positive manner during this transitional period of our church. The ability to settle issues and migrate the congregation from the former pastor to the new pastor is critical. You will be working closely with the chairman of the Deacon Board and Trustee Board when addressing issues that affects the congregation at large. While the duration of this position is unknown at this time, you must be available for any period from two months to two years if needed.

## Major Duties and Responsibilities:

- Plan and lead worship that is sensitive to the needs of the congregation
- Attend to the spiritual development of the congregation
- Provide administrative leadership to the congregation, secretarial and pulpit staff
- Counsel members having personal, family and/or work related problems
- Support religious programs for children, youth and adults
- Develop and instruct weekly bible study classes
- Support the church's financial program
- Directly involve the congregation in the planning and leadership of existing church programs and ministries
- Meet regularly with the chairpersons of the Deacon, Deaconess and Trustee Board for planning and direction
- Visit the sick, shut in and bereaved in the hospital and at home
- Preside at funerals and weddings
- Support the world mission of the church
- Present social issues before members

## Qualifications-Education and Experience:

- Saved and filled with the Holy Spirit and able to proclaim the unadulterated word of God that will lead people to Christ
- Degree in Theology or Religion preferred — however, will accept training and experience in Divinity or Church Ministries
- Ordained for a minimum of five years
- Five years of experience as a pastor or assistant pastor of a Missionary Baptist Church
- Experience in working as an interim pastor is a plus

## CONTACT INFORMATION

For immediate consideration, please send a cover letter and your resume to the following address:

**Antioch Missionary  
Baptist Church  
Attention: Deacon Lessie Davis  
601 W. Elm Street  
Goldsboro, NC 27530**

## UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

110 Lincoln Ave., Lexington, NC 27292

Needed: Minister of Music or Organist.

Please send resume to:

Union Baptist Church, 110 Lincoln Ave, Lexington, NC 27292. Attn: Rev. Darrell L. Thomas.

Or call 336-243-1648 and leave your name and number.

# SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!

# VACANT POSITIONS

## FIRST BAPTIST CHARITY CHURCH

Greenevers, N.C.

The First Baptist Charity Church of Greenevers, N.C. is accepting resumes from interested Missionary Baptist Ministers for the position of pastor.

### Qualifications:

1. Divinely called spirit-filled, born-again Christian with strong Family values.
2. Pastoral experiences is required.
3. Must work closely with the officers of the church.
4. Must have at least 2 years of college or seminary training.
5. Must be able to preach and teach.
6. Must have good leadership and communication skills.
7. Family oriented.
8. Have knowledge of and willing to follow Baptist doctrines, policies and procedures.
9. Must be willing to visit and commune with the sick and shut-ins.
10. Must be willing to work with all age groups.

Services are first, second, third and fourth Sundays with Sunday school beginning at 10:00 a.m. and morning service beginning at 11:00 a.m.

Please send resumes to:

Deacon Fernald Rawls, Jr.  
920 Pasture Branch Road, Rose Hill, NC 28458

## MT. OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

PO Box 98, Kings Mountain, NC 28086

Mt. Olive Baptist Church is currently seeking a Pastor and is accepting resumes from interested licenses, ordained Baptist ministers. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

1. Spiritual maturity
2. A minimum of three years experience as a pastor, but will consider years of experience as associate pastor.
3. Administrative and leadership skills.
4. Community oriented.
5. Must be able to work with all age groups with specific emphasis on youth department.
6. Strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures.
7. Good oral and written communication skills and ability to communicate with all age groups.

Responsibilities include:

Planning, organizing and implementing programs that encourage participation from youth and young adults and promote church growth and progression.

Please send resumes to:

Mt. Olive Baptist Church  
P.O. Box 98  
Kings Mountain, NC 28086  
% The Pulpit Committee

## UNION GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH

Warrenton, North Carolina

The Union Grove Baptist is currently seeking and accepting resumes from interested licenses, ordained Baptist ministers. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

1. Spiritual maturity
2. A minimum of three years experience as a pastor, but will consider years of experience as associate pastor
3. Administrative and leadership skills
4. Must be able to work with various age groups with specific emphasis on youth development.
5. Strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures.
7. Good oral and written communication skills and ability to communicate with all age groups.
8. Have excellent teaching ability.

Other responsibilities include:

Planning, organizing and implementing programs that encourage participation of youth and young adults that promote church growth and progress.

Please send resumes to:

Brother Alonza Jones, Board Chairman  
Route 2, Box 128, Norlina, N.C. 27563  
% The Pulpit Committee

## MINISTER OF MUSIC VACANCY

### SPRING GREEN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

PO Box 924

Warrenton, NC 27589

Rev. Dennis G. Lindsay, Pastor

The Spring Green Missionary Baptist Church seeks a Minister of Music to provide musical direction and accompaniment for 4 choirs in the church. This person will work closely with the Pastor to provide spiritual leadership in the ministry of Jesus Christ through music, i.e. hymns, spiritual songs, and praise and worship music that glorifies God.

We are accepting resumes from candidates with the following qualifications:

1. Born-again Christian, Spirit-filled, and divinely gifted in music ministry.
2. Willingness to spiritually align the music ministry with Pastoral vision.
3. Able to play the piano, keyboard and/or organ; able to read music and versatile.
4. Able to prepare choirs for Sunday morning worship services and other services.
5. Able to teach, as well as direct choirs, with humility and love.
6. Able to rehearse with all choirs on schedule, and available for all Sunday services
7. Able to accompany Pastor and choirs to other services as required (or ensure qualified substitute is available).
8. Able to select appropriate hymns and songs for worship service.

Please submit resumes to the address above. Any inquiries, please contact Pastor Lindsay at (919) 361-3003.

# JOB OPPORTUNITIES

## POSITION:

Interim Pastor to provide pastoral leadership and duties to a congregation of 400 active members located in the North Philadelphia area of the city.

## ORGANIZATION:

Miller Memorial Baptist Church  
1518 North 22nd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19121

## DESCRIPTION

The Miller Memorial Baptist Church is currently seeking an individual to perform in the capacity of **INTERIM PASTOR**. This position is not intended or expected to lead to the role of permanent pastor. This role requires you to focus on the pastoral task in the congregation during the interim period to help free the leaders of the congregation to focus on seeking a new pastor. You will provide leadership and stability in a positive manner during this transitional period of our church. The ability to settle issues and migrate the congregation from the former pastor to the new pastor, is critical. You will be working closely with the chairpersons of the Deacon Board and Trustee Board when addressing issues that effect the congregation at large. While the duration of this position is unknown as this time, you must be available for any period from two months to two years if needed.

## Major Duties and Responsibilities:

- Plan and lead worship that is sensitive to the needs of the congregation
- Attend to the spiritual development of the congregation
- Provide administrative leadership to the congregation, secretarial, and pulpit staff
- Counsel members having personal, family and/or work related problems
- Support and/or lead religious programs for children, youth and adults
- Develop and instruct weekly bible study classes
- Actively and visibly support the church's financial program
- Directly involve the congregation in the planning and leadership of existing church programs and ministries
- Meet regularly with the chairpersons of the Deacon, Deaconess and Trustee Boards for planning and direction
- Work closely with the Superintendent of the Sunday School
- Visit the sick, shut in and bereaved in the hospital and at home
- Preside at funerals and weddings
- Support the world mission of the church
- Participate in local community activities, issues and problems
- Present social issues before members

## QUALIFICATIONS - EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

- Bachelors Degree in Divinity, Masters of Divinity Degree preferable
- Ordained for a minimum of five years
- Five years experience as a pastor or assistant pastor of a Baptist Church
- Experience in working as an interim pastor is a plus.

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

For immediate consideration, please send a cover letter and your resume to the following address:

Miller Memorial Baptist Church  
Attention: Deacon David Pridgen  
1518 North 22nd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19121

## POSITION DESCRIPTION

### North Carolina Council of Churches COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATE

#### Job responsibilities

Develop and implement a communications plan including at least the following:

- Print media
- Write, edit, and produce Church Council Bulletin
  - Write, edit, and produce regular information piece for "Interested Persons"
  - Produce quarterly one-page information piece for distribution by judicatories
  - Prepare and distribute press releases to secular and religious press
  - Coordinate production of other printed resources

#### Electronic communications

- Design and maintain web site
- Develop electronic versions of CCB and Raleigh Report, including e-mail summaries
- Propose other uses of electronic communications technology

Develop and staff the Communications Committee

#### Qualifications

- Compatible with Council's mission of ecumenism and social justice
- Member of a faith community affiliated with the NC Council of Churches (preferred)
- Four-year communications degree (preferred)
- Two years work experience (preferred)
- Excellent computer skills in MS Office, especially Word, Publisher and FrontPage

#### Other

- Responsible to Executive Director
- Attend meetings of House of Delegates and Executive Board
- Salary and benefits package: \$17,000-\$19,000 for half-time employment.
- Telecommuting from within the Triangle is preferred, with semimonthly in-office staff meetings.
- The North Carolina Council of Churches does not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, ethnicity, or sexual orientation.

To apply, send a resume and writing sample to George Reed, 1307 Glenwood Avenue, Suite 162, Raleigh, NC 27605.

Or e-mail to [nccofc@nccouncilofchurches.org](mailto:nccofc@nccouncilofchurches.org)

## Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church

414 Hadley Street, Wilson, NC 27893

Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church is seeking a licensed, ordained Missionary Baptist Pastor to serve as a spiritual leader, counselor and administrator. Ebenezer is a progressive church with a vision of growing in grace and walking with the Lord. We seek a Pastor with this same vision and passion, who is capable of leading our congregation to a higher realm.

All interested candidates please submit resumes and inquires to:

#### Ebenezer Search Committee

Attention: Deacon Ronald Wright  
PO Box 351, Lucama, NC 27851 • 252-239-0097

(Applications will be mailed upon request)

#### Qualifications:

- Ability to preach and teach
- Ability to relate to all groups
- Willing to deliver morning services on 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays
- Affiliated with the General Baptist State Convention
- Theological or Seminar Training
- Pastoral Experience of one year
- Willing to live in the Wilson County area

Pray for great blessings for this year!

# VACANT POSITIONS

## CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

Seeking a Church Administrator for a Charlotte Baptist Church  
Part-time Position: 20-25 per hour week; Monday-Friday

Assist the Pastor administratively in meeting the needs of a diverse and growing church membership. Responsible for the planning, designing and implementing of programs, activities, and special events. Previous supervisory experience or related management skills. Ability to utilize excellent written and oral communication skills. Demonstrated ability to plan, organize and manage time. Frequent use of computer and telephone. Proficient in the use of Microsoft Office Products.

Please send resume to:  
Chris Wright  
7111 Ludwig Drive  
Charlotte, NC 28215

## SAVANNAH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

6675 Tabor Church Road, Fayetteville, NC 28301

The pastor's search committee of Savannah Missionary Baptist Church is accepting letters of interest/resumes for the position of Senior Pastor from licensed and ordained Missionary Baptist Ministers. Apply only if you are sincerely interested and meet all the qualifications.

### QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Must be born again, filled with the holy spirit and called by God to preach the word.
2. Must be family oriented and possess a strong, Godly character.
3. Prefer college degree but will strongly consider a combination of education, training and experience.
4. Possess a strong knowledge of the Missionary Baptist doctrine, church policies and practices.
5. Be an effective leader, communicator, administrator and counselor with good interpersonal skills.
6. Must have skills required to work with all age groups with emphasis on spiritual growth and development.
7. Must have skills required for planning and implementing a vision for both spiritual and physical growth of the church.
8. Must work effectively with boards, auxiliaries and committees.

Interested persons meeting all of the above qualifications should submit the following information:

- Letter of interest or resume
- Copy of license and ordination certificate
- Proof of educational degree, and additional theological studies transcript
- The names, addresses, telephone numbers, email addresses of at least five references of which only two can be ministers.
- The committee will provide each candidate with an information packet.
- All correspondence must be addressed as follows:  
Savannah Missionary Baptist Church  
ATTN: Sister Ernestine Tucker, 6675 Tabor Church Road, Fayetteville, N.C.

## THE UNITED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

of Oxford, N.C., is seeking a pastor with the following qualifications:

- Dedicated Christian leader
- Ordained minister
- Educated in the word of God
- Can relate to all age groups
- Skilled in administrative duties
- Prefers a college and seminary graduate
- Interested in building a church
- Radius of 60 miles of church
- Please send resumes to: ATTN: Deacon Rebecca Fuller, PO Box 2142, Oxford, NC 27565.

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Deacon Leon BeCoats, Chairman, Pulpit Committee  
PO Box 1087, Fairmont, NC 28340

**POSITION:** Baptist Minister (Pastor)

**SALARY:** Negotiable (Commensurate with education and experience)

### QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Must be a spiritually ordained Missionary Baptist Minister
  - a. A Christian Pastor divinely called.
  - b. Must be a good role model of moral and ethical conduct.
2. Education
  - a. Graduate of University and or Divinity School.
  - b. Must have an excellent command of the English language and must be able to communicate well with all age groups.
3. Must have five years experience in the Baptist church.
4. Must be willing to follow the Baptist doctrines, policies and practices.
5. Must possess leadership skills in promoting and directing Christian education and traditional church programs.
6. Must be willing to serve with the General Baptist State Convention and the Lumber River Baptist Association, Inc.
7. Must live and serve in a small multiracial community.
8. Must have a philosophy of growth for the church and a vision for such.
9. Must be family oriented.

## Oakey Grove Missionary Baptist Church of Clayton

is searching for a pastor. Congregational size is about 100 members with attendance of 50-65 depending upon the season. Worship service is held twice monthly. We are a small rural church located about 5 miles east of Clayton and about 6 miles west of Smithfield on Hwy. 70 business. Our congregation represents all ages and all backgrounds.

Our pastor must be knowledgeable and believe in the Baptist Doctrine. Must be a strong spiritual leader, administrator and teacher. One who will proclaim the Good News in a meaningful way that will help members learn to apply Biblical concepts to their everyday lives.

We are an autonomous Missionary Baptist Church that is affiliated with the Johnston District Missionary Baptist Association and its auxiliaries and the General Baptist State Convention and its auxiliaries.

Please include in your resume the following:

1. Name/Address/Day and Evening Phone Numbers
2. Age
3. Marital Status
4. Education/Schools Attended
5. Pastoral Experience (Where, When, Number of Years)
6. References

### Qualifications:

1. Ordained Missionary Baptist Minister
2. Possess Leadership, Administrative, and Counseling Skills
3. Willingness to follow Baptist Doctrines, Polices and Procedures
4. Able to lead and communicate with all age groups
5. Family oriented
6. Must possess good moral and ethical conduct

Interested persons should send resumes to:

Oakey Grove Baptist Church, Pulpit Search Committee  
Deacon Loomis Hodges, Chairperson, PO Box 2435, Smithfield, NC 27577

## FULL TIME DIRECTOR/RESS OF CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

Greater Mount Sinai Baptist Church  
Dr. George Cook Jr.

### Qualifications

- ≠ Masters of Divinity or Masters of Religious Education or an equivalent degree/experience.
- ≠ Possess skills in coordinating and working with various age groups.
- ≠ Having had experience in this area would be a plus.
- ≠ Demonstrate exceptional skills in interpersonal relationships, team building, team playing and delegation.

### Appointment

≠ The Director/ress of Ministries shall be appointed by the Pastor upon recommendation by the Personnel Committee with final approval by the church.

### Responsible To

≠ The Pastor

### Status

≠ Full-Time (Forty-hour minimum schedule. Determined jointly between Director/ress and Pastor.)

### Responsible For

≠ Supervising and coordinating all activities pertaining to ministries.

### Salary

≠ Commensurate with qualifications, experience, achievement and commitment

≠ Salary range \$30,000 - \$35,000

≠ Fringe benefits will be offered.

### Responsibilities

1. To have general oversight of outreach ministries.
2. To provide training for ministries on a scheduled basis to include, but not limited to, such areas as: partnering with God in prayer, planning, communication skills, servant leadership, volunteer enlistment and recruiting.
3. Make available specific ministry aids to assist in gaining greater knowledge regarding the specific ministry.
4. Establish accountability structures for each ministry.
5. Establish a "Ministry Standard" which outlines measurable checkpoints.
6. Maintain a church-wide Calendar of Events to include all ministry events and church-wide activities.
7. Provide a vehicle for communicating various ministries of church to the membership and visitors.
8. To work with auxiliaries and groups to resolve any procedural and scheduling conflicts they may run into.
9. To provide monthly reports, in writing, to the Pastor that reflects implementation progress as well as upcoming plans.
10. Establish and maintain a time line to monitor the productivity of each auxiliary.
11. To perform other duties as assigned by the Pastor.

### To Apply

Qualified persons should submit the following items:

- ≠ A Cover letter stating your interest
- ≠ A resume or vitae
- ≠ Three letters of recommendation
- ≠ These materials will not be returned

### Deadline

All materials should be postmarked no later than Saturday, November, 17, 2001.

Candidates will be notified by Tuesday, January 15, 2002 concerning the status of the application.

### Mail all items to:

GMSBC Personnel Committee  
Greater Mount Sinai Baptist Church  
1243 West Boulevard  
Charlotte, NC 28208

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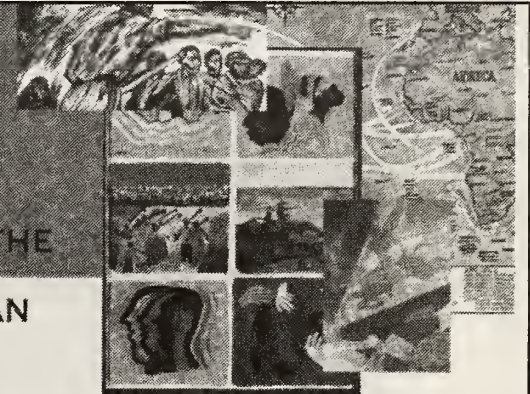
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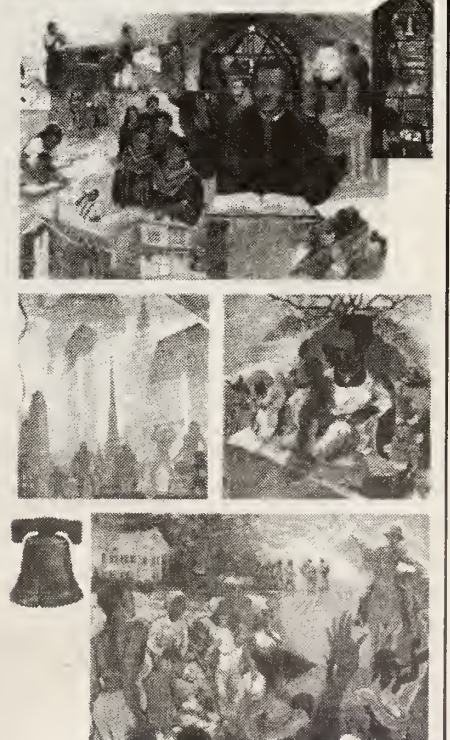
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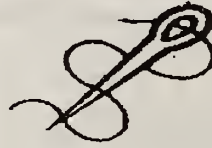
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From The Desk of the Executive Secretary-Treasurer  
Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Ed.D.

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

**ATTENTION ALL MODERATORS, PASTORS,  
FINANCIAL SECRETARIES, TREASURERS  
THAT DID NOT ATTEND OR REPORT FOR  
THE 2001 MILLENNIUM MID-YEAR SESSION  
MAY 6 - 9, 2001 IN WILMINGTON, N.C.**

Please send your Representation, (\$300.00) and special STATE MISSIONS contributions, (\$500.00 or more) to Baptist Headquarters, c/o Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer, 603 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, North Carolina 27601-2338, 800-639-GBSC, alogan@gbsc.org.

As you know each year we depend on your

stewardship support of our Annual Sessions. We need the additional stewardship contributions that are reported each May and October to meet our obligations. We missed seeing and hearing from several of you May 2001.

Please send your checks for the MINISTRY and the WORK. Call me I will be more than happy to visit your Association or church to receive your contributions (800-639-GBSC).

We have mailed information to you about what the GBSC, Inc.'s VISION is for the NEW MILLENNIUM. We need you help! Pray for the session of the GBSC, Inc., and PLEASE MAIL your STEWARDSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS TODAY.

James 4:2 says:

*"Yet you do not have because you do not ask."*  
(NKJV).

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# GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC. RETURNS TO EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA FOR ITS FIRST ANNUAL TRINITY SESSION

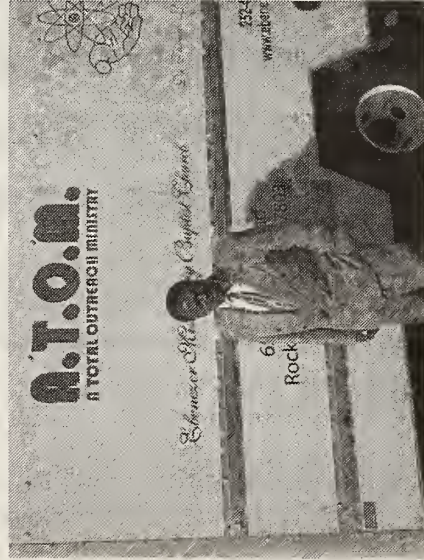
By Dr. Archie D. Logan, Jr.,  
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc., returns to Eastern North Carolina for its First Annual Trinity Session. Our host Ebenezer Baptist Church, Rocky Mount, North Carolina, Dr. Thomas Walker, Pastor is located in the Edgecombe/Nash County area. This was the area that Hurricane Floyd hit directly. The church is approximately 15 miles from Princeville, North Carolina.

The session will begin with the Laymen's League Annual Session, July 16-17, 2001; The Congress of Christian Education's Annual Session, July 17-19, 2001; and the Ushers' Annual Session, July 20-21, 2001. This marks the first time in the history of the GBSC, Inc., that these three Auxiliaries will celebrate their Annual Sessions at the same location during the same week allowing an opportunity for GBSC messengers to attend all three conventions.

During the week we will tour and view a restored home for a flood survivor. A.T.O.M., Inc. and the Ebenezer Baptist Church in partnership with the GBSC, Inc., are working to provide low income and affordable homes to flood survivors. Also transportation will be provided to Princeville, Tarboro, and surrounding areas. Reverend William Clayton has assisted us in our Princeville/Tarboro work at Phoenix Village; Reverend Comolius Moore has guided several recovery projects in the area. We want you to see the progress we have made as a Faith-based organization. It is important that we not grow weary. We represent a light of hope for many Hurricane Floyd survivors.

We must remember that the pain and suffering still lingers across Eastern North Carolina. This Trinity Session will remind us that the struggle to rebuild continues. Many of you have called and inquired about what has the GBSC, Inc. done to help the flood survivors? COME AND SEE! JOIN US IN ROCKY MOUNT, NC, JULY 16-21, 2001. Please pray for the success of this First Trinity Session. Pastor Walker, area Churches and Associations are working together to welcome us to the area. Make your plan and reservations early for the Session.



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Rock

## Baptist Informer

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# Baptist Informer

Vol. 124, No. 7

Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc.  
Voice of 500,000 North Carolina Baptists

July 2001

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**WBH&FM ANNUAL SESSION**  
Winston-Salem, NC • July 22-26, 2001

**GBSC TRINITY AUXILIARY ANNUAL SESSION**  
Laymen's League Annual Session • July 16-17, 2001  
Congress of Christian Education • July 17-19, 2001  
Usher's Convention • July 20-21, 2001

**WBH&FMC ANNUAL SESSION • Winston-Salem, NC**  
July 22-26, 2001

**STATEWIDE DEACON/DEACONESS/TRUSTEES/  
HEALTH LEADERS CONFERENCE**  
Indian Woods Baptist Church, Windsor, NC • Aug. 16-17, 2001

**2001 GBSC ANNUAL SESSION**  
Hill Street Baptist Church, Asheville, NC • Oct. 28-31, 2001

### Inside this issue:

Page	Corporate Donation by	Page	Institutional Ministry
Page 1	Mount Olive Pickle Co.	Page 15	Kid's Corner
Pages 2,39	Executive Secretary	Page 15	Central Children's News
Page 3	President's Page	Page 16	Health & Human Services
Pages 5-6	Women's News	Pages 17,18,23,24,25,26	News Around the State
Pages 7-8	Laymen's League	Page 19	Health & Human Services
Page 9	Moderator's Column	Page 20	Shaw University News
Pages 9-10	Lott Carey News	Pages 30-34	Vacant Pulpits
Page 11	Christian Education News		
Pages 12-14	Adoption & Foster Care		

# BAPTIST INFORMER

3222

Volume 124, Number 8

Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C. Inc.  
Voice of 500,000 North Carolina Baptists

August 2001

## General Baptist State Convention

### 2000-2001 Fiscal Year Ends August 31, 2001

By Dr. Archie D. Logan, Jr.,  
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

We greet you in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ! Another GBSC fiscal year is coming to an end. This year we are running behind in our projected stewardship contributions. We ask each church and association to meet your stewardship goals. If you have not sent your stewardship contributions to the GBSC for the 2000-2001 fiscal year please send them to Baptist Headquarters, 603 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC, 27601-2338, 919-821-7466, 800-639-GBSC, as soon as possible and before August 31, 2001, so that they may be included in our Annual Minutes. Please pray for the success of our glorious cause.

The GBSC has continued to assist the flood survivors in Eastern North Carolina. Our Princeville, NC subdivision, Phoenix Village is on schedule. We have begun development for three more affordable homes. We completed the purchase of 130 acres in Navassa, NC for flood survivors and mixed used development for the GBSC.

We installed air conditioning and put a new road on the Chapel at the J. J.

Johnson Baptist Assembly in Laurel Hill, NC. Finally we helped to host and sponsor the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education in Charlotte, NC. These projects were in addition to our commitments to our "Objectives and Auxiliaries."

Our additional Convention staff has provided workshops, institutes and training sessions across the State. We are beginning to reap the benefits of having more Statewide Field Workers. Our "special ministries": Health and Human Services, J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly, Adoption & Foster Care, and Housing all have staff to support their work. The President, Vice Presidents, and Auxiliary Presidents have labored in a spirit of unity as never before in our body. Many of our "committees" were active in ministry.

The GBSC has made a measurable difference in the lives of lost souls, high-risk health populations and deeply hurting people; however, we need your additional stewardship contributions for this fiscal year. Please send your checks before August 31, 2001. The GBSC is a family, if we all carry our corner the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ can reach the loss and those in need. We

have made commitments to Shaw University, Shaw University Divinity School, Central Children's Home, Lott Carey, State Missions and other worthy causes that must be met.

We realize that all of you have obligations and responsibilities in your own churches and associations. Our appeal starts from the "bottom-up." If your church or association has not made ANY OR ONLY A MODEST STEWARDSHIP CONTRIBUTION to the "work" of the GBSC this fiscal year please send your stewardship checks today. We still are receiving contributions and suggested quotas for the Ushers, Congresses of Christian Education, Laymen's Leagues, the UNIFIED PROGRAM, designated gifts and worthy causes. Moderators, Pastors, Church Officers and leaders please help us make 2000-2001 one of the most successful in GBSC history. Every stewardship contribution makes a difference!

The strength of the GBSC is in our unity. Each church, each association, each union, and each member of the convention is like a link on a chain. As we join together in support of common goals and objectives we are able to do

great mission work and ministry. The greater the support we have for the causes of Kingdom Building the greater our witness as General Baptist.

Your check will make a difference in the following areas.

- Home/State Missions
  - The Unified Program
  - Support of Hurricane Floyd "Survivors" Princeville/Navassa/Laurel Hill Projects
  - Shaw Divinity School Library Fund
  - Central Children's Home
  - Lott Carey Ministry in Africa and abroad
  - Shaw University GBSC Church Music Scholarships
  - General Baptist Field/Administrative Staff
  - The 3 Million Dollar 30 Month Stewardship Campaign
- Finally, President John D. Fuller, Sr., joins me in thanking you for your support and sacrifices this fiscal year. Many of you have gone the extra mile to support the "work." Please send your stewardship support before August 31, 2001.

"The Challenge Is The Same: Reach The — Masses" (John 12:32 (KJV))

## GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION FISCAL YEAR ENDS AUGUST 31, 2001 SPECIAL FINANCIAL REPORT

603 SOUTH WILMINGTON STREET, RALEIGH, NC 27601-2338

TO: Pastors, Moderators, Officers and Members of the GBSC

FROM: Dr. John D. Fuller, Sr., President  
Dr. Archie D. Logan, Executive Secretary-Treasurer

DATE: July 15, 2001

SUBJECT: End of 2000 - 2001 fiscal year

Date \_\_\_\_\_

I am enclosing \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

From \_\_\_\_\_ (Church, Union, Association)

Located at \_\_\_\_\_

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Telephone Number (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax Number (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor's/Moderator's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Our Church is a Member of \_\_\_\_\_ (Association)

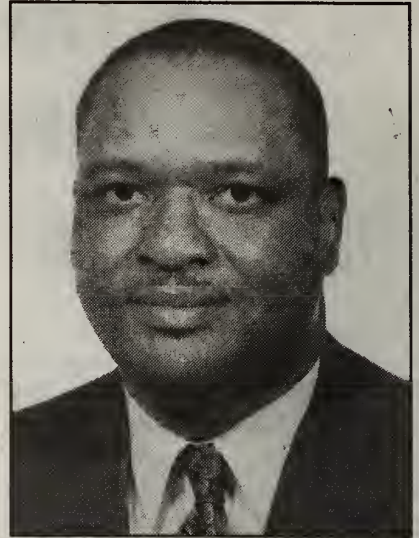
SPECIAL STATE MISSIONS CONTRIBUTION	\$ _____
J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly 2000-2001 Pledge	\$ _____
Shaw University	\$ _____
Shaw University Divinity School	\$ _____
Central Children's Home	\$ _____
Foreign Missions (Lott Carey) Change For CHANGE	\$ _____
Millennium Stewardship Campaign	\$ _____
Other _____	\$ _____
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>

Please send your contributions post-marked no later than August 31, 2001. These funds will be used to balance our 2000-2001 Budget. Please pray for the continued success of the GBSC. We are making measurable progress! PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSING FLOW!

(Cut and Send)

# From The Desk of the Executive Secretary-Treasurer Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Ed.D.

## Hurricane Floyd Recovery Update: *Phoenix Village — Princeville, N.C.*



Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr.

By Dr. John D. Fuller, Sr., President  
Dr. Archie D. Logan, Jr.,  
Executive Secretary

We continue to serve and minister to the Hurricane Floyd SURVIVORS in Eastern North Carolina. Following the storm in September 1999, the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina assisted the victims with a three phase ACTION PLAN:

PHASE I: Immediate response to the most devastated areas with cash, donated items, GBSC Bibles, and Pastoral Counseling.

PHASE II: Assist in area clean-up projects and provide temporary housing.

PHASE III: Partner in the rebuilding efforts for communities, churches and homes. We continue in Phase III! Our Convention was among the first Faith-based organizations to respond to the disaster. We purchased land in Princeville and pledged to build a sub-division to provide affordable housing for the survivors.

Our Convention built the first two homes in the town after the flood. We named our project PHOENIX VILLAGE! Phoenix is a legendary bird, which accord-

ing to historical accounts lived for 500 years. The legend says, the phoenix bird burned itself to ashes on a pyre of dead leaves & dry wood during a ritual; as the ashes cooled the bird rose from the ashes to live another life. Since that time persons who survive great tragedy and devastation have been likened to the "phoenix." We believe that Phoenix Village in Princeville, NC has been a community of hope and faith for the survivors. From the waters of Hurricane Floyd a new community rises for the ashes of despair to LIVE again!

Below are recent photographs of our work. The city has begun putting in the infrastructure for the project: Roads, water, sewer, streets and curving. To God be the Glory for this MIRACLE of restoration and deliverance. Dr. Thurman B. Everett, GBSC Housing Director is coordinating the project. He is pictured below with Mr. Bobby Hopkins, Princeville Town Manager and Police Chief Rodney Cogdell at temporary town offices. Also pictured is work on the infrastructure being completed. We continue to trust God to sustain us in this ministry of "Restoration and Deliverance."

As we come to the end of the 2000-2001

fiscal year we need your stewardship support and contributions. Our Convention has made a bold witness to do the Lord's work. Please complete your 2000-2001 GBSC quotas. Also visit the Princeville, NC site; pastors take your officers, youth, laymen and missionaries to see the GLORY OF GOD in action. Make a pilgrimage to Princeville, NC, stand on the ground, pray prayers of restoration — GO SEE WHAT GOD HAS DONE WITH OUR MITE!



### The Baptist Informer

Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.  
Voice of 500,000 Baptists  
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THEME: "By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness..." (II Corinthians 6:7)

# From The Desk of Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President

## Be True To Your Faith

By Rev. Dennis Leach BS.M.Div

*For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned (NRSV Rom. 12:3)*

Grace and peace be unto you all, from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ. As I begin this article I must confess that for me articles sometimes like sermons, they have a mind all their own, and I just follow where it leads. At the end of an article as with a sermon, I hope it has helped to raise your consciousness, and challenged you to look at things perhaps with a clearer vision. I do understand that there can be a distinct difference between the two terms "the faith," and "your faith." In the first instance, "the faith" as we know it is mainly contained in creedal statements that help to keep all Christians of like persuasion on an even keel. For Missionary Baptist we have our Covenant, and XVIII (18) Articles of Faith, which is somewhat a capsule of the distinctive beliefs to be shared by all (general faith). Generally speaking, the social, cultural, historical and religious parameters of the Christian faith have proven to be interestingly boundless. On the other hand, "your faith" is more personalized, and shared by only you. "The faith" takes shape and lives and breathes within documents adopted by the faith community. But, according to Romans 12:3, God plants "your faith" within you, and I would dare say it takes shape as a result of our encounters with our existential state. The faith that God gives each of us is as personal as a fingerprint, and just as telling.

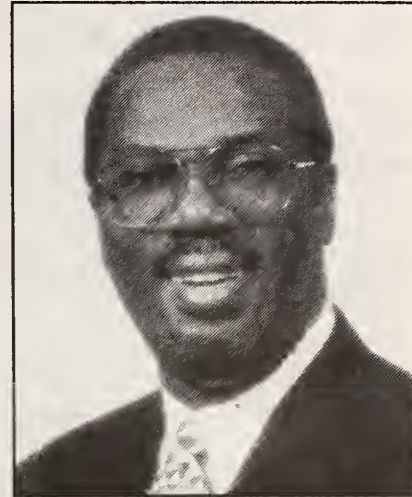
In the above scripture Paul writes these words to the church at Rome, which he had never visited. In the preceding verses it is evident that the Apostle had heard about this young fledgling, but giant of a church located at the capital of the Empire, Rome. Paul makes mention of the fact, that their faith is spoken of throughout the known world. The Apostle always has a purpose, and in the twelfth chapter Paul moves from the theological to the practical. It is here, at this point that many who has claimed to be people of faith, Christian travelers, and people of "the way" have embarked on some diverse journeys. There has been, and are some unique variations in our personal expressions of faith to say the least. Upon closer observation of this Pauline passage you will discover that "the faith" does not lend itself to Western euro-centric expressions of bravado. You cannot brag about this faith with an air of self-confidence. It is not faith that you can flaunt like a snake charmer. Up in the Tennessee Mountains there are churches that commonly practice snake handling as a way of proving your faith. Two years ago at the conclusion of one of these snake-handling services, one of the members was bitten. A reporter asked the sister of the victim what had gone wrong? She responded by saying her brother was not in the spirit. It you ask me I'd say he wasn't in his right mind either. The faith that God gives each of us a measure of is a humbling sobering faith that keeps our feet planted firmly on the theological ground. You need not handle rattlesnakes to prove it. You just wait around a few days, or a few years and you will be pressed through the precipice of life where

your faith will take on new meaning.

God does not give us a measure of faith so that we can fill up arenas, and perform magic arts in fact; those who look for signs have been called evil by the Lord Jesus (Matt. 16:1-4). Sad to say, but some current Charismatic Christian rhetoric would have you believe that faith is denying reality, or the truth. These groups watchword is "name it, and claim it." And totally disregard the obvious, people get sick, have troubles, bear burdens, and all of us will die. It is my belief that God fashions our faith using the raw materials of life. And so, we preach and teach faith in God, thru Jesus! We allow believers to wrestle with their faith in light of their circumstances. Faith is supposed to touch your life, and your life is supposed to be touched by your faith (Rom. 12:1-3). Faith won't always change your life circumstances, but it sure will help you deal with them? A faith that has been tested by life is one that will stay with you no matter what. When the Apostle Paul acknowledged his life affirming faith he said:

*"We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed." (II Cor. 4:8,9)*

In conclusion, most of us have struggled at some point in our Christian lives with the phenomena of our faith, as it relates to our existence. Life can hold triumphs and tragedies, victories, and defeats, success, and failures. But, when your faith is properly oriented it can transcend your circumstances and bring you closer to God. The spirit of our ancestors tell us that our faith can overcome slave-ships, auction blocks,



Dr. John D. Fuller Sr.

overseers whips, and long rows of cotton! God gave them their faith in the midst of unbearable human conditions. Their faith helped them to overcome lynch mobs, the KKK, segregation, discrimination, jail cells, police dogs, and fire hoses. In my spirit I can hear them singing:

**"Sometimes I feel discouraged, and feel my hopes in vain, but then they Holy Spirit revives my soul again."**

They kept right on believing, that God would remember them in the midst of their struggles and storms! They picked up their hymn books, and sang to the rafters.

**Like a ship that's toss'd and driven, Battered by the angry sea; when the Storms of life are raging, and their fury falls on me, I wonder what I have Done that makes this race so hard to run,**

**Then I say to my soul take courage, The Lord will make away some-how, When beneath the cross I bow; he will take away each sorrow; let him have Your burdens now!**

**When the load bears down so heavy, the weight is shown upon my brow, There's a sweet relief in knowing, the Lord will make away some how!**

## All Roads Lead to Asheville, N.C.

### The 134th Annual Session of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.

Submitted by Diatha Harris

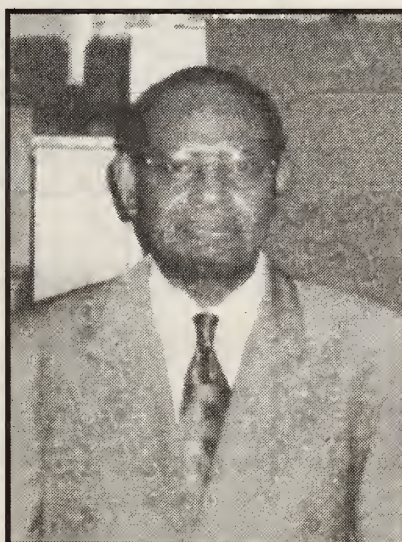
Greetings and Peace to you from the Land of the Sky, beautiful Asheville, North Carolina. Our co-chairs, Dr. N.M. Avery and Dr. John H. Grant are proud to announce that The 134th Annual Session of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. will convene in Asheville, N.C. on Oct. 28 through Nov. 1, 2001.

Hill Street Baptist Church is the host church and the Rev. Dr. N.M. Avery is the host pastor. Headquarters will be located at the Renaissance Hotel in downtown Asheville. Other lodging accommodations can be secured with Best Western Hampton Inn, Comfort Inn-River Ridge, Ramada Inn and Holiday Day Inn Sunspree. (Lodging rates as well as tourism information is forthcoming).

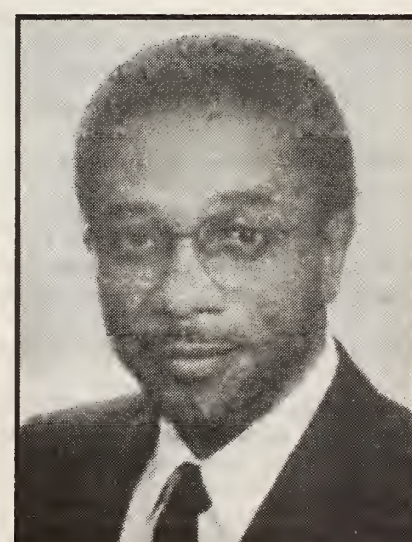
All committees are working very diligently and steadfast to assure the best possible convention ever. Additionally, a special segment has been added to the program this year: Outreach — Evangelism Team-net. This Team has developed and will conduct two evening sessions for the children and youth. Which will begin with dinner and run events in the area of music, arts and crafts, puppetry, storytelling, praise dancing (stepping), children and youth worship, and gifts for the participants.

All committee teams have been working very hard to provide an exciting program. Please make plans to attend The 134th Annual Session and keep us in your prayers.

Remember "All Roads Lead to Asheville," Oct. 28 through Nov. 1, 2001.



Dr. Nilous M. Avery, Co-chairman  
Host Pastor  
Hill Street Baptist Church  
135 Hill Street, Asheville, N.C.



Dr. John H. Grant, Co-chairman  
1st Vice President, GBSC  
Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church  
47 Eagle Street, Asheville, N.C.

# The 96th Annual Session of the National Baptist Congress Christian Education Conference Comes to the Carolinas!

By Cynthia L. Patrick  
Host Committee PR/Marketing Chair  
Friendship Informer Editor

Rev. William J. Shaw, President of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc., was at the helm of the 96th Annual Session of the National Baptist Congress Christian Education Conference. Elected President in 1999, Rev. Shaw, Pastor of White Rock Baptist Church, Philadelphia, PA, has adopted a Christ-Centered theme that emphasizes the principals of — Vision-Integrity-Structure-Accountability (VISA). Under the leadership of Congress President, Rev. R.B. Holmes, Jr. and Rev. George W. Waddles, Sr., Dean of Christian Education, the Conference was held June 18-22, in Charlotte, NC at the Convention Center.

The Rev. Clifford A. Jones, Sr., Pastor of Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, Charlotte, NC, along with the region's General Baptist State Convention hosted what now has proved to be the largest conference ever to come to the area. Over 700 people volunteered to serve as Ambassadors' to welcome and assist 60,000 incoming delegates converging on the region from all across the nation.

To defray some of the cost associated with hosting an event of this magnitude, Harvey Gantt spearheaded the local corporate sponsorship initiative. As a result of his tireless efforts and commitment, the host committee was able to garner financial support from a number of corporate sponsors. Gantt is a former Charlotte mayor, business owner, civic leader, community activist, as well as an active member of Friendship Missionary Baptist Church.

**The Economic Impact**

With the influx of sixty thousand participating delegates and their families, the full force of this huge event was definitely felt throughout

the entire local region — especially from an economic standpoint. Given the financial rewards reaped by many surrounding businesses, the local economy benefited immensely from the 10's of millions of dollars spent by incoming attendees. In addition to local businesses making enormous profits, many African-American entrepreneurs sold goods and services on-site at the convention center's vendor booth area. Arriving from many parts of the United States, as well as Canada and the Caribbean, the majority of these entrepreneurs have a long history of participating yearly at various National Baptist USA, Inc. conventions and conferences. Coinciding with the on-site vendors, the host committee also provided our many guests with an off-site African-American food cord venue. Located in the heart of the city at Marshall Park, the tasty southern style meals offered incoming delegates an affordable price alternative at a convenient location.

**Christian Education Course Study**

Through the leadership of Congress Dean, Rev. George W. Waddles, Sr., Pastor of Zion Hill Missionary Baptist Church, Chicago, IL, the weeklong conference primarily focused on a series of Christian Education seminar/workshops. In past years, other designated host cities conducted most of these classes on location at their convention center facilities. In setting a new trend, the majority of this year's four-day workshop sessions were held at various hotel locations throughout the city of Charlotte. This new and innovative approach gave participating delegates a chance to study in a relaxed classroom atmosphere, which was more conducive to learning.

**Special Dignitaries**

Another key component of this year's conference included special great appearances from The Honorable Governor Mike Easley and Sena-

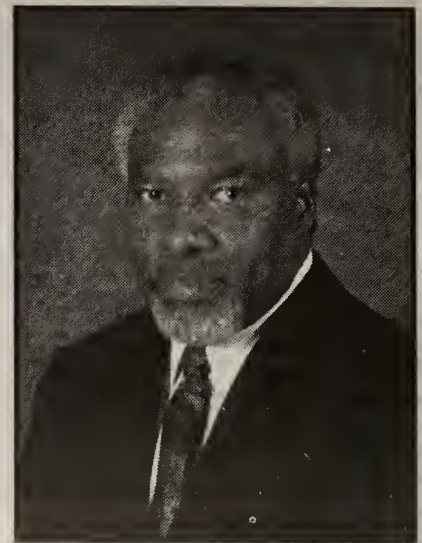
tor John Edwards, D-North Carolina, respectively. During scheduled nightly worship and praise services, Governor Easley and Senator Edwards gave rousing speeches to engaging audiences that ranged anywhere in size from 7 to 9 thousand attendees. In addition to these dignitaries, Congressmen Mel Watt, D-Charlotte, and a number of other local religious, political and civic leaders paid full homage to the thousands of delegates during the course of the week.

**Highlights of Special Events**

The Rev. Clifford Matthews, Jr., Pastor of Saint Luke Missionary Baptist Church, Charlotte, NC, served as master of ceremonies during the kick-off of Monday evening's "Welcome Ceremonies." Mayor Pat McCrory, along with former City Councilwoman and Friendship Missionary Baptist Church member, Ella Scarborough, presented the incoming delegates with official greetings and a proclamation from the city. Tony McNeill, Music Director of Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, led a spirit-filled three hundred-voice citywide, interdenominational choir and other talented musicians. Gospel artists, Donald Lawrence and Richard Smallwood, were on hand to offer dynamic worship & praise through sometimes eloquent and other times spiritually moving songs.

Other highlights include the Rev. Julius Scruggs, NBC USA, Inc., Vice President At Large — home state, Alabama, who gave the keynote sermon during the Tuesday night "Presidential Banquet." The proceeds raised from this year's successful endeavor were earmarked for three North and South Carolina African-American institutions of higher learning — Barber Scotia, Morris and Benedict Colleges.

Congress President, Rev. R.B. Holmes, Jr., presided over many of the weeklong events. Pastor of Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, Talla-



Dr. Clifford A. Jones

hassee, FL, Rev. Holmes, gave a spirited keynote address during Thursday evening ceremonies. The Bethel choir, as well as a delegation of more than 150 church members was in attendance to show their full support and appreciation for their pastor.

The grand finale came on Friday night during The Youth Rally ceremonies. Led by Director, Doris Terry of Macon GA, unique expressions of praise and worship were presented through biblically based dramas, songs, spiritually poetry, dance and recitals. Thousands of beautiful, young, gifted Christians participated — ranging in all age groups — representing many states from across the country — what a magnificent sight to have witnessed!

While retrospectively summing up the entire weeklong worship Christ-Centered experience, Rev. Jones reflects, "We say thank you for the tremendous collective efforts by the Charlotte Convention Center and Bureau, the city of Charlotte, Congress leadership, Friendship church family, volunteers and the many well wishers, for making this a week of affirmation and praise for which we hope God is pleased."

## PARAMOUNT'S KINGS DOMINION GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF N.C. INC. FAMILY DAY! AUGUST 25, 2001

**PROGRAM INFORMATION**

\* Special discount admission tickets only \$22 ages 7 and above  
You save \$16.99 off the \$38.99 regular general admission

\* Children 3 to 6 save with special discount tickets only \$19.50

\* Children 2 and under are admitted free.

\* Tickets include unlimited use of all regular rides, shows and attractions except pay-per-experience attractions.

In ministering to youth, a very important aspect in the development of relationships is to share in moments of fellowship and recreation. In our on-going efforts to provide such opportunities for youth in the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc., we have established a relationship with Paramount's Kings Dominion.

This relationship exemplifies itself in the form of "GBSC of N.C., Inc. Family Day" at Paramount's Kings Dominion. On Aug. 25, 2001, in addition to the usual thrills and frills of the Park, the GBSC of N.C., Inc. will also be there.

Why not plan your Vacation Bible School activity, your Sunday school picnic, and your church family recreational event for this day?

"Join us at Paramount's Kings Dominion! We hope to see you there!"

Gather with your friends and family in the Pavilion from 12 noon to 1 p.m. for an all-you-can-eat picnic of roasted chicken, hamburgers, hot dogs, fresh fruit, potato salad, soft drinks, iced tea, frozen yogurt and flavored ices. Meal prices are \$9.50 for ages 7 and above, \$4.75 for ages 3 to 6.

No meal tickets will be sold at the Park on Aug. 25.  
Order deadline is Aug. 15, 2001.

Purchasing a meal ticket allows you the opportunity to purchase an admission ticket valid any regular operating day during the 2001 season, after Aug. 25, for just \$19.50. See meal ticket stubs for details.

**General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. Ticket Order Form**  
Plan ahead! Order your tickets now!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Church Name \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, we would like to attend GBSC of N.C., Family Day.

We are ordering \_\_\_\_\_ tickets x\$22 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(ages 7 and above)

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, we would like tickets for children ages 3 to 6.  
We are ordering \_\_\_\_\_ tickets x \$19.50 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(ages 3 to 6)

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, please include us in the All-You-Can-Eat Picnic.

We need \_\_\_\_\_ meal tickets x \$9.50 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(ages 7 and above)

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, please include us in the All-You-Can-Eat Picnic.  
We need \_\_\_\_\_ meal tickets x \$4.75 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(ages 3 to 6)

Postage Fee \$5 \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Due \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Payment Enclosed) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Remember: Ticket order deadline is Aug. 15, 2001.  
No refunds or rain checks. Make checks payable to: Paramount's Kings Dominion.  
Send payment to:  
GBSC of N.C., Inc., PO Box 2000, Doswell, Va. 23047-2000

# Women's Page Highlights

## FEES AND SCHEDULE FOR THE 117TH ANNUAL SESSION OF WBH&FMC Benton Convention Center, Winston-Salem July 23-27, 2001



**Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie**  
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

Representation Fee	Senior	Young Adult	Youth	Form Color
Church Circle	\$117	\$47	\$47	Yellow
County/City Union	\$117	\$47	\$47	Green
Woman's Auxiliary	\$117	\$47	\$47	Pink
District Conference	\$117	\$47	\$47	Gray

**Registration Fee** (Note: Class registration is not included in individual registration fee.)  
**Advance: \$10 each** (Deadline July 11, 2001); **On-Site Registration: \$11 each**

**Year-round Committees/Fellowships**  
 Funds should be sent to the Woman's Convention office between June 1 and July 11, 2001. Collection stations will also be set up in Section II, South Main Hall, Upper Level, Convention Center

**Banquet 6 p.m. — Monday, North Main Hall, Upper Level, Convention Center**  
 Advance Tickets: \$30 each (Deadline July 22, 2001); \$31 at the door.  
 Available tickets may be purchased on site from the WBSC Finance Office or at the door.

**Missions Prayer Breakfast — 6:45 a.m. — Tuesday, Mark Ballroom, Adam's Mark Hotel**  
 Advance Tickets: \$15 each (Deadline July 11, 2001); \$16 at the door.

**Ministers' Wives Luncheon — 12:30 p.m. — Tuesday — Mark Ballroom, Adam's mark**  
 Advance Tickets: \$15 each (Deadline July 11, 2001); \$16 at the door.  
 Available tickets may be purchased on site from the WBSC Finance Office or at the door.

**Youth Prayer Pizza Party — 6:30 p.m. Wednesday — Mark Ballroom, Adam's Mark Hotel**  
 Advance tickets: \$7 each (Deadline July 11, 2001); \$8 at the door.  
 Available tickets may be purchased on site from the WBSC Finance Office or at the door.

**Missions Classes (Annual Session) — 8 a.m.-8:50 a.m. Tuesday-Thursday, Adam's Mark Hotel**

	Pre-registration	Registration On-Site	Form Color
Senior Class Part 1	\$5 each	\$6 each	Blue
Senior Class Part 2	\$5 each	\$6 each	Blue
Pastors (Only for Pastors)	\$5 each	\$6 each	White

(Note: Part 2 is **only** for persons who participated in all classes during the 1999 Annual Session).  
 Class Preeregistration/Registration is **not** required for Young Adults or Youth. Class fees do not include textbook. Preeregistration deadline is July 11, 2001.

**President's Address — Wednesday — Upper Level, Convention Center**  
 Advance donation: \$2 per copy (Deadline July 11, 2001);  
 On-site donation: \$3 per copy.

**Youth Projects — Tuesday — Convention Center**  
 Project forms with funds "should be sent to the Office of the Woman's Convention by July 8, 2001" for participants in the "Shaw," "Have-A-Heart" and "Youth Officers and Supervisors' Match."

**Concession Area (Food) — Wednesday — Lower Level, Convention Center**  
 Open from 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. for breakfast and lunch. This arrangement is provided for the convenience of those who will be traveling long distances and in sessions all day on Wednesday, July 25, 2001.

\*\*\*\*\*  
 Make all checks/money orders payable to: **WOMAN'S BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION**. In order to avoid standing in long lines, send funds, along with the appropriate form(s), between June 1 and July 11, 2001, to:

Executive Secretary-Treasurer  
 Woman's Baptist State Center  
 P.O. Box 1818  
 Raleigh, NC 27602

For additional information, forms, please contact the Convention's Office: Telephone: (919) 833-4823/Fax: (919) 833-7599 / E-mail: wbfmc@wbh-fmc.org  
 Thanks, God Bless!  
 Priscilla A. Brodie  
 Executive Secretary-Treasurer

**HAPPY 4TH OF JULY! BE SAFE!!**

### WOMAN'S BAPTIST HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONARY CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, AUXILIARY TO GBSC 2001 CALENDAR

<b>JULY</b> 22-26 — Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention	<b>OCTOBER</b> (Prayer month for SHAW UNIVERSITY AND SHAW DIVINITY SCHOOL) 13 — WBSC Institute Workers' Workshop, Baptist Headquarters
<b>AUGUST:</b> (Prayer month for the Family) 27-31 — Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention, Columbus, Ohio	<b>NOVEMBER</b> 3 — Youth Evangelism Conference, Cumberland County Memorial Auditorium, Fayetteville 5 — World Day of Prayer (BWA — Woman's Department) 22 — Thanksgiving Day
<b>SEPTEMBER</b> 4-7 — National Baptist Convention 22 — Family Missions Conference, New Ahoskie Baptist Church, Ahoskie	<b>DECEMBER</b> 25 — Christmas Day

Join the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention and the Central Children's Home of North Carolina as they fellowship together in the **Fourth Bi-Annual Central Children's Home Day** Saturday, Aug. 18, 2001 • 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the campus of the Central Children's Home

211 West Antioch Drive, Oxford, NC 27565  
 (919) 693-7617 or • (919) 693-1213

"Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord ..." Psalm 127:3  
 Testimonials/Choir/Speaker/Food/Campus Tour/Games  
 Mr. Michael Alston, Director, Central Children's Home  
 Dr. Maggie M. White, President, WBH&FMC  
 Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie, Executive Secretary-Treasurer

#### Group Registration Form Fourth Bi-Annual Central Children's Home Day • Aug. 18, 2001

Name of Group/Organization \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number Attending: Adults \_\_\_\_\_ + Youth \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_ Total  
 Time of Arrival: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return Group Registration Form by July 20, 2001 to:  
 Woman's Baptist State Convention  
 PO Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602

# LAYMEN'S LEAGUE NEWS

## End of Fiscal Year Is Approaching

By Romas L. Hales

We are approaching the end of another fiscal year. The end of the General Baptist State Convention fiscal year is August 31, 2001. The State Laymen's League Officers and Workers wishes to thank you for the support you have given the Laymen's League. We have had some churches to organize their Laymen this year and we hope this will continue. A lot of interest has been generated on behalf of the Laymen Movement. We are looking forward to greater heights and service during the next fiscal year and we are counting on your continued support and cooperation as we strive to keep the Laymen's Organization growing.

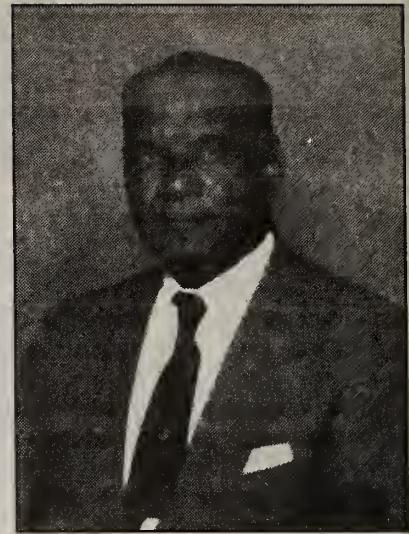
Pastors and Laymen, your financial as-

sistance is needed. As previously stated, August is the final month of this fiscal year. If you have not paid your Church Assessment of three hundred dollars (\$300.00) for the Laymen's League, please do so immediately. We need your help to reach our budget of Forty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$45,000.00). It is our hopes and prayers that over the One Hundred Churches will make a contribution to the Laymen's Organization. We know that you will want to see your church name on the list when the Annual Report is finalized and published. You may wish to make a personal donation, it so it will be highly appreciated.

We are still working to get Churches and

Associations across the state to organize a Laymen's League Organization in their Church and Association if they have not done so. The Laymen Organization is a good place to get Men and Boys involved and active in church work. In most of our churches we can see the need to get our young men and boys involved in church work. Our main objective is Winning Souls for Christ. Let us all join Hands and March to together in this effort to do the work the Lord would have us to do.

The Laymen's Men Retreat will be held on Saturday, September 8, 2001, at the J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill, NC. Please start making plans to attend.



Romas Hales  
Laymen's League Coordinator

We are hoping for a large number of men to be in attendance. You will receive more details about this in a mailing at a later date.

May God continue to bless you and keep on doing His work.

### MINISTERS/DEACONS/DEACONESS/ TRUSTEES & HEALTH LEADERS CONFERENCE AUGUST 16-17, 2001

**HOST PASTOR: DR. RALPH WHITE**  
**HOST CHURCH: INDIAN WOOD BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**2330 INDIAN WOOD ROAD, WILLIAMSTON, NC**  
**(252) 794-4805**

*"The Challenge Is The Same: Reach The Masses" John 12:32 (KJV)*

### MINISTERS/DEACONS/DEACONESS/ TRUSTEES & HEALTH LEADERS CONFERENCE SEPTEMBER 27-28, 2001

**HOST PASTOR: REV. S.H. BARBER JR.**  
**HOST CHURCH: EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**913 NORTH HIGHLAND STREET**  
**GASTONIA, N.C.**

*"The Challenge Is The Same: Reach The Masses" John 12:32 (KJV)*

#### MINISTERS/DEACONS/DEACONESS/TRUSTEES & HEALTH LEADERS CONFERENCE REGISTRATION AND REPRESENTATION FORM

Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President GBSC  
Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer

Church \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor \_\_\_\_\_

Association \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # Church ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # Pastor ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Your Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Website \_\_\_\_\_

Church Representation \$100 for \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Ministers/Deacons/Deaconess/Trustees &  
Health Leaders Conference

Personal Registration \$10 per person  
Pastors/Ministers \_\_\_\_\_ \$10 each Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Deacons \_\_\_\_\_ \$10 each Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Health Leaders \_\_\_\_\_ \$10 each Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Trustees \_\_\_\_\_ \$10 each Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please Send Your Registration/Representation form to:  
Baptist Headquarters, MINISTERS/DEACONS/DEACONESS & HEALTH LEADERS  
CONFERENCE  
603 S. Wilmington St., Raleigh, NC 27601-2338 • 800-639-GBSC(4272) • 919/821-7466

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#### MINISTERS/DEACONS/DEACONESS/TRUSTEES & HEALTH LEADERS CONFERENCE REGISTRATION AND REPRESENTATION FORM

Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President GBSC  
Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer

Church \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor \_\_\_\_\_

Association \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # Church ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # Pastor ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Your Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Website \_\_\_\_\_

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603 S. Wilmington St., Raleigh, NC 27601-2338 • 800-639-GBSC(4272) • 919/821-7466

Visa \_\_\_\_\_ Mastercard \_\_\_\_\_ Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

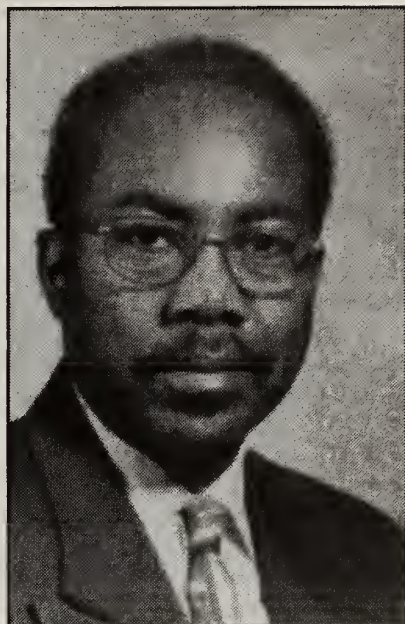
## From the Moderator of Moderators' Committee

### Misappropriated Money and Promiscuity

Grace and Peace to all of you, my brothers and sisters!

A couple of matters that causes Church Conflict and is often not talked about are misappropriated money and promiscuity. Very little needs to be spent discussing this. If someone misappropriates church's funds or becomes involved in promiscuity, the church is headed for conflict. It is therefore important that certain checks and balances be put in place to readily ascertain if certain unethical are illegal matters or taking place regarding the church's finances. By doing so, the church is not expressing a distrust of anyone but rather operating as good stewards of the church's funds. Some things to be considered are internal audits and reconciliation of bank statements. If the offices of the financial officers are vacated for whatever reasons, than an outside audit should be considered. Often, when matter or misappropriated funds in a church occurs, it is the pastor who is in the midst of the conflict even if he or she knew absolutely nothing about it. Therefore, it becomes imperative that the pastor implement safeguards to prevent as much as possible these occurrences. Let's suppose the church's policy is for the treasurer and financial secretary to sign on all checks. Incidentally, the church policy should be that at least two people should sign on all checks. Assume that your financial secretary is busy, live some distance from the treasurer, will not be at church the following Sunday or for some other reason is unavailable to sign a check so he or she decides to sign a couple of checks for convenience of the treasurer. This is bad business and should not be done. Remember that we are stewards of the church's funds and should treat it as such.

Promiscuous sexual behavior speaks for itself. One of Webster's definitions for promiscuous is, "not restricted to one sexual partner." In the Christian context, it is immoral and not



Rev. James W. Smith, J.D.

becoming of a Christian. When a pastor becomes involved with a member of the church, it is potential conflict. Make no doubt about it. In one of my workshops, as this matter was being discussed, someone raised the question, "Dr. Smith, I understand promiscuity as it relates to the pastor, but what about deacons or trustees?" In response to the statement, a pastor's comment was, "that's when the deacons and trustees are involved in the pastor's lady." The comment was said in gesture, but it's true and it leads to serious church conflict one discovered.

If you wish our services in any way, please contact us at the following:

**Rev. James W. Smith, JD**  
146 Presidents Drive  
Durham, NC 27704  
(919) 479-0501  
Email: Jsmith9450@aol.com

**Rev. W.J. Cox**  
107 Gray Street  
Goldsboro, NC 27534  
(919) 751-9899

**Dr. Joshua J. Haire Jr.**  
P.O. Box 53803  
Fayetteville, NC 28305  
(910) 323-1508

## From 2nd Vice President Dr. Howard W. Parker Jr.

### Lott Carey: Wrapping up a Really Good Year

Thank you for your investment in Christian missions around the world through the Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention. This has been an exciting year for us. We have been extremely busy and very blessed states Dr. David Emmanuel Goatley, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Lott Carey Convention.

We began the Lott Carey year (August 1st thru July 31st) with a training conference for pastors and spouses, educators, and church leaders that focused on HIV/AIDS prevention and care in Zimbabwe. More than 100 people shared in that important and informative seminar at the Baptist Seminary located in Gweru. We followed up on that initial event with two additional training conferences at the seminary. Seminary students were the focus of a January 2001 conference as part of their preparation for pastoral leadership. Over 100 youth gathered on the campus in April to learn about AIV/AIDS and how young people can be agents of change.

In addition to our training work in Zimbabwe, we are finishing arrangements to provide support for an understaffed and understocked 200 bed hospital in Zimbabwe and support for children orphaned by the pandemic in Uganda.

During April, we had the privilege of hosting Rev. Canon Clement Janda, General Secretary of the All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC). We have been working with AACC to help coordinate responses to the AIV/AIDS pandemic through that organization that covers 39 African countries. During a briefing for religious leaders that we hosted, Rev. Janda also shared critical insights concerning the many civil wars on the African continent and especially the slave trade occurring in Sudan. Our eyes were opened by Rev. Janda, a Sudanese.

Our mission leader from around the Lott Carey family met in Liberia in March for our first ever Mission Leadership Conference. This conference was splendidly hosted by the Lott Carey Mission School staff led by Dr. Jeremiah Walker. During our visit in Liberia, our mis-



Dr. Howard W. Parker Jr.

sion leaders learned about the historical Lott Carey impact in Liberia and our essential work in these years following civil war, they shared in peer leadership development exercises, and they participated in vision casting for the coming years.

Two staff members have been to Haiti conferring with leaders about opportunities for the Lott Carey to return to Haiti after being disengaged for a quarter century.

These are a few highlights of what has been for us a very full and really good year. Indeed, the Lord has done great things for us, whereof we are glad.

The Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention helps churches extend their Christian witness to the ends of the earth through:

1. Giving that supports evangelism, education, health care, hunger relief and disaster assistance;
2. Going on short term mission service and exposure tours; and
3. Growing through workshops, seminars and messages that help Christians understand better what it means to be God's people on mission to the world.

Our fiscal year ends July 31. Please remember the essential work we do around the world that helps to bless more people than we can count. Touching lives is not easy and it's not cheap. Remember our sisters and brothers with your gifts as God makes it possible for you.

### A & O CHURCH FURNITURE

PO Box 1053, Jamestown, NC 27282  
Local 336-454-5145 • Fax 336-5583 • Toll 1-800-523-9058 • E-mail Address: aochurchfurniture@hotmail.com

Showroom: 1005 Greensboro Road, High Point, NC 27250

- |                                                 |                     |                        |
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| •Bulletin Boards                                | •Library Furniture  | •Carpet                |
| •Folding Tables                                 | •Folding Doors      | •Stained Glass         |
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# 2001 James F. Wertz Oratorical Contest

Youth Conference for Oratorical Contestants Congress of Christian Education Auxiliary to the GBSC convened at North Carolina A&T State University, Greensboro, NC, Thursday evening July 6 through Saturday morning July 8, 2001.

**INVITEES:** Contestants, Future Contestants for the State and National Oratorical, Parents, Friends and Supporters of the Oratorical Program

The James F. Wertz Oratorical Contest gives young people who are affiliated with the General Baptist State Convention an opportunity to witness for Christ, and by doing so, convince others to accept Christ also. Making a speech in public also aid young people in expressing themselves orally which is important in today's society.

The Contest was named in honor of Rev. James F. Wertz of Maxton, NC, who spent his early childhood days in Charlotte. Rev. Wertz served as president of the State BTU and as member of its Executive Board. He was listed in WHO'S WHO AMONG NORTH CAROLINA NEGRO BAPTISTS as one of the outstanding and promising young men in the North Carolina Baptist denomination. He was very interested in developing the talents of the young people.

**2001 ORATORICAL WINNERS**  
**SENIOR DIVISION**  
 1st MONICA SANER \$500  
 128 MOOSE ROAD

TAYLORSVILLE, NC 28681  
 NEW PROSPECT BAPT. CHURCH  
 REV. JARVIS SANER, PASTOR  
 MOUNTAIN & CATAWBA ASSOCIATION  
 REV. DARELL MCCONELL  
 MODERATOR  
 TOPIC: THE MAN/WOMAN IN THE MIRROR  
 2nd JOHN HUMPHREY \$300  
 4221 W. SUGAR CREEK ROAD  
 CHARLOTTE, NC  
 FIRST BAPTIST WEST  
 DR. RICKY WOODS, PASTOR  
 MECKLENBURG-GENERAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION  
 DR. NORMAN E. KERRY, MODERATOR  
 TOPIC: GOD'S WORD: THE ULTIMATE TRUTH  
 3rd LASHONDA GRANT \$200  
 PO BOX 293, WOODLAND, NC 27589  
 NEBO BAPTIST CHURCH  
 REV. ROBERT HOLLOMAN, PASTOR  
 NORTHAMPTON COUNTY ASSOCIATION  
 REV. ROBERT HOLLOMAN  
 MODERATOR. TOPIC: REACHING FOR THE GOLD  
**JUNIOR DIVISION**  
 1st JAISON ELLIS \$200  
 1529 GLENN VALLEY DRIVE,  
 MATTHEWS, NC 28105  
 FIRST BAPTIST WEST  
 DR. RICKY WOODS, PASTOR

MECKLENBURG GENERAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION  
 DR. NORMAN E. KERRY, MODERATOR  
 TOPIC: YIELD NOT TO TEMPTATION  
 2nd PATRICE GIST \$150  
 2805 SOURWOOD ST.  
 RALEIGH, NC 27610  
 COMPASSIONATE TABERNACLE OF FAITH  
 REV. THOMAS B. JILES, PASTOR  
 WAKE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION  
 REV. OTIS BYRD, MODERATOR  
 TOPIC: YIELD NOT TO TEMPTATION  
 3rd TERRANCE BROOKS \$100  
 CLINTON, NC  
 LISBON STREET BAPTIST CHURCH  
 REV. H.R. COGDELL, PASTOR  
 WESTERN UNION ASSOCIATION  
 REV. MARVIN CLOWNEY, MODERATOR  
 TOPIC: CAN I GET A WITNESS?  
**TOPICS 2002**  
**PREPARATORY DIVISION**  
 1. Self-discipline  
 2. Courage  
 3. Good Judgement  
 4. Responsibility  
 5. Integrity  
 6. Perseverance  
 7. Kindness  
 8. Respect  
**JUNIOR DIVISION**  
 1. Yield Not To Temptation  
 2. Stand Up For Jesus  
 3. Changed, Challenged and Charged



Portia Brandon, M.Div.  
 Christian Education Coordinator

4. Can I Get A Witness?
  5. Satisfied With Jesus?
  6. The Highest Calling
  7. Passing Toward The Mark
  8. Jesus Never Fails
  9. Serving The Lord With Gladness
  10. Living A Christ-Centered Life
- SENIOR DIVISION**
1. Reaching For the Gold
  2. The Excellency of God
  3. Fruits of the Spirit
  4. People of Courage
  5. The (Man/Woman) In The Mirror
  6. God's Word: The Ultimate Truth
  7. Anchored in the Lord
  8. Serving God in This Present Age
  9. Knee-Power
  10. Christ Alive In Youth in Changing Times

John Maxwell in his book "Partners in Prayer," addressed the issue of expanding our prayer focus by examining Job 16:21, "O that one might plead for a man with God, as man pleadeth for his neighbor (or friend)." We call this Intercessory prayer when we go to God in prayer for someone else's life issues. It is a selfless act and is considered to be in some circles one of the highest forms of prayer.

Our model Intercessor is Jesus Christ. Turn to the 17th chapter of John's gospel and read it in its entirety. I want to highlight a few verses to focus our attention on the theme of intercessory prayer. In this chapter we find Jesus communicating with His Father. As we know prayer is the mode of communication that God has established for us to talk with Him. Here Jesus makes the case of how He overcame the world by glorifying His Father and is now ready to bring this part of His ministry to a close. However before doing so He, Jesus, felt the need to pray intercessory for us. Let us begin at the eighth verse where Jesus began by interceding for His disciples and those who would listen then and for those of us who listens today. After He reviewed His ministry, its intent, and its results then He began in verses nine and ten His intercessory prayer. Listen as Jesus speaks to His Father. "I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them thou hast given me; for they are thine And all mine are thine, and thine are mine; and I am honored in them." Jesus is not praying for this world in its hostility and unbeliefs. There are two things that holds us in these verses. The first is the preservation of His disciples then and now. Read verse twenty. Secondly He prays for their sanctification. He wants us to know that the world is not to be preserved in its rebellion or sanctified in its unbelief. The Savior's prayer recognizes that we are owned by God the Father through both His creation and His election.

Jesus came into the world to talk with mankind about God, but while He was here,

## A Christian Education Moment

By Dr. Jasper P. Reed, President  
 Congress of Christian Education

## *Expanding Prayer*

He talked with God about people. When He ascended to heaven many thought that His roll as an intercessor had ended. But when we turn to and read Romans 8:33-34 our fears are relieved. "Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth. Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who maketh intercession for us." Isn't it good to know that we are God's by election through Jesus Christ and that even in heaven He continues to pray for us, interceding on our behalf, before God our Father. Isn't he worthy to be praised? Thank God for His only begotten Son Jesus Christ.

Finally, Maxwell instructs us that anyone can intercede for another in prayer and we do it all the time. However there are people who feel compelled to intercede for others in prayer. These persons are not of the normal parental or spousal groups. Usually they share certain characteristics in common. I want to mention three. First, they have a strong identification or empathy for people, secondly they are willing to sacrifice for the people for whom they pray, and thirdly sacrifice comes with authority with God through the power of the Holy Spirit. It is rejoicing to know that God rewards those who are willing to stand in the gap for others and plead before His throne of grace for them.

A Christian Education Moment for

### Our Youth and Young-At-Heart — Quiz

1. Who interceded for Sodom and Gomorrah? Genesis 18:20-33
2. Which of Jacob's sons interceded on Joseph's behalf? Genesis 37:21-22
3. What was Job's cry in this scripture? Job 9:33-35
4. Who was Jeremiah interceding for? Jeremiah 15:1
5. Who did the Lord send to intercede for the children of Israel before Zerubbabel? Haggai 1:1



Dr. Jasper P. Reed, President  
 Congress of Christian Education

6. Who was the intercessor that saved Paul's life? Acts 23:16-22
7. What was the name of the slave that Paul interceded for in this scripture? Philemon verses 10-11

Go to: [www.gbsc.org](http://www.gbsc.org)

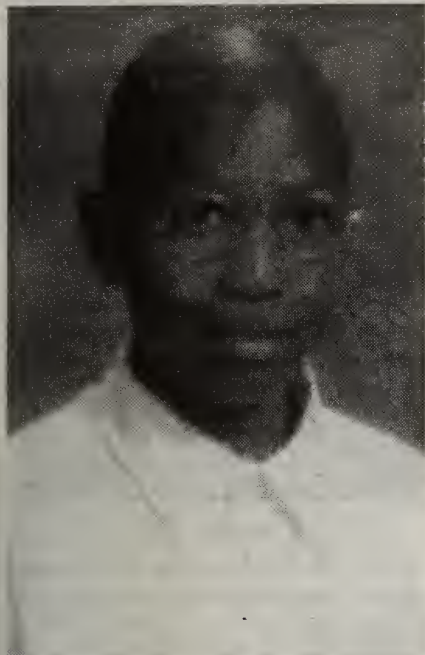
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# UPDATE: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE



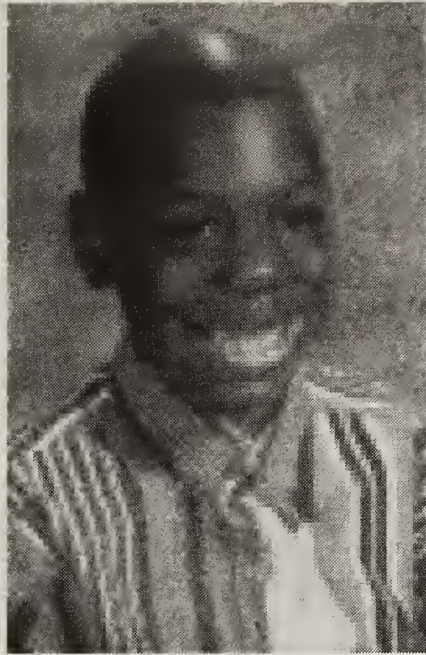
**Derrick**

**Introducing Derrick and Rashad...**

Derrick and Rashad are polite, well-mannered young men who show respect for others. Derrick is more serious and the peacemaker, while Rashad is the talkative one. Both boys have good appetites and like a variety of foods.

**A Closer Look at Derrick...**

Nicknamed — the Professor — by a previous foster parent, Derrick is a good student whose favorite subject is science, and he likes to read. Derrick enjoys extracurricular activities, too, like little league baseball and tutoring. Derrick studies hard and is a perfectionist. He has a self-disciplined personality and is probably a bit too serious for a boy his age.



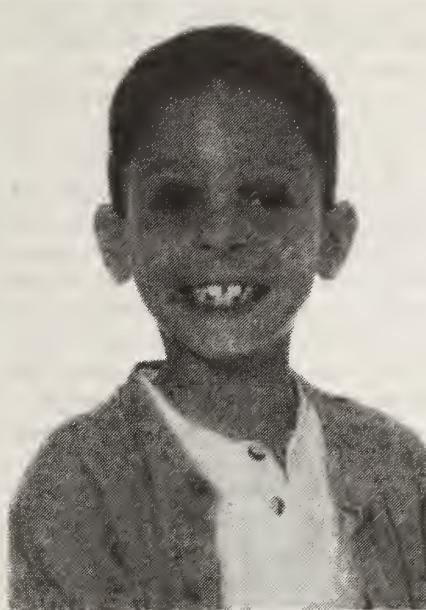
**Rashad**

**A Closer Look at Rashad...**

Rashad is usually cheerful, outgoing and energetic. A previous foster parent described him as — heart warming and friendly. Rashad likes school and is enthusiastic about learning. He is also an above-average reader. He works well independently and enjoys helping out with chores. Rashad is a friendly kid, but needs to learn not to talk too much. He needs to continue to work on his behavior, especially when it comes from not understanding his feelings.

**A Family for Derrick and Rashad...**

Two happy and good kids, Derrick and Rashad are ready to be part of a bright, cheerful and loving family. Help them with their homework, bake them a nice cake, give them time to do their schoolwork, then send them happily out to play baseball. A dream come true for them and you. (NC #024-308) (NC #024-309)



**Demonte**

**Introducing Demonte...**

With his wide, toothy grin and hearty laugh, Demonte can warm even the coldest of hearts. He is a polite young man who talks with you on an adult level. He enjoys reading, especially the Bible, and reads material far above his grade level. He likes to play Uno and when he plays with other kids, Demonte prefers to be with younger children. Demonte's foster mother has enrolled him in martial arts and soccer to help him increase his motor skills. He has also been in cub scouts and has taken piano lessons. While Demonte is very intelligent and functions academically much higher than his age, he needs to be reminded about simple daily tasks such as brushing his teeth. His foster mother has worked very hard with him through positive stimulation, consistent daily regime and lots of cuddling and hugging when he needed emotional reassurance and nurturing. She has been actively involved in Demonte's school and therapy and his behaviors have improved a great deal, mostly at home.

**A Family for Demonte...**

Demonte needs lots of nurturing and affection to help him continue to thrive. He has many strengths, not the least of which are his engaging personality and pleasant attitude. Demonte needs a family who can totally commit to him and involve themselves in his school, his therapy and continue the consistent, daily routine so he knows what he is supposed to do. This loving little boy is ready for a permanent family.

Are you ready for this loving little boy? (NC #060-724)

For more information on these children, or adoption in general, please call the NC Kids Adoption and Foster Care Network's toll free hotline at 1-877-625-4371.



**Rev. Anthonette Wright  
Director of Church Relations GBSC  
Adoption & Foster Care Ministry**

*A message from the Director of Church Relations!*

**By Rev. Anthonette Wright**

*Attention all African-American Singles and African-Couples! Bridge the gap to permanency through Adoption and Foster Care!*

July was an outstanding month for the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry. Staff members and volunteers ventured over the state of North Carolina recruiting African-American singles and couples interested in Adoption and Foster Care. From Wilmington to Rocky Mount to Fuquay to Fayetteville to Gastonia to Thomasville to Charlotte... We are covering the entire state recruiting families for the thousands of children that wait in the child welfare system.

The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry is proud to have been a part of the National Baptist State Convention, USA Congress of Christian Education Conference in Charlotte, NC. Thousands of people from all over the United States were in attendance and many of them committed to help us in our efforts to unite families with children who need loving, nurturing and safe homes in North Carolina and all across the nation.

Let's continue to help open doors for the many children in the child welfare system so they may have a permanent place to call home.

Upcoming stops for special recruitment include Dr. George B. Jackson and First Missionary Baptist Church in Thomasville, Gaston County, Forsyth County and Buncombe County.

We need your help! Support this ministry by volunteering to recruit African-American Singles and Couples willing to adopt or foster African-American Children. With your help, we can make a difference in the life of a child. Please contact me for more information on what you can do to help make a difference in a child's life. You may write me:

Rev. Anthonette Wright Director of Church Relations, 211 West Martin Street, Suite 120 Raleigh, NC 27601 or E-mail me: Nwrightgbsc@aol.com or telephone me; 919-754-8800

## FOSTER CARE & ADOPTION NEWS

We urgently seek to identify persons interested in becoming Adoptive and/or Foster Care Parents in each of the 100 counties. There is an urgency. Every child deserves a loving and caring home.

Please contact at:

**Dr. Joseph C. Paige or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige**  
2610 Albemarle Avenue 27610  
919-231-9774 • E-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com

## WANTED!!

• ADOPTED PARENT  
• FOSTER CARE PARENT  
• VOLUNTEER ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE ADVOCATES URGENT!

Please contact: Dr. Joseph C. Paige or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige  
2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27610 • 919-231-9774; Fax 919-212-3656; or e-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com or dotteddem@maxxconnect.net

### The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. and the N.C. African-American Faith Communities United for Children: Adoption and Foster Care Finding Adoptive & Foster Care Homes For African-American Children

**Touch a Life Forever ... ADOPT!**

Children waiting for adoptive families are ...

- Sisters and brothers who want to be adoptive together
- Children who have experienced neglect, abuse or abandonment
- Older children who want a permanently family
- Children who need families who care and are willing to make a lifetime commitment

**You can adopt if you ...**

- Are single, married or divorced
- Can provide a stable home
- Have the ability to care for a child not born to you
- Are willing to take on the responsibilities, joys and challenges of parenting

**Families who adopt ...**

- May be homeowners or renting
- May have a fixed income
- May be an adult of any age

**North Carolina Needs More Foster Homes**

Thousands of children in North Carolina, ranging in age from infants to 18 years old, enter the foster care system each year. These children may have been neglected, abused, or abandoned and need a safe place to stay temporarily. The number of children coming into care is increasing faster than the number of foster homes in our state.

**You Can Become A Foster Parent If You ...**

- Are between the ages of 21 and 65
  - Are willing to be fingerprinted and have a criminal record check
  - Have a stable home and income
  - Are able to provide a safe, temporary place for children until they can be in a permanent home
  - Complete all required training and be licensed by the State of North Carolina
- You do not have to be married, wealthy or own your own home to be a foster parent.**

# UPDATE: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

By Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr.  
and Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige

**Greetings in the Blessed Name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!**

If the month of July is an indication of what the new Fiscal Year (July 2001-June 2002) will be, we will have another banner year in terms of outreach and the recruitment of potential African American adoptive and/or foster parents. We have claimed it already, and we give God the glory.

We spent most of the month examining our outreach strategies, developing coalitions, and expanding our support base. The results were positive. People want to help. They agree that our Ministry is a worthy cause deserving broadly based support.

We are grateful of the support by the office of Congressman Bob Etheridge. Courtney Crowder, a Field Representative, is now a special volunteer with us.

### WORKING THE STAFF

We thank God for His continuing blessings as we "work the state," so to speak, making and responding to telephone calls, e-mail and general correspondence, speaking at churches, conferences, and meetings of associations, community groups, clubs and organizations, spreading the work of the increasing need for adoptive and foster parents of African American children, statewide, who are already in the North Carolina Foster Care System.

And again, we thank God for those who have partnered with us as we expand our recruitment/referral efforts. It is only because of the expanded, continuing, collaboration, cooperation, and support, that we are able to realize the successes that we are experiencing. Our ministry is a credit to the faith communities or the state and to the Children's Services Division of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services.

As we stated in our report last month, our ministry seems to be blossoming in so many ways. More People are speaking out in support of our Adoption and Foster Care initiative. More people are calling, writing letters and sending e-mails. It is an exciting time for us.

### SECRETARY

#### CARMEN HOOKER BUELL

I want to thank Governor Mike Easley and the Honorable Carmen Hooker Buell, Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, for their vision and support of faith-based initiatives.

I also want to thank the initial team, Mr. Kevin FitzGerald, Chuck Harris and Rev. Gwendolyn of The Children's Services Division, and Dr. Clifford Jones, President and Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer, General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc., who saw the need and had the vision that the Convention and the Division of Children's Services, in partnership, could help make a difference.

Now under the dynamic bold and courageous leadership of Secretary Hooker-Buell, even more is anticipated. As I stated in a recent article in The Carolina newspaper, I like her spunk. I like her energy, enthusiasm, and a belief that "it can be done!" She is a friend of faith communities, and an ardent supporter of faith-based initiatives, and we give God the glory! She is good for our state.

### A HOLY ANOINTING

As we repeatedly stated each month, we are convinced that the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry is inspired by God and that the ministry enjoys a special

anointing from the Heavenly Father. You can see it. You can feel it. There is something special about what we do, and how we do it. Our position is that those who fight us do not understand us, so we love them anyway and pray for them.

The seemingly tripling of interest by churches and concerned persons, singles and couples, in helping us find permanent and temporary homes for African American children already in the North Carolina Foster Care System, and related expressions of concern are all of God's doing. They are a manifestation and reflection of His Spirit and His Special Blessing, all for the good things of our children. We solicit your continuing prayer and support.

### THE RECORD

We have been operational since January 1999. And, as our performance record will show, God has empowered our ministry to be the guiding force in our state on matters of adoption and foster care for African American children. Our support is growing not just among Baptist, but among the partnering faith communities and social and civic organizations, as well.

And, as we previously reported:

1. The daily phone calls requesting information have tripled. Our phones and answering machines are almost always busy. People are calling from all over the state, wanting to discuss adoption and/or foster care.

2. E-mail traffic has increased incredibly, with inquiries averaging now between 30 to 40 e-mails per day. People are offering their services and assistance. Some are inquiring about adoption.

3. Invitations to speak and make presentations before meetings of cooperating faith communities, social and civic organizations, and before concerned groups have doubled. They want to learn more about our ministry. They are concerned. They want to help. God is working wonders for us! He is rewarding obedience and hard work!

As we repeat over and over again, **all of this-all of God's blessings, it is so very touching!** The commitment to help make a difference in the lives of our children is so **overwhelming.** Again, we must repeat, God continues to bless our efforts. And, as the song goes "Blessings after blessings keep on coming our way," and we continue to give God the glory, the honor and the praise! Please continue to keep our ministry in your prayers.

### THE EVERY CHURCH ADOPT ONE PROJECT

THE EVERY CHURCH ADOPT ONE initiative continues to gain broad support statewide, among the various faith communities and again, we give God the glory and the praise. We will continue to push this initiative, statewide.

EVERY CHURCH ADOPT ONE is a highly successful interfaith initiative, and we strongly encourage all churches to join us in this special challenge and opportunity. Join the growing number of churches that are uniting for children. This HELPING AND CARING MINISTRY is being pushed by moderators, conference leaders, elders, bishops, ministers and assorted church laity. Many church missionary departments have designed this ministry as a primary focus for the year 2001. For additional information, please call, write or e-mail us! Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr., or Dr. Dorothy J. Demby-Paige, 2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27610; 919-231-9774; FAX 919-212-3656; e-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com or dotteddem@maxxconnect.net

### VOLUNTEERS

July was a very special month. We continued to expand our network of adoption and foster care volunteers, recruiting through our expanding church contacts, associations and conferences of the various faith communities. We are especially grateful to the moderators, elders, and overseers of the various faith communities for their continuing support of our efforts!

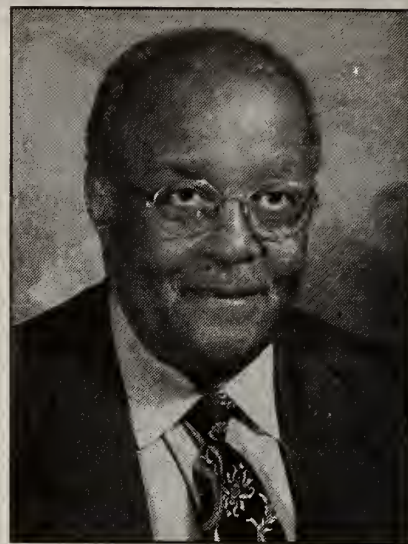
Our list of Adoption and Foster Care Volunteers and Advocated continues to grow, all for the good and sake of our children. The children are the real beneficiaries. The Volunteers and Advocated are so important for our work. They help us identify African American singles and couples interested in becoming adoptive and/or foster parents of African American children already in the North Carolina Foster Care System. They also help us spread the word that there are gross disparities in the adoption of African American children already in the Foster Care System, when compared with whites. They help us make the needs known.

We thank God for the generous time and energy our volunteers give to our effort. We now have adoption and foster care volunteers in most counties and in both rural and urban areas, and from county civic and social organizations. They all believe as we do, that every child deserves a loving and caring home and they are committed to helping make this happen.

### PARTNERING WITH FAITH COMMUNITIES

The organization of **The North Carolina African American Faith Communities United for Children: Adoption and Foster Care**, the outreach arm of the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry deserves both praise and thanks. Both ministers and laity, women and men, are actively spreading the word that children need love, that they need a nurturing and caring home environment.

This interfaith, interdenominational body, inspired by God and directed by the Heavenly leadership of the Holy Spirit, has been a God-send. We pray fervently and listen and patiently wait for God's guidance in



Dr. Joseph C. Paige

all that we do. The success of our ministry is further confirmation that with God, all things are possible.

### THE CAROLINIAN CONNECTION

A hearty "thank you" to Paul and Evelyn Jervay, owners and Co-Publishers of **The Carolinian**, and NAY-KEL Founders, for their continuing assistance and encouragement. Rev. Jervay assists us in interfaith relations, volunteer follow-up and training and outreach. Mr. Jervay donates time as our media consultant. They lend a special expertise to our efforts. Together, they help make a difference.

### WE STILL NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS

As we have repeatedly stated, while the response for adoption and foster care volunteers has been incredible successful statewide, we are still seeking additional volunteers to help us spread the word. **We are asking every church to appoint an Adoption and Foster Care Volunteer Coordinator to help us spread the word.** Please call, write or e-mail us! Dr. Joseph C. Paige, Sr. or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige, 2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27610; 919-231-9774; FAX 919-212-3656; e-mail

(See next page "UPDATE ON ADOPTION")

## SHARE THE VISION WITH US!! HELP US SPREAD THE WORD THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC. & THE NORTH CAROLINA AFRICAN-AMERICAN FAITH COMMUNITIES UNITED FOR CHILDREN: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

*Making A Difference in the Life of a Child*

*Finding Adoptive and Foster Care Homes for African-American Children*

The North Carolina African-American Faith Communities United for Children, a partnership with North Carolina Division of Social Services, is comprised of African-American congregations and community organizations from across the State, NAY-KEL and the North Carolina Association of Black Social Workers committed to finding adoptive and foster homes for African-American children.

Yes, I'd like to do my part ...

Please complete and return to Dr. Joseph Paige.

I'd like someone to call me.

Please send me information about adoption. Please send me information about foster care.

I'd like to be a field worker.

I am interested in being an adoptive parent.  I'd like to be a county volunteer.

I am interested in being a foster care parent.

I'd like to be a church volunteer.  Other (please specify)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City

State

Zip

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Dr. Joseph C. Paige at 2610 Albemarle Ave., Raleigh, NC 27610, 919-231-9774, 919-618-8343, mobile • e-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com

## Celebrating 50 Golden Years of Service: Dr. Nilous McKinley Avery

Submitted by Diatha Harris

Hill Street Baptist Church celebrated fifty years of dedicated service of their pastor and wife, the Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Nilous McKinley Avery, May 18-20, 2001.

The Celebration began with a Recognition Banquet Service for Mrs. Christine Watson Avery in the Fellowship Hall of the church. Mrs. Sherry Avery, daughter-in-law of Mrs. Christine Avery was the guest speaker.

On Saturday, May 19, 2001 a Gala Banquet was held at the famous Grove Park Inn and Resort in honor of Hills Streets' pastor's Golden Anniversary. Mr. O.L. Sherrill was the guest speaker.

Sunday, May 20, 2001 during the eleven o'clock worship hour, Dr. C.M. Cofield, brother-in-law of Dr. Avery rendered the message and at the four o'clock hour, the Rev. Nilous M. Avery II, son of Dr. Avery delivered a powerful message.

Members of the Hill Street Baptist Church stated: "We have been blessed with 50 years of service under the inspired and efficient leadership of our beloved pastor, Rev. Nilous M. Avery. Now that we have come to celebrate his 50th Anniversary, it is with hearts filled with joy and thanksgiving that we welcome former members, friends, pastors of other churches, ministers, public officials, and community representatives to share with us this long anticipated session."

In May 1951, under God's guidance, the Hill Street Baptist Church congregation called Dr. N.M. Avery, a mighty builder of brick and mortar, but mightier in the building of lives and eternal values, to come up the mountains from Garner, NC and lead this great congregation toward the realization of many life goals. Among them were and are: (a partial listing)

- 1951 Liquidation of the \$10,000 indebtedness on the lower level
- 1959 November completion of present sanctuary at a cost of \$133,800
  - (2) laying of the cornerstone
  - (3) establishment of a licensed Day Care Center, supported in part, by Federal Funds
- 1960 thru 1968
  - purchase of two apartment buildings for expansion
  - purchase of a church activity bus
  - Mortgage Burning Ceremony

Mount Zion Community Development, Inc. proudly presents

### Elizabeth Grant Hill Campus of Learners Grand Opening Celebration

Submitted by Diatha Harris

On Saturday, May 12, 2001, Mount Zion Community Development, Inc. ("MZCD") held the Grand Opening Celebration of the Elizabeth Grant Hill Campus of Learners: Center for Technology, Health and Entrepreneurship ("Campus"). The occasion marked the formal opening and dedication of a community-based computer technology center, aimed at bridging the digital divide while addressing the generational gap by providing computer classes in a family-oriented setting.

The Celebration began with greetings and welcome from area elected officials, including Gov. Easley, Sen. John Edwards and Rep. Charles Taylor, Mayor Leni Sitnick, Mayor of the City of Asheville, and Chairman Nathan Ramsey, Chairman of the Commissioners of Wainwright County. After recognition of supporters, collaborators and partners of the campus, the program continued with a brief overview of the types of classes provided at the campus.

The Celebration continued with the unveiling of the portrait of Elizabeth Grant Hill and her husband, Henry Hill, for whom the campus is named. Named in honor of Elizabeth Grant Hill, her son and cousin to Dr. John H. Grant, resident/CEO of MZCD, expressed his adoration of the ceremony and the benefits of the center. "I am deeply honored," said Calvin Hill, at mother will have her named affixed to this team. Because we have God on our side, we are now realizing the vision and we are going to serve our community. People will learn how to achieve greatness and about service to others

- purchase of additional properties for expansion
- purchase of property on Chunn's Cove Road
- 1970 thru 1979
  - dedication of the new debt-free parsonage initiating new Ministries of Jesus Christ; such as The HS3 Program (Hill Street Saturday Session) designed to re-enforce the health, reading and math skills of parents, children and community
- 1980 thru 2001
  - purchased property at 157 Hill Street celebrated the first glorious Homecoming of the Hill Street Baptist Church Building Committee and Trustees were authorized to retain the services of Clinton E. Graverly, Architect and Associate of Greensboro to design and draft plans for the construction of an education multi-complex
  - purchased new church van
  - Ground Breaking Ceremony for the construction of the new Multi-Purpose Building
  - Dedication of new facility, Nov. 27, 1994

Rev. Avery is married to the former Christine Watson, retired teacher from the Asheville City School System. During the celebration of fifty golden years of service in the gospel, they also renewed their vows of marriage of fifty golden years. The Lord has truly blessed this wonderful couple!

To this union of marriage, four children were born: Nilous M. II, Pastor of the Mount Zion Baptist Church, Salisbury, NC; Kryste N. Moore, a practicing dentist in Newark, NJ; CiCi Morton, Supervisor for Community in Schools, Asheville, NC; and Nian, a license embalmer and Funeral Director, Asheville, NC. The Avery's are also the proud grandparents of eight grandchildren.

Dr. and Mrs. Avery is affectionately noted as giants among their peers in the gospel, community and state.

We, the members of the Asheville community salute you on your milestones in life!  
*"How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, who bring glad tidings of good things! (Romans: 10:15b)*  
*"And you shall consecrate the fiftieth year...It shall be a Jubilee for you!" (Leviticus: 25:10a & c)*

through this Campus of Learners. They'll learn that you don't have to have a Ph.D. or be an NBA star to be great. Being great starts with a smile, it starts with a great attitude."

Dr. John Grant, First Vice President of the General Baptist State Convention and President/CEO of the MZCD noted, "Working together to bridge the digital divide in our community, the campus helps undeserved individuals, families and communities to enhance and enrich their lives by providing and encouraging them with opportunities to master the technology skills needed to succeed and thrive in the 21st century."

In September of 1998, former Dallas Cowboys NFL great Calvin Hill, his wife, Janet Hill, and their son, current Orlando Magic NBA All-Star Grant Hill, visited Asheville as the guests of honor of the Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church and the Mount Zion Community Development Inc. They came to support the vision of their cousin, Mount Zion's pastor, Dr. John H. Grant, in his and the church's redevelopment efforts of Eagle and Market Streets.

During their visit the Hills expressed excitement about plans by MZCD to establish the Elizabeth Grant Hill Campus of Learners: Center for Technology, Health and Entrepreneurship. Today, thanks to the initial generous financial support of the Hill family, representatives from UNC-Asheville, Mountain Area Information Network, Eagle/Market Streets Development Corporation, Project STEAM, Mountain Micro-Enterprise Foundation and Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation the vision is now a reality.

## MORE ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

### Update on Adoption ...

joepaigesr@aol.com or  
dottedem@maxxconnect.net.

#### THE FULL-TIME OFFICE STAFF

Our full-time office staff consists of Rev. Anthonette Wright, Director of Church Relations/Regional Consultant and Earl Horton, Director of Public Relations/Regional Consultant.

Rev. Wright has responsibility for the western and central counties of the state: including the following target counties in this region: Buncombe, Gilford, Gaston, Mecklenburg, Forsyth. Mr. Horton has responsibility for the eastern counties and five target counties in this region: Wake, Durham, Cumberland, New Hanover and Robeson.

You may contact Rev. Wright or Mr. Horton as indicated below:

Rev. Wright, GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry, 211 W. Martin Street, Suite 120, Raleigh, NC 27601; 919-754-8800; e-mail: Nwright@aol.com or Mr. Earl Horton GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry; 211 W. Martin Street, Suite 120, Raleigh, NC 27601; e-mail gbsceh@aol.com

#### COURTNEY CROWDER JOINS STAFF

Courtney Crowder, Field Representative to Congressman Bob Etheridge, has joined our staff. As a part time volunteer Special Assistant with responsibility for coalition expansion involving faith communities and social, civic and fraternal groups, statewide.

We are especially grateful and indebted to Congressman Etheridge and his staff for their support. Mr. Crowder's volunteer efforts will greatly boost our outreach efforts among civic, social and religious groups.

Mr. Crowder, a graduate of North Carolina Central University with a BA degree in English and French is a Raleigh Native. He has been in his present position with Congressman Etheridge since June, 2000. He has served as an Administrative Assistant with the North Carolina Democratic Party, Executive Committee; an Intern with the North Carolina Democratic House Caucus; and an Intern with the North Carolina General Assembly.

His experiences as Field Representative for the Congressman should help us significantly expand our work in the nine counties comprising the 2nd Congressional District.

#### SPECIAL STAFF

Maurice Lane continues to do an outstanding job as field representative of the Project Director in addition to his work as Church Consultant. Evangelist Michele Montgomery, continues to work with the media and as a special volunteer assistant. Ms. Sandra Strayhoor is also working dili-

gently on our behalf.

#### ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE ADVOCATES

Rev. Sheila Crump, Linda Wright, Rev. Jon Murphy and Linda Murphy, and Dr. James T. Robeson and Mrs. Beverly Roberson serve us well as volunteer Adoption and Foster Care Advocates. We are grateful that they are willing to take time from their already busy schedules to work with us. Added to this special group of advocates are volunteers James and Priscilla Spellman of Elizabeth City.

#### Our Staff and Volunteer Assistants

Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr., • Project Director and Senior Pastoral Consultant • Chairperson, GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry

Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige • Field Coordinator • Special Assistant to the Project Director • Referral Follow-Up Coordinator

Rev. Anthonette Wright, Director of Church Relations/Church Consultant

Mr. Earl Horton, Director of Public Affairs/Church Consultant

Mr. Paul Jervay (NAY-KEL), Consultant, Media Relations

Rev. Evelyn Jervay (NAY-KEL), Consultant, Interfaith and Volunteer Relations  
 Ms. Joycelyn Curry, Outreach Intern, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
 Rev. Fred Gordan, Pastoral Consultant  
 Rev. Jo Watson, Pastoral Consultant

Ms. Sherbia Jones, Pastoral Consultant  
 Ms. Janifer Campbell, Pastoral Consultant

Ms. Janice Greenard, Pastoral Consultant

Mr. Maurice Lane, Special Volunteer Evangelist  
 Michelle Montgomery, Special Volunteer Outreach Assistant and Church Consultant

#### VOLUNTEER SPOKESPERSONS, GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry

Dr. James T. Robeson and Mrs. Beverly P. Roberson

Rev. Jon Murphy and Mrs. Linda Murphy

Ms. Carol Smith  
 Ms. Portia Brandon  
 Ms. Linda Wright  
 Rev. Shelia Crump

#### THANKS

Thanks again for your continuing encouragement and support. You may reach us:

By phone: (919) 231-9774

By fax: (919) 212-3656

By e-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com

By regular mail: 2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27610.

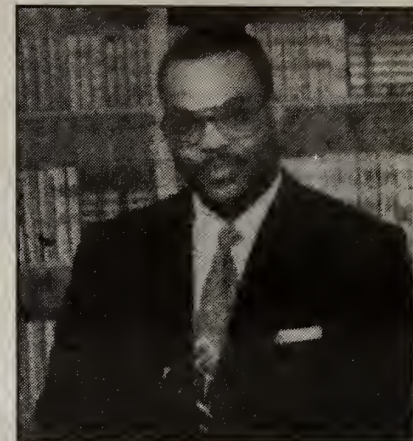
## \$1,000 BONUS! BONUS! BONUS!

We have decided, as our special way to say "Thank You," to provide a personal bonus of \$1,000, to the first individual, church or association that recruits a minimum of 20 potential adoptive and/or foster parents each month for the next five months (August, September, October, November and December 2001.) or a total of 100 recruits (verified). Only one bonus of \$1,000 will be given. Persons interested in competing for the "bonus" should call, write or e-mail us!

Dr. Joseph C. Paige or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige, 2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27610; 919-231-9774; Fax 919-212-3656; E-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com or dottedem@maxxconnect.net

# From the Office of Institutional and Specialized Ministries

**“AND I ALSO SAY TO YOU THAT YOU ARE PETER, AND ON THIS ROCK I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH, AND THE GATES OF HELL SHALL NOT PREVAIL AGAINST IT.”**



Rev Michael R. Smith Sr.

This letter is especially sent to every Christian man and woman who is in detention or incarcerated in jail or prison. I want you to know I love you and care for you with deep sincerity. The Lord has revealed to me over the years the reality of the “church behind prison walls.” I have always promoted this reality during my ministry in the local community. Over the years, when I have told other Christians about the men and women in our jails and prisons who are a part of the Body of Christ, some have not been able to accept this fact. Sadly, some persons’ understanding of the church is still defined as the building they gather at for religious activities. This elementary understanding of the church is a stumbling block to knowing and appreciating the “true church” the Lord Jesus said He is building in Matthew 16:24. I know the church the Lord is building is not to be identified with brick, stained glass windows and pews over on this particular street. No the church the

## “A Letter to THE CHURCH Behind Prison Walls”

Lord is building is made up of what Peter called “living stones” and the “chief cornerstone” is Jesus Christ Himself (1 Peter 2:4-8). I believe we are living at a time when there are major investments being put into the “physical buildings,” but not enough investments being put into the “true church” the Lord is building. The church the Lord is building includes you who are in detention incarcerated. The true church

is built with the repentant and transformed lives of murderers like Moses, money swindlers, like Matthew, accomplices to murder like Saul, drug addicts like Legion, and the condemned (death row) like the thief on the cross.

I have often pondered why the “church behind the wall” is not more of a priority for the “church in the community.” I have come to the conclusion that many Christians have become “house Christians.” If something is not connected to the bricks, stained glass windows and pews, they dismiss it as being the church. I have also concluded that many “house Christians” are ashamed to identify with Christians in prison. This shame is a product of self-righteousness and a misunderstanding of how a person can be made right with God. A careful reading of the book of Romans will clear up this erroneous attitude and understanding. But I guess the “house Christians” are so concerned about the building, they

have little time to read the blue print (Bible) Jesus is using to build His church. I pray many “house Christians” will come outside in the real world just long enough to see the church Jesus is building is even behind the walls.

So, I say to all the Christians in detention or incarcerated, be encouraged and know you are loved of God the Father and are called to worship, grow and serve Him even in the jails and prisons while you are there. The lost soul next to you in that cell is just as precious to our Lord as anyone else. And just maybe it is time for the “church behind the wall” to write a letter to the “house Christians” telling them about the Great Commission.

Please don’t forget to tell the “house Christians” Jesus said, **“GO INTO ALL THE WORLD AND MAKE DISCIPLES”** (Matthew 28:19).



## Use it or Lose it!

By Delores Griffey

We have studied our spiritual gifts in past issues to help us find and develop our spiritual gifts. If we don’t use our gifts or talents we will truly lose it. This lesson is based on Matthew 25: 14-30, our youth need to acknowledge their God-given gifts and talents and use them. A talent is gold, silver or lead unit of measurement. A talent is also a skill or natural ability. A gift is something someone gives you and a spiritual gift is a God-given ability to do something.

For many years, Andrae Crouch has written and produced some of gospel music’s best songs. He never took formal piano lessons. His church, Crouch Temple, needed a musician. They’d been praying. At a very young age, one Sunday, Andrae went to the organ and began to play. He’s been playing and singing ever since. One day, Andrae got tired of playing and singing, even though his music ministry took him all over the world and thousands were saved and encourages through his music ministry. He had gotten tired of the whole scene. He felt unappreciated and alone. Guess what? He woke up one morning with no voice



Delores Griffey

and no music. It dawned on him that he needed to repent and get a new attitude. He prayed and asked the Lord to restore his voice and music. He’s been going ever since. It hasn’t been easy, but he keeps going and going in Jesus Name.

What gift or talent has God given you? Have you hidden it or are you using it? What might happen if you “bury” your gift or talent?

In Matthew 25: 14-30, Jesus was on the Mount of Olives when He told his parable to the disciples. The parable of the talents is about a master who goes away to a far country. Before he leaves, he entrusts certain amounts of money to three of his servants. To one he gave one talent, to another two talents, and to the third he gave five talents.

This was not unusual. Masters often empowered their servants to conduct business, and handle the property. Servants were looked on as part of the family. Jewish laws were generous to servants and made this kind of relationship possible.

The master returned from his long journey. The servant responsible for five talents had earned five more. The servant who was entrusted with two gained two more. The servant who was given one talent presented only one. Out of fear, the servant buried the talent in the

ground. He returned the talent unused, uninvested, to the master. What had he done all this time? Certainly not increased his master’s wealth. He should have at least put the money with bankers to earn interest. The master took the talent from the servant and gave it to the one who had ten. The slothful servant was cast out. More than anything else, this parable illustrates that regardless of the size of your talents, God wants us to use them.

God has given everyone a special gift or talent so that they can contribute to the betterment of the world. Someone has said, “A mind is a terrible thing to waste.” The mind is developed by study, II Timothy 2:15 states “Study to show yourself approved.” Use your gift or lose it. Luke 12:48 RSV “Every one to whom much is given, of him will much be required.”

### Advertise in Your Baptist Informer

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**BAPTIST INFORMER**  
 603 SOUTH WILMINGTON ST., RALEIGH, NC 27601  
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## The Central Children's Home Corner

To all in the General Baptist Family, the beloved of God and called to be saints:

"Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ." (Romans 1:7b, NIV)

In the New Testament, particularly the King James Version, the word "quicken" is used in various forms and tenses. In several passages, it means to vitalize, to make alive, to give life (John 5:21, 6:63, Rom. 4:17, 8:11; Eph. 2:1; 1 Tim. 6:13, 1 Pet. 3:18, to name a few). In a world that tends to sensationalize chaos and death, it is relieving to know that the Spirit of God can "quicken" dead things and dead people! The price is often heavy, but the gain is worth the pain.

In the music world of R&B, Betty

### From the Desk of the 4th Vice President

By Rev. Nilous M. Avery II

Wright sang some years ago, "No Pain, No Gain." In the world of gospel music, Vickie Winans put it this way, "No Cross, No Crown." In essence, the Holy Spirit can "quicken" us, but first there must be something to be quickened. The Holy Spirit can "quicken" our biblical understanding only if we read the Bible. The Holy Spirit can "quicken" our prayer life only if we pray. The Holy Spirit can "quicken" our stewardship only if we live a life of love, ser-

vice, compassion, and cheerful giving. We must offer something to be "quicken."

God's kingdom work is performed through willing hands, surrendered hearts, and committed lives. Can God count on us? Are we ready, willing, and able to let God work through us? With our preparation and God's power, our labor and God's love:

- The sorrowful can receive peace...
- The weary can find rest...
- The forsaken can experience companionship...

•The untouchable are touched, the unreachable are reached, the uncomfortable are comforted, and the unlovable are loved.

Jesus declared that the greatest commandment is to love God with all we are/all we have, and to love our neighbor as much as we love self (Matt. 22:37). Our children at the Central Children's Home in Oxford are eager to experience the love of the General Baptist family. They are excited about the possibility of benefiting from Association, Churches and individuals who have been "quicken," made alive in Christ. They are more than ready to share in the joys and challenges of this ministry.

You are ready too! So give Mr. Michael



By Rev. Nilous M. Avery II

Alston a call today! Invite him and his staff to your area for the opportunity to share how you can make a difference. Bless this ministry with your financial, physical and spiritual support. I am awaiting your call to come and share with you the possibilities that exist for this ministry. Feel free to contact me at: (704) 637-0954 (church; leave messages); (704) 637-1137 (fax); or e-mail AveryRevKin@gateway.net.

Again, remember that there is POWER IN ONE IN 2001 as we continue to serve with A PASSION FOR GOD AND COMPASSION FOR PEOPLE! "The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. My love to all of you in Christ Jesus. Amen." (1 Corinthians 16:23-24, NIV).

### From the Office of the Chairman of the Board of Central Children's Home

Rev. N.T. Davis

The past few months has been tough times for us to make ends meet.

The count has been down, which means we get less finance from the county and state. To maintain our staff we need to hear from all of our supporters as soon as possible. Thank you for your loyal support of the pass. Please place us in your budget,

for the future. As of July 5, 2001 our count has gone back up some. Pray for this ministry and its leadership and for our children.

School soon will reopen and we will need a little additional help. Reach out to our children. Most are doing well in school. God Bless you all today and in days and weeks to come.

## New Pastor's Corner

### Establishing Boundaries

By  
Rev. Sandra Holland Trotter  
Pastor/Shiloh Temple of Faith  
Missionary Baptist Church,  
Fayetteville, NC

In the physical world, boundaries are easy to see. Fences, signs, walls and hedges are all physical boundaries. In their differing appearances, they give the same message. This is where my property begins. The owner of this property is legally responsible for what happens on his or her property. Non-owners are not responsible for property. Physical boundaries mark a visible property line that someone holds the deed to. You can go to the county courthouse and find out exactly where those boundaries of responsibility are and whom

"The whole art of war consists of a well reasoned and extremely circumspect defensive, followed by rapid and audacious attack." Strategic penetration of enemy lines is key.

The target of Christian witness is the whole world. John 3:16 portrays the whole world and every person in it as the objects of God's love and thus our testimony. Each congregation should identify people groups and then build bridges of outreach to them. Every congregation is in the middle of a mission field. The church is to be a mission outpost. The effectiveness and worthiness of all evangelism is predicated on the accurate transmission of the gospel message. God has promised to bless and use the message of salvation to the conversion of souls. I encourage the saints to —plan your work and then work your plan.

to call if you have business there.

In the spiritual world, boundaries are just as real, but often harder to see. We should lean on the intangible boundaries and to realize then as an ever-present reality that can increase your life. We are not indebted to anyone in this life. We are accountable to some, responsible to others. The most basic boundary setting word is no. It lets others know that you exist apart from them and that you are in control of you. Being clear about your No and your Yes, is a theme that is throughout the Bible. But let your communication be Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil. (Matthew 5:37) (James 5:12).

No is a confrontational word, but one that needs to be learned and said in its appropriate place. Your words also define your property for others as you communicate your feelings, intentions or dislikes. It is difficult for people to know where you stand when you do not use words to define you or your property. Your words let people know where you stand and thus give them a sense of the edges that help identify you. Your words give people a clear message about how you conduct relationships and lets them know the "rules" of your yard.

Knowing the truth about God and his property puts limits on you and shows you his boundaries. Realizing the truth of his unchangeable reality helps you to define yourself in relation to him.

When he says that you will reap what you sow (Galatians 6:7) you either define yourself in relation to that reality or continue to get injured if you try to go against it.

To be in touch with God's truth is to be in touch with reality and to live in accord with that reality makes for a better life.

Satan is the great distorter of reality, re-



Rev. Sandra Holland Trotter

call in the garden when he tempted Eve to question God's boundaries and his truth. The consequences were disastrous!

There is always safety in the truth, whether it be knowing God's truth or knowing the truth about you.

Too many people live scattered and tumultuous lives trying to live outside of their own boundaries, not accepting and expressing truth of who they are. Honesty about who you are gives you the biblical value of integrity or oneness.

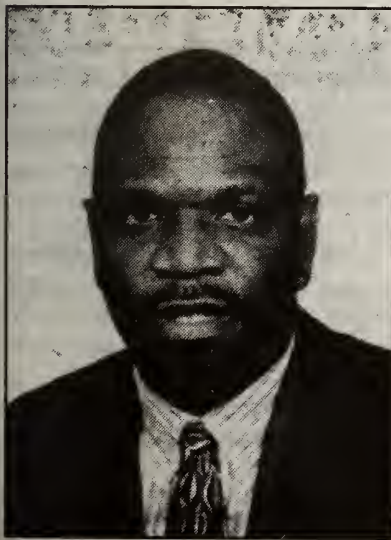
We are never however, obligated to take the weight of another's life on our shoulders. As Pastor's we have the responsibility to pray for one another and pray for the congregation God has placed in our care.

We are not God and we cannot carry the world on our shoulders. Some of us are so bogged down with other peoples problems we have no life of our own. There are so many things others want from us, expect of us or do to us that we get confused and begin to believe it is our duty to be whatever other people need us to be.

Are you so embroiled in the lives of others and the conflicts that you have lost track of your own life? Other than your children, is there someone you believe that you cannot leave? Someone you must help? Someone who needs you in order to survive? This is not a healthy relationship and this is not of God. Everyone has to take responsibility for his or her action.



Submitted by  
Dr. H.C. Miller  
Chairman of Evangelism



Dr. H.C. Miller

## Strategic Evangelism

The Christian response to the spiritual need of the world cannot be casual or haphazard. The familiar adage is indeed correct: if we fail to plan, we plan to fail: It goes without saying that local churches need to set goals, and a special emphasis on evangelism as a priority of the church program. Donald Bloesch has spoken of "The Gift of Battle" as one of the Holy Spirits rich endowments. Victory in spiritual warfare requires strategization as surely as does any military campaign. Napoleon was quoted to have said:

# Health & Human Services

## National Drug & Alcohol 'Recovery Month'

Submitted by **Barbara J. McMillan**,  
Special Populations  
Services Administrator  
Alcohol/Drug Council of  
North Carolina (ADCNC)

September is National Recovery Month. We invite you to join us in a *celebration of recovery*. Treatment works and is cost-effective. Millions of people have recovered and reclaimed their lives, becoming productive, tax-paying citizens.

This year's theme is "We recover together — family, friends and community," highlighting that it is a family disease affecting each and everyone one of us, as individuals and as members of a community.

The Alcohol/Drug Council of North Carolina, along with Addiction Professionals of North Carolina and VOICES for Addiction Recovery, are coordinating the efforts for the North Carolina celebration.

Alcoholism and drug addiction is our number one public health problem, costing North Carolinians \$8.26 million in 1999. It is estimated that there are approximately 367,000 adults in North Carolina in need of comprehensive treatment. At least 25% of all hospital beds are occupied as

the result of addiction disease. At least 60% of all inmates are incarcerated as a result of addiction disease, at a tremendous cost to the taxpayer.

Even though we know that treatment works, it is unavailable to many North Carolinians. Most insurance policies do not cover treatment for substance abuse/dependence. Insurance policies that do cover it do not provide the same level of coverage as for other chronic diseases. Most people suffering from addiction disease are not eligible for Medicaid. The public system is overwhelmed and in a state of disrepair, unable to continue to provide services for clients with no method of reimbursement.

Our public policy strategy has been a criminal justice response coupled with a war analogy. We have long since lost the "war on drugs." (If you saw the movie *Traffic*, you will recall the statement that we are waging war on our family members). Our "lock 'em up strategy has resulted in an incarceration rate that has more than tripled from 1980 to 1999. At the end of 1999, over two million people were imprisoned in the U.S. at an average cost of over \$40,000 each (including corrections, judi-

cial and legal costs, 1995), 6.3 million people are supervised by corrections (including prison, jail, parole or probation). Our incarceration rate is now 10 times higher than that of other modern democratic societies.

### A FEW FACTS ABOUT ADDICTION DISEASE:

- More than 741,000 North Carolinians will become alcoholics/addicts during their lives.
- They will affect another 3,709,000 people (family members, employers, friends, innocent victims).
- Alcohol and other drug addictions and abuse cost North Carolina over \$8 billion per year. This is at least \$1,060 per year for every man, woman and child in the state.
- At least 25% of all hospital bed days are related to alcohol or other drug addiction or abuse.
- Over 9,000 people (about the population of Allegheny or Jones counties) have been killed in alcohol related highway crashes in the last 15 years in North Carolina.
- It has been estimated that at least 80% of



**Dr. Anita Holmes**  
Executive Director

the people involved with the criminal justice system have an alcohol or other drug problem.

- Services designed to help families of addicted people are largely non-existent. Source: Alcohol/Drug Council of North Carolina, 1-800-688-4232, [www.alcoholdrughelp.com](http://www.alcoholdrughelp.com)

**Retraction: The article included in the June issue of The Baptist Informer was submitted by Anita Holmes. We regret this error.**

# A Church Managing Its Affairs

By **Dr. Elbert Lee**, 1st Vice President  
of the Moderator Department  
Progressive National Baptist  
Convention

A church, at its best, is a spiritual democracy. Its government is of the people, by the people, for the people. In a democratic church, the rulers are the ruled. Leadership is necessary, but the leaders are selected by the people and are amenable to them. Authority is necessary, but it resides humanly in members themselves who may delegate certain aspects of it as they see fit. While the will of the majority is ordinarily determinative, the rights of the minority must always be respected. Differences of opinions, in a free church, are to be resolved in open discussion, completely from violence or coercion. To the members of such a democracy, persecution is utterly abhorrent.

The church may look to the state for protection of rights and in turn may inculcate and defend the principles of good citizenship, but neither must infringe upon the prerogatives of the other nor seek material or political advantage one from the other. In the management of its affairs, the local congregation is autonomous and sovereign, if it accepts the New Testament pattern. A church should exhibit to the world the best possible example of intelligent self-government, such as would form an acceptable model for organized society.

The pages of history are darkened by stories of violations of this ideal, of the church as a spiritual democracy. In the light of the past, churches should highly resolve that history must not repeat itself. Yet churches committed to the ideal have often been torn by strife and controversy, frequently as attributable to bad management as to bad motives. The well-managed church should be a peaceful, harmonious, progressive, fruit bearing church. The principles of good business administration

should find their best demonstration in a church managed by Christian people under the leadership of a competent and consecrated pastor.

### BASIC REQUIREMENTS OF A CHRISTIAN DEMOCRACY

Too often democracy has been conceived in terms of a political philosophy only. This conception of democracy emphasizes certain inalienable rights of men, the function of government to protect and promote these rights, the limitation of authority is government by the will of the people, the assumption that majority expressing itself intelligently is bound to be right. Political democracy, lacking Christian idealism that a vague group known as "they" will do all these things. Obviously the first step in the growing of a democratic church is to enlighten each member concerning his or her inalienable rights and duties as members of a democratic body. A democratic church owes to each member, from the beginning and continuously thereafter, the duty of clear definition of privileges and responsibilities in the conduct of the church's affairs.

What is the democratic process? In brief, it is decision and action by all members of the body who can be induced to participate in the conduct of a church's affairs. Preceding decision there must trustworthy information, unbiased statement of the issues involved, discussion to clarify difficulties, objective desire to do the right and best thing, willingness to subordinate prejudice and selfishness, the spirit of sacrifice for the common good. Action following decision should be immediate, hearty, intelligent, unanimous, ungrudging, loyal, devoted, in accordance with the spirit rather than the letter of the decision. Both decision and action should seek the total welfare of the church as a whole, to the end

that its local affairs and worldwide interests may maximally pastor.

If skills are to be developed in this democratic process, pastor and church leaders should understand that they must be learned by the rank and file of church members. Group thinking is not essentially different from individual thinking. Persons who think together in a group, as a committee or council or congregation, must be given facts which they are led to interpret; they must be confronted with the problem or problems involved; they must be led to share with one another in the suggestion of alternative possibilities; they must be led skillfully to reason together toward a tentative solution; they must then devise practical ways and means of trying out the tentative plan until it has been confirmed and improved; they must learn how to do teamwork and to discover the joys and satisfactions of achievement together.

The easier and apparently more efficient way is for pastor and deacons and a small "inner circle" to discuss, decide and then bring the results to the congregation. Some pastors and churches are afraid to the democratic process. Granted that it is slower and riskier, it yet has the tremendous advantage of being the Christian way, with its objective the development of every member into an intelligent, autonomous disciple. When this conviction lays strong hold on ministers, deacons, Sunday school officers, and teachers, leaders of the several church organizations, and ultimately the church as a whole, it will eventuate in the building of democratic Christian bodies through which God in Christ through the Holy Spirit may accomplish whatever needs to be done in the consummation of the kingdom of God on earth.

### Items for evaluation

Is each new member made aware of his or her democratic privileges and responsibilities?

Is there conscious or unconscious distinction among persons in the conduct of the church's affairs?

Are some members looked upon as too insignificant to be taken into account?

When the majority votes, is the minority then ignored?

Does a willful minority sometimes try to defeat the will of the many?

Is "the church" looked upon as apart from its smaller unit organizations?

Do the church organizations "auxiliaries" seek to operate independently of "the church"?

When issues involving differences of opinion arise, is there entire freedom of discussion?

Have members been taught that it is both their privilege and their duty to participate in discussion?

Is there thoroughgoing devotion to truth in all proposals and presentations?

Do discussions take the form of sharing rather than debate?

Are the principles of group discussion known and followed in church meetings?

Are committees wisely chosen and carefully instructed?

Do committees function faithfully for the welfare of the whole church?

Is there evidence of voluntary sacrifice for the common good?

Is the spirit of Christ apparent in all church discussions and decisions?

Is the conscious objective in all-church affairs the enrichment and development of Christian personality?

Would "the good society" be established if worthy social and civic organizations (including the state) were to follow the example of your church in the conduct in the conduct of their affairs?

## FAITH AND FITNESS

By Charolette H. Leach, M.S.

Toward the end of his letter to the church at Ephesus, the Apostle Paul gives us instructions on obtaining strength. In Chapter 6 and verse 11 of Ephesians, he tells us to put on the whole armour of God, so that we can stand against the wiles of the devil. It is in the next verse that we find the following words:

*"For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places."*

When I consider the teaching that I have heard on this scriptural passage, most often, the focus is on the fact that we should not consider other people as our enemy. We are not fighting against other people made of flesh and blood, but against the power of the devil and his angels that he has assigned to try to make havoc of our lives. This is the same power that Jesus refers to as the thief in the 10th Chapter of John that comes to steal, kill, and destroy. As we fight, we should never feel that our opponent is our spouse, our child, our boss, our teacher, our next-door neighbor or even the stranger on the street. With this in mind, it helps us to strive to love others who come against us and to use the weapon of prayer, when we feel persecuted or misused.

We can easily understand and accept this scripture with regard to our relationship with our fellow man, but is it possible that Satan has figured out a way to pit us against ourselves? I ask this question as we consider our health. It is possible that if we consider this scripture in this light, that we should wrestle against flesh and blood? The flesh and blood that we should wrestle with may just be our own. Let us consider two points with regard to this wrestling match.

First, is it possible that we are sometimes our own worst enemy? We all know that we can do things to mess up our own lives. Yes, it is appealing to place the blame on someone else, but if we take the time to be totally honest, we most likely end up pointing the finger back at ourselves. This is a fact that we must confront and deal with, but if there is any consolation, we know that great leaders have walked in our shoes. Consider the words of Paul in Romans Chapter 7 and verse 19.

*"For the good that I would I do not, but the evil which I would not, that I do."*

Paul does not mention anyone else in this scripture, not even Satan. This scripture focuses on him and no one else. It is comforting to know that our human struggle is not uncommon, but does that mean that we should not strive to do what is right? We know that we neglect our health. But we rationalize our neglect by reminding ourselves of all the valid excuses that we have. We don't have time, we don't have energy, and we don't know how to get

## We Should Be Wrestling Against Flesh and Blood

started. We also determine that the neglect is not hurting anyone. First and foremost, if we are honest, we know that we are hurting ourselves. If we are not striving to live as long and as productive a life as possible, we are also hurting our loved-ones. Prayerfully, I will not have grandchildren for a few more years, but when I do, I would like to be able to run and to play with my grandchildren, and not have to sit and just watch them.

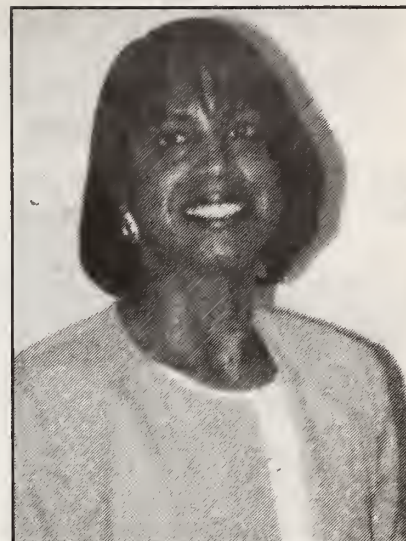
Secondly, we can consider that we literally should wrestle against flesh and blood. We should wrestle against flesh, if we are obese. Research shows that life-threatening diseases like diabetes, heart disease, and certain forms of cancer can all be directly linked to severe overweight and thousands of black women are dying of these illnesses every year. According to the Third National Health and Nutrition Examination Study (NHANES III), conducted by the Centers for Disease Control, 52% of black women in the U.S. are obese. Approximately 9 million black women are risking their lives every day because of their weight. Fighting obesity is a definite wrestling match, a match against too much flesh. What we should be striving for is to get rid of enough of the excess flesh so that we can be at a healthy weight.

We also literally should wrestle against blood, when we consider the high incidence of high blood pressure. It was reported in 1993 by the National Center for Health Statistics that 31% of black women suffer from high blood pressure, with 23% of the deaths of African American women being attributed to hypertension. In a recent Health article in Jet, it was reported that Black men are hit with the highest heart disease death rate. In the article, it pointed out that one reason for this statistic is because Blacks have higher levels of diabetes and high blood pressure. God constructed the circulatory system such that the blood could easily flow to and from the heart allowing the body to function in perfect rhythm. We, as African Americans have allowed improper nutrition and lack of physical activity to obstruct our blood from flowing through the body, as it should.

Paul was correct in instructing us to not consider others as our enemy and to focus on Satan as the true enemy when it comes to spiritual warfare. We also must war against our flesh and blood, to maintain the health that God has provided for us. When we, as African American Christians consider our

health and how we have allowed it to decline, wrestling against flesh and blood should be seen as an absolute necessity. Two primary weapons that are available for our use are improving our diet and increasing our physical activity. In order to succeed, first we must know that we can. We have been promised the victory with regard to all aspects of our lives because of our acceptance of Jesus as our Lord and Savior. I John 5, verses 4 and 5 give us inspiration.

*For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that*



Charolette H. Leach, M.S.

*believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?*

Let us walk in this victory and do what we can to maintain and improve our health all for the glory of God. Be Blessed!



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### IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFICIAL OISM MEETING  
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2001 • 10 A.M.  
GBSC HEADQUARTERS  
RALEIGH, NC

1ST ANNUAL CRIME & INCARCERATION CONFERENCE  
FRIDAY & SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30-DECEMBER 1, 2001  
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## 2001 Annual Session National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. September 3-7, 2001 • Minneapolis, Minnesota

**HOTEL RATES**

Hotel	Distance to Convention Center				
		1 Person	2 People	3 People	4 People
Best Western Normandy Downtown	6 blocks	\$106.00	\$106.00	\$106.00	\$106.00
Comfort Inn Airport	10 miles	\$94.00	\$94.00	\$94.00	\$94.00
Crown Plaza Northstar	6 blocks	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$145.00	\$145.00
Double Tree Grand Mall of America	10 miles	\$124.00	\$124.00	\$124.00	\$124.00
Double Tree Guest Suites	3 blocks	\$124.00	\$124.00	\$124.00	\$124.00
Double Tree Park Place	5 miles	\$105.00	\$105.00	\$125.00	\$125.00
Embassy Suites Minneapolis Downtown	6 blocks	\$119.00	\$119.00	\$119.00	\$119.00
Four Points Hotel by Sheraton	4 miles	\$118.00	\$118.00	\$128.00	\$138.00
Grand Hotel Minneapolis	5 blocks	\$145.00	\$145.00	\$164.00	\$184.00
Hilton Minneapolis & Towers	2 blocks	\$118.00	\$118.00	\$138.00	\$148.00
Hilton Minneapolis/St. Paul Airport	11 miles	\$115.00	\$115.00	\$115.00	\$115.00
Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites	2 blocks	\$119.00	\$119.00	\$130.00	\$130.00
Holiday Inn Metrodome	1 mile	\$109.50	\$109.50	\$119.50	\$119.50
Holiday Inn Select International Airport	11 miles	\$109.95	\$109.95	\$109.95	\$109.95
Hyatt Regency Hotel	1 block	\$120.00	\$120.00	\$135.00	\$150.00
Minneapolis Airport Marriott	11 miles	\$124.00	\$124.00	\$124.00	\$124.00
Marquette Hotel	5 blocks	\$124.00	\$124.00	\$124.00	\$124.00
Marriott City Center	7 blocks	\$118.00	\$118.00	\$118.00	\$118.00
Millennium Hotel Minneapolis	1 block	\$104.00	\$104.00	\$119.00	\$119.00
Quality Inn & Suite	7 blocks	\$99.00	\$99.00	\$99.00	\$99.00
Radisson Metrodome	2 miles	\$120.00	\$120.00	\$132.00	\$132.00
Radisson Plaza Hotel	7 blocks	\$112.00	\$112.00	\$112.00	\$112.00
Radisson Riverfront Hotel St. Paul	10 miles	\$129.00	\$129.00	\$139.00	\$139.00
The Saint Paul Hotel	10 miles	\$119.00	\$119.00	\$119.00	\$119.00

**Transportation**

The following transportation partners are offering special discounted rates for attendees of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. 120th Annual Session. Please mention the corresponding code numbers when making your reservations to receive your special NBCUSA, Inc. rate.

- **American Airlines**

American Airlines offers a 7% discount for first class round trip fare. A 12% discount is offered for unrestricted coach fare purchases. Purchases must be made 7 days or more in advance of travel. Reservations booked 60 days in advance receive an additional 10% discount off application fares. 15% off unrestricted coach fare. Call American Airline's Meeting Service Desk at 1-800-433-1790 seven days a week between 7 a.m. - 12 midnight and mention Star File #2291 AE to receive the lowest applicable fare.

- **Northwest Airlines**

Northwest Airlines offers a 5% discount on applicable fares for purchases 59 days or less in advance. A 10% discount applies to applicable fares for purchases 60 or more in advance; a discount of 15% applies to full fares when weekend stays are not included. Call Northwest Airlines Meeting Services Reservation Desk at 1-800-328-1111 Mon.-Fri. 7:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m. (Central Time) and mention discount WorldFile/Ticket Designator code M7MW4.

- **U.S. Airways**

U.S. Airways offers a 5% discount. First or Envoy Class and coach round trip fares with seven days advance ticketing. An additional 5% discount is added when tickets are purchased 60 days or more in advance. Call U.S. Airways Group and Meeting Reservation Office at (toll free) 877-874-7687 8:00 a.m.-9:30 p.m. est. and mention Gold File #68161767.

**Housing****RESERVATION METHODS**

Reservations may be made by choosing one of the following methods.

- **Mail**

Please mail forms to: NBCUSA Housing Bureau, 33 South Sixth Street, Suite 4000, Minneapolis, MN 55402

- **Telephone**

Toll Free 1-888-947-2233

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m. -4 p.m. cst. Please have your credit card and departure information ready.

# State Ushers News

By Alice W. McNair

The Running Branch Disciples Church in Clinton, N.C., celebrated their Ushers Anniversary on the fourth Sunday in June. The guest speaker was the Rev. Marvin T. Clowney, his choir and ushers of the First Baptist Church in Clinton. The service was an inspiring and joyous one. The Rev. Clowney is the moderator of the Western Union Association, which is composed of 21 churches.

Littlefield Missionary Baptist Church of Newton Grove will have their annual Ushers Anniversary on the second Sunday in July at 3 p.m. Their guests will be Pastor Leroy Smith, his choir and ushers from Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Dunn. All ushers are invited and asked to wear their uniforms.

Let us pray for the success of our State Ushers Convention to be held in Rocky Mount at the Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church on July 20-21. Dr. Thomas Walker, pastor. To all usher presidents: All roads lead to Rocky Mount to Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church that weekend. Hope to see you there!

To District III: President and coordinator, Brother Forest M. Eaves Jr., announces their District III Ushers Workshop to be held at The Pleasant Hill Missionary Baptist Church on Saturday, July 28, from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Pleasant Hill Missionary Baptist Church is located at 517 Baldwin Avenue

in Charlotte. The Rev. J.A. Cuthbertson is the pastor. There will be classes for everyone. Registration fee is \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for children under 17. Lunch will be served and all ushers are asked to wear their uniforms. For more information, contact Brother Evans at (704) 372-5338 or fax him at (704) 372-0014. District III's theme is, "Ushers in Unity."

Usher presidents, let's have a survey of N.C. Baptist Ushers. Let's see how many persons have been active ushers in the church for 50 years and still ushering. Send their names, church, church address, and their pastor's name and address. We will see how many we have and maybe we could arrange some type of award ceremony, perhaps at the next One Day Session of ushers in Winston-Salem in February 2002. I will speak to the State President, Brother Charles Fletcher about it. Anyone who have been ushering for 50 years deserves some recognition. We will make a list and have it printed in this paper. So come on and let me hear from you, but do be honest in your answers. 50 years or more. We may even find some that have served as ushers longer than that. Let's see what N.C. ushers have done and will be waiting to hear.

Remember, we are truly door keepers in the House of the Lord. Psalms 84:10.

Send news to P.O. Box 105, Newton Grove, N.C. 28336.

## Annual Unified Banquet of the Wake Missionary Baptist Association, Inc.

The Wake Missionary Baptist Association, Inc. will host its Annual Unified Banquet on August 11, 2001 at the Jane S. McKimmon Center, 6:30 p.m.

This banquet is held annually prior to the Annual Session of the Association to unite all its auxiliaries and the parent body together.

The speaker for this year will be the Dr. Robert E. Lee McGowan Sr., Pastor of the Galilee Baptist Church of Winston-Salem, N.C.

Dr. McGowan is the Vice-Chairman of the Evangelism Committee of the General Baptist State Convention. All are invited to attend.

Tickets may be purchased through the member churches or you may write to WMBA, Inc., P.O. Box 25847, Raleigh, N.C. 27610. All tickets are \$25. Deadline for tickets purchased by mail is August 1, 2001.

## Dr. Weaver's Last Church Quarterly Conference

By Rev. Chester Debnam Jr.  
Church Reporter

On Friday, June the 8th the Watts Chapel Baptist Church family responded to Dr. Weaver's earlier request that they attend the last quarterly church conference under his leadership. Dr. Weaver's desire and prayer for this meeting to be peaceful and memorable was realized. Before a very large gathering, Dr. Weaver displayed his gift of church administration and patience as he allowed all those present to provide inputs, or to ask questions according to their interest. I watched him with amazement as he displayed the skills, sharpened by his training, and the experience gained from having pastured five churches in a 50 year preaching career, almost 34 years of which have been at Watts Chapel.

His retirement from pasturing will require Dr. Weaver to make many adjustments. For it is obvious that his ability to preach and to administer church programs is like fire shut up in his bones. But only Dr. Weaver and his contemporaries with like stamina know the toil of leading a large church and its demands on an individual.

God has spoken through time. God spoke and Moses said afterwards "I can no more go out and come in..." even though "his eyes were not dim nor his natural force abated."

This congregation recognizes that this church, because of Dr. Weaver's work in the field of education, instilled in our children the desire to pursue education and graduate from institutions of higher learning. The church conference in a spirit of appreciation approved awarding Dr. Weaver the title, Pastor Emeritus, when he retires August 31, 2001.

As the chairperson of church news at Watts Chapel, I have provided brief accolades about my pastor and his last church conference. Others will have an opportunity to do so at a stand-up reception on the 25th of August, 6 p.m. at Watts Chapel and at the 11 a.m. Worship Service on the 26th of August. The public is cordially invited. Watts Chapel Baptist Church is located at 3703 Tryon Rd., Raleigh, NC, near the Gorman St. exit 295, from the I-440 belt-line. If you have any questions call the church at (919) 828-7348 or call Rev. Chester Debnam Jr. at (919) 828-8057 after 10 p.m.

### The Elephant in the Courtroom

*An adult education curriculum exploring issues of race and justice in the state of North Carolina and touching on themes of community, forgiveness and action.*



Based on a report by the North Carolina Council of Churches' Task Group on Racism and Restorative Justice. A Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation grant makes this curriculum available free of charge by contacting the Council at 919-828-6501.



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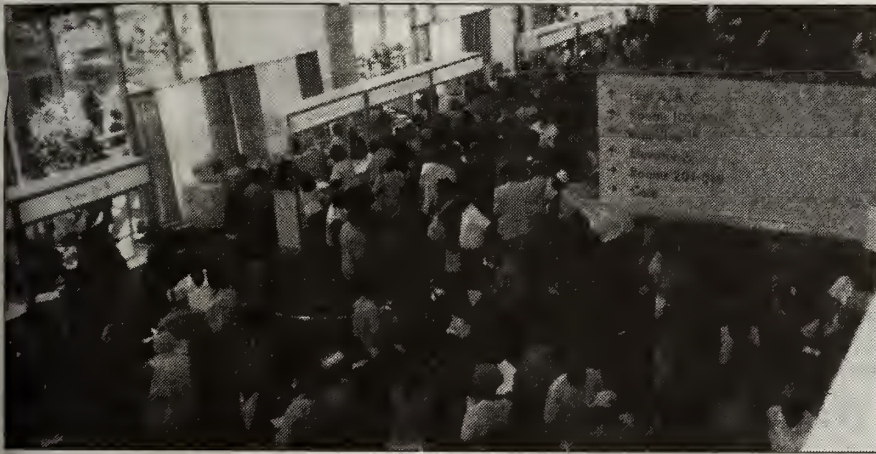
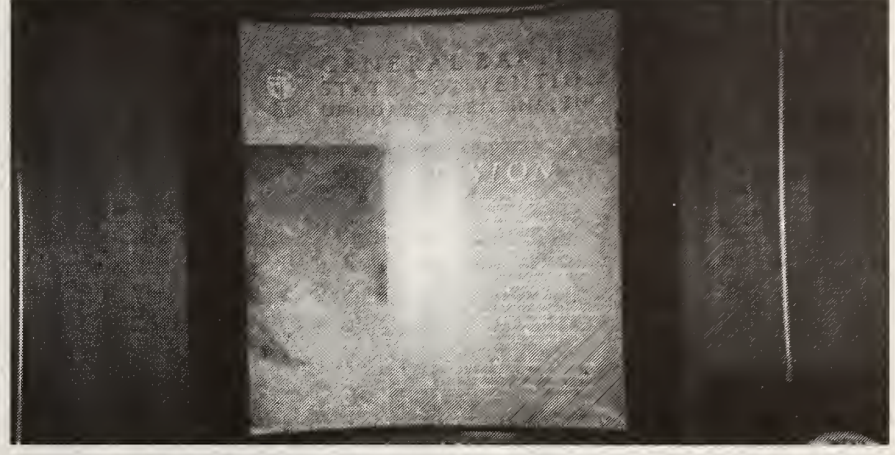
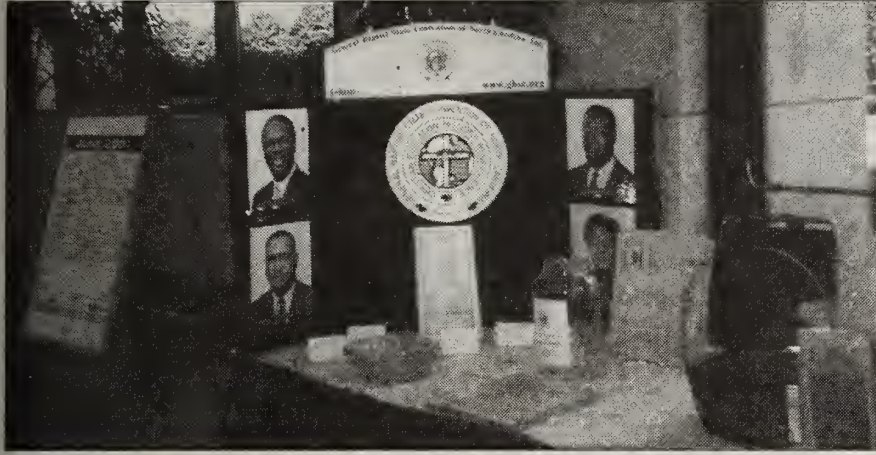
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**Highlights**

# National Baptist Convention, USA, Congress of Christian Education, Charlotte, NC

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*Psalms 46:10 "Be Still and Know That I am God"  
"He's More God Than I Ever Need"*



# NEWS AROUND THE GLOBE

## National Council of Negro Women Choose Nation's Finest Teachers *Excellence in Teaching Award Celebrates 12th Year*

Submitted by Carol J. Smith  
Associate Editor

With the debates still raging over school vouchers and private education, there remains one ideal that all can agree upon: excellent teachers equal above average education. It's a teacher, after all that has the most profound influence in a child's life. They recognize untapped potential and help children fulfill their dreams. Their duties go beyond the classroom, and often serve as parents, role models, mentors and community leaders.

For twelve years, the National Council of Negro Women, Inc. (NCNW) has paid tribute to these guiding lights by presenting its prestigious Excellence In Teaching Award to five outstanding teachers. Sponsored by Shell Oil Company, this award was created in honor of NCNW founder, Mary McLeod Bethune, to recognize and reward public and private school teachers who continue her legacy by instilling a thirst for knowledge in African-American children.

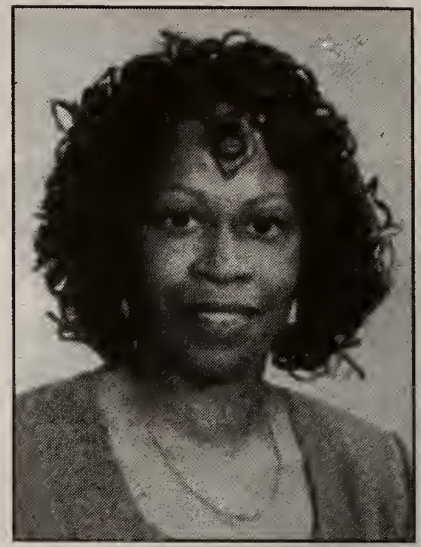
"NCNW was founded by one of the nation's finest educators, Mary McLeod Bethune. In her honor, this award represents all educators whose will and dedication inspire our children to achieve and make their dreams a reality," said Dr. Dorothy I. Height, NCNW chair and president emerita. A panel of judges, comprised of respected educators, parents, elected officials and members of the NCNW Commission on Education, met recently to review applications and select one national and four regional EITA winners. NCNW sections and members, parents, students, administrators and community members nominate candidates. In the next few weeks NCNW will announce this year's winners.

When choosing the winners, Dr. Gloria Gilmer, chair of NCNW's Commission on Education, says the judges will look at the contributions teachers have made in developing children, "It's the legacy we're interested in. Our judges will select teachers

that have had a significant impact in their student's lives." Special guest judge Jeff Davis, field director of Clemson University's award winning "Call Me MIS-TER" teacher recruitment program anchored this collection of all-star educators. Davis partnered with his wife Joannie Davis to help elect this year's recipients.

Candidates must be a grades K-12 teacher for at least five years in an urban or rural school that has at least a 30 percent enrollment of African-American students; inspire a high level of achievement among those students; represent excellence in the teaching profession through outstanding contributions to their field; and distinguish themselves among their colleagues and peers.

In addition to special regional ceremonies and a national celebration in Washington, D.C., awardees receive a specially designed sculpture from Tiffany and Co., a certificate and a cash prize. Each winner also receives a commemorative plaque for



Carol J. Smith, Associate Editor

display in their school.

NCNW is a nonprofit, voluntary service organization with 38 affiliated national organizations, 252 community based sections chartered in 38 states and 60,000 individual members. It is dedicated to improving the quality of life of African American women, their families and communities. For more information about the EITA program, contact Robin Breedlove, National EITA coordinator at (202) 383-9150.

## CBS-TV Features Six Atlanta Churches "Answering Michah's Call"

Submitted by Carol J. Smith  
Associate Editor

Four Atlanta-area congregations that participate in a National Council of Churches (NCC) pilot project called "Micah 6" were featured in a CBS television special that was sent to affiliate stations on June 24 for airing over the next six weeks.

The NCC project, now in its third year, integrates and strengthens congregational life by encouraging churches to look at all their activities through the lens of the Bible passage Micah 6:8. In this passage, the Old Testament prophet Micah asks the question, "And what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

The CBS-TV special "Answering Michah's Call" is the second of four religious specials produced by CBS this year in cooperation with the Interfaith Broadcasting Commission, of which the NCC is a member. "Answering Michah's Call" was filmed in Atlanta, offering a glimpse of ways that the four congregations interpret Micah 6 for their churches and their communities.

At Ebenezer Baptist Church, Atlanta, the Rev. James Victor, who is an associate pastor, and volunteer Anna Davenport show how faithful and committed individuals work in ministries for justice and healing, and how Ebenezer partners with other Micah 6 congregations.

The Rev. Bradley Schmeling, pastor of St. John's Lutheran Church, Atlanta, helps build relationships around advocacy work, asking the tough question, "Who's not here (around the table)?"

At First Presbyterian Church, Atlanta, the Rev. George Wirth, pastor, and the Rev. Charles Black, an associate pastor, feed the hungry through a volunteer Meals on Wheels program.

The Rev. Dr. Earl McCloud, pastor of First African Methodist Episcopal Church, Atlanta, works at a prison ministry that builds relationships within the community.

All of these ministries combine the biblical mandate to do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with God into programs that reach into the community while at the same time building up the strength of the congregation.

Around the country, 30 congregations—including the four Atlanta churches featured in the CBS special—identify themselves as Micah 6 congregations.

With the help of planning resources offered by the National Council of Churches, these congregations are asking what God requires of them today in their communities. There is no set prescription. By looking at their church and community through the lens of Micah 6, these 30 congregations have created more than 100 programs as diverse as Bible study, English-as-a-Second-Language classes, prison ministry, housing rehab projects and much more.

Yet these projects avoid the "one-more-thing-to-do" syndrome, say participants. "They are reporting that Micah 6 integrates the life of the church, touching every aspect," according to Micah 6 National Coordinator Nancy Theoharis, of Milwaukee.

"And at the personal level, each member is challenged to find ways to incorporate all three dimensions of the Micah passage into daily life," she says. As a result, Micah 6 congregations frequently say they have been "renewed, centered and strengthened spiritually." Their creative efforts are involving the congregation, attracting new members and encouraging increased giving.

To see if "Answering Michah's Call" has been cleared in your community, go to [www.interfaithbroadcasting.com](http://www.interfaithbroadcasting.com) and click on "IBC Program Information." After it has been on air, the program can be ordered in VHS video format by calling 1-800-494-6007.

Note to Reporters and Editors: Contact information follows for the four congregations featured in the CBS-TV special "Answering Michah's Call." Go to the National Council of Churches Web site

[www.nccusa.org](http://www.nccusa.org)) to read thumbnail sketches of each congregation's Micah 6 program.

Ebenezer Baptist Church, 407 Auburn Avenue, NE, Atlanta, GA 30312. Approximately 1,500-2,000 members. Micah 6 Contact: The Rev. James Victor, Associate Pastor. 404-688-7263x230.

First African Methodist Episcopal Church, 2046 Richard Allen Lane SE, Atlanta, GA 30316. Approximately 600 members. Micah 6 Contact: The Rev. Dr. Earl

McCloud, Pastor. 404-241-5900.

First Presbyterian Church, 1328 Peachtree Street, NE, Atlanta, GA 30309. Approximately 2,700 members. Micah 6 Contact: The Rev. Charles Black, Associate Pastor for Community Ministries. 404-228-7747.

St. John's Lutheran Church, 1410 Ponce de Leon Avenue, Atlanta, GA 30307. Approximately 260 members. Micah 6 Contact: The Rev. Bradley Schmeling, Pastor. 404-378-4243.

### Wake Missionary Baptist Association, Inc.

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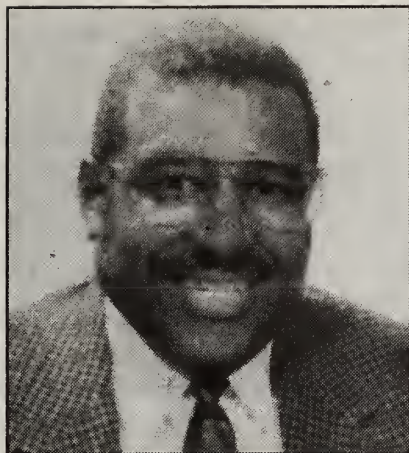
Shaw University and Shaw  
Divinity School News

Grace and peace be with you from the Lord Jesus Christ. Summer is here and the crops are in full bloom.

Last month I spent most of my time in Revivals Vacation Bible School, and teaching at the Baptist Camp. We had a great June. All things in our church and community are also in full bloom.

By the time this news reaches you school will be open. Let us be reminded to watch out for our children. Shaw University and Shaw Divinity will also be open. If you have students in your community or church, we would like for you to encourage them to attend our school.

God has blessed us with one of the best universities in the world. Let us support our



Rev. N.T. Davis

school.

The Divinity School is offering new classes and new degrees. Pray for our leader and let us support our university.

The students that leave Shaw University will be able to work anywhere on the globe. Pray for this ministry and let us stay focused on our goals.

## Shaw University Divinity School To Host Its 17th Annual Women's Conference

The Shaw University Divinity School host its 17th Annual Women's Conference on Saturday, July 28th at 8:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. in the W.B. Lewis Lecture Hall in Leonard Hall, 3rd Floor, on the Campus of Shaw University. This year's conference

theme was "Stir Up The Gift."

The featured speaker for the conference was Dr. Marsha Foster Boyd from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Dr. Boyd is a noted preacher, teacher and author.

## Shaw's Divinity School Announces the 64th Annual Church Leaders Conference

Shaw University's Divinity School announced its 64th Annual Church Leader's Conference held on Shaw University's campus on Saturday, June 23rd from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. The conference theme was "Educating Church Leaders for a New Century." All sessions were held in Leonard Hall.

Listed below were the workshops offered for the conference. The workshops have been designed to prepare participants for the present age.

- Tools for Old Testament Study and How to Use Them
- Interpreting and Preaching Hard Text of

the New Testament

- A Preaching Clinic
- Building An Effective Ministry Team/The Role of the Associate Minister
- Spiritually and Healing
- Calling All Youth
- The Ministry of Music
- Practical Stewardship
- Visionary Leadership
- Ministerial Ethics
- The Black Church Dealing With HIV/AIDS
- Women in Ministry

Each person attending the conference was required to register.

## "Let Mt. Zion Rejoice!"

### Music in the African-American Church

James Abbingtion is assistant professor of music at Shaw University in Raleigh, NC. In addition to his duties as chair of the Visual and Performing Arts Department and Director of the University Choir. He served as co-director of music for the 2000 and 2001 Hampton University Minister's and Musician's Conference.

#### LET MT. ZION REJOICE!

#### Music in the African-American Church

Let this book of information, inspiration, challenge and edification for the music ministry in the African-American church serve as a source of fresh perspectives on revitalizing your church's music ministry. Author and long-time music & worship leader James Abbingtion provides information, examples and direction for choosing, training and developing the best music directors possible for your church. Abbingtion also provides practical and specific advice for choosing musical styles and

repertoire based on your congregation's identity and worship goals and explores the possibilities related to planning worship and music around the Revised Common Lectionary.

*Let Mt. Zion Rejoice!* is a practical resource for pastors, music directors, musicians, church staffs, congregational worship committees, theologians, seminarians, teachers, students of church music, choir members, people of culture and anyone involved in music and worship in the African American church. It is intended for those who take the ministry of music seriously and commit themselves regularly to the study, preparation and presentation of musical excellence in worship.

To order: call toll free: 1-800-458-3766 or fax to: (610) 768-2107. Online ordering: [www.judsonpress.com](http://www.judsonpress.com). Judson Press, P.O. Box 851, Valley Forge, PA. 19482-0851. \$15.00, ISBN:0-8170-1399-7. Cover: Paper. Size: 5.5"x8.5".

## SHAW UNIVERSITY DIVINITY SCHOOL

2001-2002 Academic Calendar • Fall 2001

### August

- 15-17 Faculty/Staff Opening of School Conference
- 18 Orientation and Registration
- 22 Classes Begin

### September

- 3 Labor Day Holiday
- 11 Drop/Add Ends
- 13 Faculty Fall Retreat
- 14 Last Day to Withdraw/Drop and Receive a Partial Refund
- 20 Fall Convocation

### October

- 1 Deadline for Applications for Spring Degree
- 5 Last Day to Withdraw Without a Grade
- 7-9 Bessie Boyd-Holman Lecture Series (Boyd Church)
- 24-26 Registration for Spring Classes

### November

- 11-18 Homecoming Week 16 Founder's Day/Homecoming Convocation
- 22-25 THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

### DECEMBER

- 1-7 Final Exams and Last Day of Class
- 3 Last Day to Remove Incompletes for Spring Semester

### SPRING 2002

### January

- 5 Orientation and Registration
- 7 Faculty Development Workshop (SU) Morning only
- 9 Martin Luther King Jr. Commemorative Service (Boyd Chapel)
- 9 Spring Classes Begin
- 14 Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday
- 7-21 Drop/Add a Class/Late Registration

### February

- 5 Last Day to Withdraw/Drop and Receive Partial Refund
- 3-6 Religious Emphasis Week

### March

- 18 Last Day to Withdraw Without a Grade and Registration for Fall 2002 begins
- 18-20 Annual Ministers' Conference
- 24 Thomas J. Boyd Sunday
- 28 Faculty Spring Retreat
- 29-April 1 EASTER HOLIDAY/Spring Break 3/29-4/7

### April

- 1 Deadline for Application for Summer Degree
- 23 Registration for Fall Semester/University Awards Day

### May

- 4 Last Day of Classes and Final Exams/Last Day to Remove I's
- 5 Senior Appreciation Day
- 10 Baccalaureate
- 11 Commencement

### FALL 2002 CLASSES

BIB	501	01	Old Testament I	3	Ashmore	SAT	7:30-10:00	LEO
BIB	508	01	Amos/Micah	3	Ashmore	SAT	11:00-1:30	LEO
BIB	522	01	Teaching & Preach O.T.	3	Ashmore	Tue-Fri	6:00-7:30	LEO
BIB	602	01	Paul and His Letters	3	Greaux	SAT	11:00-1:30	LEO
BIB	610	G1	Basic Greek I	3	Greaux	SAT	7:30-10:00	LEO
BIB	621	01	Johannine Literature	3	Greaux	SAT	2:30-5:00	LEO
CED	501	01	Christian Education	3	Haynes	FRI	6:30-9:00	LEO
CGC	503	01	His of Christian Mission	3	Edwards	SAT	7:30-10:00	LEO
GRT	504	01	Blk Church & Eldercare	3	Paige	SAT	11:00-1:30	LEO
HIS	521	01	Church History I	3	Long	SAT	11:00-1:30	LEO
HIS	525	01	GBSC His. & Polity	3	Logan	TBA	TBA	OnL
HIS	625	01	His of Church Aft-Amer	3	Wilmore	TBA	TBA	OnL
HIS	632	01	Women in West. Rel. His	3	Travis	TUE	6:30-9:00	LEO
HIS	644	01	Cultural His Afr-Amer	3	Long	SAT	2:30-5:00	LEO
MIC	701	01	Church & Community	3	Roberson	TBA	TBA	OnL
PAS	560	01	Homiletics	3	Stephens	SAT	7:30-10:00	LEO
PCM	701	01	Practice of Church Music	3	Abbingtion	TUE	6:30-9:00	LEO
POM	781	01	Church Administration	3	Roberson	FRI	3:30-9:00	LEO
POM	783	01	Worship	3	Arnette	SAT	7:30-10:00	LEO
POM	788	01	Church Polity & Doctrine	3	Bullock	TUE	6:30-9:00	LEO
PPC	502	01	Psychology of Religion	3	Haynes	SAT	11:00-1:30	LEO
PPC	601	01	Pastoral Care & Families	3	Haynes	SAT	2:30-5:00	LEO
RSO	503	01	The Law & the Minister	3	Wilson	TBA	TBA	OnL
RSO	520	01	Blk Chu Econ & Pol Emp	3	Paige	SAT	7:30-10:00	LEO
SRC	703	01	Spiritual Formation	3	Bryan	FRI	6:30-9:00	LEO
THE	643	01	Systematic Theology	3	Broadway	SAT	2:30-5:00	LEO
THE	647	01	Philosophy of Religion	3	Roberts	TUE	6:30-9:00	LEO
THE	650	01	Reading in The & Ethics	3	Broadway	TUE	8:00-10:30	LEO
THE	748	01	Christian Ethics	3	Broadway	SAT	11:00-1:30	LEO

### WINSTON-SALEM FALL 2001 CLASSES

BIB	502	02	Prophets & Prophecy	3	Ettin	SAT	3:30-6:00	
BIB	602	02	Paul & His Letters	3	Lawrence	SAT	8:00-10:40	
CED	501	02	Christian Education	3	Tripp	SAT	1:45-4:25	
GRT	504	02	Blk Church & Eldercare	3	Whitlock	SAT	8:00-10:40	
HIS	521	02	His of the Christian Chu I	3	Thomas	THU	6:00-9:00	
HIS	625	02	His of Church Aft-Amer	3	Whitlock	SAT	10:45-1:25	
POM	781	02	Church Administration	3	Churn	SAT	10:45-1:25	
PPC	503	02	Pastoral Counseling	3	Tripp	SAT	10:45-1:25	
SRC	703	02	Spiritual Formation	3	Tripp	SAT	8:00-10:40	
THE	643	02	Systematic Theology	3	Richards	THU	6:00-9:00	
THE	748	02	Christian Ethics	3	Churn	SAT	1:45-4:25	
THE	758	02	Women & Theology	3	Travis	SAT	1 0:45-1:25	

# 2001-2002 Edition

## New Millennium Church Stewardship & Minister Salary Guidelines



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## First Baptist Church Holly Springs

Rev. Otis G. Byrd, Senior Pastor  
PO Box 181, Holly Springs, NC 27540

919-552-8167 Home • 919-552-6383 Church  
**PRE-WOMEN'S DAY CONFERENCE 2001**  
**Saturday, August 25, 2001**  
**8:30 A.M. 'til 4:00 P.M.**

Location: First Baptist Church Holly Springs  
Grigsby Avenue

**THEME: GOD'S CHOSEN WOMEN:  
CREATED, CHANGED & CHALLENGED**

CONFERENCE TOPICS & FACILITATORS  
God's Chosen Women: Wonderfully and Magnificently Made By God  
Facilitator: Minister Yvonne Beasley

Get the Hell Hounds Off Your Heels  
Facilitator: Pastor Paulette Bryant

Prayer Is The Key: Faith Unlocks The Door  
Facilitator: Sister Elizabeth Young

**Evening Service - 6:00 P.M.**  
Guest Speaker: Evangelist Margaret Mose  
Subject: I Am A Survivor

Conference Registration Fee \$10.00  
Pre-Registration Deadline: August 15, 2001

**Sunday, August 26, 2001**  
11:00 A.M. Morning Worship Service  
Pastor Paulette Bryant, Guest Minister

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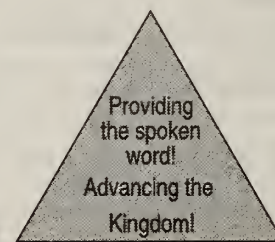
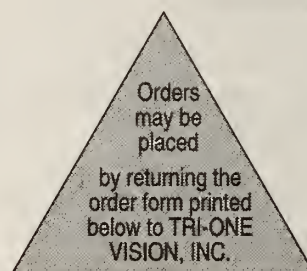
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- The Wind of the Spirit
- They Did Not Glorify God
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# VACANT POSITIONS

## EMMANUEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENT

Seeking Full-time Christian Minister of Music, Loyal and Committed to God's program. Must possess people skills, be trained as a Musician, Conductor and Choir Director.

Salary: Commensurate with training and experience.

Interested persons may send resume/portfolio to:

Attention: Trustees

Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church  
913 N. Highland Street, Gastonia, NC 28052

## CHURCH MUSICIAN

We are seeking to employ a person of Christian faith and character to serve as musician/director for the music department of the church.

Responsibilities include teaching music for church choirs, choir directors and other musicians. Proficiency in reading music is a requirement and some versatility in "playing by ear" will only serve to enhance the church's music department.

Applicants are asked to send resumes and references to:

**United Institutional Baptist Church**  
Rev. Johnny R. Freeman, Pastor  
802 East Market Street, Greensboro, NC 27401  
Phone: (336) 272-0822\*Fax: (336) 230-0274

\*Salary is negotiable and is commensurate with training and experience.

## FIRST AFRICAN BAPTIST CHURCH

803 East Harris St., Goldsboro, N.C. 27530

Pastor: Dr. Freddie I. Barnes

### POSITION AVAILABLE: DIRECTOR OF CHURCH MUSIC

First African Baptist Church is a congregation of over 350 members with a Music Ministry that consist of four choirs, Sunshine Choir, Male Chorus, Unity and Praise Choir, Chancel Choir. Music in this ministry consists of gospel (traditional and contemporary) praise and worship, hymns, spirituals and anthems.

Applications and further information may be obtained by contacting Mrs. Johnnie Ingram, Personnel Committee Chairman or Rev. Jerry Dortch at 919-734-4935.

## MINISTER OF MUSIC WANTED

Wake Forest congregation seeks Minister of Music. Duties to include working directly with the Pastor in order to assist and cooperate with him in Christian Worship; playing during Sunday morning worship service; rehearsing with various choirs one night per week; and accompanying the Pastor on engagements to other churches. Please forward a cover letter and resume to:

Evans Grove Missionary Baptist Church • 12700 Creedmoor Road, Highway 50  
Wake Forest, NC 27587 • (919) 870-8874

## CEDAR GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

14600 Railroad St., Gibson, NC 28343

### CHURCH MUSICIAN

The Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church of Gibson, N.C., is seeking a person to serve as Church Musician.

**Qualifications:** Should be a Christian who lives and acts responsibly and has a good character and reputation.

#### Musician requirements:

\*Be able to play a piano, keyboard, organ and be able to work well with a diverse range of singers with directions for musical selections.

\*Be available for necessary rehearsals and Sunday Worship Services.

\*Be available to accompany the pastor and choirs to all church functions when requested.

**Salary negotiable.** Please send resume to Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church at the above address.

## CHURCH MUSICIAN

The New Hope Baptist Church, Gates, N.C., is seeking a person to serve as Church Musician.

#### REQUIREMENTS:

1. Able to play organ and/or organ.
2. Able to play diverse music.
3. Able to accompany the pastor and choir to church engagements if possible.

#### SALARY NEGOTIABLE:

Send resume to:  
New Hope Baptist Church, PO Box 91, Gatesville, NC 27938  
Attn: Fannie M. Spivey, Secretary  
Inquiries may be made by calling (252) 357-1061 after 4:30 p.m.

## CHURCH MUSICIAN

Mount Olive Baptist Church of Lewiston is seeking a musician for a station church, a Christian who is responsible, has good character and a good reputation.

#### Requirements:

\*Plays the organ and piano \*Able to work with a diverse group of singers  
\*Experienced in all sacred music \*Reads music and is versatile in playing by ear

Send resumes or responses to: Mount Olive Baptist Church

PO Box 214, Lewiston-Woodville, NC 27849 • Attention: William W. Peele Jr.

## MINISTER OF MUSIC

St. John Baptist Church, 8910 Old Annapolis Road

Columbia, Maryland 21045 • 410-992-6977

Overall Duty: To assist the Pastor in shaping, defining, and effectuating the musical elements of the worship experience.

#### I. MINIMUM QUALIFICATION:

- A. Bachelor's degree in music, or at least 5 years of experience as...
- B. At least 3 years of experience as accomplish/director for choral group(s)
- C. Proficiency in playing piano and organ
- D. At least 3 church-related references

#### II. OTHER QUALIFICATIONS

- A. Personal faith in Jesus Christ...
- B. Background (via education experience) in sacred music, including hymns, spirituals, traditional and contemporary gospel, and praise songs.
- C. Ability to relate well with directors and members of church choirs.
- D. Efficient administrative skills to ensure timely and effective communication with all elements of the musical worship experience.
- E. Ability to teach, direct, compose and play (by written notes or by ear) the various forms of sacred music.
- F. Ability to recognize and respond with appropriate music to the spiritual moods of the service.
- G. Excellent interpersonal and conflict resolution skills.

## First Missionary Baptist Church

The First Baptist Church is now seeking a pastor to serve as its spiritual leader, teacher, counselor and administrator. All interested persons should submit a letter of interest and resume to the Pulpit Search Committee.

#### Qualifications

- Born Again Christian
- Ordained Missionary Baptist Minister
- Knowledge of Baptist Doctrine and Faith
- Seminary Training preferred
- Teaching Bible Study Weekly
- Proficient in church organization and ability to train Church
- Pastoral Experience Preferred
- Family Oriented
- Able to Plan and implement innovative youth programs

**Interested Applicants should Mail Resumes to:**

**Pastoral Search Committee**  
**First Baptist Church**  
**ATTENTION: Deacon Calvin Graham Jr., Chairman**  
**P.O. Box 679, Stedman, North Carolina 28391**

## ST. FRANCIS BAPTIST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

is looking for a Pastor

This person should be:

- I. Missionary Baptist
- II. Have good organizational and leadership skills
- III. Commuting Distance
- IV. Family Oriented
- V. Experience Preferred

Interested parties should send resume to: c/o Pulpit Committee

St. Francis Missionary Baptist Church, P.O. Box 736, Windsor, NC 27983.

## GREEN CHAPEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

450 Hickman Hill Loop Road, Havelock, NC 28532

The Pulpit Search Committee of Green Chapel Missionary Baptist Church of Havelock, North Carolina is searching for applicants for a full time pastoral vacancy.

#### Qualifications:

1. Must be an experienced, licensed, ordained Missionary Baptist Minister living according to First Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9
2. The applicants should have a vision for the church according to Proverbs 29:18
3. Must possess the ability to work with all age groups, with particular emphasis in youth development, and with all auxiliaries of the church.
4. Must possess effective oral and written communication skills.
5. Must be community oriented.
6. Must possess strong and proven administrative experience, with a broad knowledge of the Baptist Doctrines, church policies, and practices.
7. Must be willing to work with the Old Eastern Missionary Baptist Association.

Education: Must possess a high school diploma (or equivalent) preferring a degree or courses in Seminary Training, and willing to do further study.

Interested applications should provide the following:

1. A resume of relevant experience.
2. A copy of certificate of license and ordination.
3. One business and two personal reference (NO FAMILY MEMBERS).

All interested applicants should send resume, and copies of certificates to:

Green Chapel Missionary Baptist Church  
Pulpit Committee  
450 Hickman Hill Loop Road, Havelock, NC 28532.

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Third and Mulbury Street, Weldon, North Carolina 27890

The Pulpit Committee of First Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of Pastor. Mail resumes to:

Deacon Stanley Edwards, 908 Country Club Rd., Weldon, NC 27890

Applicants must have the following qualifications:

- Born again Christian
- Must be able to preach and teach God's Word
- Preach quality sermons
- Possess strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, policies and practices
- Able to lead and communicate with all age groups
- Able to work effectively with church boards and committees
- Some college and seminary training preferred

## SANDY GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

PO Box 290, 1600 Martin Luther King Drive, Lumberton, NC 28358

**Sandy Grove Missionary Baptist Church is accepting resumes for a full-time pastor. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:**

1. Must be licensed, ordained, firmly rooted in the holy spirit, born again, and divinely called.
2. Must have strong family and community values.
3. Must possess or be in the process of pursuing a college degree and theological training from an accredited college or university.
4. Must be able to preach and teach God's holy word.
5. Must be willing to follow the Baptist doctrine, policies and practices.
6. Must be an effective leader, administrator, counselor and must work cooperatively with church officials.
7. Must be willing to work with all age groups, with particular emphasis on the spiritual growth and development of our youth.
8. Must plan for the future growth and development of the church.
9. Must be able to be tactful, just and fair with everyone.
10. Must establish office hours for the benefit of the members.
11. Must visit and commune with sick, shut-ins members and bereaved families.

**Interested applicants should provide the following information:**

1. A resume of relevant pastoral experience (if applicable).
  2. A copy of college degree (s), certificate of license and ordination.
  3. Proof of completion of all accredited theological training.
  4. Name, address, and telephone number of four (4) personal references—excluding relatives.
- Please mail all requested information to:

*The Pulpit Committee*

*Sandy Grove Missionary Baptist Church, P.O. Box 290, Lumberton, NC 28358*

# VACANT POSITIONS

## GREATER LOVELY HILL BAPTIST CHURCH

The Pulpit Search Committee of the Greater Lovely Hill Baptist Church, located in Warren County, N.C. is searching for applicants for its pastoral vacancy. Currently the Greater Lovely Hill Baptist Church has regular worship services twice monthly, on the first and third Sunday.

### Qualifications:

1. Must be an experienced licensed ordained Missionary Baptist Minister living according to First Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9.
2. The applicants should have a vision for the church.
3. Must possess the ability to work with all age groups, with particular emphasis in youth development and community outreach, and with all auxiliaries of the church.
4. Must possess effective oral and written communication skills.
5. Must be community oriented.
6. Must possess strong and proven administration experience with a broad knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and practices.

### Education:

Must possess a high school diploma (or equivalent) preferring a degree or courses in Seminary Training from an accredited college or university.

Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume of relevant experience.
2. A copy of the certificate of license and ordination.

Send resumes to: Mrs. Lucy E. Branch, PO Box 52, Warrenton, NC 27589

## BETHLEHEM MISSIONARY

Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church of Rocky Mount, NC, is currently seeking a pastor.

Pastoral candidates should:

- be an ordained Baptist member that can work with all groups of the church
- be able to work well with the Deacon Board
- be able to preach and teach
- have pastoral experience or significant ministerial experience
- firmly believe in the work of their affiliated church associations and church unions
- support the General Baptist State Convention
- have some training from a divinity school

\* salary is negotiable

Please send resumes to:

Bethlehem Baptist Church Pastoral Search Committee

ATTN: Deacon Anthony C. Hagans

PO Box 7035

Rocky Mount, NC 27804

## PULPIT VACANCY

The pulpit search committee of the Mount Zoar Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of pastor. Applicants must possess the following qualifications/responsibilities.

### Qualifications

Born again, spirit-filled, ordained and divinely called with strong family and community values.

Be a licensed, ordained Missionary Baptist Minister.

Must be able to preach and teach Bible Study

Must be able to work with all age groups with emphasis on youth department

Strong knowledge of the Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures

Experienced as a senior pastor, but will consider years of experience as an associate pastor

Must be willing to attend Sunday School and teach Bible Study

Spiritual maturity; preach and teach God's word

Willingness to administer communion and perform baptismal service

Possess strong and proven administrative experience

College degree preferred but will consider a combination of education and experience

### Responsibilities

Plan, prepare and deliver sermons

Visit and commune with sick and shut-in members and bereaved families

Plan and implementation of activities and projects designed to promote the church's progression and encourage active participation.

Interested applicants should mail resume with a recent photograph to address below.

Special notes: Photograph will not be returned

Mount Zoar Missionary Baptist Church  
C/O Ann Dixon

Pulpit Search Committee, PO Box 71736, Durham, NC 27704

## PENN AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH

225 West McClanahan Street, Oxford, N.C. 27565

Rev. Willie S. Darby, Pastor

(919) 693-5396 • (919) 693-1015, Pastor's Office

The Penn Avenue Missionary Baptist Church of Oxford, N.C. is currently seeking a MINISTER OF MUSIC.

### QUALIFICATIONS:

- \*Must be a born again Christian.
  - \*Must be able to play the piano, keyboard and/or organ.
  - \*Must be able to read music and is versatile in playing by ear.
  - \*Must be able to work well with a diverse range of singers and age groups.
  - \*Must be able to teach and direct hymns, anthems, spirituals, gospels and other sacred music.
  - \*Must be able to rehearse choirs at a scheduled time unless otherwise notified.
  - \*Must be available for Sunday morning worship services.
  - \*Must be available to accompany the pastor and choirs when requested or provide a qualified substitute.
  - \*Must be able to assist in the selection of appropriate songs for worship and services.
  - \*Will be responsible with the pastor's approval in hiring other musicians if deemed necessary.
- Salary: Negotiable**
- Penn Avenue Missionary Baptist Church is a warm, spirited-filled church that has worship services 52 Sundays a year and at present there is one musician available for 2nd Sunday worship services. Service begins each Sunday at 11 a.m. with the exception of 5th Sunday services which begin at 10 a.m.
- Please send resume to the above listed address or inquiries may be made by calling one of the above listed numbers.

## SYNAMA GROVE

Oxford, North Carolina

The Pastoral Search Committee of the Synama Grove Baptist Church is currently accepting resumes to fill its Pastoral vacancy. Candidates are required to be a licensed and ordained Missionary Baptist Minister. In addition, the ideal candidates will meet the following bas profile, as established by the church congregation:

- Five to ten years of experience as the Pastor of a Baptist Church
- Have completed education through college and seminary

As a church of families, Synama Grove has many long time members functioning as maturing Christians in support of church growth and development. In that regard, the church congregation seeks a Pastor to lead its fulfillment as a Missionary Baptist Church. In addition to other more specific requirements defined to the Search Committee by the congregation, the Pastor of Synama Grove Baptist is expected to lead the congregation, Deacons, Trustees, Auxiliaries and other staff in performing their responsibilities in serving each other and the community.

Synama Grove is a community-oriented church, located between Creedmoor and Oxford North Carolina, about 25 miles north of Raleigh, 23 miles northeast of Research Triangle Park and approximately 20 miles south of the Virginia border. The membership, of approximately 250 members, is diverse, with both white and blue-collar workers. Resumes from interested candidates will be accepted from June 1, 2001 through July 31, 2001. Please forward resumes to:

Deacon Hubert L. Gooch Jr.

Chairperson, Pastoral Search Committee  
2667 Hester Road, Oxford, NC 27565

Once received, the resumes will be evaluated in accordance with the profile details of the congregation. All candidates will receive acknowledgment of their application. Those most closely matching the needs of Synama Grove will be asked to proceed through a well-defined process to identify the best candidate to be called as the next Pastor of Synama Grove Baptist Church. We pray that God leads you to us, as we're lead to you.

## FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

715 West Willis Ave.

High Point, NC 27260

CHURCH MUSICIAN

The Friendship Missionary Baptist Church are accepting resumes for a Church Musician.

### Qualifications:

Should be a Christian who lives and acts responsibly and has a good character and reputation.

### Musician requirements:

- Be able to play a piano, keyboard, organ and be able to work well with a diverse range of singers with directions for musical selections.
- Must have experience in church music (anthems, hymns, spirituals, praise and worship, etc.) of gospel traditional and contemporary.
- Be available for necessary rehearsals and Sunday Worship Services.
- Be available to accompany the pastor and choirs to all church functions when requested.

*Salary negotiable:*

Please send cover letter and resume to:

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church

Attn: James W. Flake, Pastor

909 Barbee Avenue

## FIRST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

The First Missionary Baptist Church is now seeking a pastor to serve as its spiritual leader, teacher and administrator.

### Qualifications:

Born again Christian

Ordained Missionary Baptist Minister

Knowledge of Baptist Doctrine and Faith

Seminary Training preferred

Pastoral experience preferred

Capable in church organization and ability to train church

Family oriented and community oriented

Able to work effectively with church board and committees

Interested applicants should mail resume to:

Pastoral Search Committee

First Missionary Baptist Church, c/o Mrs. Mildred B. Sanders, Secretary

305 W. Noble Street, Selma, N.C. 27576

# NOTICE PASTOR NEEDED

at  
Friendship Baptist Church  
Whiteville, NC

For Application Write:

Pastor Selection Committee

PO Box 1365, Whiteville, NC 28472

# VACANT POSITIONS

## GOOD HOPE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

4209 Smithfield Road, PO Box 441 Knightdale, North Carolina 27545  
Telephone: 919-266-0217

**JOHN L. THATCH, PASTOR**  
**POSITION: MINISTER OF MUSIC**

Principal Functions: Supervised by the pastor, the minister of music will be responsible for the development and promotion of the music program of the Church.

**Primary Responsibilities:** The minister of music will be responsible for the following:

1. Plan, organize, conduct and evaluate the comprehensive music program for the Church, including choirs, vocal and/or instrumental ensembles.
2. Prepare choirs for each Sunday morning's worship services.
3. Teach and direct sacred music (hymns, anthems, spirituals and gospel music).
4. Work with all choirs in selecting appropriate music for Sunday mornings' services and other worship services as his/her services are needed.
5. Work in cooperation with the pastor, other musicians and other choir members to set and implement guidelines for choir members' rights, responsibilities and ethical conduct while representing the Church in the glorification of God.
6. Work with the pastor, other musicians and choir members in scheduling and observing schedules for choir rehearsals.
7. Supervise the maintenance of the Church's musical instruments, hymnals, sheet music, music library and training materials, etc.
8. Work with the pastor to plan all services of worship (including funerals, weddings, revivals, special projects, etc.) and will accompany the pastor and Church when they are called upon to provide services for worship services at other churches.
9. Keep abreast of music methods, materials, promotion and administration, and cooperate with the Church process to enlist and train leaders for the Church music ministry.
10. Prepare an estimated annual budget and administer the approved budget.
11. Perform other duties as assigned by the pastor.

**Qualifications:**

1. Must be a Christian
2. Must possess people skills
3. Must be formally trained as a musician, conductor and choir director
4. Must be loyal and committed to the service and glory of God

Salary: Commensurate with training and experience

Interested persons may send resumes/portfolios to:

John L. Thatch, Pastor

Good Hope Missionary Baptist Church, PO Box 441, Knightdale, NC 27545

## CHURCH MUSICIAN

First Missionary Baptist Church of Clinton is seeking a person to serve as musician. The responsibilities include playing for the Adult Choir on the First Sunday, and accompanying the other choirs on the remaining Sundays.

**Qualifications:**

Should be able to play the piano and the organ, and be able to work well with diverse groups of singers.

Experience in sacred music is a must as well as the ability to read music and play by ear.

The musician is also expected to accompany the pastor and choirs to outside functions when necessary.

Interested persons may send resume to: First Baptist Church, 900 College St., Clinton, N.C. 28328.

## MUSICIAN WANTED

**Metropolitan Baptist Church**  
**Rocky Mount, NC**

Progressive church music department looking for Director of Music to provide leadership for growth spiritually and musically. Must have experience in church music (anthems, hymns, spirituals, etc.) or equivalent. Able to lead music and direct/accompany. Available on 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays. On call as needed.

To apply call:

**Metropolitan Baptist Church**  
**Rocky Mount, NC**  
**252-442-4623**

## MINISTER OF MUSIC • ST. MATTHEW BAPTIST CHURCH

P.O. BOX 1710, OXFORD, NC 27565

1. Must be a Christian to serve as minister of music each Sunday.
  2. Will prepare choirs for Sunday morning worship services and special services.
  3. Will teach and direct hymns, spiritual selections and other sacred music.
  4. Will implement and/or carrying out guidelines pertaining to choir members' conduct.
  5. Will rehearse choirs at a scheduled time unless otherwise notified.
  6. Will be available to accompany the Pastor and choir to church functions requested.
- Please send resume to the above address: Attention Pastor. Inquiries may be made by calling 919-693-6354.

## MINISTER OF MUSIC WANTED

Wake Forest Congregation seeks Minister of Music. Duties to include working directly with the Pastor in order to assist and cooperate with him in Christian Worship; playing during Sunday morning worship service; rehearsing with various choirs one night per week; and accompanying the Pastor on engagements to other churches. Please forward a cover letter and resume to:

Evans Grove Missionary Baptist Church, 12700 Creedmoor Road, Highway 50  
Wake Forest, NC 27587 • (919) 870-8874

## PROGRESSIVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

2504 Creech Road, Raleigh, NC 27610  
Rev. William H. Brock Sr., Senior Pastor  
Rev. Dr. Leo Williams Jr., Assistant Pastor  
Rev. James Richardson, Minister of Youth

Growing young Missionary Baptist Church in southeast Raleigh. Seeking a Christian Church Musician who can play piano/organ. Specifically organ. Must be able to read music as well as play by ear. Should be able to play hymns, anthems, spirituals, gospel.

Call church office to arrange interview (919) 828-8373.

## POSITION AVAILABLE: DIRECTOR OF CHURCH MUSIC

First African Baptist Church is a congregation of over 350 members with a Music Ministry that consist of four choirs, Sunshine Choir, Male Chorus, Unity and Praise Choir, Chancel Choir. Music in this ministry consists of gospel (traditional and contemporary) praise and worship, hymns, spirituals and anthems.

Applications and further information may be obtained by contacting, Mrs. Verna Best, or Rev. Jerry Dortch at 919-734-4935.

## ZION BAPTIST CHURCH SEEKS PASTOR

On April 20, 2000, Rev. Curtis E. Bender, pastor of Zion Baptist Church in Omaha, Nebraska, tendered his resignation. He has blessed Zion and the Omaha community with his leadership for more than 20 years. Although we will miss our Pastor, we humbly submit to the Will of God. Consequently, the recently formed Zion Baptist Church Pulpit Search Committee would like to solicit your help in this search. Please notify the members of your District/Convention that the Zion Baptist Church pulpit is vacant and that we have begun accepting applications for Pastor. Among other things, we require applicants who:

- Are Called by God. (1 Timothy 3:1-7)
- Are Graduates of an accredited and respected seminary.
- Have had a minimum of 10 years as pastor of a large Black Baptist Church. (500 or more members).
- Are members in good standing and with a track record of membership in the National Baptist Convention U.S.A., Inc.
- Have proven leadership and training skills.

Interested candidates are asked to request in writing applications from:

Zion Baptist Church  
Pulpit Search Committee  
2215 Grant Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68110

Please pray for our effort and thank you for your help in this notification.

Yours in Christ, Dea. Jesse Sharpe, Committee Chairman, Sis. Jacqueline C. Hart, Church Clerk

## POSITION:

Interim Pastor to provide pastoral leadership and duties to a congregation of approximately 200 members located in Goldsboro, NC.

**ORGANIZATION:**

**Antioch Missionary Baptist Church**  
**601 W. Elm Street, Goldsboro, NC 27530**  
**(919) 734-2066**

**DESCRIPTION:**

The Antioch Missionary Baptist Church is currently seeking an individual to perform in the capacity of **INTERIM PASTOR**. This position is not intended or expected to lead to the role of permanent pastor. This role requires you to focus on the pastoral task in the congregation during the interim period to help free the leaders of the congregation to focus on seeking a new pastor. You will provide leadership and stability in a positive manner during this transitional period of our church. The ability to settle issues and migrate the congregation from the former pastor to the new pastor is critical. You will be working closely with the chairman of the Deacon Board and Trustee Board when addressing issues that affects the congregation at large. While the duration of this position is unknown at this time, you must be available for any period from two months to two years if needed.

**Major Duties and Responsibilities:**

- Plan and lead worship that is sensitive to the needs of the congregation
- Attend to the spiritual development of the congregation
- Provide administrative leadership to the congregation, secretarial and pulpit staff
- Counsel members having personal, family and/or work related problems
- Support religious programs for children, youth and adults
- Develop and instruct weekly bible study classes
- Support the church's financial program
- Directly involve the congregation in the planning and leadership of existing church programs and ministries
- Meet regularly with the chairpersons of the Deacon, Deaconess and Trustee Board for planning and direction
- Visit the sick, shut in and bereaved in the hospital and at home
- Preside at funerals and weddings
- Support the world mission of the church
- Present social issues before members

**Qualifications-Education and Experience:**

- Saved and filled with the Holy Spirit and able to proclaim the unadulterated word of God that will lead people to Christ
- Degree in Theology or Religion preferred — however, will accept training and experience in Divinity or Church Ministries
- Ordained for a minimum of five years
- Five years of experience as a pastor or assistant pastor of a Missionary Baptist Church
- Experience in working as an interim pastor is a plus

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

For immediate consideration, please send a cover letter and your resume to the following address:

**Antioch Missionary Baptist Church**  
**Attention: Deacon Lessie Davis**  
**601 W. Elm Street**  
**Goldsboro, NC 27530**

## GENESIS BAPTIST

**Youth Minister needed full-time.**

Qualified candidates must be trained at a seminary, mature spiritually, and experienced working with children and youth. Mail or fax resume and salary requirements to:

Genesis Baptist Church  
Cathy Daniels-Lee, Search Committee Chairperson  
2812 E. Bessemer Ave., Greensboro, NC 27405  
Ph. (336) 379-1133 • Fax. (336) 379-1615  
Web site: www.greensboro.com/genesis

## UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

110 Lincoln Ave., Lexington, NC 27292

Needed: Minister of Music or Organist.

Please send resume to:

Union Baptist Church, 110 Lincoln Ave, Lexington, NC 27292. Attn: Rev. Darrell L. Thomas.  
Or call 336-243-1648 and leave your name and number.

# VACANT POSITIONS

## FIRST BAPTIST CHARITY CHURCH Greenevers, N.C.

The First Baptist Charity Church of Greenevers, N.C. is accepting resumes from interested Missionary Baptist Ministers for the position of pastor.

**Qualifications:**

1. Divinely called spirit-filled, born-again Christian with strong Family values.
2. Pastoral experiences is required.
3. Must work closely with the officers of the church.
4. Must have at least 2 years of college or seminary training.
5. Must be able to preach and teach.
6. Must have good leadership and communication skills.
7. Family oriented.
8. Have knowledge of and willing to follow Baptist doctrines, policies and procedures.
9. Must be willing to visit and commune with the sick and shut-ins.
10. Must be willing to work with all age groups.

Services are first, second, third and fourth Sundays with Sunday school beginning at 10:00 a.m. and morning service beginning at 11:00 a.m.

Please send resumes to:

Deacon Fernald Rawls, Jr.  
920 Pasture Branch Road, Rose Hill, NC 28458

## MORNING STAR MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH OF DURHAM is seeking a person to serve as musician.

**Qualifications:**

Should be a Christian who lives and acts responsibly and has a good character and reputation.

- Should be able to play the piano and organ.
- Work well with diverse range of singers.
- Experience in diverse music (Hymns, gospel, contemporary, traditional).
- Ability to read music and play by ear.
- Be available for scheduled rehearsals, Second Sunday Morning Worship Service.
- Be available to accompany Pastor and choirs to church engagements as scheduled.
- Be available for evening programs as scheduled.

Interested persons may send resume to:

Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church  
4610 Fayetteville Rd.  
Durham, NC 27713

Attention: Sis. Esther Thompson or Call 544-8596

## UNION GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH Warrenton, North Carolina

The Union Grove Baptist is currently seeking and accepting resumes from interested licensed, ordained Baptist ministers. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

1. Spiritual maturity
2. A minimum of three years experience as a pastor, but will consider years of experience as associate pastor
3. Administrative and leadership skills
4. Must be able to work with various age groups with specific emphasis on youth development.
5. Strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures.
7. Good oral and written communication skills and ability to communicate with all age groups.
8. Have excellent teaching ability.

Other responsibilities include:

Planning, organizing and implementing programs that encourage participation of youth and young adults that promote church growth and progress.

Please send resumes to:

Brother Alonza Jones, Board Chairman  
Route 2, Box 128, Norlina, N.C. 27563  
% The Pulpit Committee

## MINISTER OF MUSIC VACANCY SPRING GREEN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH PO Box 924 Warrenton, NC 27589 Rev. Dennis G. Lindsay, Pastor

The Spring Green Missionary Baptist Church seeks a Minister of Music to provide musical direction and accompaniment for 4 choirs in the church. This person will work closely with the Pastor to provide spiritual leadership in the ministry of Jesus Christ through music, i.e. hymns, spiritual songs, and praise and worship music that glorifies God.

We are accepting resumes from candidates with the following qualifications:

1. Born-again Christian, Spirit-filled, and divinely gifted in music ministry.
2. Willingness to spiritually align the music ministry with Pastoral vision.
3. Able to play the piano, keyboard and/or organ; able to read music and versatile.
4. Able to prepare choirs for Sunday morning worship services and other services.
5. Able to teach, as well as direct choirs, with humility and love.
6. Able to rehearse with all choirs on schedule, and available for all Sunday services
7. Able to accompany Pastor and choirs to other services as required (or ensure qualified substitute is available).
8. Able to select appropriate hymns and songs for worship service.

Please submit resumes to the address above. Any inquiries, please contact Pastor Lindsay at (919) 361-3003.

# JOB OPPORTUNITIES

## POSITION:

Interim Pastor to provide pastoral leadership and duties to a congregation of 400 active members located in the North Philadelphia area of the city.

## ORGANIZATION:

Miller Memorial Baptist Church  
1518 North 22nd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19121

## DESCRIPTION

The Miller Memorial Baptist Church is currently seeking an individual to perform in the capacity of INTERIM PASTOR. This position is not intended or expected to lead to the role of permanent pastor. This role requires you to focus on the pastoral task in the congregation during the interim period to help free the leaders of the congregation to focus on seeking a new pastor. You will provide leadership and stability in a positive manner during this transitional period of our church. The ability to settle issues and migrate the congregation from the former pastor to the new pastor, is critical. You will be working closely with the chairpersons of the Deacon Board and Trustee Board when addressing issues that effect the congregation at large. While the duration of this position is unknown as this time, you must be available for any period from two months to two years if needed.

## Major Duties and Responsibilities:

- Plan and lead worship that is sensitive to the needs of the congregation
- Attend to the spiritual development of the congregation
- Provide administrative leadership to the congregation, secretarial, and pulpit staff
- Counsel members having personal, family and/or work related problems
- Support and/or lead religious programs for children, youth and adults
- Develop and instruct weekly bible study classes
- Actively and visibly support the church's financial program
- Directly involve the congregation in the planning and leadership of existing church programs and ministries
- Meet regularly with the chairpersons of the Deacon, Deaconess and Trustee Boards for planning and direction
- Work closely with the Superintendent of the Sunday School
- Visit the sick, shut in and bereaved in the hospital and at home
- Preside at funerals and weddings
- Support the world mission of the church
- Participate in local community activities, issues and problems
- Present social issues before members

## QUALIFICATIONS - EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

- Bachelors Degree in Divinity, Masters of Divinity Degree preferable
- Ordained for a minimum of five years
- Five years experience as a pastor or assistant pastor of a Baptist Church
- Experience in working as an interim pastor is a plus.

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

For immediate consideration, please send a cover letter and your resume to the following address:

Miller Memorial Baptist Church  
Attention: Deacon David Pridgen  
1518 North 22nd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19121

## POSITION DESCRIPTION North Carolina Council of Churches COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATE

### Job responsibilities

Develop and implement a communications plan including at least the following:

#### Print media

- Write, edit, and produce Church Council Bulletin
- Write, edit, and produce regular information piece for "Interested Persons"
- Produce quarterly one-page information piece for distribution by judicatories
- Prepare and distribute press releases to secular and religious press
- Coordinate production of other printed resources

#### Electronic communications

- Design and maintain web site
- Develop electronic versions of CCB and Raleigh Report, including e-mail summaries
- Propose other uses of electronic communications technology

Develop and staff the Communications Committee

### Qualifications

- Compatible with Council's mission of ecumenism and social justice
- Member of a faith community affiliated with the NC Council of Churches (preferred)
- Four-year communications degree (preferred)
- Two years work experience (preferred)
- Excellent computer skills in MS Office, especially Word, Publisher and FrontPage

### Other

- Responsible to Executive Director
- Attend meetings of House of Delegates and Executive Board
- Salary and benefits package: \$17,000-\$19,000 for half-time employment.
- Telecommuting from within the Triangle is preferred, with semimonthly in-office staff meetings.
- The North Carolina Council of Churches does not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, ethnicity, or sexual orientation.

To apply, send a resume and writing sample to George Reed, 1307 Glenwood Avenue, Suite 162, Raleigh, NC 27605.

Or e-mail to [nccofc@nccouncilofchurches.org](mailto:nccofc@nccouncilofchurches.org)

## Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church 414 Hadley Street, Wilson, NC 27893

Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church is seeking a licensed, ordained Missionary Baptist Pastor to serve as a spiritual leader, counselor and administrator. Ebenezer is a progressive church with a vision of growing in grace and walking with the Lord. We seek a Pastor with this same vision and passion, who is capable of leading our congregation to a higher realm.

All interested candidates please submit resumes and inquire to:

### Ebenezer Search Committee

Attention: Deacon Ronald Wright  
PO Box 351, Lucama, NC 27851 • 252-239-0097

(Applications will be mailed upon request)

### Qualifications:

- Ability to preach and teach
- Ability to relate to all groups
- Willing to deliver morning services on 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays
- Affiliated with the General Baptist State Convention
- Theological or Seminar Training
- Pastoral Experience of one year
- Willing to live in the Wilson County area

Pray for great blessings for this year!

# VACANT POSITIONS

## SAVANNAH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

6675 Tabor Church Road, Fayetteville, NC 28307

The pastor's search committee of Savannah Missionary Baptist Church is accepting letters of interest/resumes for the position of Senior Pastor from licensed and ordained Missionary Baptist Ministers. Apply only if you are sincerely interested and meet all the qualifications.

### QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Must be born again, filled with the holy spirit and called by God to preach the word.
2. Must be family oriented and possess a strong, Godly character.
3. Prefer college degree but will strongly consider a combination of education, training and experience.
4. Possess a strong knowledge of the Missionary Baptist doctrine, church policies and practices.
5. Be an effective leader, communicator, administrator and counselor with good interpersonal skills.
6. Must have skills required to work with all age groups with emphasis on spiritual growth and development.
7. Must have skills required for planning and implementing a vision for both spiritual and physical growth of the church.
8. Must work effectively with boards, auxiliaries and committees.

Interested persons meeting all of the above qualifications should submit the following information:

Letter of interest or resume

Copy of license and ordination certificate

Proof of educational degree, and additional theological studies transcript

The names, addresses, telephone numbers, email addresses of at least five references of which only two can be ministers.

The committee will provide each candidate with an information packet.

All correspondence must be addressed as follows:

Savannah Missionary Baptist Church

ATTN: Sister Ernestine Tucker, 6675 Tabor Church Road, Fayetteville, N.C.

## Oakey Grove Missionary Baptist Church of Clayton

is searching for a pastor. Congregational size is about 100 members with attendance of 50-65 depending upon the season. Worship service is held twice monthly. We are a small rural church located about 5 miles east of Clayton and about 6 miles west of Smithfield on Hwy. 70 business. Our congregation represents all ages and all backgrounds.

Our pastor must be knowledgeable and believe in the Baptist Doctrine. Must be a strong spiritual leader, administrator and teacher. One who will proclaim the Good News in a meaningful way that will help members learn to apply Biblical concepts to their everyday lives.

We are an autonomous Missionary Baptist Church that is affiliated with the Johnston District Missionary Baptist Association and its auxiliaries and the General Baptist State Convention and its auxiliaries.

Please include in your resume the following:

1. Name/Address/Day and Evening Phone Numbers
2. Age
3. Marital Status
4. Education/Schools Attended
5. Pastoral Experience (Where, When, Number of Years)
6. References

### Qualifications:

1. Ordained Missionary Baptist Minister
2. Possess Leadership, Administrative, and Counseling Skills
3. Willingness to follow Baptist Doctrines, Policies and Procedures
4. Able to lead and communicate with all age groups
5. Family oriented
6. Must possess good moral and ethical conduct

Interested persons should send resumes to:

Oakey Grove Baptist Church, Pulpit Search Committee

Deacon Loomis Hodges, Chairperson, PO Box 2435, Smithfield, NC 27577

## THE UNITED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

of Oxford, N.C., is seeking a pastor with the following qualifications:

Dedicated Christian leader

Ordained minister

Educated in the word of God

Can relate to all age groups

Skilled in administrative duties

Prefers a college and seminary graduate

Interested in building a church

Radius of 60 miles of church

Please send resumes to: ATTN: Deacon Rebecca Fuller, PO Box 2142, Oxford, NC 27565.

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Deacon Leon BeCoats, Chairman, Pulpit Committee

PO Box 1087, Fairmont, NC 28340

**POSITION:** Baptist Minister (Pastor)

**SALARY:** Negotiable (Commensurate with education and experience)

### QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Must be a spiritually ordained Missionary Baptist Minister
  - a. A Christian Pastor divinely called.
  - b. Must be a good role model of moral and ethical conduct.
2. Education
  - a. Graduate of University and or Divinity School.
  - b. Must have an excellent command of the English language and must be able to communicate well with all age groups.
3. Must have five years experience in the Baptist church.
4. Must be willing to follow the Baptist doctrines, policies and practices.
5. Must possess leadership skills in promoting and directing Christian education and traditional church programs.
6. Must be willing to serve with the General Baptist State Convention and the Lumber River Baptist Association, Inc.
7. Must live and serve in a small multiracial community.
8. Must have a philosophy of growth for the church and a vision for such.
9. Must be family oriented.

## FULL TIME DIRECTOR/RESS OF CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

Greater Mount Sinai Baptist Church

Dr. George Cook Jr.

### Qualifications

≠ Masters of Divinity or Masters of Religious Education or an equivalent degree/experience.

≠ Possess skills in coordinating and working with various age groups.

≠ Having had experience in this area would be a plus.

≠ Demonstrate exceptional skills in interpersonal relationships, team building, team playing and delegation.

### Appointment

≠ The Director/ress of Ministries shall be appointed by the Pastor upon recommendation by the Personnel Committee with final approval by the church.

### Responsible To

≠ The Pastor

### Status

≠ Full-Time (Forty-hour minimum schedule. Determined jointly between Director/ress and Pastor.)

### Responsible For

≠ Supervising and coordinating all activities pertaining to ministries.

### Salary

≠ Commensurate with qualifications, experience, achievement and commitment

≠ Salary range \$30,000 - \$35,000

≠ Fringe benefits will be offered.

### Responsibilities

1. To have general oversight of outreach ministries.
2. To provide training for ministries on a scheduled basis to include, but not limited to, such areas as: partnering with God in prayer, planning, communication skills, servant leadership, volunteer enlistment and recruiting.
3. Make available specific ministry aids to assist in gaining greater knowledge regarding the specific ministry.
4. Establish accountability structures for each ministry.
5. Establish a "Ministry Standard" which outlines measurable checkpoints.
6. Maintain a church-wide Calendar of Events to include all ministry events and church-wide activities.
7. Provide a vehicle for communicating various ministries of church to the membership and visitors.
8. To work with auxiliaries and groups to resolve any procedural and scheduling conflicts they may run into.
9. To provide monthly reports, in writing, to the Pastor that reflects implementation progress as well as upcoming plans.
10. Establish and maintain a time line to monitor the productivity of each auxiliary.
11. To perform other duties as assigned by the Pastor.

### To Apply

Qualified persons should submit the following items:

≠ A Cover letter stating your interest

≠ A resume or vitae

≠ Three letters of recommendation

≠ These materials will not be returned

### Deadline

All materials should be postmarked no later than Saturday, November, 17, 2001.

Candidates will be notified by Tuesday, January 15, 2002 concerning the status of the application.

### Mail all items to:

GMSBC Personnel Committee

Greater Mount Sinai Baptist Church

1243 West Boulevard

Charlotte, NC 28208

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 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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**GENERAL BAPTIST BOOKSTORE**

603 South Wilmington St., Raleigh, NC 27601

**NEW RELEASE** *A Fresh Look at the New Testament Deacon*  
 By John H. Walker, D. Min.

**NOW AVAILABLE!**

There is a critical problem concerning the Deacons and the local church, state and national conventions. The Deacons are assuming leadership roles without being equipped for the task of leadership. The relationship between the pastor and deacon is widening because there is a misunderstanding concerning the mission of the church, pastoral leadership and the role of the deacons.

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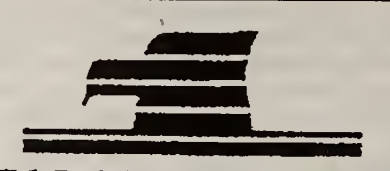
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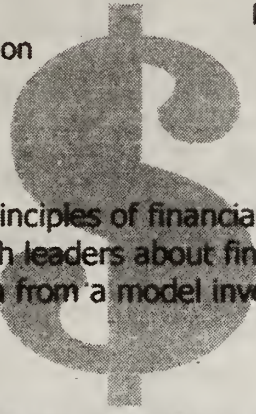
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He was born in Camden, N.J., to the late Dr. Charles H. Churn Sr., and Violet M. Churn and was licensed to preach at the age of 15. He is married to the former Shirley Brown of Washington, D.C., and

has two sons. Dr. Churn is currently the Senior Pastor of Mount Zion Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, N.C. Member of Novant Health Board of Trustees, Mount Zion Site Director and Adjunct Instructor, Shaw University Divinity School and Drew University Theology School. He is the Radio Host of God's Trombone WPOL. He has preached across the United States, Great Britain and India.

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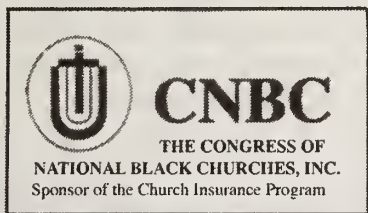
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Please send your Representation, (\$300.00) and special STATE MISSIONS contributions, (\$500.00 or more) to Baptist Headquarters, c/o Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer, 603 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, North Carolina 27601-2338, 800-639-GBSC, alogan@gbsc.org.

As you know each year we depend on your

stewardship support of our Annual Sessions. We need the additional stewardship contributions that are reported each May and October to meet our obligations. We missed seeing and hearing from several of you May 2001.

**GBSC Fiscal Year Ends August 31, 2001**

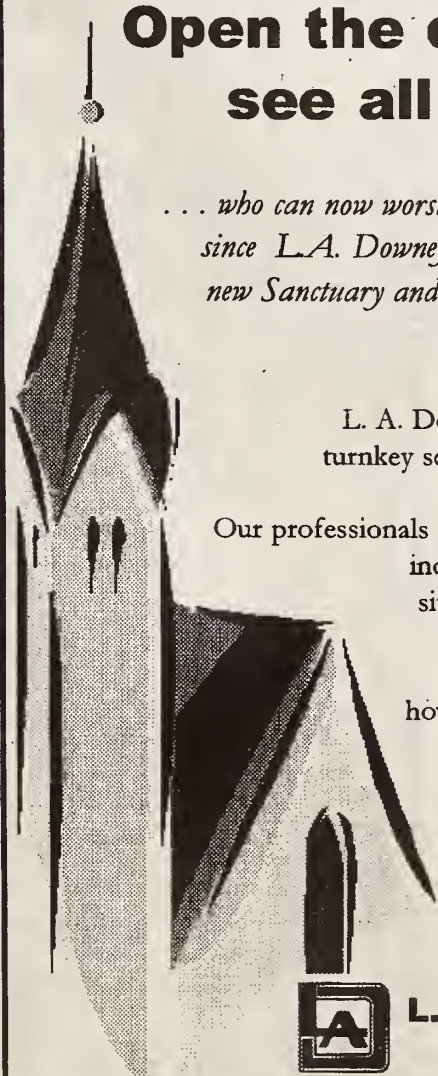
Please send your checks for the MINISTRY and the WORK. Call me I will be more than happy to visit your Association or church to receive your contributions (800-639-GBSC).

We have mailed information to you about what the GBSC, Inc.'s VISION is for the NEW MILLENNIUM. We need you help! Pray for the session of the GBSC, Inc., and PLEASE MAIL your STEWARDSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS TODAY.

James 4:2 says:  
"Yet you do not have because you do not ask."  
(NKJV).

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here is the steeple  
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see all the people**

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# THE MILLENNIUM STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN 3 Million Dollars in 30 Months VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We need volunteers statewide to help us with our Millennium Stewardship Campaign. Persons needed to make contacts, write grants, make telephone calls, do mailings and identify prospective givers. If you are interested and have skills in these areas please contact us at Baptist Headquarters, 603 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27601-2338, 919-821-7466, 800-639-GBSC, HYPERLINK "mailto:alogan@gbsc.org" alogan@gbsc.org; HYPERLINK "http://www.gbsc.org" www.gbsc.org. Please pray for the success of this campaign. Your participation will make a difference in this project.

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# Baptist Informer

Vol. 124, No. 8

Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc.  
Voice of 500,000 North Carolina Baptists

August 2001

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### STATEWIDE DEACONS/DEACONESSES/ TRUSTEES/HEALTH LEADERS CONFERENCE

Indian Wood Baptist Church, Windsor, N.C. • Aug. 16-17, 2001

### STATEWIDE DEACONS/DEACONESSES/ TRUSTEES/HEALTH LEADERS CONFERENCE

Emmanuel Baptist Church, Gastonia, N.C. • Sept. 27-28, 2001

### 2001 GBSC ANNUAL SESSION

### GBSC, Inc. Fiscal Year Ends Aug. 31, 2001

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# BAPTIST INFORMER

B2239

Volume 124, Number 9

Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C. Inc.  
Voice of 500,000 North Carolina Baptists

September 2001

## All Roads Lead to Asheville, N.C.

# 2001 GBSC ANNUAL SESSION

### October 28-November 1, 2001

By Dr. Archie D. Logan, Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer  
PASTORS • MODERATORS • MINISTERS • EVANGELISTS  
OFFICER MEMBERS & FRIENDS

Begin making your plans to join us in the Land of the Sky, beautiful, Asheville, North Carolina. The 134th Annual Session of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc., and our first Annual Session in this Millennium will convene at the historic Hill Street Baptist Church, 135 Hill Street, Asheville, North Carolina, 28801, Dr. Nilous Avery, Pastor, October 28-November 1, 2001.

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW! ASHEVILLE IS ONE OF THE NATION'S AND WORLD'S LEADING RESORT AREAS. OUR CONVENTION WILL MEET DURING THE PEAK TOURIST SEASON. WE HAVE AN OUTSTANDING RATE. BRING YOUR FAMILY INVITE YOUR FRIENDS. THIS SESSION WILL BE MEMORABLE.

Pastor Avery; GBSC First Vice President, Dr. John H. Grant; the Baptist Ministers of Asheville & vicinity; the Mud Creek and Waynesville Associations will host the

session. Members of the GBSC, Inc., from Western North Carolina often join us for sessions in the Piedmont and Eastern parts of the State. It is as far for them to travel as it is to Asheville. Let us make this convention one of our most successful! We have a great program planned:

Preaching and Teaching at its best.

Outreach Ministry Opportunities.

The President's Banquet.

Singing, Praise and Worship.

This session will be an outpouring of the Holy Spirit for such a time as this. The host committee is working to make our stay as comfortable as possible. They have special events and activities planned for you. Pastors who are interested in preaching in Asheville, October 28, 2001, please contact the host committee at Hill Street Baptist Church, 135 Hill Street, Asheville, NC, 28801, 828-254-4646.

Thank you for your prayers and support! Pray for the success of this Session!



**Dr. Nilous M. Avery**  
Co-chairman  
Host Pastor  
Hill Street Baptist Church  
135 Hill Street  
Asheville, N.C.



**Dr. John H. Grant,**  
Co-chairman  
1st Vice President,  
GBSC Mount Zion  
Missionary Baptist Church  
47 Eagle Street  
Asheville, N.C.

## Dr. J.C. Harris Makes Official Candidate Announcement To The General Baptist State Convention Inc., Of N.C.

Dr. J.C. Harris, a native of Louisburg, N.C., and Pastor of the First Baptist Church of Statesville, N.C., for the past 39 years, announces his candidacy for president of the General Baptist State Convention, Inc. of North Carolina, in the 2001 election.

After much encouragement from across the state, after much prayer and reflection for the future, my experience provides the tools to lead our convention in a progressive and identifying mission to carry out the mandate of our founding fathers.

I am pleased to have served our convention under the leadership of former presidents; the late Dr. John W. White, Statistician under W.B. Lewis; Dr. C.R. Edwards, as fourth Vice President; and Chairman of Personnel Committee; Dr. Joy J. Johnson, as First Vice President and Personnel Chairman; Dr. E.B. Turner, as Vice President at Large and I have served continuously on the Executive Committee and General Board under Presidents J.B. Humphrey, Clifford A. Jones and John Fuller. I was a Counselor for the Youth Bible Camp when it was held at Shaw University and was Director of the Youth Bible Camp when it was held at Shaw University and was Director of the Youth Bible Camp after it moved to the J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly.

I bring a wide experience and a com-

mitment to the General Baptist State Convention, Inc. of N.C., to update the meaning and mission of the Convention objectives; and to be inclusive of all auxiliaries and objectives.

On Sept. 20, 2001, at noon, we are planning an organizational and team meeting/luncheon. The meeting will be held at The First Baptist Church in Statesville, N.C. You are invited to join us for this session. We will have a National speaker for the occasion.

I solicit your support and prayer. I value your ideas and input.

**Jordan Clifton Harris Jr.**  
840 Armstrong Street  
Statesville, N.C. 28677  
Church: (704) 873-1732  
Fax: (704) 871-2101  
Residence: (704) 872-6880

#### Background Information:

A native of Louisburg, N.C., the sixth child of a family of 12 children of the late Jordan C. and Elizabeth Harris Sr.

#### Educational Background:

A graduate of Riverside High School in Louisburg, N.C., (now Louisburg High School). Received the A.B. degree in History and Social Studies from Shaw University, Raleigh, N.C.; the Master of Divinity degree from Shaw University Divinity School, Raleigh, N.C. Further studies at A&T State University, Greensboro,

N.C.; received a Certificate in Pastoral Care from North Carolina Baptist Hospital and The Bowman Gray School of Medicine in Winston-Salem, N.C., in Pastoral Clinical Care; received the Honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from Shaw University Divinity School in 1975 for outstanding work and community participation. Special training in Community Development, Grief Therapy and Family Counseling.

#### Church and Religious Affiliations:

Present-Pastor of The First Baptist Church, Inc. of Statesville, N.C.; served for the past 39 years.

Former Churches Served: Symona Grove Baptist Church of Oxford, N.C. (first pastorate at age 20); two Sunday's per month. Social Union Baptist Church, Nash County, N.C.; St. John Baptist Church, Aberdeen, N.C.; First Baptist Church, Wadesboro, N.C.; New Shepherd Baptist Church of Cooleemee, North Carolina (held after worship services).

Presently a member of the North Carolina Advisory Committee to the Director of Prison on Religion; Chairman of the Task Force on Minority Affairs of North Carolina Chaplain Services; Clinical Chaplain II of the North Carolina Department of Corrections; Statistician of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina; member of the Political Action Committee of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina; member of the Screening



**Dr. J.C. Harris**  
Candidate for GBSC President

Committee of the North Carolina Chaplaincy Service; presently, Executive Secretary of the Rowan Baptist Association of North Carolina; member of the Board of Directors for the National Baptist Convention, appointed by Dr. William J. Shaw.

Served as part-time counselor and director of Testing at Mitchell Community College, Statesville, N.C. Served as Director of the Youth Bible Camp of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign State Convention of North Carolina for 27 years. Served as moderator of the Rowan Baptist Association for five years. Instructor of Teachers for the Rowan Sunday School Convention for 10 years.

Served as Statistician of the General Baptist State Convention, Inc. of North Carolina under the J.W. White administrator. Fourth Vice President of the same Con (Continued on next page)

# From The Desk of the Executive Secretary-Treasurer Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Ed.D.

## Bennett W. Smith, Former President of the Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc. Passes

By Archie D. Logan, Jr.,  
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

The Reverend Dr. Bennett W. Smith, former President of the Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc. and Pastor of the St. John Baptist Church of Buffalo, New York, was called home on Tuesday, August 7, 2001, after a long illness. Dr. Smith is perhaps best known nationally for his recorded sermon, "Watch Them Dogs" and served as Executive Producer for several recording projects. In addition he authored several books and articles. For me Dr. Smith was a mentor and friend. I met him many years ago at the Progressive National Baptist Convention and I was privileged to serve as editor of the PNBC, Inc., News Journal, The Baptist Progress, during his tenure as President.

The Home-going Celebration was held on Wednesday, August 15, 2001, at 12 Noon. Many pastors, religious leaders and civic personalities attended the funeral. Mayor Anthony M. Masiello, of Buffalo, New York, said Smith, "... had vision and

backed it up with performance and substance. . . When faith-based initiatives were unheard of in the '70s, he was a pioneer in building housing and starting schools in the African-American community. "He was a wonderful, caring civil and spiritual leader whose savvy, intelligence and caring attitude will be sorely missed."

He served for nearly 30 years as Senior Pastor of the historic St. John Baptist Church, Goodell Street and Michigan Avenues, in Buffalo. He also was a nationally prominent preacher and evangelist who served for four years as president of the Progressive National Baptist Convention. The primarily African-American denomination has approximately 2.5 million members in more than 2,000 churches in the United States and abroad.

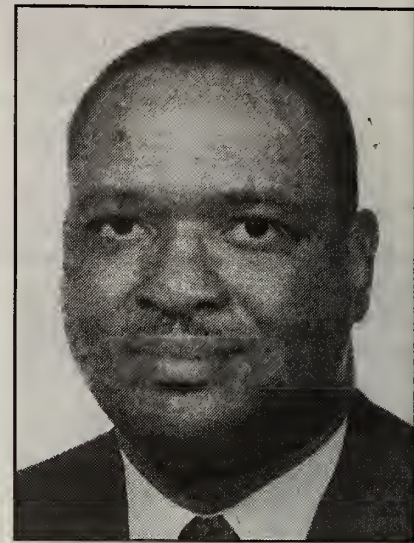
Deputy Assembly Speaker Arthur O. Eve, D-Buffero, New York, said Smith's "vision, his leadership, his hard work, his sense of community and deep spiritual strength will leave a legacy that will manifest itself for generations in the lives of

thousands upon thousands."

Bennett W. Smith was a respected advocate for racial justice, he marched with the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. He accompanied King on the celebrated march from Selma to Montgomery in Alabama and worked closely with another King ally, the Rev. Dr. Jesse L. Jackson, who became a lifelong friend. Smith once described the day he met King as "second only to the day when I met Jesus."

Frank B. Messiah, president of the Buffalo Chapter of the NAACP, said Smith was a dynamic individual with the ability "to help people understand the relationship between the religious and the secular. He was able to reach into the Bible and show how it related to the activities that take place in our daily lives."

A preacher/pastor with both vision and the ability to make dreams come true, Dr. Smith used his church as a base for developing housing in his neighborhood and providing Christian education for African-American children. He oversaw the construction of the \$4.6 million McCarley Gardens, a 150-unit housing development for low-income families that was completed in 1979. Three years later, he built the \$6.7 million St. John Tower, a nine-story, 150-unit apartment building for the elderly. He also established St. John Christian Academy at the church in 1993 and started the St. John Federal Credit Union. His latest



Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr.

venture, the \$4 million Rev. Dr. Bennett W. Smith Sr. Family Life Center, is set for completion this summer. It will feature a gymnasium and medical offices and offer wellness counseling, educational classes, and assistance for people in troubled marriages and adolescents in need of direction.

Smith was recipient of an Honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree from American Baptist Seminary of the West in Berkeley, CA., an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from Medaille College, and an Honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree from Cincinnati Baptist Theological Seminary. Other honors included the Medgar Evers Civil Rights Award from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in 1982. The colorful personality and preaching power of Dr. Smith will be missed.

## Harris ...(continued from page 1)

vention under C.R. Edwards administration. First Vice President of the General Baptist State Convention under the J.J. Johnson administration, Vice President at Large of the General Baptist State Convention. Also served as chairman of the General Board, member of the Executive Committee, served as General Baptist State Convention Personnel Committee Chairman, General Baptist State Convention Budget Coordinator and Coordinator of Evangelism Committee.

Served as Chairman of the Committee on the Baptist Assembly, Trustee of Shaw University Divinity School; Chairman of the Committee on Instruction, Past Chairman of the Pastors' Conference of Shaw University Divinity School. Past President of the Shaw Theological Alumni Association.

### Civic and Community Affiliations:

- 1964-Supervised 24 VISTA Volunteers in Iredell County
- 1964-Drew up and submitted a Petition to the Mayor and City County for the establishment of the Statesville Housing Authority and Redevelopment Committee.

- 1965-Organized and wrote the Proposal for the Program Development Grant for the Anti-Poverty Program for Iredell County; served as Board Chairman and Chairman of the Personnel Committee.

- Secretary of the SMCD Memorial Foundation (which gives Scholarships and Grants to students of need).

- Served as a member of the Board of Directors of Legal Services of North Carolina; served as Vice-Chairman of the Board and member of the Finance Committee.

- Served as President of the Statesville Branch of the NAACP; Chairman of the Education, Labor and Industry Committee; paying on a Life Membership.

- Appointed by Gov. James B. Hunt as a member of the Citizens Advisory Committee to the Governor.

- Appointed Citizen Advisory Committee to the Director of Prisons. Serving as Clinical Chaplain II, Piedmont Correction Center, Salisbury, N.C.

### Family:

Married to the former Leola N. Thompson of Lumberton, N.C., and the father of two daughters and three grandsons.

## Reverend Dr. Harold James Cobb Sr. Succumbs

By Archie D. Logan, Jr.,  
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

The Reverend Dr. Harold James Cobb, Sr., Durham, NC., died Monday, August 6, 2001. He was a graduate of Shaw University, Raleigh, NC with dual degrees of Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Divinity. He earned a Master of Divinity Degree from Southeastern Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, NC; a Master of Education from North Carolina Central University, Durham, NC; and an Educational Specialist Degree from East Carolina University, Greenville, NC.

Dr. Cobb was pastor of First Baptist Church in Mebane, NC from 1949 to 1953. He also held pastorates at First Baptist Church in Burlington (1953-1972); Mount Bethel Baptist Church in Roxboro (1960-1990); and West Durham Baptist Church (1972-1993). He founded First United Antioch Baptist Church in 1993 as part of his vision that a church should serve the community. In addition to traditional worship services, the Church also provided

continuing adult education through a partnership with Shaw University as well as a women's health service.

He worked as a Assistant Principal with the Durham Public Schools. He was a member of Alpha Psi Alpha Fraternity. Funeral services were held at noon Saturday, August 11, 2001 at First United Antioch Baptist Church, Durham, NC. Surviving are his wife of 51 years, Armadia Goodson Cobb; son, Reverend Harold J. Cobb, Jr., (Sheliah); and granddaughter, Caryn of Norfolk, VA and son, Tim Cobb; and grandsons, Avery and TJ of Atlanta, GA.

Dr. Harold James Cobb, Sr., was a friend of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc., he supported the missions and ministry throughout his life. Dr. Cobb loved Shaw University and was a faithful alumni and graduate. We will cherish his memory and legacy.

Those interested in giving MEMORIAL GIFTS, please make contributions to the First United Antioch Baptist Church, 1415 Holloway Street, Durham, NC, 27704.

## The Baptist Informer

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Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Editor

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Ms. Carol J. Smith, Managing Editor

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THEME: "By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness..." (II Corinthians 6:7)

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# From The Desk of Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President

## From the Desk of Vice President at Large

### Faith, Health and Healing

By Charles T. Bullock

As Christians, we should come to grips with the relationship between religion and health or to put it another way, the relationship between faith and healing. We, the General Baptist State Convention, are a people of faith with a ministry of Health and Human Services. We know that health and healing cannot be separated from our faith.

The ministry of Jesus appeared to have been to a large extent a healing ministry. For in the pages of the gospel record, it is recorded that the blind, the lame, the deformed, all found relief and were released from their physical ailments because they exercised faith in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

When John sent his disciples to ask Jesus who he really was, Jesus replied, "Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear,

and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them." In Matthew 9:22, we find these words "But Jesus turned him about, and when he saw her, he said, daughter, be of Good comfort; thy faith hath made thee whole. And the woman was made whole from that hour." This and other passages of scripture reveal that Jesus connects the healing accomplished with "faith." From this we see that Jesus was and is the bringer of new life and health to the human soul. Jesus did and still ministers to our bodies and to our souls.

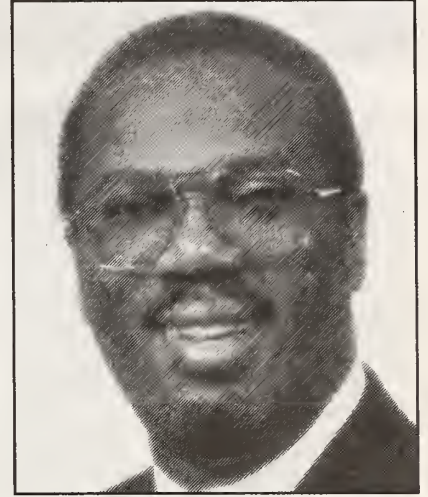
I believe that our faith or the lack of it makes a difference in the healing process. As a people of faith we are challenged to believe in a power greater than ourselves on which we could depend for help and health and strength; if we would place ourselves in the hands of a God who cares and forgives; if as a people of faith we would live by the law of love and self-giving and trust rather than by the chaos of fear, self-



Dr. Charles T. Bullock

ishness and hate. This, I believe, will be for a source of health and healing.

May we trust God more faithfully and expectantly for health and healing, and freely place ourselves in the hands of Him who made us. As a people of faith, we are



Dr. John D. Fuller Sr.

challenged to believe and depend more strongly on God's power for help, health and healing.

God desires health and prosperity for us, for we find in The Third Epistle of John, verse two; these words "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thou soul prospereth" (KJV).

## Church Administration and Leadership

By Rev. Dennis Leach, BS. M., Div.  
Assistant to the President and  
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

"Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock" (I Peter 5:2,3 KJV).

For the most part in the church its almost a given, that leadership is seen as a divine assignment from the chief shepherd especially when it comes to pastoral leadership (Jer. 3:15) That being the case, one can unfairly or inappropriately assume that those so placed by God automatically possess all the gifts and talents necessary for the appointment. The ability to lead and administer effectively in a church is indeed a gift within the body of Christ for its benefit (I Cor. 12:4-6). The opportunity to exercise a particular gift or talent helps to sharpen your abilities. My daughter Denise who is a sophomore at Fayetteville State University was looking for employment last semester, but was not having any success. In frustration she asked me, "Dad everybody wants you to have experience, but how do you get it if they won't hire you?" All I could tell her was to keep on trying, because I did not have the answer to that question.

There are two schools of thought when it comes to leadership development. Some adhere to the train of thought that leaders are born, while others say they are made. A colleague of mine, the Rev. Ofu Menjay says that the church is one of the few institutions that create its own leaders. In my many travels I have often sat in a congregation that was doing "major ministry" and wondered how the pastor accomplished it. For me the term "major ministry" is not to be interpreted as numbers alone, but in terms of outreach, and in-reach. Structured programmatic ministries that engages, and touches the lives of a corporate body of believers who then combine their talents and gifts in kingdom building. I've seen big building, with a lot of people that had virtually no effect on the surrounding community beyond its walls. From my

vantage point I have concluded that those pastors had an inclusive, proactive and progressive theology that was life affirming.

**Leadership and Administration:** Leadership very simply put, is the process of influencing the actions and behavior of persons and/or organizations through complex interactions towards goal achievement. Leadership does not always reside in the person of the leader alone. It involves accomplishing goals through persons. In a church setting leaders cannot function without the involvement of members. A relationship must be established between the leader and the members through an ongoing communication process resulting in a common understanding and commitment as to the goal sought and the actions required for its achievement. Through this interaction, members are influenced to increase their involvement and support toward achieving the desired ministry goals.

**Administration:** Is a process through which an organization defines its purpose and moves in a coherent and comprehensive manner to plan and implement action through maximizing the utilization of its personnel and resources in achieving its purpose. Administration, so defined, becomes a means to an end. The word administration is derived from the Latin word "Administrate" meaning to serve. Administration does not exist for its own sake, but as a means to achieve the purpose of the institution it serves. Church administration therefore exists to serve the church through providing structures, and experiences through which the community of faith can accomplish its basic mission.

**Modes of ministry:** Several functional modes of ministry are required for the church to fulfill its purpose. These include worship, preaching, education, evangelism, community outreach, leadership, administration and pastoral care and counseling. The church as an organism derives its mission and purpose from at least six factors: Scripture, theological and doctrinal concepts of the church, tradition, the needs of the world and contemporary society, the needs of the local community, and the presence and direction of the Holy Spirit. From these elements the over-

all, ongoing theological mission purpose of the church is determined, including the church's theological stance in the world and its basic goals and objectives.

**Leadership, administration, and pastoral care and counseling:** Each have distinct goals, but each must be compatible with the church's purpose to increase the love of God and neighbor. Pastoral care and counseling focuses on caring for human needs, usually on an individual basis. Administration, however, focuses on meeting the corporate needs of the community of faith through collective activities. The goal of leadership is to influence the behavior both of individual and the institution.

**Key Variables:** Leadership involves the interaction of complex variables that will determine its effectiveness. Douglas McGregor identifies four key variables of leadership. (1) The characteristics of the leader. These include such qualities as skills possessed, previous experience in similar situations, skill in communicating and relating to persons, and the personal feelings of the leader about self confidence, anxiety, acceptance and hostility. (2) The characteristics of followers or members. These include such factors as their skills related to the task, depth of commitment to the goals, motivation to be personally involved, maturity in assuming responsibilities, relationship to one another, and record of performance. (3) The characteristics of the organization or group. These factors refer to the groups past history, its expectations, style of operation, performance under pressure, the style of leadership to which it is accustomed, how well members work together, and the interpersonal dynamics of group members. (4) The environmental setting including the social, economic, cultural, and political milieu. Such factors as community history, economy situation, the political atmosphere, and accepted mores all affect organizational and group behavior. Leaders must be aware of these variables and their interaction as they determine what leader behavior will most effectively move a given group towards its particular goals.

**Leadership Styles:** The behavior of the

leader is the key factor in determining the response of a group. Good leadership seeks to stimulate group members to become involved in assuming leadership responsibilities themselves toward goal achievement. This style of leadership will seek distribution and sharing of power for motivational reasons. Persons have a stronger feeling of commitment to carry out decisions, which they had a part in making. Leadership styles vary greatly. Renis Likert, developed a four point spectrum of leader behavior ranging from "exploitative authoritative" on one end to "participating group involvement" on the other end. His research indicates that the latter is measurably more effective in achieving the goals of the groups, but requires a highly skilled leader and ongoing training for followers in assuming new responsibilities. Another analysis of leadership styles is to measure a leader's degree of concern for task achievement and concern for the needs of persons involved. Leadership does require a conscience choice as to how authority is to be used, and to the importance given to the needs of persons in the process of task achievement. These decisions must be made in the light of the four key variables stated earlier. No single leadership style is universally appropriate because of the differences in leaders, members and situations.

**Pastoral Theology of Leadership:** Regardless of the style of leadership used, a biblical and theological understanding of leadership is necessary for effective functioning within the body of Christ. The model of Christ is one of a self-emptying servant (Phil. 2:5-8) whose authority comes from example rather than from coercion or direct assertion of title (Mt. 21:23-27). In church leadership, authority comes from the faithful carrying out of one's call, utilizing gifts, which were given by God and confirmed by the community of faith. As such, leadership exists for the sake of the community rather than for the glorification of the leader. Effective leaders are therefore listening proclaimers, wounded healers and servant rulers. Amen.

# Women's Page Highlights

## "O Praise The Lord"

By Executive Secretary-Treasurer  
Brodie

*O Praise the Lord, all ye nations:  
Praise him all ye people.  
For his merciful kindness is great toward us:  
And the truth of the Lord endureth for ever.  
Praise ye the Lord. — Psalm 117*

During the 117th Annual Session, masses of people (Seniors, Young Adults, Youth) gathered from cities/towns, counties and districts to praise the Lord for his merciful kindness toward them as individuals and as the conventional body. They seemed to agree with the psalmist that the Lord's truth endureth forever.

In early morning prayer services, voices in testimonies, prayers, and songs lifted high the name of Jesus. Class sessions reminded them that Jesus is the Cause and Source for mission and that He is the Caller and Sender of those who serve through missions-in-action. Business sessions reminded that the business of the church, and the missionary organizations, is not their business but the Lord's business, not what they want, but what Jesus, the Head of His Body wants. Worship sessions in terms of singing, praying, reading the Scripture, preaching, became channels through which

God's Holy Spirit manifested Himself. Many worshippers, filled with the Holy Spirit, responded to the Lord of Truth, Grace and Mercy, Forgiveness, Wisdom, Peace, Joy, Life, Light, Resurrection, LOVE.

What A Mighty God we serve! Let us, all people from across North Carolina and from other states and counties, praise the Lord continuously through another missions and fiscal year, and act upon His truth (His Word) which endures forever! For His Truth/His Word has kept this conventional ministry through 117 years. Praise the Lord!

### REMINDERS

1. The annual **Family Missions Conference** will convene with the New Ahoskie Baptist Church in Ahoskie, on Saturday, Sept. 22, 2001, beginning at 9 a.m. (See Directions on this page).

2. Persons who completed the **Family Altar Study** during August, and submitted the appropriate forms by the deadline, and attended the Family Missions Conference, receive the specified certificate there. **Note:** In Activity 1, Children's Activity Section, on page 29, in the Family Altar Study Booklet, an error was made. The word *Father* should have been used rather than the word

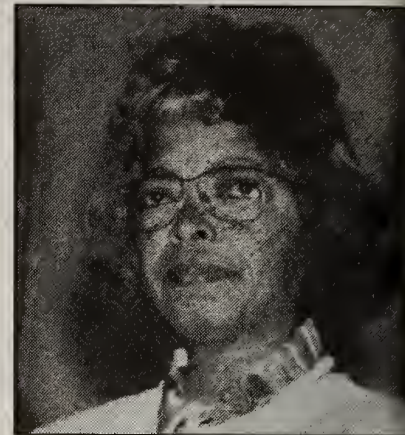
*Mother*, according to the given scripture.

3. The Woman's Convention thanks God and all persons and missionary organizations for contributions sent during the immediate past fiscal year. **The new fiscal year begins this month and ends in August 2002. The proposed budget for this year will be near \$801,000.00, which will be distributed among the objectives: Foreign Missions, State Missions, Shaw University, Shaw Divinity School, Central Children's Home and Baptist Assembly. Checks and money orders for the Woman's Convention should be made payable to the Woman's Baptist State Convention or Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention and sent to:**

**Woman's Baptist State Convention  
PO Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602.**

The work continues to grow; therefore more prayers, attendance, services and sacrificial financial giving are needed.

4. On November 3, 2001, the **Youth Evangelism Conference** meets in Fayetteville at Cumberland County Memorial Auditorium. The hosts are Lower and Upper Sampson County Unions, Mrs. Annie Matthews and Mrs. Marion Phillips, respective presidents.



Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie  
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

### WBH&FMC Family Missions Conference

September 22, 2001

Directions to New Ahoskie Baptist Church

Hayes Street and Catherine Creek Road, Ahoskie, N.C.

Telephone (252) 332-4367

#### 1. From Asheville, Durham, Raleigh:

Take I-40 east to Highway 64 east to Atlantic Avenue in Rocky Mount. On the down ramp turn right onto Highway 97 to Highway 258; turn left onto Highway 561 between Scotland Neck and Rich Square. Go eastward on Highway 561 to Ahoskie. Cross Highway 13 and go across the railroad tracks. Go three streets to Rhue Street and then one block to Hayes Street.

#### 2. From Charlotte:

**Option #1: Via I-85/I-40/Highway 64**  
Take I-85 north to I-40 east to Highway 64 east to Atlantic Avenue in Rocky Mount. On the down ramp turn right onto Highway 97 to Highway 258; turn left onto Highway 561 between Scotland Neck and Rich Square. Go eastward on Highway 561 to Ahoskie. Cross Highway 13 and go across the railroad tracks. Go three streets to Rhue Street and then one block to Hayes Street.

**Option #2: Via I-85/Highway 158**  
Take I-85 north to 158 to 308 East to Highway 561. Take 561 to Ahoskie. Cross Highway 13 and go across the railroad tracks. Go three streets to Rhue Street and then one block to Hayes Street.

#### 3. From Fayetteville:

Take I-95 north to exit 64 in Rocky Mount. Go to Atlantic Avenue exit and take the same route as in #1.

#### 4. From Wilmington:

**Option #1: Via Highway 17:** Take Highway 17 north to Highway 13 north to Williamston. Continue on to Ahoskie and go through shopping centers. Then turn right at Lowes Grocery store on to Catherine Creek Road. Go north to Hayes Street.

**Option #2: Via Highway 11:** Take Highway 11 north to Highway 561 in Ahoskie. Turn right on Highway 561 and travel the same as in #1.

#### 5. From Elizabeth City:

Take Highway 158 west to Highway 1 south to Ahoskie. Make a left turn onto Hayes Street. Go east to the church.

### HOTELS:

1. **The Ahoskie Inn** (Old Ramada) Highway 561 — (252) 352-4165

2. **Tomahawk Motel**, Highway 13 — (252) 332-3194

3. **Holiday Inn**, Williamston (approx. 3 miles away on Highways 64/17)

## The WBH&FMC Youth Bible Camp Ministry - 2001

By Director Phylisa F. Kelly

The Camp Ministry was from June 10-30, 2001, Sundays through Fridays at the J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly in Laurel Hill, N.C.

Camp attendance was up by one camper this year above last year, a three-week total of 298.

There were 153 campers attending for the first time, 32 for the second, 43 for the third, 16 for the fourth, 14 for the fifth, five for the sixth, one for the seventh and one for eight years; the other 33 were not identified.

Campers came from 37 counties across North Carolina. Each week this year, about 98 percent of the campers checked in and were making acquaintances by 3:30 p.m. on Sunday. A wholesome snack is served at 5 o'clock in the cafeteria. The welcome program is held immediately following the snack in the cafeteria.

The *Welcome* by the Camp Director, *Staff Introductions*, *Rules* and *Schedules* are shared, and the lifeguard reviews and discusses rules at the pool. (Basically no campers can go into the pool without at least two counselors present, along with the lifeguard).

The staff meets on Sunday after campers are settled in their cabins, and at other times as needed. It is the responsibility of each staff person to pray with another staff member upon his or her arrival on the grounds. (Our motto is PRAY, PRAYER and PRAYING). The Director gives a reminder of duties and responsibilities. The following assignments are given or chosen: speakers for the Closing Session, Banquet and Worship Service; program persons for the Banquet, Worship Service, Talent Show, Fashion Show, Vespers, Choir and the Me-

morial Service. The daily schedule begins with wake-up-get-up-clean-up, followed by grace, breakfast, devotion, questions, announcements, class assignment (Monday) and class period. Bible study classes are one hour and forty-five minutes. Students reassemble, make class reports, and report class offering, recite memory verse, have music, give cabin reports, have lunch, choir organizations, arts and crafts, swim time, recreation (everyone on Monday and Tuesday) and Vesper. Special Bible studies are given each week by one of the ministers.

**Weekly Specialties:** On **Mondays**, the adult Counselors did a very solemn Memorial Service remembering namely, Mrs. Omega F. Johnson and others who shared and cared so dearly for our Camp Ministry.

On **Wednesdays**, Counselors and campers participated in a Banquet and a Talent and Fashion Show. The banquet speakers were the Rev. Eric Williams, pastor, New Saint Paul, Eden; Mrs. Colene Stanley, Executive Board Chairperson, Lake Waccamaw; Mr. Henry Keith, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem. On **Thursdays**, the Junior Counselors with Ms. Barbara Kelly presented a mini concert as a part of the worship services. The worship messages were given by Dr. Marcus Ingram, pastor of New Hope, Apex; Rev. Thomas McCullers, pastor of First Baptist; Fuquay-Varina; Rev. Norman T. Davis, pastor, Bazzell Creek, Fuquay-Varina. All of the mentioned pastors served as Counselors. The speakers for Friday's closing services were Youth President/Counselor, Miss Colene Kelly; a young camper, Mr. Marcus Bass of Clinton and Counselor Stephen Thompson.

**Thursday** is a very special day (the day before going home). All campers and staff

wear their tee-shirts. (Often campers sign each other's tee shirt, and they become a part of their keepsakes). The cabins are checked in the mornings daily for cleanliness and male and female cabins with the highest scores are recognized and served as an ice cream treat. The Camp Director conducts the "Bible Bowl" with the assistance of the Senior and Junior Counselors. Cabins are placed in four groups of girls and boys. The questions are taken from the various scriptures the youth studied during the week and a bonus question about the officers of the convention. The winning group gets the ice cream treats.

Following the worship service watermelon is served at the pool.

**Fridays**, this is the day to go home. After the wake-up-get-up-clean-up, campers go to breakfast and then to the chapel for the closing ceremony. Appointed campers and Junior Counselors conduct devotion. After the closing message, Counselors/Junior Counselors/Teachers give out their certificates. Time is allotted for campers to give comments or concerns. The Camp Director acknowledges the Outstanding Campers and those who were recommended as outstanding campers. (The Outstanding Camper receives a certificate on Wednesday of the Convention's Annual Session).

Youth came from the following 37 counties:

Alexander, Anson, Bladen, Brunswick, Cabarrus, Cleveland, Columbus, Cumberland, Duplin, Durham, Forsyth, Franklin, Gaston, Granville, Guilford, Halifax, Hamett, Hoke, Iredell, Johnston, Mecklenburg, Nash, New Hanover, Northampton, Orange, Pender, Per-

(More on next page)

# More Women's Highlights

## Newly Elected President Women's Auxiliary of High Point Educational and Missionary Baptist Association, Inc.

During the 88th Session of the Women's Auxiliary of the High Point Educational and Missionary Baptist Association, Inc., Sis. Nancy Lowe Wallington Perry was elected President. She will be assuming a leadership position that several notable women of God have paved the way. This illustrious group includes Sis. Annie M. Lewis, Sis. Mary Crank, and Sis. Shirley Carrington. All of these forerunners have impacted Sis. Nancy's life and for their expertise we are thankful.

Sis. Perry was born the 8th of nine children in Guilford County and attended Oak Springs Baptist Church during her early years. Her father and mother, the late Dea. Ashby Lowe and Mother Judy Lowe, were very active in the church and raised their children in a Christian home.

Sis. Perry attended Laughlin High

School where she was the valedictorian of her graduating class. From there she attended Bennett College where she majored in Education and graduated Summa Cum Laude. She has also done some graduate work at N.C. A&T State University, UNCG and Wake Forest University.

Upon completing her education Sis. Perry has taught public school in the State of N.C. for 32 years before retiring in 1998. She has taught several subjects in the middle and high school levels including math, science, vocational exploration, food and nutrition, clothing and textiles, interior design, and family life skills. She has also coached the cheerleaders and served as faculty advisor for Future Homemakers of America and the gospel choir.

Sis. Perry is also concerned about her community. She has held a multitude of

leadership positions in the following organizations including Best Friends of Rockingham County, the 4H Club, Christian Women's Club of Rockingham County, United Way of Rockingham Co., Community Heritage Action Project, Rockingham Community College Concert Lecture Series and the Beauty of Madison order of Eastern Star # 383.

When Sis. Perry married the late Dea. John W. Wallington, she moved to Stoneville, NC, where she joined him in service for the Lord at Sharon Baptist Church. She has served in several ministries including Missionary Circle, Senior Choir, Finance Budget Committee, Finance Sec., Executive Board Member, Deaconess, Usher, Sunday School Teacher, and Bible Study Leader. Her favorite scripture is Psalms 121:1 "I will lift up mine eyes to the Hills from which cometh my help. All



Sister Nancy Lowe Wallington

of my help cometh from the Lord. The one who made heaven and earth.

She is currently married to Dea. Lee S. Perry Sr. and she has one daughter, Denise Wallington.

### WOMAN'S BAPTIST HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONARY CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, AUXILIARY TO GBSC 2001 CALENDAR

#### SEPTEMBER

4-7 — National Baptist Convention  
22 — Family Missions Conference, New Ahoskie Baptist Church, Ahoskie

#### OCTOBER

(Prayer month for SHAW UNIVERSITY AND SHAW DIVINITY SCHOOL)  
13 — WBSC Institute Workers'

Workshop, Baptist Headquarters

#### NOVEMBER

3 — Youth Evangelism Conference, Cumberland County Memorial Auditorium, Fayetteville  
5 — World Day of Prayer (BWA — Woman's Department)

22 — Thanksgiving Day

#### DECEMBER

25 — Christmas Day

### WBH&FMC Camp Ministry (Continued from page 4)

son, Richmond, Robeson, Rockingham, Sampson, Scotland, Union, Vance, Wake, Warren and Wilson.

Closing prayer is given by a minister or deacon present.

Finally, co-laborers for Christ, Servant Leaders, and Missionaries, we have come to the end of a very heart-felt Camp Ministry. We look back over each week just to be reminded of how good God is and has been to us. We appreciate the diversity of young people you allowed to come our way and thank God for those who have given up the comforts of their own homes to be a part of this ministry.

Every-head, heart and hand is a blessing.

We still proclaim joy through all our situations. We were blessed to have air conditioning in the lobby of the girls' and boys' cabins and the chapel. What a difference it made! All buildings used by the majority of the camp staff are now air conditioned.

We share our camp experiences with each of you that you will ever be reminded of the importance of this Ministry and continue to seek God for His spiritually share in this Ministry. Thank you for your prayers, concerns and suggestions. Your help in these areas make the camp ministry a success. Thank you for affording me this opportunity to be a servant leader!

## Congratulations from the GBSC Parent Body

By Dr. John D. Fuller Sr.

On behalf of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. We welcome and congratulate the new President of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina, Mrs. Julius M. McDonald, Monroe, North Carolina.

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# LAYMEN'S LEAGUE NEWS

## State Laymen's League 51st Annual Session

By Romas L. Hales

The State Laymen's League of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc., held its 51st Annual Session July 16-17, 2001. The meeting was held at the Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church, Rocky Mount, NC, where Dr. Thomas L. Walker serves as pastor.

The Laymen Session started with an Executive Meeting at 9 A.M. conducted by President Jarvis Morgan. President Morgan called the Annual Session to order at 10 A.M. Following the devotion by the Host Laymen and welcome by Deacon LaVerne Askew the response was given by Brother David Brown of Fayetteville. Greetings were given by President Jarvis Morgan, Host pastor Dr. Thomas Walker and by Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the General Baptist State Convention. Deacon Bernard Bullock of the North End Baptist Church of Rocky Mount, NC, conducted the Bible Study. The subject of the Bible Study was "Spiritual Maturity."

Dr. Anita Holmes, Executive Director of the Office of Health and Human Services of the General Baptist State Convention conducted the workshop. The title of the workshop was "Cancer-Reducing Risks, Improving Outcomes." The participants

were: Dr. Bethany Jackson, Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Nutrition, School of Public Health, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Dr. Thomas Walker, Cancer survivor and author, pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church, Rocky Mount, NC; and Brenda Stone-Wiggins, Manager, Cancer Control Program and Prevention, North Carolina Division of Public Health. Several questions were asked and discussed. The workshops was very good and informative.

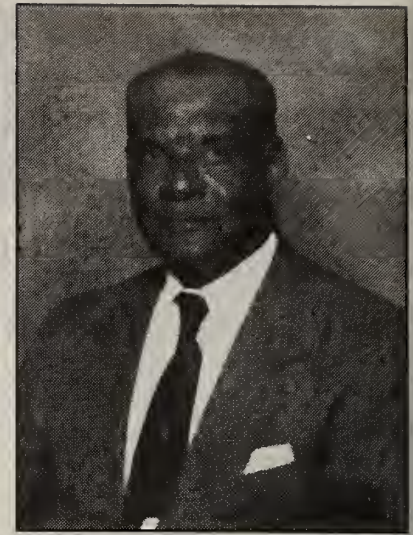
The afternoon session convened at 2 P.M. with the Mt. Zion First Baptist Church Laymen conducting the devotion. A report of the Executive Committee Meeting was given by President Jarvis Morgan. The Ebenezer Baptist Church Housing Program Report was given by the Rev. Louis Leigh Jr. Brother James Allen of Wake Missionary Baptist Laymen Association gave an update report on the Mentoring Program. The afternoon session concluded with a sermon delivered by Rev. W.R. Burston, pastor of First Calvary Baptist Church of Rocky Mount, NC. His text was "Honey Upon the Ground," taken from the Scripture 1 Samuel 14:24-27.

The Annual Banquet was held at 5 P.M. at Ebenezer Baptist Church with Brother Dallas Foster presiding. The Scripture was

by Brother L.C. Daniels and the Welcome by Brother Robert Bynum. The speaker for the Banquet was Rev. Sydney Dunston, pastor of God's Vision Missionary Baptist Church of Louisburg, NC. He spoke on the subject "No Deposit—No Return." The Scripture was taken from Deuteronomy 6:4-9 and 2nd Corinthians 9:6. During the Banquet Brother Larry Pittman warmed our hearts with Solos and Music.

The Monday Night Session was the Youth Laymen's League program with Fourth Vice President Brother Gregory Gabriel presiding. The Ebenezer Baptist Church Youth Choir furnished music. Prior to the sermon we had the Laymen Candlelight March "Men in Black." Rev. Louis Leigh Jr. Assistant Pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church delivered the sermon. His father Rev. Louis Leigh Sr. of Virginia introduced him. Rev. Leigh used the subject "Safety Hid" taken from the Scripture Psalms 119:9-11.

The Tuesday Morning regular session started at 8 A.M. with the devotion. After the devotion we had a continuation of the Bible Study by Deacon Bernard Bullock. Following the Bible Study, the local Laymen Presidents and Officers were recognized, also the Pastors and Ministers. We had committee reports from the Study



Romas Hales  
Laymen's League Coordinator

Commission Chairman, Brother Dallas Foster, Youth Division Chairman Brother Gregory Gabriel and the Laymen Field Worker, Romas Hales.

First Vice President Brother John Gladden presented President Jarvis Morgan for his Annual Address. Brother Morgan spoke on the Topic "Stay in the Race."

Rev. Willie T. Taylor Sr., past moderator of the Old Eastern Association delivered the closing sermon. He used the text "The Supreme and Universal Need of the Work." The Scripture was from Jeremiah 5:1-3.

Thanks to all the participants and to those that attended and supported the Laymen Sessions.

May God Continue To Bless You

## Laymen's League President Jarvis Morgan's Annual Address:

### Stay In The Race

The race of life is filled with hills that must be climbed and valleys that must be crossed. The Scriptures tell us how to run the race and how to win it. Hebrews 12:1 and 2 reads: Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us. Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith.

Jesus is our goal setter. The goal-setter always goes before the runners. Jesus has already experienced what we experience. He has already felt what we feel. He has already been tempted like us. He experienced pain and depression for us, and felt lonely and rejected, but he overcame ever

step of the way. Now He is ready to make sure that we have everything we need to overcome.

Athletes strive to break world records. To run faster, jump higher or throw farther than has ever been done before. For this they train, sacrifice and agonize. Into this they pour the last ounce of strength just to win.

Christians seek to break records also. The records Christians should break is their own, to make each days record the best yet. Remember every round goes higher and higher. Let us stay in the race.

A Friend of mine made this comment, He said, "brother Morgan you are always running," He did not mean physically running, he meant I am going a lot of places. I

thank God He allows me to go, and other Laymen are going also. We want to stay in the race.

While in the race we are organizing Laymen Leagues in various churches, finishing work in Princeville, NC. Traveling all over the state doing Study Commission Workshops. Adding programs such as Boy Scouts and mentoring young boys. Working with Lott Carey's Laymen to help purchase a new school bus in Liberia. Working with the National Baptist Convention U.S.A. Laymen. Above all, we are pleased to report that we are alive and well in the work of kingdom building.

Now that I have told you about some of the things we have done, let me tell you we have also had some opposition. However, God is good and He brought us through. He gave us strength, hope, determination, and we give Him the praise.

We have a race to run. This race is not given to the swift. It is not given to the fast runners. It is given to those who endure until the end. Let us hold on and hold out. Let us look only to Jesus. So let us run the race before us and never give up.

Christians have a race to run. This race must be run with patience and perseverance. Faith and patience are the conquering graces and therefore must be always cultivated. We must seek training so we can be all that we can be. There was a slogan on time that the army used. It stated "Be All That You Can Be Join The Army." I say to you "Be What You Can Be Join The Laymen League."

Thank you for all of your prayers, support and attendance throughout the year. May we continue to work together, and be true servants for our Lord and Savior. God Bless You!

## Laymen's League Men and Boys Retreat Was Great!

By Gregory L. Gabriel  
4th Vice President  
GBSC Laymen's League

This year's Laymen League Men and Boys Retreat was a great one. This year we focused on a theme of "Discipleship." The scripture came from Matthew 28:18-20.

The camp was opened with a welcome, rules and agenda from our camp director Gregory Gabriel. Next there was a welcome from our president Brother Jarvis Morgan. After lunch, a teachers meeting was given with the director and teaching guides for each class was given out.

Ages 0-9 watched tapes on sharing and being obedient which are things GOD wants us to be if we are to be disciples and are to make disciples. They also read from

Luke 5:1-11. Ages 10-12 read from John 3:1-11 which was about Jesus and Nicodemus asking how to be born again. Ages 13-14 read from Ephesians 4:1-32 which talked about the body of Christ having the many gifts. Ages 15 and up read from Matthew the 6th chapter and discuss the life style we are to have being disciples.

Each group also had an attachment which spelled out steps to being a disciple and how to make disciples. Each group made a craft which was a powerbooklet with five colors, black was for death and sin before knowing Christ, red, which was the blood of Christ which was shed for us, white, which was for us being washed and cleansed white as snow, green, was for after accepting Jesus in our lives we must continue to grow, and yellow or gold which is

heaven which we will go one day if we accept and follow Jesus. The students went to their classes and then afterwards had recreation where they went swimming, played basketball, played football or just rested. After dinner we had a speaker who came to us.

On the First Camp Rev. Louie Boykin Pastor of Union Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Autryville, NC, spoke to us on the topic "Attitude Determines Altitude." Scripture was from Philippians 2:5-11.

On the second Camp our speaker was Rev. McQueen of Clarks Grove Baptist Church. He spoke on the topic "It's time to get up and be Men Right Now" taken from Psalms 121. Next we had our Bible trivia.

The kids had to bring their Bible and were challenged to use it during the trivia

to see if they could find passages and books in the Bible. Fun was had by all at the watermelon feast and marshmallow roast.

On the next day Classes were done, recreation and talent show. On the first Camp our winners were 1st place—Trey Hales (Watts Chapel), 2nd place—Phillip Lynch (Elizabeth Missionary Baptist), 3rd place—Tyraill McCallister (Springfield Baptist). On the second camp our winners were: 1st place—Tim Shade, 2nd place—Gavin Gabriel (New Prospect Baptist), 3rd place James Williams (EMBC Wilmington).

I want to thank all who participated from the cooks to the instructors. Everyone was great and was greatly appreciated. I look forward to seeing you on our next Retreat!

# A Christian Education Moment

By Dr. Jasper P. Reed, President  
Congress of Christian Education

## From Placed to Praxis: An Adventure in Christian Education

Before I embark on what I hope will be an adventurous journey let us examine the topic. The beginning point of reference is Placid.

Random House Dictionary defines it as halcyon. That is being happy and peaceful. In other words in a comfort zone or status quo. The terminal point of reference is Praxis.

Random House defines this term as...application or use in knowledge or skills. Maybe I should go a step further with this term. I guess one of the best usage of this term, that imprinted me, was by a young preacher trying to explain its application to a group of eager learners, yours truly included.

Case in point. Most of us can remember when either we or someone young was learning to ride a bicycle for the first time. Chances are when we saw the bike it had training wheels attached to it for safety purposes.

They are designed to protect young riders as they learn and improve their skills as bike riders. The longer they remained on the bike the more assured we become as riders. We soon discover that the bike will not fall or trip over as long as these wheels are attached.

Finally one day your parents conclude that we have had enough time to practice therefore off comes the wheels. Now when you get ready to ride again the situation has changed. This requires a momentous decision on your part as a rider. This decision goes beyond mere practice. It requires that you pull together and use all the information and experiences gained while practicing with training wheels in order for you to successfully ride the bicycle without the training wheels.

Praxis is the application of all or part of the knowledge and skills gained while practicing with training wheels during the learning stage of trying to ride the bike. More precisely, I taught at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington for a while. I noticed that one of the courses I taught was a part of a series that required that you pass a praxis exam before you could move to the next level. Simply put we must learn to ride the bicycle without training wheels before we can prepare to train for the Tour de France.

As Christian believers, all who are ministers of God, we often times find ourselves in a placid position or comfort zone. We are challenged throughout the scriptures to beware of this state. The reason is we have a tendency to turn from God when we are in this position because it represents more closely the world and not the Kingdom of God. Read with me if you please Deuteronomy 1:6-8. Here Moses is speaking to the Israelites and quite possibly to us today about our obedience to God's commands.

In verse six Moses reminds us of our Christian commitment to go, to teach, and to make disciples for God. "The Lord our God spake unto us in Horeb, saying, ye have dwelt long enough on this mount." Apparently the Lord is telling us to leave our comfort zone and our usual way of doing things. The Lord brought the Israelites to the Mountain for instructions before going into the land promised to their forefathers and subsequently to them. They had been there for about a year. We as Christian Education workers are here not by our own power but by



Dr. Jasper P. Reed, President  
Congress of Christian Education

the will of God acting through the Holy Spirit in us. He is saying to us as He said to the Israelites take of the training wheels and prepare for the journey that I have set before you. Some of us have been on this mountain for years. We have never felt ready to accept God's command to leave. Because to do so means we have to put into practice those things taught to us, skills learned, and experiences gained while on the mountain. We need to leave the mountain because of what it represents to us.

We have been instructed through His Word by His servants and now it is time to apply what we have gained in knowledge and skills to the work of His ministries which He has commissioned us to fulfill. As we continue to read this passage of scripture we discover that the seventh verse describes the vision that God has for us. The theme of the Congress is "Catching the vision of Christ through Christian Education." God's vision then and now is the same. Leave the mount and go to the people. Christian Education must reach beyond the walls of the traditional Church and in an innovative way. We must find new ways to get the Word of God out to the highways and byways. If we read the eighth verse we will discover that God has already given us the victory. If we follow Him He will reveal to us the process that He has in place to lead us to victory.

The Challenge before us, as Christian Education Workers, is to commence the process and God will yield the increase. We must leave the mount. Unless we leave the mount we can not do God's work. I sincerely recommend that we, who are here and committed, make a vow to "Take a Walk." You might ask why a walk? One has to walk first in order to embark on a journey. Bruce Bickel and Stan Jantz in their book entitled "Guide to God: A User-friendly Approach," states that the Bible uses walking to describe the journey of a person's life. Your manner of living is the way you walk through life. Even though the lifestyle of a child of God is found in His Word if we are not studying His Word we are on an unproductive journey.

Take time to reflect on your journey. When we begin this adventure we might have difficulty trying to get from point A to point B with-

out stumbling, falling or without causing injury to ourselves or some other person that desired to grow through God's Word. But as we begin to master, through Christian Education, the art of walking through God's Word we become more proficient in walking God's way. Quoting III John Verse 4, "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in the truth." This can only be done if we stay in the word. That is what Christian Education Advocates. If we study as Paul admonished Timothy then we will grow and our walk will be more pronounced. Now lest I get too long...allow me to make three points and take my seat.

First, we need an introduction to Christian Walking.

When you think about it, walking and the Christian life are parallels. Listen again to Bruce and Stan — walking is basic. Observe the life of Jesus. He did not fly through life, He did not even dash or jog. Life to Him was a walk. Slow, steady and deliberate characterizes his lifestyle. Such is Christian Education. As a Christian Educator He taught and trained the disciples at least three years before He gave them the Great Commission. Jesus could not have allowed the disciples to audit the curriculum or take it for non credit. But He didn't. He knew they needed to study and experience their Christian life's growth, by walking before God through their curriculum. There are some steps we each need to pass through if we are to be the consummate Christian Education workers that God needs. It is important for us to know that Christian walking has a beginning or starting point, and that it requires effort on our part. We need to get up and get started preparing for the journey. Further we need to know that Christian walking takes us on a journey that leads to maturity in the word, and to a planned destination. That is to become more Christ-like as we glorify and enjoy God by being instruments in His Kingdom work. We as Christian Education workers are not left to walk by trial and error. If our walk to Christian maturity, that is praxis, is to be rewarding we need to take along these walking tips from the scripture. Walk in the Spirit, walk in the truth, walk by faith, walk in obedience, and walk with friends. These tips will enable us to have a good journey and arrive safely before the throne of God.

Secondly, we need to watch where we walk.

When we are on this journey we need to take care and watch where we walk and where we pitch our tents. As Christian Education workers we should not want to have to shake some-

thing off our shoes or restructure our lifestyle because we fail to take note of where we are. Not only are we to be careful where we step but where we sleep also. Are we pitching our tents too close to Sodom and Gommorah. In Matthew 24:24 we find, "For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders: insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect." We are walking this Christian journey in a world that has a lot of misleading things lying around to entrap us. Among the things that we should be aware of is the one found in Mark 7:9 where Jesus addresses traditions, "And He said unto them, Full will ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition." In order for our journey into Christian Education to be adventurous and good we need to watch and pray. In Ephesians 5:15 we find, "See them that ye walk circumspectively, not as fools, but as wise." We as Christian Education workers, and students of Christian Education must be mindful of the consequences of our walk. What we "step in" or where we pitch our tents can impact on the quality and effectiveness of our walk. To that end let me hastily introduce my last point.

Thirdly, we need to look for family resemblances.

As a new baby begins to grow up family resemblances begin to manifest themselves that when we look at a child we almost see its parents. Paul in First Corinthians 3:1-2, cautions us about our resemblances. Very early on when we are immature in our walk it is difficult to distinguish between us as Christians and those of the world around us. However, as we continue on this journey we become more and more like Christ. Finally we will begin to reflect personality qualities and values exhibited by Jesus. As we study God's Word and implement them, we begin to sense that it is time for us to leave the comfort of our traditions and move to the opportunities for change in lifestyle, in courses and plans of study, and exhibit our Christ-like attributes. These steps will allow the Holy Spirit, working on the inside, to produce an outward effect that resembles the family of God. This then is the stuff that speaks to Praxis. There are many family traits that can be used to determine whether or not we have truly left the mount, made the journey in Christian education to the point of accepting the challenge to prepare ourselves to help others on this journey.

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# INSTRUCTING CHILDREN

How are parents instructed to bring up their children?

"And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." Ephesians 6:4.

How faithfully should parents teach their children the Word of God?

"And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: and thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up." Deuteronomy 6:6, 7.

What is the value of proper early instruction?

"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart

## Christian Education for the 21st Century

By Portia Brandon, M.Div., Christian Education Coordinator

from it." Proverbs 22:6.

What is one way in which a child may dishonor his parents? "He that is a companion of riotous men shameth his father." Proverbs 28:7.

What is said of one who robs his parents? "Whoso robbeth his father or his mother, and saith, It is no transgression; the same is the companion of a destroyer." Verse 24.

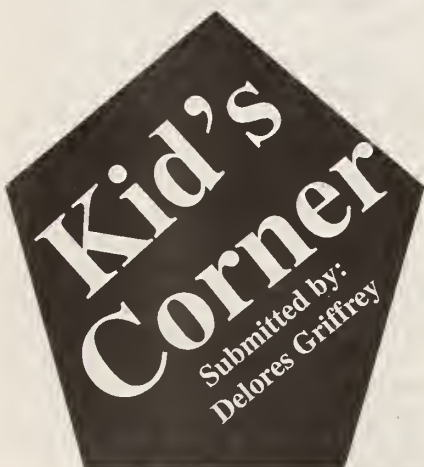
**Don't Blame the Children**  
We read in the paper and hear on the TV of killing, stealing, and crime everywhere. We sigh and say as we notice the trend "This young generation. Where will it all end?" But can we be sure that it's their fault alone. That maybe a part of it is our own?

Are we less guilty who place in their way Too many things that lead them astray?  
Too much money to spend — too much idle time  
Too many movies of passion and crime;  
Too many books not fit to be read;  
Too much evil in what they hear said;  
Too many children encourage to roam  
By too many parents who don't stay at home.  
Kids don't make the movies; they don't run the bars.  
They don't make the laws and they don't buy the cars.  
They don't peddle drugs that destroy their brain  
That's done by older folks greedy for gain



Portia Brandon, M.Div.  
Christian Education Coordinator

Oh how we condemn  
The sins of the nation and blame it on them  
The title "delinquent" fits older folks, too.  
—Author unknown



## Jacob and Esau

After Isaac and Rebekah had been married for a few years, Rebekah gave birth to twin boys. The eldest was called Esau. He grew into a red, hairy man who loved the outdoors. Isaac liked to eat the meat that Esau cooked after he went hunting and he loved Esau best. Jacob was the youngest. He was a quieter, more thoughtful man. He often stayed at home and did jobs. His mother loved him best as he was a good help around their home.

There was always tension between the brothers. They were very different and didn't always agree. Their family was rich. Esau, being the oldest, would get most of the riches when Isaac died. Jacob was not happy about this.

One day Jacob was at home cooking stew when Esau came home. Esau had been out hunting and had come back feeling very hungry. He said to Jacob, "Quick, let me have some of that stew. I'm starving!"

Jacob wasn't going to give his stew away for free.

He replied, "Only if you give me your birthright." This was a big thing to ask for. That meant Jacob would receive most of

the family riches and blessings from God. Esau however, was only thinking about his stomach.

"If I don't get some stew I going to die," he said. "What good is the birthright to me?" He then gave the birthright to Jacob. Only then did Jacob give him some stew and bread.

Many years later, Isaac went blind. He knew he wouldn't live much longer. He called for Esau. "Go and catch a wild deer and make some tasty stew for me," he said. "When you have done that, I will give you your special blessing."

Isaac's wife Rebekah heard them talking. She thought that Jacob deserved that blessing. Esau didn't care — he had swapped his birthright for Jacob's stew. He didn't deserve to get the blessing.

She called for Jacob and told him what Isaac had said to Esau.

"Listen carefully," she said. "Go and get me two little goats from our flock and I will make a stew, just how your father likes it. Then you can take it to your father and get the blessing."

"But I'm not hairy like Esau," Jacob said. "Dad will know its me, and curse me instead."

"Just do as I say," said his mother. "I will sort it out."

So Jacob went to get the goats. He brought them to his mother, and she made the stew. Then she took the skin of the goats and tied it on his arms and neck. She also put Jacob in Esau's clothes. This was so he would feel and smell like Esau.

Jacob then went into his father.

"Who is this?" said Isaac. "Are you Jacob or Esau?"

"I am Esau," lied Jacob. "Here is the meat. Sit up now and eat it, so I can have my blessing." Isaac was puzzled. He asked Jacob, "How did you find it so quickly?"

"God helped me," Jacob said. "Come here then," said Isaac. "I want to touch you. I need to know that it is really you."

Jacob went close to his father, Isaac touched his arms.

"You sound like Jacob, but you feel like Esau." Isaac said, a bit confused. "Are you really Esau?"

Jacob lied to his father again. "I am." "Bring me some of your meat then, so that I can eat. Then I will give you your blessing," his father said.

Jacob brought his father the meat and some wine, and he ate and drank. When he was finished Isaac spoke to Jacob again.

"Come here and kiss me," he said. Jacob went and kissed him. Isaac could smell Esau's clothes and convinced that it was Esau, blessed Jacob.

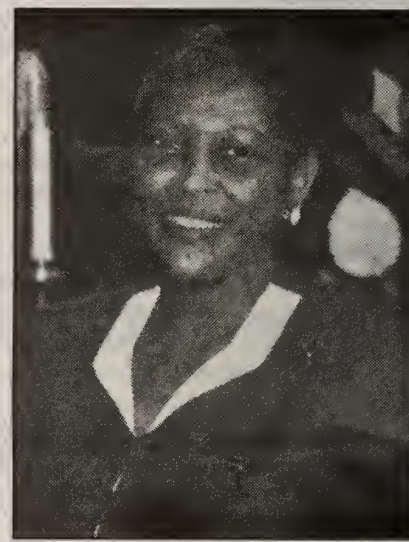
"May God help you," he said. "May you have good crops and plenty of corn and wine. May you rule over other nations, and the rest of your family." Jacob then went out.

A few minutes later Esau brought his meat to Isaac.

"I have come back Father," he said. "Here is your meat."

Isaac shook, "Esau! Is that you?"

"Yes," said Esau. "It's me, with your meat. Are you going to bless me?"



Delores Griffey

"Your brother has tricked me," said Isaac. "I have given him your blessing."

"Bless me too, Dad," cried Esau.

"I am sorry Esau, I have no more blessings. Jacob has stolen them."

Because of this Esau was really angry with Jacob. He knew Isaac would die soon. He planned in his mind to kill Jacob then. Luckily for Jacob, Rebekah found out. She called for Jacob and told him to run away to her family. She then said to Isaac, "The women who live here are bad. I would be upset if Jacob married one of them. Let's send him to my brother. He will look after him, and Jacob can find a wife. Isaac agreed, and Jacob set off. Now Esau could not hurt him.

See if you can answer these questions:

1. Do you think their family was very happy?
2. What did Jacob pay for Esau's birthright?
3. Why did Jacob have to go away?

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# UPDATE: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE



Trenese



Shanae



Rev. Gwen Horton, Program Manager, Adoption, Foster Care and Automation, Children's Services Section, N.C. Division of Social Services, presents the special National Council on Adoptable Children Award to the General Baptist State Convention during the 27th Annual NACAC Meeting, held in Charlotte, N.C. on Aug. 1-5, 2001. Receiving the award for the Convention are Rev. Anthonette Wright, Dr. Joseph C. Paige and Earl Horton.

### Introducing Trenese...

Trenese loves to read, sing church songs, play with dolls and go to school. She'd like to be a singer when she grows up. Trenese plays very well by herself and sometimes needs to be encouraged to play with others.

Trenese is on grade level and attends regular classes in school, but she will continually need help with homework. She takes medications that help her stay focused, organize behaviors and tasks. Trenese is working on learning to trust adults. She attends counseling to help her learn not to take things that don't belong to her and to always tell the truth. (NC #041-624)

### Introducing Shanae...

Shanae enjoys listening to the Disney radio station, reading and playing with Pokemon. Shanae loves to sing, play the piano and is artistic, too. She is a very bright young lady and an honor roll student, but she often needs stickers, hugs or praise as encouragement to stay on task. Shanae has very good verbal skills, but she sometimes challenges other kids or adults and needs to remember to be respectful. (NC #041-623)

For more information on these children, or adoption or foster care in general, please call the NC Kids Hotline at 1-877-625-4371.

## FOSTER CARE & ADOPTION NEWS

We urgently seek to identify persons interested in becoming Adoptive and/or Foster Care Parents in each of the 100 counties. There is an urgency. Every child deserves a loving and caring home.

Please contact at:

Dr. Joseph C. Paige or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige  
2610 Albemarle Avenue 27610  
919-231-9774 • E-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com

## WANTED!!

- ADOPTED PARENT • FOSTER CARE PARENT
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Please contact: Dr. Joseph C. Paige or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige  
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or e-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com or dottiedem@maxxconnect.net

## ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

Ministry of the GBSC State & Convention of N.C., Inc.

By Dr. Joseph C. Paige, Chairperson

Greetings and Peace on the name of Jesus Christ. We would like to request your active participation and support of the North Carolina African-American Faith Communities United for Children: Adoption and Foster Care.

This Initiative is a cooperative partnership between the General Baptist State Convention and Human Services, Division of Social Services. Ours is an exciting and challenging journey, and a real opportunity to make a serious contribution to a real serious cause at this time.

The African-American Children's Initiative Adoption and Foster Care, as a cooperative church-based effort designed to help identify African-American single persons and couples who are interested in adoption African-American children or becoming foster parents to African-American children. This initiative is based on the fact that every child deserves a long, nurturing and caring home.

At the present time, there are many African-American children in the North Carolina Foster Care System, both boys and girls, who are currently eligible for this effort. The goal is to help speed up the adoption process. Time is of profound essence. There is also an urgency to identify potential Foster Care parents.

We are anxious to make a real difference within the next few months and we can do this only with your help. Volunteers will receive additional guidance from us on marketing strategies in your respective areas just as soon as I hear from you. In addition, we are in the process of soliciting and identifying volunteers to work with us throughout the state in the following categories, and we are requesting your assistance.

1. County Adoption/Foster Care Recruitment Volunteer Coordinators (one volunteer for each county).
2. Church Adoption/Foster Care Recruitment Volunteer Coordinators (one per church)
3. We are also requesting Adoption/Foster Care Recruitment Volunteer coordinators to work with us at the town, city, and area levels, to help us spread the word that all children need and deserve a loving and caring home.

If you agree to serve as a volunteer or if you know someone who is willing to serve with us, write me today and mail it to me at the address below:

Dr. Joseph C. Paige, Chairperson  
The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry  
PO Box 24273, Raleigh, NC 27611-5273

Please don't hesitate to call me if you have any questions (919) 231-9774. Or you can e-mail me at JoePaigeSr@aol.com or you can also e-mail me at JoePaigeSr@aol.com.

I look forward to working with you.

### SHARE THE VISION WITH US!! HELP US SPREAD THE WORD THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC. & THE NORTH CAROLINA AFRICAN-AMERICAN FAITH COMMUNITIES UNITED FOR CHILDREN: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

*Making A Difference in the Life of a Child*

*Finding Adoptive and Foster Care Homes for African-American Children*

The North Carolina African-American Faith Communities United for Children, a partnership with North Carolina Division of Social Services, is comprised of African-American congregations and community organizations from across the State, NAY-KEL and the North Carolina Association of Black Social Workers committed to finding adoptive and foster homes for African-American children.

Yes, I'd like to do my part ...

Please complete and return to Dr. Joseph Paige.

I'd like someone to call me.

Please send me information about adoption. Please send me information about foster care.

I'd like to be a field worker.

I am interested in being an adoptive parent.  I'd like to be a county volunteer.

I am interested in being a foster care parent.

I'd like to be a church volunteer.  Other (please specify)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City

State

Zip

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Dr. Joseph C. Paige at 2610 Albemarle Ave., Raleigh, NC 27610,  
919-231-9774, 919-618-8343, mobile • e-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com

# UPDATE: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

By Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr.  
and Dr. Dorothy A. Demby Paige

Greetings in the Blessed Name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!!

The month of August was again encouraging, and as predicted earlier, if this outpouring of interest continues, and there is every indication to believe that it will, the new Fiscal Year (July 2001-June 2002), will be another banner year in terms of outreach and the recruitment of potential African American adoptive and/or foster parents. We have claimed it already. The word is spreading among the various faith communities and we give God the glory.

We spent a great part of the month testing outreach strategies, developing coalitions, and recruiting new partners to expand our support base. The results were positive. People want to help. They agree with us that every child deserves a loving and caring home, and they believe that our Ministry is a worthy cause deserving broadly based support.

We also met with several organizations and Groups, conducted training sessions for volunteers, and attended the 27th Annual Session of the National American Council on Adoptable Children (NACAC).

## A HOLY ANOINTING

As we repeatedly state each month, we are convinced that GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry is inspired by God and that the ministry enjoys a special anointing from the Heavenly Father. You can see it. You can feel it. There is something special about what we do, and how we do it. The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry is a faith-based initiative worthy of support. Our position is that those who do not gladly support us do not understand us.

The seemingly tripling of interest by churches and concerned persons, singles and couples, in helping us find permanent and temporary homes for African American children already in the North Carolina Foster Care System, and related expressions of concern are all God's doing. They are a manifestation and reflection of His Spirit and His Special Blessing, all for the good things of our children. We solicit your continuing prayer and support.

## OUR MANDATES

Our mandate is two-fold:

1. To identify African American singles and couples who are interested in becoming adoptive and/or foster parents for African American Children already in the Foster Care System of North Carolina Division of Social Services (NC-DSS).

2. To advocate, motivate and stimulate interest among African American singles and couples of the various faith communities in becoming adoptive and/or foster parents for African American children already in the Foster Care System of the North Carolina Division of Social Services.

As major adoptive and foster care advocates, we are convinced that our efforts have made a positive difference in the attitudes of the faith communities and their members toward the NC Departments of Social Services, in general, and toward adoption and foster care.

## WORKING THE STATE

We thank God for His continuing blessings as we "work the state," so to speak, making and responding to telephone calls, e-mail and general correspondence, speaking at churches, conferences, and meetings of associations, community groups, clubs and organizations, spreading the work of the increasing need for adoptive and foster parents of African American children, statewide, who are already in the North Carolina Foster Care System.

And again, we thank God for those who have partnered with us as we expand our recruitment/referral efforts. It is only because of the expanded, continuing, collaboration, cooperation, and support, that we are able to realize the successes that we are experiencing. Our ministry is a credit to

the faith communities of the state and to the Children's Services Division of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services.

As we stated in our report last month, our ministry seems to be blossoming in so many ways. More people are speaking out in support of our Adoption and Foster Care initiative. More people are calling, writing letters and sending e-mails. It is an exciting time for us.

## SECRETARY CARMEN HOOKER BUELL

Again, we want to thank Governor Mike Easley and the Honorable Carmen Hooker Buell, Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, for their vision and continuing support of faith-based initiatives. They are special people. North Carolina is a better state because of them.

As we stated in a recent article in The Carolinian newspaper, we can expect even more continuing dynamic, bold, and courageous leadership by Secretary Hooker-Buell in all of the DHHS programs and services. For me personally, I like her spunk. I like her energy and enthusiasm. She is an ardent supporter of faith-based initiatives, and we give God the glory! She is good for our state.

## THE FOUNDING TEAM

Our Founding team, Mr. Kevin FitzGerald, Division of Social Services; Mr. Chuck Harris and Rev. Gwendolyn Horton of The Children's Services Section; and Dr. Clifford Jones, former President and Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer, General Baptist State Convention, Inc., deserve our continuing thanks and praise. I was also an enthusiastic participant in the initial discussions. They saw the need and had the vision that the Convention, (GBSC), and the Division of Children's Services, working together in partnership, could do a lot to help make a positive difference in the lives of children already in the North Carolina Adoption and Foster Care System.

## THE RECORD

We have been operational since January 1999. And, as our performance record will show, God has empowered our ministry to be the guiding force in our state on matters of adoption and foster care for African-American children. Our support is growing not just among Baptist, but among the partnering faith communities and social and civic organizations, as well.

And, as we previously reported:

1. The daily phone calls requesting information have tripled. Our phones and answering machines are almost always busy. People are calling from all over the state, wanting to discuss adoption and/or foster care.

2. E-mail traffic has increased incredibly. People are offering their services and assistance. Some are inquiring about adoption.

3. Invitations to speak and make presentations before meetings of cooperating faith communities, social and civic organizations, and before concerned groups have doubled. They want to learn more about our ministry. They are concerned. They want to help. God is working wonders for us! He is rewarding obedience and hard work!

As we repeat over and over again, all of this—all of God's blessings, it is so very touching! The commitment to help make a difference in the lives of our children is so overwhelming. Again, we must repeat, God continues to bless our efforts. And, as the song goes "Blessings after blessings keep on coming our way," and we continue to give God the glory, the honor and the praise! Please continue to keep our ministry in your prayers.

## THE EVERY CHURCH ADOPT ONE PROJECT

THE EVERY CHURCH ADOPT ONE initiative, influenced after the successful Virginia pioneering effort, continues to gain broad support statewide, among the various faith communities and again, we give God the glory and the

praise. We will continue to push this initiative, statewide.

EVERY CHURCH ADOPT ONE is a highly successful interfaith initiative, and we strongly encourage all churches to join us in this special challenge and opportunity. Join the growing number of churches that are uniting for children. This HELPING AND CARING MINISTRY is being pushed by moderators, conference leaders, elders, bishops, ministers and assorted church laity. Many church missionary departments have designed this ministry as a primary focus for the year 2001. For additional information, please call, write or e-mail us! Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr., or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige, 2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27610; 919-231-9774; FAX: 919-212-3656 e-mail or: dottedem@maxxconnect.net.

## COURTNEY CROWDER

As we reported last month, Courtney Crowder, Field Representative, office of Congressman Bob Etheridge, has joined us as volunteer Special Assistant with responsibility for coalition building. He will help us expand the involvement of faith communities and social, civic and fraternal groups, statewide.

We are also grateful to Ms. Mary Perry of Congressman Etheridge's Staff for her continuing support. Ms. Perry is also President of the Zebulon-Wake chapter of the State NAACP.

## THE NORTH AMERICAN COUNCIL ON ADOPTABLE CHILDREN (NACAC)

I am pleased to report to the convention and to the cooperating faith communities that the General Baptist State Convention was presented a special award, THE PARTNERSHIP AWARD, during the 27th Annual Session of NACAC. The award was in recognition of the pioneering statewide faith-based partnering of the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry and its vision establishing a viable, outreach arm, THE NORTH CAROLINA FAITH COMMUNITIES UNITED FOR CHILDREN.

## A NEW PARTNERSHIP

We are indeed excited about our recent partnering with the MULTICULTURAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES of Spring Lake, and we look forward to a long and productive relationship with Ms. Anna Green, Executive Director and Rev. Samuel Harvin, Family Support Worker. This special GRANDPARENTING and PARENT/CHILDREN SERVICES PROGRAM currently serves a 100 mile area.

## VOLUNTEER TRAINING

### Rocky Mount Area

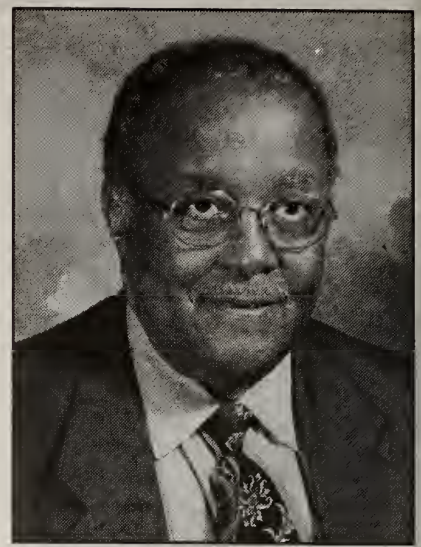
A NAY-KEL sponsored, Orientation and Training sessions for volunteers in the Rocky Mount area was held at St. James Missionary Baptist Church. Rev. Comolius Moore, Pastor under the general supervision of Mr. Thomas Lewis, NAY-KEL representative in the area. It was a great success, Rev. Evelyn Jervay and Mr. Jervay made presentations.

### Western Area

The first of several western area orientation and training sessions for volunteers was held on Saturday, August 11, at the Morning Star Baptist Church, Hickory, Dr. Wedster Lytle, Pastor. The session was organized by Ms. Sherbia Jones, Pastoral Consultant/Team Leader, in association with Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige, Field Coordinator. Presenters, in addition to Ms. Jones and Dr. Paige, included Mrs. Regina Roberts, Adoption Recruiter, Catawba County DSS, Rev. Anthonette Wright, Director of Church Relations, Western Region, and spokesperson for foster parenting, adoptive parenting and the Hickory Police Department. Another western region Pastoral Consultant, Ms. Janice Greenard assisted in facilitating the meeting.

## VOLUNTEERS

August was a very special month for recruitment of volunteers. We continued to expand our network of adoption and foster care volunteers,



Dr. Joseph C. Paige

recruiting through our expanding church contacts, associations and conferences of the various faith communities. We are especially grateful to the moderators, elders, and overseers of the various faith communities for their continuing support of our efforts! Please continue to help us spread the word.

Our list of Adoption and Foster Cared Volunteers and Advocates continues to grow, all for the good and sake of our children. The children are the real beneficiaries. The Volunteers and Advocates are so important for our work. They help us identify African American singles and couples interested in becoming adoptive and/or foster parents of African American children already in the North Carolina Foster Care System. They also help us spread the word that there are gross disparities in the adoption of African-American children already in the Foster Care System, when compared with whites.

We thank God for the generous time and energy our volunteers give to our effort. We now have adoption and foster care volunteers in most counties and in both rural and urban areas, and from county civic and social organizations. They all believe as we do, that every child deserves a loving and caring home and they are committed to helping make this happen.

## PARTNERING WITH FAITH COMMUNITIES

Our outreach arm, The North Carolina African American Faith Communities United for Children: Adoption and Foster Care, an initiative of the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry, deserves both praise and thanks. Both ministers and laity, women and men, are actively spreading the word that children need love, that they need a nurturing and caring home environment.

This interfaith, interdenominational body, inspired by God and directed by the Heavenly leadership of the Holy Spirit, has been a God-send. We pray fervently and listen and patiently wait for God's guidance in all that we do. The success of our ministry is further confirmation that with God, all things are possible.

## THE CAROLINIAN CONNECTION

A hearty "thank you" to Paul and Evelyn Jervay, owners and Co-Publishers of The Carolinian, and NAY-KEL Founders, for their continuing assistance and encouragement. Rev. Jervay assists us in interfaith relations, volunteer follow-up and training and outreach. Mr. Jervay donates time as our media consultant. They lend a special expertise to our efforts. Together, they help us make a difference for the betterment of our children.

## WE STILL NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS

This is an urgent plea, as we have repeatedly stated, while the response for adoption and foster care volunteers has been increased (See next page)

**From 2nd Vice President  
Dr. Howard W. Parker Jr.**

**News from the Foreign  
Field: The Lott Carey**

**Funding the  
Future Through  
Families of Faith**



**Dr. Howard W. Parker Jr.**

each summer to increase even further their commitments to missions and involve youth from our international partners.

Individuals, families and churches are encouraged to commit \$500, \$1,000 or whatever God inspires them to do to help secure the long term commitment of investing in the lives of young people for the Kingdom of God. Gifts of stock, and planned giving from estates also will help us secure the future of missions!

Remember, the 104th Annual Session of the Lott Carey Convention will convene in Columbus, Ohio, August 27-31, 2001. Plan on joining us there!

A critical need for the church today is high quality leadership. All around the world, masses of people suffer because they do not have gifted, trained and nurtured leaders. Lott Carey is committed to addressing this crisis.

We have heard God calling us to prepare a new generation of Christian leaders around the world by investing in their spiritual, intellectual and cross cultural development. That's why we need you to support **Funding The Future Through Families of Faith Initiative**.

Our goal is to generate an endowment that will do three things:

- Fund the Wendell C. and Alice E. Somerville Scholarship Fund to support and mentor students in higher education around the world.
- Support college, university and secondary students who feel called to serve in Christian missions in a cross cultural context.
- Enhance our Youth seminar that meets

**MORE ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE**

**Ms. Pheon Beal  
Appointed Director  
of N.C. Division  
of Social Services**

By Carol Smith

The General Baptist family is pleased to welcome Ms. Pheon Beal, as the new Director, Division of Social Services, N.C. Department of Health and Human Services.

Ms. Beal, well known and respected within the state, is former chief of Economic Independence, within the Division.

The Division of Social Services, does a great job within our state. The position will present great challenges and even greater opportunities to help make a difference. Our prayers are with her. We wish her well.



**Pheon Beal, Director  
N.C. Division of Social Services**

**Update on Adoption ...**

ible successful statewide, we are still seeking additional volunteers to help us spread the word. We are asking every church to appoint an Adoption and Foster Care Volunteer Coordinator to help us spread the word. Please call, write or e-mail us! Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr., or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige, 2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27610; 919-231-9774; FAX 919-212-3656; e-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com or dottiedem@maxxconnect.net.

**THE FULLTIME OFFICE STAFF**

Our fulltime office staff consists of Rev. Anthonette Wright, Director of Church Relations/Regional Consultant and Earl Horton, Director of Public Relations/Regional Consultant.

Rev. Wright has overall responsibility for the western and central counties of the state; including the following target counties in this region: Buncombe, Guilford, Gaston, Mecklenburg, Forsyth. Mr. Horton has overall responsibility for the eastern counties and five target counties in this region: Wake, Durham, Cumberland, New Hanover and Robeson.

You may contact Rev. Wright or Mr. Horton as indicated below:

Rev. Wright, GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry, 211-209B Six Forks Rd., Suite 120, Raleigh, NC 27609; 919-754-8800; e-mail: Nwright@aol.com or Mr. Earl Horton GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry; 211-209B Six Forks Road, Suite 120, Raleigh, NC 27609; 919-8333; e-mail: gbsceh@aol.com

**SPECIAL STAFF**

Maurice Lane continues to do an outstanding job as special assistant to the Project Director in addition to his outreach activities. Evangelist Michele Montgomery,

continues to work with the media and as a Special Outreach Volunteer Assistant.

**ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE  
ADVOCATES**

We are grateful for the continuing support of Dr. James T. Robeson and Mrs. Beverly Roberson serve us well as volunteer Adoption and Foster Care Advocates. Rev. Sheila Crump, Linda Wright, Rev. Jon Murphy and Linda Murphy, Ms. Linda Wright, Ms. Carol Smith and Ms. Portia Brandon for their continuing support of our efforts. We are especially pleased to announce the addition of Calvin and Priscilla Spellman of Elizabeth City to this special and distinguished group of Adoption and Foster Care Advocates. They serve as volunteers and as spokespersons and children's advocates for the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry. They continue to help us make a difference in or commitment to help children. We are grateful that they are willing to take time from their already busy schedules to work with us.

**PASTORAL CONSULTANTS/TEAM  
LEADERS**

- Ms. Sherbia Jones,
- Ms. Jamifer Campbell
- Ms. Janice Greenard
- Mr. Thomas Lewis,

**Outreach Coordinator, (NAY-KEL)  
THANKS**

Thanks again for your consulting encouragement and support. You may reach us:

**By phone: (919) 231-9774**

**By FAX: (919) 212-3656**

**By e-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com**

**By regular mail:**

**2610 Albemarle Avenue  
Raleigh, NC 27610**

**Go to:  
www.gbsc.org**

**The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina,  
Inc. and the N.C. African-American Faith Communities  
United for Children: Adoption and Foster Care  
Finding Adoptive & Foster Care Homes  
For African-American Children**

**Touch a Life Forever ... ADOPT!**

**Children waiting for adoptive families are ...**

- Sisters and brothers who want to be adoptive together
- Children who have experienced neglect, abuse or abandonment
- Older children who want a permanently family
- Children who need families who care and are willing to make a lifetime commitment

**You can adopt if you ...**

- Are single, married or divorced
- Can provide a stable home
- Have the ability to care for a child not born to you
- Are willing to take on the responsibilities, joys and challenges of parenting

**Families who adopt ...**

- May be homeowners or renting
- May have a fixed income
- May be an adult of any age

**North Carolina Needs More Foster Homes**

Thousands of children in North Carolina, ranging in age from infants to 18 years old, enter the foster care system each year. These children may have been neglected, abused, or abandoned and need a safe place to stay temporarily. The number of children coming into care is increasing faster than the number of foster homes in our state.

**You Can Become A Foster Parent If You ...**

- Are between the ages of 21 and 65
  - Are willing to be fingerprinted and have a criminal record check
  - Have a stable home and income
  - Are able to provide a safe, temporary place for children until they can be in a permanent home
  - Complete all required training and be licensed by the State of North Carolina
- You do not have to be married, wealthy or own your own home to be a foster parent.**

**\$1,000 BONUS! BONUS! BONUS!**

We have decided, as our special way to say "Thank You," to provide a personal bonus of \$1,000, to the first individual, church or association that recruits a minimum of 20 potential adoptive and/or foster parents each month for the next five months (August, September, October, November and December 2001.) or a total of 100 recruits (verified). Only one bonus of \$1,000 will be given. Persons interested in competing for the "bonus" should call, write or e-mail us!

Dr. Joseph C. Paige or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige, 2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27610; 919-231-9774; Fax 919-212-3656; E-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com or dottiedem@maxxconnect.net

# From the Office of Institutional and Specialized Ministries

Rev. Michael R. Smith

*"Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne;  
mercy and truth go before your face." Psalm 89:14*

## A Call to Get Ready for the GBSC 1st Annual Crime & Incarceration Conference

By Rev. Michael R. Smith

The GBSC 1st Annual Crime & Incarceration Conference will be held November 30 through December 1, 2001 at the historic Shaw University Divinity School in Raleigh, NC. Dean J.T. Roberson has graciously opened his heart and doors to host this conference. The OISM believes these are critical times regarding the issues of crime and incarceration. I am calling all GBSC pastors to ensure your church is represented at this conference. The invitation also extended to all criminal justice professionals, correctional administrators, law enforcement, civic groups and interested individuals. The time is now to come together to be equipped and development kingdom strategies to reach, reconcile and restore lives impacted by crime and incarceration.

I have worked and ministered in prisons all over this country since 1979. I have witnessed first hand on a daily basis the plight of the incarcerated. On the other hand, I have been involved in the lives of persons who have been the victims of crime. It is my belief the Church of Jesus Christ has the great responsibility to come to the forefront of this crisis in our nation. The 1st Annual Crime & Incarceration Conference is an attempt by the GBSC to

move this crisis to the forefront of our missionary efforts. No longer can we just read the newspaper and do nothing to stem the tide of persons in our communities becoming the majority population in our prisons. North Carolina Department of Correction 2001 statistics shows there are approximately 31,534 men and women incarcerated. 108,642 on probation, and 4,138 on parole. Nationwide, the prisons to include state and federal, represent the largest growing mission fields for the Church to reach.

The Lord Jesus Christ's atonement on the cross was carried out in the midst of two condemned thieves. God's justice was satisfied and His mercy was extended through the greatest demonstration of love the world will ever receive. I believe for the most part, the Church in America needs to repent for our lack of concern for the incarcerated and victims of crime. Though there are many faithful organizations and individuals who have faithfully labored in the "hidden ministry," we need more churches to come together to tackle this crisis. Our communities are being deeply affected by the large number of African-American males filling our prisons. Crime in our neighborhoods are now causing churches to move out instead of reach out to the lawbreaker. Victims of crime are for-

gotten and not ministered to in many cases. The 1st Annual Crime & Incarceration Conference is the beginning of changing these facts. I pray you will join us in the battle by being a part of this great conference. More information will be in next month's Baptist Informer edition. Start now making your preparations to be there! **OISM CHAIRMAN SPEAKS AT THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLACKS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE 28TH ANNUAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE & TRAINING INSTITUTE**

Rev. Michael R. Smith Sr. spearheaded a workshop entitled, "EXPLORING JUSTICE AND MERCY FROM THEOLOGICAL SOCIAL AND EXPERIENTIAL PERSPECTIVES" during NABCJ's Annual Meeting in Cincinnati, Ohio, July 22-26, 2001. He was joined in this timely workshop by Attorney Michelle Fuseyamore

## New Elected Moderator High Point Educational and Missionary Baptist Association, Inc.

During the 88th Session of the Women's Auxiliary of the High Point Educational and Missionary Baptist Association, Inc., Sis. Nancy Lowe Wallington Perry was elected President. She will be assuming a leadership position that several notable women of God have paved the way. This illustrious group includes Sis. Annie M. Lewis, Sis. Mary Crank, and Sis. Shirley Carrington. All of these forerunners have impacted Sis. Nancy's life and for their expertise we are thankful.

Sis. Perry was born the 8th of nine children in Guilford County and attended Oak Springs Baptist Church during her early years. Her father and mother, the late Dea. Ashby Lowe and Mother Judy Lowe, were very active in the church and raised their children in a Christian home.

Sis. Perry attended Laughlin High School where she was the valedictorian of her graduating class. From there she attended Bennett College where she majored in Education and graduated Summa Cum Laude. She has also done some graduate work at N.C. A&T State University, UNCG and Wake Forest University.

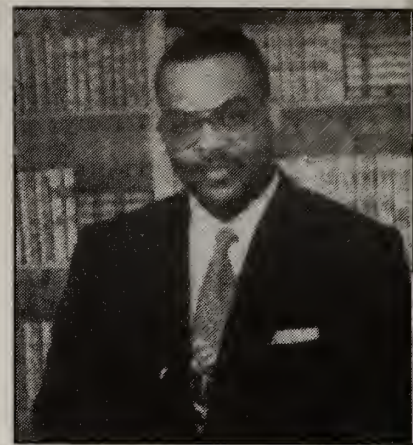
Upon completing her education Sis. Perry has taught public school in the State of N.C. for 32 years before retiring in 1998. She has taught several subjects in the middle and high school levels including

math, science, vocational exploration, food and nutrition, clothing and textiles, interior design, and family life skills. She has also coached the cheerleaders and served as faculty advisor for Future Homemakers of America and the gospel choir.

Sis. Perry is also concerned about her community. She has held a multitude of leadership positions in the following organizations including Best Friends of Rockingham County, the 4H Club, Christian Women's Club of Rockingham County, United Way of Rockingham Co., Community Heritage Action Project, Rockingham Community College Concert Lecture Series and the Beauty of Madison order of Eastern Star #383.

When Sis. Perry married the late Dea. John W. Wallington, she moved to Stoneville, NC, where she joined him in service for the Lord at Sharon Baptist Church. She has served in several ministries including Missionary Circle, Senior Choir, Finance Budget Committee, Finance Sec., Executive Board Member, Deaconess, Usher, Sunday School Teacher, and Bible Study Leader. Her favorite scripture is Psalms 121:1 "I will lift up mine eyes to the Hills from which cometh my help. All of my help cometh from the Lord. The one who made heaven and earth.

She is currently married to Dea. Lee S. Perry Sr. and she has one daughter, Denise Wallington.



Rev. Michael R. Smith Sr.

(Federal Bureau of Prisons), Fay Lassiter (Asst. Chief of Programs N.C. Division of Prisons) and Evangelist James T. Woodson. Rev. Smith states, "Being in Cincinnati, Ohio during a time when the city is presently dealing with a serious crisis, only intensified my conviction the time is now for the Church to lead the way with solutions regarding crime and incarceration."

A copy of Rev. Smith's paper he presented entitled, "A THEOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE ON JUSTICE AND MERCY" can be requested by email at [mrsmithgbsc@aol.com](mailto:mrsmithgbsc@aol.com)

**FOR INFORMATION ABOUT  
THE CONFERENCE  
CALL  
CAROL SMITH  
GBSC HEADQUARTERS  
800-639-GBSC**

or  
**REV. MICHAEL R. SMITH SR.  
FEDERAL CORRECTIONAL  
COMPLEX, BUTNER, NC  
OFFICE 919-575-3900 x6203**

## We Will Not Be Destroyed!!!

By Joshua J. Haire, Vice Chairman,  
Moderators Council

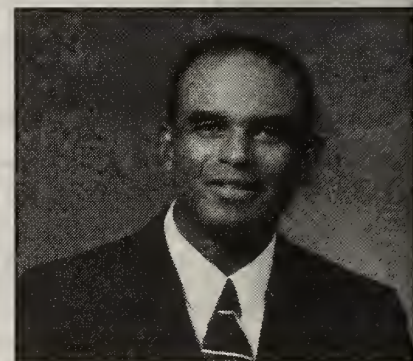
The Lord said in Hosea 4:6 — "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge." Though this statement may seem somewhat general in its context, "lack of knowledge" is very specific with its directive "my people." It was that Israel (the early church) was suffering from many internal problems, some spiritual, some social and economic.

Hosea, the prophet and writer of this passage, alluded to the notion that the church did not have sufficient knowledge (of the law) to avoid certain pitfalls. He said they did not know *God's Way*. However, the "b" clause of the verse gives a more direct reason. They rejected knowledge, knowledge meaning information.

Sadly, the church today, specifically us — General Baptist, are suffering with many internal problems as well. Over the past months, Dr. James Smith of the Moderator's Council has addressed and suggested solutions to some of the conflicts many of our churches are experiencing. At the instruction of President Fuller, the Moderator's Council was challenged to somehow find a long-term solution to such conflicts. Our determination of the cause of most of the problems our churches have is the "lack of knowledge of Baptist Polity."

For the past two years, the Moderator's Council has worked diligently researching for and preparing a Polity Manual. This manual is designed to inform and assist General Baptists with suggested proper procedures to conduct church affairs. We believe this manual is a great start towards long term solutions for church conflict.

On Monday, July 30, 2001, a summit



Joshua J. Haire  
Vice Chairman, Moderators Council

was conducted with the General Board members to discuss necessary input and modifications to the manual to better meet the needs of our churches.

It is the intent of the Moderator's Council in conjunction with Baptist Headquarters to complete and present the first ever General Baptist Polity Manual to our churches at the 2001 Annual Session. We pray that this will yield constructive and positive solutions.

I said previously that "lack of knowledge" was a general statement. What part of God's law/God's ways didn't Israel know? I also said "My people" was a specific directive. We, General Baptists, belong to God. It is not possible for us to be conflict free without an understanding of God's will and way for us.

If you have any questions concerning the efforts of the Moderator's Council relative to the Polity Manual, please contact me, Joshua J. Haire, all 910-692-2022 or [fmbcpastor@aol.com](mailto:fmbcpastor@aol.com) or Dr. James Smith or Rev. W.J. Cox.

## The Central Children's Home Corner

### From the Desk of the 4th Vice President

By Rev. Nilous M. Avery II



By Rev. Nilous M. Avery II

light shine (for everyone), that they may see your good deeds and praise (God) in heaven" (Matthew 5:16, NIV).

How awesome, how profound, how scary! A glimpse of Christ in us:

- A glimpse of Christ's COURAGE as displayed by Peter and John who decided to preach in the name of Jesus, anyway, anywhere, and anyhow (Acts 4:18-19).

- A glimpse of Christ's COMPLETE STEWARDSHIP as displayed by the poor widow who gave all she had to live on (Mark 12:42 & Luke 21:2).

- A glimpse of Christ's COMPASSION as displayed by Stephen when he prayed for his mockers and murderers (Acts 7:60).

- A glimpse of Christ's CONSTANT & CONSISTENT PRESENCE as displayed by the women before the cross, at the cross, at the tomb, on Ascension Day, and before/ during/after the Day of Pentecost.

Many lives have been influenced because of the glimpses of Christ in Christians who have left footprints on the sands

of time. My beloved sisters and brothers, has anyone's life been positively influenced because they saw a glimpse of Christ in us? Has our resistance to temptation and trust in God been a beacon of light to a weary traveler who may be looking for a glimpse of Christ in us? Have we embraced and exhibited a life-surrendering and will-submitting PASSION FOR GOD ... COMPASSION FOR PEOPLE???

The opportunity to provide a glimpse of Christ in us is here! The children/youth of our Central Children's Home in Oxford are watching and waiting to catch a glimpse of Christ in us. Let us shine our lights and stand tall as a city on a hill for God through Christ Jesus our Lord and Savior. Today, this day, I am challenging every General Baptist disciple of Jesus Christ to become a "glimpse-provider" through your support (financial, spiritual) of the Central Children's Home and other General Baptist objectives.

Contact:

Mr. Michael Alston, Executive Director  
211 West Antioch Drive

Oxford, NC 27565  
E-mail: cch@gloryroad.net  
(919) 693-7617; (919) 693-1213;  
(919) 693-3963—FAX  
Rev. Nilous M. Avery II, Fourth Vice-President/GBSC  
Pastor, Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church  
413 N. Church Street, PO Box 2767  
Salisbury, NC 28145-2767  
E-mail: AveryRev.Kin@aol.com  
(704) 637-0954; (704) 633-6227;  
(704) 637-1137—FAX

"The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. My love to all of you in Christ Jesus. Amen." (1 Corinthians 16:23-24, NIV).

### From the Office of the Chairman of the Board of Central Children's Home

Rev. N.T. Davis

Grace and peace be unto you from God The Father and His Son Jesus The Christ.

Time is passing, and Ecclesiastes 3:1-2 says: To everything there is a season and a time to every purpose under the heaven. A time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to pluck that which is planted.

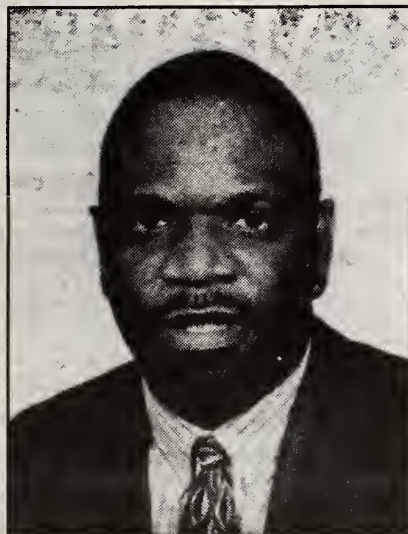
As we look to the month of September and reflect on the summer month, we know that the growing season has come to an end.

I want to take this time to say to all pastors, churches, missionary circles and other groups, that has helped us to maintain our

home. These are trying times, we still need all the support we can get, for our children are back in school. Three are in college, one at UNC Chapel Hill and one at St. Augustine and one at Vance Granville Tech.

Will you come and visit with us that you may see and know what we are doing with the funds we received from you.

Please pray for this ministry and for the children. God loves little children and so should we. As the farmer sell His crop and those who have steady job. Let us remember to share and give to those in need.



Dr. H.C. Miller

cline;

c. to redirect our attention towards the things of God;

d. to make us valid, effective, and operative again to the things of God;

e. to reinforce our spiritual mindedness;

f. to renew our spirits; and renew in us the Spirit of God.

Revival is successful only if it refreshes, renews, revivifies, reanimates, reproduces, renovates, recalls, and reinforces us and our relationship with God.

Usually, a different preacher is brought in to give a refreshing experience a fresh style. So, please, for your sake, don't miss your revivals; they are designed for your well-being. Thank God for Revival!



Submitted by  
Dr. H.C. Miller

Chairman of Evangelism

### "Why Hold Revival"

Why does a church hold revival? Is it because the pastor does not feel like preaching; or is it that he has run out of things to preach? Does the pastor simply want us all to come to church every night as a means of keeping us from attending to other—perhaps, more pressing business? Maybe the reason for revival is that the pastor feels himself a little down and wants to be picked up. Why does a church hold revival?

I have heard that question raised with disturbing frequency. I have even heard the above statements made in answer to the question of revival. Obviously those statements are incorrect!

Then, why do churches hold revival? Revivals are designed to do what the name implies—revive! It is an attempt to revive the life of a congregation. By holding revival, the pastor hopes:

a. to bring us back to a God consciousness;

b. to bring us back to a healthy, vigorous, and flourishing condition after a de-

## Minister's Council

By Leonzo D. Lynch, President,  
Minister's Council

Greetings in the matchless name of our risen Christ. The Ministers' Council will present a Special Field Session Workshop on Sept. 21-22, 2001. The host church will be the Zion Baptist Church, 807 Piedmont Street, Reidsville, N.C., where the Rev. Patrick Cheston is the pastor.

Special emphasis is being put forth from the Ministers' Council to our work across the state.

Workshops, seminars, lectures are being planned to begin on Friday at 7 p.m.-9 p.m. and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

There will be sessions presented to enhance the clergy of North Carolina.

## A Call To Greatness

(Book Announcement)

In 1970, L. Venchael Booth, was appointed a vice-president of the Baptist World Alliance nine years after he founded the Progressive National Baptist Convention (PNBC). PNBC is one of 13 member bodies of the BWA in the United States and Canada.

Now, in recognition of the groundbreaking work of his father who started this historic denomination, Booth's son, William D. Booth, has written *A Call to Greatness*. Booth is pastor of the First Baptist Church, Hampton, Va.

Among the reviews are these:

"...this book is important for several reasons...it provides a survey of the divisions...that produced a new denomination known as the Progressive National Baptist Convention...it is a valiant tribute of a son to a father...and acknowledgment that amid the pain and brokenness of schism...one truth remains: 'the greatest of these is love.' -Bill J. Leonard, Dean and Professor of Church History, Wake Forest Divinity School.

"From the distinct, unique and even privileged vantage point of someone who lived close to the historical drama about which he writes, William D. Booth has produced a most persuasive and moving essay about the actual founder of Progressive National Baptist Convention." - Clarence G. Newsome, Dean and Associate Professor of Church History, Howard University School of Divinity, Howard University, Washington, D.C.

To order *A Call to Greatness*, contact: Brunswick Public Corporation  
PO Box 555, Lawrenceville, Va. 23868  
Website: www.brunswickbooks.com

**MINISTERS/DEACONS/DEACONESS  
TRUSTEES & HEALTH LEADERS CONFERENCE**

**SEPT. 27-28, 2001**

**Host Pastor: Rev. S.H. Barber Jr.**

**Host Church: Emmanuel Baptist Church**

**913 N. Highland St., Gastonia, NC**

*"The Challenge is the Same: Reach the Masses" John 12:32 (KJV)*

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**704-867-5073**

**SINGLES & DOUBLES: \$66.00 + 9% TAX**

**OUR 2000-2001 KNOWN FALL CLERGY  
INFORMATION SHEET**

Moderators! We are preparing our 2000-2001 known fallen clergy section of the Minutes. Would you please list the known deceased clergy in your Association from September 1, 2000 through today's date. Thank you very much!

NAME OF ASSOCIATION \_\_\_\_\_

CURRENT MODERATOR \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE# \_\_\_\_\_ MOBILE # \_\_\_\_\_

PAGER # \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

WEB PAGE \_\_\_\_\_

KNOWN FALLEN CLERGY:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
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10. \_\_\_\_\_
11. \_\_\_\_\_
12. \_\_\_\_\_

Please return E-mail/Fax/Call form in to: BAPTIST HEADQUARTERS  
603 SOUTH WILMINGTON ST., RALEIGH, NC 27601-2338  
800-639-GBSC 919-821-7466 — LOCAL  
919-836-0061 FAX • www.gbsc.org • alogan@gbsc.org

**ALL ROADS LEAD TO ASHEVILLE, NC  
THE 134TH ANNUAL SESSION  
OCT. 28-NOV. 1, 2001**

**Host Pastors: Dr. Nilous M. Avery & Dr. John H. Grant**

**Host Church: Hill Street Baptist Church**

**135 Hill St., Asheville, NC 28801 • (704) 254-4646**

**(MAKES PLANS TO ATTEND)**

**HEADQUARTERS HOTE: RENAISSANCE HOTEL**

**31 WOODFIN STREET, ASHEVILLE, NC**

**SINGLES & DOUBLES: \$89.00 + 10% TAX**

**828-252-8211**

**RESERVATION DEADLINE: SEPT. 29, 2001**

**REGISTRATION AND REPRESENTATION FORM  
ALL ROADS LEAD TO ASHEVILLE, NC  
THE 134TH ANNUAL SESSION**

**Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President**

**Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer**

**OCTOBER 28-NOVEMBER 1, 2001**

**HILL STREET BAPTIST CHURCH, DR. N.M. AVERY, PASTOR**

**MOUNT ZION MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH,**

**DR. JOHN H. GRANT, PASTOR**

Church \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor \_\_\_\_\_

Association \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # Church ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # Pastor ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Your Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Website \_\_\_\_\_

Personal Registration \$10 per person

Number of Messengers \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$10 ea. Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Church Representation \$150 for the Year Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please Send Your Registration/Representation form to:

Baptist Headquarters, 134TH ANNUAL SESSION

603 S. Wilmington St., Raleigh, NC 27601-2338 • 800-639-GBSC(4272) • 919/821-7466

Headquarters Hotel: Renaissance Hotel, 31 Woodfin St., Asheville, N.C.

Singles & Doubles: \$89.00 + 1-% Tax • 828-252-8211

**Reservation Deadline: Sept. 29, 2001**

Visa \_\_\_\_\_ Mastercard \_\_\_\_\_ Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

**REGISTRATION AND REPRESENTATION FORM  
MINISTERS/DEACONS/DEACONESS/TRUSTEES &  
HEALTH LEADERS CONFERENCE**

**Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President**

**Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer**

**SEPTEMBER 27-28, 2001 • GASTONIA, NC**

Church \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor \_\_\_\_\_

Association \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # Church ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # Pastor ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Your Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Website \_\_\_\_\_

Church Representation \$100.00 for the \$Amount \_\_\_\_\_

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By Charolette H. Leach, M.S.

# FAITH AND FITNESS

## As We Wait On God, We Must Have Patience

have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.”

God will help us with all of our struggles, regardless of what it is, if we patiently wait on him and know that he is at work, even when we do not see. This is when we must allow our faith to work patience in us.

Since nutrition is such a struggle for us, please consider the following guidelines that can aid us in our quest to improve our eating habits. You will note that the word “DISCIPLE” is spelled out, because this is exactly what is required to overcome the battle to improve our eating habits.

**D — Do Not Deprive Yourself**

Using definitive words such as “I won’t eat” or “I can’t eat” may set you up for failure. Do not go on a diet, but make gradual changes in your eating habits that will become a way of life. No food should be off limits, if moderation is used.

**I — Insist On Breakfast**

Unless you are fasting, the body should be fueled within 2 to 3 hours of awakening. You should not force the body to work without fueling it. Cereal, toast, or fruit is a good start to your day.

**S — Steps Should Be Tiny and Permanent**

Determine the change that you will make. I will insure that I have 2 servings of fruit every day. Give yourself time to establish that as a way of life and then set another goal. I will not eat anything past 8 p.m. After that is a way of life, set the next goal.

**C — Choose Fast Food On A Limited Basis**

I know that this can be difficult, but it is a must, when you consider the fat, cholesterol, and calorie content of fast food.

**I — Insure Most Foods Eaten Come From The Earth**

“And out of the ground made the Lord God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food” (Gen. 2:9a). From the beginning God gives us food from the ground. At least 75% of what we eat on a daily basis should come from what is grown.

**P — Pray**

Include prayers for the health of our families and ourselves now. Do not wait until a health crises occurs. Pray for strength and wisdom to maintain the health that God has given us.

**L — Learn Self Control.**

Insure that when we eat, that our body actually needs fuel. If we eat because of boredom, anger, depression, or loneliness, take steps to learn to deal with these emotions in the proper way.

**I — Incorporate The 80/20 Rule**

This rule states that we take steps toward proper nutrition 80% of the time. Watching our nutrition does not have to be an “all or nothing” proposition. If you have enough discipline and will-power for

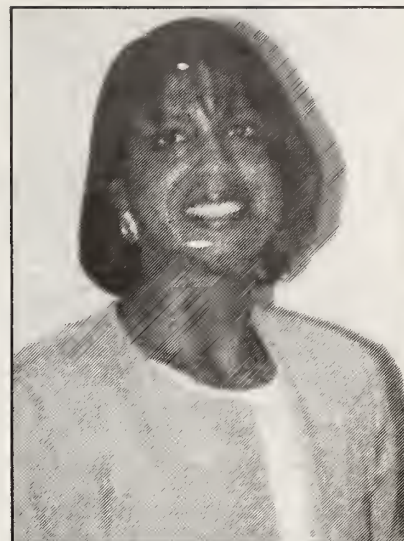
proper eating, 100% of the time, that is wonderful, but if we can eat foods that are nutritious, low in fat and high in fiber 80% of the time, we will reap many benefits.

**N — Never Eat Heavy After 7 PM**

Just as the body needs fuel early in the day, it does not need much fuel later in the day as we wind down. Later in the day, our metabolism is slowing down, and added calories will not have a chance to be burned off. Wait until the next morning and have a good breakfast.

**E — Exercise Regularly**

Remember that nutrition and exercise go hand in hand. God placed 650 muscles in the body. Muscle mass decreases with the natural process of aging. This aging process can be slowed down with physical activity and exercise. Also, our primary muscle, the heart works more efficiently



Charolette H. Leach, M.S.

with exercise Just as with nutrition, incorporate exercise into your life gradually and permanently.

Take steps to incorporate some of these tips into your eating habits and allow the process of improved nutrition to begin in your life. I will be praying with and for you! Be Blessed!

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## New Pastor's Corner

### What True Faith Is

By  
**Rev. Sandra Holland Trotter**  
 Pastor/Shiloh Temple of Faith  
 Missionary Baptist Church,  
 Fayetteville, NC



Rev. Sandra Holland Trotter

One must not imagine that the Christian faith is a bare and mere knowledge of God or an understanding of the Scriptures which flutters in the brain without touching the heart, as it is usually the case with the opinion about things which are confirmed by some probable reason. But faith is a firm and solid confidence of the heart, by means of which we rest surely in the mercy of God which is promised to us through the Gospel. For thus the definition of faith must be taken from the substance of the promise. Faith rests so much on this foundation that, if the latter were taken away, faith would collapse at once, or rather, vanish away.

Hence when the Lord presents to us his mercy through the promise of the Gospel, if we certainly and without hesitation trust him who made the promise, we are said to apprehend his word through faith. And this definition is not different from that of the apostle (Hebrew 11:1) in which he teaches that faith is the certainly of the things to be hoped for and the demonstration of the things not apparent; for he means a sure and secure possession of the things that God promises, and evidence of the things that are not apparent, that is to say, the life eternal.

And this we conceive through confidence in the divine goodness which is offered to us through the Gospel. Now since all the promises of God are gathered together and confined in Christ, and are so to speak, kept and accomplished in him, it appears without doubt that Christ is the perpetual object of faith. And in that object, faith contemplates all the riches of the divine mercy.

If we honestly consider within ourselves how much our thoughts are blind to the heavenly secrets of God and how greatly our heart

distrust the things of God. We shall not doubt that faith greatly surpasses all the power of our nature and that faith is a unique and precious gift of God. For, as Paul maintains (I Corinthians 2:11), if no one can witness the human will except the spirit of men which is in man, how will man be certain of the divine will? If the truth of God in us wavers even in the things that we see by the eye, how will it be firm and stable where the Lord promises the things that the eye does not see and man's understanding does not comprehend?

Hence there is no doubt that faith is a light of the Holy Spirit through which our understandings are enlightened and our hearts are confirmed in a sure persuasion which is assured that the truth of God is so certain that he can but accomplish that which he has promised through his holy word that he will do.

Hence (II Corinthians 1:22; Ephesians 1:13), the Holy Spirit is a guarantee which confirms in our hearts the certainty of the divine truths, and a seal by which our hearts are sealed in the expectation of the day of the Lord. For it is the Spirit indeed who witnessed to our spirit that God is our Father and we are his children. (Romans 8:16).

But without faith is it impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of those which diligently seek him. (Hebrew 11:6).

## State Ushers News

By Alice W. McNair

The Littlefield M. Baptist Church, Newton Grove, NC, celebrated their ushers anniversary July 8th at 3 p.m. Guests were Mt. Zion B. Church, Dunn, NC. Pastor Leroy Smith, choir, and ushers rendered the service. Twelve churches came together and had a glorious time in the Lord.

The N.C. Baptist Ushers Convention met July 20-21, 2001 at the Ebenezer B. Church, Rocky Mount, NC; where Dr. Thomas L. Walker has been pastor for the past 30 years. The convention opened on Friday morning with Dec. Charles Dunn doing devotions. The house was called to order by Pres. Charlie Fletcher. 4th Vice Pres. Archie Lofton presented the convention officers. Roundtree B. Church choir sang "Jesus Keep Me Near The Cross." The theme address was given by Rev. James Barron, pastor of Roundtree B Church, Wilson, NC. (Dean Charlie Rhodes, pastor). Rev. Barron used for a text, the convention's theme St. John 12:32, "How To Reach the Masses." His sermon was a soul-stirring one. He stated; how can a sleeping church wake up a sleeping world—can't be done; the church needs to stop fighting each other get right with God, then we will be able to wake up a sinful world. Rev. Barron, sang, "He Won't Let Me Hold My Peace" accompanied by the choir. Offertory appeal was made by youthful 93 years of age, Bro. Arthur Williams, a former president.

Workshop—Health Report by Nurse Davis; Fire Safety—by a retired fireman for 29 years. It was suggested that the best time to have a fire drill is during Church Conference.

Lunch. Afternoon session opened with 1st Vice Pres. Forest Eaves, presiding. Devotions by the youth. A warm welcome was given by host pastor Thomas L. Walker. Workshop Demonstration: by Pres. Charlie Fletcher and State coordinator Nancy High. Ushers were put in place. Then "How to seat a minister who came in late and stated he wanted to sit in the pulpit." It was enlightening and funny.

Friday night—4th Vice Pres. Archie Lofton presiding. Welcome program by host church, opened with a medley of songs. Host pastor Walker's son, the Rev. Timothy Walker was the speaker. He was introduced by his father who told us, his son is pastor of Walnut Grove B. Church and Moderator of the Franklin County Association. Rev. Timothy Walker came forward and sang, "Yes, God is Real," and spoke from Jeremiah 7:2-3. His subject was "Get Your House in Order." Rev. Walker is a dynamic young preacher. It was preaching and singing at its best! Closing: Saturday 9 a.m.—The Ushers processional—ushers in uniform—ladies in white—men in black lined up outside the church and marched in with pastor Walker singing "We Are Marching To Zion." Approx. 100 ushers or more formed the processional. A beautiful sight

to see ushers marching: Devotions—Reports Rev. Louis Leigh Jr. gave a report on EBCA Tom Housing program. Rev. Leigh is associate pastor of administration at Ebenezer B. Church. Learned that he preached on Monday Night of the Trinity Session. He gave me one of his tapes. Rev. Leigh is a dynamic young preacher. Buy one of his tapes. Thank you Rev. Louis Leigh for the tape.

Greetings by Dr. John D. Fuller, GBSC, President and Dr. Archie Logan Ex. Sect. Treas. GBSC. Workshop—Rev. Haywood Gray, pastor of Temple Memorial B. Church, High Point, NC. His theme: "Bed-toting, Roof Climbing Ushers" Luke 5:17-20. Being Committed to the Task and Creative in the Task. He gave each usher a booklet and discussed each item fully. It was informative. We always enjoy Rev. Gray's Workshop. Third Vice Pres. Willie Evans introduced the president for his annual address. Pres. Charlie Fletcher spoke from Psalms 11:3. "Mending the Bridges of Faith, Love, and Mercy." Look for Pres. Fletcher's address in the Baptist Informer. Closing sermon was by Rev. Daniel Sanders, pastor of Springfield B. Church, Auburn, NC and his choir. The ushers session Closed. This Ushers Convention was one of the best!

Spoke to Pres. Fletcher and 1st Vice Pres. Forest Eaves, about the survey of N.C. Ushers with long years of service. Both presidents agreed that an usher with 30 to 35 years of service should be honored. So usher presidents, let me hear from you.

The next week, July 23-27, 2001, the Woman's Home & Foreign Convention met at the Benton Convention Center, Winston-Salem, NC. Our ushers did an outstanding job there. Ushers working Tuesday and Wednesday: Annette K. Payne, Trainer and coordinator of Forsyth County United Ushers; Member of Union Baptist Church, N. Trade St., Winston-Salem, NC., Dr. Sir Walter Mack, pastor. Mrs. Payne is a very dedicated usher. Jimmie Roberts, Pres. of Ushers, Zion Hill B. Church, Cherryville, NC, pastor is Rev. Roger W. Fuller. Bessie Carson and Maude Sartor, 2nd Calvary B. Church, Charlotte, NC., Rev. Steve L. Carlton, pastor. They all were doing a good job. Mrs. Nancy High, State coordinator is a tireless worker for the Lord. Ushers, you are doing a great work for the Lord. You are God's doorkeepers!

First Vice Pres. Forest Evans sent this announcement: All members of District III Ushers; Deceased Ceremony Committee. Rehearsal for deceased Ushers Ceremony will meet, Sat., Aug. 18, 2001 at 10 a.m. at the St. Paul B. Church, 1401 N. Allen St., Charlotte, NC. Dr. G.K. Moss, pastor, Bro. Eaves, Chairperson.

Send Usher news to PO Box 105, Newton Grove, NC 28366.



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# D-I-V-O-R-C-E

By Alfred L. Early

Divorce has become the hot bed of conversation and matters in our churches today. This unwelcome division in the lives of God fearing persons and the secular world has now caused a split among us all. There is the belief that those who have experienced this unfortunate event are no longer welcome or authorized to lead or be members in churches of today. This thought is due in part because of the old ignorant teachings of the past. It is time to correct the old teachings; give a true and better understanding on this subject and provide proof as it is written in the Bible. Despite the prevalence of divorce in our society, most preachers will not touch the subject.

Those who are not able to maintain a marriage well into the twenty or thirty year mark are now looked upon as misfits in the eyes of many. Life has many difficulties and many find themselves in situations that are either physically or mentally defeating. Depression, anxiety and abuse are now factors in many person's lives. These factors are due in part to a marriage that is no longer working. Most persons go through hours of counseling with professionals. Hate and anger are still the most destructive effect of a divorce. For the children there is the guilt, loneliness, and self-blaming for what parents are suppose to be mature enough to correct.

Along with all that, those of us in the church turn our backs because someone read a scripture or two and decided that both parties are guilty. I have heard too many persons say that one reason a church is not the answer to their prayer is its hypocrisy. "I see what they do to one another, I do not desire to have that type of behavior heaped upon me." We must learn how to lead people to Christ without placing our requirements and judgment on them, showing more of God's love.

This exegesis is not meant to encourage the use of divorce; it is to show that in many cases there is no other way out of a marriage other than death. God did give and authorize the use of divorce. God knew many of us would love several times in this life, because of incompatibility. We must remember man or woman was not made perfect, although we were made in his likeness. "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23).

The divorce matter is the most destructive of all elements that a person will face in their lifetime. It is a fact that in most of the twenty and fifty year marriages, there have been some hard times. In a relationship there is always one person who loves more than the other. You will find throughout the years studies have found some of the long-term marriages have illegitimate children and other relationships that have not come to light. There is also the secret passion in a person's heart for someone else

that has been kept. In our lives there are many curves and hills that at one point seemed impossible to maneuver, sleepless nights. Forgiveness and love of God and mankind is what we must learn before the final test is over and we are summoned home to the light. We are taught the true light, of God. "And the Gentiles shall come to the light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising." (Isaiah 62:1).

In our modern times persons have so many options and money that once a marriage becomes impossible, divorce is an equation that eliminates the trust in our moral standing with God. The need for love to be defined, and the fact that most are looking for the definition in the form of passion or desire, is causing more persons to divorce. If one does not love one self, one can't find love elsewhere. Moses had to deal with this passion and lust problem. Men looked upon women as an item of pleasure. Most women were good to look at and enjoy, without feelings and position. Every man was a priest in his home and community, and he had control and power. Physical strength gave him the authority to make the decisions in his tent or dwelling. The number of wives, children and livestock was an indicator of wealth.

Moses had to deal with the matter of divorce, because of immorality. "When a man hath taken a wife, and married her, and it come to pass that she find no favour in his eyes, because he hath found some uncleanness in her; then let him write her a bill of divorcement, and give it in her hand, and send her out to his house. And when she is departed out of his house, she may go and be another man's wife." (Deuteronomy 24:1-2)

The law further states "And if the latter husband hate her, and write her a bill of divorcement, and giveth it in her hand, and sendeth her out of his house; or if the latter husband die, which took her to be his wife; Her former husband, which sent her away, may not take her again to be his wife, and after she is defiled; for that is abomination before the Lord; and thou shalt not cause the land to sin, which the Lord thy God giveth thee for an inheritance." (Deuteronomy 24:3-4).

This is clear proof that divorce was accepted and desired to correct a matter of which was not correctable. One could not remarry the divorced wife once she was married to another man and that marriage did not work and ended in divorce.

The explanation is often used to explain to the children of Israel who would worship other lords and idols and come back to God for a season or once a difficult matter was corrected. They would find themselves worshipping idols again. This is referred to as a whoredom many times in the Bible.

Around 500 B.C. Ezra came to Jerusa-

lem and promulgated the law as the basis of life of the community. Many were released from slavery and moved from Babylon to Palestine, with wives that were of other nations.

The law for priests was very strict and forbidding. One could not defile one self by touching the dead, except of kin. They could not make their heads bald, no special shavings of the beard (cutting of the corners). The priest would not make cuttings of the flesh like the heathens. One could not profane God's name, he must be holy unto God. He could not marry a whore, profane or divorced woman. "A widow, or a divorced woman, or profane, or an harlot, these shall he not take; but he shall take a virgin of his own people to wife. (Leviticus 21:14). If a priest's daughter became a whore, she shall suffer the death penalty. Priests had qualifications as covered in Leviticus, "Speak unto Aaron, saying, whosoever he be of thy seed in their generations that hath any blemish, let him not approach to offer the bread of his God. For whatsoever man he be that hath a blemish, he shall not approach; a blind man, or a lame, or he that hath a flat nose, or any thing superfluous. Or a man that is brokenfooted, or brokenhanded. Or crookbacked, or a dwarf, or that hath a blemish in his eye, or be scurvy, or scabbed, or hath his stones broken. No man that hath a blemish of the seed of Aaron the priest shall come nigh to offer the offerings of the Lord made by fire he hath a blemish; he shall not come nigh to offer the bread of his God." (Leviticus 21:17-21). A priest could not have any deformities or be associated with such a person.

Ezra a priest by bloodline became upset with the children of Israel's infidelity. They had taken wives from the nations of Canaanites, Hittites, Perizzites, Jebusites, Ammonites, Moabite, Egyptians and the Amorites, which was contrary to the law. All of these nations had idol gods they worshipped. This abomination was considered filthiness to the bloodline of Israel. A covenant was made by the men who had disobeyed this requirement of not mixing with other nations because of the Holy bloodline of Israel. "Now therefore let us make a covenant with our God to put away all the wives, and such as are born of them, according to the counsel of my Lord, and of those that tremble at the commandment of our God: and let it be done according to the law." (Ezra 10:3).

By today's standard we can and the children of Israel may marry any person in the world, no matter what nation that person is from. Nehemiah thought the efforts by Ezra were a bit harsh. The children of Israel were encouraged not to marry outside to the nation, but divorcing and disavowing the children was not encouraged.

God makes a plea to the children of Israel by using the law as an example of Adultery. "They say, if a man put away his wife, and she go from him, and become another man's, shall he return unto her again? Shall not that land be greatly polluted: but thou hast played the harlot with many lovers: yet return again to me, saith the Lord." (Jeremiah 3:1). The law is, a man can't remarry his wife after she has been married to another husband and he divorced her. The same reference is made in (Jeremiah 3:9; 13:27) and an example of what the abomination of whoredom and adultery is.

When Isaiah spoke of God divorcing Israel he mentioned the process, Judah will be put away and no man will be able to help. The Messiah alone has the power to redeem and deliver. "Thus saith the Lord, where is the bill of your mother's divorcement, whom I have put away? Or which of my creditors is it to whom I have sold you; Behold, for

your iniquities have ye sold yourselves, and for your transgressions is your mother put away." (Isaiah 50:1).

This is where the understanding of polygamy and adultery starts and is involved in the matters of marriage. The penalty for adultery was death as stated in the law. Jesus used the information of adultery and fornication in his message while speaking in Galilee. He taught the blessings of the poor in spirit and those who mourn, and are meek, those who hunger and thirst after righteousness, the merciful and pure in heart. Lets not forget those who are peacemakers, but are persecuted for righteousness sake, and are reviled. Jesus was teaching one should be exceeding glad, for your reward is in heaven. Let your light so shine before men. He came to fulfill the law. He later stated in the verse "It hath been said, whosoever shall put away his wife, let him give her a writing of divorcement; (Matthew 5:31). The other element of this message is if a man put his wife or a woman put her husband away for any other reason than fornication this person will be committing adultery and entering into polygamy. "But I say unto you, that whosoever shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, causeth her to commit adultery; and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery." (Matthew 5:32).

Polygamy was first experienced in the Bible with Lamech when he took two wives. "And Lamech took unto him two wives; the name of the one was Adah, and the name of the other Zillah. (Genesis 4:19)

Polygamy was tolerated under the law as it was written in Exodus. The release of slaves took place every 7th years. A woman slave was not freed if she became the wife of her master, unless the husband did not care for her, at that point she could be redeemed by her own family. Otherwise she was to continue as his wife. She could not be sold to Gentiles. If she was to wed the master's son, she was treated like a daughter. "If he take him another wife; her food, her raiment, and her duty of marriage, shall he not diminish." (Exodus 21:10).

According to Israel's law, if a master became desirous of marrying a beautiful woman, who by right of spoils of war had become a slave, he was required to wait a month before completing the marriage. This gave the woman a few days to go through various rites, and adjust her feeling to the new life she was to accept. The master also had time to associate himself with the woman and determine if she was the person he desired. If she was not what moved his passion she was to be sold as a slave. Often there was a son born to these arrangements and the concubine's child was often given what the master desired. "If a man have two wives, one beloved, and another hated, and they have born him children, both the beloved and the hated; and if the firstborn son be hers that was hated; Then it shall be, when he maketh his sons to inherit that which he hath, that may not make the son of the beloved firstborn before the son of the hated, which is indeed the firstborn: But the shall acknowledge the son of the hated for the first-born, by fining him a double portion of all that he hath; for he is the beginning of his strength; the right of the firstborn is his." (Deuteronomy 21:15-17).

In the New Testament, polygamy was not an accepted matter. A monogamy life style became the norm of the law. Luke states, "And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent; Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge (See next page)

ECCLESIASTES 3:4 "... AND A TIME TO LAUGH..."



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Psalms 46:10 "Be Still and Know That I am God"  
"He's More God Than I Ever Need"

## D-I-V-O-R-C-E

*the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead." (Acts 17:30-31).*

A concubine is a woman lawfully united in marriage to a man in a relation inferior to that of the regular wife. Monogamy means being married to one woman at a time by law. Polygamy is when a man has wives and concubines that he is married to at the same time.

This element of immorality was destroying the children of Israel. There was also the spread of disease and the destruction of families. On the coast of Judea just beyond Jordan, the Pharisees asked a question, tempting Jesus. Was it lawful to put away his wife for every cause? *"And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female, And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder." (Matthew 19:4-6).*

Mark covered the same question with more detail and substance. Jesus asked what Moses commanded of them? The answer given was, Moses wrote a bill of divorcement, which allowed a man to put his wife away, mainly because of the hardness of, man's heart. Jesus stated the same message in (Mark 10:6-9) as was written in (Matthew 19:4-6).

The true lesson on forgiveness is deep in the event at Mount of Olives by Jesus when he encounters a woman who was brought to him while teaching in the temple. The Pharisees had caught her in the act of adultery. The penalty for such a sin was to be stoned to death as it was written in the law. *"And all the men of his city shall stone him with stones, that he die; so shalt thou put evil away from among you; and all Israel shall hear, and fear." (Deuteronomy 21:21).* The question to Jesus was what do you say we should do? The Pharisees knew what the punishment was for such a crime. Jesus knowing the deception of the Pharisees stooped down and wrote on the ground, standing he said,

*"He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her." (John 8:7).* Jesus stooped again and wrote on the ground. Those who heard his words were convicted of conscience, and went out with the eldest one by one. The eldest were leaders and knew the law very well. The woman was left standing alone, Jesus asked her where was her accusers? Have they condemned her, and she stated no man Lord. Jesus answered and said, *"Neither do I condemn thee; go and sin no more." (John 8:11).* Many a person has committed this adultery in their minds if not in the physical manor. Only God knows what is in ones heart and mind during the night or day.

It was Jesus who spoke to the Pharisees after the woman was forgiven. *"I am the light of the world; he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." (John 8:12).*

One Pastoral Epistles, First Timothy is now and will always be a controversial writing due in part to scholars who find themselves forced to the conclusion that Paul did not write the letters to Timothy and Titus. There is the absence of characteristic phrases by the sentence construction and other significant linguistic differences between the letters and the remaining ten epistles acknowledged being genuinely Pauline. Linguistic differences may be due to Paul's use of an amanuensis. At the time of the writing Paul would have had to have been out of jail and traveling to Lystra or Spain and re-jailed later. The question still has not been solved in the minds of theologians. Paul completed a lot of didactic material in his time. He wrote for God, and against the use of law to justify the Pharisees actions on which he was well versed. Luke, the writer of Acts 28 did not record any other missions or action of Paul during that period. It is the mind of many that someone desired to continue Paul's work on encouraging the churches while he was in prison and under house arrest, and later taken out the outer gates of Rome and beheaded on or around A.D.67-68.

*(1st Timothy 3:2) "A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behavior, given to hospitality, apt to teach: This one verse has been used to depress and constantly deprive many of a life of service to the Lord or God. People have been kept from remarrying and*

having a fruitful life with another person. Ministers have been kept out of pulpits because it is interpreted "one" to mean he or she cannot remarry if another spouse is living. In many cases the idea is that if one has lost a love one to this life, a person cannot remarry.

Let us deal with the word "one" which means one wife. In this writing the meaning is with the wives and concubines that Bishops and men of wealth had at that time. Monogamy became the standard of life for those who desired to work for and live as God had intended. This movement began when Jesus was born into the world during the New Testament. The argument in silence is that Paul was indeed married at one time. That was a requirement of those priest and aristocratic elders during the Hellenistic period that belonged to the Sanhedrin. The Sanhedrin was abolished after the destruction of Jerusalem A.D. 70. Paul chose celibacy for whatever reason he had, perhaps his wife refused to believe Christ and desired to remain a Pharisee.

Forbidding marriage and hypocrisy was one of the things Paul spoke of as being the demon doctrines. *"Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron; Forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth." (1 Timothy 4:1-3).*

When a person is divorced from a wife or husband on legal and scriptural grounds, which is adultery. Because of the present distress of that day the advice was seek not a wife; but if you do marry you have not sinned. *(1 Corinthians 7:27) "Art thou bound unto a wife: seek not to be loosed. Art thou loosed from a wife: seek not a wife." Some would experience the loss of a loved one that would require readjusting ones life and learn to love on another level. The greatest lesson God would teach us would be how to love and what love really is. It is not a sin to marry again and start a new life.*

As children of God, those persons are loving and kind, having maintained the faith *"That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life." (John 3:15)*

Samuel Ben Hillel and Shammai were among men who did interpretations of Jewish tradition and law. Hillel was the last of the zugot ("pairs"), scholars that headed the Great Sanhedrin, the Jewish high court and executive body. Hillel was also a physician, Talmudic scholar, and philosopher who defended the ideas of the 12th century. Jewish philosopher Mainonides during the Years of controversy. (1289-90) Shammai became a v-bet-din ("presiding justice") of the Great Sanhedrin during the time that Hillel was nasi (president). Like Hillel, he was a member of the Pharisees, a scholarly religious party with popular backing opposed to the Sadducees, a group of priestly aristocrats.

The Hillel and Shammai dispute caused some questions around all Israel. Hillel taught that a man could divorce his wife for any cause whatsoever, Shammai held that a man could not for every cause, but for the one cause of fornication or adultery. With the Jews the right to divorce was all right and to re-marry was accepted without question by all in Israel, Jesus agreed with Shammai on the law of fornication. The law was diluted to allow any cause for a man to divorce. That is as it stands today in Israel. However, it must be understood

certain circumstances are justification for a legal divorce. The reasons for divorce are fornication, abuse of a spouse and or children in the household and deceit of a person who is a close relative. God did not intend for divorce to happen, but it was allowed due to the hardness of mans heart. God granted the legal divorce and remarriage.

*"Whosoever putteth away his wife, and marrieth another committeth adultery; and whosoever marrieth her that is put away from her husband committeth adultery." (Luke 16:18).*

I now can understand what Moses went through after interceding on behalf of God and confronting the Pharaoh. He later was given the release of the nation of Israel and leading them into the wilderness. Generations of idol gods and ill taught laws were indeed hard to change in the minds of the people. It will take some time for many to accept and change the way we deal with divorced persons. So many have suffered because of matters out of their control. Divorce is not an acceptable or desired matter in anyone's life, it happens. Church folk ought to be more forgiving and have the passion of grace and mercy, which is often requested of God.

Yet, we find the persecution of the helpless. It's perhaps because of control that we argue and fight so much in our churches. We have no control at home or in the work place. The church becomes a place where disturbance can dwell. There is no fear of being sacked or fired. We can leave at any time and not have to be responsible to anyone. The fruit of democracy is not a worry, one has control and dictatorship is ok. That is what some think, there belief is what I have been taught and I will not change. There is nobody on earth who one has to give account too. It becomes ok to destroy someone with slander if we do not like that person. The spirit of disruption allows one to keep the church in turmoil just because we can do so. Clergy and parishioners are guilty of doing those things that keep God in the background for the sake of position. The great destructive word that is used in most situations in our church's is, "my." My church is often the word voiced and heard indicating possession of what Paul says the owner is Christ. In our zeal to develop the best edifice, we are more interested in money than souls.

It is now a dark day in this lifetime, the way we conduct ourselves. Every denomination has the problem we can't point the finger at just one denomination. One day we will have to give account for our actions. This earth is only the testing ground for our home in heaven. We must learn the true meaning of love. We can start to study the Word and take it to heart, not use it to take advantage of others or build empires. Everything you own belongs to God, without his grace none of us would have anything. Sometimes I think illness and age is the tool that God uses to get our attention. It's truly the only time most persons will stop and read his Word and call on his name. I thank God for the few who unselfishly spend their time calling on Him for the rest of us. Our grandparents were in love with God, we just love him.

This research has taken many weeks and study to bring to light the truth on divorce in the church and Bible teaching. I pray that some one will be set free and allowed to rejoice feeling no more guilt.

*"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." (John 1:1).*

If you desire please respond to this information, write Rev. Alfred L. Early Jr., PO Box 3915, Lumberton, NC 28359.



### The Brandon's Matriculation to Harvard Business School

Wesley Brandon originally from Fuquay-Varina, NC, and Edrienne Brandon originally from Anchorage, Alaska, will both be attending Harvard Business School this fall 2001. At Harvard Business School they will simultaneously pursue their Masters in Business Administration. The Brandon's met while attending Duke University. Edrienne graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Public Policy Studies. Wesley graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Engineering with concentration in both Biomedical Engineering and Electrical Engineering.

They were married on July 29, 2000, at the Duke University Chapel in Durham, NC. The proud parents are: (Edrienne's) SCSM Edward and Marta Mason. (Wesley's) Wesley and Portia Brandon.

# Friends Helping Friends Family Resource Center, Inc.



Served hundreds of families during the aftermath of Hurricane Floyd — Sept. 1999, the Storm of The Century.

The Friends Helping Friends family resource center was uniquely positioned to provide a diversified range of disaster relief and family resource services. We are excited about the future of the Friends Helping Friends organization as they continue to serve communities in Eastern North Carolina. The Lord has established this center for such a time as this.

"We are reaching outward in the communities to touch the masses, one life at a time, through integrated family resource support services, Outreach Mission Ventures, Children and Youth Developmental Enrichment Programs, Parental Support Groups, Crisis intervention services, Pastoral Counseling, and with our Seniors On The Move Enrichment Programs."

"We're looking Backwards to thank the Lord for the great things he has done in allowing us to touch the lives of hundreds of families."

"We're reaching inward to enrich the lives of children, youth, teens, young adults, senior citizens."

"We're reaching forward with greater plans for the center to provide structured model family services throughout the State of North Carolina."

"We're Reaching crossward with a servant's attitude as we try to strive to serve multi-cultural citizens of the community at large."

A special word of thanks to all the sponsoring churches of Carteret and Craven Counties, disaster relief organizations, and to the many individuals that has supported and labored with us graciously.



# SHAW UNIVERSITY

## From the Office of the Third Vice President

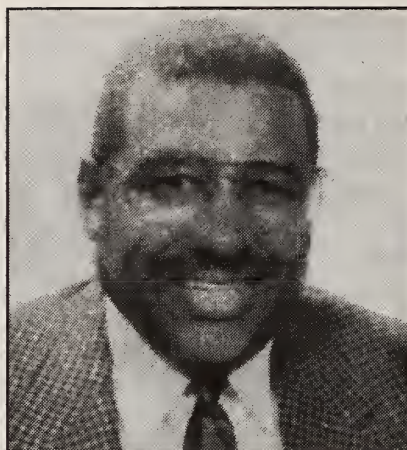
Rev. N.T. Davis

### Shaw University and Shaw Divinity School News

Grace from God our Father and His only son Jesus, and His Holy Spirit which He left to be our comforter until His return. He will guide you, aide you, teach you, lead you, cleanse you from all sin and unrightousness. Jesus said, "Behold I stand at the door and knock. If any man open up his heart I will come in." Remember this ministry and mission in prayer. Pray for us every day as the Youth of this age receive the proper education.

Fall is here and it is back to the books and study hall. Pray for our youth, if it was ever a time we all need prayer it is now. The condition of this world is poor. Let us share our Faith and our gifts with Shaw University and Shaw Divinity School.

Please send us some of your students that we give to them the best quality of education this nation has to offer.



Rev. N.T. Davis

Pray for our leader Dr. Talbert O. Shaw who makes many sacrifices for this place. Let us support the faculty and staff.

If we really come together the sky is the limit on what we can do, for together we stand. There are many cape programs around the state, for persons who still need to get a degree. Let us love one another as the Father hath loved his son and His son hath so loved us.

## Shaw University Student Studies The Influence of Heat on Society

By JAY PRICE, Staff Writer, N&O

Sure it's hot, but not like it's going to be a decade from now. Whoa, no need to debate: We're not talking about global warming; we're talking about local warming, triggered by all the spreading concrete and pavement. A 21-year-old Shaw University student on a summer internship with the State Climate Office has linked the urban growth in the Raleigh area over the past century with a 3-degree increase in the average daily high temperatures for each year.

Tiffanee Jones, a rising senior from Asheville, compared 100 years of data from weather instruments stations across Wake County and other parts of the state with 70 years of aerial and satellite images showing the city's expansion.

She found that not only was it hotter, but also that it was raining more: Annual precipitation was up by an average of 2 inches.

Dr. Dev Niyogi, an associate state climatologist who oversaw Jones' work, said her conclusions were solid and imply that the mercury is rising in other growing parts of the Triangle.

"It's real," he said. "We're seeing local-scale climate changes, and of course, climate is local, like politics, because people care what is happening around them, even if they aren't concerned about something like a glacier melting in the Arctic."

The effect is called an "urban heat island," and it's an accepted fact in cities across the country, where it is blamed for boosting air-conditioning bills and worsening smog.

Heat islands are created when asphalt and buildings replace trees and grass. Fewer trees mean less shade and less evaporation from leaves to carry heat away. And dark materials such as asphalt and roofing hold heat rather than reflect it skyward, then release it after dark, keeping nighttime temperatures higher, too.

City dwellers, of course, have known for decades that where they live is hotter. But only in the past decade or so have scientists begun to seriously study the problem.

In Houston, for example, NASA researchers found temperatures could be 8 degrees higher in the city than in rural areas a few miles away. In Atlanta, NASA found that the summer temperature differential between urbanized areas and suburbs has risen to 10 to 12 degrees.

A study of Houston by the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, based in Berkeley, Calif., concluded that a 1-degree temperature increase there could raise the smog risk by 3 percent.

A recent study using a computer model of Los Angeles indicated that if the city covered 5 percent of its land area by planting 10 million shade trees and switched to lighter-colored material for its roofs and roads, air conditioning bills could be cut by 18 percent, or \$175 million a year. By reducing smog, the measures would also slash \$360

million of smog-related health expenses.

Heat islands have become such a serious problem in places such as Houston, Baton Rouge and Atlanta that the city governments are planning to or have already enacted ordinances to encourage lighter-colored construction and paving materials and saving or planting more trees, said Hashem Akbari, head of the heat island group at the Lawrence Berkeley lab.

His group, which is funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy, studies heat islands and ways to cool them.

The additional rainfall Jones found reinforces the findings about temperature, he said, since heat islands are known for generating thunderstorms by causing a highly local low-pressure area.

What's more, he said, higher temperatures stand out in sharp relief against slight temperature drops in rural parts of North Carolina.

Jones said that when she started the scholarship, the climatologists started going down a list of potential projects and she stopped them at the first one, that of the potential urban heat island.

Being from the mountains, she said, every time she returned to college it always struck her how much hotter it was in Raleigh, so the idea intrigued her.

She said she was thrilled with the outcome of her internship, which was through the National Science Foundation's Minority Graduate Education Program.

"Now I'm definitely interested in a career in either meteorology or climatology that involves research," she said.

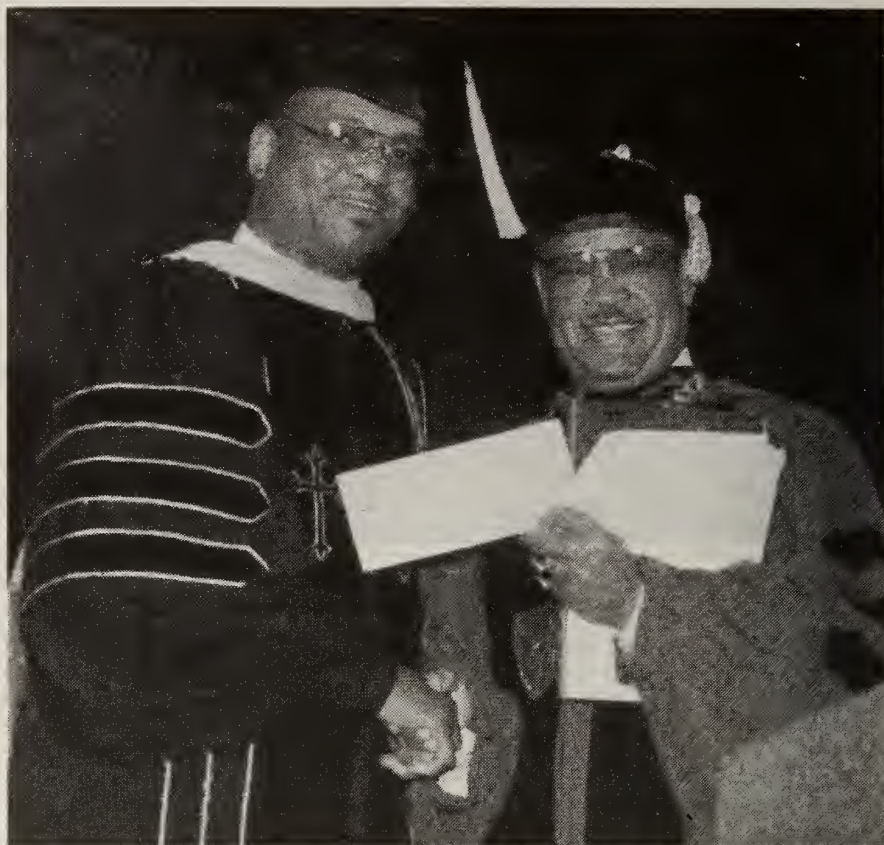
Jones is off to an impressive start: Other scientists in state climate office will continue to add to her work, and Niyogi said it's likely she will be listed among the authors of a research paper, along with himself, head state climatologist Dr. Sethu Raman and associate state climatologist Ryan Boyles. They hope to publish it in a national or international scientific journal.

The office will revisit the issue later, Niyogi said. They want to take a broader look at the phenomenon, using more data from other locations, and do computer modeling to see how changes in growth patterns would affect heat islands.

The good news, for Raleigh at least, is that temperatures seem to be leveling off, he said. That may be because the core of the city is built out, he said. On the other hand, it probably means that the region's growth elsewhere is spreading the urban heat.

News researcher Brooke Cain contributed to this report.

Staff writer Jay Price can be reached at 829-4526 or [HYPERLINK "mailto:jprice@newsobserver.com"](mailto:jprice@newsobserver.com)



Dear Pastors:

We would like to thank you for the consistent support you and your congregations have given Shaw University over the years. The University is committed to providing quality educational programs and experiences for individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds who, otherwise, might not be able to afford a college education. Shaw University is undertaking a new initiative that, with your assistance, will allow us to maximize donations received from member General Baptist State Convention (GBSC) churches.

With donations coming from hundreds of Baptist churches across North Carolina, we know that many of the donors in these churches are Shaw University alumni. However, individual alumni donations are not counted because funds designated for Shaw University are sent to the University as an individual gift from member churches on behalf of their congregations. This lack of documentation is hurting the University financially, as we are losing precious funding from corporations and foundations because it is incorrectly perceived that our alumni do not support Shaw University. Many corporations and foundations believe that they should not support an organization, such as Shaw, whose closest constituents don't provide support.

In order to remedy this situation, we need your assistance. We are asking our member churches that hold Annual "Shaw Days" to please make a special announcement during the activity requesting all Shaw University alumni to note on their checks "Shaw Alum and their class year." We further ask that your office assistants provide a list of these individuals, including their names, addresses, amount of donations and class years and insure that the list is forwarded with your checks to Shaw University, GBSC, or through your Association. This will help the University increase the percentage of alumni donors who support their alma mater and in-turn will allow the University to qualify for funding from corporations and foundations.

Shaw University is doing great things, and can continue to do so with the committed support of our fellow brethren.

Together there is no limit to what we can do!

Blessings,

Dr. Archie Logan

Dr. Talbert O. Shaw

**General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.**

**Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President**

**Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer**

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# NEWS AROUND THE GLOBE

## Department of Education Cities Pressure to Modify Restrictions on Financial Aid

By Carol J. Smith, Associate Editor

WASHINGTON, D.C. — *The Chronicle of Higher Education* reported that the Department of Education might relax a provision denying student aid to those with drug convictions. The expected change in policy would continue to ban financial assistance in the form of loans and grants to those convicted of a drug crime while already receiving aid, but exempt those whose convictions occurred before they received aid.

According to the latest Department of Education data, 35,326 would-be college students have been fully or partially denied financial aid by the DOE this year — with 25 percent of applications remaining to be processed — because they reported a past drug conviction on their aid application. Shawn Heller, National Director of Students for Sensible Drug Policy says, "We are gearing up for campaigns against this law on over 150 campuses this fall. The

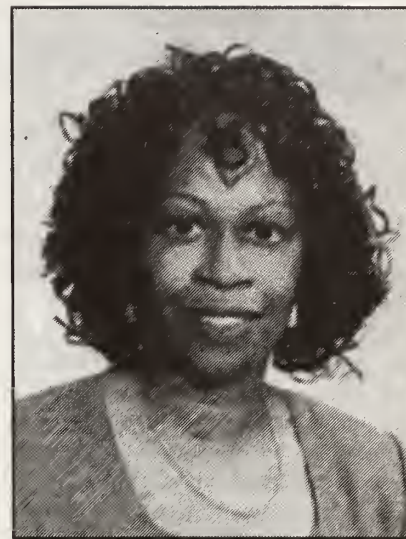
Department's proposed changes won't stop our organizing. We're going to get this law repealed."

Leading education groups agree with Heller's sentiment. Terry Hartle, vice president of government relations for the American Council on Education said of the proposed policy change, "It would obviously make a bad idea more palatable, but it will still be a bad idea."

David Borden, Executive Director of the Drug Reform Coordination Network (DRCNet) said, "We're happy that some would-be students with past convictions will now be allowed to move on with their lives. But this so-called 'reform' addresses none of the crucial issues that our coalition has been raising, and the law in its proposed new form will still discourage tens of thousands of students every year from completing their college careers. Anyone who thinks that will reduce drug abuse needs a new anti-drug."

A wide variety of organizations, including the NAACP, American Public Health Association and United States Student Association have charged that the HEA drug provision is an extra-judicial second punishment suffered only by the poor and middle class, and that it imposes racial disparities on the education system because of unsolved criminal justice problems including racial profiling.

New Drug Enforcement Agency Administrator Asa Hutchinson spoke out two weeks ago on this issue, telling the *Los Angeles Times* that he would support drug offenders to remain eligible for college financial aid. Hutchinson said that many drug offenders who wish to further their education find themselves barred from receiving student aid "even though they've turned their lives around." Allowing such people to receive financial aid would help them "get back to leading useful, productive lives."



Carol J. Smith, Associate Editor

Hutchinson's opposition to the student aid ban is a response to guidance he received from education experts. In May, 13 leading education associations representing admissions officers, community and state colleges, financial aid administrators and students groups, sent a letter to the newly nominated Hutchinson, calling the HEA drug provision a "fundamentally flawed piece of legislation."

### ----- Dr. Frank Ray Sr. To Conduct Revival In South Carolina -----

Wednesday, October 24 through Friday, October 26, 2001, Dr. Frank Ray Sr., Pastor of the New Salem Missionary Baptist Church, Memphis, Tennessee will conduct an area wide revival at the Boyd Hill Baptist Church, Rock Hill, SC (20 miles south of Charlotte, NC). The services will begin nightly at 7 p.m.

For over two and a half decades, Rev.

Frank Edward Ray Sr. has dedicated his life to preaching and teaching the gospel of Jesus Christ. As the prominent pastor of the New Salem Missionary Baptist Church, he has aided in the upbuilding of God's Kingdom by tirelessly leading and guiding new disciples to Christianity. Because of his devoted faith in God, many lives have been dramatically changed and touched. As a

result of his leadership and supervision, New Salem has developed into the spiritual temple that exists today. With a congregation of approximately 4,500 active members, it is easy to see why New Salem is a "beacon of light" within the community.

Pastors Gerald Searles of Galilee Baptist Church, Oakboro, NC, Ronnie Baxter of

Union Baptist Church, Rock Hill, SC., and Rev. Barber of Boyd Hill Baptist Church envisioned bringing the Carolinas together for this anointed occasion. If you need directions or have any question you may call (704) 532-6813 for Pastor Searles, or email GalileeNC@aol.com; (803) 327-7255 for Pastor Baxter; or (803) 985-4446 for Pastor J. Thomas Barber.

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# NEWS AROUND THE GLOBE

## Global Mission Home and Abroad

### "To Whom It May Concern"

By Rev. Dr. Elbert Lee Jr.

This is a letter introducing a Christian non-profit co-operation, called "Holy-Holy Global Mission," home and abroad. "Holy-Holy Global Mission" was or has been established mainly to carry out the word and love of our Father, The Almighty God in sharing all assistance in clothing, food, clothing, medicine and medical assistance; financial assistance, bibles, children school supplies and last but not least all assistance possible for the needs and help of all people of Monrovia, Liberia, in West Africa and other Africa countries.

The chairman of "Holy-Holy" is the Rev. Dr. Elbert Lee Jr., pastor of the North End Missionary Baptist Church. In addition to pastoring he is also affiliated with other organizations. The president of "Holy-Holy," Dr. Pearl Younis Grayson, a patriot daughter and great-granddaughter of Liberia, a member of North End Missionary Church and a born Christian. Liberia being the first independent and most peaceful country in the entire Africa, a country founded by the American colonization society for the return of freed slave to Africa after slavery. A hard working country for the entire Africa's Freedom (The Mother of OAU).

Liberia started in 1822, Liberia is more than a hundred years old, has been a hard

and prosperous, uplifting encouragement to all other African countries independence.

Liberia had never had political clashes, nor problems all her life, not until the early '80s for the first time in history. After or in the 90s a civil political war broke up. That war destroyed Liberia in many ways.

#### The Last Supper

The last supper was an opportunity for a final act of table fellowship between Jesus and his disciples. Clearly Jesus anticipates his imminent death and as such give sacramental overtones to the bread and the wine as symbols of his body and blood. The blood of Jesus was to become the new basis or kinship among those who are within the true family of Christ. This became the basis of Christians calling themselves brothers and sisters.

We are looking forward to our trip back to Liberia by the end of August through September, 2001. We will be having all needs and every possible means of assistance to our brothers, sisters, children and churches of the great Liberia shipped in advance of the trip to enable our meeting upon arrival.

A copy of one meeting with the city council and "Holy-Holy" in the newspaper is included.

It is no secret what God can do, what he's done for others, he'll do for you.



Joshua J. Haire Jr., Pastor of First Missionary Baptist Church in Southern Pines, N.C.; Moderator of Pee Dee Education Association and Vice Chairman of the Moderator's Council of the General Baptist State Convention was recipient of the prestigious Washington Times Foundation National Service Award. The award honors America's faith-based community leaders (one from each of the 50 states) who have made outstanding contributions in the arena of humanitarian service. The special commendation was presented to Haire on May 15, 2001, at the National Service Awards Banquet — "Salute to National Heroes" held in the U.S. House of Representatives Rayburn Building in Washington, D.C.

## GBSC Pastor Receives National Service Award

The following article was written and published by the Fayetteville News and Observer:

#### Love for Community Drives Community Preacher

By Allison Williams, Staff Writer

In 1994, the case of a teenager who killed her baby shocked Pastor Joshua Haire Jr.

The teenager was a member of Haire's congregation at First Missionary Baptist Church in Moore County. Haire prayed about it and asked his congregation, "Can anything good come out of West Southern Pines?"

He and his members answered that question. They started a program for teenagers and a movement grew from there.

The work won Haire recognition. On Tuesday morning, May 15, he and his wife, L'Tanya, left their Fayetteville home for Washington, D.C., to receive the Washington Times Foundation's National Service Award.

"Now, that will humble you," Haire said. "To God be the glory for this. It just proves to forget about yourself and help someone else get noticed. We're doing what we're supposed to do with our lives."

#### Saving the community

The Haires live near E.E. Smith High School. They grew up in Fayetteville. He is an E.E. Smith graduate. She went to Terry Sanford and now works for the Cumberland County school system.

Haire said his wife is responsible for carrying out many of the programs at First Missionary Baptist that earned him the award. L'Tanya Haire said her husband is the one with the vision.

Haire began his ministry in Fayetteville while he worked for the city's inspection department. Haire took over his father's church, First Missionary Baptist, after his father's death. The church is in West Southern Pines, a community once referred to in a newspaper article as "Crack Town."

It is better now, Haire said, but "Kids here don't have a stable life. There are kids who live among nothing."

There was one child who especially

troubled Haire. Shanda Little. In 1994, police said Shanda gave birth to and killed her baby girl. It stunned Haire that a teenager in his church could be in so much pain and no one knew. He prayed, "Lord, if you will give me direction, we've got to do something to save these kids."

Haire went back to his congregation and preached a sermon. And that was the beginning of a series of programs to help children, starting with Teens for Christ.

But it was not enough for Haire. He decided the church needed to help adults, and opened separate homes for men and women. And then, Haire wanted to pull the entire community. The church has set up partnerships with groups such as the Moore County school system and FirstHealth of the Carolinas.

"He's done a wonderful job moving forward to help our children," said Pat Russo, Superintendent of Moore County Schools. "Anybody who is willing to do for his kids, our kids, is surely deserving of any recognition."

Many people in Haire's programs have turned their lives around for the better," Haire said. "Others we lose."

Some programs have failed. And the Haire's have watched many others succeed...the drug-free mini camps, teen pregnancy prevention programs and tutoring classes.

"You have to understand the community where they are," said Rebecca Ballard, community development coordinator for FirstHealth. "I guess you would call it a high risk under served community."

She said the Haires and First Missionary have made it easier for her to provide services ranging from water and sewer assistance to health screenings. She has seen results.

"It's been a sin-win situation," Ballard said. "To work through churches, it's kind of an access point, a place where people feel comfortable."

The culmination of these projects, Haire hopes, will be a family resource center. Haire said he will put his award money toward the building fund.

He said, "I think I was destined to be here."

**The deadline to submit information for the "Baptist Informer" is the 10th of each month prior to publication.**

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We accept ads by the column inch on a monthly or yearly basis. Due to our non-profit status ONLY ads that directly offer religious services to our member churches will be accepted. The cost of our "information service" will include ONLY the cost of printing your service-related ads.

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OFFICE OF THE EDITOR  
 BAPTIST INFORMER

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# NEWS AROUND THE GLOBE

## Health and Human Services Awarded New Grant

The Office of Health and Human Services (HHS) is pleased to announce the award of \$780,000.00 from the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust of Winston-Salem. With this grant, it is our hope to carry out intensive faith and health activity within a network of 88 churches affiliated with four GBSC associations. Partnering associations are: County Line Association, Rev. Terry Taylor, Moderator, Franklin County Missionary Baptist Association, Rev. Timothy Walker Sr., Moderator; Middle Baptist Association, Rev. S.E. Blalock, Moderator and United Shiloh Association, Rev. Lacy L. Joyner, Moderator.

The project will focus on building capacity within churches to encourage and support health promoting life styles. Persons selected by their congregation will be trained as exercise, nutrition and spiritual fitness advocates and activity leaders. Some leaders will receive special exercise training, while others will focus on nutrition. All leaders will complete a seminar on faith and health.

Participating churches will be encouraged to form faith and health ministries to enable members to have easy access to health promoting activities. Project staff will provide advice and support.

Within the next three months, we hope to complete a congregation health assessment protocol that will enable churches to build health ministries better suited to the needs of their membership. We are pres-

ently working on strategies to extend the work on end of life decision-making. In addition, we are identifying ways to facilitate building interest in HIV/AIDS prevention.

Last August, during the Deacon/Deaconess and Health Leaders Conference in Raleigh, we gained considerable insight into activities some churches are currently sponsoring. We also learned about the challenges persons of faith must deal with in their commitment to serve all of God's Children.

We believe these activities will be a blessing to the participating churches and eventually to all GBSC churches. With advice and counsel from our Advisory Board, we will seek ways to carry lessons learned to other churches concerned about the health of their congregations and communities.

We are especially grateful to Dr. Fuller for his vision and support; to Dr. Logan, who encourages and enables the Health and Human Services mission; and to our Advisory Board Chairman, Rev. Cornelius Moore, and an exceptional board for advice and guidance.

The Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust was created in 1947 by the will of Mrs. William N. Reynolds of Winston-Salem, NC. Three fourths of the income of the trust is designed for use for health-related programs and services across North Carolina and one fourth for the poor and needy of Winston-Salem and Forsyth County.

## The History of the Red Branch Missionary Baptist Church

History Compiled From Church Records  
and Official Mecklenburg Documents

Compiled by: Dr. E.R. Kirkpatrick Sr.,  
member of 62 years

Dorothy King Sr., member of 78 years

Rev. Daimon L. Rawlinson Sr., Pastor

Red Branch Missionary Baptist Church was birth out of the former Salem Hill Presbyterian Church, which was located in the Arlington Community of the Clear Creek Township in Mecklenburg County. It was in the heart of a few slaves to see this church formed. It was September 1866 on the fourth Sunday one year after President Abraham Lincoln freed the slaves in the south that the first service was held after leaving Salem Hill Presbyterian Church. These slaves were present when the Salem Hill Church was started in the 1840's on a plantation owned by the Hinson Family.

Several Families migrated to Red Branch from Salem Hill. The first services were held from house to house until a building was found. The known founding families were the Wallace's, Russell's, Morris's, Montgomery's, Maxwell's, Home's and Baxter's. It was not long afterward that this body of believers secured an old schoolhouse in the township of Mint Hill, which was also located in Mecklenburg County and began to hold services there. This land was owned by the Mecklenburg County School Board. There was a branch that ran in front of it, which was always red and muddy. From this muddy red branch came the name Red Branch Baptist Church.

The first pastor is unknown, but the first deacon was Stephen Home and the first trustees were Spence Wallace, George Montgomery and Louis Morris. The church was at this time part of the Yadkin Philadelphia Baptist

Association and the North Carolina Baptist Convention. Red Branch purchased the land on which the school they worshipped in, which was one acre lot in 1906 from the Mecklenburg County School Board. In 1907 the first church was built. The congregation grew and progressed. In 1913 the church purchased a joining piece of property, which was one acre from M.F. Caudle.

The first known pastor was Rev. Wolf. He was followed by Rev. Boyd and Rev. Douglas, who pastored in the 1800's as well. In the 1900 the church called Rev. Perkins. It was under his leadership the first church was built. Pastors Witherspoon, G.S. Homes, Flakes, V.C. Burns, P.F. Long and M. Mackey served this congregation as well. It was in 1935 that the second edifice was erected under the leadership of Pastor D.M. Maxwell. The church joined the Lane Creek Association in 1936. Revs. G.W. Moore, M. McMoore, Sturdivant and McCullough all pastored at Red Branch. The church continued to have services on 2nd and 4th Sunday afternoon and held Sunday School every Sunday morning.

In 1948 Pastor J.C. Robinson became pastor. While pastoring Red Branch, he also pastored Mt. Moriah Baptist in Matthews, NC, Olive Branch Baptist in Olive Branch, NC and Mt. Zion Baptist in Albemarle, NC. Under his leadership the church grew tremendously and the fellowship hall was built. Pastor Robinson left the church in 1966. In late 1966 Pastor M.C. Moore became pastor. He too pastored more than one church. At the time he also pastored Boyd Hill Baptist Church, Rock Hill, SC. Under his leadership the third church was built in 1970.

In 1978 Pastor Moore recognized the call

## Family and Friends Day at New Zion

*"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! Psalm 133:1*

Family and Friends Day will long be remembered by those in attendance at New Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Sanford, NC. The speaker for the occasion was Evangelist Glendora Hargrove and music was furnished by The Unity Fellowship Ensemble of Henderson.

The program began with Call to Worship by Pastor Al Harrison. The congregation sang "What A Fellowship," Minister John Kevin Stokes read the 34th Psalm, and Pastor Al offered prayer. Songs, praises, and testimonies followed. The Unity Fellowship Ensemble took their position in the choir stand and brought everyone to their feet as they sang, "Glad To Be In The Service."

Sister Kathreen Stringfellow took charge of the Youth Moments. Her message on "The Power of Prayer" inspired both the young and old.

During the offering we were blessed with more selections by the Ensemble. Brother Steve Hargrove, son of Evangelist Hargrove, exhibited his many talents by playing, singing, and directing the group.

Following offertory prayer, Pastor Harrison introduced the guest speaker, Evangelist Hargrove is Associate Minister at Woodworth Baptist Church in Henderson, NC. She also teaches math in the area high school. She is a talented singer, a powerful speaker, and most of all a child of God.

Her message was preached by two moving selections "Have Your Way In This Place" and "Wait 'Til I Get There." She preached a powerful sermon. Subject, "Come Out Of The Wilderness Into The Promised Land." Text Joshua 1:1-9.

Because of their unbelief, the children of Israel spent 40 years in the wilderness. God prepared Joshua, Moses's successor, to lead them into the promise land. She pointed out that we are much like the Israelites—searching and wandering and looking for the promised land. We find ourselves in all kinds of "wilderness situations" such as financial woes, sickness, sorrow, and depression. We stand on the edge

of a breakthrough, but because of our doubts, impatience, disobedience, and unbelief, we continue to "wander and look for the promised land." God stands with open arms, always willing and ready to help if only we follow the same instructions that were given to Joshua: 1) Be strong and courageous, 2) obey the law, 3) and meditate on His word. If we repent and obey His commands, we can enter into the promises of God. He will make our way prosperous so that we can "come out of the wilderness into the promised land."

Many came forward during altar call. Prayer for healing, strength, and deliverance were offered.

Pastor Harrison and wife Brenda are former members of the Unity Ensemble, and it was most enjoyable when they joined the group in performing the final two selections, "Somehow I Made It Over," and "It's Good To Know Jesus."

Evangelist Hargroves brought closing remarks, prayer and blessings for the food. We were dismissed to the dining area for feast and fellowship.

Upon approaching the parking lot early Sunday morning, one couldn't help but notice the huge grills and deep fat fryers under the trees. Trustees Roger Lake and Jerry Quick had put aside their Sheriff's uniforms, donned their Chef's attire, and were demonstrating their culinary skills by preparing steaks, chops, ribs, chicken, turkey, hot dogs, hamburgers, and hushpuppies for the feast. Their wives along with several other ladies of the church were scurrying to and fro as they prepared to serve a variety of vegetables, salads, desserts, and beverages. What a feast! It was enjoyed by all.

As the shadows grew long, farewells could be heard as families and friends slowly departed and went their separate ways. Visitors in attendance were from Durham, Norlina, Graham, Henderson, Cameron, Fayetteville and Hope Mills, as well as local area churches.

Deepest appreciation goes out to EVERYONE who attended and helped to make this day successful. Above all, thanks be to God for allowing us to come together and receive such blessings. Burdens were lifted, hearts were touched, souls were stirred.

of God on the life of Rev. Everlene Russell Kirkpatrick. She was licensed and one year later ordained. Before Rev. Moore's resignation due to illness the church burned its mortgage in 1978. Rev. Moore left in 1979.

Rev. E.R. Kirkpatrick who was a daughter of the church, served as supply minister until the church called Rev. Winford Galmon in December 1980. In 1981 Rev. Kirkpatrick was called out of Red Branch to the Rocky Ridge Missionary Baptist Church, Concord, NC. She became the first known female pastor in North Carolina Baptist Convention. Under Pastor Galmon's leadership the church grew.

The church was remodeled. This included a new pastor study, an indoor baptism pool, central heat and air, new piano and a new sound system. It wasn't until 1986 that Pastor Galmon lead Red Branch to become a stationed church. Service began to be held every Sunday. In 1993 Pastor Galmon passed.

In 1994 Pastor Nathan Blackwell was elected. Several accomplishments were made under his leadership. In December 1998 he re-

signed due to direction from God.

In November 1999, Red Branch called its youngest ever Pastor. He was Daimon L. Rawlinson Sr. This was quiet different for the church. The membership was at its lowest ever, 16. Pastor Rawlinson came in with vigor and a positive attitude. We purchased our first van in church history. Our membership has grown to 200. Our finances have been greater than the church has seen. Pastor Rawlinson is the first fulltime pastor in church history. We have seen many blessings since his coming and we are looking forward to our future with God and our Pastor. Red Branch is still located on the property it started on and in the third building and currently in a building project that will take the church to Charlotte into its 4th building; moving 7 miles from current location. Ground Breaking set for September 22.

This year we will be celebrating our 135th Anniversary as Mecklenburg County's oldest Black Baptist Church. We are very proud to still be in the business of saving Souls.

# ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

## GATEWAY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CREDIT UNION

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mote community, self sufficiency, and good money management. And in the new millennium, Gateway will remain committed to *"Building A Spirit of Community."*

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#### OUR MISSION

Gateway's mission is to promote thrift among its members by affording them an opportunity to accumulate their savings, and to create for them a source of credit at a fair and reasonable rate of interest, and to provide for its members an opportunity to use and control their own money to improve their economic and social condition.

#### CREDIT UNION MEMBER SERVICES

In its few years of existence, Gateway has gained a committed and growing membership base. Currently serving a thousand plus members each day. Gateway offers services designed to enhance the member's experience. By offering quality services, the door to success has been opened for many of the credit union's members. Take a moment to see what we have to offer.

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- Signature
- Home Improvement
- Education

#### Deposit Accounts

- Share (savings)
- Share Certificates
- Christmas Club
- ATM

#### Youth Credit Union

- Monthly meetings
- Share accounts (savings)
- Annual Trips
- Leadership Skills

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- Pre-qualification for ... church loans

#### MEMBER APPLICATION

Member: \_\_\_\_\_

Account #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Employment: \_\_\_\_\_

SSN/TN: \_\_\_\_\_

Driver's License: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Maiden Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Eligibility for Membership: \_\_\_\_\_

#### ACCOUNT TYPE

- Share (savings)
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- Loan
- ACH, Direct Deposit
- Payroll Deduction
- Other

Your Account is ....

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and Organizations

#### For More Information

Gateway's staff is dedicated to providing you with the best service possible. To inquire about becoming a member of our community development credit union, please contact:

*Operations Manager:* Thomas Spence  
at Gateway Credit Union

314 South Garnett Street  
Gateway Building, Suite 10  
Henderson, N.C. 27536

Business (252) 492-5854 or Fax (252) 492-7832

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## VACANT POSITION

#### Pulpit Vacancy

The pulpit committee of Olive Branch Missionary Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of pastor. Applicants should possess the following qualifications:

Must be a born-again, spirit-filled, ordained and divinely called minister with strong family and community values.

Must be a licensed Missionary Baptist minister.

Must be able to preach and teach Bible study.

Must have a broad knowledge of the Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures.

Must have experience as a senior or associate pastor.

Must be able to administer communion, perform baptisms, weddings and funerals.

Must possess strong and proven administrative skill and experience.

Must possess good oral and written communication skills and have the ability to communicate with all age groups.

Must be a just and fair individual and possess tact.

College degree is preferred but will consider any combination of education and pastorate experience.

Responsibilities will be in accordance with the bylaws of the church.

Resumes should be sent to:

The Pulpit Committee  
Brother Elonza Joyner, Chair  
106 Graves Avenue  
Elizabeth City, N.C. 27909

# VACANT POSITIONS

## EMMANUEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENT

Seeking Full-time Christian Minister of Music, Loyal and Committed to God's program. Must possess people skills, be trained as a Musician, Conductor and Choir Director.

Salary: Commensurate with training and experience.

Interested persons may send resume/portfolio to:

Attention: Trustees  
Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church  
913 N. Highland Street, Gastonia, NC 28052

## CHURCH MUSICIAN

We are seeking to employ a person of Christian faith and character to serve as musician/director for the music department of the church.

Responsibilities include teaching music for church choirs, choir directors and other musicians. Proficiency in reading music is a requirement and some versatility in "playing by ear" will only serve to enhance the church's music department.

Applicants are asked to send resumes and references to:

**United Institutional Baptist Church**  
Rev. Johnny R. Freeman, Pastor  
802 East Market Street, Greensboro, NC 27401  
Phone: (336) 272-0822\*Fax: (336) 230-0274

\*Salary is negotiable and is commensurate with training and experience.

## FIRST AFRICAN BAPTIST CHURCH

803 East Harris St., Goldsboro, N.C. 27530

Pastor: Dr. Freddie I. Barnes

### POSITION AVAILABLE: DIRECTOR OF CHURCH MUSIC

First African Baptist Church is a congregation of over 350 members with a Music Ministry that consist of four choirs, Sunshine Choir, Male Chorus, Unity and Praise Choir, Chancel Choir. Music in this ministry consists of gospel (traditional and contemporary) praise and worship, hymns, spirituals and anthems.

Applications and further information may be obtained by contacting Mrs. Johnnie Ingram, Personnel Committee Chairman or Rev. Jerry Dortch at 919-734-4935.

## MINISTER OF MUSIC WANTED

Wake Forest congregation seeks Minister of Music. Duties to include working directly with the Pastor in order to assist and cooperate with him in Christian Worship; playing during Sunday morning worship service; rehearsing with various choirs one night per week; and accompanying the Pastor on engagements to other churches. Please forward a cover letter and resume to:

Evans Grove Missionary Baptist Church • 12700 Creedmoor Road, Highway 50  
Wake Forest, NC 27587 • (919) 870-8874

## CEDAR GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

14600 Railroad St., Gibson, NC 28343

### CHURCH MUSICIAN

The Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church of Gibson, N.C., is seeking a person to serve as Church Musician.

**Qualifications:** Should be a Christian who lives and acts responsibly and has a good character and reputation.

#### Musician requirements:

\*Be able to play a piano, keyboard, organ and be able to work well with a diverse range of singers with directions for musical selections.

\*Be available for necessary rehearsals and Sunday Worship Services.

\*Be available to accompany the pastor and choirs to all church functions when requested.

**Salary negotiable.** Please send resume to Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church at the above address.

## CHURCH MUSICIAN

The New Hope Baptist Church, Gates, N.C., is seeking a person to serve as Church Musician.

#### REQUIREMENTS:

1. Able to play organ and/or organ.
2. Able to play diverse music.
3. Able to accompany the pastor and choir to church engagements if possible.

#### SALARY NEGOTIABLE:

Send resume to:

New Hope Baptist Church, PO Box 91, Gatesville, NC 27938

Attn: Fannie M. Spivey, Secretary

Inquiries may be made by calling (252) 357-1061 after 4:30 p.m.

## CHURCH MUSICIAN

Mount Olive Baptist Church of Lewiston is seeking a musician for a station church, a Christian who is responsible, has good character and a good reputation.

#### Requirements:

\*Plays the organ and piano \*Able to work with a diverse group of singers  
\*Experienced in all sacred music \*Reads music and is versatile in playing by ear

Send resumes or responses to: Mount Olive Baptist Church

PO Box 214, Lewiston-Woodville, NC 27849 • Attention: William W. Peele Jr.

## MINISTER OF MUSIC

St. John Baptist Church, 8910 Old Annapolis Road  
Columbia, Maryland 21045 • 410-992-6977

Overall Duty: To assist the Pastor in shaping, defining, and effectuating the musical elements of the worship experience.

#### I. MINIMUM QUALIFICATION:

- A. Bachelor's degree in music, or at least 5 years of experience as...
- B. At least 3 years of experience as accomplish/director for choral group(s)
- C. Proficiency in playing piano and organ
- D. At least 3 church-related references

#### II. OTHER QUALIFICATIONS

- A. Personal faith in Jesus Christ...
- B. Background (via education experience) in sacred music, including hymns, spirituals, traditional and contemporary gospel, and praise songs.
- C. Ability to relate well with directors and members of church choirs.
- D. Efficient administrative skills to ensure timely and effective communication with all elements of the musical worship experience.
- E. Ability to teach, direct, compose and play (by written notes or by ear) the various forms of sacred music.
- F. Ability to recognize and respond with appropriate music to the spiritual moods of the service.
- G. Excellent interpersonal and conflict resolution skills.

## First Missionary Baptist Church

The First Baptist Church is now seeking a pastor to serve as its spiritual leader, teacher, counselor and administrator. All interested persons should submit a letter of interest and resume to the Pulpit Search Committee.

#### Qualifications

- Born Again Christian
- Ordained Missionary Baptist Minister
- Knowledge of Baptist Doctrine and Faith
- Seminary Training preferred
- Teaching Bible Study Weekly
- Proficient in church organization and ability to train Church
- Pastoral Experience Preferred
- Family Oriented

Able to Plan and implement innovative youth programs

#### Interested Applicants should Mail Resumes to:

**Pastoral Search Committee**  
**First Baptist Church**  
**ATTENTION: Deacon Calvin Graham Jr., Chairman**  
**P.O. Box 679, Stedman, North Carolina 28391**

## ST. FRANCIS BAPTIST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

is looking for a Pastor

This person should be:

- I. Missionary Baptist
- II. Have good organizational and leadership skills
- III. Commuting Distance
- IV. Family Oriented
- V. Experience Preferred

Interested parties should send resume to: c/o Pulpit Committee

St. Francis Missionary Baptist Church, P.O. Box 736, Windsor, NC 27983.

## GREEN CHAPEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

450 Hickman Hill Loop Road, Havelock, NC 28532

The Pulpit Search Committee of Green Chapel Missionary Baptist Church of Havelock, North Carolina is searching for applicants for a full time pastoral vacancy.

#### Qualifications:

1. Must be an experienced, licensed, ordained Missionary Baptist Minister living according to First Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9
2. The applicants should have a vision for the church according to Proverbs 29:18
3. Must possess the ability to work with all age groups, with particular emphasis in youth development, and with all auxiliaries of the church.
4. Must possess effective oral and written communication skills.
5. Must be community oriented.
6. Must possess strong and proven administrative experience, with a broad knowledge of the Baptist Doctrines, church policies, and practices.
7. Must be willing to work with the Old Eastern Missionary Baptist Association.

Education: Must possess a high school diploma (or equivalent) preferring a degree or courses in Seminary Training, and willing to do further study.

Interested applications should provide the following:

1. A resume of relevant experience.
2. A copy of certificate of license and ordination.
3. One business and two personal reference (NO FAMILY MEMBERS).

All interested applicants should send resume, and copies of certificates to:

Green Chapel Missionary Baptist Church  
Pulpit Committee  
450 Hickman Hill Loop Road, Havelock, NC 28532.

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Third and Mulbury Street, Weldon, North Carolina 27890

The Pulpit Committee of First Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of Pastor. Mail resumes to:

Deacon Stanley Edwards, 908 Country Club Rd., Weldon, NC 27890

Applicants must have the following qualifications:

- Born again Christian
- Must be able to preach and teach God's Word
- Preach quality sermons
- Possess strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, policies and practices
- Able to lead and communicate with all age groups
- Able to work effectively with church boards and committees
- Some college and seminary training preferred

## SANDY GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

PO Box 290, 1600 Martin Luther King Drive, Lumberton, NC 28358

**Sandy Grove Missionary Baptist Church is accepting resumes for a full-time pastor. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:**

1. Must be licensed, ordained, firmly rooted in the holy spirit, born again, and divinely called.
2. Must have strong family and community values.
3. Must possess or be in the process of pursuing a college degree and theological training from an accredited college or university.
4. Must be able to preach and teach God's holy word.
5. Must be willing to follow the Baptist doctrine, policies and practices.
6. Must be an effective leader, administrator, counselor and must work cooperatively with church officials.
7. Must be willing to work with all age groups, with particular emphasis on the spiritual growth and development of our youth.
8. Must plan for the future growth and development of the church.
9. Must be able to be tactful, just and fair with everyone.
10. Must establish office hours for the benefit of the members.
11. Must visit and commune with sick, shut-ins members and bereaved families.

#### Interested applicants should provide the following information:

1. A resume of relevant pastoral experience (if applicable).
  2. A copy of college degree (s), certificate of license and ordination.
  3. Proof of completion of all accredited theological training.
  4. Name, address, and telephone number of four (4) personal references—excluding relatives.
- Please mail all requested information to:

*The Pulpit Committee*  
**Sandy Grove Missionary Baptist Church, P.O. Box 290, Lumberton, NC 28358**

# VACANT POSITIONS

## GREATER LOVELY HILL BAPTIST CHURCH

The Pulpit Search Committee of the Greater Lovely Hill Baptist Church, located in Warren County, N.C. is searching for applicants for its pastoral vacancy. Currently the Greater Lovely Hill Baptist Church has regular worship services twice monthly, on the first and third Sunday.

### Qualifications:

1. Must be an experienced licensed ordained Missionary Baptist Minister living according to First Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9.
2. The applicants should have a vision for the church.
3. Must possess the ability to work with all age groups, with particular emphasis in youth development and community outreach, and with all auxiliaries of the church.
4. Must possess effective oral and written communication skills.
5. Must be community oriented.
6. Must possess strong and proven administration experience with a broad knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and practices.

### Education:

Must possess a high school diploma (or equivalent) preferring a degree or courses in Seminary Training from an accredited college or university.

Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume of relevant experience.
2. A copy of the certificate of license and ordination.

Send resumes to: Mrs. Lucy E. Branch, PO Box 52, Warrenton, NC 27589

## PULPIT VACANCY

The pulpit search committee of the Mount Zoar Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of pastor. Applicants must possess the following qualifications/responsibilities.

### Qualifications

- Born again, spirit-filled, ordained and divinely called with strong family and community values.
- Be a licensed, ordained Missionary Baptist Minister.
- Must be able to preach and teach Bible Study
- Must be able to work with all age groups with emphasis on youth department
- Strong knowledge of the Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures
- Experienced as a senior pastor, but will consider years of experience as an associate pastor
- Must be willing to attend Sunday School and teach Bible Study
- Spiritual maturity; preach and teach God's word
- Willingness to administer communion and perform baptismal service
- Possess strong and proven administrative experience
- College degree preferred but will consider a combination of education and experience

### Responsibilities

- Plan, prepare and deliver sermons
- Visit and commune with sick and shut-in members and bereaved families
- Plan and implementation of activities and projects designed to promote the church's progression and encourage active participation.

Interested applicants should mail resume with a recent photograph to address below.

Special notes: Photograph will not be returned

Mount Zoar Missionary Baptist Church  
C/O Ann Dixon

Pulpit Search Committee, PO Box 71736, Durham, NC 27704

## SYNAMA GROVE

Oxford, North Carolina

The Pastoral Search Committee of the Synama Grove Baptist Church is currently accepting resumes to fill its Pastoral vacancy. Candidates are required to be a licensed and ordained Missionary Baptist Minister. In addition, the ideal candidates will meet the following profile, as established by the church congregation:

- Five to ten years of experience as the Pastor of a Baptist Church
- Have completed education through college and seminary

As a church of families, Synama Grove has many long time members functioning as maturing Christians in support of church growth and development. In that regard, the church congregation seeks a Pastor to lead its fulfillment as a Missionary Baptist Church. In addition to other more specific requirements defined to the Search Committee by the congregation, the Pastor of Synama Grove Baptist is expected to lead the congregation, Deacons, Trustees, Auxiliaries and other staff in performing their responsibilities in serving each other and the community.

Synama Grove is a community-oriented church, located between Creedmoor and Oxford North Carolina, about 25 miles north of Raleigh, 23 miles northeast of Research Triangle Park and approximately 20 miles south of the Virginia border. The membership, of approximately 250 members, is diverse, with both white and blue-collar workers. Resumes from interested candidates will be accepted from June 1, 2001 through July 31, 2001. Please forward resumes to:

Deacon Hubert L. Gooch Jr.

Chairperson, Pastoral Search Committee  
2667 Hester Road, Oxford, NC 27565

Once received, the resumes will be evaluated in accordance with the profile details of the congregation. All candidates will receive acknowledgment of their application. Those most closely matching the needs of Synama Grove will be asked to proceed through a well-defined process to identify the best candidate to be called as the next Pastor of Synama Grove Baptist Church. We pray that God leads you to us, as we're lead to you.

## Baptist Grove Church

7109 Leesville Rd., Raleigh, NC 27613

919-787-4528 • 919-787-9784 Fax • Baptistqc@aol.com

Baptist Grove (a predominately African American congregation) is accepting resumes for a Full Time Youth Minister.

### Principle Functions

- Provide youth and volunteer leadership
- Plan, conduct and evaluate programs
- Provide youth Christian education

### Qualifications

- Licensed Baptist Minister
- Strong program planning and implementation skills
- Excellent communication skills, (presenting, writing, active listening)
- Ability to effectively interact with all age levels

To apply, send resume and cover letter to:

Baptist Grove Church, Attn. Personnel Committee, 7109 Leesville Road, Raleigh, NC 27613

## BETHLEHEM MISSIONARY

Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church of Rocky Mount, NC, is currently seeking a pastor.

Pastoral candidates should:

- be an ordained Baptist member that can work with all groups of the church
- be able to work well with the Deacon Board
- be able to preach and teach
- have pastoral experience or significant ministerial experience
- firmly believe in the work of their affiliated church associations and church unions
- support the General Baptist State Convention
- have some training from a divinity school

\* salary is negotiable

Please send resumes to:

Bethlehem Baptist Church Pastoral Search Committee

ATTN: Deacon Anthony C. Hagans

PO Box 7035

Rocky Mount, NC 27804

## PENNAVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH

225 West McClanahan Street, Oxford, N.C. 27565

Rev. Willie S. Darby, Pastor

(919) 693-5396 • (919) 693-1015, Pastor's Office

The Penn Avenue Missionary Baptist Church of Oxford, N.C. is currently seeking a MINISTER OF MUSIC.

### QUALIFICATIONS:

- \*Must be a born again Christian.
- \*Must be able to play the piano, keyboard and/or organ.
- \*Must be able to read music and is versatile in playing by ear.
- \*Must be able to work well with a diverse range of singers and age groups.
- \*Must be able to teach and direct hymns, anthems, spirituals, gospels and other sacred music.
- \*Must be able to rehearse choirs at a scheduled time unless otherwise notified.
- \*Must be available for Sunday morning worship services.
- \*Must be available to accompany the pastor and choirs when requested or provide a qualified substitute.
- \*Must be able to assist in the selection of appropriate songs for worship and services.
- \*Will be responsible with the pastor's approval in hiring other musicians if deemed necessary.

### Salary: Negotiable

Penn Avenue Missionary Baptist Church is a warm, spirited-filled church that has worship services 52 Sundays a year and at present there is one musician available for 2nd Sunday worship services. Service begins each Sunday at 11 a.m. with the exception of 5th Sunday services which begin at 10 a.m.

Please send resume to the above listed address or inquiries may be made by calling one of the above listed numbers.

## FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

715 West Willis Ave.

High Point, NC 27260

CHURCH MUSICIAN

The Friendship Missionary Baptist Church are accepting resumes for a Church Musician. Qualifications:

Should be a Christian who lives and acts responsibly and has a good character and reputation.

### Musician requirements:

- Be able to play a piano, keyboard, organ and be able to work well with a diverse range of singers with directions for musical selections.
- Must have experience in church music (anthems, hymns, spirituals, praise and worship, etc.) of gospel traditional and contemporary.
- Be available for necessary rehearsals and Sunday Worship Services.
- Be available to accompany the pastor and choirs to all church functions when requested.

Salary negotiable:

Please send cover letter and resume to:

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church

Attn: James W. Flake, Pastor

909 Barbee Avenue

# NOTICE PASTOR NEEDED

at  
Friendship Baptist Church  
Whiteville, NC

For Application Write:

Pastor Selection Committee

PO Box 1365, Whiteville, NC 28472

# VACANT POSITIONS

## Friendship Missionary Baptist Church

Hickory, N.C.

The pulpit committee of Friendship Missionary Baptist Church in Hickory, NC, is accepting resumes to fill the time pastoral vacancy. The church body would like for all applicants to possess the following qualifications:

- A licensed and ordained Missionary Baptist Minister.
- Must be able to preach God's Word.
- Possess a four-year degree and seminary degree from an accredited college or university or a four-year degree and pursuing a seminary degree from an accredited college or university.
- Must be an effective leader, administrator, teacher, and counselor and work in harmony with church officials and congregation in the goals and growth of the church.
- Have strong family and community values.
- Be willing to work with all age groups with particular emphasis on the spiritual growth and development of the youth population.
- Must be able to teach Bible study and church school.
- Possess strong oral and written communication skills.
- Develop plans for the spiritual growth and development of the congregation.
- Must be willing to adhere to the Missionary Baptist doctrines, policies and practices.
- Possess at least five years pastoral experience.

Applicants must provide the following documents by Friday, October 12, 2001:

- Resume
- Copy of college degree, certificates of license and ordination
- Name of seminary institution if pursuing degree
- Names, addresses and telephone numbers of four (4) references (excluding relatives)

Submit to:

Pulpit Committee  
Friendship Baptist Church  
PO Box 1883  
Hickory, NC 28603

## MINISTER OF MUSIC WANTED

Wake Forest Congregation seeks Minister of Music. Duties to include working directly with the Pastor in order to assist and cooperate with him in Christian Worship; playing during Sunday morning worship service; rehearsing with various choirs one night per week; and accompanying the Pastor on engagements to other churches. Please forward a cover letter and resume to:

Evans Grove Missionary Baptist Church, 12700 Creedmoor Road, Highway 50  
Wake Forest, NC 27587 • (919) 870-8874

## PROGRESSIVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

2504 Creech Road, Raleigh, NC 27610

Rev. William H. Brock Sr., Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Leo Williams Jr., Assistant Pastor

Rev. James Richardson, Minister of Youth

Growing young Missionary Baptist Church in southeast Raleigh, Seeking a Christian Church Musician who can play piano/organ. Specifically organ. Must be able to read music as well as play by ear. Should be able to play hymns, anthems, spirituals, gospel.

Call church office to arrange interview (919) 828-8373.

## POSITION AVAILABLE: DIRECTOR OF CHURCH MUSIC

First African Baptist Church is a congregation of over 350 members with a Music Ministry that consist of four choirs, Sunshine Choir, Male Chorus, Unity and Praise Choir, Chancel Choir. Music in this ministry consists of gospel (traditional and contemporary) praise and worship, hymns, spirituals and anthems.

Applications and further information may be obtained by contacting, Mrs. Verna Best, or Rev. Jerry Dortch at 919-734-4935.

## ZION BAPTIST CHURCH SEEKS PASTOR

On April 20, 2000, Rev. Curtis E. Bender, pastor of Zion Baptist Church in Omaha, Nebraska, tendered his resignation. He has blessed Zion and the Omaha community with his leadership for more than 20 years. Although we will miss our Pastor, we humbly submit to the Will of God. Consequently, the recently formed Zion Baptist Church Pulpit Search Committee would like to solicit your help in this search. Please notify the members of your District/Convention that the Zion Baptist Church pulpit is vacant and that we have begun accepting applications for Pastor. Among other things, we require applicants who:

- Are Called by God. (1 Timothy 3:1-7)
- Are Graduates of an accredited and respected seminary.
- Have had a minimum of 10 years as pastor of a large Black Baptist Church. (500 or more members).
- Are members in good standing and with a track record of membership in the National Baptist Convention U.S.A., Inc.
- Have proven leadership and training skills.

Interested candidates are asked to request in writing applications from:

Zion Baptist Church  
Pulpit Search Committee  
2215 Grant Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68110

Please pray for our effort and thank you for your help in this notification.

Yours in Christ, Dea. Jesse Sharpe, Committee Chairman, Sis. Jacqueline C. Hart, Church Clerk

## UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

110 Lincoln Ave., Lexington, NC 27292

Needed: Minister of Music or Organist.

Please send resume to:

Union Baptist Church, 110 Lincoln Ave, Lexington, NC 27292. Attn: Rev. Darrell L. Thomas.  
Or call 336-243-1648 and leave your name and number.

## CHURCH MUSICIAN

First Missionary Baptist Church of Clinton is seeking a person to serve as musician. The responsibilities include playing for the Adult Choir on the First Sunday, and accompanying the other choirs on the remaining Sundays.

Qualifications:

Should be able to play the piano and the organ, and be able to work well with diverse groups of singers.

Experience in sacred music is a must as well as the ability to read music and play by ear.

The musician is also expected to accompany the pastor and choirs to outside functions when necessary.

Interested persons may send resume to: First Baptist Church, 900 College St., Clinton, N.C. 28328.

## MUSICIAN WANTED

### Metropolitan Baptist Church Rocky Mount, NC

Progressive church music department looking for Director of Music to provide leadership for growth spiritually and musically. Must have experience in church music (anthems, hymns, spirituals, etc.) or equivalent. Able to lead music and direct/accompany. Available on 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays. On call as needed.

To apply call:

Metropolitan Baptist Church  
Rocky Mount, NC  
252-442-4623

## MINISTER OF MUSIC • ST. MATTHEW BAPTIST CHURCH

P.O. BOX 1710, OXFORD, NC 27565

1. Must be a Christian to serve as minister of music each Sunday.
  2. Will prepare choirs for Sunday morning worship services and special services.
  3. Will teach and direct hymns, spiritual selections and other sacred music.
  4. Will implement and/or carrying out guidelines pertaining to choir members' conduct.
  5. Will rehearse choirs at a scheduled time unless otherwise notified.
  6. Will be available to accompany the Pastor and choir to church functions requested.
- Please send resume to the above address: Attention Pastor. Inquiries may be made by calling 919-693-6354.

## POSITION:

Interim Pastor to provide pastoral leadership and duties to a congregation of approximately 200 members located in Goldsboro, NC.

## ORGANIZATION:

Antioch Missionary Baptist Church  
601 W. Elm Street, Goldsboro, NC 27530  
(919) 734-2066

## DESCRIPTION:

The Antioch Missionary Baptist Church is currently seeking an individual to perform in the capacity of **INTERIM PASTOR**. This position is not intended or expected to lead to the role of permanent pastor. This role requires you to focus on the pastoral task in the congregation during the interim period to help free the leaders of the congregation to focus on seeking a new pastor. You will provide leadership and stability in a positive manner during this transitional period of our church. The ability to settle issues and migrate the congregation from the former pastor to the new pastor is critical. You will be working closely with the chairman of the Deacon Board and Trustee Board when addressing issues that affects the congregation at large. While the duration of this position is unknown at this time, you must be available for any period from two months to two years if needed.

Major Duties and Responsibilities:

- Plan and lead worship that is sensitive to the needs of the congregation
  - Attend to the spiritual development of the congregation
  - Provide administrative leadership to the congregation, secretarial and pulpit staff
  - Counsel members having personal, family and/or work related problems
  - Support religious programs for children, youth and adults
  - Develop and instruct weekly bible study classes
  - Support the church's financial program
  - Directly involve the congregation in the planning and leadership of existing church programs and ministries
  - Meet regularly with the chairpersons of the Deacon, Deaconess and Trustee Board for planning and direction
  - Visit the sick, shut in and bereaved in the hospital and at home
  - Preside at funerals and weddings
  - Support the world mission of the church
  - Present social issues before members
- Qualifications-Education and Experience:
- Saved and filled with the Holy Spirit and able to proclaim the unadulterated word of God that will lead people to Christ
  - Degree in Theology or Religion preferred — however, will accept training and experience in Divinity or Church Ministries
  - Ordained for a minimum of five years
  - Five years of experience as a pastor or assistant pastor of a Missionary Baptist Church
  - Experience in working as an interim pastor is a plus

## CONTACT INFORMATION

For immediate consideration, please send a cover letter and your resume to the following address:

Antioch Missionary  
Baptist Church  
Attention: Deacon Lessie Davis  
601 W. Elm Street  
Goldsboro, NC 27530

## GENESIS BAPTIST

### Youth Minister needed full-time.

Qualified candidates must be trained at a seminary, mature spiritually, and experienced working with children and youth. Mail or fax resume and salary requirements to:

Genesis Baptist Church

Cathy Daniels-Lee, Search Committee Chairperson

2812 E. Bessemer Ave., Greensboro, NC 27405

Ph. (336) 379-1133 • Fax. (336) 379-1615

Web site: www.greensboro.com/genesis

*Fall is almost here!*

# VACANT POSITIONS

## FIRST BAPTIST CHARITY CHURCH Greenevers, N.C.

The First Baptist Charity Church of Greenevers, N.C. is accepting resumes from interested Missionary Baptist Ministers for the position of pastor.

**Qualifications:**

1. Divinely called spirit-filled, born-again Christian with strong Family values.
2. Pastoral experiences is required.
3. Must work closely with the officers of the church.
4. Must have at least 2 years of college or seminary training.
5. Must be able to preach and teach.
6. Must have good leadership and communication skills.
7. Family oriented.
8. Have knowledge of and willing to follow Baptist doctrines, policies and procedures.
9. Must be willing to visit and commune with the sick and shut-ins.
10. Must be willing to work with all age groups.

Services are first, second, third and fourth Sundays with Sunday school beginning at 10:00 a.m. and morning service beginning at 11:00 a.m.

Please send resumes to:

Deacon Fernald Rawls, Jr.  
920 Pasture Branch Road, Rose Hill, NC 28458

## MORNING STAR MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH OF DURHAM is seeking a person to serve as musician.

**Qualifications:**

Should be a Christian who lives and acts responsibly and has a good character and reputation.

- Should be able to play the piano and organ.
- Work well with diverse range of singers.
- Experience in diverse music (Hymns, gospel, contemporary, traditional).
- Ability to read music and play by ear.
- Be available for scheduled rehearsals, Second Sunday Morning Worship Service.
- Be available to accompany Pastor and choirs to church engagements as scheduled.
- Be available for evening programs as scheduled.

Interested persons may send resume to:

Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church  
4610 Fayetteville Rd.  
Durham, NC 27713

Attention: Sis. Esther Thompson or Call 544-8596

## UNION GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH Warrenton, North Carolina

The Union Grove Baptist is currently seeking and accepting resumes from interested licensed, ordained Baptist ministers. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

1. Spiritual maturity
2. A minimum of three years experience as a pastor, but will consider years of experience as associate pastor
3. Administrative and leadership skills
4. Must be able to work with various age groups with specific emphasis on youth development.
5. Strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures.
7. Good oral and written communication skills and ability to communicate with all age groups.
8. Have excellent teaching ability.

Other responsibilities include:

Planning, organizing and implementing programs that encourage participation of youth and young adults that promote church growth and progress.

Please send resumes to:

Brother Alonza Jones, Board Chairman  
Route 2, Box 128, Norlina, N.C. 27563  
% The Pulpit Committee

## MINISTER OF MUSIC VACANCY SPRING GREEN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH PO Box 924 Warrenton, NC 27589 Rev. Dennis G. Lindsay, Pastor

The Spring Green Missionary Baptist Church seeks a Minister of Music to provide musical direction and accompaniment for 4 choirs in the church. This person will work closely with the Pastor to provide spiritual leadership in the ministry of Jesus Christ through music, i.e. hymns, spiritual songs, and praise and worship music that glorifies God.

We are accepting resumes from candidates with the following qualifications:

1. Born-again Christian, Spirit-filled, and divinely gifted in music ministry.
2. Willingness to spiritually align the music ministry with Pastoral vision.
3. Able to play the piano, keyboard and/or organ; able to read music and versatile.
4. Able to prepare choirs for Sunday morning worship services and other services.
5. Able to teach, as well as direct choirs, with humility and love.
6. Able to rehearse with all choirs on schedule, and available for all Sunday services
7. Able to accompany Pastor and choirs to other services as required (or ensure qualified substitute is available).
8. Able to select appropriate hymns and songs for worship service.

Please submit resumes to the address above. Any inquiries, please contact Pastor Lindsay at (919) 361-3003.

# JOB OPPORTUNITIES

## POSITION:

Interim Pastor to provide pastoral leadership and duties to a congregation of 460 active members located in the North Philadelphia area of the city.

## ORGANIZATION:

Miller Memorial Baptist Church  
1518 North 22nd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19121

## DESCRIPTION

The Miller Memorial Baptist Church is currently seeking an individual to perform in the capacity of **INTERIM PASTOR**. This position is not intended or expected to lead to the role of permanent pastor. This role requires you to focus on the pastoral task in the congregation during the interim period to help free the leaders of the congregation to focus on seeking a new pastor. You will provide leadership and stability in a positive manner during this transitional period of our church. The ability to settle issues and migrate the congregation from the former pastor to the new pastor, is critical. You will be working closely with the chairpersons of the Deacon Board and Trustee Board when addressing issues that effect the congregation at large. While the duration of this position is unknown as this time, you must be available for any period from two months to two years if needed.

## Major Duties and Responsibilities:

- Plan and lead worship that is sensitive to the needs of the congregation
- Attend to the spiritual development of the congregation
- Provide administrative leadership to the congregation, secretarial, and pulpit staff
- Counsel members having personal, family and/or work related problems
- Support and/or lead religious programs for children, youth and adults
- Develop and instruct weekly bible study classes
- Actively and visibly support the church's financial program
- Directly involve the congregation in the planning and leadership of existing church programs and ministries
- Meet regularly with the chairpersons of the Deacon, Deaconess and Trustee Boards for planning and direction
- Work closely with the Superintendent of the Sunday School
- Visit the sick, shut in and bereaved in the hospital and at home
- Preside at funerals and weddings
- Support the world mission of the church
- Participate in local community activities, issues and problems
- Present social issues before members

## QUALIFICATIONS - EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

- Bachelors Degree in Divinity, Masters of Divinity Degree preferable
- Ordained for a minimum of five years
- Five years experience as a pastor or assistant pastor of a Baptist Church
- Experience in working as an interim pastor is a plus.

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

For immediate consideration, please send a cover letter and your resume to the following address:

Miller Memorial Baptist Church  
Attention: Deacon David Pridgen  
1518 North 22nd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19121

## POSITION DESCRIPTION North Carolina Council of Churches COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATE

### Job responsibilities

Develop and implement a communications plan including at least the following:

Print media

- Write, edit, and produce Church Council Bulletin
- Write, edit, and produce regular information piece for "Interested Persons"
- Produce quarterly one-page information piece for distribution by judicatories
- Prepare and distribute press releases to secular and religious press
- Coordinate production of other printed resources

Electronic communications

- Design and maintain web site
- Develop electronic versions of CCB and Raleigh Report, including e-mail summaries
- Propose other uses of electronic communications technology

Develop and staff the Communications Committee

### Qualifications

- Compatible with Council's mission of ecumenism and social justice
- Member of a faith community affiliated with the NC Council of Churches (preferred)
- Four-year communications degree (preferred)
- Two years work experience (preferred)
- Excellent computer skills in MS Office, especially Word, Publisher and FrontPage

### Other

- Responsible to Executive Director
- Attend meetings of House of Delegates and Executive Board
- Salary and benefits package: \$17,000-\$19,000 for half-time employment.
- Telecommuting from within the Triangle is preferred, with semimonthly in-office staff meetings.
- The North Carolina Council of Churches does not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, ethnicity, or sexual orientation.

To apply, send a resume and writing sample to George Reed, 1307 Glenwood Avenue, Suite 162, Raleigh, NC 27605.

Or e-mail to [nccofc@nccouncilofchurches.org](mailto:nccofc@nccouncilofchurches.org)

## Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church 414 Hadley Street, Wilson, NC 27893

Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church is seeking a licensed, ordained Missionary Baptist Pastor to serve as a spiritual leader, counselor and administrator. Ebenezer is a progressive church with a vision of growing in grace and walking with the Lord. We seek a Pastor with this same vision and passion, who is capable of leading our congregation to a higher realm.

All interested candidates please submit resumes and inquires to:

### Ebenezer Search Committee

Attention: Deacon Ronald Wright  
PO Box 351, Lucama, NC 27851 • 252-239-0097

(Applications will be mailed upon request)

### Qualifications:

- Ability to preach and teach
- Ability to relate to all groups
- Willing to deliver morning services on 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays
- Affiliated with the General Baptist State Convention
- Theological or Seminar Training
- Pastoral Experience of one year
- Willing to live in the Wilson County area

**Pray for great blessings for this year!**

# VACANT POSITIONS

## SAVANNAH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

6675 Tabor Church Road, Fayetteville, NC 28301

The pastor's search committee of Savannah Missionary Baptist Church is accepting letters of interest/resumes for the position of Senior Pastor from licensed and ordained Missionary Baptist Ministers. Apply only if you are sincerely interested and meet all the qualifications.

### QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Must be born again, filled with the holy spirit and called by God to preach the word.
2. Must be family oriented and possess a strong, Godly character.
3. Prefer college degree but will strongly consider a combination of education, training and experience.
4. Possess a strong knowledge of the Missionary Baptist doctrine, church policies and practices.
5. Be an effective leader, communicator, administrator and counselor with good interpersonal skills.
6. Must have skills required to work with all age groups with emphasis on spiritual growth and development.
7. Must have skills required for planning and implementing a vision for both spiritual and physical growth of the church.
8. Must work effectively with boards, auxiliaries and committees.

Interested persons meeting all of the above qualifications should submit the following information:

Letter of interest or resume

Copy of license and ordination certificate

Proof of educational degree, and additional theological studies transcript

The names, addresses, telephone numbers, email addresses of at least five references of which only two can be ministers.

The committee will provide each candidate with an information packet.

All correspondence must be addressed as follows:

Savannah Missionary Baptist Church

ATTN: Sister Ernestine Tucker, 6675 Tabor Church Road, Fayetteville, N.C.

## THE UNITED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

of Oxford, N.C., is seeking a pastor with the following qualifications:

Dedicated Christian leader

Ordained minister

Educated in the word of God

Can relate to all age groups

Skilled in administrative duties

Prefers a college and seminary graduate

Interested in building a church

Radius of 60 miles of church

Please send resumes to: ATTN: Deacon Rebecca Fuller, PO Box 2142, Oxford, NC 27565.

## Lee's Crossroad Baptist Church

Route 1, Lake Wendell Rd., Wendell, NC 27591

The Lee's Crossroads Baptist Church is seeking a Pastor and is accepting resumes from interested, ordained Baptist ministers. Please include the following in your resume:

1. Name/address/day and evening phone numbers
2. Age
3. Marital Status
4. Education/Schools attended
5. Pastoral Experience
6. References

### Qualifications

1. Born again Christian
2. Ordained Baptist Minister
3. Ability to preach and teach God's Holy Word
4. Possess leadership and administrative skills
5. Willingness to follow Baptist Doctrine
6. Must be a good role model of moral and ethical conduct

### Resumes may be sent to:

Lee's Crossroad Baptist Church, Pulpit Committee

Deacon James R. Adams, 1342 Medlin Rd., Clayton, N.C. 27520

## Galilee Missionary Baptist Church

PO Box 644/601 Pine Street, Oakboro, NC 28129

The Pastoral Search Committee of the Galilee Baptist Church is currently accepting resumes to fill its Pastoral vacancy. The minimum qualifications are desired for consideration:

- ordained Baptist minister
- be able to work well with church, promoting Church agenda
- teach and preach competently
- possess high spiritual, moral and ethical integrity
- possess strong knowledge of the Scriptures
- visit sick and be active in community
- active in Zion Association
- seminary training preferred and willing to advance studies
- attend church ministry functions
- coordinate and develop ministries to accommodate growing church

We have church services every Sunday (including 5th). We are looking for a pastor, not someone who only desires to preach. In interested please send resumes to: Deacon James Ashcraft, PO Box 644, Oakboro, NC 28129.

## First Baptist Church, 329 West Ave., Hamlet, NC 28345 • 910-582-5732

### Full Time Position:

All interested ordained Missionary Baptist Ministers should submit a resume as soon as possible.

### Qualifications

1. Good moral Christian reputation in the home and community.
2. Sound Christian and Baptist Doctrine.
3. Pastoral Experience at least (3) years with Seminary Training.
4. Divinity School graduate (preferred).
5. Dynamic Preacher with teaching and counseling skills.
6. Mature, Stable and Family Oriented.
7. Has interest and capability to build a comprehensive church program/visionary.
8. Shows evidence of community awareness and involvement.
9. Ability to communicate with the congregation and public.
10. Ability to train church officers.
11. Willingness to visit sick members and administer communion.
12. Ability to work with all age groups in the church.

Send resume to:, Velma Gibson, Chairman, Pulpit Committee, First Baptist Church, 329 West Avenue, Hamlet, NC 28345 Or Fax to: (910) 582-2303

## OAKEY GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH OF CLAYTON

is searching for a pastor. Congregational size is about 100 members with attendance of 50-65 depending upon the season. Worship service is held twice monthly. We are a small rural church located about 5 miles east of Clayton and about 6 miles west of Smithfield on Hwy. 70 business. Our congregation represents all ages and all backgrounds.

Our pastor must be knowledgeable and believe in the Baptist Doctrine. Must be a strong spiritual leader, administrator and teacher. One who will proclaim the Good News in a meaningful way that will help members learn to apply Biblical concepts to their everyday lives.

We are an autonomous Missionary Baptist Church that is affiliated with the Johnston District Missionary Baptist Association and its auxiliaries and the General Baptist State Convention and its auxiliaries.

Please include in your resume the following:

1. Name/Address/Day and Evening Phone Numbers
2. Age
3. Marital Status
4. Education/Schools Attended
5. Pastoral Experience (Where, When, Number of Years)
6. References

### Qualifications:

1. Ordained Missionary Baptist Minister
2. Possess Leadership, Administrative, and Counseling Skills
3. Willingness to follow Baptist Doctrines, Polices and Procedures
4. Able to lead and communicate with all age groups
5. Family oriented
6. Must possess good moral and ethical conduct

Interested persons should send resumes to:

Oakey Grove Baptist Church, Pulpit Search Committee

Deacon Loomis Hodges, Chairperson, PO Box 2435, Smithfield, NC 27577

## FULL TIME DIRECTOR/RESS OF CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

Greater Mount Sinai Baptist Church

Dr. George Cook Jr.

### Qualifications

≠ Masters of Divinity or Masters of Religious Education or an equivalent degree/experience.

≠ Possess skills in coordinating and working with various age groups.

≠ Having had experience in this area would be a plus.

≠ Demonstrate exceptional skills in interpersonal relationships, team building, team playing and delegation.

### Appointment

≠ The Director/ress of Ministries shall be appointed by the Pastor upon recommendation by the Personnel Committee with final approval by the church.

### Responsible To

≠ The Pastor

### Status

≠ Full-Time (Forty-hour minimum schedule. Determined jointly between Director/ress and Pastor.)

### Responsible For

≠ Supervising and coordinating all activities pertaining to ministries.

### Salary

≠ Commensurate with qualifications, experience, achievement and commitment

≠ Salary range \$30,000 - \$35,000

≠ Fringe benefits will be offered.

### Responsibilities

1. To have general oversight of outreach ministries.
2. To provide training for ministries on a scheduled basis to include, but not limited to, such areas as: partnering with God in prayer, planning, communication skills, servant leadership, volunteer enlistment and recruiting.
3. Make available specific ministry aids to assist in gaining greater knowledge regarding the specific ministry.
4. Establish accountability structures for each ministry.
5. Establish a "Ministry Standard" which outlines measurable checkpoints.
6. Maintain a church-wide Calendar of Events to include all ministry events and church-wide activities.
7. Provide a vehicle for communicating various ministries of church to the membership and visitors.
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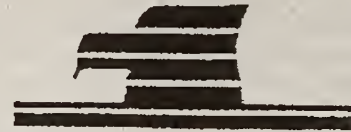
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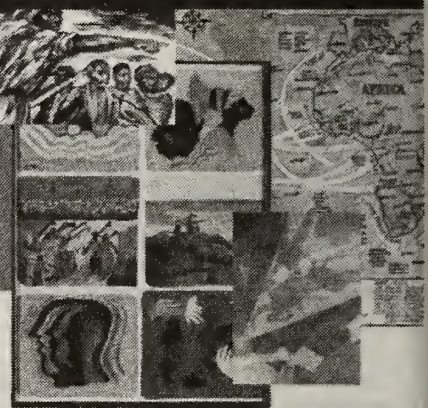
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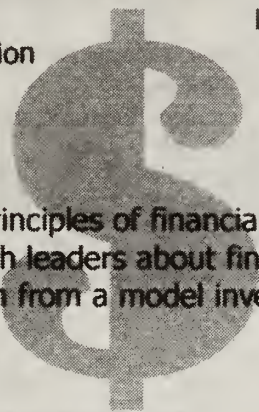
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has two sons. Dr. Churn is currently the Senior Pastor of Mount Zion Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, N.C. Member of Novant Health Board of Trustees, Mount Zion Site Director and Adjunct Instructor, Shaw University Divinity School and Drew University Theology School. He is the Radio Host of God's Trombone WPOL. He has preached across the United States, Great Britain and India. Place your book orders to: Rev. Dr. Serenus T. Churn Sr., D. Min., Mount Zion Baptist Church Martin Luther King Jr. Drive & File St., Winston-Salem, N.C. 27101 451 Croydon Lane, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27107 Off: 910-722-2325; Res.: 910-788-3398; Fax: 910-722-3359

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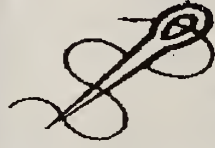
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## BIBLICAL JOURNEY TO FINANCIAL FREEDOM WORKSHOPS

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Are there some corrections you need to make in your financial life in order to have a "journey to financial freedom?" The longer you wait to make those changes, the greater your loss. So, don't put them off; get started today on a "journey to financial freedom," which includes making life's only lasting investment.

Purchasing your "Journey to Financial Freedom" workbook from Rev. Tyrone Martin. Workshop information available by calling: 919-266-4709.

**Call Today to Start Your Journey!**

# From The Desk of the Executive Secretary-Treasurer Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Ed.D.

## GBSC, INC. ASSOCIATION MAKES HISTORY

For the first time in the 134-year history of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. a female has been elected Moderator of an affiliate association. The GBSC, Inc. continues to be a global leader in inclusion and opportunities for female clergy-persons. For decades the role of African-American women as clergy has been limited in the convention. The new Century and Millennium is bringing swift winds of change.

The Convention believes in the "Liberating Message" of Jesus Christ and the Gospels. Years of custom, tradition and exclusion has been overcome by prayer; the Power of God and People of Righteousness. East Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Association will go down in history as a people of Faith who broke the bondage of past traditions. To God be the Glory!

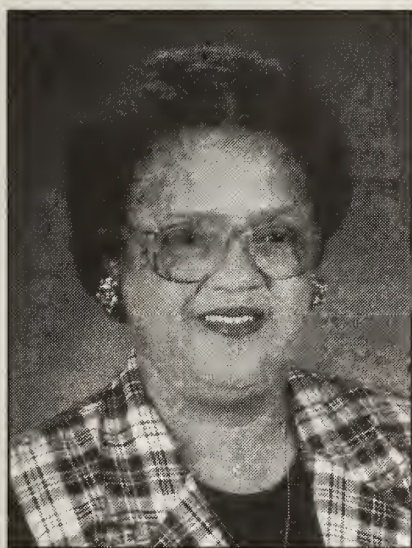
### *Reverend Chambers Elected Moderator of Association*

On July 2, 2001 in the one hundred and second session of the East Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Association, the Rev. Mildred S. Chambers was elected moderator of the Association which is composed of forty-three churches throughout Durham, Granville, Person, Orange and Wake Counties.

Rev. Chambers has been a long-time member of the East Cedar Grove Association and has served as vice moderator and first vice moderator. Dr. Logan, chairman of the nominating committee and pastor of the Lawson Chapel Baptist Church, commented that Rev. Sister Chambers was voted unanimously by the Nominating Committee. He further stated that Rev. Chambers is a leader with vision, she works well with people, and although she is not a pastor, she has long-time experience in the association and has held offices at all levels.

Rev. Chambers currently serves as associate pastor of the Cedar Grove Baptist Church in Roxboro where Rev. Jessie Timberlake is pastor.

Rev. Chambers is a retired educator with a Bachelors Degree in Elementary Education from Fayetteville State University in Fayetteville, North



Rev. Mildred S. Chambers

Carolina. She has completed studies at Shaw Divinity School in Raleigh, North Carolina and graduate studies at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, Virginia. She is a member of the Order of Eastern Star, a past president of the Roxboro Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and is affiliated with numerous other community service organizations. She is married to Willie H. Chambers and they have two sons: Calvin and Dennis of Charlotte, North Carolina and Tulsa, Oklahoma respectively.

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see all the people**

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## THE MILLENNIUM STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN 3 MILLION DOLLARS in 30 MONTHS GIFTS/PLEDGES/BEQUESTS

We have received several inquiries about gifts, pledges and bequests to the Stewardship Campaign. If you are interested in make a special gift, pledge or bequests please contact Dr. Archie D. Logan, Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer. These special stewardship contributions will be received through the General Baptist Foundation, Inc., Dr. C.G. Newsome, Chairperson. Many people can benefit from special designated trusts funds, endowments and planned giving. Leave a legacy to your Church and Convention. For those who are interested we will have several naming opportunities for the new Baptist Headquarters Building: the library/archives, conference room, lounge, chapel, floors, etc.

Make a gift that will last forever! Call us for confidential stewardship planning. Each person, each church, each Association can make a difference. No gift is too small to help us achieve our goal. "But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work.

As it is written:

*"He has dispersed abroad,*

*He has given to the poor;*

*His righteousness endures forever."*

2 Corinthians 9:6-9 (NKJV)

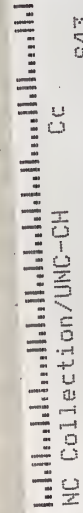
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Archie D. Logan, Jr., 603 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27601-2338  
800-639-GBSC \* 919-821-7466 \* HYPERLINK "http://www.gbsc.org" www.gbsc.org \*\*\* alogan@gbsc.org

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# Baptist Informer

Vol. 124, No. 9

Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc.  
Voice of 500,000 North Carolina Baptists

September 2001

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### MINISTERS/DEACONS/DEACONESSES/ TRUSTEES/HEALTH LEADERS CONFERENCE

Emmanuel Baptist Church, Gastonia, N.C.

September 27-28, 2001

Registration begins at 12 noon, Sept. 27, 2001

### 134TH ANNUAL SESSION

Hill Street Baptist Church, Asheville, N.C.

October 28-November 1, 2001

Registration begins at 9 a.m., Monday, Oct. 28, 2001

### CRIME & INCARCERATION CONFERENCE

Shaw University Divinity School, Raleigh, N.C.

November 30-December 1, 2001

Registration begins at 8 a.m.

### Inside this issue:

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Page 13	Central Children's News

# BAPTIST INFORMER

Volume 124, Number 10

Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C. Inc.  
Voice of 500,000 North Carolina Baptists

October 2001

## General Baptist State Convention, Inc. Calls On Churches and Associations To Respond To The 'Attack on America'

By Dr. Archie D. Logan, Jr.  
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

On Tuesday, September 11, 2001, a terrorist attack leveled the twin 110-story towers of the World Trade Center, obliterating the New York landmark and claiming an unknown number of lives. By 10:30 a.m. EDT, the 1,300-foot-tall towers, with a daily capacity of at least 50,000 occupants, had folded in on themselves, raining slabs of steel and cement to the streets. In Washington, D. C., our nation's Capitol, the Pentagon was also the scene of devastation Tuesday after a Boeing 757 crashed into the huge military office building, setting it ablaze and forcing thousands of employees to evacuate. More than 20,000 civilians and military personnel work in the Pentagon, many were injured and killed.

General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc., President Dr. John D. Fuller, Sr., is calling on all Convention congregations and Associations to make an immediate response to the victims' families and survivors. "We must do something! . . . this may be the greatest tragedy in American history. Many of our relatives, friends and fellow Baptist members have been af-

ected. The names of the deceased have not been released; however, there will be great sadness and sorrow in the land." Let us not forget that when hurricanes devastate our State friends from across the nation have come to our help.

Relief Funds will be made available through the General Baptist Foundation, Inc., Dr. C. G. Newsome, Chairperson, to help meet the needs of families and friends that have relatives and loved-ones affected by the tragedies. President Fuller met with

Past Presidents, Officials and Convention Executives in a Special Summit meeting in Raleigh, September 13, 2001. The "Attack on America" was at the top of his agenda.

(Continued on next page)

### PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

(Please submit to newspapers, radio and TV stations)

Contacts: Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer

Dr. C.G. Newsome, Chairperson, General Baptist Foundation, Inc. • Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President, GBSC

General Baptist Headquarters, 603 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27601-2338

800-639-GBSC\*\*919-821-7466 • 919-836-0061 Fax • Hyperlink "mailto:alogan@gbsc.org" alogan@gbsc.org

THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION APPEALS TO ALL CITIZENS

TO DONATE AND CONTRIBUTE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GENERAL BAPTIST FOUNDATION FUND

FOR VICTIMS OF FAMILIES AND SURVIVORS OF THE "ATTACK ON AMERICA"

• Relief Funds will be made available through the General Baptist Foundation, Inc., Dr. C.G. Newsome, Chairperson, to help meet the needs of churches, families and friends that have relatives and loved-ones affected by the tragedies.

• (ALL CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE)

Please send contributions to GBF, Inc., "ATTACK ON AMERICA FUND,"

General Baptist Foundation, Inc., 603 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, N.C. 27601-2338

800-639-GBSC; 919-821-7466; alogan@gbsc.org

## Charles T. Bullock, Candidate For President of GBSC

I officially announce my candidacy for the position of President of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Incorporated for the 2002 election. I presently serve as Vice President at Large of the Convention and Pastor of the Martin Street Baptist Church, Raleigh.

My support of and attendance to the convention began while a student at Shaw Divinity School and have continued through the years. I have served on committees and worked in various capacities of the convention and have witnessed the continued growth of the convention over the years. I am presently a member of the Executive Committee and Chair of the General Board. It is my desire to continue to be a leader in the progress and future growth of our great convention.

I look to God for guidance in all that I attempt to do. For my life is one of commitment and devotion to Christ and His ministry. In meeting the challenge of ministry for this convention, I put God first,

for this is God's work and I realize that I must trust Him for guidance. I recognize the Holy Spirit as being the moral agent and director of my life. Therefore, I seek His guidance as I commit myself to carrying out the duties and responsibilities of President.

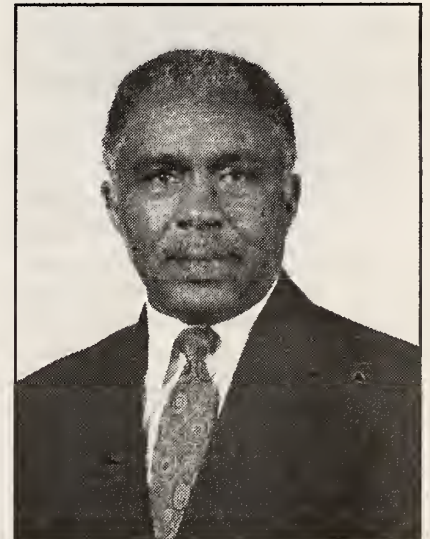
A native of Granville County, Oxford, North Carolina, I am a product of its public schools and a graduate of Shaw University and Shaw Divinity School where I earned the Bachelor of Arts and the Master of Divinity degrees respectively and was awarded the Doctor of Divinity (honorary) degree. The Doctor of Ministry degree was earned at Howard University School of Divinity, Washington, D.C.

My pastoral and religious experiences have been broad and include: Martin Street Baptist Church, Raleigh, where I have served since 1991; St. James Baptist Church, Rocky Mount; First Baptist Church, Weldon; Snow Hill Baptist Church, Warrenton; Mt. Vernon First Bap-

tist Church, Creedmoor and Nashville Baptist Church, Laurinburg.

I served as Social Studies teacher at the North Warren High School, Wise, N.C. and John Graham High School, Warrenton, N.C. I also served as teacher and counselor at Northwest High School, Roanoke Rapids, N.C. Presently I serve on the faculty of Shaw University Divinity School and the faculty of National Baptist Congress of Christian Education, a position I have shared since 1985. I also serve as Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Shaw University Theological Alumni Association. I was appointed in 1998 by Governor Jim B. Hunt to serve as Chair of the North Carolina Inmate Grievance Board. I continue to serve in this capacity.

Some past civic and professional affiliations include: President, Shaw Divinity School Theological Alumni Association; Member, Board of Education for Rocky Mount City Schools; Moderator, County Line Missionary Baptist Ministers and Dea-



Dr. Charles T. Bullock

cons Union; Chairman, Administrative Council, United Voters League of Halifax County; Volunteer Chaplaincy, Nash General Hospital, Rocky Mount; Member, Board of Directors of the Opportunities Industrialization Center, Inc.

I currently reside in Raleigh with my wife, Dr. Shirley Bullock, former president of the Women's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina. We are the parents of three sons and a daughter.

The 134th Annual Session of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc., will meet with the historic Hill Street Baptist Church, 134 Hill Street, Asheville, N.C.,  
October 28-November 1, 2001  
(Details on page 31)

# From The Desk of the Executive Secretary-Treasurer Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Ed.D.

## We Must Respond To The Attack!

By Archie D. Logan, Jr.,  
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc., shares the broken hearts of our fellow citizens. On Tuesday, September 11, 2001, the worst terrorist attack in history leveled the twin 110-story towers of the World Trade Center, destroyed a section of the Pentagon in Washington, DC; and claimed lives in a Pennsylvania airplane crash, has been felt by us all. We grieve at the loss of so many precious lives. We know God is still in control, and that grace and mercy will abide, through the dark days ahead and the raging emotions we all feel. Our Convention President Dr. John D. Fuller, Sr., has called on us again to respond to an enormous tragedy. It seems like just yesterday that we were in the midst of the storm: Hurricane Floyd. The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc., is working daily to rebuild communities and

lives from that disaster. We have our own work that must continue; yet, every now and then in life God calls our attention to other more pressing matters.

**WHY WE MUST RESPOND TO THE PRESENT SITUATION!**

I. It is the RIGHT THING TO DO! As we are lead by God we must always walk in righteousness! Psalm 33:1-5, says:

**Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous!  
For praise from the upright is beautiful.  
Praise the LORD with the harp;  
Make melody to Him with an instrument of ten strings.  
Sing to Him a new song;  
Play skillfully with a shout of joy.**

**For the word of the LORD is right,  
And all His work is done in truth.  
He loves righteousness and justice;**

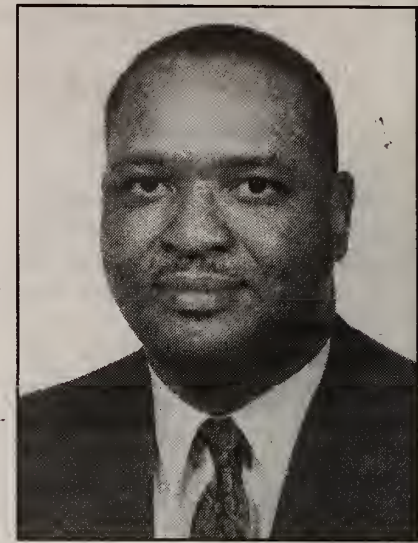
The earth is full of the goodness of the LORD. (NKJV)

II. We are the Body of Christ, we are the Church, and we represent the Kingdom of God here on earth. The GBSC, Inc. is the leading African-American State Baptist Convention on the planet. Our congregations must become worship centers for common prayer, community healing and eventually the forgiveness of God. We must take leadership responsibility: IF NOT US WHO?

III. The magnitude of the tragedy calls us to respond. The untold pain, sorrow and suffering of our people are cries in the wilderness of life. The loss of innocent lives and property continue to mount daily. We join many other religious groups, denominations, social agencies, and care-communities who are responding to the needs of so many.

IV. Our own families and friends are among the victims & survivors. We must help our own people; the race has suffered an enormous loss. Each day more victims are found and identified. As in all disasters, there will be many people who will not be caught by the federal, state and local governmental safety nets. Many of those killed were African-American Baptist and their relatives. As time passes personal needs will emerge that will not be met by the initial outpouring of help. We must be prepared to assist. The call for GBSC, Inc. support has already come.

V. We have been recipients of massive assistance during Hurricanes that devastated North Carolina: Let us not forget, we are still receiving aid from our Sisters and Brothers in the North. Churches across the planet came to our rescue. And although we still are re-



Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr.

building and recovering there are those who are worse off than we are.

VI. Finally we believe that God is able! We believe that what we must do is the right thing. Pastors, Moderators, and Church Officers, we need your help. President Fuller and I join our Convention Officers, Boards and Leaders in asking you to:

- PRAY and MEDITATE!
- GIVE BLOOD
- TAKE UP SPECIAL "ATTACK ON AMERICAN RELIEF FUNDS" and send them to the:  
General Baptist Foundation, Inc. Disaster Relief Fund  
Dr. C. G. Newsome, Chairman  
603 South Wilmington Street  
Raleigh, NC, 27601-2338  
1-800-639-GBSC  
(ALL CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE)

## 'Attack on America'

We are calling on the Convention to respond:

1) A Special period of prayer, and meditation throughout the Convention from now until our Annual Session October 28, 2001 in Asheville, North Carolina. Pastors please focus your church prayer teams!

2) Each Church and Association is asked to receive Special Sacrificial Offerings during worship services and send them to the General Baptist Foundation, 603 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27601-2338; these special offerings can also be reported at the Annual Session in Asheville. 3) Pastors, Church Officers and Moderators are encouraged to organize "BLOOD DONATION DRIVES" in conjunction with local Red Cross offices.

President Fuller reminded those attending the Summit that The Empire State Convention of New York; churches in New York and surrounding States; the Washington, DC Baptist Convention and friends of the GBSC from across the North made contributions to help us respond to the Hurricane Floyd disaster. Dr. Fuller emphasized the fact that we are a faith community and we must stand on the promises of God.

No weapon formed against you shall prosper, And every tongue which rises against you in judgment You shall condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, And their

righteousness is from Me," Says the LORD. (Isaiah 54:17, NKJV)

The GBSC, Inc., and the General Baptist Foundation, Inc., have put in place an ACTION PLAN for response to the "Attack on America":

PHASE I: Immediate responses of prayers for the families of victims and survivors: JOIN WITH YOUR CHURCH PRAYER TEAM! WORK WITH YOUR LOCAL RED CROSS AGENCY AND DONATE BLOOD.

PHASE II: Support for families and friends who have been directly affected by this tragedy: Grief, Restoration, Family Ministry. (Transportation to and from New York and Washington, DC areas so family members can assist their relatives in the long recovery).

PHASE III: Partner with other faith-based organizations; federal, state and local governments to restore stability in the lives of the survivors and victims' families.

If you, your congregation, or organization would like to make contributions to the GBF, Inc. Attack on America Fund please send them to: GBF, Inc. Attack on America Fund, General Baptist Foundation, Inc., 603 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27601-2338, 800-639-GBSC; 919-821-7466; HYPERLINK "mailto:alogan@gbsc.org" alogan@gbsc.org.

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Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.  
Voice of 500,000 Baptists  
(USPS 042-680)

Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Editor  
Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie, Executive Editor  
Ms. Carol J. Smith, Managing Editor

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THEME: "By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness..." (II Corinthians 6:7)

### "ATTACK ON AMERICA" RESPONSE FORM

GENERAL BAPTIST FOUNDATION, INC.  
603 SOUTH WILMINGTON STREET, RALEIGH, NC 27601-2338  
800-639-GBSC • 919-821-7466 • 919-836-0061 FAX  
Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President • Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Sec./Treas.  
Dr. C.G. Newsome, Chairperson, General Baptist Foundation, Inc.

Church \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor \_\_\_\_\_

Association \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Church ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Pastor ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Fax \_\_\_\_\_

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Website: www \_\_\_\_\_

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Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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WE ACCEPT MASTERCARD OR VISA —

CALL YOUR CONTRIBUTION INTO MS. CAROL SMITH, GBSC, AT: 800-639-GBSC.

# From The Desk of Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President

## Church Finances

By Rev. Dennis Leach  
BS. M. Div.

*Let a man so account of us, as the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God, Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful (I Cor. 4:1,2 KJV).*

The headlines in the Los Angeles Times read "Popular Preacher Finds Himself Beset by Probes of Fraud." A few years earlier, an article in the Wall Street Journal was entitled "Church Bonds Plunge into Default." "Church Official Gets Five Years in Tax Scheme" was reported in another large-city newspaper.

Today's church often makes headlines for the wrong reasons. Public details of financial misdeeds by pastors and church boards are becoming all too common. "Forgive us our debts" has taken on a new sense of urgency in recent years. References to "Chapter XI" are being heard in board meetings more frequently. Unfortunately, the context has nothing to do with a chapter reference in the Bible.

The term *stewardship* has come to represent financial obligation on the part of the donor. Usually the intent of the word is directed toward a congregation, reminding them of their responsibility as it relates to their giving. As the dictionary defines the term, however, a steward is "one who manages another's property or financial affairs." It can be illustrated by the role a bank plays. A bank is responsible for other people's money and is expected to provide protection as well as a reasonable return on the investment. In the context of the local church, its pastor and leaders also have a duty to properly manage the funds placed in their care.

As is the case with any other business organization, the complexity of the church's financial procedures is generally directly related to its size. A system that would be adequate for a church with a membership of fifty or sixty will probably not be adequate for one with a membership of five or six hundred. Although the complexity changes with size, the basic objective of any accounting system remains basically the same. The primary objectives of a church accounting system are generally as follows.

### Objectives of a Church Accounting System

#### 1. The Proper Protection of Cash and Other Assets

Protection of assets is a basic objective of all accounting systems. Since funds contributed to a church no longer belong to the individual but to the Lord, even greater care should be exercised than what a businessman would exercise in his business.

#### 2. Use of Funds for the Purpose for Which They Were Contributed

If the church accepts gifts designated for a particular purpose that falls outside the church budget, the donors must be assured that the funds will be used in accordance with their wishes.

An essential element of a church accounting system is that it provides an accurate record of individual giving. Since contributions to a church are permitted as an itemized deduction for federal and state income tax purposes, church officers may be called upon to verify contributions that have been claimed as a deduction by members or friends of the church. The availability of accurate information to provide appropriate substantiation to government agencies is therefore important.

Also, an accurate historical record of income and expenses is necessary to properly review past periods and make comparisons with current periods. A comparison of cash income and expenses summaries for past periods can be helpful in budget preparation and future planning. This information may also insight as to God's direction in a particular area, such as a new building program.

#### Meeting the Objectives

Because of the differences in size and organizational structure of churches, churches are using a variety of different financial, and accounting methods today. The objective of a good accounting system, however, can usually be achieved without the need to change the church's organizational structure.

#### The Right Standard:

In recent years, concerns have been raised over the ethics and legality of the methods some churches use in the handling of funds; some of these center on the following areas:

- The improper use of designated gifts
- Property tax exemptions when facilities are used for other than church activities
- The selling of unregistered securities
- Diversion of church donations to private use
- Unreasonable benefits or prerequisites being taken by members of the clergy
- The operation of profit-making business activities
- Questionable business activities
- Unfair treatment of employees

#### The Right Perspective:

Those individuals who must deal with the financial aspects of managing a church have a duty both to their congregations and to the Lord. The responsibility is one of a fiduciary — that is,

one that is charged with confidence or trust as it relates to the management of someone else's money. In fact, the biblical exhortation is clear: "We have regard for what is honorable, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of men" (2 Cor. 8:21).

#### The Right People:

It is extremely important, therefore, that those individuals who are charged with oversight of the financial resources of a church be of the highest caliber. You would think that a policy such as this would be a foregone conclusion, especially in a church. Unfortunately, that isn't the case. Repeatedly, situations have come up where financial officers were selected simply because they were "good with money." Perhaps the man or woman is a successful business person, has the largest business in town, or worst of all, is the biggest contributor. If these are the only prerequisites to being the church finance officer, the church is flirting with potential problems.

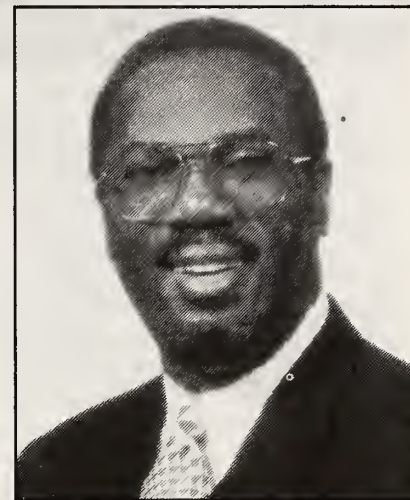
Who should serve then? Those men and women who have demonstrated their faithfulness to previously assigned tasks, and who evidence biblical character qualities. To develop and carry out a good accounting system, it is helpful for certain individuals and committees to be involved. There may be an overlap between the duties of these committees even to the extent that one committee may perform the function of all groups listed. This would be controlled to some extent by the size of the church. It is absolutely essential, however, that the individual offices listed below be maintained as separate offices. To combine the positions of treasurer and financial secretary, for example, is to destroy the basic concept of internal control necessary for a good accounting system. Therefore these positions should be kept separate even in the smallest church. Here is a list of the officers and committees:

a. Treasurer: This officer is entrusted with the receipt, care, and disbursement of funds

b. Financial Secretary: This is an individual who receives the church offering envelopes, special offering envelopes, receipts and other evidences of money received, and a summary of receipts from money counters for posting to individual members records.

c. Finance Committee: A committee usually consisting of three to five members, including the treasurer and financial secretary, it has the responsibility for overseeing the fiscal affairs of the church.

d. Budget Committee: This group may be composed of the members of the finance committee, or it may be expanded to include others.



Dr. John D. Fuller Sr.

e. Counting Committee: For a larger church, it might be advisable to form a counting committee. This committee may be composed of some of the members of the finance committee and may also include others. It is their responsibility to receive, count, and deposit church funds.

f. Audit Committee: In a very large church an audit committee would be useful. It should be composed of at least three members. These people may be from the finance committee, be trustees of the church, or be separately appointed or elected.

The financial officers of the church don't necessarily need to be accountants or CPAs. The most practical and effective minimum standard for a financial steward (that is a money counter, bookkeeper, financial secretary, or treasurer) should be that of being a deacon or wife of a deacon. The qualifications are outlined clearly for us in I Timothy 3:8-13 and Titus 1:6-9. Ideally, you would want your highest offices filled by people qualified as — to use New Testament terminology — elders, deacons, or wives of deacons. Starting with the requirements of an elder, or overseer, and moving on through those of a deacon you find a common thread, a continuous theme — trustworthiness:

- *Above reproach* — a good reputation in and outside the church
- *Temperate* — does things in moderation
- *Prudent* — is shrewd (in good sense), cautious and thrifty
- *Respectable* — one who is deserving of high regard
- *Free from the love of money* — the pursuit of money does not become a preoccupation
- *Manages his own household well* — refers to both people and resources

Titus 1:7 sums it up: "The overseer must be above reproach as God's steward." A person can't help but use the word integrity in describing this faithful servant. Integrity has been defined as "doing what you're supposed to do when no one is looking." The risk factor in selecting those individuals who are charged with the handling of funds can be greatly reduced when they are chosen on the basis of their character traits first instead of by their secular abilities.

# Women's Page Highlights

## 2001 Youth Evangelism Conference

By Executive  
Secretary-Treasurer Brodie

On Saturday, Nov. 3, 2001, at 9 a.m., the Annual Youth Evangelism Conference of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention will convene at the Cumberland County Memorial Auditorium in Fayetteville, hosted by the Upper and Lower Sampson County Unions, Mrs. Annie Matthews and Mrs. Marion Phillips, Presidents, respectively.

Youth (along with supervisors, pastors and parents) of churches, unions, auxiliaries, and district conferences should come to this event. Youth need to bring their Bibles, and a liberal offering, and pray to be filled with the Holy Spirit.

Supervisor Ellender LeMay and the Youth Department envision a very exciting session. The session will include singing, praying, youth speaking, sharing of life experiences, preaching and teaching regarding evangelism from a youth's point of view.

### Directions to the Youth Evangelism Conference

#### Cumberland County Memorial Auditorium, Fayetteville

The Cumberland County Coliseum Complex, which includes the Cumberland County Memorial Auditorium, is located off U.S. 301/Business 95 (Gillespie Street), just 2 miles from Interstate 95 and the Fayetteville Regional Airport. It can be assessed from the Ft. Bragg area via the All-American Freeway to Owen Drive, from north Fayetteville and downtown via the Martin Luther King Freeway to Exit 100 and East Mountain Drive or by Wilkes Road and U.S. 301/Business 95 (Gillespie Street).

#### 1. From Charlotte & vicinity via US-74:

Travel U.S. 74 east approximately 50 miles. Bear right (southeast) onto U.S. 52 (U.S. 74). Bear left (east) onto U.S. 74 (Asheville/Wilmington Hwy.). Exit at Andrew Jackson Hwy. U.S. 74. Continue (southeast) on Andrew Jackson Hwy. Exit at U.S. 501 Andrew-Jackson Hwy. Continue (east) on U.S. 501 (Andrew Jackson Hwy.). Exit at U.S. 74/U.S. 501. Continue (east) on U.S. 74 (Andrew Jackson Hwy.). At I-95 (Exit 14), bear left (northeast) onto I-95 (U.S. 301). Travel I-95 north to Exit 46. Turn left (north) onto S.R. 87. From S.R. 87 turn left on to Wilkes Road, then left onto Gillespie Street (Hwy. 301/I-95 Bus.). The entrance for the auditorium is through Gate 2 or Gate 3. Travel time: Approx. 3 hours, 152 miles.

#### 2. From Raleigh & vicinity via I-40/I-95:

Take I-40 east to I-95, Exit 328-A. Follow I-95 south to Exit 46. Turn right onto S.R. 87. From S.R. 87 turn left onto Wilkes Road. Follow Wilkes Road to Gillespie Street (Hwy. 301/I-95 Bus.). The entrance for the auditorium is through Gate 2 or Gate 3. Travel time: Approx. 1 hour 20 minutes, 70 miles.

#### 3. From Rocky Mount & vicinity:

Travel U.S. 64. West to I-95 South. From I-95 south, take Exit 46. Turn right (north) into S.R. 87. Turn left onto Wilkes Road. Turn left onto Gillespie Street (Hwy. 301/I-95 Bus.). The entrance for the auditorium is through Gate 2 and Gate 3. Travel time: Approx. 1 hour 35 minutes, 100 miles.

#### 4. From Wilmington & vicinity:

From U.S. 17 west (U.S. 74) bear right (west) into U.S. 74 (U.S. 76). Continue (west) on U.S. 76 (S.R. 87). Take U.S. 74 (west) to I-95. Turn right (southeast) onto

I-95 (U.S. 301). At I-95, Exit 46, turn left (north) onto S.R. 87. Follow U.S. 87 to Wilkes Road. Turn left onto Wilkes Road. Then turn left onto Gillespie Street (Hwy. 301/I-95 Bus.). The entrance for the auditorium is through Gate 2 or Gate 3. Travel time: Approx. 2 hours, 113 miles.

#### LODGING FOR THE YOUTH EVANGELISM CONFERENCE

1. Comfort Inn, Fayetteville — 2 miles — 1857 Cedar Creek Rd. — Rate: \$60-\$85.
2. Econo Lodge, Fayetteville — 2 miles — 1952 Cedar Creek Rd. — Rate: \$49-\$59.
3. Quality Inn, Fayetteville — 2 miles — 2111 Cedar Creek Rd. — Rate: \$46-\$66.

Almost every major hotel can be found in the Fayetteville area. Consult your local telephone directory for toll-free numbers.

#### INSTITUTE WORKERS' CLINIC

On Saturday, Oct. 13, 2001, at 10 a.m., at Baptist Headquarters, will be the annual workshop session for and with the corps of WBH&FMC certified institute workers. All of the certified persons are requested to come and share in this event.

#### PRAYER MONTH FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

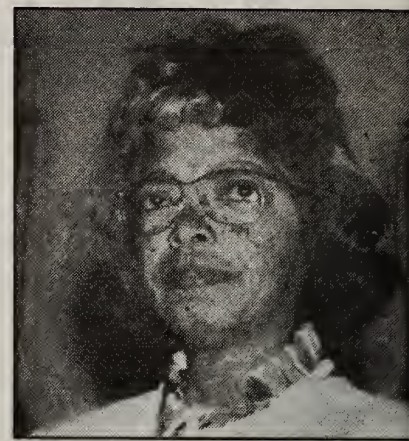
October is the month set aside to emphasize prayer for the Shaw Divinity School and Shaw University.

#### BAPTIST WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Baptist women across the world will gather at different locations to pray on Monday, Nov. 5, 2001. This prayer ministry is under the auspices of the Baptist World Alliance (BWA) Women's Department. Free prayer materials, while quantities last, are available here at the office.

#### LOTT CAREY BAPTIST FOREIGN MISSION CONVENTION

The 105th Annual Session of the Lott



Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie  
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention will be held in New Orleans, La., Aug. 26-30, 2002, Dr. Benjamin J. Maxon Jr., Host Committee Chair. Housing reservation and advanced individual preregistration forms can be obtained by contacting the Woman's Convention Office in Raleigh.

Today, September 11, 2001, as we prepared our article for the *Baptist Informer*, we learned from televised news that terrorists allegedly attacked the World Trade Center in New York, the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., and maybe another place. Local churches and Christian organizations across the country are holding prayer vigils for our county and bereaved families. Let us also individually and collectively be a part of the prayer vigil. There may be other requests from you as the aftermath of the crisis reveals needs.

*"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." Psalm 46:1.*

*"Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." James 5:16*

## More African-American Women Surviving Breast Cancer

Submitted by  
Chanetta R. Washington

What in the world could be good news about breast cancer? According to the most recent facts and figures from the American Cancer Society, the good news is that more African-American women are surviving breast cancer. Why? African-American women are better informed than ever and are having regular mammograms and breast examinations. If breast cancer is present, it is being found in the early stage before it has spread. More than half of breast cancers in African-American women are diagnosed at what is called the "early" stage. When breast cancer is diagnosed in the early stage, treatment is most effective.

Women with local stage breast cancer may be able to keep their breast and have only the lump removed with follow-up radiation treatment. That's also good news! There are now several effective combinations of treatment for breast cancer. All of these treatments have been tested and refined, and side effects can be managed more effectively than in the past. Surgery, chemotherapy and radiation are being used in various combinations to improve the long-term effect of treatment. That news is good too!

Even with this good news, women who

survive breast cancer do worry about whether the cancer may come back. Hearing about other women with breast cancer, scheduling an annual mammogram or seeing a news report about breast cancer may be a trigger that brings your own breast cancer to mind.

A study by nurses at the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Nursing is offering some new materials to help African-American and Caucasian women breast cancer survivors. In this study, *Managing Uncertainty Day to Day*, women learn ways to help them deal with their concerns about the cancer returning. In addition to relying on strong faith, prayer, knowledge about breast cancer and the support of family and friends, women learn skills such as breathing relaxation and calming self-talk to help them deal with their concerns. This study also helps women manage side effects of breast cancer treatment such as lymphoma (swelling of the arm), pain, fatigue, and skin changes. Knowing how to manage these treatment side effects can help you enjoy your life even better.

Women who participate in the study are placed in one of two groups. One group receives the intervention now and the other group receives the materials at the end of the study. Those receiving the intervention

now and the other group receives the materials at the end of the study. Those receiving the intervention, receive telephone calls from a specially trained nurse to help them learn skills to better control their response to daily triggers. These skills are designed to help survivors "keep on keeping one" with their lives.

The study is open to African-American and Caucasian women, 50 years of age or older, who were diagnosed with breast cancer five or eight years ago and have not had a recurrence or other cancer. If you are a breast cancer survivor or know someone who is, you may call the toll free number, 1-800-349-5858, to find out more about the

study and how you may join. You do not have to give blood, take any medicine or have medical tests. We believe this resource can help you or someone you care about. It can also help other breast cancer survivor by sharing information that can only come from someone "who has been there." We look forward to hearing from you.

*The Managing Uncertainty Day to Day project is funded by the National Cancer Institute.*

Principal Investigator, Dr. Merle H. Mishel  
Co-Principal Investigator,  
Dr. Barbara Germino  
Project Manager, Chanette R. Washington

### WOMAN'S BAPTIST HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONARY CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, AUXILIARY TO GBSC 2001 CALENDAR

#### NOVEMBER

#### OCTOBER

(Prayer month for SHAW UNIVERSITY AND SHAW DIVINITY SCHOOL)  
13 — WBSC Institute Workers' Workshop, Baptist Headquarters

3 — Youth Evangelism Conference, Cumberland County Memorial Auditorium, Fayetteville  
5 — World Day of Prayer (BWA — Woman's Department)  
22 — Thanksgiving Day

#### DECEMBER

25 — Christmas Day

# LAYMEN'S LEAGUE NEWS

## Laymen League Has Retreat and Study Commission

By Romas Hales

The State Laymen's League Retreat and Study Commission meeting was held on Saturday, Sept. 8, 2001. The meeting was held at the J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly in Laurel Hill, N.C. President Jarvis Morgan called the meeting to order at 10 a.m. We had a very spiritual devotion conducted by Brother Theodore David.

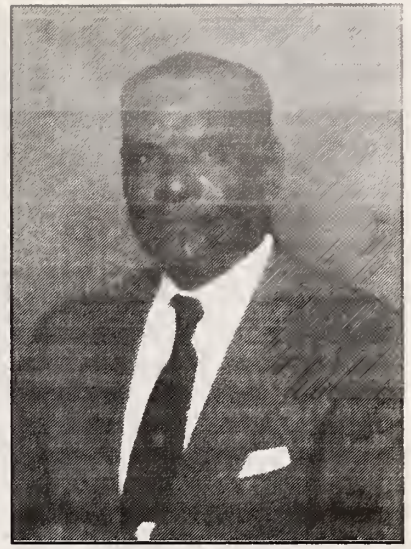
Following the devotion and greetings, President Morgan gave a report on the Lott Carey Annual Convention that was held August 27-31, 2001, in Columbus, Ohio. He also reported on the National Baptist Convention that was held in Minneapolis, Minnesota, Sept. 3-7, 2001. In 2002 the Lott Carey Annual Convention will be held in New Orleans, La., and the National Baptist Annual Convention will be held in Philadelphia, Pa. We encourage the men to try to attend our State and National Convention whenever possible.

Brother Theodore David conducted the Christian Education Session. He conducted the Bible study from the Book of Esther. During his discussion he emphasized how God has somebody to get the job done. He discussed how, although we are a part of God's plan, all of us can be replaced. We need to be careful how we live of lives because we will reap what we sow. It was a good Christian education lesson.

The Study Commission Workshop was conducted by Chairman Dallas Foster. The workshop topic was "Fear." Fear was chosen because the spirit of fear possesses such spiritually damaging potential for laymen. Many laymen have been wounded mentally, disabled spiritually and crippled emotionally by fear. Fear is defined as an unpleasant and strong emotion caused by anticipation or an awareness of danger. It is defined as anxious concern or as considering or expecting with alarm. However, fear can be either good or

bad. A gift from God, or a curse from Satan. The workshop emphasized both the positive and negative types of fear. Fear is healthy and beneficial when one fears the consequences of real danger of sin. Fear is good when one fears God. His workshop discussed fear as a destructive phobia and fear as a constructive emotion, fear as a bad experience and fear as a good thing, fear as a negative reaction and fear as a positive response. He also discussed the benefits of fearing God as Christian laymen. Let us lay claim to God's promises and release forever the crippling spirit of fear in our lives. Let us always remember and never forget that fearing God and keeping His commandments is the whole duty of man. It was a good, well-planned workshop.

Following the Bible study and the Study Commission Workshop, we had a business session conducted by President Jarvis Morgan. There were 70 men in attendance for



Romas Hales  
Laymen's League Coordinator

the session. The session ended with a good fellowship meal.

The final Study Commission meeting for the calendar year 2001 will be held on Saturday, Dec. 8, 2001, at the Community Baptist Church in Durham, N.C., where Rev. Percy Chase serves as pastor. Please start making plans to attend.

May God continue to bless you.

### News from the Foreign Field: The Lott Carey Convention

We continue to be encouraged by the faithfulness of our mission partners around the world in the face of overwhelming difficulties and insufficient fiscal and physical resources. We continue, however, to trust that God is able to supply all our needs according to His riches in glory. We also continue to believe that more of God's people will hear God's call upon their lives to invest in Christian missions around the world. For we know that a church without missions isn't really a church at all! The following are a few highlights from the year.

#### HIV/AIDS Initiative:

Lott Carey launched our HIV/AIDS

### From 2nd Vice President Dr. Howard W. Parker Jr.

initiative during this part year. Our work has included:

- \* Investing more than \$200,000 (nearly 10% of our mission receipts) directly in our HIV/AIDS Initiative internationally.
- \* Sponsoring three training events in Zimbabwe for pastors and church leaders, seminary students, and youth along with youth leaders.
- \* Establishing a partnership with an orphanage to support HIV/AIDS orphans living in Uganda.
- \* Publishing a HIV/AIDS Fact Sheet monthly on the Lott Carey website ([www.lottcarey.org](http://www.lottcarey.org)).
- \* Investing in the HIV/AIDS work of the All Africa Conference of Churches (168 members bodies from 39

countries of the African continent) and participating in two of their regional conferences.

- \* Helping in the ongoing educational process in Lott Carey churches throughout the United States.
- \* Launched Lott Carey International—a new relief, development, and advocacy agency through which we will enlarge our funding capacity and partnerships for HIV/AIDS education and prevention, other health initiatives, and educational support.

#### International Missions Leadership Conference

Lott Carey held our first International Missions Leadership conference during March in Liberia. We gathered our mission leaders from all over the world and shared in:

- \* Educating our mission leaders about Lott Carey's historic and current impact in our Liberian context.
- \* Conducting peer development sessions to increase the leadership capacity of our mission partners.
- \* Participating in vision casting exercises to help shape the future emphases of the Lott Carey family.

#### Added Support To Liberia

Our NORTH CAROLINA partners have been especially generous this year in helping to execute two special projects.

- \* We sent more than 600 Bibles to Liberia that are being used in churches and schools.



Dr. Howard W. Parker Jr.

- \* We purchased a new 29 seat school bus that has already enhanced the work of our educational efforts in Liberia.

#### Reuniting with Lott Carey Churches in Haiti

We have begun the process of reconnecting with our former Lott Carey churches in the Republic of Haiti. Lott Carey had extensive missionary work in Haiti that included evangelism, education, and health from 1916 through 1975. For a quarter century, we have been apart. In March we met with the leaders. We pray that God will stir the hearts of the Lott Carey family to increase our support of our current commitments and new opportunities.

#### Conclusion

We continue to receive support from around the world. We only need more people to make us able.

## GBSC Appoints Dr. Eric F. White, Executive Director of Community Projects

Submitted by Carol J. Smith  
Associate Editor

I am appointing Dr. Eric F. White Executive Director of Community Projects. Dr. White will work with the Millennium Stewardship Campaign in the areas of funding and coordination for the new General Baptist State Headquarters building. He will help develop innovative programs and ministries at the General Baptist State level.

During his 31 years in the Baptist ministry Dr. White established himself as a church builder. Dr. White has successfully completed building programs at both Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church in Belmont, NC, and at Mt. Zion First Baptist Church in Rocky Mount, NC. Dr. White was also the Moderator of the Gaston County Missionary Baptist Association.

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# A Christian Education Moment

By Dr. Jasper P. Reed, President  
Congress of Christian Education

## The Book of Psalms Can Bring Solace to Readers

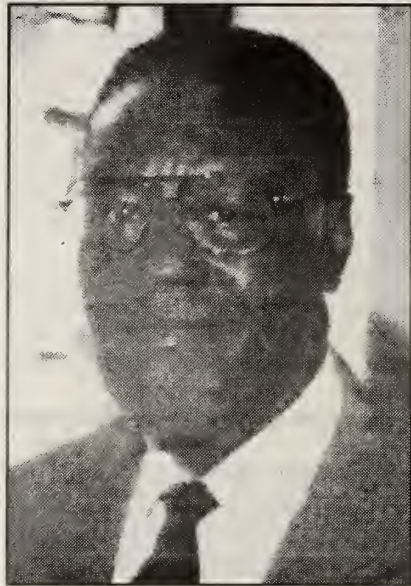
As I sit contemplating what to do, programmatically, during the remainder of my administrative tenure it occurs that I should plan my Informer articles for the same time. Out of my contemplative moments I find myself fixed on an introduction to The Psalms and a short series dealing with at least five Psalms representing the structure of the book. I would like for those of you who find solace in reading the various Psalms to let's begin our journey by reviewing a few things that will help us along the way.

The Good News Bible, Today's English Version, describes the Book of Psalms as the Hymnbook and the Prayer Book of the Bible. Both of which are a part of the Worship experience. In other words our Messiah Jesus Christ, the object of our Worship, is displayed throughout the book. These songs are related to the King and His Kingdom which is Jesus in His Glory. Dr. J. Vernon McGee, in his extensive series on the Psalms, identifies the key word in the book as Hallelujah meaning "Praise the Lord." Nowhere is this better portrayed than in Psalm 150 better known as the "Hallelujah Chorus." The word hallelujah occurs some thirteen times in the six brief verses of this Psalm. O what a way to conclude the book of Psalms.

In his study of the Psalms Dr. McGee states that there is a more complete picture of Christ in the Psalms than in the Gospels. Turn to the Gospel of Luke 24:44-49. Let us pick up on parts of conversation that Jesus is having with His Disciples. Verse 44 capsulizes the essence of the dialogue, "These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the laws of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.

This book has throughout the ages blessed the hearts of God's people. How many of us have found refuge, from the events of the day, in the Psalms. Whether we are sick or shut-in, laden with problems of the mind or heart, upset or just looking for a place to rest or meditate the Psalms can meet your needs. Dr. Watts, the great hymn writer, describes them as the, "Thousand-voiced heart of the Church." They are universally accepted by God's people. They are written or published in most tongues of the world either in part or whole.

There exist a relationship between the arrangement of the book of Psalms and the Pentateuch which is the first five books of the Bible. There are 150 Psalms arranged into five sections each corresponding to one of the first five books in the Bible. Psalms 1 thru 41, represents the Genesis section of



Dr. Jasper P. Reed, President  
Congress of Christian Education

the Bible. It reveals man as seen in a state of blessedness, fall and recovery. Psalms 42 thru 72 represents the Exodus section which highlights the ruin and redemption of Israel God's people. Psalms 73 thru 89 represents the Leviticus section that speaks to the darkness and dawn of Spiritual lives of God's people. Clearly this is implied in references to the tabernacle, temple, house, assembly and congregation. Psalms 90 thru 106 represents the Numbers section of the Bible and introduces the perils and protection of the earth as God's creation. The final section, Deuteronomy, is represented by Psalms 107 thru 150. This section attest to perfection and praise of the Word of God.

When we revisit this series we will begin with the Genesis section. More information as we look at each individual section. Stand by.

### A Christian Education For Our Youth and Young-at-Heart—Quiz

Welcome back. We missed last month (September). This month let us focus on Harvest time.

1. In addition to the Harvest which other feast is mentioned in this verse? Exodus 23:16.
2. Identify the two, "Thou shall nots," in this verse. Leviticus 19:9.
3. How were the Israelites instructed to harvest the fruit? Deuteronomy 26:2.
4. Who will steal the abundance of the harvest? Deuteronomy 28:38.
5. What was Ruth instructed to do in the harvest? Ruth 2:21.
6. What was the Philistine guilty of doing? I Samuel 23:1.
7. What was Job's prayer unto God? Job 31:40.

# From the Moderator of Moderator's Committee

## Honest Is The Best Policy

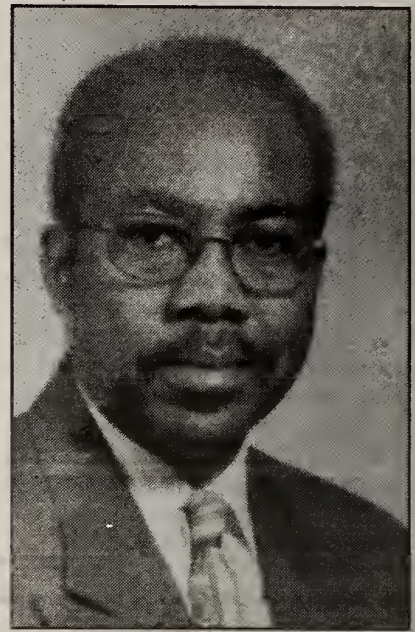
By Dr. James W. Smith

Grace and Peace to all of you, my brothers and sisters!

I was debating whether to write this article but there seems to be more vacant churches now than ever before. Therefore, I want to address an issue that ministers are confronted with when being considered for a pulpit vacancy. The issue is that of "Disclosure." It has ethical and legal ramifications.

Failure to disclose has been a serious problem for a lot of ministers and especially those who may be a candidate for a church. I hear the phrase quite often, "If the Lord has forgiven me and has called me into the ministry, why do I have to share my past with anyone." Well, the simple answer to the question is, you don't. The real question ought to be, "do I want to be a successful pastor, or do I just want to get a church." I have found from the workshops that I have facilitated and calls that I get from church members and pastors are, that as long as things are going well at a church, no one is particularly concerned about the pastor's past. But as soon as something occurs that brings on opposition to the pastor, these same folks began digging into the pastor's background for negative information. Well, the pastor and or prospective pastor can minimize the impact of this by giving a full disclosure. Now, this does not mean that one has to give every little detail of some negatives in his or her background but one does need to inform or mention the matter or matters to the church. We need to remember that as soon as conflict began, one of the first things that opposing members do is check into your background to see what they can find to use against you.

As a former practicing attorney, I was primarily a defense lawyer. Well, one of the things I learned and used successfully in defending my clients was how to use my client's bad record. I found that it was much better for me to inquire of my client about his bad record and allow him to share it, than to ignore it and allow the prosecution to bring it out on cross examination. When I do it, the impact is minimized. If the prosecution do it, the impact is maximized. I believe the basic concept works in the ministry. However, we must be realistic. Some churches



Rev. James W. Smith, J.D.

are not going to be receptive regardless, but what God has for you is for you. Some churches would not have called the Apostle Paul as their pastor. Once his resume was received and they observed that he had been imprisoned on several occasions, he would have been finished. There would have been no attempt to find out the reasons or to get an explanation. Just the fact that it was mentioned was enough for him to be eliminated. Can you visualize what they would have missed, a man whose letters we read and preach on Sunday morning, a man who said, "for God I live and for God I die." I believe honesty is the best policy.

If you wish our services in any way, please contact us at the following:  
Rev. James W. Smith, JD, 146 Presidents Drive  
Durham, NC 27704, (919) 479-0501  
Email: Jsmith9450@aol.com

Rev. W.J. Cox, 107 Gray Street,  
Goldsboro, NC 27534, (919) 751-9899

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## More Faithful Falling For Scams

Scam artists using faith and God as a hook are luring more of the faithful into their traps. According to Deborah Bortner, president of the North American Securities Administrators Association, Inc. "I've been a regulator for over 20 years, and I've seen more money taken in the name of God than in other ways." The faithful have cashed in their retirement accounts, mortgaged their homes or ran up huge credit card debts to invest hundreds of millions of dollars in the belief that their leader had a pipeline to God. The church growth movement is an attempt to help churches grow by applying marketing insights to attracting new church members.

The Gospel is not a product to be sold.

# Christian Education for the 21st Century

By Portia Brandon, M.Div., Christian Education Coordinator

It is a message to be lived. The people the church wants to reach are not customers, but potential disciples. The Gospel message calls us to repent, because we are not always right. Becoming a disciple means giving up what you think you want in order to receive what you really need.

**State regulators urge people to ask these questions before making any investment:**

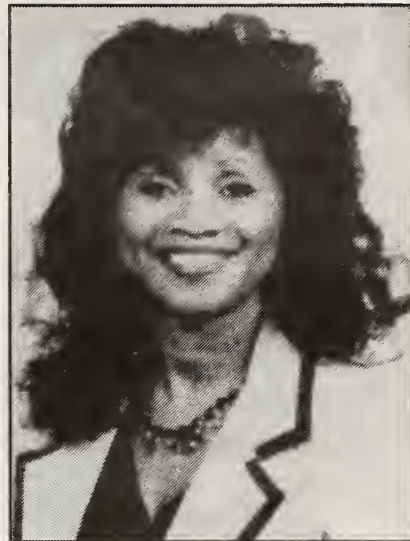
\*Are the seller and the investment licensed and registered in your State? Call your state securities regulator to find out.

If not, the seller might be operating illegally.

\*Has the seller given you written information that fully explains the investments? Make sure you get proper written information, before you invest.

\*Are the claims realistic? Some things are too good to be true. Use common sense and get a professional, third-party opinion when investment opportunities seem to offer unusually high returns.

\*Does the investment meet your goals? Whether you are investing for long-term



Portia Brandon, M.Div.  
Christian Education Coordinator

growth, income or other reasons, an investment should match your goals.



## Good News for Stressed-out Teens

munity, nation and world.

Get a copy of a recent newspaper or watch your local news. Complete this Violence Scavenger Hunt based on what you read or hear.

- Violence with a gun occurred when...
  - Violence against a child happened when...
  - Violence in my city happened when...
  - Violence in our country happened when...
  - Violence in our world happened when...
- What's a Christian to Do?**

The Scriptures won't make this violence mess go away, but they will help you deal with it in a Christ-like way. Read Paul's advice to the church at Rome in Romans 12:14-21. Answer the survey below.

v. 14: When you experience meanness or get hit on, you should

- v. 15: In joy, you should
- In sadness, you should

v.16: You are given three commands to...

- a.
- b.
- c.

v. 17: When evil comes your way,

v. 18: You are called to...

v. 19: If someone does you wrong,

v. 20: If your enemy is hungry, if he is thirsty,

v. 21: You should try to

### Pushing Your Violence Buttons

Everyone has a breaking point, even you. You can hold out only so long before you lose your cool. And when you do, you might get violent (remember, yelling at your parents with mean words is an act of violence).

In each button write a 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5. A 1 means that you would never resort to violence in that situation. A 5 means you're certain you would react violently. A 2,3 or 4 are somewhere in between.

- A kid at school knocks you down in the hall and then yells, "Watch where you're going, jerk face."

- Your younger sister sticks her tongue out at you.

- Your parent grounds you from all activities for a month.

- Your math teacher has just humiliated you in front of the class by telling every one you made the lowest score on the last test.

- You watch two kids beating up on a close friend of yours.

- You are playing volleyball in gym and another kid deliberately hits you in the face with the ball.

- A kid in your neighborhood accuses you of breaking something of his and won't stop yelling at you about it.

- You're running in a relay race during a track meet when another runner purposely trips you so your team will lose the race.

- Your mom points her finger at you and angrily accuses you of never helping do anything around the house.

- You are having an argument with a kid at school and the words start getting nasty.

Finding out your violence level is the first step to doing something about it. The higher your score the higher the amount of stress you will also feel over violent reactions. Sometimes you are not able to control yourself.

What do you think Jesus would have scored on that survey? Go ahead, pick a number.

"I think Jesus would have rated a \_\_\_\_\_."

Was that number close to your total?

- Yes  No

If it was, why do you think Jesus would have scored close to you?

Add up all the numbers you recorded in the survey. The total:

(it should be between 10 and 50).

Here's what you can learn about yourself.

### A score of 10-20:

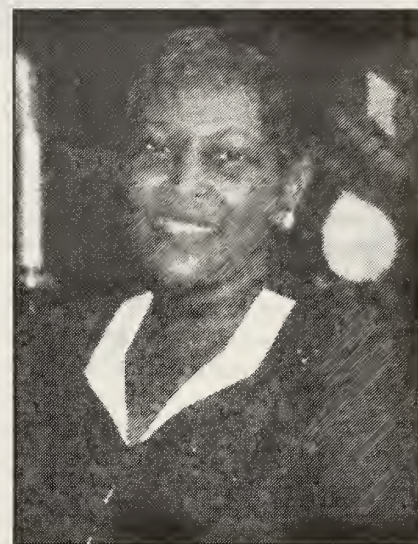
You are a living, breathing, right-on example of mellow. Violent reactions are just not your thing. You have other ways of handling tough people and situations.

### A score of 20-30:

Not bad. It takes a lot to get you going. Certain things might push you to violence, but not much.

### A score of 30-40:

Now we're approaching one of those good ol' hot-blooded human types. Most of those situations would rub you the wrong



Delores Griffey

way and you would let people have it.

### A score of 40-50:

Wharmo! People better stay out of your way. Any threat to your rights are going to meet strong resistance. Even if you have to be violent about it.

If they were different, what might be a reason?

### Anger vs. Violence

Anger is feeling of displeasure resulting from injury, mistreatment, or opposition. It usually shows itself in a desire to fight back at the supposed cause of the feeling.

"I get angry when..."

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_

"I am most angry with..." (rank them)

- \_\_\_ Teachers
- \_\_\_ Friends
- \_\_\_ Parents
- \_\_\_ Myself

\_\_\_ God

"People know when I am angry, because I usually..."

"My anger is usually

- under control."  out of control."

Anger is the fuse that detonates the explosion of violence. If you can control your anger, you won't light the fuse. Anger also leads to MONDO stress. Control it and life is a lot easier. HOW? When you are feeling angry inside; when you are ready to burst apart with an act of violence, stop, count to 10, and ask God to help you. It works. It really works.

By Mike Gillespie  
This Violence Business Has Got To Go,  
Romans 12:14-21

### WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Violence is everywhere. Every day thousands of people experience it. You can get stressed out when you see or read about people being hurt physically, having property stolen, or being abused emotionally. You might even go to a school where you can see an act of violence every day.

Let's make sure you know what that word means. Unscramble the definition below from Webster's Dictionary.

### LIOCEENV:

1. hslacypi rcofe esdu os sa ot jnreui, maaegd, ro yortsed; reemtxe ghourssen fo tcano;

2. tenseni, tnefo vastagnilyde ro plosxeevily rewopful rcefo ro neegry, sa fo a enacirruh ro olvnaco;

3. a) justun ro lisouca esu fo rceof ro werop, sa ni oivtalgni rehtona's ghtsir, enssbiiltiles, tca.;

b) het mrah enod yb isht;

4. treag ecrof ro htgrents fo eefigi, dctunoc, ro ssrepxeoni; hemevceen; uryf.

Pick out five words from that definition that describe violence.

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. \_\_\_\_\_

What do all these words have in common?

When violence occurs somebody loses. It's a bad deal all the way around. It can produce heavy stress.

### Violence Scavenger Hunt

Let's look at an average day in your com-

# UPDATE: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE



**Maurice**

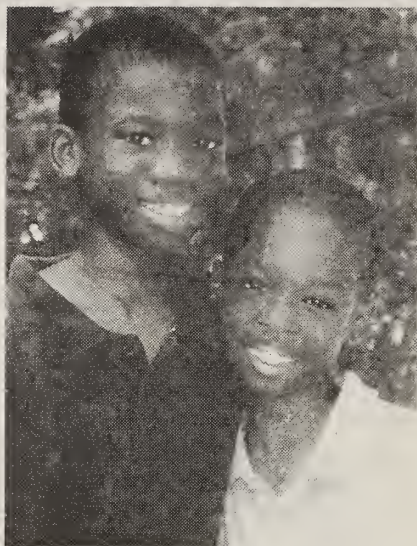
**Introducing Maurice:**

Maurice is a handsome and well-mannered young man. He enjoys socializing, visiting people and attending church. Maurice has a beautiful voice and has participated in choir groups at church. He is also a good spiritual model and leader for other young people. Maurice also likes sports, reading, playing board games and going to theme parks. He is very easygoing, respectful and he appreciates his elders.

Maurice needs encouragement and motivation to work up to his potential in school, if he hopes to pursue his career in medicine. Additional assistance, such as tutoring, can be very helpful to him.

**A Family for Maurice:**

Maurice is a little afraid that if he is



**Travaris and Tyree**

adopted he will never see his siblings again, so it is important that his adoptive family reassure him that he will. Maurice is a nice young man who deserves a permanent, loving home and a family who loves and supports him. This is a very special, spiritual and loving young man. (NC #035-963)

**Introducing Travaris and Tyree:**

Travaris and Tyree are energetic and enthusiastic little boys. They are also friendly, polite and easygoing and both relate well to others.

**A Closer Look at Travaris:**

Travaris loves the outdoors, especially if he's playing basketball or riding his bike. He also enjoys playing Pokemon, computer games, watching TV and playing with Tyree. Travaris is a creative, curious and cooperative young man. He sings very well and plans to be a singer

when he grows up. Travaris is a good, well-rounded student who is popular with other kids in school, and his teacher says he is a good role model.

Travaris is very bright and usually on the school's honor roll. Travaris has good verbal skills, but he needs to remember not to use them to talk in class too much. He is a very good sport who accepts suggestions and criticisms well.

**A Closer Look at Tyree:**

Tyree plans on becoming a fireman when he grows up. This cooperative, courteous, friendly and affectionate boy has many positive characteristics. He is a motivated student who loves school and has displayed leadership qualities. Tyree expresses his thoughts well and he also has good verbal skills. He enjoys playing basketball, riding his bike, playing video games and playing with his toy cars. Tyree sometimes needs to be reminded to stay on

task, but he is a caring, respectful boy who gets along well with everyone.

**A Family for Travaris and Tyree:**

Travaris and Tyree are excited about finding a family of their own.

They would love the opportunity to play team sports, join in youth group activities at church and visit amusement parks and playgrounds. Both boys need some reminding to stay on task and complete chores or assignments. With the support and encouragement of a loving family, Travaris and Tyree should both continue to succeed in school and be positive role models for their peers. An adoptive family should be comfortable with having two rough and tumble, active young boys who are sure to bring warmth, love and smiles to their new home. (NC #092-931) (NC #092-932)

For more information on these children or adoption, in general, please call the NC Kids Hotline at 1-877-NCKIDS-1(1-877-625-4371)

## FOSTER CARE & ADOPTION NEWS

**We urgently seek to identify persons interested in becoming Adoptive and/or Foster Care Parents in each of the 100 counties. There is an urgency. Every child deserves a loving and caring home.**

**Please contact at:**

**Dr. Joseph C. Paige or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige  
2610 Albemarle Avenue 27610  
919-231-9774 • E-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com**

## WANTED!!

- ADOPTED PARENT • FOSTER CARE PARENT
  - VOLUNTEER ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE ADVOCATES
- URGENT!**

**Please contact: Dr. Joseph C. Paige or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige  
2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27610 • 919-231-9774; Fax 919-212-3656;  
or e-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com or dottiedem@maxxconnect.net**

## ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

**Ministry of the GBSC State & Convention of N.C., Inc.**

**By Dr. Joseph C. Paige, Chairperson**

Greetings and Peace on the name of Jesus Christ. We would like to request your active participation and support of the North Carolina African-American Faith Communities United for Children: Adoption and Foster Care.

This Initiative is a cooperative partnership between the General Baptist State Convention and Human Services, Division of Social Services. Ours is an exciting and challenging journey, and a real opportunity to make a serious contribution to a real serious cause at this time.

The African-American Children's Initiative Adoption and Foster Care, as a cooperative church-based effort designed to help identify African-American single persons and couples who are interested in adoption African-American children or becoming foster parents to African-American children. This initiative is based on the fact that every child deserves a long, nurturing and caring home.

At the present time, there are many African-American children in the North Carolina Foster Care System, both boys and girls, who are currently eligible for this effort. The goal is to help speed up the adoption process. Time is of profound essence. There is also an urgency to identify potential Foster Care parents.

We are anxious to make a real difference within the next few months and we can do this only with your help. Volunteers will receive additional guidance from us on marketing strategies in your respective areas just as soon as I hear from you. In addition, we are in the process of soliciting and identifying volunteers to work with us throughout the state in the following categories, and we are requesting your assistance.

1. County Adoption/Foster Care Recruitment Volunteer Coordinators (one volunteer for each county).
2. Church Adoption/Foster Care Recruitment Volunteer Coordinators (one per church)
3. We are also requesting Adoption/Foster Care Recruitment Volunteer coordinators to work with us at the town, city, and area levels, to help us spread the word that all children need and deserve a loving and caring home.

If you agree to serve as a volunteer or if you know someone who is willing to serve with us, write me today and mail it to me at the address below:

Dr. Joseph C. Paige, Chairperson  
The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry  
PO Box 24273, Raleigh, NC 27611-5273

Please don't hesitate to call me if you have any questions (919) 231-9774. Or you can e-mail me at JoePaigeSr@aol.com or you can also e-mail me at JoePaigeSr@aol.com.

I look forward to working with you.

### SHARE THE VISION WITH US!! HELP US SPREAD THE WORD THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC. & THE NORTH CAROLINA AFRICAN-AMERICAN FAITH COMMUNITIES UNITED FOR CHILDREN: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

*Making A Difference in the Life of a Child*

*Finding Adoptive and Foster Care Homes for African-American Children*

The North Carolina African-American Faith Communities United for Children, a partnership with North Carolina Division of Social Services, is comprised of African-American congregations and community organizations from across the State, NAYKEL and the North Carolina Association of Black Social Workers committed to finding adoptive and foster homes for African-American children.

Yes, I'd like to do my part ...

Please complete and return to Dr. Joseph Paige.

I'd like someone to call me.

Please send me information about adoption. Please send me information about foster care.

I'd like to be a field worker.

- I am interested in being an adoptive parent.  I'd like to be a county volunteer.
- I am interested in being a foster care parent.
- I'd like to be a church volunteer.  Other (please specify)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City State Zip

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Dr. Joseph C. Paige at 2610 Albemarle Ave., Raleigh, NC 27610,  
919-231-9774, 919-618-8343, mobile • e-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com

# UPDATE: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

By Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr.  
and Dr. Dorothy A. Demby Paige  
*Greetings in the Blessed Name of Our Lord  
and Savior, Jesus Christ!*

The month of September was again encouraging. And, as predicted earlier, the first quarter of the new fiscal year was especially encouraging. If this outpouring of interest continues, and there is every indication to believe that it will, the new Fiscal Year (July 2001-June 2002), will be another banner year in terms of outreach and the recruitment of potential African-American adoptive and/or foster parents. We have claimed it already. The word is spreading among the various faith communities and we give God the glory.

As we did in August, we spent a great part of September testing new outreach and recruitment strategies, developing coalitions, and recruiting new partners, organizations, volunteers and advocates, to expand our support base. The results have been positive. People everywhere seem to want to help.

The word is now out. The belief that every child deserves a long, caring, and nurturing home is widespread. And people, overall, in all walks of life, seem to agree that our Ministry is a worthy cause deserving broadly based support.

We also met with several organizations and groups, conducted training sessions for volunteers, and responded to several inquiries from persons whom we met at the 27th Annual Session of the **National American Council on Adoptable Children (NACAC)**, held in Charlotte, in early August.

## A HOLY ANOINTING

As we repeatedly state each month, we are convinced that **GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry is inspired by God and that the ministry enjoys a special anointing from the Heavenly Father. You can see it. You can feel it. There is something special about what we do, and how we do it.** The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry is a faith-based initiative worthy of support. Our position is that those who do no gladly support us do not understand us.

The seemingly tripling of interest by churches and concerned persons, singles and couples, in helping us find permanent and temporary homes for African-American children already in the North Carolina Foster Care System, and related expressions of concern are all God's doing. They are a manifestation and reflection of His Spirit and His Special Blessing, all for the good things of our children. We solicit your continuing prayer and support.

## OUR MANDATES

Our mandate is two-fold:

1. To identify African-American singles and couples who are interested in becoming adoptive and/or foster parents for African-American Children already in the Foster Care System of North Carolina Division of Social Services (NC-DSS).
2. To advocate, motivate and stimulate interest among African-American singles and couples of the various faith communities in becoming adoptive and/or foster parents for African-American children already in the Foster Care System of the North Carolina Division of Social Services.

As the major adoptive and foster care faith communities' advocates in our state, we are convinced that our efforts have made and continue to make positive differences in the attitudes of the faith communities and their members toward the State and County Departments of Social Services, in general, and toward adoption and foster care, in particu-

lar. It has been a unified effort. Together, we are making a difference.

## WORKING THE STATE

We thank God for His continuing blessings as we "work the state," so to speak, making and responding to telephone calls, e-mail and general correspondence, speaking at churches, conferences, and meetings of associations, community groups, clubs and organizations, spreading the work of the increasing need for adoptive and foster parents of African-American children, statewide, who are already in the North Carolina Foster Care System.

And again, we thank God for those who have partnered with us as we expand our recruitment/referral efforts. It is only because of the expanded, continuing, collaboration, cooperation, and support, that we are able to realize the successes that we are experiencing. Our ministry is a credit to the faith communities of the state and to the Children's Services Division of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services. We are a committed and dedicated team, and our ministry seems to be blossoming in so many ways.

## THE EVERY CHURCH ADOPT ONE PROJECT

THE EVERY CHURCH ADOPT ONE initiative, influenced after the successful Virginia pioneering effort, continues to gain broad support statewide, among the various faith communities and again, we give God the glory and the praise. We will continue to push this initiative, statewide.

EVERY CHURCH ADOPT ONE is a highly successful interfaith initiative, and we strongly encourage all churches to join us in this special challenge and opportunity. Join the growing number of churches that are uniting for children. This **HELPING AND CARING MINISTRY** is being pushed by moderators, conference leaders, elders, bishops, ministers and assorted church laity. Many church missionary departments have designed this ministry as a primary focus for the year 2001. For additional information, please call, write or e-mail us! Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr., or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige, 2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27610; 919-231-9774; FAX: 919-212-3656; e-mail: joepagiesr@aol.com or dottedem@maxxconnect.net.

## COURTNEY CROWDER

As are especially pleased with our association with Courtney Crowder, Field Representative to Congressman Bob Etheridge, 2nd Congressional District, who volunteers with us as a Special Assistant with responsibility for coalition building. He is helping us expand the involvement of faith communities and social, civic and fraternal groups in the nine counties comprising the 2nd Congressional District.

We are also grateful to Ms. Mary Perry, President of the Zebulon-Wake Chapter of the State NAACP and a member of Congressman Etheridge's Staff for her continuing support.

## A NEW PARTNERSHIP

We are indeed excited about our recent partnering with the **MULTICULTURAL COMMUNITY SERVICES** of Spring Lake, and we look forward to a long and productive and supportive relationship with Ms. Anna Green, Executive Director and Rev. Samuel Harrin, Family Support Worker. This special **GRANDPARENTING and PARENT/CHILDREN SERVICES PROGRAM** currently serves mainly Cumberland County.

## VOLUNTEERS

As in previous months, September was a special month for recruitment of volunteers.

We continued to expand our network of adoption and foster care volunteers, recruiting through our expanding church contacts, associations and conferences of the various faith communities. We are especially grateful to the moderators, elders, and overseers of the various faith communities for their continuing support of our efforts! Please continue to help us spread the word.

Our list of Adoption and Foster Care Volunteers, Advocates and Spokespersons continues to grow, all for the sake of our children. Our children are the real beneficiaries. The Volunteers, Advocates and Spokespersons are so important for our work. They help us identify African-American singles and couples interested in becoming adoptive and/or foster parents of African-American children already in the North Carolina Foster Care System. They also help us spread the word that there are gross disparities in the adoption of African-American children already in the Foster Care System, when compared with whites. They help us spread the word and make the needs of our children known.

We thank God for the generous time and energy our volunteers give to our effort. We now have adoption and foster care volunteers in the majority of our counties, in both rural and urban areas. They all believe as we do, that every child deserves a loving, caring and nurturing home and they are committed to helping make this happen.

## ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE ADVOCATES

We are grateful for the continuing support of Dr. James T. Roberson and Mrs. Beverly Roberson, Rev. Sheila Crump, Rev. Jon Murphy and Linda Murphy, Ms. Linda Wright, Ms. Carol Smith and Ms. Portia Brandon for their continuing support of our efforts. And, as we stated last month, we are especially pleased that Calvin and Priscilla Spellman of Elizabeth City have volunteered to work with us. They serve as volunteers and as spokespersons and children's advocates for the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry. Our advocates continue to help us make a difference in our commitment to help children. We are grateful they are willing to take time from their already busy schedules to work with us.

## PARTNERING WITH FAITH COMMUNITIES

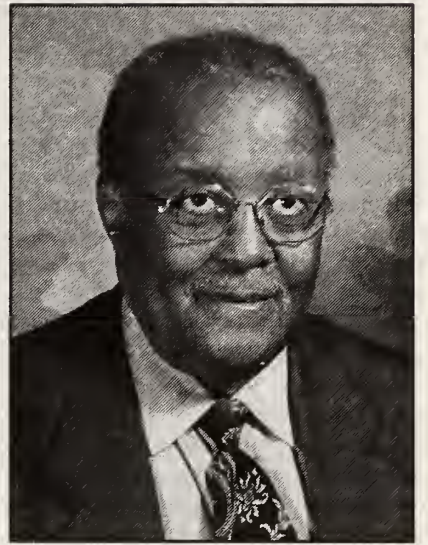
Our outreach arm, **The North Carolina African-American Faith Communities United for Children: Adoption and Foster Care**, an initiative of the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry, deserves both praise and thanks. Both ministers and laity, women and men, are actively spreading the word that children need love, that they need a nurturing and caring home environment.

**This interfaith, interdenominational body, inspired by God and directed by the Heavenly leadership of the Holy Spirit, has been a God-send. We pray fervently and listen and patiently wait for God's guidance in all that we do. The success of our ministry is further confirmation that with God, all things are possible.**

## ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE AREA CONFERENCE

Oct. 6, 2001 — Fayetteville, NC

The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry is partnering with the Multicultural Community Development Services of Spring Lake and the Cumberland County Division of Social Services, Fayetteville, N.C., in sponsoring an **ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE AREA CONFERENCE** from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 6, 2001, at the **Spring Lake Memorial Baptist Church, 336 Chapel Hill Road, Spring**



Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr.

Lake, Rev. John McKoy, Host Pastor.

The program will include skits, special presentations, and panel discussion on prevention, awareness, involvement/support and education. **Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., GBSC President and Pastor of Lewis Chapel Baptist Church, Fayetteville, N.C.,** will be the keynote speaker.

Area pastors and their congregations are strongly urged to attend the conference and establish a partnership for "Holding on To Our Children."

## EASTERN AREA VOLUNTEER TRAINING AND ORIENTATION CONFERENCE PLANNED FOR OCT. 20, 2001, IN ELIZABETH CITY, N.C.

A special eastern area volunteer training and orientation conference for volunteers is tentatively planned for 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 20, 2001. The conference is tentatively scheduled to be held at **St. Stephen's Baptist Church, Rev. Ricky L. Banks, Pastor. Calvin and Priscilla Spellman, area Adoption and Foster Care Volunteers, will serve as coordinators.** Area Clergy, Church members, social and civic organizations, and persons interested in adoption and foster care are encouraged to attend.

Dr. Joseph C. Paige and Dr. Dorothy A. Demby Paige, Mr. Earl Horton and Rev. Anthonette Wright will be presenters. The public is invited.

## THE CAROLINIAN CONNECTION

A hearty "thank you" to Paul and Evelyn Jervay, owners and Co-Publishers of **The Carolinian**, and NAY-KEL Founders, for their continuing assistance and encouragement. Rev. Jervay assists us in interfaith relations, volunteer follow-up and training and outreach. Mr. Jervay donates time as our media consultant. They lend a special expertise to our efforts. Together, as with our other volunteers and advocates, they help us make a difference for the betterment of our children.

## WE STILL NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS

**This is an urgent plea, as we have repeatedly stated, while the response for adoption and foster care volunteers has been incredible successful statewide, we are still seeking additional volunteers to help us spread the word. We are asking every church to appoint an Adoption and Foster Care Volunteer Coordinator to help us spread the word.** Please call, write or e-mail us! Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr., or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige, 2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27610; 919-231-9774; FAX (919) 212-3656; e-mail: joepagiesr@aol.com or dottedem@maxxconnect.net.

(See next page)

## Notes from the Director of Public Relations

By Earl Horton, GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry

The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry is moving from I-95 south to have our Adoption and Foster Care Area Conference in Cumberland County.

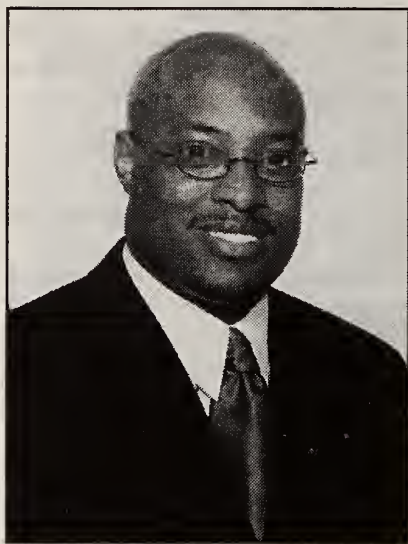
Rev. John McKoy, pastor of Spring Lake Memorial Baptist Church and congregation has welcomed us with open arms to host the conference on Saturday, Oct. 6, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Our partners, the Multicultural Community Development Services (MCDS) and Cumberland County Division of Social Services represent our conference committee. They have been working very diligently with the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry to make this conference full of potential and promise that could be our best yet.

We have scheduled panel discussions that will address issues concerning our children in the child welfare in Cumberland. Also, two dramatization skits will be illustrating the children's struggle of being alone with no one to love them. These skits promise to stir up emotions from the soul.

Our illustrious GBSC president, Dr. John Fuller will give the kickoff address for our event.

Our purpose for this conference is to influence the minds and break the negative



Earl Horton

perceptions of adoption and foster care in the African-American community.

I would like to send an open invitation to pastors and churches everywhere in Cumberland County and state to attend this informative conference. Surely, this conference will be one that does not need to be missed.

If you would like more information on the Adoption and Foster Care Area Conference please call (919) 754-8333.

## MORE ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

### Update on Adoption ...

#### THE FULL-TIME OFFICE STAFF

Our full-time office staff consists of Rev. Anthonette Wright, Director of Church Relations/Regional Consultant and Earl Horton, Director of Public Relations/Regional Consultant.

Rev. Wright has overall responsibility for the western and central counties of the state; including the following target counties in this region: Buncombe, Guilford, Gaston, Mecklenburg and Forsyth. Mr. Horton has overall responsibility for the eastern counties and five target counties in this region: Wake, Durham, Cumberland, New Hanover and Robeson.

You may contact Rev. Wright at (919) 754-8800; e-mail: Nwright@aol.com. Mr. Earl Horton can be reached at 919-754-8333; e-mail: gbsceh@aol.com. **Please note that our office has relocated. The new address is: GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry, 211 Six Forks Road, Suite 209B, Raleigh, N.C. 27609.**

#### SPECIAL STAFF

Maurice Lane continues to do an outstanding job as special assistant to the Project Director in addition to his outreach activities. Evangelist Michele Montgomery, continues to work with the media and as a Special Outreach Volunteer Assistant.

#### JO-ELLEN PAIGE JOINS STAFF

Jo-Ellen Paige of Laurel, Maryland, recently joined the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Staff as a special assistant to the Project Director and Field Coordinator. Ms. Paige was former Office Manager of the Professional Staff Nurses' Association in Columbia, Md. She was former Executive Secretary to Dr. Paige during his tenure as Executive Vice President and Dean, Shaw Divinity School.

#### PASTORAL CONSULTANTS/TEAM LEADERS

Ms. Sherbia Jones,  
Ms. Jennifer Campbell  
Ms. Janice Greenard  
Mr. Thomas Lewis, Outreach Coordinator, (NAY-KEL)

#### THANKS

To all of our Volunteers, Supporters and Friends: Thanks again for your continuing encouragement and support.

You may reach us:

By phone: (919) 231-9774

By FAX: (919) 212-3656

By e-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com

By regular mail:

2610 Albemarle Avenue  
Raleigh, NC 27610

### \$1,000 BONUS! BONUS! BONUS!

We have decided, as our special way to say "Thank You," to provide a personal bonus of \$1,000, to the first individual, church or association that recruits a minimum of 20 potential adoptive and/or foster parents each month for the next five months (August, September, October, November and December 2001.) or a total of 100 recruits (verified). Only one bonus of \$1,000 will be given. Persons interested in competing for the "bonus" should call, write or e-mail us!

Dr. Joseph C. Paige or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige, 2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27610; 919-231-9774; Fax 919-212-3656; E-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com or dottiedem@maxxconnect.net

### The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. and the N.C. African-American Faith Communities United for Children: Adoption and Foster Care Finding Adoptive & Foster Care Homes For African-American Children

#### Touch a Life Forever ... ADOPT!

#### Children waiting for adoptive families are ...

- Sisters and brothers who want to be adoptive together
- Children who have experienced neglect, abuse or abandonment
- Older children who want a permanently family
- Children who need families who care and are willing to make a lifetime commitment

#### You can adopt if you ...

- Are single, married or divorced
- Can provide a stable home
- Have the ability to care for a child not born to you
- Are willing to take on the responsibilities, joys and challenges of parenting

#### Families who adopt ...

- May be homeowners or renting
- May have a fixed income
- May be an adult of any age

#### North Carolina Needs More Foster Homes

Thousands of children in North Carolina, ranging in age from infants to 18 years old, enter the foster care system each year. These children may have been neglected, abused, or abandoned and need a safe place to stay temporarily. The number of children coming into care is increasing faster than the number of foster homes in our state.

#### You Can Become A Foster Parent If You ...

- Are between the ages of 21 and 65
  - Are willing to be fingerprinted and have a criminal record check
  - Have a stable home and income
  - Are able to provide a safe, temporary place for children until they can be in a permanent home
  - Complete all required training and be licensed by the State of north Carolina
- You do not have to be married, wealthy or own your own home to be a foster parent.

### November Is Adoption Awareness Month: Gala Celebration Planned

#### By Carol Smith

November is National Adoption Awareness Month, and The Adoptions and Automation Unit of the Children's Section, Division of Social Services of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, is planning a **GALA KICK-OFF TAIL-GATE CELEBRATION** on the grounds of the State Capital from 10 am to 2 pm, on Thursday, November 1. The public is invited. Ms. Amelia Lance, a Program Officer in the Children's Section is Adoptions Awareness Month Coordinator.

Dr. Joseph C. Paige, Chairperson of the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry and a member of the Celebration Advisory Committees responsible for coordinating special State level VIP participation, stated that he is hopeful that speakers at the celebration will include: **Governor Mike**

Easley; Health and Human Services Secretary, Carmen Hooker-Buell; and Ms. Phoen Beal, Director of the NC Division of Social Services.

Paige added that "the State is indeed fortunate to have such sensitive and supportive human services leadership as the Governor, Secretary Hooker-Buell, and Director Beal." He described them as children's advocates and supporters of faith-based and community initiatives.

Dr. Paige, who also serves as Chairperson of the North Carolina African American Faith Communities United for Children Adoption and Foster Care, will also coordinate faith community involvement in the celebration. Committee plans also include the involvement of athletes, fraternities and sororities, area college and universities and media personalities.

GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry Multicultural Community Development Services & Cumberland County Division of Social Services Presents...

### Adoption and Foster Care Area Conference

Theme: "Holding on to our Children"

October 6, 2001 — 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Spring Lake Memorial Baptist Church

Rev. John McKoy, Host Pastor

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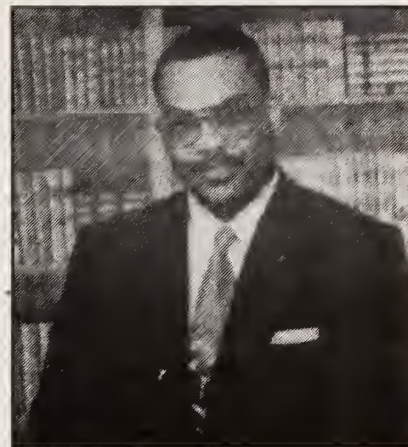
Keynote  
Speaker  
Dr. John Fuller  
GBSC  
President

Panel  
Discussions

# From the Office of Institutional and Specialized Ministries

Rev. Michael R. Smith

*"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."*  
**Psalm 46:1-2**



Rev. Michael R. Smith Sr.

## Responding to the Crime of Terrorism

with its swelling...The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge."

I pray our individual responses will lead to the beginning of healing our hearts and minds from this tragedy. Lastly, I pray the Church's response will demonstrate Christians are **not like** terrorists.

### GBSC 1ST ANNUAL CRIME & INCARCERATION CONFERENCE

The OISM is readying for the GBSC 1st Crime and Incarceration Conference on November 30-December 1, 2001, at Shaw University Divinity School in Raleigh. On October 28-November 1, 2001, the OISM will highlight the conference during the GBSC 134th Annual Session in Asheville, N.C. Our program in Asheville will seek to update our convention concerning the state of crime and incarceration in our state. The conference in November will attempt to lead us in responding in a unified and strategic way to crime and incarceration. I call for your prayers and support in Asheville and Raleigh. **JOIN US IN THE BATTLE!**

way for the Church to differentiate ourselves from the criminals who perpetrated this crime would by the way we respond and treat criminals. If our response is not Christ-like, we show we are no better and are controlled by the same sinful nature of these criminals. This means we should seek justice and mercy in responding to this crime. A Christian response to crime is not to be confused with revenge or vigilantism.

The criminals that perpetrated this crime need not only justice, but also mercy. Mercy always seeks to meet the need of the person. The terrorist's greatest need is come to the salvation found only in Christ. The Church's response must be guided by the Holy Spirit, God the Spirit says to us today, **"Even though the earth be removed, and the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; though its waters roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake**

try. I know now the issue of crime will and should occupy a place of priority by all church leaders in our churches.

I pray we will seek justice for the many victims of this act of sin, not revenge. I call on all church leaders to pray for justice and mercy. Jesus our Lord taught to us "love our enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use and persecute you" (Matt 5:44).

I understand now why Jesus taught this difficult lesson. Our Lord knew the only

### Registration and Representation Form

## 1ST ANNUAL CRIME & INCARCERATION CONFERENCE

Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President GBSC  
 Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer

**NOVEMBER 30-DECEMBER 1, 2001**

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Personal Registration \$20 per person  
 Number of Messengers \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$20 each Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Church Representation \$100 for the year Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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 Reservation Deadline Oct. 29, 2001

General Baptist State Convention of N.C. Inc.  
 Office of Institutional & Specialized Ministries

### 1st Annual Crime & Incarceration Conference

• Reaching • Reconciling • Restoring • Broken Lives

**November 30 - December 1, 2001**

Shaw University Divinity School • Raleigh, North Carolina

#### Purpose

"Righteousness and Justice are the foundation of Your throne: Mercy and Truth go before Your face." Psalm 89:14 NKJV

The purpose of this conference is to bring together ministers, local churches, ex-offenders, judges, correctional administrators, lawyers, prison volunteers/organizations community based organizations, and all other interested persons to be educated, equipped and inspired to work for justice and mercy in responding to crime and incarceration. This can be accomplished through strategic dialogue and Integration of creative ideas and effective strategies that can help reach, reconcile and restore lives broken through crime and Incarceration. The Churches of this state will be challenged and inspired to come together in a unified effort to better respond to this growing crisis.

#### Upcoming Training & Events

OISM Program at GBSC Annual Session

**October 28-31, 2001**

Asheville, NC

OISM 1st Annual Crime & Incarceration Conference

**November 30-December 1, 2001**

Shaw University Divinity School, Raleigh, NC

## 1ST ANNUAL CRIME & INCARCERATION CONFERENCE NOVEMBER 30- DECEMBER 1, 2001

Conference Site:

SHAW UNIVERSITY DIVINITY SCHOOL  
 816 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC  
 HEADQUARTERS HOTEL  
**SHERATON CAPITAL CENTER**  
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By Charolette H. Leach, M.S.

We have all experienced faithfulness of God! If we are asked the question, "Can you relate a time that you needed God to come through for you and he did?" We all, with not much difficulty, would be able to describe a time. Maybe you had been praying for a loved one to accept the gift of salvation, and they finally accepted Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. Possibly, the finances were tight and the money need to pay bills and to pay tithes was one in the same. You decided to trust God and paid your tithes and a check came from nowhere that more than covered the bill that you owed.

What is involved in us getting to a place of trusting God and then allowing him to work on our behalf? Consider four elements:

- 1) We come to realize that God is needed in our situation
- 2) We make a conscious decision to call on God
- 3) We develop faith to believe that God will show up (do his part) and give us what we need to do our part
- 4) We take steps to do what we can for the situation (our part)

I am sure that you are asking, "What does this have to do with Fitness?" This is a good question. These four elements can be applied to any area that we may be struggling with in our lives, including our health. For the most part, we all lead relatively busy lives. There is not enough time and energy to devote to everything, so quite often it is our health that is neglected. And quite often, we don't get to element 1, with regard to our health until it is too late. Quite often, we have already developed high blood pressure, heart disease, or diabetes before we get to element 1. We often have to receive a bad report from the doctor before we realize that proper nutrition, regular physical exercise, and handling stress are crucial to maintaining our health.

I often ask God, "What can be done to allow you to come on the scene before it is too late?" What can help us realize the need to call on you for help before the report comes from the doctor? Consider the fact that there is an alarming epidemic that currently is hitting our nation. The epidemic is Type II Diabetes in children. Yes, children between the ages of 10 and 19 are being diagnosed with Type II Diabetes. Type II Diabetes for the most part had been reserved for adult in their 50s and 60s. The other name for Type II Diabetes is Adult Onset Diabetes, because it occurred in adults later in life. The name is no longer appropriate.

## FAITH AND FITNESS

### Strive for Health for our Children's Sake

A study conducted by researchers at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill schools of nursing, medicine, and public health, showed that 7% of children between the ages of 11 and 14, already had three of the leading risk factors for heart disease and eventual Type II Diabetes. Those risk factors, together called multiple metabolic syndrome are:

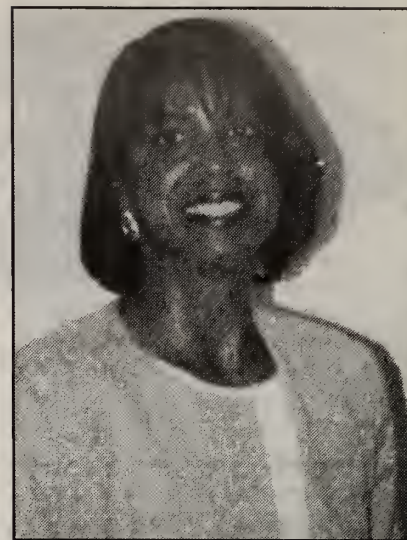
- High insulin levels
- High blood pressure
- Either elevated levels of triglycerides or not enough good cholesterol, high density lipoproteins (HDL)

This report pointed out that even though 7% doesn't sound like a lot, we must consider that these children will probably go on to develop Type II Diabetes within 10 years. It also must be pointed out that this study included 688 randomly selected, apparently healthy North Carolina children from five different schools. These children were a subset of almost 4,000 children that were studied across the state through the UNC-CH based Cardiovascular Health in Children project. The overall study showed that the only significant predictor of which children would have the risk factors previously mentioned was **obesity**. Children who were obese were 53 times as likely to have multiple metabolic syndrome, also called insulin resistance syndrome, as children who were not obese. The bottom line is that children who are obese stand a much greater chance of developing Type II Diabetes, right along with obese adults. Even though the risks is greater in obese children, keep in mind that children are being diagnosed with Type II Diabetes from all populations and often of normal weight.

If we cannot understand the seriousness of taking care of our health for ourselves, maybe we can get to where we need to be if we consider our children and our grandchildren. I have a 15-year old son and the thought of him being diagnosed with a life-threatening disease like diabetes is very depressing. What is more depressing is the thought that I could be a contributor to that diagnosis. We are responsible for rearing our children. They watch us, and will do what we do, no matter what we say. We must be the example. We must take steps to improve our nutrition and bring them along with us. They must witness us including physical activity into our lives on a

regular basis. We must bring them along with us. I am guilty of not bringing my son along with me, but I will strive to do better. Our group at church is called the "Believers Striving For Health." Every Christian should be able to claim this name. As we claim it, we must keep in mind trying to bring along our congregation, our community, and our family, but most importantly, our children.

**If taking steps to strive for health seems too difficult, we must first come to realize that God is needed in our situation. We must next make a conscious decision to invite God to help. If we do this in sincerity and faith, God will do his part and will give us instructions, for our part. He will give us wisdom and**



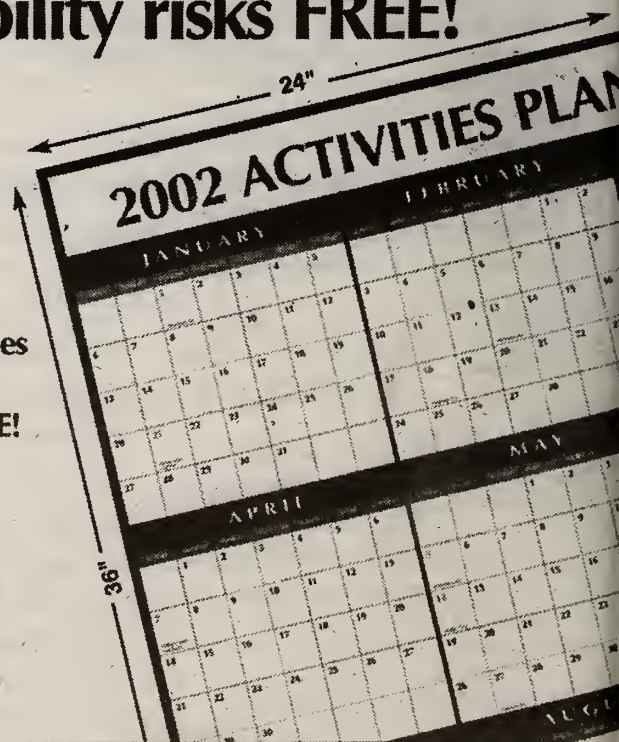
Charolette H. Leach, M.S.

**strength to go forth in what we need to do to improve our health and to be examples for our children and grandchildren. Just focus on all of the times that he has shown himself faithful and remember that he has not changed! Be Blessed!**

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## New Pastor's Corner

### Intercessory Prayer

By  
Rev. Sandra Holland Trotter  
Pastor/Shiloh Temple of Faith  
Missionary Baptist Church,  
Fayetteville, NC



Rev. Sandra Holland Trotter

What happens when we pray for others? Does it do any good? How can prayer really affect another person's life. Why should another's destiny depend upon my spiritual action? Why should we need to prompt the God of love and wisdom to do something for another person? These are questions raised by sincere people.

**1. Prayer changes the person who prays.** When one person prays for another, the first result is that the one who prays is changed — that is, provided he prays. There is no magic in saying certain formal words addressed to Deity. But whenever anyone prays, something tremendous takes place. Perhaps we can picture it by a triangle. At one point is the person who is praying. From this point we draw a horizontal line to the second point, the person prayed for. Then we complete the triangle with a line from each point up to the apex, which is God.

But what if instead we reach up and attune our life to be Infinite, link up with intentions of God, really pray? Prayer means communion with God. Prayer means some degree of oneness with God. If in any way in the reality of our worship we become deeply conscious of God, then we are praying. So the first thing we do is not to cry out superficially, but rather take time to be sure we are lifting ourselves up in an awesome awareness of the Divine, that we are linking ourselves with God—in a word, that we are praying. As we do this, subtle but unmistakable changes are taking place in us. From the apex of this established communion in the presence of God we now see the other person as God sees them. When we do a thing as powerful and tremendous as that, there are consequences in our life. When we really become aware of the living God, when reality comes to us in prayer, then we are changed. We can no longer be selfish, egotistical and self-centered. The relation of the other person to us is no longer subjective. It is often terribly true that our relation to others resolves around our interest in ourselves. Other persons are merely adjuncts to our ego.

When we pray until we begin to sense the purposes of God for the redemption and benefit of all mankind through Jesus. As revealed on the cross, we cannot ever again be entirely indifferent to other people.

The first thing to do in intercession, then, is to pray until we adjust ourselves to God's will, condition ourselves to God's presence, and awaken to the tremendous reality of God in Himself.

As we become conscious of what God's

presence means to us, suddenly it draws upon us that the supreme thing that could happen to others would be a similar entrance into the place of God's presence.

We cry out for God's Spirit to enter their lives, for His power to be manifested to them, for His love to enfold them, and for His will to be done in them. We are concerned not merely to busy ourselves in superficial actions, but strive with God for abiding solutions to the problems, which they face.

**2. Prayer influences the other person.** Every individual who lives in accordance with God's word will change the atmosphere of society. The intensity and power of one's experience of Christ releases a healing stream to flow into the life of society. How great is the influence of a Christian parent! How strong the leadership of a dedicated prophet! How kindling the influence of a Christian teacher! Such personalities are like the opening of windows of fresh air into the atmosphere that others breathe. Most of us influence others daily. In life's crowded hours of suffering and tragedy the value of the prayers of others is strangely underlined.

**3. Intercession is significant for God.** Prayer not merely changes and transfigures the one who prays; Prayers not merely influences the other person; but if it is real prayer and the powerful spiritual fact that it should be, prayers for others is also significant even for almighty God. When we pray for others, a new spiritual fact is created which God desires but which did not exist until we prayed. Our prayer, then, is a significant reality even for God. Whenever there arises a deep spiritual response, in prayer, of creature to creator, of man to his God, then the highest intention finds fulfillment.

In prayer some lonely child of the spirit pioneers in the laboratory of communion with the eternal. The greatest force in the world is the power of God. When we open the doors through our prayers, God's power will stream in and results beyond anything we have expected will take place. We need to pray until once again there is a mighty revival of intercessory prayer in our hearts. Look around you, look at our children, look at our communities, look at our churches, and look at us:

We can't afford not to pray:

## State Ushers News

By Alice W. McNair

Western Union M.B. Association, Clinton, N.C. ushers who attended the State Ushers Convention in Rocky Mount, N.C. July 20-21, 2001 were: Denise Fisher, Carolyn Cox, Carrie Evans, Glenda Brandon, Marcus Best, and Larry Crumpler.

Met a very nice lady at the State Ushers Convention from Lumberton, N.C. They were to celebrate their 50th Anniversary in October, 2001. She promised to send me the details. She never did. So, Lumberton, I am still waiting to hear from you. Also met a very nice young man, who is president of ushers at the First Baptist Church, Fairmont, N.C.; he promised to send me news. Fairmont, I am still waiting to her from you.

Mrs. Eva Boyce, Gastonia, N.C. announces: The Gaston Ushers Ministry will begin their New Year Sept. 15, 2001 with a cookout at Biggerstaff Park, Dallas, N.C. All Gaston ushers are invited to attend and make plans for 2002. Their theme is: First Corinth. 14:40. Let all things be done decently and in order. Mrs. Boyce is president, pastor Samuel H. Barber, Moderator.

District III Ushers held their annual Workshop July 28, 2001 at Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Charlotte, NC. Rev. J.A. Culbertson, host pastor. Instructors were: Bro. Saylor Mattison from Second Calvary Baptist Church and Dr. C.V. Owens of First Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, Charlotte, N.C. You should be a committed, dedicated usher. Everyone has a gift or talent, and should use it to the glory and honor of God. Rev. Queen Esther Gardner of New Providence Baptist Church, Mt. Holly, N.C. was in charge of the youth.

Members of the Charlotte Fire Department spoke on Fire Safety. Every building needs smoke detectors. Each church should have an escape plan and a special meeting place outside. Stay there until everyone is safe. If you are ever on fire, Stop, Drop, and Roll. Certificates were given to the church ushers and church nurses who worked at the National Congress of Christian Education held in Charlotte, N.C. June 18-20, 2001.

State Pres. Charlie Fletcher attended the workshop and expressed concern for the people in Princeville, N.C. These folks are still living in trailers and he stated he would like to get 10 churches to give \$300 each to help with their housing. These people are having a hard time getting their houses replaced. One of the reasons is their deeds are lost and their insurance will not pay. Pres. Fletcher stated, if you could find it in your heart to help them, it would be greatly appreciated.

Lunch was served to everyone by the Pleasant Hill Baptist Church Food Committee. Bro. Forest Eaves, president/coordinator and Sis. Eva M. Boyce, Secretary wishes to say a special "Thank you" to the host church and host pastor for a successful workshop and a wonderful day in the Lord. To God Be The Glory!

District III Ushers will have their quarterly meeting Sat., Sept. 22, 2001 at 10 a.m. at the First Mt. Zion B. Church, 1515 Remount Road, Charlotte, NC. Dr. C.V. Owens, host pastor. All youth and youth Supervisors be in uniform.

District III Ushers Annual Musical Concert will be held Sunday, Oct. 28, 2001 at 3 p.m. at St. Luke Baptist Church, 1600 Norris Avenue, Charlotte, N.C. Rev. Clifford Matthews Jr. host pastor. Pres. Forest Eaves request all ushers to wear their uniforms.

Thanks to Rev. Thomas McLaughlin, Fayetteville, N.C. for your Deep River Association Ushers News; of the workshop you taught "Look How Far We've Come" at the Taylor's Chapel Baptist Church on Sat., July 28, 2001. Rev. Donald Jones, pastor and Sis. Pauline Hill, president and Rev. Lawrence Gilmore, moderator.

Thanks to Dec. Milton T. Johnson, Goldston, N.C. and pastor Dr. Samson Buie, Roberts Chapel Baptist Church for your answer to: Who was the first doorkeepers? The answer: Obededom and Jehiah. Also Bechiaiah and Elkanah. 1st Chronicles 15:23-24.

May the Good Lord Bless and Keep You!!

Send news to P.O. Box 105, Newton Grove, NC. 28366.

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Reynolds Foundation grant makes this curriculum available free of charge by contacting the Council at 919-828-6501.



# Health & Human Services

Anita Holmes, Executive Director

## Teaching Children Character

By Dr. James H. Carter, M.D., M.Div.

It is often said today that African-American children are in a better position to actualize socioeconomic and educational success than their parents or grandparents. From cursory observations, this statement would seem true but there is much more to this "than meets the eye."

Clearly the Supreme Court's decision, *Brown vs. The Board of Education*, did not produce the anticipated educational "level playing field" and neither did Civil Rights laws grant equal opportunity to jobs and housing, etc. To wit, we read that an African-American student has a 1 in 3,700 chance of receiving a Ph.D. in engineering or mathematics; a 1 in 766 chance of becoming a lawyer; a 1 in 395 chance in becoming a physician; a 1 in 195 chance of becoming a teacher. Statistics reveal that should an African-American student graduate from high school, there is a very slim chance of attending college unless he or she is athletically inclined. Regrettably, some forty years after *Brown vs. The Board of Education*, race and class segregation continues in educational systems. According to a recent study done by Harvard's Civil Rights Project, African-American student enrollment during the past thirty years in public schools increased by nearly six mil-

lion and the number of white students declined by almost the same amount. The research also affirmed that many African-American students will spend most of the day with other African-American peers in the "weakest classes" and consequently African-American students have lower grades on standardized tests. I find this news disturbing for a nation said to be under God/and where all men (women) are created equal.

There are far too many African-American students today who do not see a bright future through the eyes of faith. Hence, they are at greater risk for failure than their ancestors who entered the last century in the shadows of slavery, firmly believing in God's deliverance. Because they often lack the hope, which characterized their ancestors, today's African-Americans youths may succumb to despair and frustrations which are manifested in many self-destructive ways, i.e., a lack of interest in school, rebellion, drugs, depression with suicide, and sexual acting out. Suicide is the third leading cause of death among adolescents.

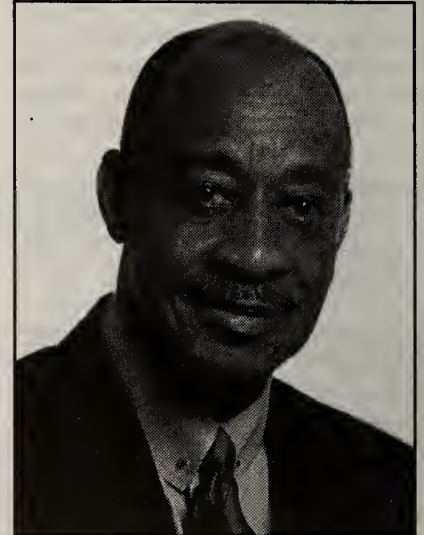
Because our children's education should not be defined only in terms of reading, writing, and arithmetic, African-American communities must return to our roots, our values of spirituality, morality, and faith. Our concerns today must be holistic; focused on the total person and be-

ing mindful of "What does it profit a man to gain the whole world and lose his soul?" (Mark 8:36) I cringe when discussions about "strengthening the black family" place greater emphasis on the opinions of non-Christian politicians, community leaders, educators, physicians, etc. I ask myself, what would Jesus say to do in these troubled times? I have spent decades as a physician and a human behavioral scientist, which has convinced me that the church must not rely upon the world for directions with its moral relativism. For Christians, there are absolute truths based on the word of God (Romans 2:25). The world's solutions will never meet the needs of our children and we, the Christian community, must continue to resist solutions that would subvert the Gospel of Jesus Christ. In some instances, our initiative to strengthen the black family has been a misnomer because of the insufficient attention given to home, community, church, school, health, and last but not least, the environments where black-on-black crimes and drugs are common and particularly where the elderly live in constant fear of personal safety.

Even though our public school systems are attempting to improve the character of our children, I believe that the primary responsibility for character development rests with parents and the Christian community must reinforce, validate and codify Christian character traits. In fact, when we read or learn about the failures of African-American youngsters, we the Christian community should feel some sense of personal failure. It is encumbered upon all adults to set examples and become role models. It is our responsibility to affirm human dignity and as parents, raise the achievement expectations of our youth. We must constantly impress upon them that they are expected to excel. Additionally, we must often revisit with our youth the history of African-American people, our failures, our triumphs, and our Christian traditions. We should do this in a manner similar to the instructions Moses gave to the children of Israel as the trek



Dr. Anita Holmes



Dr. James Carter

toward Canaan.

African-American parents must resist unscriptural advice from the world, which too often offers advice that "may look like the truth, sound like the truth, and generally it has a great deal of truth mixed with it." (Exodus 7:19-22). However, Character education from a Christian perspective extols integrity, fairness, responsibility, and respect for one's self and others. As we nurture our children and develop Christian character within them, they will not depart from these precepts nor end up in prison, drugs, engage in premature and promiscuous sexual behavior. According to the Bible, they will be able, by the spirit, to detect and test those things that will ultimately destroy them (Mark 13:5; 1 John 4:1-5).

## Just Look Up To Heaven

By Alison M. Pearson

God will truly provide for those who are willing to step out in faith, and trust in his word. The Congregation of First Missionary Baptist Church in Concord, N.C., under the leadership of our Pastor Rev. Paxton Hughes, stepped out in faith and successfully completed our Can Food Drive for our Operation Breadbasket Outreach Ministry. Operation Breadbasket provides food and clothing to those in our community as well as extending to those within Cabarrus County.

On April 1, 2001, each church member was assigned to a team led by a member of the Brotherhood, which is an organization comprised of all the male members of the church. Each team was asked to bring in certain food items which would be contributed to the overall goal of 10,000 cans. Through inspiring spiritual encouragement from our pastor, Rev. Hughes, and great leadership ability from our team captains, F.M.B.C. overwhelmingly surpassed our goal with a grand total of 10,621 cans of food.

The Food Drive concluded with a dedication service on Sunday, June 24, 2001 where the guest speaker was Rev. P.C. Holland pastor of First Baptist Church in Kannapolis, N.C. Rev. Holland's message captured the essence of our Outreach Ministry and touched the hearts of those who volunteer at the Breadbasket, "Just look up to Heaven as you hand out to those who are in need."

Our program ended on a pleasant note of recognition of all the volunteers of the Outreach Center with the presenting of certificates for a job well done. We would like to thank Rev. Holland and the congregation of First Baptist Church of Kannapolis, for their gracious contribution to our food drive and dedication service. May God Bless you all.

Even though our food drive is officially over, our work in God's kingdom is still far from completion. If God puts us upon your heart to make a donation please contact us at Operation Breadbasket, 57 Chestnut Drive, SW, Concord, N.C. 28025. Our telephone number is (704) 784-2581.

## A Call To Greatness

(Book Announcement)

In 1970, L. Venchael Booth, was appointed a vice-president of the Baptist World Alliance nine years after he founded the Progressive National Baptist Convention (PNBC). PNBC is one of 13 member bodies of the BWA in the United States and Canada.

Now, in recognition of the groundbreaking work of his father who started the historic denomination, Booth's son, William D. Booth, has written *A Call to Greatness*. Booth is pastor of the First Baptist Church, Hampton, Va.

Among the reviews are these:

"...this book is important for several reasons...it provides a survey of the divisions...that produced a new denomination known as the Progressive National Baptist Convention...it is a valiant tribute of a son to a father...and acknowledgment that amid the pain and brokenness of schism...one truth remains: 'the greatest of these is love.' - Bill J. Leonard, Dean and Professor of Church History, Wake Forest Divinity School.

"From the distinct, unique and even privileged vantage point of someone who lived close to the historical drama about which he writes, William D. Booth has produced a most persuasive and moving essay about the actual founder of Progressive National Baptist Convention." - Clarence G. Newsome, Dean and Associate Professor of Church History, Howard University School of Divinity, Howard University, Washington, D.C.

To order *A Call to Greatness*, contact: Brunswick Public Corporation  
PO Box 555, Lawrenceville, Va. 23868  
Website: [www.brunswickbooks.com](http://www.brunswickbooks.com)

ECCLESIASTES 3:4 "... AND A TIME TO LAUGH..."



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Psalms 46:10 "Be Still and Know That I am God"  
"He's More God Than I Ever Need"

# SHAW UNIVERISTY

*From the Office of the  
Third Vice President*

*Rev. N.T. Davis*

**Shaw University and Shaw  
Divinity School News**

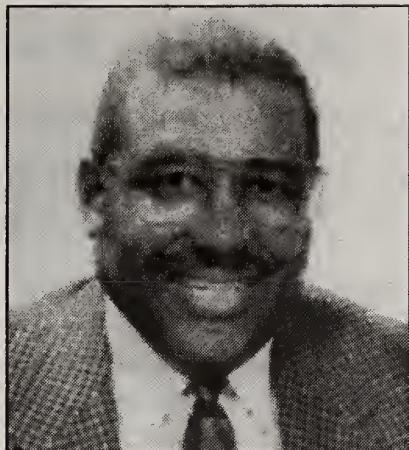
Grace and Peace from God the Father and His only son Jesus the Christ and from the Holy Spirit that is within you.

Fall is on its way and soon the flowers will be fading and the trees will change their color. Hunting season will begin. So let us remember to be careful and not fall asleep as the trees do.

Let us keep our focus on the things above. Fall must come so that the winter can come, so that spring and new life can come.

in the midst of all the lay off and cut back of jobs, God still has enough work for us all, He ask us to go into His vineyard and work and whatsoever is right He will pay.

Work while it is day for night will come and no man can work.



**Rev. N.T. Davis**

The fields are white now, this day so don't be idle, give to God your best. It means a lot for me to support our university. So want you join me in supporting our university which is one of the best in the world. I am a recruiter for Shaw. If you need an application or question I will be happy to work with you. God bless you all for your support of the pass and let us keep focused on tomorrow.

## Shaw's Calendar of Events

### October

**Sun.-Tues. 7-9** The Bessie Boyd-Holman Lecture Series in Ethics and Values, Mr. Arthur E. Bronner III, Director of Public Affairs, Upscale Magazine—Atlanta, GA-Thomas J. Boyd Chapel- Free and Open to the Public

**Friday 12** Coronation of Miss Shaw University-Miss Mosi Ayoka Gay, Havelock, NC. Civic Center 7 p.m. -Free and Open to the Public

**Sunday 14** Dr. James Abbington, Chairman of the Visual And Performing Arts Dept., Shaw University-Thomas J. Boyd Chapel-Free and Open to the Public

**Sunday 21** Evangelist Shelia A. Boone, Associate Minister, 1st Baptist Church Denbigh-Newport News, VA-Thomas J. Boyd Chapel (Chapel Speaker)-Free and Open to the Public

**Sunday 28** Dr. Quincy Scott Jr., Dean of the Thomas J. Boyd Chapel, Shaw University (Chapel Speaker)-Thomas J. Boyd Chapel-Free and Open to the Public

### November

**Sunday 4** Rev. Joanne Brown Jennings, Marriage and Family Counselor (Chapel Speaker)-Thomas J. Boyd Chapel-Free and Open to the Public

**Sun.-Sun 11-18** Homecoming Week

**Sunday 11** Rev. Larry Williams, Associate Pastor, First Baptist Church of Lincoln Gardens, Somerset, NJ (Chapel Speaker)-Thomas J. Boyd Chapel-Free and Open to the Public

**Monday 12** Crowning of Miss Homecoming-Miss Tiffany Washington, Denmark, SC, Spaulding Gymnasium, 7 p.m.-Free and Open to the Public

**Thursday 15** Athletic Hall of Fame Banquet-Willie E. Gary Student Center, 7 p.m.-Free and Open to the Public

**Friday 16** Graveside Service-Memorial Gardens 10:15 a.m.-Free and Open to the Public. Founder's Day Convocation-Civic Center 11 a.m.-Free and Open to the Public. Alumni Awards Banquet-Wake County Shrine Club 6 p.m.-Free and Open to the Public

**Sunday 18** Rev. Dr. Morris Shearin, Pastor, Israel Baptist Church, Washington, DC. (Homecoming Speaker)-Thomas J. Boyd Chapel-Free and Open to the Public

**SUPPORT SHAW'S EVENTS!!**

## The Central Children's Home Corner

To the holy and faithful sisters and brothers in Christ of the General Baptist State family: Grace and peace to you from God our head-lifter, soul-keeper, peace-provider, and eternal refuge. I thank God because I have "heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all the saints..." (Colossians 1:4, NIV). I thank God because in the midst of a world that often encourages and embraces a "look out for #1" attitude, the body of Christ continues to serve as a model of true stewardship.

Christian stewardship is based upon the principle that God is the owner and we are managers of God's creation. There is no need to minimize this foundation. The psalmist clearly states: "The earth is the

*From the Desk of the 4th Vice President  
By Rev. Nilous M. Avery II*

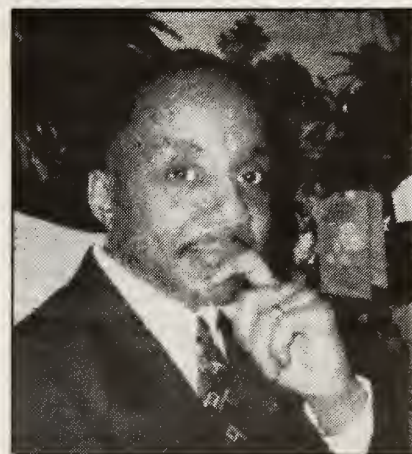
Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it..." (Psalm 24:1). The body of Jesus Christ was founded upon the principle of loving and giving. God so loved the world that He gave His only son to the world and for the world.

Christian living is based upon loving and giving. One Old Testament prophet suggested that the failure to give a certain percentage of one's possessions for God's work is thievery and robbery—stealing

from God what rightfully belongs to God (Malachi 3:8-10). Jesus Christ taught His followers to give, promising them rich spiritual blessings in return (Luke 6:38). The apostle Paul implored Christians to give to God's work, not reluctantly or under compulsion {a grudging spirit}, but with a cheerful and grateful heart (2 Corinthians 9:7).

Most individuals, particularly Christians, must be challenged to be/become better stewards {managers} of all that God has enabled them to possess. Can others see in us the desire and motivation to serve as the very presence of Christ here on earth? In other words:

- Our confession must be matched by our character;
  - Our profession must be matched by our performance;
  - Our shouting must be matched by our sharing.
  - Our church service must be matched by our community service;
  - Our worship must be matched by our work & witness;
  - Our living must be matched by our giving;
  - Our forgiveness from God must be matched by our forgiveness of others;
  - Our upreach must be matched by our out reach;
  - Our claim of inner grace must be matched by our outward show of goodness toward others;
  - Our blessings from God must be matched by our blessings shared with others!
- Jesus drew a picture that we must never turn away from. He spoke of those who



**By Rev. Nilous M. Avery II**

need to experience the helping and healing hands of Christian stewards who are committed to the cause of Christ (Matthew 25:35-36). I am confident that the General Baptist family is a collection of individuals, churches, and associations who are faithful stewards that shine as lights to help others catch glimpses of God's truth and love in action.

Shine today by becoming a faithful steward of the Central Children's Home in Oxford, N.C. and other objectives of our Convention. Please make the following contacts today to become a beacon of light in the work of God through the General Baptist Staff Convention:

- Mr. Michael Alston, Executive Director, Central Children's Home (919) 693-7617; (919) 693-1213; (919) 693-3963—Fax; or E-mail: cch@gloryroad.net
  - Rev. Nilous M. Avery II, 4th Vice-President/GBSC (704) 637-0954; (704) 633-6227; (704) 637-1137—Fax; or E-mail: AveryRevKin@aol.com
- "To the only wise God be glory forever through Jesus Christ! Amen." (Romans 16:27, NIV).

*From the Office of the Chairman of the  
Board of Central Children's Home  
Rev. N.T. Davis*

To God be the glory for the great things He has done. Peace from God the father and from His only son Jesus.

The Children's Home is still existing because of the great people of this state who give so unselfness of your gift and time.

It has been a pleasure for me to chair the board for the past twelve months. I have been on the board for twelve years, since 1989. At this point I can serve as a honorary member, and will continue to serve.

I want to thank every church, Missionary Department, Women Union and

all the people of North Carolina who in any way contributed to the Home in the last year and years past.

I shall always continue to support the new chairperson and the Director and the staff of the Home. These Children deserve the best.

Please pray for the children of the Home and pray for me. I will still come and help where I am needed at any time if called upon. You may still contact me at (919) 362-7057. God Bless you all and thank you for letting me serve. I have been blessed.

# NEWS AROUND THE GLOBE

## Doctor of Theology Degree Conferred Upon Rev. Michael A. Johnson

The Andersonville Baptist Seminary (Camilla, GA) conferred the Doctor of Theology Degree upon Rev. Michael A. Johnson on June 15, 2000. Doctor Johnson is the pastor of Atkinson Chapel Missionary Baptist Church in Goldsboro, NC and the Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church in La Grange, NC.

Andersonville Baptist Seminary provided Dr. Johnson study in the areas of pastoral counseling, biblical studies, Baptist doctrines, and community relations. Dr. Johnson's project and paper focused on "African-American Church Etiquette - The Shifting Face of Decorum in Church Auxiliaries, Organizations, and Support Functions" in which he dealt with the disturbing and troubling atmosphere that exists in many churches because of the lack of understanding polity, protocol and procedure.

Dr. Johnson is a native of Goldsboro and earned his undergraduate degree (Cum Laude) from St. Leo University, St. Leo, FL (Human Resources Administration) and masters degree (Summa Cum Laude) from Anderson Baptist (Pastoral Counseling).

Dr. Johnson is retired from the United States Air Force and previously was a teacher at Tarboro High School in the Edgecombe County School System.

Dr. Johnson is the President of the Western Union of the Bear Creek Missionary Baptist Association, Executive Board member of the Bear Creek Association, and a member of the Lenoir County Black Ministers Alliance.

Dr. Johnson is married to the former Wanda Simmons of Eureka, NC and is the father of two daughters, Kamesha and Kiahna.

## BEAT THE CLOCK

And pass the current GED exam before the December deadline!

A new GED test will start January 2002!

Submitted by Carol J. Smith  
Associate Editor

\* The new test is more challenging and will require the use of a scientific calculator.

\* Those who have taken parts of the GED test will lose scores, money and have to start over in January.

Why lose those scores you have already earned?

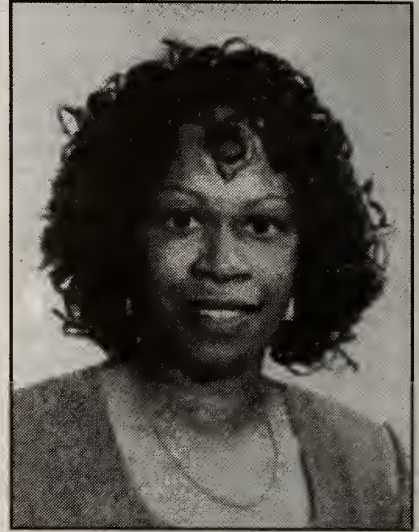
Why waste the \$7.50 you paid to take the GED?

Earn your GED NOW and avoid having to take the new test! BUT TIME IS TICKING AWAY!!

GED classes are FREE and located through Bladen County: Council, Clarkton, Dublin, Kelly, East Carolina and Elizabethtown.

Math and English instructors are available.

Don't miss your diploma by one point in December. START TODAY!



Carol J. Smith, Associate Editor

Fact: The average GED or Adult High School Graduate makes \$106 more per week than those who don't get their diploma. That's over \$5,500 more per year!

Call your local county community college today. It's never too late to finish high school or earn a GED.

Beat the clock for a brighter future.

## ALL ROADS LEAD TO ASHEVILLE, NC THE 134TH ANNUAL SESSION OCT. 28-NOV. 1, 2001

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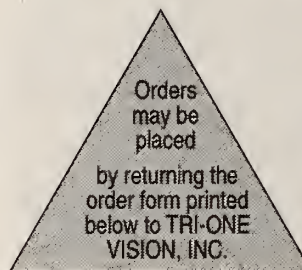
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  - The Pain of the Promise
  - The Wind of the Spirit
  - They Did Not Glorify God
  - What the Enemy Wants From You
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# NEWS AROUND THE GLOBE

## Rowan Baptist Association Endorses Dr. J.C. Harris for GBSC President for 2002

The Rowan Baptist Association Meeting in its Annual Session with the First Baptist Church of Statesville, N. C. voted to endorse Dr. J. C. Harris for President of the General Baptist State Convention, Inc. of North Carolina. The Session was held July 8 through July 12, 2001, where Dr. Harris was host Pastor.

Dr. Paul A. Lowe, Jr., Moderator made the recommendation during his Annual Address on Thursday evening.

The Association also ordained fourteen ministers in its Annual Session: Dr. Johnny Freeman, presided.

Powerful Sermons were preached by Rev. David Braken, Pastor of Jerusalem Baptist Church of East Spencer, Dr. R. W. Styles of First Baptist Church of Reidsville, Dr. Jerry Drayton of New Bethel Baptist Church of Winston-Salem; Dr. J. D. Ballard of United Metropolitan Baptist Church of Winston-Salem, Mr.

Benjamin Ruffin of Winston-Salem was the speaker of the Woman's Auxiliary Honors Banquet and the host church presented a special Musical Program on Sunday Evening.

Mrs. Evelena R. Clayborn, President of

the Rowan Woman's Auxiliary gave reflections and called for dedication and building bridges into the future through witnessing and telling others about the goodness of God. Mrs. Jean Lowery presented a workshop on How to Reach the Masses which included witnessing and how to link non Christian to Christian.

Mr. Joseph T. Clyburn, President of the Rowan Ushers presented a panel which included Mrs. Anita Payne, Mr. Skip McCall, Mrs. Joyce McCall and Mrs. Helen Benbow who discussed the Association's theme: Building Bridges into the Future - Acts 1:7-9; Rev. Robert McGowens, conducted a workshop on Evangelism.

The Association adopted a Budget of \$280,837.38, which included \$200,000.00 for the General Baptist State Convention objectives, to be sent direct from the One Hundred Thirty Three Churches of the Association.

The Rowan Officers include Dr. Paul A. Lowe, Jr., Moderator, Dr. J. C. Harris, Executive Secretary/Treasurer, Dr. Clary L. Phelps - 1st Vice Moderator, Dr. Johnny Freeman, Second Vice Moderator and Rev. Robert McGowens third vice Moderator.



Rev. Stacey L. Frazier



Rev. Dr. Joe Samuel Ratliff

## Rev. Dr. Joe Samuel Ratliff To Be Guest Evangelist

The Rev. Joe Samuel Ratliff will be the evangelist for the Vision Conference 2001 of the Shady Grove Baptist Church in Pelham, N.C., where the Rev. Stacey L. Frazier is pastor. The Vision Conference will convene on October 8 and conclude on October 9, 2001. The service will begin each night at 7 p.m. with praise and worship.

Dr. Ratliff was born in Lumberton, Robeson County, N.C. He returns to North Carolina as one of the most successful pastors in the nation. He serves the Brentwood Baptist Church in Houston, Texas. The church is one of the fastest growing churches in the nation. Since February 1, 1980, he has grown the church from 500 members to a current membership of 10,000 plus. He is married to the former Doris Gardner of St. Louis, Missouri. We want to give him a dynamic Shady Grove Baptist Church welcome.

Dr. Ratliff is a graduate of Morehouse College in Atlanta, Ga., where he received his Bachelor of Arts degree. He received his Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry from the

Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, Ga. Dr. Ratliff has done additional Post-Doctorate work at Harvard University School of Divinity as a Merrill Fellow. He has taught at Morehouse College in Atlanta, Ga.; Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.; and New Orleans Theological Seminary.

Dr. Ratliff is the founding President of the National African-American Fellowship of the Southern Baptist Convention; he served from 1992-1995. He is a member of the Baptist General Convention of Texas. Dr. Ratliff works actively with the Morehouse College and the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta. He is a Life Member and National Chaplain for the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. His publications include: *Church Planting in the African-American Community*, 1993.

Plan to join us at the Shad Grove Baptist Church in Pelham, N.C., to share in Vision Conference 2001. If you cannot attend this conference, join us in prayer. For directions to the church please call (336) 388-2580.

## New Zion Observes Youth Day

The Youth Department of New Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Sanford, NC, was in charge of all activities recently as the observance of Youth Day was held. It began with Lolethia McAuley and Tarys McAuley acting Sunday School Superintendent and Secretary respectively.

At 11:00 a.m. worship service, Keosha Reid led the responsive reading, LaBerta Barrett read the scripture, and prayer was led by Lewis Reid.

Sister Kathreen Stringfellow presented Youth Moments. Her topic was "Satan Is Busy." The acronym B-U-S-Y was used to sum up the consequences of Being Under Satan's Yoke. She pointed out many negative forces that surrounded today's youth. They are exposed to many things that jam their minds with evil acts and temptations, leaving them with little time or no desire to serve God. They were urged to shun the appearance of evil because Satan is always busy. At the conclusion of her presentation, six-year old Tristan Hill brought everyone to their feet as he sang "We Lift Our Hands in the Sanctuary."

The speaker for the occasion was Minister Travis L. Stroud of Fayetteville, NC. His message "A New Commitment" was taken from Psalm 37:1-7. He spoke on drugs, alcohol, gangs, and other undesirable activities and experiences that break our union with Christ and ultimately lead to destruction. There is the temptation to mold our lives by what others say and do, or by what we think is popular. His instructions were to "refrain from following those whose life styles are not in keeping with God's plan and purpose. Allow God to order your steps. Don't be afraid to expose the enemy. Turn negatives into positives." The Psalmist says "Trust in the Lord, do good, and commit thy way unto the Lord." Faith in God and obedience to His word

helps us to deal with unfortunate circumstances. The adults were also encouraged to make a commitment to directing the youth in the right path through prayer, teachings, and good discipline. Be a positive influence and set good examples.

Inspirational selections sung by the youth choir were Amazing Grace, When I Think About Jesus, Victory, and Lord Help Me To Hold Out.

Sister Eugenia Foxx presided over the afternoon which featured the Youth Ensemble in Concert. She led the congregation in singing "Pass Me Not" and "Down At The Cross." Sister Brenda Harrison read the scripture and Edith McAuley offered prayer. Debra Judd gave words of welcome and Sister Betty Watson responded.

The Youth Ensemble entered in their beautiful attire and began their Sixth Anniversary Celebration. Among the selections sung were What A Mighty God We Serve, Just Can't Give Up Now, I Still Have Joy, God Did It and Stand Still. Soloists and lead singers were Karen McDuffie, Kendra McDuffie, D.J. Stringfellow, and Jalisa Reid. Karen McDuffie is the director and Vanessa Murchison serves as musician.

Guest appearances were made by The Star of Hope Young Voices whose voices blended in beautiful harmony as they sang Just Be Pleased, and Pastor Al Harrison singing everyone's favorite, I Won't Complain.

Presentations to the Ensemble came from Mother Hattie Graham whose granddaughter sang in the group, and Kathreen Stringfellow whose son D.J. performed as well.

Following dismissal, refreshments were served in the dining areas.

New Zion is proud of the Youth Department and its director Sister Nancy Person.

CONGRATULATIONS FOR A JOB WELL DONE!

## News from Kenansville Eastern Missionary Baptist Association

### James Sampson, Reporter First Baptist, Wilmington, NC

Southern Division Ushers' Banquet was held June 30, 2001 in Burgaw, North Carolina at the Middle District Building. Presiding, Deacon Roy L. Johnson Jr.; on the door, Deacon Leroy Shiver and Sister Virginia Troy. Music by the Great Keith Gospel Singers. Host Ushers, Mr. Alexander Williams, Hall's Chapel Baptist Church, Burgaw, N.C. and others. Our Florist, Mrs. Annie Ruth Bordeaux. Decor and Programs, R. Johnson and Sister Carolyn Merritt. Videographer, Deacon Arnold Moore. Set-up Committee, Deacon Roy Johnson, Deacon Arnold Moore, Deacon George Brown, Deacon Leroy Shiver, Bro. Pearlie Lewis, Sis. Carolyn Merritt, Bro. Freddie Malloy, Bro. Albert Shiver, Sis. Annie R. Bordeaux, and Sis. Ruth Johnson.

The Theme: "The Challenge Is The Same, Ushering; A Ministry of Service, A Ministry of Joy." The Opening Selection, "What A Fellowship," The Ushers' Psalm, recited by all Ushers. Memorial Tribute, Archie J. Lofton Jr., President, Southern Division. Welcome, Sis. Carolyn Merritt, Southern Division Instructor, The Occasion, Sis. Virginia Troy, Prayer was given by Bro. Charles Faison, President of the Northern Division of Ushers. Introduction of Guest Vice President of the Southern Division. Dinner and Grace, Rev. James A. Davis, our Moderator. Speaker, Rev. Oletha Troublefield, Presi-

dent of the Northern Division. Her topic, "Ushers Keep Your Seats, You Can't Go To Heaven on Crutches," taken from Numbers 24 & 29. Her remarks were about ushers coming to church late, making all sorts of excuses, missing their meetings, talking while in service, out of uniform, not cooperating with presidents and other ushers, being polite to people when they come into the church, trying to do your own thing. Ushers do your job. Be Christ-like. Some of you are going to hell if you don't do God's bidding. Stop using crutches. Stand up and walk upright and be a man. Do everything in your power to make your usher board shine and your congregation happy. The ushers should be first in church to make sure everything is in its place, bulletins, etc. Ushers should be in Sunday School. So if you are in Sunday School how can you be late. Stand up like a man, because you can't go to heaven on crutches.

Special recognition was given to Sis. Carolyn Merritt, Sis. Virginia Troy, and Bro. James Sampson Donation from the Northern Division for the New K.E.M.B.A. Building which is built in Warsaw, N.C. \$6,500 and from the Southern Division, \$2,500. All donations are appreciated. Anyone wishing to donate may send your donations to 860 North Pine Street, Warsaw, North Carolina.

Sis. Roy L. Johnson and her staff catered the food and it was delicious. Our moderator gave words of wisdom and the Benediction.

# ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

## GATEWAY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CREDIT UNION

*"Building A Spirit of Community"*

### Announces 3 Months Enrollment Drive

**Join Now!**

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**Open your  
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#### GATEWAY: THE CREDIT UNION WITH YOU IN MIND

Serving Warren, Vance, Person and Franklin counties. Gateway Credit Union is doing its best to provide its members and surrounding community with the highest quality service. Gateway has been dedicated to serving its community for a number of years. By offering services designed with accessibility, courtesy and practical means in mind, GCDCU offers its members satisfaction, understanding and dependability.

#### THE GATEWAY ADVANTAGE

GATEWAY began serving the members of Vance, Person, Warren and Franklin counties in 1994. As a Community Development Credit Union, GATEWAY continues to pro-

mote community, self sufficiency, and good money management. And in the new millennium, Gateway will remain committed to *"Building A Spirit of Community."*

#### OPENING DOORS AND HELPING THE COMMUNITY

#### OUR MISSION

Gateway's mission is to promote thrift among its members by affording them an opportunity to accumulate their savings, and to create for them a source of credit at a fair and reasonable rate of interest, and to provide for its members an opportunity to use and control their own money to improve their economic and social condition.

#### CREDIT UNION MEMBER SERVICES

In its few years of existence, Gateway has gained a committed and growing membership base. Currently serving a thousand plus members each day. Gateway offers services designed to enhance the member's experience. By offering quality services, the door to success has been opened for many of the credit union's members. Take a moment to see what we have to offer.

#### Loan Programs

- Automobile
- Share Secured
- Signature
- Home Improvement
- Education

#### Deposit Accounts

- Share (savings)
- Share Certificates
- Christmas Club
- ATM

#### Youth Credit Union

- Monthly meetings
- Share accounts (savings)
- Annual Trips
- Leadership Skills

#### Other Services Include:

- Mortgage Referral Partnership
- Pre-qualification for ... church loans

#### MEMBER APPLICATION

Member: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Account #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Employment: \_\_\_\_\_  
 SSN/TN: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Driver's License: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mother's Maiden Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Eligibility for Membership: \_\_\_\_\_

#### ACCOUNT TYPE

- Share (savings)
  - Share Certificates
  - Christmas Club
  - Loan
  - ACH, Direct Deposit
  - Payroll Deduction
  - Other
- Your Account is ....

Special Recognition for New Participating Groups  
and Organizations

#### For More Information

Gateway's staff is dedicated to providing you with the best service possible. To inquire about becoming a member of our community development credit union, please contact:

*Operations Manager:* Thomas Spence

**at Gateway Credit Union**

314 South Garnett Street  
Gateway Building, Suite 10  
Henderson, N.C. 27536

Business (252) 492-5854 or Fax (252) 492-7832

## Light Rock Realty

**(705) 568-5000**

**Areas of specialty:** Residential Purchasing/Selling

Church & Land Purchasing/Selling

Group Homebuying workshops for churches

Homebuying programs

- No Money Down

- Down Payment Assistance

- Alternative Financing Options

If You Need Assistance in any of the above areas,

contact Gerald Searles at (704) 568-5000

## VACANT POSITION

#### Pulpit Vacancy

The pulpit committee of Olive Branch Missionary Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of pastor. Applicants should possess the following qualifications:

Must be a born-again, spirit-filled, ordained and divinely called minister with strong family and community values.

Must be a licensed Missionary Baptist minister.

Must be able to preach and teach Bible study.

Must have a broad knowledge of the Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures.

Must have experience as a senior or associate pastor.

Must be able to administer communion, perform baptisms, weddings and funerals.

Must possess strong and proven administrative skill and experience.

Must possess good oral and written communication skills and have the ability to communicate with all age groups.

Must be a just and fair individual and possess tact.

College degree is preferred but will consider any combination of education and pastorate experience.

Responsibilities will be in accordance with the bylaws of the church.

Resumes should be sent to:

The Pulpit Committee

Brother Elonza Joyner, Chair

106 Graves Avenue

Elizabeth City, N.C. 27909

## The General Baptist Convention now accepts MASTERCARD or VISA

[www.gbsc.org](http://www.gbsc.org)

**Call for more information:**

**800-639-GBSC**

# VACANT POSITIONS

## EMMANUEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENT

Seeking Full-time Christian Minister of Music, Loyal and Committed to God's program. Must possess people skills, be trained as a Musician, Conductor and Choir Director.

Salary: Commensurate with training and experience.

Interested persons may send resume/portfolio to:

Attention: Trustees  
Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church  
913 N. Highland Street, Gastonia, NC 28052

## CHURCH MUSICIAN

We are seeking to employ a person of Christian faith and character to serve as musician/director for the music department of the church.

Responsibilities include teaching music for church choirs, choir directors and other musicians. Proficiency in reading music is a requirement and some versatility in "playing by ear" will only serve to enhance the church's music department.

Applicants are asked to send resumes and references to:

**United Institutional Baptist Church**  
Rev. Johnny R. Freeman, Pastor  
802 East Market Street, Greensboro, NC 27401  
Phone: (336) 272-0822\*Fax: (336) 230-0274

\*Salary is negotiable and is commensurate with training and experience.

## FIRST AFRICAN BAPTIST CHURCH

803 East Harris St., Goldsboro, N.C. 27530

Pastor: Dr. Freddie I. Barnes

### POSITION AVAILABLE: DIRECTOR OF CHURCH MUSIC

First African Baptist Church is a congregation of over 350 members with a Music Ministry that consist of four choirs, Sunshine Choir, Male Chorus, Unity and Praise Choir, Chancel Choir. Music in this ministry consists of gospel (traditional and contemporary) praise and worship, hymns, spirituals and anthems.

Applications and further information may be obtained by contacting Mrs. Johnnie Ingram, Personnel Committee Chairman or Rev. Jerry Dortch at 919-734-4935.

## MINISTER OF MUSIC WANTED

Wake Forest congregation seeks Minister of Music. Duties to include working directly with the Pastor in order to assist and cooperate with him in Christian Worship; playing during Sunday morning worship service; rehearsing with various choirs one night per week; and accompanying the Pastor on engagements to other churches. Please forward a cover letter and resume to:

Evans Grove Missionary Baptist Church • 12700 Creedmoor Road, Highway 50  
Wake Forest, NC 27587 • (919) 870-8874

## CEDAR GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH 14600 Railroad St., Gibson, NC 28343 CHURCH MUSICIAN

The Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church of Gibson, N.C., is seeking a person to serve as Church Musician.

**Qualifications:** Should be a Christian who lives and acts responsibly and has a good character and reputation.

### Musician requirements:

\*Be able to play a piano, keyboard, organ and be able to work well with a diverse range of singers with directions for musical selections.

\*Be available for necessary rehearsals and Sunday Worship Services.

\*Be available to accompany the pastor and choirs to all church functions when requested.

**Salary negotiable.** Please send resume to Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church at the above address.

## CHURCH MUSICIAN

The New Hope Baptist Church, Gates, N.C., is seeking a person to serve as Church Musician.

### REQUIREMENTS:

1. Able to play organ and/or piano.
2. Able to play diverse music.
3. Able to accompany the pastor and choir to church engagements if possible.

### SALARY NEGOTIABLE:

Send resume to:  
New Hope Baptist Church, PO Box 91, Gatesville, NC 27938  
Attn: Fannie M. Spivey, Secretary  
Inquiries may be made by calling (252) 357-1061 after 4:30 p.m.

## CHURCH MUSICIAN

Mount Olive Baptist Church of Lewiston is seeking a musician for a station church, a Christian who is responsible, has good character and a good reputation.

### Requirements:

\*Play the organ and piano \*Able to work with a diverse group of singers  
\*Experienced in all sacred music \*Reads music and is versatile in playing by ear

Send resumes or responses to: Mount Olive Baptist Church  
PO Box 214, Lewiston-Woodville, NC 27849 • Attention: William W. Peele Jr.

## MINISTER OF MUSIC

St. John Baptist Church, 8910 Old Annapolis Road  
Columbia, Maryland 21045 • 410-992-6977

Overall Duty: To assist the Pastor in shaping, defining, and effectuating the musical elements of the worship experience.

### I. MINIMUM QUALIFICATION:

- A. Bachelor's degree in music, or at least 5 years of experience as...
- B. At least 3 years of experience as accompanist/director for choral group(s)
- C. Proficiency in playing piano and organ
- D. At least 3 church-related references

### II. OTHER QUALIFICATIONS

- A. Personal faith in Jesus Christ...
- B. Background (via education experience) in sacred music, including hymns, spirituals, traditional and contemporary gospel, and praise songs.
- C. Ability to relate well with directors and members of church choirs.
- D. Efficient administrative skills to ensure timely and effective communication with all elements of the musical worship experience.
- E. Ability to teach, direct, compose and play (by written notes or by ear) the various forms of sacred music.
- F. Ability to recognize and respond with appropriate music to the spiritual moods of the service.
- G. Excellent interpersonal and conflict resolution skills.

## First Missionary Baptist Church

The First Baptist Church is now seeking a pastor to serve as its spiritual leader, teacher, counselor and administrator. All interested persons should submit a letter of interest and resume to the Pulpit Search Committee.

### Qualifications

Born Again Christian  
Ordained Missionary Baptist Minister  
Knowledge of Baptist Doctrine and Faith  
Seminary Training preferred  
Teaching Bible Study Weekly  
Proficient in church organization and ability to train Church  
Pastoral Experience Preferred  
Family Oriented  
Able to Plan and implement innovative youth programs

### Interested Applicants should Mail Resumes to:

**Pastoral Search Committee**  
**First Baptist Church**  
**ATTENTION: Deacon Calvin Graham Jr., Chairman**  
**P.O. Box 679, Stedman, North Carolina 28391**

## ST. FRANCIS BAPTIST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

is looking for a Pastor

This person should be:

- I. Missionary Baptist
- II. Have good organizational and leadership skills
- III. Commuting Distance
- IV. Family Oriented
- V. Experience Preferred

Interested parties should send resume to: c/o Pulpit Committee

St. Francis Missionary Baptist Church, P.O. Box 736, Windsor, NC 27983.

## GREEN CHAPEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

450 Hickman Hill Loop Road, Havelock, NC 28532

The Pulpit Search Committee of Green Chapel Missionary Baptist Church of Havelock, North Carolina is searching for applicants for a full time pastoral vacancy.

### Qualifications:

1. Must be an experienced, licensed, ordained Missionary Baptist Minister living according to First Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9
2. The applicants should have a vision for the church according to Proverbs 29:18
3. Must possess the ability to work with all age groups, with particular emphasis in youth development, and with all auxiliaries of the church.
4. Must possess effective oral and written communication skills.
5. Must be community oriented.
6. Must possess strong and proven administrative experience, with a broad knowledge of the Baptist Doctrines, church policies, and practices.
7. Must be willing to work with the Old Eastern Missionary Baptist Association.

Education: Must possess a high school diploma (or equivalent) preferring a degree or courses in Seminary Training, and willing to do further study.

Interested applications should provide the following:

1. A resume of relevant experience.
2. A copy of certificate of license and ordination.
3. One business and two personal reference (NO FAMILY MEMBERS).

All interested applicants should send resume, and copies of certificates to:

Green Chapel Missionary Baptist Church  
Pulpit Committee  
450 Hickman Hill Loop Road, Havelock, NC 28532.

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Third and Mulbury Street, Weldon, North Carolina 27890

The Pulpit Committee of First Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of Pastor. Mail resumes to:

Deacon Stanley Edwards, 908 Country Club Rd., Weldon, NC 27890

Applicants must have the following qualifications:

- Born again Christian
- Must be able to preach and teach God's Word
- Preach quality sermons
- Possess strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, policies and practices
- Able to lead and communicate with all age groups
- Able to work effectively with church boards and committees
- Some college and seminary training preferred

## SANDY GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

PO Box 290, 1600 Martin Luther King Drive, Lumberton, NC 28358

Sandy Grove Missionary Baptist Church is accepting resumes for a full-time pastor. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

1. Must be licensed, ordained, firmly rooted in the holy spirit, born again, and divinely called.
2. Must have strong family and community values.
3. Must possess or be in the process of pursuing a college degree and theological training from an accredited college or university.
4. Must be able to preach and teach God's holy word.
5. Must be willing to follow the Baptist doctrine, policies and practices.
6. Must be an effective leader, administrator, counselor and must work cooperatively with church officials.
7. Must be willing to work with all age groups, with particular emphasis on the spiritual growth and development of our youth.
8. Must plan for the future growth and development of the church.
9. Must be able to be tactful, just and fair with everyone.
10. Must establish office hours for the benefit of the members.
11. Must visit and commune with sick, shut-ins members and bereaved families.

### Interested applicants should provide the following information:

1. A resume of relevant pastoral experience (if applicable).
2. A copy of college degree (s), certificate of license and ordination.
3. Proof of completion of all accredited theological training.
4. Name, address, and telephone number of four (4) personal references—excluding relatives.

Please mail all requested information to:

**The Pulpit Committee**  
**Sandy Grove Missionary Baptist Church, P.O. Box 290, Lumberton, NC 28358**

# VACANT POSITIONS

## GREATER LOVELY HILL BAPTIST CHURCH

The Pulpit Search Committee of the Greater Lovely Hill Baptist Church, located in Warren County, N.C. is searching for applicants for its pastoral vacancy. Currently the Greater Lovely Hill Baptist Church has regular worship services twice monthly, on the first and third Sunday.

### Qualifications:

1. Must be an experienced licensed ordained Missionary Baptist Minister living according to First Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9.
2. The applicants should have a vision for the church.
3. Must possess the ability to work with all age groups, with particular emphasis in youth development and community outreach, and with all auxiliaries of the church.
4. Must possess effective oral and written communication skills.
5. Must be community oriented.
6. Must possess strong and proven administration experience with a broad knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and practices.

### Education:

Must possess a high school diploma (or equivalent) preferring a degree or courses in Seminary Training from an accredited college or university.

Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume of relevant experience.
2. A copy of the certificate of license and ordination.

Send resumes to: Mrs. Lucy E. Branch, PO Box 52, Warrenton, NC 27589

## BETHLEHEM MISSIONARY

Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church of Rocky Mount, NC, is currently seeking a pastor.

Pastoral candidates should:

- be an ordained Baptist member that can work with all groups of the church
- be able to work well with the Deacon Board
- be able to preach and teach
- have pastoral experience or significant ministerial experience
- firmly believe in the work of their affiliated church associations and church unions
- support the General Baptist State Convention
- have some training from a divinity school

\* salary is negotiable

Please send resumes to:

Bethlehem Baptist Church Pastoral Search Committee

ATTN: Deacon Anthony C. Hagans

PO Box 7035

Rocky Mount, NC 27804

## PULPIT VACANCY

The pulpit search committee of the Mount Zoar Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of pastor. Applicants must possess the following qualifications/responsibilities.

### Qualifications

- Born again, spirit-filled, ordained and divinely called with strong family and community values.
- Be a licensed, ordained Missionary Baptist Minister.
- Must be able to preach and teach Bible Study
- Must be able to work with all age groups with emphasis on youth department
- Strong knowledge of the Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures
- Experienced as a senior pastor, but will consider years of experience as an associate pastor
- Must be willing to attend Sunday School and teach Bible Study
- Spiritual maturity; preach and teach God's word
- Willingness to administer communion and perform baptismal service
- Possess strong and proven administrative experience
- College degree preferred but will consider a combination of education and experience

### Responsibilities

- Plan, prepare and deliver sermons
- Visit and commune with sick and shut-in members and bereaved families
- Plan and implementation of activities and projects designed to promote the church's progression and encourage active participation.
- Interested applicants should mail resume with a recent photograph to address below.
- Special notes: Photograph will not be returned

Mount Zoar Missionary Baptist Church

C/O Ann Dixon

Pulpit Search Committee, PO Box 71736, Durham, NC 27704

## PENN AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH

225 West McClanahan Street, Oxford, N.C. 27565

Rev. Willie S. Darby, Pastor

(919) 693-5396 • (919) 693-1015, Pastor's Office

The Penn Avenue Missionary Baptist Church of Oxford, N.C. is currently seeking a MINISTER OF MUSIC.

### QUALIFICATIONS:

- \*Must be a born again Christian.
- \*Must be able to play the piano, keyboard and/or organ.
- \*Must be able to read music and is versatile in playing by ear.
- \*Must be able to work well with a diverse range of singers and age groups.
- \*Must be able to teach and direct hymns, anthems, spirituals, gospels and other sacred music.
- \*Must be able to rehearse choirs at a scheduled time unless otherwise notified.
- \*Must be available for Sunday morning worship services.
- \*Must be available to accompany the pastor and choirs when requested or provide a qualified substitute.
- \*Must be able to assist in the selection of appropriate songs for worship and services.
- \*Will be responsible with the pastor's approval in hiring other musicians if deemed necessary.

### Salary: Negotiable

Penn Avenue Missionary Baptist Church is a warm, spirited-filled church that has worship services 52 Sundays a year and at present there is one musician available for 2nd Sunday worship services. Service begins each Sunday at 11 a.m. with the exception of 5th Sunday services which begin at 10 a.m.

Please send resume to the above listed address or inquiries may be made by calling one of the above listed numbers.

## SYNAMA GROVE

Oxford, North Carolina

The Pastoral Search Committee of the Synama Grove Baptist Church is currently accepting resumes to fill its Pastoral vacancy. Candidates are required to be a licensed and ordained Missionary Baptist Minister. In addition, the ideal candidates will meet the following basic profile, as established by the church congregation:

- Five to ten years of experience as the Pastor of a Baptist Church
- Have completed education through college and seminary

As a church of families, Synama Grove has many long time members functioning as maturing Christians in support of church growth and development. In that regard, the church congregation seeks a Pastor to lead its fulfillment as a Missionary Baptist Church. In addition to other more specific requirements defined to the Search Committee by the congregation, the Pastor of Synama Grove Baptist is expected to lead the congregation, Deacons, Trustees, Auxiliaries and other staff in performing their responsibilities in serving each other and the community.

Synama Grove is a community-oriented church, located between Creedmoor and Oxford North Carolina, about 25 miles north of Raleigh, 23 miles northeast of Research Triangle Park and approximately 20 miles south of the Virginia border. The membership, of approximately 250 members, is diverse, with both white and blue-collar workers. Resumes from interested candidates will be accepted from June 1, 2001 through July 31, 2001. Please forward resumes to:

Deacon Hubert L. Gooch Jr.

Chairperson, Pastoral Search Committee

2667 Hester Road, Oxford, NC 27565

Once received, the resumes will be evaluated in accordance with the profile details of the congregation. All candidates will receive acknowledgment of their application. Those most closely matching the needs of Synama Grove will be asked to proceed through a well-defined process to identify the best candidate to be called as the next Pastor of Synama Grove Baptist Church. We pray that God leads you to us, as we're lead to you.

## FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

715 West Willis Ave.

High Point, NC 27260

CHURCH MUSICIAN

The Friendship Missionary Baptist Church are accepting resumes for a Church Musician.

### Qualifications:

Should be a Christian who lives and acts responsibly and has a good character and reputation.

### Musician requirements:

- Be able to play a piano, keyboard, organ and be able to work well with a diverse range of singers with directions for musical selections.
- Must have experience in church music (anthems, hymns, spirituals, praise and worship, etc.) of gospel traditional and contemporary.
- Be available for necessary rehearsals and Sunday Worship Services.
- Be available to accompany the pastor and choirs to all church functions when requested.

### Salary negotiable:

Please send cover letter and resume to:

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church

Attn: James W. Flake, Pastor

909 Barbee Avenue

## Baptist Grove Church

7109 Leesville Rd., Raleigh, NC 27613

919-787-4528 • 919-787-9784 Fax • Baptistqc@aol.com

Baptist Grove (a predominately African American congregation) is accepting resumes for a Full Time Youth Minister.

### Principle Functions

- Provide youth and volunteer leadership
- Plan, conduct and evaluate programs
- Provide youth Christian education

### Qualifications

- Licensed Baptist Minister
- Strong program planning and implementation skills
- Excellent communication skills, (presenting, writing, active listening)
- Ability to effectively interact with all age levels

To apply, send resume and cover letter to:

Baptist Grove Church, Attn. Personnel Committee, 7109 Leesville Road, Raleigh, NC 27613

# NOTICE PASTOR NEEDED

at  
Friendship Baptist Church  
Whiteville, NC

For Application Write:

Pastor Selection Committee

PO Box 1365, Whiteville, NC 28472

# VACANT POSITIONS

## Friendship Missionary Baptist Church

Hickory, N.C.

The pulpit committee of Friendship Missionary Baptist Church in Hickory, NC, is accepting resumes to fill the time pastoral vacancy. The church body would like for all applicants to possess the following qualifications:

- A licensed and ordained Missionary Baptist Minister.
- Must be able to preach God's Word.
- Possess a four-year degree and seminary degree from an accredited college or university or a four-year degree and pursuing a seminary degree from an accredited college or university.
- Must be an effective leader, administrator, teacher, and counselor and work in harmony with church officials and congregation in the goals and growth of the church.
- Have strong family and community values.
- Be willing to work with all age groups with particular emphasis on the spiritual growth and development of the youth population.
- Must be able to teach Bible study and church school.
- Possess strong oral and written communication skills.
- Develop plans for the spiritual growth and development of the congregation.
- Must be willing to adhere to the Missionary Baptist doctrines, policies and practices.
- Possess at least five years pastoral experience.

Applicants must provide the following documents by Friday, October 12, 2001:

- Resume
- Copy of college degree, certificates of license and ordination
- Name of seminary institution if pursuing degree
- Names, addresses and telephone numbers of four (4) references (excluding relatives)

Submit to: Pulpit Committee, Friendship Baptist Church, PO Box 1883, Hickory, NC 28603

## MINISTER OF MUSIC WANTED

Wake Forest Congregation seeks Minister of Music. Duties to include working directly with the Pastor in order to assist and cooperate with him in Christian Worship; playing during Sunday morning worship service; rehearsing with various choirs one night per week; and accompanying the Pastor on engagements to other churches. Please forward a cover letter and resume to:

Evans Grove Missionary Baptist Church, 12700 Creedmoor Road, Highway 50  
Wake Forest, NC 27587 • (919) 870-8874

## PROGRESSIVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

2504 Creech Road, Raleigh, NC 27610

Rev. William H. Brock Sr., Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Leo Williams Jr., Assistant Pastor

Rev. James Richardson, Minister of Youth

Growing young Missionary Baptist Church in southeast Raleigh, Seeking a Christian Church Musician who can play piano/organ. Specifically organ. Must be able to read music as well as play by ear. Should be able to play hymns, anthems, spirituals, gospel.

Call church office to arrange interview (919) 828-8373.

## POSITION AVAILABLE: DIRECTOR OF CHURCH MUSIC

First African Baptist Church is a congregation of over 350 members with a Music Ministry that consist of four choirs, Sunshine Choir, Male Chorus, Unity and Praise Choir, Chancel Choir. Music in this ministry consists of gospel (traditional and contemporary) praise and worship, hymns, spirituals and anthems.

Applications and further information may be obtained by contacting, Mrs. Verna Best, or Rev. Jerry Dortch at 919-734-4935.

## ZION BAPTIST CHURCH SEEKS PASTOR

On April 20, 2000, Rev. Curtis E. Bender, pastor of Zion Baptist Church in Omaha, Nebraska, tendered his resignation. He has blessed Zion and the Omaha community with his leadership for more than 20 years. Although we will miss our Pastor, we humbly submit to the Will of God. Consequently, the recently formed Zion Baptist Church Pulpit Search Committee would like to solicit your help in this search: Please notify the members of your District/Convention that the Zion Baptist Church pulpit is vacant and that we have begun accepting applications for Pastor. Among other things, we require applicants who:

- Are Called by God. (1 Timothy 3:1-7)
- Are Graduates of an accredited and respected seminary.
- Have had a minimum of 10 years as pastor of a large Black Baptist Church. (500 or more members).
- Are members in good standing and with a track record of membership in the National Baptist Convention U.S.A., Inc.
- Have proven leadership and training skills.

Interested candidates are asked to request **in writing** applications from:

Zion Baptist Church  
Pulpit Search Committee  
2215 Grant Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68110

Please pray for our effort and thank you for your help in this notification.

Yours in Christ, Dea. Jesse Sharpe, Committee Chairman, Sis. Jacqueline C. Hart, Church Clerk

## SECOND BPTIST CHURCH

US Hwy 158, Macon, NC 27551, Warren County • 252-257-5570

### Is Seeking A Pastor

The pastor search committee of Second Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of pastor. Applicants must possess the following qualifications and responsibilities.

#### Qualifications:

- \* Born again, spirit-filled, ordained and divinely called, with strong family and community values.
- \* Be a licensed, Ordained Baptist Minister.
- \* Must be able to preach and teach Bible Study.
- \* Must be able to work with all age groups.
- \* Strong knowledge of **Baptist Doctrines**, church policies and procedures.
- \* Experienced as a senior pastor, but will consider an experienced associated pastor.
- \* Must have Spiritual maturity, and be able to preach and teach the Word of GOD.
- \* Willingness to administer communion and perform Baptismal service.
- \* Possess strong and proven administrative experience.
- \* Divinity school degree preferred, but will consider a combination of education and experience.

#### Responsibilities:

- \* Plan, prepare and deliver sermons.
- \* Visit and commune with sick and shut-in members and bereaved families.

Interested candidates please submit resume to:

Ms. Sylvia Dunston, Church Secretary, Rt. 2, box 13 A, Warrenton, NC 27589, (252) 257-0221

## CHURCH MUSICIAN

First Missionary Baptist Church of Clinton is seeking a person to serve as musician. The responsibilities include playing for the Adult Choir on the First Sunday, and accompanying the other choirs on the remaining Sundays.

#### Qualifications:

Should be able to play the piano and the organ, and be able to work well with diverse groups of singers.

Experience in sacred music is a must as well as the ability to read music and play by ear.

The musician is also expected to accompany the pastor and choirs to outside functions when necessary.

Interested persons may send resume to: First Baptist Church, 900 College St., Clinton, N.C. 28328.

## MUSICIAN WANTED

### Metropolitan Baptist Church Rocky Mount, NC

Progressive church music department looking for Director of Music to provide leadership for growth spiritually and musically. Must have experience in church music (anthems, hymns, spirituals, etc.) or equivalent. Able to lead music and direct/accompany. Available on 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays. On call as needed.

To apply call:

Metropolitan Baptist Church  
Rocky Mount, NC  
252-442-4623

## MINISTER OF MUSIC • ST. MATTHEW BAPTIST CHURCH

P.O. BOX 1710, OXFORD, NC 27565

1. Must be a Christian to serve as minister of music each Sunday.
  2. Will prepare choirs for Sunday morning worship services and special services.
  3. Will teach and direct hymns, spiritual selections and other sacred music.
  4. Will implement and/or carrying out guidelines pertaining to choir members' conduct.
  5. Will rehearse choirs at a scheduled time unless otherwise notified.
  6. Will be available to accompany the Pastor and choir to church functions requested.
- Please send resume to the above address: Attention Pastor. Inquiries may be made by calling 919-693-6354.

## POSITION:

Interim Pastor to provide pastoral leadership and duties to a congregation of approximately 200 members located in Goldsboro, NC.

## ORGANIZATION:

Antioch Missionary Baptist Church  
601 W. Elm Street, Goldsboro, NC 27530  
(919) 734-2066

## DESCRIPTION:

The Antioch Missionary Baptist Church is currently seeking an individual to perform in the capacity of **INTERIM PASTOR**. This position is not intended or expected to lead to the role of permanent pastor. This role requires you to focus on the pastoral task in the congregation during the interim period to help free the leaders of the congregation to focus on seeking a new pastor. You will provide leadership and stability in a positive manner during this transitional period of our church. The ability to settle issues and migrate the congregation from the former pastor to the new pastor is critical. You will be working closely with the chairman of the Deacon Board and Trustee Board when addressing issues that affects the congregation at large. While the duration of this position is unknown at this time, you must be available for any period from two months to two years if needed.

Major Duties and Responsibilities:

- Plan and lead worship that is sensitive to the needs of the congregation
  - Attend to the spiritual development of the congregation
  - Provide administrative leadership to the congregation, secretarial and pulpit staff
  - Counsel members having personal, family and/or work related problems
  - Support religious programs for children, youth and adults
  - Develop and instruct weekly bible study classes
  - Support the church's financial program
  - Directly involve the congregation in the planning and leadership of existing church programs and ministries
  - Meet regularly with the chairpersons of the Deacon, Deaconess and Trustee Board for planning and direction
  - Visit the sick, shut in and bereaved in the hospital and at home
  - Preside at funerals and weddings
  - Support the world mission of the church
  - Present social issues before members
- Qualifications-Education and Experience:
- Saved and filled with the Holy Spirit and able to proclaim the unadulterated word of God that will lead people to Christ
  - Degree in Theology or Religion preferred — however, will accept training and experience in Divinity or Church Ministries
  - Ordained for a minimum of five years
  - Five years of experience as a pastor or assistant pastor of a Missionary Baptist Church
  - Experience in working as an interim pastor is a plus

## CONTACT INFORMATION

For immediate consideration, please send a cover letter and your resume to the following address:

Antioch Missionary  
Baptist Church  
Attention: Deacon Lessie Davis  
601 W. Elm Street  
Goldsboro, NC 27530

## GENESIS BAPTIST

### Youth Minister needed full-time.

Qualified candidates must be trained at a seminary, mature spiritually, and experienced working with children and youth. Mail or fax resume and salary requirements to:

Genesis Baptist Church  
Cathy Daniels-Lee, Search Committee Chairperson  
2812 E. Bessemer Ave., Greensboro, NC 27405  
Ph. (336) 379-1133 • Fax. (336) 379-1615  
Web site: www.greensboro.com/genesis

# VACANT POSITIONS

## FIRST BAPTIST CHARITY CHURCH

Greenevers, N.C.

The First Baptist Charity Church of Greenevers, N.C. is accepting resumes from interested Missionary Baptist Ministers for the position of pastor.

### Qualifications:

1. Divinely called spirit-filled, born-again Christian with strong Family values.
2. Pastoral experiences is required.
3. Must work closely with the officers of the church.
4. Must have at least 2 years of college or seminary training.
5. Must be able to preach and teach.
6. Must have good leadership and communication skills.
7. Family oriented.
8. Have knowledge of and willing to follow Baptist doctrines, policies and procedures.
9. Must be willing to visit and commune with the sick and shut-ins.
10. Must be willing to work with all age groups.

Services are first, second, third and fourth Sundays with Sunday school beginning at 10:00 a.m. and morning service beginning at 11:00 a.m.

Please send resumes to:

Deacon Fernald Rawls, Jr., 920 Pasture Branch Road, Rose Hill, NC 28458

## MORNING STAR MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH OF DURHAM

is seeking a person to serve as musician.

### Qualifications:

Should be a Christian who lives and acts responsibly and has a good character and reputation.

- Should be able to play the piano and organ.
- Work well with diverse range of singers.
- Experience in diverse music (Hymns, gospel, contemporary, traditional).
- Ability to read music and play by ear.
- Be available for scheduled rehearsals, Second Sunday Morning Worship Service.
- Be available to accompany Pastor and choirs to church engagements as scheduled.
- Be available for evening programs as scheduled.

### Interested persons may send resume to:

Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church  
4610 Fayetteville Rd.

Durham, NC 27713, Attention: Sis. Esther Thompson or Call 544-8596

## UNION GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH

Warrenton, North Carolina

The Union Grove Baptist is currently seeking and accepting resumes from interested licensed, ordained Baptist ministers. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

1. Spiritual maturity
2. A minimum of three years experience as a pastor, but will consider years of experience as associate pastor
3. Administrative and leadership skills
4. Must be able to work with various age groups with specific emphasis on youth development.
5. Strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures.
7. Good oral and written communication skills and ability to communicate with all age groups.
8. Have excellent teaching ability.

Other responsibilities include:

Planning, organizing and implementing programs that encourage participation of youth and young adults that promote church growth and progress.

Please send resumes to:

Brother Alonza Jones, Board Chairman, Route 2, Box 128, Norlina, N.C. 27563, % The Pulpit Committee

## MINISTER OF MUSIC VACANCY SPRING GREEN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH PO Box 924, Warrenton, NC 27589

Rev. Dennis G. Lindsay, Pastor

The Spring Green Missionary Baptist Church seeks a Minister of Music to provide musical direction and accompaniment for 4 choirs in the church. This person will work closely with the Pastor to provide spiritual leadership in the ministry of Jesus Christ through music, i.e. hymns, spiritual songs, and praise and worship music that glorifies God.

We are accepting resumes from candidates with the following qualifications:

1. Born-again Christian, Spirit-filled, and divinely gifted in music ministry.
2. Willingness to spiritually align the music ministry with Pastoral vision.
3. Able to play the piano, keyboard and/or organ; able to read music and versatile.
4. Able to prepare choirs for Sunday morning worship services and other services.
5. Able to teach, as well as direct choirs, with humility and love.
6. Able to rehearse with all choirs on schedule, and available for all Sunday services
7. Able to accompany Pastor and choirs to other services as required (or ensure qualified substitute is available).
8. Able to select appropriate hymns and songs for worship service.

Please submit resumes to the address above. Any inquiries, please contact Pastor Lindsay at (919) 361-3003.

## UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

110 Lincoln Ave., Lexington, NC 27292

Needed: Minister of Music or Organist.

Please send resume to:

Union Baptist Church, 110 Lincoln Ave, Lexington, NC 27292. Attn: Rev. Darrell L. Thomas. Or call 336-243-1648 and leave your name and number.

# JOB OPPORTUNITIES

## POSITION:

Interim Pastor to provide pastoral leadership and duties to a congregation of 400 active members located in the North Philadelphia area of the city.

## ORGANIZATION:

Miller Memorial Baptist Church

1518 North 22nd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19121

## DESCRIPTION

The Miller Memorial Baptist Church is currently seeking an individual to perform in the capacity of **INTERIM PASTOR**. This position is not intended or expected to lead to the role of permanent pastor. This role requires you to focus on the pastoral task in the congregation during the interim period to help free the leaders of the congregation to focus on seeking a new pastor. You will provide leadership and stability in a positive manner during this transitional period of our church. The ability to settle issues and migrate the congregation from the former pastor to the new pastor, is critical. You will be working closely with the chairpersons of the Deacon Board and Trustee Board when addressing issues that effect the congregation at large. While the duration of this position is unknown as this time, you must be available for any period from two months to two years if needed.

## Major Duties and Responsibilities:

- Plan and lead worship that is sensitive to the needs of the congregation
- Attend to the spiritual development of the congregation
- Provide administrative leadership to the congregation, secretarial, and pulpit staff
- Counsel members having personal, family and/or work related problems
- Support and/or lead religious programs for children, youth and adults
- Develop and instruct weekly bible study classes
- Actively and visibly support the church's financial program
- Directly involve the congregation in the planning and leadership of existing church programs and ministries
- Meet regularly with the chairpersons of the Deacon, Deaconess and Trustee Boards for planning and direction
- Work closely with the Superintendent of the Sunday School
- Visit the sick, shut in and bereaved in the hospital and at home
- Preside at funerals and weddings
- Support the world mission of the church
- Participate in local community activities, issues and problems
- Present social issues before members

## QUALIFICATIONS - EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

- Bachelors Degree in Divinity, Masters of Divinity Degree preferable
- Ordained for a minimum of five years
- Five years experience as a pastor or assistant pastor of a Baptist Church
- Experience in working as an interim pastor is a plus.

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

For immediate consideration, please send a cover letter and your resume to the following address:

Miller Memorial Baptist Church  
Attention: Deacon David Pridgen  
1518 North 22nd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19121

## POSITION DESCRIPTION

North Carolina Council of Churches  
COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATE

### Job responsibilities

Develop and implement a communications plan including at least the following:

#### Print media

- Write, edit, and produce Church Council Bulletin
- Write, edit, and produce regular information piece for "Interested Persons"
- Produce quarterly one-page information piece for distribution by judicatories
- Prepare and distribute press releases to secular and religious press
- Coordinate production of other printed resources

#### Electronic communications

- Design and maintain web site
- Develop electronic versions of CCB and Raleigh Report, including e-mail summaries
- Propose other uses of electronic communications technology

Develop and staff the Communications Committee

### Qualifications

Compatible with Council's mission of ecumenism and social justice

Member of a faith community affiliated with the NC Council of Churches (preferred)

Four-year communications degree (preferred)

Two years work experience (preferred)

Excellent computer skills in MS Office, especially Word, Publisher and FrontPage

### Other

Responsible to Executive Director

Attend meetings of House of Delegates and Executive Board

Salary and benefits package: \$17,000-\$19,000 for half-time employment.

Telecommuting from within the Triangle is preferred, with semimonthly in-office staff meetings.

The North Carolina Council of Churches does not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, ethnicity, or sexual orientation.

To apply, send a resume and writing sample to George Reed, 1307 Glenwood Avenue, Suite 162, Raleigh, NC 27605.

Or e-mail to [nccofc@nccouncilofchurches.org](mailto:nccofc@nccouncilofchurches.org)

## Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church

414 Hadley Street, Wilson, NC 27893

Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church is seeking a licensed, ordained Missionary Baptist Pastor to serve as a spiritual leader, counselor and administrator. Ebenezer is a progressive church with a vision of growing in grace and walking with the Lord. We seek a Pastor with this same vision and passion, who is capable of leading our congregation to a higher realm.

All interested candidates please submit resumes and inquires to:

### Ebenezer Search Committee

Attention: Deacon Ronald Wright

PO Box 351, Lucama, NC 27851 • 252-239-0097

(Applications will be mailed upon request)

### Qualifications:

- Ability to preach and teach
- Ability to relate to all groups
- Willing to deliver morning services on 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays
- Affiliated with the General Baptist State Convention
- Theological or Seminar Training
- Pastoral Experience of one year
- Willing to live in the Wilson County area

*Fall is here!*

# VACANT POSITIONS

## SAVANNAH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

6675 Tabor Church Road, Fayetteville, NC 28301

The pastor's search committee of Savannah Missionary Baptist Church is accepting letters of interest/resumes for the position of Senior Pastor from licensed and ordained Missionary Baptist Ministers. Apply only if you are sincerely interested and meet all the qualifications.

### QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Must be born again, filled with the holy spirit and called by God to preach the word.
2. Must be family oriented and possess a strong, Godly character.
3. Prefer college degree but will strongly consider a combination of education, training and experience.
4. Possess a strong knowledge of the Missionary Baptist doctrine, church policies and practices.
5. Be an effective leader, communicator, administrator and counselor with good interpersonal skills.
6. Must have skills required to work with all age groups with emphasis on spiritual growth and development.
7. Must have skills required for planning and implementing a vision for both spiritual and physical growth of the church.
8. Must work effectively with boards, auxiliaries and committees.

Interested persons meeting all of the above qualifications should submit the following information:

Letter of interest or resume

Copy of license and ordination certificate

Proof of educational degree, and additional theological studies transcript

The names, addresses, telephone numbers, email addresses of at least five references of which only two can be ministers.

The committee will provide each candidate with an information packet.

All correspondence must be addressed as follows:

Savannah Missionary Baptist Church

ATTN: Sister Ernestine Tucker, 6675 Tabor Church Road, Fayetteville, N.C.

## THE UNITED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

of Oxford, N.C., is seeking a pastor with the following qualifications:

Dedicated Christian leader

Ordained minister

Educated in the word of God

Can relate to all age groups

Skilled in administrative duties

Prefers a college and seminary graduate

Interested in building a church

Radius of 60 miles of church

Please send resumes to: ATTN: Deacon Rebecca Fuller, PO Box 2142, Oxford, NC 27565.

## Lee's Crossroad Baptist Church

Route 1, Lake Wendell Rd., Wendell, NC 27591

The Lee's Crossroads Baptist Church is seeking a Pastor and is accepting resumes from interested, ordained Baptist ministers. Please include the following in your resume:

1. Name/address/day and evening phone numbers
2. Age
3. Marital Status
4. Education/Schools attended
5. Pastoral Experience
6. References

### Qualifications

1. Born again Christian
2. Ordained Baptist Minister
3. Ability to preach and teach God's Holy Word
4. Possess leadership and administrative skills
5. Willingness to follow Baptist Doctrine
6. Must be a good role model of moral and ethical conduct

### Resumes may be sent to:

Lee's Crossroad Baptist Church, Pulpit Committee

Deacon James R. Adams, 1342 Medlin Rd., Clayton, N.C. 27520

## Galilee Missionary Baptist Church

PO Box 644/601 Pine Street, Oakboro, NC 28129

The Pastoral Search Committee of the Galilee Baptist Church is currently accepting resumes to fill its Pastoral vacancy. The minimum qualifications are desired for consideration:

- ordained Baptist minister
- be able to work well with church, promoting Church agenda
- teach and preach competently
- possess high spiritual, moral and ethical integrity
- possess strong knowledge of the Scriptures
- visit sick and be active in community
- active in Zion Association
- seminary training preferred and willing to advance studies
- attend church ministry functions
- coordinate and develop ministries to accommodate growing church

We have church services every Sunday (including 5th). We are looking for a pastor, not someone who only desires to preach. In interested please send resumes to: Deacon James Ashcraft, PO Box 644, Oakboro, NC 28129.

## First Baptist Church, 329 West Ave., Hamlet, NC 28345 • 910-582-5732

### Full Time Position:

All interested ordained Missionary Baptist Ministers should submit a resume as soon as possible.

### Qualifications

1. Good moral Christian reputation in the home and community.
2. Sound Christian and Baptist Doctrine.
3. Pastoral Experience at least (3) years with Seminary Training.
4. Divinity School graduate (preferred).
5. Dynamic Preacher with teaching and counseling skills.
6. Mature, Stable and Family Oriented.
7. Has interest and capability to build a comprehensive church program/visionary.
8. Shows evidence of community awareness and involvement.
9. Ability to communicate with the congregation and public.
10. Ability to train church officers.
11. Willingness to visit sick members and administer communion.
12. Ability to work with all age groups in the church.

Send resume to: Velma Gibson, Chairman, Pulpit Committee, First Baptist Church, 329 West Avenue, Hamlet, NC 28345 Or Fax to: (910) 582-2303

## Oakey Grove Missionary Baptist Church of Clayton

is searching for a pastor. Congregational size is about 100 members with attendance of 50-65 depending upon the season. Worship service is held twice monthly. We are a small rural church located about 5 miles east of Clayton and about 6 miles west of Smithfield on Hwy. 70 business. Our congregation represents all ages and all backgrounds.

Our pastor must be knowledgeable and believe in the Baptist Doctrine. Must be a strong spiritual leader, administrator and teacher. One who will proclaim the Good News in a meaningful way that will help members learn to apply Biblical concepts to their everyday lives.

We are an autonomous Missionary Baptist Church that is affiliated with the Johnston District Missionary Baptist Association and its auxiliaries and the General Baptist State Convention and its auxiliaries.

Please include in your resume the following:

1. Name/Address/Day and Evening Phone Numbers
2. Age
3. Marital Status
4. Education/Schools Attended
5. Pastoral Experience (Where, When, Number of Years)
6. References

### Qualifications:

1. Ordained Missionary Baptist Minister
2. Possess Leadership, Administrative, and Counseling Skills
3. Willingness to follow Baptist Doctrines, Policies and Procedures
4. Able to lead and communicate with all age groups
5. Family oriented
6. Must possess good moral and ethical conduct

Interested persons should send resumes to:

Oakey Grove Baptist Church, Pulpit Search Committee

Deacon Loomis Hodges, Chairperson, PO Box 2435, Smithfield, NC 27577

## FULL TIME DIRECTOR/RESS OF CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

Greater Mount Sinai Baptist Church

Dr. George Cook Jr.

### Qualifications

- ≠ Masters of Divinity or Masters of Religious Education or an equivalent degree/experience.
- ≠ Possess skills in coordinating and working with various age groups.
- ≠ Having had experience in this area would be a plus.
- ≠ Demonstrate exceptional skills in interpersonal relationships, team building, team playing and delegation.

### Appointment

- ≠ The Director/ress of Ministries shall be appointed by the Pastor upon recommendation by the Personnel Committee with final approval by the church.

### Responsible To

- ≠ The Pastor

### Status

- ≠ Full-Time (Forty-hour minimum schedule. Determined jointly between Director/ress and Pastor.)

### Responsible For

- ≠ Supervising and coordinating all activities pertaining to ministries.

### Salary

- ≠ Commensurate with qualifications, experience, achievement and commitment
- ≠ Salary range \$30,000 - \$35,000
- ≠ Fringe benefits will be offered.

### Responsibilities

1. To have general oversight of outreach ministries.
2. To provide training for ministries on a scheduled basis to include, but not limited to, such areas as: partnering with God in prayer, planning, communication skills, servant leadership, volunteer enlistment and recruiting.
3. Make available specific ministry aids to assist in gaining greater knowledge regarding the specific ministry.
4. Establish accountability structures for each ministry.
5. Establish a "Ministry Standard" which outlines measurable checkpoints.
6. Maintain a church-wide Calendar of Events to include all ministry events and church-wide activities.
7. Provide a vehicle for communicating various ministries of church to the membership and visitors.
8. To work with auxiliaries and groups to resolve any procedural and scheduling conflicts they may run into.
9. To provide monthly reports, in writing, to the Pastor that reflects implementation progress as well as upcoming plans.
10. Establish and maintain a time line to monitor the productivity of each auxiliary.
11. To perform other duties as assigned by the Pastor.

### To Apply

Qualified persons should submit the following items:

- ≠ A Cover letter stating your interest
- ≠ A resume or vitae
- ≠ Three letters of recommendation
- ≠ These materials will not be returned

### Deadline

All materials should be postmarked no later than Saturday, November, 17, 2001.

Candidates will be notified by Tuesday, January 15, 2002 concerning the status of the application.

### Mail all items to:

GMSBC Personnel Committee  
Greater Mount Sinai Baptist Church  
1243 West Boulevard  
Charlotte, NC 28208

# VACANT POSITIONS

The deadline to submit information for the "Baptist Informer" is the 10th of each month prior to publication.

**Advertise in Your Baptist Informer**  
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**ADVANCED PAYMENT REQUESTED!**

Chinquapin Grove Baptist Church is accepting resumes for its vacant pulpit. Qualifications include but are not limited to the following:

1. Called by God.
2. Preaches, teaches, and lives according to the New Testament.
3. Adheres to the tenets of the missionary Baptist Church.
4. Is able to work cooperatively with church officers and members.
5. Has a plan for the spiritual and physical growth of the church.
6. Lives within a reasonable distance from the church.

Chinquapin Grove Baptist Church is a small rural church that has services every Sunday. We seek a sincere, dedicated, humble, honest Christian minister as our shepherd. Please send your resume to the following address:  
 Mr. Richard Moore, Chairman  
 The Pulpit Committee  
 Chinquapin Grove Baptist Church  
 4462 North Carolina Hwy. 801 North  
 Mocksville, North Carolina 27028  
 Telephone: (336) 998-3362

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6. 20 years in Pastoral Ministry with proven Leadership and a good report
7. Radio Preacher, Evangelist, Bible Teacher
8. Member of the School Board Advisory Committee
9. Academic training in Counseling especially "Family Counseling"
10. Ability to work with all age groups
11. Wife is a University graduate with a B.S. Degree in Education and completing her work on a Master of Education, also a Public School Teacher
12. Married for 25 years, have 4 children and is 44 years old



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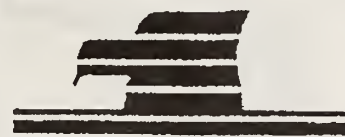
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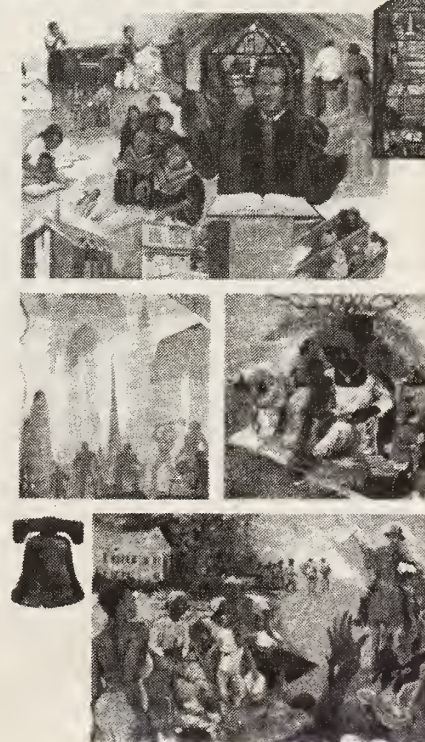
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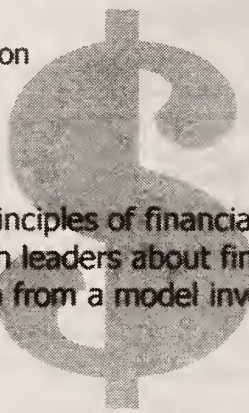
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### About the Author:

Dr. Serenus T. Churn Sr., received his Doctor of Ministry Degree from Drew University, Madison, N.J., in 1979, his Graduate Certificate in Pastoral Care from the Foundation for Religion and Mental Health, Grasslands Hospital, Westchester County, N.Y., in 1970, his Master of Divinity Degree from Howard University, School of Religion in Washington, D.C., in 1969, his Bachelor of Divinity Degree from Howard University, School of Religion in 1965 and his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Morgan State College, Baltimore, Md., in 1962.

He was born in Camden, N.J., to the late Dr. Charles H. Churn Sr., and Violet M. Churn and was licensed to preach at the age of 15. He is married to the former Shirley Brown of Washington, D.C., and

has two sons. Dr. Churn is currently the Senior Pastor of Mount Zion Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, N.C. Member of Novant Health Board of Trustees, Mount Zion Site Director and Adjunct Instructor, Shaw University Divinity School and Drew University Theology School. He is the Radio Host of God's Trombone WPOL. He has preached across the United States, Great Britain and India.

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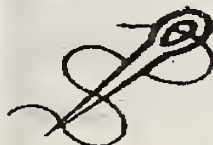
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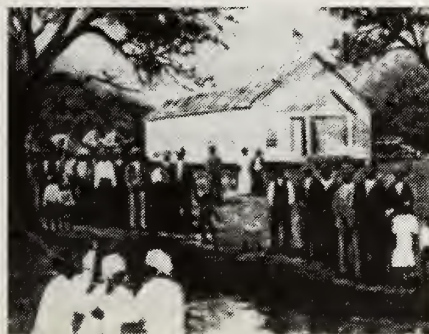
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# From The Desk of the Executive Secretary-Treasurer

## By Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Ed.D.

# A Pastor's Job Is More Than Preaching

By Archie D. Logan Jr.  
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

During the past few months I have been working with several congregations who are in search of Pastors. Each of these congregations has labored with the questions: What is the job of the Pastor? What are the responsibilities of the Pastor? What are we compensating the Pastor for? As the congregation answered these questions I was amazed to find out how many people believe that the Pastor's compensation is based on "PREACHING." Many officers, church leaders and members of the pulpit search committees would say, "We are going to pay for two Sundays a month" or "we want someone to preach every Sunday." Several groups debated who would pay the Sunday preacher if the Pastor was absent or did not preach: the Pastor or the church? Again basing the Pastors compensation on how many Sundays preaching was done.

Let me hasten to say that I am not saying preaching is not important, it is. The preaching of the Word of God (the law and the gospel) is the chief means ordained by Christ Himself and is sufficient for all, by which the Holy Spirit brings about the commencement and continuance of saving faith in the heart of the sinner.

Yet it is important for us, as General Baptist church leaders to understand that the Pastor of a church congregation is CALLED to do more than PREACH on Sunday. We must realize that the "CALL" to pastoral leadership is an awesome and tremendous task. The compensation, whatever it is, should take into consideration what the Pastor is doing beyond Sunday worship. Pastors spend many hours each week in ministry.

The word "pastor," (pastors), occurs only one time in the New Testament, Ephesians 4:11. It is derived from the biblical words for shepherd: In Hebrew [ro'eh], and usually rendered in Greek. [Poimen]. Paul's pastoral epistles also sheds light on the subject of pastoral leadership. Paul outlines three general functions of servant lead-

ership: (1) The ministration in divine service includes the ordering of worship, administering the ordinances, and preaching the Word. Here the Pastor is appropriately termed minister. (2) The responsibility of pastoral care is a result of the ministry of service. The feeding of the flock is the instruction of its members, but it is also the vigilant distributive attention to all its interests of those in the congregation their whole economy of life. Under-shepherds, (pastors), must imitate the Chief Shepherd, Jesus Christ, who "calls His own sheep by name." (3) This pastoral relation passes naturally into what we have scriptural authority for calling the spiritual government of the church. The Pastor is expected to lead the flock.

What scriptural authority do we have to support pastoral ministry, as well as the preached ministry? Ephesians 4:11-13 "The gifts [Christ] gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ." The biblically directed job description of Pastors is to prepare the saints, that is, the members of the congregation, to do ministry. Pastors are not called to just PREACH, but to equip the members of the church by training, vision, motivation and inspiration.

Pastors have many responsibilities in the life of the congregation; for example, marrying and burying people, comforting those in grief/crisis, visiting the sick, an activists/advocate for the church, counseling, teaching, guidance, planning, organizing, motivating, chastising, disciplining, administering, praying on behalf of the church and those in need, baptizing, and serving the Lord's Supper. The Pastor is the spiritual leader of the congregation. A Pastor must prepare God's people for works of service. Pastors lead us beyond the inner wall of our churches to

serve the community around us. We must be about the Lord's business. This is difficult work! The Pastor wears a crown but bears a cross.

Pastors should not do the actual work of the ministry alone. THE PASTOR IS TO PREPARE, NURTURE, MOLD, SHAPE AND EMPOWER THE MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATION TO MINISTRY. In many of our General Baptist State Convention churches we expect the Pastor to just PREACH on Sunday. The role (the job), of a Pastor is to assist, the members of the congregation to grow in their capacity to minister; to help each individual identify their spiritual gifts; and to lead all believers into a fulfilling life of service and Kingdom Building. The challenge is still the same REACH the masses.

If our General Baptist Convention Churches are to survive and succeed in this new Millennium to bring Good News to the poor, proclaiming release to the captives



Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr.

and recovery of sight to the blind, letting the oppressed go free, and proclaiming the year of the Lord's favor, (Luke 4:18-19), then we must understand that the job of the Pastor is not just PREACHING.

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# The 134th Annual Session of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. Meeting with Hill Street Baptist Church 134 Hill Street, Asheville, N.C.

By Archie D. Logan Jr.

Executive Secretary-Treasurer

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ!

We are so excited about the work of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc., our GBSC Auxiliaries, Churches, Associations and Unions as we forge ahead in the new Millennium. Our 134th Annual Session offers new opportunities for ministry, witness, worship, teaching and evangelism. "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might," Ephesians 6:10 (NKJV). All sessions will be held at Hill Street Baptist Church, 134 Hill Street, Asheville, N.C.

Pastors, Moderators, Officers and Church Leaders it is important that you plan to join us in this session. The PROGRAM is designed to empower your ministry and to enhance Kingdom Building. We are on a mission for the Lord. This is the first Annual Session of the GBSC in this Millennium. The journey to Asheville is a pilgrimage; it is grounded in a faith mission. Please complete your reservations today!

One of the areas of improvement that you will notice in this Annual Session is a new emphasis on teaching, information and learning opportunities. We will have several "HOW TO" workshops, seminars and classes that are Certificate Based. Churches should send ministry teams to participate in these training sessions. You can learn first-hand how to empower your church congregation. Those who participate in these activities will receive credits. These new opportunities will begin Monday morning. Please send your MESSENGERS to Asheville, Sunday, October 28, so that they can participate in the entire session. Also we have joined in partnership with Shaw University and Shaw University Divinity School to provide Degree-based learning opportunities through Shaw University CARE Centers and the Divinity School. We have asked each of you who are interested in these initiatives to register for class.

## Highlights of the Session:

- **SUNDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 28, 2001, PRE-CONVENTION MUSICAL PROGRAM**, Hill Street Baptist Church, Asheville, NC, 6 p.m.
- (Continental Breakfast Hill Street Baptist Church 8 a.m. - 9:30 a.m., Daily - FREE)
- 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. **REGISTRATION** Daily, Hill Street Baptist Church, Asheville, NC. Church Registration \$300, President's Banquet, tickets \$30 each.
- **MONDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2001** Hill Street Baptist Church, Asheville, NC
- 9-10 a.m. Laymen's League Executive Committee Meeting
- 10 a.m.-12 Noon **GBSC SPECIAL WORKSHOPS & MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES** "Prison Ministry Protocol" (Certificate Credit) Chaplain Michael Smith; "How to Identify Potential Adoption & Foster Care Parents" (Certificate Credit) Dr. Joseph C. Paige; "Economic Development/Investment" (Certificate Credit) Mr. Dexter Perry; "Rape Crisis, Sexual Harassment Intervention" (Certificate Credit) Rev. S.E. Bryant; "Introduction to Computers" (Certificate Credit) To

be Announced. **SHAW DIVINITY SCHOOL ONSITE CLASS** (Class Credit) Pre-enrollment Required, Dr. J.T. Roberson, Dean.

- 2-4 p.m. **WORSHIP AS MINISTRY** (Certificate Credit) Dr. Reginald Van Stephens, Pastor, White Rock Baptist Church, Durham, NC
- 2-5 p.m. **LAYMEN'S LEAGUE OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY** (Certificate Credit)
- 5 p.m.-7 p.m. Children/Youth Activities
- 7 p.m.-8 p.m. **WELCOME AND LOCAL PROGRAM**
- 8 p.m. **MINISTER'S COUNCIL**, Dr. Leonzo Lynch, Presiding
- 9:30 p.m. Evangelism Service, Dr. H.C. Miller, Presiding
- **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2001**
- 8 a.m. **REGISTRATION**, Hill Street Baptist Church, Asheville, NC
- 9 a.m. Devotion, Waynesville Baptist Association
- 9:30 Seminar - Worship As Ministry (Certificate Credit), Dr. Reginald Van Stephens
- 11:30 Opening Morning Sermon
- 2 p.m. 134th **CONVENTION CALL TO ORDER**
- **PRESIDENT JOHN D. FULLER SR.**
- 2:30-4:30 p.m. **MINISTER'S COUNCIL**, Dr. Leonzo Lynch, Presiding

**The President's Banquet**  
**Renaissance Hotel, Asheville, NC**  
**Tuesday, October 30, 2001**  
**6 p.m.-8 p.m. • \$30**

- 7:30 p.m.- Praise and Worship Service
- 8-9:15 p.m. Institutional Ministry Session, Chaplain Michael Smith, Presiding
- 9:30 p.m. **EVANGELISM SERVICE**  
**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2001**
- 8:30 a.m. **REGISTRATION**, Hill Street Baptist Church, Asheville, NC
- 9 a.m. Devotion, Mud Creek Association
- 9:30 a.m. Seminar **WORSHIP AS MINISTRY** (Certificate Credit), Dr. Reginald Van Stephens
- 11 a.m.-11:45 a.m. Project Reports
- *Recognition of Mr. Romas Hales, by GBSC Laymen's League*
- 12 Noon Past President's Sermon
- 2 p.m. Devotion, Mud Creek Association
- 2:15 p.m. Greetings/Updates
- 3 p.m. Annual Theme Sermon
- 4-6 p.m. **SHAW DIVINITY SCHOOL ONSITE CLASS** (Class Credit) Pre-enrollment Required
- 7 p.m. Praise and Worship Service
- 7:30 p.m. 134th Annual Session Theme Address
- 8 p.m. 134th Convention Sermon
- 9:30 p.m. **EVANGELISM SERVICE**, Dr. H.C. Miller, Presiding
- **THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2001**
- 8:30 a.m. **REGISTRATION**, Hill Street Baptist Church, Asheville, NC
- 9 a.m. Devotion, Mountain & Catawba Association
- 9:30 a.m. Devotion Sermon
- 10 a.m. Business Session & Reports
- **PRESIDENT'S HOUR**
- Introduction of President's Family & Guests
- 11 p.m. Introduction of the President
- **PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL ADDRESS**, Dr. John D. Fuller Sr.

## Special Guest Highlight 134th Session On Minister's Council Program

**Dr. A. Russell Awkard**  
Pastor, New Zion Baptist Church  
of Louisville, Kentucky  
President, Bluegrass State Baptist  
Convention

Rev. A. Russell Awkard received his theological training at Wesley Theological Seminary and the School of Theology, Virginia Union University. While an undergraduate student at Howard University, he was licensed to preach by Dr. Earl L. Harrison at Shiloh Baptist Church in the nation's capital. His first pastorate was in Fredericksburg, Va. He also served on the city school board.

Since coming to Louisville, Ky., in 1972, his ministry has been highlighted by the completion of two building projects with property values now exceeding \$2,000,000. In 1974, a new building was erected to replace the edifice which had been destroyed by fire before his arrival. An expansion project was completed in 1987. More than 10 years ago Pastor Awkard led the church to sponsor the James S. Taylor Memorial Home. Accommodating 122 residents this "superior" rated health care

facility is valued at \$4,000,000. The Pastor became widely known for the church's stewardship development, weekly radio and television services, and support of education and mission causes. Model programs have been introduced in prison, youth and library ministries, performing and visual arts, and community services.

Pastor Awkard has filled many leadership roles, including:

- President, Bluegrass State Baptist Convention (1986-Present)
- President, Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention (1991-1994)
- Moderator, Central District Association (1989-1995)
- President, Rodgers-Awkard Funeral Home (1983-Present)
- Member, Corporate Board, SSPB-NBC, Inc. (1990-Present)
- Member, Board of Directors, Morehouse School of Religion of Interdenominational Theological Center (1976-Present)

He is married to the former Ann L. Benboe. He has a stepson and two daughters.

## Speaker to be at the 134th Annual Session Late Nite Service — October 29, 2001

Rev. Dr. David Lee Massey, the son of Elizabeth Massey and the late Fred Massey Jr., was born July 27 1957, in Chatham County, North Carolina. Born fourth of eight children, he accepted the Lord at an early age and began preaching at the age of nine. He joined the Hickory Grove Baptist Church near Chapel Hill, N.C., where, at age 10, he was licensed to preach the gospel on April 21, 1968, and later ordained into the ministry on July 14, 1974.

As a child evangelist, Rev. Massey traveled across the state of North Carolina, sometimes giving as many as three to four sermons on a given Sunday. He has ministered along the east coast of the United States, traveling as far north as New London, Connecticut, proclaiming God's Word.

At 16, while still a sophomore in high school, Rev. Massey became pastor of the North East Baptist Church in Durham, N.C. He served a successful 10 year term, 1974-1984, and then moved on to serve six years 1984-1990, at the Penn Avenue Baptist Church, Oxford, N.C., and four years 1990-1994, at the Elizabeth Baptist Church in Monroe, N.C. By divine appointment, Rev. Massey's leadership, ministerial experience and spiritual vision is now blessing the Hopewell Baptist Church, Hartford, Conn., where he serves as Senior Pastor and Teacher. Presently he is leading his church in building a \$2.6 worship facility with expected occupancy of over one thousand.

Rev. Massey attended the Chatham County School System and graduated high school in 1975. Past high school

studies include Shaw University, Raleigh, N.C., where he graduated with a B.A. degree in Psychology. Further studies include the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; North Carolina Central University in Durham, N.C.; Shaw Divinity School, Raleigh, N.C.; Hood Theological Seminary, Salisbury, N.C.; and the New England Baptist School of Ministry (a satellite extension of Southern Baptist Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky). He holds Certification as a School Social Worker by the State Department of Public Instruction, Raleigh, N.C. He has also served as a psychiatric counselor at Durham County General Hospital and director of summer camp and after school care services for the Community Education Program of Durham County Schools.

Most recently, Rev. Massey successfully completed the Spring 1999 Pastoral Counseling Training Program and the 2000 Supervisory Group Training Program of the Saint Francis Academy Fox Clinical Pastoral Training. In May 2000, he received the Doctor of Divinity Degree from Eastern/Maryland Theological Seminary in Lynchburg, Va., and Doctor of Humane Letters from Eastern Theological. He is also a member of the American Association of Christian Counselors.

He served on the Mayor's Child Abuse Task Force and is a member of the Interdenominational Minister's Alliance of Greater Hartford.

Rev. Massey attributes all of his accomplishments to the power and grace of God, and states as the Apostle Paul, "By the grace of God, I am what I am."

## THE MILLENNIUM STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN 3 MILLION DOLLARS in 30 MONTHS GIFTS/PLEDGES/BEQUESTS

We have received several inquiries about gifts, pledges and bequests to the Stewardship Campaign. If you are interested in make a special gift, pledge or bequests please contact Dr. Archie D. Logan, Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer. These special stewardship contributions will be received through the General Baptist Foundation, Inc., Dr. C.G. Newsome, Chairperson. Many people can benefit from special designated trusts funds, endowments and planned giving. Leave a legacy to your Church and Convention. For those who are interested we will have several naming opportunities for the new Baptist Headquarters Building: the library/archives, conference room, lounge, chapel, floors, etc.

Make a gift that will last forever! Call us for confidential stewardship planning. Each person, each church, each Association can make a difference. No gift is too small to help us achieve our goal. "But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work.

As it is written:

*"He has dispersed abroad,*

*He has given to the poor;*

*His righteousness endures forever."*

2 Corinthians 9:6-9 (NKJV)

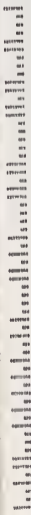
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# Baptist Informer

Vol. 124, No. 10

Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc.  
Voice of 500,000 North Carolina Baptists

October 2001

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### 134TH ANNUAL SESSION

Hill Street Baptist Church, Asheville, N.C.

**October 28-November 1, 2001**

Registration begins at 9 a.m., Monday, Oct. 28, 2001

### CRIME & INCARCERATION CONFERENCE

**November 30-December 1, 2001**

Shaw University Divinity School, Raleigh, N.C.

Registration begins at 8 a.m.

## See "Attack on America" Response

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Pages 1,2,30	Executive Secretary	Page 13	State Ushers News
Page 3	President's Page	Page 14	Health & Human Services
Page 4	Woman's Page	Page 15	Shaw University News
Page 5	Laymen's League News	Page 15	Central Children's News
Pages 6-7	Christian Education News	Pages 16-17	News Around the Globe
Page 7	Kid's Corner	Page 18	Economic Empowerment
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Page 11	Institution Ministry		

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# BAPTIST INFORMER

Volume 124, Number 11

Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C. Inc.  
Voice of 500,000 North Carolina Baptists

November 2001

## The 2001 Empowerment Seminar and Housing Banquet

By Archie D. Logan, Jr., Executive  
Secretary-Treasurer

*Dr. Wyatt Tee Walker, Seminar Leader*  
*Reverend Dr. Al Sharpton, Banquet Speaker*

Greetings! We are excited to announce our 2001 Empowerment Seminar and Housing Banquet. For the past two years we have had a GBSC Housing Banquet to raise stewardship funds for our Disaster Relief following Hurricane Floyd and Housing Ministry. This year the event will help kick-off our 3 Million Dollar 30 Month Stewardship Campaign.

The Empowerment Seminar will feature the Reverend Dr. Wyatt Tee Walker, New York, New York and others. Dr. Walker will speak on Affordable Housing Projects and how churches can provide this important ministry. Also Dr. Walker will sign and autograph copies of his most recent books. The Seminar will begin at 10 a.m. at the historic United Institutional Baptist Church, 802 East Market Street, Greensboro, North Carolina, 27401, 336-272-0822, Reverend Dr. Johnny R. Freeman, Pastor.

Funding Church and Association Projects; The Building Process; Predatory Lending; and Public Policy will highlight the Seminar sessions. The Reverend Dr. Al Sharpton will keynote our Banquet. Ms. Marva Robinson, Wilmington, North Carolina, Lyric Soprano will again stir our souls. She sang to the Glory of God at last year's Banquet. Tickets are available at a cost of \$250.00 each, the price includes the Seminar, materials and the "Banquet." Again this year we are asking each Association to sponsor the Moderator, Vice Moderator and their guest. We want each Church to send their pastor and spouse. The morning and afternoon seminars will provide important empowerment information for your congregations and organizations.

### WYATT TEE WALKER

Dr. Walker is Senior Pastor of the Canaan Baptist Church of Christ in New York's Harlem community. He enjoys an enviable record as pastor/theologian, human rights activist and cultural historian. Since 1979, he has distinguished himself as the most prolific author and essayist in the African-American pulpit in the last half-century. He is a double graduate of Virginia Union University (B.S., 1950; M.Div., 1953) and holds an earned doctorate from the Rochester (NY) Theological Center. His graduate studies and research have taken him to the University of Ife (Ee-fay) in Nigeria, the University of Ghana at Legon and the Haitian-American Institute in Port-au-Prince. An exhibiting artist (photo journalist) as well as a composer of sacred music, Jesse Jackson has called him Harlem's Renaissance Man because of his multiple gifts and varied careers.

Over the last two decades, he has emerged as the nation's foremost authority on the music of the African-American religious experience by the sheer dint of his productivity and dogged research. Following the publication of his landmark work, *Somebody's Calling My Name*, which is considered a classic in many quarters, five additional works in the field of ethnomusicology have come from his pen. The three-volume *Spirits That Dwell in Deep Woods* has been hailed as pioneer

work which he continues to pursue. No one has written as much or as carefully on the meter music of the African-American religious tradition. Several recent works accent Walker's prolific writing prowess: *The Harvard Paper* which details the economic profile of the African-American Church; *Soweto Diary*, a personal eyewitness account of the free elections in South Africa; *Race, Justice & Culture* with a foreword by CBS' Dan Rather and *Millennium End Papers*, the first release of 2000. In all, Walker has produced twenty-one published works since 1979.

Walker's global vision has carried him to ninety-eight countries and he is regarded internationally as a human rights activist. In 1994, Nelson Mandela's first stop as President of South Africa was the worship service of Walker's Harlem church. The week following, he was the first African-American to meet with Yasir Arafat since the de-militarization of the Gaza Strip and Jericho, both occurrences underscoring his involvement as an anti-apartheid activist and an apologist for Palestinian statehood. He is now President of the American Committee on Africa and Chairman of the Board of the Rev. Alfred Sharpton's National Action Network. In 1998, the All Africa Council of Churches hosted Walker as the keynote preacher for the last quadrennial meeting of the 20th century in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. In 2000, the National Baptists of Southern Africa invited this Harlem preacher to be the celebrant for their Centennial Celebration in Johannesburg.

This Harlem pastor is the largest single developer of affordable housing in New York City and has been a key player in the physical renaissance of Harlem that proceeds apace. In the 1993 *Ebony* Magazine poll, he was named one of the fifteen greatest African-American preachers in the nation.

### REVEREND DR. AL SHARPTON

Reverend Al Sharpton is one of America's foremost leaders for civil rights and he leads the ongoing battle against economic injustice, political inequity and corporate racism. For more than two decades he has played a major role in virtually every significant move for civil liberty, community empowerment, and economic equality. *Time* Magazine asserted that he has emerged as the most important black leader in the city of New York. As founder and president of the National Action Network (NAN), Sharpton heads an organization that fights for progressive, people-based policies against the rising conservative trend of cutting human services and balancing budgets at the expense of the working class people.

Sharpton has risen as a pivotal spokesperson against police brutality in America, and he has shed light on the travesty by forcing political figures and City leaders across the United States to look closely at the issue. Of the country's leaders with

whom he has met to discuss racial profiling and police brutality, includes the United States Attorney General Janet Reno.

On the eve of the "Redeem the Dream" 37th Anniversary March on Washington this past August, Sharpton met with Janet Reno at the White House to discuss an executive order being issued from the nation's capitol penalizing offenders of racial profiling and police brutality. The following day, Saturday, August 26th, Sharpton, along with Martin Luther King, III, co-convened the "Redeem the Dream" 37th Anniversary March on Washington to commemorate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s March on Washington in 1963. The March was the largest march in history to address the issue of racial profiling and police brutality.

Dr. Sharpton has stayed in the forefront of the political movement to bring justice to victims of police brutality as well as for families who have lost family to police brutality. He has mobilized countless rallies across the country and is the first person victims' call when they have been subjected to the violence of police officers.

The story of Dr. Sharpton's career is recounted in his 1996 autobiography, *Go and Tell Pharaoh*. The story begins not long after his birth in 1954 in Brooklyn, New York. He was raised by his mother, and began his ministry at the remarkable tender age of four when he preached his first sermon to hundreds at Washington Temple Church in Brooklyn. Throughout his adolescent years, the legendary Bishop Ed Washington mentored "The Wonder Boy Preacher."

Reverend Sharpton was licensed and ordained by Bishop Washington and appointed Junior Pastor of the 5,000-member Washington Temple congregation.

At age 12, Sharpton became interested in politics, mesmerized by Harlem Congressman Rev. Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. In one of his first forays into the public arena, Sharpton founded the National Youth Movement in 1971. Under his 17-year leadership, the NYM registered thousands of young people to vote, won hundreds of job opportunities, and led the fight to put the first Black on the New York State Metropolitan Transit Authority Board.

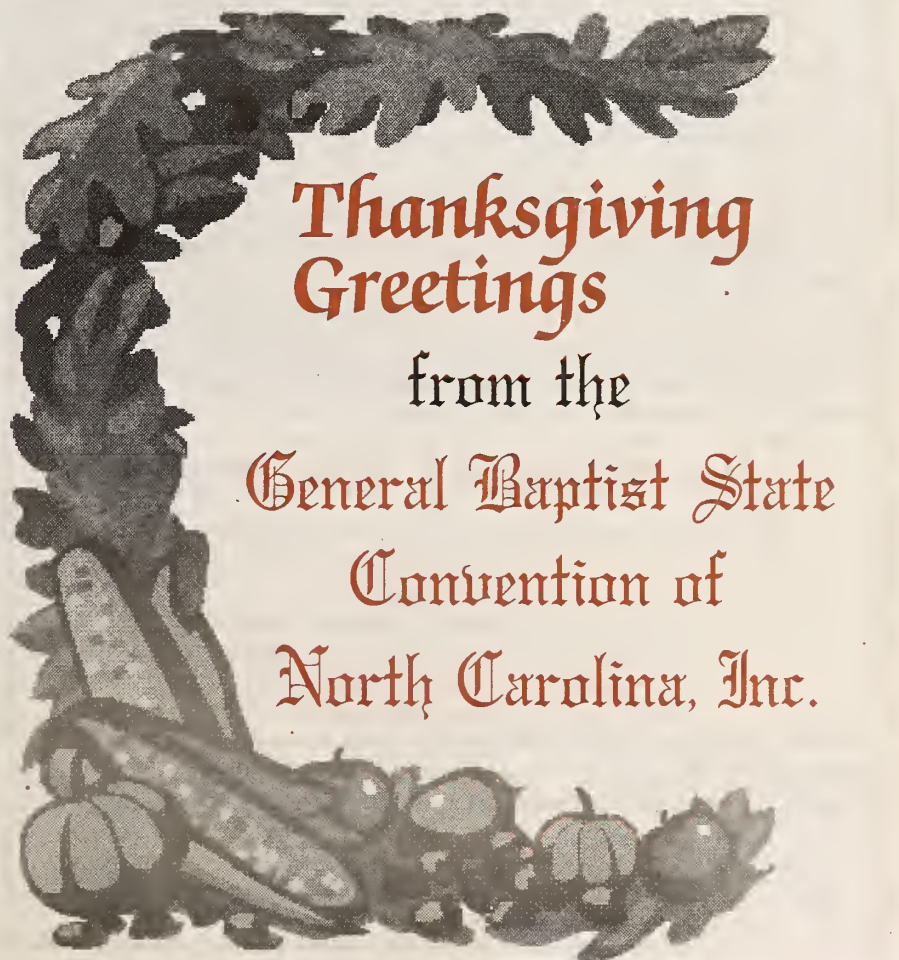
In 1991, Sharpton formed the National Action Network. The (NAN), formed to combat racial and civil rights violations, fights for progressive, people-based social policies by providing extensive voter education and registration campaigns, economic support for small community businesses and confronting corporate racism.

His runs for political office in 1992, 1994 and 1997 shook the New York State political establishment. His first campaign for a seat in the U.S. Senate garnered him 70% of the statewide Black vote and helped three Black legislators achieve victory. His challenge of Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan astounded the pundits, who were quieted when Sharpton tallied more than 80% of the statewide African-American vote and 26% of the general vote. And in his 1997 run for New York City Mayor within 1% of forcing a Democratic Primary run off.

Most recently Reverend Sharpton has led the protest of military bombing live-fire practice in Puerto Rico, for which he was jailed for one month.

Sharpton has been married to singer Kathy Jordan for almost twenty years. The couple has two daughters, Dominique and Ashley, and reside in Brooklyn, New York.

TICKET REQUEST, PAGE 2!



# From The Desk of the Executive Secretary-Treasurer Rev. Archie D. Logan Jr., Ed.D.

## Resolution of Concern

### The Honorable Frank McGuirt, Sheriff, Union County, NC

The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc., the largest and oldest African-American religious organization in the State with over 2,000 churches and 600,000 members is gravely concerned about the actions of a Union County Deputy Sheriff, on Monday, August 13, 2001. Video tapes show a Union County officer disrupting worship services at the Flag Branch Baptist Church, Wingate, North Carolina, Rev. Dale Jordan, Pastor.

The officer was not a member of the congregation nor did he come to the service to worship. Facts indicate that he attempted to make an unlawful arrest of a member of Flag Branch Baptist Church during the worship service.

The General Board of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc., unanimously voted and approved the following resolution, September 25, 2001:

WHEREAS, The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc., is grounded in the Constitutional right of every American to have *Freedom of Religion, and*

WHEREAS, The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc., believes a church is a sacred place of worship and haven of safety, and

WHEREAS, The Convention believes that law enforcement officers should uphold and protect the rights of American Citizens, and

WHEREAS, Sheriff Frank McGuirt is the Chief law enforcement officer in Union County

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that we request a formal "Statement of Restraint" by the Sheriff of Union County, indicating that the rights of citizens of worship will be respected, and

BE IT RESOLVED that law enforcement officers will not violate sanctuaries and houses of worship and respect those therein, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Union County Sheriff Department provides special sensitivity training for its law enforcement officers immediately.

Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President  
Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer



Gaston Association supports Change for CHANGE Program. Pictured from left to right, are: Moderator S.H. Barber, pastor, Ebenezer Baptist Church, Gastonia; Dr. A.D. Logan Jr.; Rev. Pierre Crawford, pastor, Center Baptist Church, Gastonia.

### THE 2001 HOUSING BANQUET TICKET REQUEST FORM December 7, 2001 • 7:30 p.m.

Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President GBSC  
Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer  
Dr. Thurman Everett, Chairman

Church \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor \_\_\_\_\_

Association \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # Church ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # Pastor ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Your Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Banquet Tickets \$250 Per Person



Number of Messengers \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$250.00 each Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(includes banquet, seminars)

Please send your ticket request form to: Baptist Headquarters  
603 S. Wilmington St., Raleigh, NC 27601-2338 • 800-639-GBSC (4272) • 919/821-7466

Headquarters Hotel: Sheraton Greensboro Hotel at  
Four Seasons, 3121 High Point Road at I-40, Greensboro, NC 27407

Singles & Doubles: \$99 + 12% tax, 336-292-9161, 800-242-6556

Reservation Deadline: Nov. 23, 2001

**PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS EARLY!!**

## The Baptist Informer

Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.  
Voice of 500,000 Baptists  
(USPS 042-680)

Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Editor  
Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie, Executive Editor  
Ms. Carol J. Smith, Managing Editor

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THEME: "By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness..." (II Corinthians 6:7)

# From The Desk of Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President

## Benjamin S. Ruffin MLK, Jr. Banquet Speaker

By Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President  
The General Baptist State Convention will hold its Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Banquet on January 11, 2002, at the Raleigh North Carolina Civic Center.

Dr. Benjamin S. Ruffin, chairman of the University of North Carolina Board of Gov-

ernors, will bring our address.

Dr. Benjamin S. Ruffin is the President of The Ruffin Group in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Effective February 28, 1999, he left R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company as the vice president of corporate affairs leading the company's local, state and

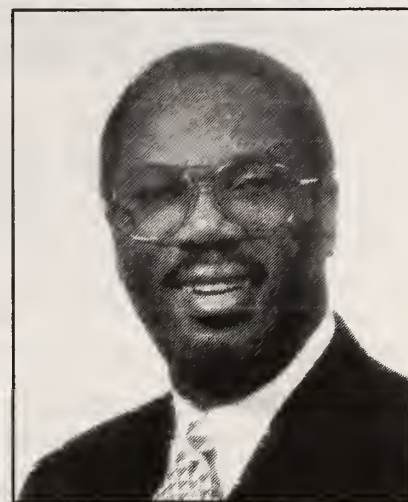
national partnerships with key minority business, civic and professional organizations. He remains as an advisor to R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company.

Ruffin joined the RJR corporate family in 1986 as director of corporate affairs for RJR Nabisco. He was appointed vice president of corporate affairs R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company in October 1989.

Prior to joining RJR, Ruffin worked for two years as vice president and special assistant to the president of North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company.

Before joining North Carolina Mutual, Ruffin worked for seven years as special assistant to North Carolina Governor James B. Hunt Jr. While serving under Governor Hunt, Ruffin was responsible for increasing the number of black judges in the state, and expanding the number of blacks employed in state government.

Ruffin's civic activities include serving on the boards of YMCA of Greater Winston-Salem 1991 Capital Campaign, Mechanics and Farmers Bank, and the Winston Lake Family YMCA. In September 1999, he was appointed to the Board of North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company. Ruffin is chairman of the UNC Board of Governors; member of Emmanuel Baptist Church, Winston-Salem; and a Life Member and Golden Heritage Member of the NAACP. He is former Polemarch of the Winston-Salem Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity. Ruffin serves as chairman of the corporate roundtable of the National Black Caucus of State Legislators and is a Prince Hall Mason, A.S. Hunter Lodge No. 825. He also serves on the boards of J.A. Jones, Inc., the National Business League, the Congressional Black



Dr. John D. Fuller Sr.

Caucus Foundation and the National Urban League. Ruffin is chairman of the N.C. Institute for Minority Economic Development, Trustee of Old Salem and the 1998 Winston-Salem United Way Capital Campaign Steering Committee.

He is the recipient of the 1991 NAACP Kelly M. Alexander Humanitarian Award, the Donald H. McGannon Citation by the National Urban League and Dollar & Sense magazine's Blackbook Award for professional achievements.

A native of Durham, N.C., Ruffin holds a bachelor's degree from North Carolina Central University in Durham and a master's degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He also holds honorary doctorate degrees from North Carolina Central University, North Carolina A&T State University, Edward Waters College, Elizabeth City State University and Winston-Salem State University.

Ruffin and his wife, Avon, have two daughters, April and Benita. Plan now to join us for this historic occasion.

THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF  
NORTH CAROLINA, INC.

**DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.**

**BANQUET**

RALEIGH CONVENTION CENTER  
500 FAYETEVILLE ST., RALEIGH, NC

**January 11, 2002 • 6:30 p.m.**

GUEST SPEAKER:

**DR. BENJAMIN S. RUFFIN**

THE RUFFIN GROUP, PRESIDENT  
CHAIRMAN OF THE UNC BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Dr. John D. Fuller Sr.  
President

Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr.  
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

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TICKETS: \$40 (TICKETS AT THE DOOR \$50)

## Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., GBSC President, "Celebrates 28th Pastoral Anniversary"

By Ms. Alberta Moore

At the time of this writing October 8, 2001, Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., GBSC President and his church family were preparing to celebrate his 28th pastoral anniversary at Lewis Chapel Baptist Church in Fayetteville, North Carolina. A host of activities were planned for that weekend in honor of Dr. Fuller's tremendous record of service, and ministry to the Lewis Chapel Baptist Church, and the Fayetteville community.

Saturday, October 20, 2001

Pastor's Anniversary Reception • 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Lorine C. McLeod Fellowship Hall

Sunday, October 21, 2001

Worship Services • 7:15 a.m. • Reverend Lonnie Robinson

8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Reverend A. McKinley Royal, Pastor

First Shiloh, Buffalo, N.Y.

Choir & Congregation

4 p.m. • Dr. Matthew Rouse Jr., Pastor

Mt. Pisgah, Fayetteville

Choir, Ushers and Congregation

Congratulations, President Fuller!

### General Baptist State Convention Martin Luther King Jr. Banquet Ticket Form • January 11, 2002

Raleigh Convention & Civic Center, 500 Fayetteville St., Raleigh, NC

Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President GBSC  
Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer

Church \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor \_\_\_\_\_

Association \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # Church ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # Pastor ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Your Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Messengers \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$40.00 each Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Tickets at door \$50.00)

Please send your ticket request form to: Baptist Headquarters, GBSC MLK, JR. BANQUET  
603 S. Wilmington St., Raleigh, NC 27601-2338 • (4272) • 919/821-7466

Headquarters Hotel: Sheraton Capital Center Hotel

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Singles & Doubles: \$89 + tax, 336-292-9161, 919-834-9900

Reservation Deadline: Dec. 3, 2001



# Woman's Page Highlights

## “Words Of Life:” Thanksgiving

By

Executive Secretary-Treasurer Brodie

Though we experience a crisis in our country and perhaps world, let us rejoice and be glad because Christ still is Sovereign. We are in the season of Thanksgiving, and we too can emphasize gratitude. As we consult with God through Jesus Christ in His Word, we find many a word of life which gives us things for which to be thankful.

In times like these let us thank God we can **PRAISE**. Let's consider Psalm 34:1-7: "I will bless the Lord at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul shall make her boast in the LORD: the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad. O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together. I sought the LORD, and he heard me, and delivered me from

all my fears. They looked unto him, and were lightened: and their faces were not ashamed. This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles. The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them."

In times like these let us thank God we can **CONFESS**: "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (I John 1:9) "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." (2 Chronicles 7:14)

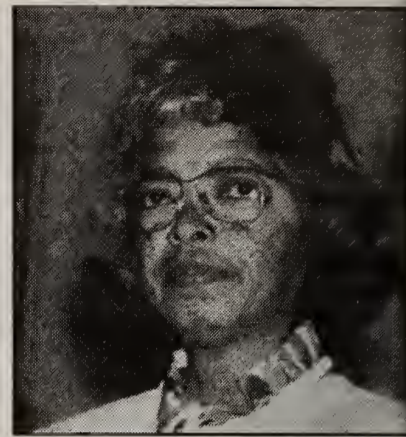
In times like these let us thank God we can **MAKE OUR REQUESTS (SUPPLICATIONS) WITH THANKSGIVING**:

"Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice. Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. Be careful for nothing: but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." (Philippians 4:4-6)

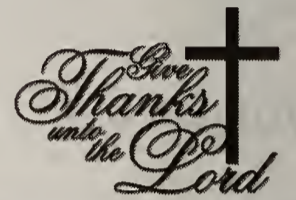
In times like these let us thank God we can **THINK**: "And the peace of God which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things." (Philippians 4:7-8)

AMEN!

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!



Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie  
Executive Secretary-Treasurer



## Examining The Water Pot: What's In It?

By Elsie Lassiter, Jean Ferebee,  
Carye Pritchett and Lora Eason

The theme for the 117th Annual Session of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina was "The Challenge, The Same: Reach The Masses" (John 12:32) with the sub-theme "Reaching The Family Through Effective Leadership" (Joshua 24:15). The Session convened at the Benton Convention Center, Winston-Salem, with the Shiloh Baptist Church as the host church. Reverend Paul Lowe Jr. was the host pastor.

to teach our children in our houses, when we walk by the way and when we lie down (Deuteronomy 6:6-7); we need family prayer. We should be ready to cry out in the world about Joshua 24:15, "And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you at this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell; but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD." In order to carry out God's command, we



Dr. A.D. Logan Jr., GBSC Executive Secretary-Treasurer, giving thanks at the Banquet



Left to right: Rev. Clarence LeMay, prayer, banquet Rev. Paul Lowe, Host Pastor, Shiloh, Winston-Salem, Dr. Maggie M. White, President, Dr. A.D. Logan Jr., GBSC Executive-Secretary-Treasurer, Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie, WBSO Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Dr. J.T. Roberson, Dean, Shaw University School.

Dr. Maggie M. White called the 117th Annual Session to order on Tuesday morning, July 24, 2001. The leadership procession consisting of District Chairpersons, County Union, City Union and Auxiliary Presidents, marched in by color code: Districts 2,3 — red; Districts 4,7 — blue; Districts 5,6 — yellow; Districts 8,9,10 — green, as the Convention choir sang "We're Marching To Zion." The opening hymn was "Down At the Cross." Evangelist Delores Threadgill read the Scripture from I Peter 2:9-17 and Mrs. Brenda Goss gave the prayer. Mrs. Marion J. Phillips discussed the theme "Reaching the Family Through Effective Leadership" from Joshua 24:15. All families in all houses need to have a re-evaluation from God. Many children are ignorant of the Word of God. We need the family. We need

need to be dedicated and committed to "Reach the Family Through Effective Leadership." After the message the choir sang "Have A Little Talk With Jesus."

Dr. Anita Holmes, Executive Director, Health and Human Services — GBSC, talked about health concerns. She discussed prostate cancer, breast cancer for black women, Aids and heart attack in women. There is health care; however, family and friends need to give loving care and be supportive. We can make a difference by sharing and caring. Then, Mrs. Marian Bass, Secretary, Executive Board, read the minutes from the various meetings including the Executive Board meeting on July 23, 2001. Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie, Executive Secretary-Treasurer gave directives.

Reports were given from the following committees: Committee On Committees, Mrs.

Bronnie Daniels; Enrollment, Mrs. Julias McDonald; Public Relations, Mrs. Yvonne McGraw; Worship and Praise, Mrs. Mattie Johnson, Christian Family Life Enrichment Ministries, Ms. Darlene Esters and Christian Education/Curriculum, Mrs. Brenda Jones.

Following the committee reports Pastors, State Auxiliary Presidents, Past Presidents, Circle, Union and Auxiliary Presidents, District Chairs, new members, and visitors were recognized. Dr. Archie Logan Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer, GBSC, brought greetings. He stated that Dr. Maggie M. White has done a marvelous job. "We are working together and we are walking up the same highway. We need to find our pastors who need to commit themselves to the work of Christ. In the year 1985, we started our headquarters building. It is not complete yet. The building we now occupy is running out of space.

We need to be about our Father's business and work the work that He sent us to do."

Dr. John Fuller, President, GBSC, commended Dr. White for a job well done. "The sisters can get more folks together as shown at the Banquet on Monday evening. We need folks to help us to help reach the masses." Then the Convention choir sang "Guide My Feet While I Run This Race." The offering was collected while "Yes God Is Real" was rendered.

First Vice President, Mrs. Julias McDonald, presented the minister, Dr. Brad Braxton, interim Pastor of Mt. Pleasant, Winston-Salem. The choir sang "Amazing Grace." The Scripture text for the sermon was Acts 19:11-16. The subject was "Second Hand Religion." Dr. Braxton stated that "God will not let you use or abuse this story about 'Second Hand Religions.'" "Second

(Continued on next page)

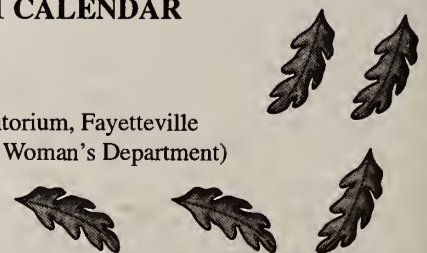
### WOMAN'S BAPTIST HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONARY CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, AUXILIARY TO GBSC 2001 CALENDAR

#### NOVEMBER

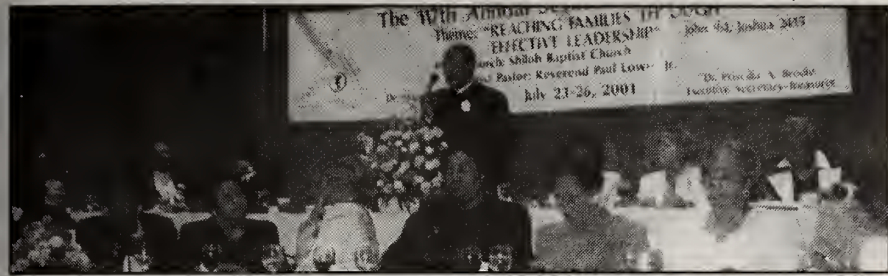
- 3 — Youth Evangelism Conference, Cumberland County Memorial Auditorium, Fayetteville
- 5 — World Day of Prayer (BWA — Woman's Department)
- 22 — Thanksgiving Day

#### DECEMBER

- 25 — Christmas Day



# Examining The Pot...



Dr. J.T. Roberson Jr., Shaw Divinity School Dean, speaker, banquet.

Hand Religions' make you lose relationships. If I were you, I wouldn't mess around with second hand religions. You better know God for yourself. 'Momma may have; papa may have; but God bless the child that has his own.' You don't have to tell me about Jesus. He is sweet I know. He's a bridge over troubled water. In reading the 27th Psalm, He's everything to me." As he closed his message he stated, "I tried Him and I found out He is all right with me." The choir sang and Dr. Braxton gave the benediction for the morning session.

The afternoon session began with the Ministers' Wives and Widows Fellowship in charge. Mrs. Carolyn Edwards presided. The combined choir of ministers' wives and widows provided the music. Mrs. Mattie Smith introduced the speaker, Mrs. Pamela C. Holder, who delivered an inspirational message.

The afternoon session began with the Ministers' Wives and Widows Fellowship in charge. Mrs. Carolyn Edwards presided. The combined choir of ministers' wives and widows provided the music. Mrs. Smith introduced the speaker, Mrs. Pamela McLean presiding. Mrs. Carrye Pritchett gave the devotional message from the **Missionary Helper** (Fourth week of July 2001). Mrs. Barbara Faulk read the Memorial Statement. The Deacons' Wives/Widows mini workshop, "The Deaconess: The Angel of Mercy," was presented, facilitated by Dr. Lorine McLeod. Mrs. Evelyn McLean gave closing remarks.

Two objectives of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention were highlighted. Mr. Michael Alston gave a report for the Central Children's Home. He reported that all is going well with them. Dr. J.T. Roberson in the absence of Dr. Talbert Shaw, gave a report about Shaw University and Shaw Divinity School. He talked about the Christian Missionary Education Curriculum of the Woman's Convention where we can study, learn, mediate and serve. Mrs. Barbara Faulk offered the offertory appeal and prayer. Mrs. Mary Swann conducted the Memorial Service.

Mrs. Audrey Battle presided for the Tuesday evening worship. Music was rendered by the Mass Choir of Shiloh Baptist Church. Mrs. Domell Register read the Scripture, and Mrs. Sandra Powers gave the prayer. The Host Pastor, Rev. Paul Lowe Jr., was presented for the Welcome Program. Rev. Lowe extended a welcome to the 117th Annual Session of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention. He stated it was a pleasure and honor to host such an august body as this in Winston-Salem. "The Woman's Convention has been a source of strength, beauty, compassion and perseverance in North Carolina and the African-American community at large. We are thankful for your presence as you adorn our city. If there is anything you need, please allow us the opportunity to serve you. We hope that you will cherish the time spent in Winston-Salem. Again, you are welcomed."

Other greetings and words of welcome were extended to us by: the Chairman of the Deacons Ministry of Shiloh Baptist Church; City Government: Mrs. Vivian Burke; Religious Community: Forsyth County Missionary Union, Mrs. Bronnie Daniels; Academic Community, Special Assistant to the Chancellor, Winston-Salem State University, Ms.

Revonda Salton Ramm. The choir sang "I Am Going To Serve the Lord Any How." Mrs. Brenda A. Dobbins gave the response to the welcome program. The next selection was "Great Is Thy Faithfulness." The offering was collected. The minister, Rev. Abraham Walton, was introduced. The choir sang "Run Mary Run, I've Been Running All Day Long." Rev. Walton preached from John 2:11, "We Need A Miracle." The inventory of Jesus' other disciples took place. He did not know what they are doing there. He did not know the reason the wine gave out. Jesus said to them to fill the water pots with water. They filled them up to the brim. They drew up the water pot and the water was turned into wine. It was said, "He saved the best for last." He stated, "if you want a miracle, you have to act first; then God will make a way." Rev. Walton concluded by asking the question "Isn't God all right?" The message was very timely and all hearts were made to feel glad. They were in the presence of the Holy Spirit. The closing selection was "God Will Take Care Of You." Rev. Walton gave the benediction.

On Wednesday, July 25, 2001, the processional of officers began at 9:25 a.m. with Fourth Vice President, Ms. Linda Inman, presiding. The session opened with a hymn by the Convention Choir. Then Mrs. Cleo Bowden read the Scripture and Mrs. Doris King gave the prayer. Dr. John Fuller brought greetings from the General Baptist State Convention. The Convention Mass Choir sang a selection. Dr. Priscilla Brodie gave the annual report and announcements. Camp Director, Mrs. Phylisa Kelly, presented certificates to the outstanding campers for 2001. The offertory appeal and prayer were given.

President Maggie M. White was presented and she delivered her final message as President. Contact the Convention office for a copy of the message. After the message the Convention Choir sang a selection. The session was dismissed with a benediction.

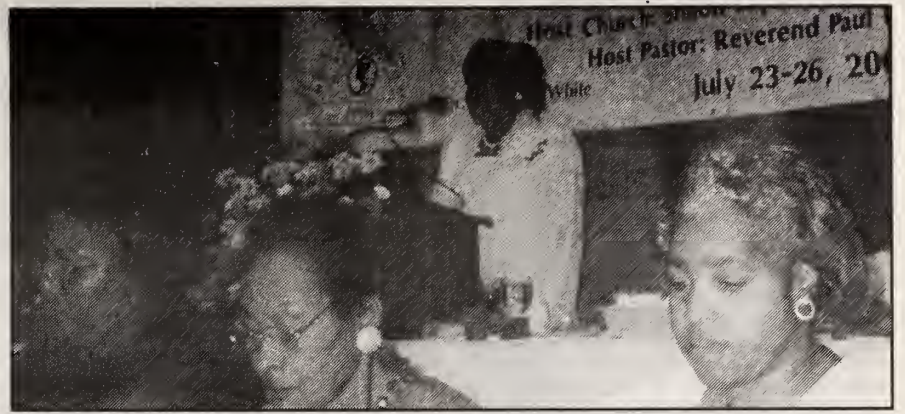
On Wednesday afternoon, the Youth and Young Adults conducted the services. During the Young Adult Hour President Erica Barnhill delivered an inspiring message.

Following the Young Adult Hour, the Youth President, Miss Colene Kelly, delivered her last message as President of the Youth Department. The Youth Mini-Concert was then presented.

On Wednesday evening the Foreign Missions service was held. St. Luke Hymn Choir No. 3 of Charlotte rendered the music. Mrs. Angela Graham read the Scripture and Rev. Konnie Robinson gave the prayer. The Foreign Missions presentation was "Digging Wells in Africa," presented by the Young Adult Department of Union Chapel Baptist Church, Winston-Salem. Ms. Anjanette Wall presented foreign mission infomercials. Mrs. Lora Eason gave the offertory prayer and appeal. Mrs. Doris Burke gave the report of the Nomination Committee.

President Erica Barnhill presented Rev. Olu O. Menjay of the Lewis Chapel Baptist Church, Fayetteville. Rev. Menjay delivered a very spirited message. He gave the benediction, which closed the evening session.

The closing session of the Woman's Convention was called to order by President White at 9:15 a.m. on Thursday. She stated "in this session it is time to evaluate the past four years." The worship team was called to con-



President White presiding at the Johnnie Blunt McLester Pre-Convention Banquet.



Left to right: Mrs. Julias McDonald, newly elected president. Dr. Maggie M. White, immediate past president.



Left to right: Officers: Mrs. Elizabeth Marrow, 4th vice president, Ms. Linda Inman, 3rd vice president, Mrs. Audrey Battle, 2nd vice president, Mrs. Bronnie McDaniels, 1st vice president, Mrs. Julias McDonald, president, Dr. Maggie M. White, immediate past president, Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie, Executive Secretary-Treasurer; back row: Mrs. Pamela C. Holder, chaplain, Ministers' Wives, Mrs. Mary Williams, historian, Ms. Darlene Esters, assistant recorder and Mrs. Phylisa Kelly, recorder.



YOUNG ADULT OFFICERS: Director: Mrs. Vanessa Gregory and Associate Director, Mrs. Helen Judd.



YOUTH OFFICERS: Supervisor: Mrs. Ellender LeMay and Associate Supervisor: Ms. Louise Lassiter.

duct the devotional period. The opening song was "Blessed Assurance." Mrs. Marjorie Hill read the Scripture from Psalm 24 and Mrs. Gladys Parker gave the prayer, beginning it with Scripture from Proverbs 10:22.

Mr. Jeremy Buie gave a very challenging discussion of the theme. He emphasized that all over the world people are hungry for the Word of God and it is our job to carry a fulfilling message of God to the unsaved, including family members. The best witness that we can offer to the unsaved is the lifestyle that we live. He stated that we must present a strong witness and that strength comes through commitment, persever-

ance and dedication. We must lift up Jesus in praise and prayer and He will do the drawing.

Following the devotional period President White presided and called for committee reports. She stated that the work of the Convention is done through committees. In giving the reports, she asked that names not be included of those who did not meet the committee. The following committee reports were given and passed to the Secretary:

- Central Children's Home #1 — Total funds reported: \$785.00
- Central Children's Home #2 — Funds

(Continued on next page)

## Examining The Pot...

send direct to the office: \$2,619.35; collected on site: \$270.00. Total funds reported: \$2,889.35.

- **Central Children's Home #3** by Sister Libby Lofton — \$405.00 was sent direct to the office.

- **State Missions #2** — Funds sent direct to the office: \$368.00; on-site: \$230.00. Total funds reported: \$598.00.

- **Deacons' Wives Fellowship** — Sister Dorothy Hicks, Chairperson, reported that two meetings were held in Raleigh. Communications were mailed to members. Finances sent to the office: \$2,020.00; collected on site: \$645.00. Total funds reported: \$2,665.00.

- **Pre-Registration** — 958 persons pre-registered. Only 34 kits were not picked up.

- **Foreign Mission** — Finances sent to the office: \$265.00; collected on site: \$395.00. Total funds reported: \$660.00.

- **Registration** — On-site: 547. Funds collected: Monday, \$2,215.00; Tuesday, \$2,110.00; Wednesday, \$1,673.00. Total funds reported: \$5,998.00.

- **Literature** — Funds collected: Monday, \$2,195.00; Tuesday, \$2,245.00; Wednesday, \$1,272.00. Total funds collected: \$5,712.00.

- **Temperance** reported by Mrs. Thelma Hines — Recommendations: promote Godly self-control; reinforce Convention's motto: "Christ In Every Home," work in unity; forgive one another and refrain from gossiping about one another.

- **Shaw University #1** by Sister Irene Miller — Funds reported direct to the office: \$75.00; collected on site: \$145.00. Total funds reported: \$220.00.

- **Minister's Wives and Widows Fellowship** — by Co-Chairperson Mrs. Ruby Cook — \$180.00 reported for Shaw University and \$518.00 collected for the luncheon. Total funds reported: \$698.00. Spouses are invited to attend the one-day retreat. The Ministers' Wives sponsored the Communion Service on Sunday evening, July 22, with Mrs. Robbie Diggs chairing the sub-committee.

- **India Leper Colony** by Sister Ethel R. Smith — Funds reported direct to the office: \$460.00; collected on site: \$1,654.42. Total funds reported: \$2,114.42.

- **Christian Education/Curriculum** by Sister Brenda Jones — Class pre-registration was 310; on site registration was 289.

- **Archives and History** by Sister Mary S. Williams — Recommendations were offered for the archives and history of the president's tenure. Pictures are needed of events during President White's tenure.

- **Baptist Assembly** — Funds sent direct to the office: \$460.00; funds collected on site: \$245.00. Total funds reported: \$705.00.

- **Hospitality** — Sister Eva Johnson thanked the Convention for the opportunity to extend courtesy to special guests and members. The Committee arrived early on Sunday. Sister Diane Williams was added to the Committee.

- **Cora Pair Thomas** — Funds sent direct to the office: \$991.87; funds collected on site: \$170.00. Total funds reported: \$1,161.87.

- **Arts and Crafts** — Funds sent direct to the office: \$406.00. Funds collected on site: \$159.00. Total funds collected for Lott Carey mission: \$565.00.

- **Nurses Ministry** — Sister Essie Wilson is sick. One responsibility of the Nurses' Ministry is to see that delegates have health materials. Nurses are asked to make themselves available to aid the Committee. Total funds collected on site \$383.00.

- **Social Affairs** — Sister Mildred Goode, Chairperson, stated that she did not have a report, but would try to get in touch with Committee members and send in the report.

A motion was made to accept the reports as information. They are to be reviewed and approved by the Executive Committee and brought back to the body. President White had all to stand

to express our gratitude to the Host Pastor and church for their superb hospitality.

Prior to the installation of officers, President White asked that we have a moment of silence for Mrs. Omega Johnson who served up to two weeks of her passing.

Rev. Roger Gore III, installed the newly elected officers:

### Senior Department

President, Mrs. Julias McDonald  
 First Vice President, Mrs. Bronnie H. Daniels  
 Second Vice President, Mrs. Audrey T. Battle  
 Third Vice President, Ms. Linda Inman  
 Fourth Vice President, Mrs. Elizabeth Marrow  
 Recording Secretary, Mrs. Phylisa F. Kelly  
 Assistant Recording Secretary, Ms. Darlene M. Esters

Historian, Mrs. Mary S. Williams  
 Director of Music, Mr. Waverly Camp  
 Pianist, Mrs. Alice Green  
 Pianist/Organist, Ms. Barbara Kelly  
 Young Adult Director, Ms. Vanessa Gregory  
 Associate Young Adult Director, Ms. Helen Judd  
 Youth Supervisor, Mrs. Ellender LeMay  
 Associate Youth Supervisor, Ms. Louise Lassiter

### Young Adult Department

President, Ms. Erica Barnhill  
 First Vice President, Rev. Jamale Johnson  
 Second Vice President, Ms. Anjanette Wall  
 Third Vice President, Mr. Antwahn Mangum  
 Fourth Vice President, Ms. Lucinda Jamison  
 Recording Secretary, Ms. Tilola Mitchell  
 Assistant Recording Secretary, Ms. Beverly Imes

Worship Chairperson, Ms. Jewelyn Dunn

### Worship Committee:

Mr. Carlton Ray Baker  
 Mrs. Yolanda Mangum  
 Historian, Rev. Roger Gore  
 Choir Director, Rev. Harold Dixon  
 Assistant Choir Director, Mr. Sigmond Jenrette  
 Pianist, Ms. Grace Hill  
 Assistant Pianist, Mr. Laconial Esters  
 "Harvest" Newsletter Editor, Ms. Jameelah Lashley  
 "Harvest" Newsletter Co-Editor, Ms. Aleasia McDougald

Young Adult Director, Ms. Vanessa Gregory  
 Young Adult Associate Director, Ms. Helen Judd

### Youth Department

President, Ms. Vernice Lassiter  
 First Vice President, Mr. George Metz  
 Second Vice President, Mr. John Jamale Kirkpatrick, IV  
 Third Vice President, Ms. Jasmine Davenport  
 Fourth Vice President, Ms. Maya Thompson  
 Recording Secretary, Ms. Ru'Dydre S. Latta  
 Assistant Recording Secretary, Mr. Marcus Bass  
 Pianist, Mr. Jeremy Buie

Assistant Pianist, Mr. Stephen Floyd  
 Historian, Ms. Paige McCollum  
 Newsletter Editor, Mr. Brandon L. Alexander  
 Assistant Newsletter Editor, Mr. Lavar N. Marlow

Worship Chairperson, Mr. Brian Melton  
 Choir Director, Ms. Devon Townsend  
 Supervisor, Mrs. Ellender LeMay  
 Associate Supervisor, Mrs. Louise Lassiter

**Ministers' Wives and Widows Fellowship**  
 Chairperson, Mrs. Pamela Carrington-Holder  
 Co-Chairperson, Mrs. Ruby Cook  
 Secretary, Mrs. Mattie Smith  
 Program Chairperson, Mrs. Delores Griffey

**Deacons' Wives Fellowship**  
 Chairperson, Mrs. Evelyn McLean  
 Co-Chairperson, Mrs. Maggie Clark  
 Secretary, Mrs. Barbara Faulk  
 Assistant Secretary, Mrs. LaVem George

Mrs. Julias McDonald accepted the office of President with gratitude. She pledged to let the Holy Spirit be her guide as she accepts the challenge before her. Pictures were made of the newly elected officers.

The finance report was passed out at the close of the session by Dr. Brodie and "help-

ers."

**YOUNG ADULT DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS**



117th Annual Session



117th Annual Session

On Monday evening Adult officers served as hosts and hostesses for the Johnnie Blunt McLester Pre-Convention Banquet.

Tuesday activities began with the Missions Prayer Breakfast at 6:45 a.m. Approximately 158 persons were present. Rev. Robert Anderson, St. Luke, Charlotte, was the speaker. His text was Exodus 33:18-19 and his subject, "Desiring A Glimpse Of His Glory." The Missions Study Class followed the breakfast. Mrs. Phylisa Kelly led the study: **Jesus On Leadership, Becoming A Servant Leader** (C. Gene Wilkes). She reminded the class members that leaders

1. must be saved;
2. have an agenda from God and not their own agenda;
3. be willing to sacrifice;
4. be eager to train others;
5. evaluate their leadership, and
6. seek to unify the body which they lead.

Tuesday morning feats continued with two seminars: "How To Conduct A Young Adult Meeting" — Director Vanessa Gregory and "Young Adults Reaching The Masses Through Missions" — Dr. John D. Fuller. Rev. James Isaac, New Hope Granville, Oxford, using the text Joshua 24:15, discussed the theme in terms of "Reaching The Masses Through Families."

During the afternoon was the Dr. Luella D. Edwards Mission-A-Thon march to realize funds for the J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly. Breakout sessions: "The Godly Woman" — Dr. Shirley Bullock, and "The Godly Man" — Dr.

Gregory Headen, and a "Get Together" setting by Shiloh, the host church, completed the departmental activities for Tuesday. Young Adults attended the joint session that evening.

Except for class, the Young Adult Department met in session with the Seniors and Youth on Wednesday. Thursday morning some persons gave testimonies and committee reports. Associate Director Helen Judd awarded the attendance banner to Cumberland County and Director Vanessa Gregory gave closing remarks.

Young Adult promotions were: Lora Eason, Queen Moody, Sandra Wilson, Jade Harris and Christopher Harris.

### (YOUTH DEPARTMENT PROJECTS)

#### Financial Winners

*Shaw Project* — Lindsey Allen  
*Have-A-Heart* — Garberiel Newarkd

#### Talent Winners

*Shaw Project* (Ages 5-10) — Gizelle Harris  
*Shaw Project* (Ages 11-20) — Kevin Wright

*Have-A-Heart* (Ages 5-10) — Patrice Koffey  
*Have-A-Heart* (Ages 11-20) — India Haynes

### PROMOTIONS

Colene Kelly, Eric E. Thompson  
 Lanita Withers, Nicole McLean  
 Brandon Alexander, Emmanuel Haggins  
 Danita Livingston, Natasha Rogers  
 Freda R. LeMay, Talishia Ellison

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# LAYMEN'S LEAGUE NEWS

## Give Thanks And Pray

By Romas L. Hales

The month of November is often thought of as the month to give thanks and pray to the Lord for the bountiful blessings He has let come our way. This is good, although we as Christians should, and most do, give thanks to the Lord everyday and every month. Since we celebrate the holiday of Thanksgiving during the month of November it causes us to give more thought to being thankful for the things we have been blessed with.

When we celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday and give thanks to the Lord for the things He has blessed us with, let us not do it in a selfish way. Let us not forget the homeless and the needy. This can also be a time to reflect on the past and ask ourselves the question, what have I done to help somebody? If we are unable to do some-

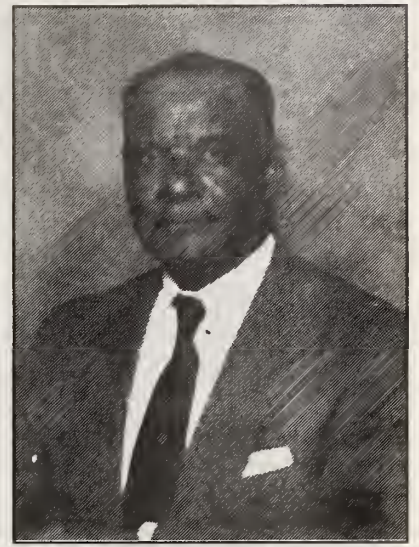
thing in a tangible way, please let us remember others in our prayers. Let us take time to count our blessings and give thanks to the Lord for the things He has blessed us with. Let us give thanks to the Lord for what we have and what He has done for us instead of praying so much for what we hope to have and what we want Him to do for us.

This is a good time to reflect on the condition of our country and the world. May we keep the families in our prayers that have lost love ones through acts of terror and war in this country and in other countries. All of us are God's children and all human life is precious in His sight. When things happen beyond our control we can pray and encourage others to pray and put our problems in God's hand. Paul encourages us in Philippians 4:6-7 (CEV). "Don't

worry about anything, but pray about everything. With thankful hearts offer up your prayers and requests to God. Then, because you belong to Christ Jesus, God will bless you with peace that no one can completely understand. And this peace will control the way you think and feel."

We take this opportunity to give thanks to the Lord for the State Laymen's League and the many local Laymen's League Organizations across the state. We know because of your prayers and hard work several people across the state have been uplifted and many young boys have been guided in the right directions. Thank you for your prayers, support, encouragement and the monetary contribution you and your church have made to the Laymen's League. Your work has not been in vain.

The next State Laymen's League Quar-



Romas Hales  
Laymen's League Coordinator

terly Study Commission Meeting will be held on Saturday, December 8, 2001. The meeting will be held at the Community Baptist Church in Durham, NC. Please make plans for the men and boys to attend.

**Have a Happy Thanksgiving and may God continue to shower His blessings upon you.**

## FROM THE DESK DR. CHARLES T. BULLOCK • VICE PRESIDENT AT LARGE

### Thanksgiving In A Time Of Conflict And In A World Of Change

*"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."*  
(1 Thess. 5:18 RSV)

A student may be ever so knowledgeable of the subject matter, but it is passing the examination that determines one's certification. A pilot may be efficient in routine flights, but it is landing the plane safely when an engine is on fire and the landing gear is locked in place that calls for calmness under stress. A bus driver may have driven for many tours, but it is the tour that he takes as he drives through a raging storm that tests his ability to be in command in a difficult situation.

We are living in times of economic decline, terrorist attacks and humans burned in an inferno as airplanes were flown into the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. Even in these difficult times, we are called to live beyond ourselves, adjust to the changing times and acknowledge that God is still in control.

We are called to understand the nature of the disorder of our times and treat the illness rather than the symptoms. We are asked to champion the cause of the weak, oppressed and underprivileged. We are called to put human values above economic values and acknowledge with thanksgiving the love of God for all humanity.

The discharging of our responsibility during these times demands courage and sacrifice and a willingness to be used by God. A willingness to be used by God will cause us to acknowledge Him as our Lord and Savior and seek His guidance in all that we do. In so doing we would not allow our circumstances to plunge us into despair, make us cynical, nor turn us to violence.

Even in these times of conflict and change, we should be thankful to be alive and for the opportunity to help make this a better world.

We should thank God that He is with us in times of peace and trouble. In studying the Bible, we discover that the great revelations of God have come to us in times of trouble. I believe that God yet speaks to

us in the still small voice. I believe also that in the howling cries of the wind, God tells us his name, and against the face of dark and threatening skies, he shows us his face.

Biblical history records some of the traumatic events the people of God faced. Oppressed people who had been slaves were delivered and given a freedom they had never experienced. But it was that event that the hand of God was seen more clearly than anywhere else. In American history during the time of slavery, segregation and unequal opportunities were times of much anguish and trouble. Yet God moved in the personalities of Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King and others to help bring an end to segregation to relieve the oppressed and to give people of color and others who were treated as second-class citizens a kind of freedom that had not been experienced.

In the New Testament, Jesus came to his disciples at sea during a storm. They saw him upon the troubled water and thought He was a ghost; but, through the howling winds, they heard his voice saying, "It is I; be not afraid." And so through storms He tells us who he is.

This is a good time to catch a fresh vision of God and to understand his ways. He is with us in the storm. He is with us, judging us, forgiving us, healing us, reconciling us, and calling us to the task of making a better world. We have the General Baptist State Convention which provides a wonderful opportunity to accomplish the task of helping to make a better convention and in so doing we make a better world. I am confident that we can do this through a model that I offer. That model is called E-R-I-C. This, in addition to our presence structure, will help our convention to continue to move to enhanced greatness and engaged in the ministries of humanity as we grow spiritually, economically, educationally and in other ways to make the world a better place.

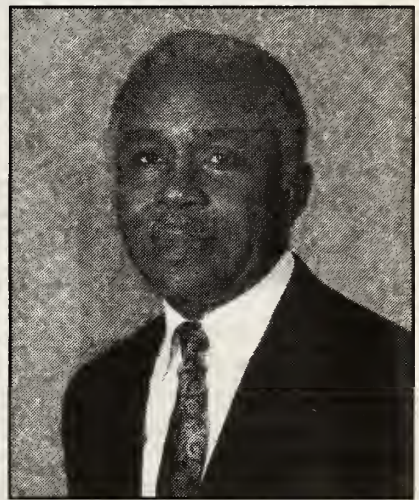
**Education**—a vision to enhance the teaching ministry of our convention utilizing updated strategies and technology on

the local and state levels and at Shaw University and Shaw University Divinity School. This involves using the internet, on-line courses and the world wide web.

**Research**—exposure to studies, materials and resources that provide relevant solutions to problems and issues that our churches are facing today as it relates to ministry, internal conflict, finances, and health and human services.

**Integrity**—a bold declaration of who we are and whose we are as we faithfully support the cause of Jesus Christ through participating, supporting and promoting the ideals, objectives and ministry of the convention.

**Commitment**—my declared intentions to execute the duties and responsibilities of the office of president as mandated by the constitution. As a candidate for the office of president of the General Baptist State Convention, I commit to serve on behalf of its constituency in helping to further develop and implement ministries through Education, Research, Integrity and



Dr. Charles T. Bullock

Commitment.

I am thankful even in these troubled times that I can catch a fresh vision of the magnificence of God and strive to understand more clearly his ways among humanity and have the opportunity to offer some solution to help make this a better world. I believe this can be done through **E-R-I-C—Education, Research, Integrity and Commitment** to the cause of Christ.

*Have a blessed and bountiful Thanksgiving.*

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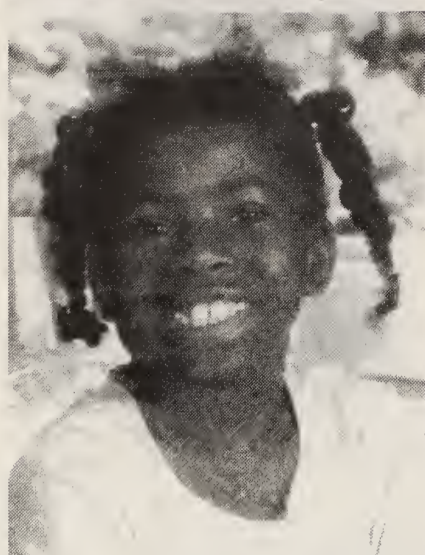
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# UPDATE: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE



**BRANDI, Birthday: June 6, 1994**

**Introducing Brandi and Branigel...**

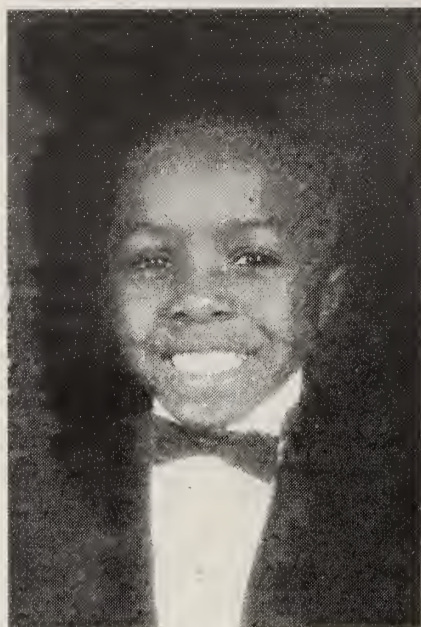
Brandi likes going to school and thinks learning is wonderful. Branigel also takes a special interest in learning at his day care center, which places a strong emphasis on education.

**A Closer Look at Brandi...**

A wonderful smile and silly giggle let you know little Brandi is in the room. She is a big helper around the house. She loves to sweep and dust and splash in the dishwasher. Brandi loves talking with her foster mother about her day and sharing creative stories. Her reading level is above average and she does very well in school. While she gets along well with the students and teachers, Brandi does need some work on acceptable behaviors and controlling her feelings.

**A Closer Look at Branigel...**

This affectionate little ball of energy loves to give and get hugs. Branigel is a gentle child who is a joy to watch around

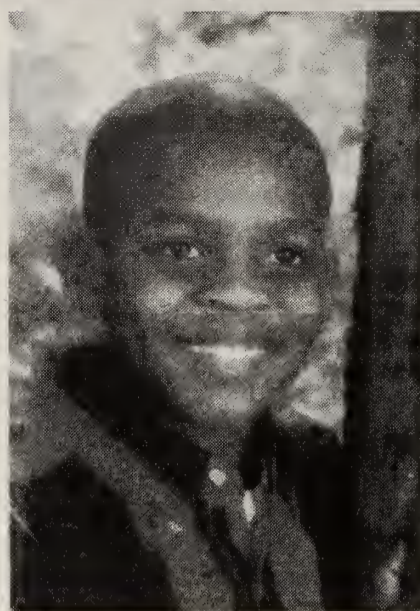


**BRANIGEL, Birthday: March 5, 1996**

the house. Branigel loves to throw balls, run or ride his tricycle. But when it's time to relax he loves to snuggle and listen to music or hear a story as he drifts off to sleep. Like his big sister, Branigel is very smart. He already has good writing skills and knows his numbers and colors. Branigel loves music and loves to dance. He can actually recite lyrics to songs after hearing them only a few times.

**A Family for Branigel and Brandi...**

Branigel and Brandi would benefit from a family eager to spend time with them and become involved in their studies. These smart kids need praise and encouragement to keep up their interest in learning. Like all children, they would benefit from a family who can provide clear guidelines and consequences, structure and support. Most of all, they will benefit from a family who will greet them with open arms and make them feel safe, wanted and loved. (NC #041-515) (NC #041-514)



**QUINTIN, Birthday: May 9, 1992**

**Introducing Quintin...**

Quintin is a polite and happy young man. He enjoys going to church and playing football, baseball and basketball.

Quintin is artistically talented and draws very well for his age. His foster parents say, "Quintin is a joy to be around and acts like a normal nine year old boy." Quintin has made tremendous progress since moving into his current foster home three years ago. He has not needed medication or counseling since moving there. Quintin has to work hard in school to keep up, but he seems to be improving there, as well.

**A Family for Quintin...**

Quintin has been able to relax and be a real child in his current foster-home. He is very close to his foster parents and would like to remain in touch with them. With the structure, consistency, guidance and praise for his accomplishments given freely by his foster family, Quintin has become a new person. If his new family can offer these same qualities, Quintin will be a very happy and lucky young man. And they will be a very fortunate family. (NC #026-863)

For more information on these children or adoption in general, please call the NC Kids Adoption and Foster Care Hotline at 1-877-NCKIDS-1 (877-625-4371)

## WANTED!!

- ADOPTED PARENT • FOSTER CARE PARENT
- VOLUNTEER ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE ADVOCATES URGENT!

Please contact: Dr. Joseph C. Paige or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige  
2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27610 • 919-231-9774; Fax 919-212-3656;  
or e-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com or dottediedem@maxxconnect.net

## ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

Ministry of the GBSC State & Convention of N.C., Inc.

By Dr. Joseph C. Paige, Chairperson

Greetings and Peace on the name of Jesus Christ. We would like to request your active participation and support of the North Carolina African-American Faith Communities United for Children: Adoption and Foster Care.

This Initiative is a cooperative partnership between the General Baptist State Convention and Human Services, Division of Social Services. Ours is an exciting and challenging journey, and a real opportunity to make a serious contribution to a real serious cause at this time.

The African-American Children's Initiative Adoption and Foster Care, as a cooperative church-based effort designed to help identify African-American single persons and couples who are interested in adoption African-American children or becoming foster parents to African-American children. This initiative is based on the fact that every child deserves a long, nurturing and caring home.

At the present time, there are many African-American children in the North Carolina Foster Care System, both boys and girls, who are currently eligible for this effort. The goal is to help speed up the adoption process. Time is of profound essence. There is also an urgency to identify potential Foster Care parents.

We are anxious to make a real difference within the next few months and we can do this only with your help. Volunteers will receive additional guidance from us on marketing strategies in your respective areas just as soon as I hear from you. In addition, we are in the process of soliciting and identifying volunteers to work with us throughout the state in the following categories, and we are requesting your assistance.

1. County Adoption/Foster Care Recruitment Volunteer Coordinators (one volunteer for each county).
2. Church Adoption/Foster Care Recruitment Volunteer Coordinators (one per church)
3. We are also requesting Adoption/Foster Care Recruitment Volunteer coordinators to work with us at the town, city, and area levels, to help us spread the word that all children need and deserve a loving and caring home.

If you agree to serve as a volunteer or if you know someone who is willing to serve with us, write me today and mail it to me at the address below:

Dr. Joseph C. Paige, Chairperson  
The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry  
PO Box 24273, Raleigh, NC 27611-5273

Please don't hesitate to call me if you have any questions (919) 231-9774. Or you can e-mail me at JoePaigeSr@aol.com or you can also e-mail me at JoePaigeSr@aol.com.

I look forward to working with you.

**SHARE THE VISION WITH US!! HELP US SPREAD THE WORD  
THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF  
NORTH CAROLINA, INC. &  
THE NORTH CAROLINA AFRICAN-AMERICAN FAITH  
COMMUNITIES UNITED FOR CHILDREN: ADOPTION  
AND FOSTER CARE**

*Making A Difference in the Life of a Child*

*Finding Adoptive and Foster Care Homes for African-American Children*

The North Carolina African-American Faith Communities United for Children, a partnership with North Carolina Division of Social Services, is comprised of African-American congregations and community organizations from across the State, NAYKEL and the North Carolina Association of Black Social Workers committed to finding adoptive and foster homes for African-American children.

Yes, I'd like to do my part ...

Please complete and return to Dr. Joseph Paige.

I'd like someone to call me.

Please send me information about adoption. Please send me information about foster care.

I'd like to be a field worker.

I am interested in being an adoptive parent.  I'd like to be a county volunteer.

I am interested in being a foster care parent.

I'd like to be a church volunteer.  Other (please specify)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City

State

Zip

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Dr. Joseph C. Paige at 2610 Albemarle Ave., Raleigh, NC 27610,  
919-231-9774, 919-618-8343, mobile • e-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com

# UPDATE: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

*Greetings In The Blessed Name Of Our Lord And Savior, Jesus Christ!*

By Dr. Joseph C. Paige, Sr.  
and Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige

The month of October was again encouraging. And, as I repeatedly say each month, if this outpouring of interest continues, and there is every indication to believe that it will, the new Fiscal Year (July 2001-June 2002), will be another banner year in terms of outreach and the recruitment of potential African-American adoptive and/or foster parents. Ministers and laity are helping us spread the word among the various faith communities that every child is special to God and that every child deserves a loving and caring home. We give God the glory.

As we did in September, we devoted much of October to testing new outreach and recruitment strategies, developing coalitions, and recruiting new partners, organizations, volunteers and advocates, to expand our support base. The results have been positive. We have decided to continue to practice each month. People everywhere seem to want to help.

Thanks to people like you helping us spread the news, the word is now out. The belief that every child deserves a loving, caring, and nurturing home is widespread. And people, overall, in all walks of life, seem to agree that our Ministry is a worthy cause deserving broadly based support at every level.

We also met with several individuals, organizations and community groups, conducted training for volunteers, and responded to inquiries from persons interested in Adoption and/or Foster Care.

## A HOLY ANOINTING

And as we repeatedly state each month, we are convinced that the **GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry is inspired by God and that the ministry enjoys a special anointing from the Heavenly Father. We can see it. We can feel it. There is something special about what we do, and how we do it.** The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry is a faith-based initiative worthy of support.

The seemingly **tripling of interest** by churches and concerned persons, singles and couples, in helping us find permanent and temporary homes for African-American children already in the North Carolina Foster Care System, and related expressions of concern are **all of God's doing. They are a manifestation and reflection of His Spirit and His Special Blessing, all for the good of our children.** We solicit your continuing prayer and support.

## OUR MANDATES

Our mandate is two-fold:

1. To identify African-American singles and couples who are interested in becoming adoptive and/or foster parents for African-American Children already in the Foster Care System of the North Carolina Division

of Social Services (NC-DSS).

2. To advocate, motivate and stimulate interest among African American singles and couples of the various faith communities in becoming adoptive and/or foster parents for African-American children already in the Foster Care System of the North Carolina Division of Social Services.

The GBSC Adoptive and Foster Care Ministry and our Outreach arm, **THE NORTH CAROLINA AFRICAN-AMERICAN FAITH COMMUNITIES UNITED FOR CHILDREN: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE**, are the major adoption and foster care faith communities' advocates in our state. We are convinced that our efforts have made and continue to make positive differences in the attitudes of the faith communities and their members toward adoption and foster care, in particular, and toward the State and County Departments of Social Services in general. Ours is a unified effort. **Together, we are making a difference.**

## WORKING THE STAFF

We thank God for His continuing blessings as we "work the state," so to speak, making and responding to telephone calls, e-mail and general correspondence, speaking at churches, conferences, and meetings of associations, community groups, clubs and organizations, spreading the work of the increasing need for adoptive and foster parents of African-American children, statewide, who are already in the North Carolina Foster Care System.

And again, we thank God for those who have partnered with us as we expand our recruitment/referral efforts. It is only because of the expanded, continuing, collaboration, cooperation, and support, that we are able to realize the successes that we are experiencing. Our ministry is a credit to the faith communities of the state and to the Children's Services Section of the Division of Social Services of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services. We are a committed and dedicated team, and our ministry seems to be blossoming in so many ways.

## THE EVERY CHURCH ADOPT ONE PROJECT

THE EVERY CHURCH ADOPT ONE initiative, influenced after the successful Virginia pioneering effort, continues to gain broad support statewide, among the various faith communities and again, we give God the glory and the praise. We will continue to push this initiative, statewide. And we are serious.

EVERY CHURCH ADOPT ONE is a highly successful interfaith initiative, and we strongly encourage all churches to join us in this special challenge and opportunity. Join the growing number of churches that are uniting for children. This **HELPING AND CARING MINISTRY** is being pushed by

moderators, conference leaders, elders, bishops, ministers and assorted church laity. Many church missionary departments have accepted this ministry as a primary focus for the year 2001, in addition to other on-going ministry priorities. For additional information, please call, write or e-mail us! Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr., or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige, 2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27610; PHONE: (919) 231-9774; FAX (919) 212-3656; E-MAIL; joepaigesr@aol.com or dottiedem@maxxconnect.net or adoptions@usa.com

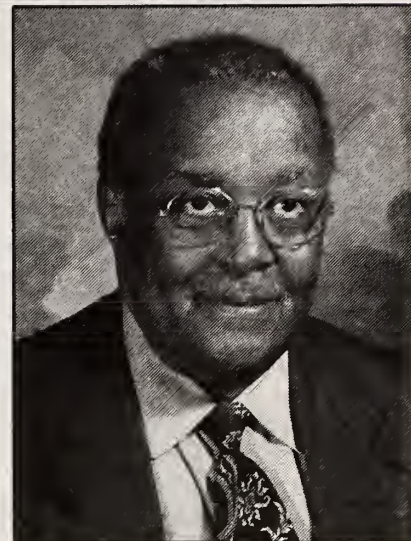
## COURTNEY CROWDER

We again lift up the creative work and influence of Courtney Crowder, Field Representative to Congressman Bob Etheridge, 2nd Congressional District, who volunteers with us a Special Assistant with responsibility for coalition building. We are especially pleased with our association with him. He is taking time from an already crowded schedule to help us expand our involvement with faith communities, and social, civic and fraternal groups in the nine counties comprising the 2nd Congressional District. This is a major plus for our children.

We are also grateful to Ms. Mary Perry, President of the Zebulon-Wake Chapter of the State NAACP and a member of Congressman Etheridge's staff, for her continuing support.

## THE PARTNERSHIP WITH MULTICULTURAL COMMUNITY SERVICES

We again lift up our new partnership with the **MULTICULTURAL COMMUNITY SERVICES** of Spring Lake, and we look forward to a long and productive and



Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr.

supportive relationship with Ms. Anna Green, Executive Director and Rev. Samuel Harrin, Family Support Worker, and their staffs and co-workers. This special **GRANDPARENTING and PARENT/CHILDREN SERVICES PROGRAM** serves mainly Cumberland County.

Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc., and Pastor of Lewis Chapel Baptist Church, Fayetteville, NC, was the Keynote Speaker at our first Cumberland County **ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE AREA CONFERENCE**, involving GBSC, the Multicultural Development Services, and the Cumberland County Division of Social Services was held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on October 6, 2001, at the Spring Lake Memorial Baptist Church, Rev. John

(Continued on next page)

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Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige, Wealth Creation Consultant  
Executive Directors and Co-Founders  
1-800-358-0067 (PIN# 5832)  
Phone/Fax (919) 231-9774

E-Mail: jpaige@maxxrep.com or dottiedem@maxxconnect.net

Make a decision to change your life NOW!

PLEASE CONTACT US. WE WILL RETURN YOUR CALL!

## FOSTER CARE & ADOPTION NEWS

We urgently seek to identify persons interested in becoming Adoptive and/or Foster Care Parents in each of the 100 counties. There is an urgency. Every child deserves a loving and caring home.

Please contact at:

Dr. Joseph C. Paige or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige  
2610 Albemarle Avenue 27610

919-231-9774 • E-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com

## MORE ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

McKoy, host Pastor, under the theme: "Holding On To Our Children."

In addition to Dr. Fuller's presentation, the Conference involved skits and panel discussions. Food was served. It was a great success, even with the heavy rain.

### VOLUNTEERS

As in previous months, we expanded our volunteer recruitment efforts during this month of October. It is essential that we continue to expand our work network of adoption and foster care volunteers, recruiting through our expanding church contacts, associations and conferences of the various faith communities. We are especially grateful to the moderators, elders, and overseers of the various faith communities for their continuing support of our efforts! Please continue to help us spread the word. It is for God. It is for our children.

We thank God for the generous time and energy our volunteers give to our effort. We now have adoption and foster care volunteers in the majority of our counties, in both rural and urban areas. They all believe as we do, that every child deserves a loving, caring, and nurturing home and they are committed to helping make this happen.

### ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE ADVOCATES

We are grateful for the continuing support of Dr. James T. Roberson, Dean of the Shaw University Divinity School and his wife, Mrs. Beverly Roberson; Rev. Shelia Crump, founder and Executive Director of Sheila Crump Outreach Ministries; Rev. Jon Murphy, an area minister and his wife, Mrs. Linda Murphy, a successful area Realtor; Ms. Linda Wright, North Carolina Department of Revenue; and Ms. Carol Smith and Ms. Portia Brandon of GBSC, for their continuing support of our efforts. And, as we stated in an earlier issue, we are especially pleased that Calvin and Priscilla Spellman of Elizabeth City have volunteered to work with us. Ms. Spellman is a public school educator, and Mr. Spellman is employed at Elizabeth City State University. They all serve as volunteer spokespersons and children's advocates for the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry. Our advocates continue to help us make a difference in our commitment to help children. We are grateful they are willing to take time from their already busy schedules to work with us.

### MAKING A DIFFERENCE

I want the GBSC family and all of the African-American Faith Communities in our state to realize that our Governor, Governor Michael Easley, and the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, Carmen Hooker-Buell, are especially grateful for the expanded faith-based support and interest in helping identify adoptive and foster care parents for children already in the NC Adoptive and Foster Care system, and for all of the volunteer support and advocacy for children and families in need. It takes us all working together, in times like these. And it is good that in our state, the great state of North Carolina, we can count on Governor Easley and Secretary Hooker-Buell.

And so, as our list of Adoption and Foster Care Volunteers, Advocates and Spokespersons continues to grow, all for the sake of our children, we must continue to thank God who cares about all of us, and especially His children. Our children are the real beneficiaries. The Volunteers, Advocates, and Spokespersons are so important for our work. They help us identify African-American singles and couples in-

terested in becoming adoptive and/or foster parents of African-American children already in the North Carolina Foster Care System. They also help us spread the word that there are gross disparities in the adoption of African American children already in the Foster Care System, when compared with whites. They help us spread the word and make the needs of our children known.

### PARTNERING WITH FAITH COMMUNITIES

Our outreach arm, **The North Carolina African American Faith Communities United for Children: Adoption and Foster Care**, an initiative of the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry, deserves both praise and thanks. Both ministers and laity, women and men, are actively spreading the word that children need love, that they need a nurturing and caring home environment.

**This interfaith, interdenominational body, inspired by God and directed by the Heavenly leadership of the Holy Spirit, has been a God-send. We pray fervently and listen and patiently wait for God's guidance in all that we do. The success of our ministry is further confirmation that with God, all things are possible.**

### THE CAROLINIAN CONNECTION

Again, a hearty "thank you" to Paul and Evelyn Jervay, owners and Co-Publishers of The Carolinian, and NAY-KEL Founders, for their continuing assistance and encouragement. Rev. Jervay assists us in interfaith relations, volunteer follow-up and training and outreach. Mr. Jervay donates time as our media consultant. They lead a special expertise to our efforts. Together, as with our other volunteers and advocates, they help us make a difference for the betterment of our children.

### EASTERN AREA ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE VOLUNTEER TRAINING AND ORIENTATION WORKSHOP RESCHEDULED NEW DATE: NOVEMBER 3, 2001 ELIZABETH CITY, NC.

The special eastern area volunteer training and orientation workshop for Adoption and Foster Care volunteers has been rescheduled to meet from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday, November 3, 2001. The workshop will be held at the Golden Corral, Elizabeth City, NC.

Calvin and Priscilla Spellman, volunteer area Adoption and Foster Care Advocates, will coordinate the Seminar, with assistance from Paul and Evelyn Jervay.

### A PLEA FOR MORE VOLUNTEERS

**This is an urgent plea**, as we have repeatedly stated, while the response for adoption and foster care volunteers, has been incredibly successful statewide, we are still seeking additional volunteers to help us spread the word. **We are asking every church to appoint an Adoption and Foster Care Volunteer Coordinator to help us spread the word.** Please call, write or e-mail us! Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr., or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige, 2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27610; PHONE: (919) 231-9774; FAX: (919) 212-3656; E-MAIL: joepaigesr@aol.com or dottiedem@maxxconnect.net or adoptions@usa.com.

### THE FULLTIME OFFICE STAFF

Our fulltime office staff consists of Rev. Anthonette Wright, Director of Church Relations/Church Consultant and Earl Horton, Director of Public Relations/Church Consultant.

Rev. Wright has overall responsibility for the western and central counties of the

state; including the following target counties in this region: Buncombe, Guilford, Gaston, Mecklenburg and Forsyth. Mr. Horton has overall responsibility for the eastern counties and five target counties in this region: Wake, Durham, Cumberland, New Hanover and Robeson.

You may contact Rev. Wright at (919) 754-8800; E-MAIL: Nwright@aol.com. Mr. Horton can be reached at (919) 754-8333, E-MAIL: gbsceh@aol.com. **Please note that our office has relocated. The new address is: GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry, 211 Six Forks Road — Suite 209B, Raleigh, NC 27609.**

### SPECIAL STAFF

Maurice Lane continues to do an outstanding job as special assistant to the Project Director in addition to his outreach activities. Evangelist Michele Montgom-

ery continues to work with the media and as a Special Outreach Volunteer Assistant. **PASTORAL CONSULTANTS/TEAM LEADERS**  
**Ms. Sherbia Jones**  
**Ms. Jennifer Campbell**  
**Ms. Janice Greenard**  
**Mr. Thomas Lewis, Outreach Coordinator, (NAY-KEL)**

### THANKS...

To all of our Volunteers, Supporters and Friends. Thanks again for your continuing encouragement and support.

You may reach us:

**By PHONE: (919) 231-9774**

**By FAX: joepaigesr@aol.com or adoptions@usa.com**

**By REGULAR MAIL: 2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27610**

## November Is Adoption Awareness Month: Gala Celebration Planned

By Carol Smith

November is National Adoption Awareness Month, and The Adoptions and Automation Unit of the Children's Section, Division of Social Services of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, is planning a **GALA KICK-OFF TAIL-GATE CELEBRATION** on the grounds of the State Capital from 10 am to 2 pm, on Thursday, November 1. The public is invited. Ms. Amelia Lance, a Program Officer in the Children's Section is Adoptions Awareness Month Coordinator.

Dr. Joseph C. Paige, Chairperson of the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry and a member of the Celebration Advisory Committees responsible for coordinating special State level VIP participation, stated that he is hopeful that speakers at the celebration will include: **Governor Mike Easley; Health and Human Services Secretary, Carmen Hooker-Buell; and Ms. Pheon Beal, Director of the NC Division of Social Services.**

Paige added that "the State is indeed fortunate to have such sensitive and sup-

portive human services leadership as the Governor, Secretary Hooker-Buell, and Director Beal." He described them as children's advocates and supporters of faith-based and community initiatives.

Dr. Paige, who also serves as Chairperson of the North Carolina African American Faith Communities United for Children Adoption and Foster Care, will also coordinate faith community involvement in the celebration. Committee plans also include the involvement of athletes, fraternities and sororities, area college and universities and media personalities.



### The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. and the N.C. African-American Faith Communities United for Children: Adoption and Foster Care Finding Adoptive & Foster Care Homes For African-American Children

#### Touch a Life Forever ... ADOPT!

#### Children waiting for adoptive families are ...

- Sisters and brothers who want to be adoptive together
- Children who have experienced neglect, abuse or abandonment
- Older children who want a permanently family
- Children who need families who care and are willing to make a lifetime commitment

#### You can adopt if you ...

- Are single, married or divorced
- Can provide a stable home
- Have the ability to care for a child not born to you
- Are willing to take on the responsibilities, joys and challenges of parenting

#### Families who adopt ...

- May be homeowners or renting
- May have a fixed income
- May be an adult of any age

#### North Carolina Needs More Foster Homes

Thousands of children in North Carolina, ranging in age from infants to 18 years old, enter the foster care system each year. These children may have been neglected, abused, or abandoned and need a safe place to stay temporarily. The number of children coming into care is increasing faster than the number of foster homes in our state.

#### You Can Become A Foster Parent If You ...

- Are between the ages of 21 and 65
- Are willing to be fingerprinted and have a criminal record check
- Have a stable home and income
- Are able to provide a safe, temporary place for children until they can be in a permanent home
- Complete all required training and be licensed by the State of North Carolina

**You do not have to be married, wealthy or own your own home to be a foster parent.**

## MORE ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

*A Message from the Director of Church Relations*

### Attention all African-American Singles and African-American Couples!

*Bridge the gap to permanency through  
Adoption and Foster Care!*

By Rev. Anthonette Wright

**Do not lose that loving feeling!** In the book of Revelation, a powerful word was spoken to the church of Ephesus, which speaks volumes to the faith community today. Christ says to the church, *I know everything you have done, including your hard work and how you have endured. "I know you won't put up with anyone who is evil. When some people pretended to be apostles, you tested them and found out that they were liars. You have endured and gone through hard times because of me, and you have not given up. However, I do have something against you! You don't have as much love as you use to."* I encourage all who can and will to help us keep the love of being a child alive. If the faith community continues to make full proof of this ministry then that loving feeling will not disappear!

There is still a need for more volunteers and advocates for this cause to help us identify African-American Singles and Couples willing to adopt and/or foster care.

Let's continue to help open doors for the many children in the child welfare system so that may have a permanent, loving, nurturing and safe place to call home.

We need your help! Support this ministry by volunteering to recruit African-American Singles and Couples willing to adopt or foster African-American Children. With your help, we can make a difference



Rev. Anthonette Wright  
Director of Church Relations  
GBSC Adoption &  
Foster Care Ministry

in the life of a child. Please contact me for more information on what you can do to help make a difference in a child's life. **You may write me:**

Rev. Anthonette Wright  
Director of Church Relations  
211 Six Forks Road Suite 209-B  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27609 or  
E-mail me;  
Nwrightgbsc@aol.com or  
telephone me; 919-754-8800



## First Area Orientation/Training Meeting For Volunteers Held

Our First Orientation/Training meeting for volunteers was held at Morning Star Baptist Church, Hickory, on August 11, 2001, Dr. Webster Lytle, Pastor. There were presenters from the Catawba DSS, support agencies (police and fire departments), foster parents and adoptive parents.

Sherbia Jones, Pastoral Consultant for Caldwell, Catawba and Cleveland counties was the local planner for this meeting. It served as a very good model for formatting additional meetings planned for this Fiscal Year.

Shown in the photo are (right to left) Volunteers Calvin and Priscilla Spellman, (Elizabeth City), Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige, Field Coordinator, Dr. Joseph C. Paige, Project Director, Rev. Anthonette Wright, Director of Church Relations, Western Region, and Sherbia Jones, Pastoral Consultant, Western Region (3 counties).

## \$1,000 BONUS! BONUS! BONUS!

We have decided, as our special way to say "Thank You," to provide a personal bonus of \$1,000, to the first individual, church or association that recruits a minimum of 20 potential adoptive and/or foster parents each month for the next five months (August, September, October, November and December 2001.) or a total of 100 recruits (verified). Only one bonus of \$1,000 will be given. Persons interested in competing for the "bonus" should call, write or e-mail us!

Dr. Joseph C. Paige or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige, 2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27610; 919-231-9774; Fax 919-212-3656; E-mail: joepaiges@aol.com or dottededem@maxxconnect.net

## Enriching Concepts Of Disciplining Children In Love

By Dr. Simon A. Burney, Ph.D  
& Rev. Annie H. Burney, M.Ced

There is no doubt that in these modern times, helping children learn right from wrong and good from bad is one of the primary responsibilities of parents. Despite what many parents feel, children really want to please their parents out of genuine love and respect. Children also know that their parents are the primary source of love, fun, games, food and shelter. Just like anyone else, children know a good thing when they see one.

Children are also very curious in their early developmental years. They are like explorers in diapers. They want to touch every thing that looks like fun. Since a baby's mouth is his or her primary way of testing things out, babies are constantly putting things into their mouths. Children often don't know what is dangerous and what isn't; their minds haven't developed enough yet to know good from bad.

Young children also operate on the "gimme" principle. "Gimme, gimme, gimme now, right now," is a common demand expressed by children. They can't help it. That's just the way they are. As children grow older, they learn to wait and have patience.

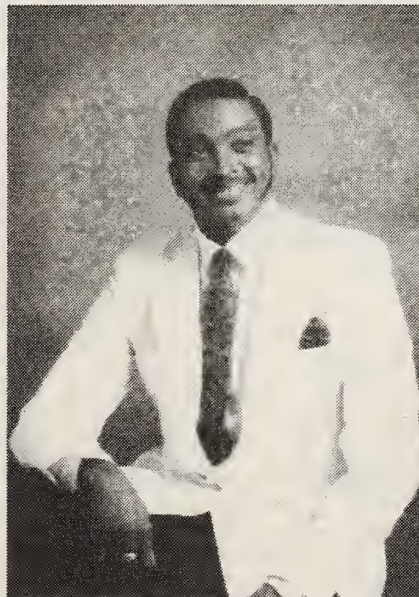
Knowing how young children operate is important for helping them learn to manage their needs, desires, and behaviors. It

also helps them grow up feeling good about themselves and others. Since practically every parent wants a good life for his/her child, parents need to learn about three ideas: discipline, rewards and punishment.

*The word discipline is defined as instruction imparted to disciples or scholars; teaching; learning; education.* The term disciple, meaning learner, is often associated with Christ's Disciples. Children are in many ways disciples of their parents because of the love they feel toward their parents and the love they receive back. Children will hold their parents in high esteem until the parents consistently prove they are not worthy of the honor. Even then, children may subconsciously seek parental approval. The attachment and need for parental acceptance is a very powerful human desire. *Discipline is both the guidance that the parents provide their children, and the desire of children to follow the directions that the parents have set forth.*

There are many discipline techniques and strategies that can be used to teach children right from wrong and how to make wise choices. We will focus on the following discipline techniques and strategies. There are four types of Disciplines (*punishments*) that are appropriate for young children ages 2-1/2 to 11 years.

**Loss of Privilege:** Appropriate for 2-1/2 years and older. A privilege is a right



Dr. Simon A. Burney, Ph.D.

granted by the parent. Privileges can include watching TV, playing with a certain toy in the house, etc. If a child misuses the object or misuses the privilege, he/she loses it for a while. Take away a toy or a privilege only when the child misuses it (throwing it around the house, broken, etc.).

**Being Grounded:** Appropriate for child 3-1/2 years and older. When a child leaves a yard or an area purposely, without permission, an appropriate punishment is being grounded to the yard or house. The child must know it wasn't appropriate to leave the yard without proper permission. It is very important to understand. If the child does not understand the behavior was inappropriate, do not use grounding as a pun-



Rev. Annie H. Burney, M.Ced.

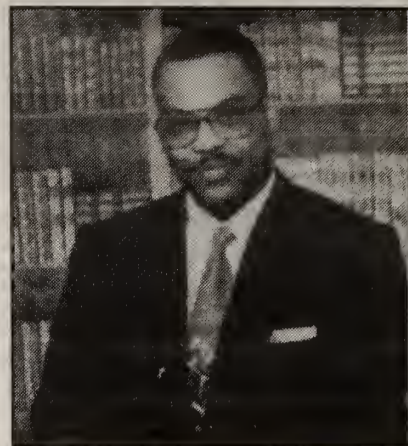
ishment.

**Parental Disappointment:** Appropriate for child 2-1/2 years and older. Parental disappointment is a simple statement, which expresses the disappointment a parent has in a behavior the child has chosen to perform. The intent is to build caring and awareness in the child of the parent's disappointment. Example: "Son, I want you to know how disappointed I am that you chose to hit your brother (*or whatever the misdeed might have been*). I'm sure that the next time you're upset, you won't hit your brother when you will tell him not to take your toys. But right now, I feel very disappointed in you." Directly following that

(Continued on page 13)

# From the Office of Institutional and Specialized Ministries

Rev. Michael R. Smith



Rev. Michael R. Smith Sr.

*"How lonely sits the city that was full of people..."* Lamentations 1:1a

## Reflections From Ground Zero In New York City

Just 48 hours after the terrorist attacks September 11, on Washington, D.C. and New York City, I was in a car heading to New York as part of a crisis support team. The team was made of up of ministers and psychologists. I had just concluded having revival meetings at the prison on September 12. The theme for our revival was entitled, "Healing Our Hearts and Minds." On the way to New York, I realized the revival's theme had become prophetic. My mission while in New York would be to begin the healing process in the hearts and minds of those persons affected by this tragedy. I am thankful the Lord prepared me spiritually for what would be a demanding two weeks of ministry. On Sunday, September 14, I made my first trip to lower Manhattan's Ground Zero. After passing through all the security check points, I finally found myself standing just a few feet away from the biggest crime scene in America. I watched as rescue workers, engineers, policemen, firemen and many others worked diligently in this huge scene of death and destruction.

My immediate reaction to being this close to the source of such a mountain of human grief and pain was simply to pray. I offer these personal reflections that came to my heart as I stood in horror and hope at Ground Zero.

1. I heard the word of Jeremiah the prophet saying, how lonely sits the city. The busiest section of New York City was completely destroyed by this act of evil hatred.
2. I was deeply grieved knowing that thousands of precious people buried under tons of rubble just a few feet away had been murdered by this act of terror.
3. I was thankful in knowing I have salvation through my Lord Jesus Christ.
4. I heard the words of Holy Scripture saying, I saw a new heaven and new earth and God shall wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away (Revelation 21:1a, 4).
5. I realized the Holy Spirit was helping me to understand the Christian hope

promises all disciples of Jesus Christ have a future to look forward to with great expectancy.

6. I realized people who have no hope beyond the circumstances and limitations of this world could not see past this massive graveyard of destruction.
7. I sincerely wanted Jesus Christ to come back in order to establish a new world where hatred, sin and evil would never have a place again to repeat such an act.
8. I made a commitment to be more faithful in bearing witness to a lost and dying world. Standing at Ground Zero re-

minded me that we are living in perilous times. I wonder what the Holy Spirit has been saying to you at this time. The hour is later than we think! I pray we will hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church as we race through these last days. Don't forget there was a terrorist criminal named Saul making havoc of the church, but Saul met the Lord Jesus Christ and an enemy was turned into an ally (Paul). May the Church never forget our divine mission involves reaching, reconciling and restoring lives broken through crime and incarceration in order to heal hearts and minds.

**General Baptist State Convention of N.C. Inc.**  
**Office of Institutional & Specialized Ministries**  
*1st Annual Crime & Incarceration Conference*  
 •"Reaching • Reconciling • Restoring • Broken Lives"  
**November 30 - December 1, 2001**  
 Shaw University Divinity School • Raleigh, North Carolina

**Purpose**  
 "Righteousness and Justice are the foundation of Your throne: Mercy and Truth go before Your face." Psalm 89:14 NKJV

The purpose of this conference is to bring together ministers, local churches, ex-offenders, judges, correctional administrators, lawyers, prison volunteers/organizations community based organizations, and all other interested persons to be educated, equipped and inspired to work for justice and mercy in responding to crime and incarceration. This can be accomplished through strategic dialogue and integration of creative ideas and effective strategies that can help reach, reconcile and restore lives broken through crime and incarceration. The Churches of this state will be challenged and inspired to come together in a unified effort to better respond to this growing crisis.

**Upcoming Training & Event**  
**OISM 1st Annual Crime & Incarceration Conference**  
**November 30-December 1, 2001**  
 Shaw University Divinity School, Raleigh, NC

**1ST ANNUAL CRIME & INCARCERATION CONFERENCE**  
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Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President GBSC  
 Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer

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Pastor \_\_\_\_\_

Association \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # Church ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # Pastor ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Your Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Personal Registration \$20 per person

Number of Messengers \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$20 each Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_



Church Representation \$100 for the year Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please Send Your Registration/Representation form to:  
 1st ANNUAL CRIME & INCARCERATION CONFERENCE  
 603 S. Wilmington St., Raleigh, NC 27601-2338 • 800-639-GBSC(4272) • 919/821-7466  
 Headquarters Hotel: Sheraton Capital Center,  
 421 South Salisbury Street, Raleigh, NC  
 Singles & Doubles: \$79 + 12% tax, 919-834-9900  
 Reservation Deadline Oct. 29, 2001

# From the Moderator of Moderator's Committee

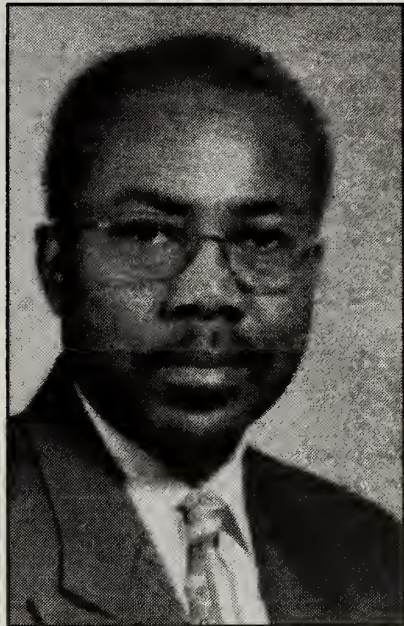
## Living After Death

*Grace and Peace to all of you my brothers and sisters!*

Since becoming Moderator of Moderators, I have traveled quite a bit across the state and in the process I am constantly observing churches. Many of these churches have very beautiful structures and are implementing great ministries. In essence, finance does not seem to be a concern for these churches. Having said this, I want to focus on an issue of which I think ministers need to concern themselves. I think it is time for us to educate our members about "Living after Death." I am talking about having a member fund a ministry, a church library, an education building, etc. in his/her name. I call this living after death. Think about this. What's wrong with educating our membership to continue after death his/her stewardship to the church they confess to loving and caring about during his/her lifetime. Help them think about a life insurance policy leaving the church as beneficiary. Let's talk about Wills and Estates.

Bruce Powers states it best in Church Administration Handbook when he says, "The whole matter of wills and estates represents a significant area of legal concern for the church and the Christian interested in the total concept of stewardship. The advice of those trained in the field is essential for good planning because of the complex nature of government rules and state laws regulating the disposition of an estate. Many churches have a special committee to promote the concept of making a will or establishing a trust as an act of Christian stewardship. Some churches are fortunate enough to have attorneys, bankers, or accountants who can assist church members in this area.

The advantages of estate planning must be shared with the congregation. The need to put things in order should be evident to the Christian. The desire to protect one's assets in the way an estate is settled should be of major concern. Good planning will minimize the effect of taxes and other administrative costs relating to settling the estate as well as provide for the efficient and timely distribution of property.



Rev. James W. Smith, J.D.

The making of a will is essential to the completion of estate planning. Without a will, state laws specify who benefits from the estate. By making a will, the individual specifies who is to benefit. The assistance of an attorney is not required, but it is highly recommended. The complexity of legal terminology is such that a person may not say what needs to be said unless an attorney assists with the preparation of the will. A church can and should encourage the inclusion of Christian causes in making a will so that a person who has supported the church while living can reflect that support in the disposition of the assets of the estate.

If you wish our service in any way, please contact us at the following:  
**Rev. James W. Smith, JD**  
 146 Presidents Drive  
 Durham, NC 27704 • (919) 479-0501  
 Email: Jsmith9450@aol.com  
**Rev. W.J. Cox**  
 107 Gray Street, Goldsboro, NC 27534  
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## Enriching...

statement, tell the child he is either grounded or has to take a time-out.

**Time-out:** Appropriate for child 3 years and older. Time-out is a temporary isolation of the child from others because he/she chose to act inappropriately. It is a technique that lets children know that when they choose to be mean to others, they will have to be by themselves for a while sitting quietly. Time-out is not isolating a child for a long time. Please clearly understand, that time-out is not solitary confinement in some dark room. It is not a threat of the loss of a parent's love or protection. It is an age old tried and proven technique, that lets children know that when they choose to violate a rule, they will have to sit quietly by themselves for a while.

**Praise (the vital ingredient of reward):** Praise is by far the single most important and powerful means any child, or anyone for that matter, can receive. Use praise for stating (*I love you; you're a great son or daughter*) and use praise for acts that have been done (*what a great job washing the*

*car; great job in buttoning your shirt today*). Saying complementary praises of reward, two or three times each day with each child will make a world of difference in the life of a child. Don't forget to praise yourself each day in moderation for being a good parent to your child or children.

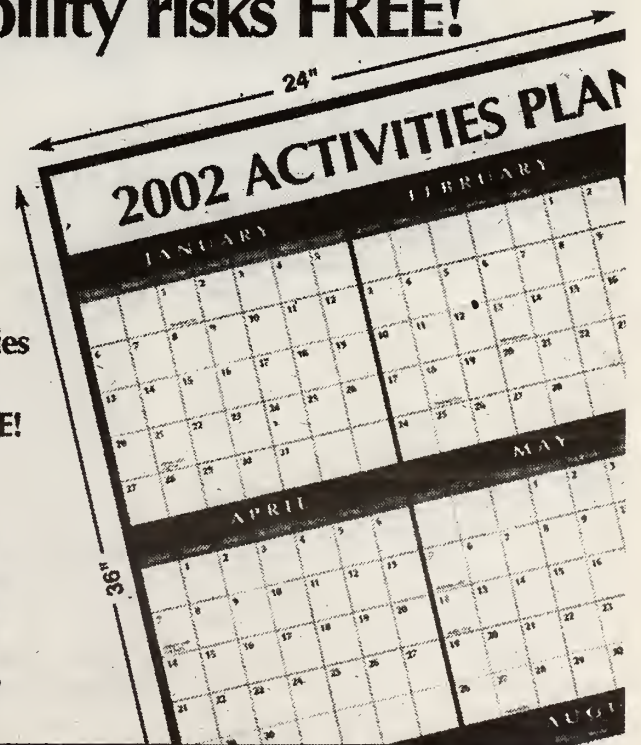
*Dr. Simon A. Burney and Rev. Annie H. Burney are corporate officials of the Friends Helping Friends Family Resource Center, Inc. They provided extensive development programs for children and families. For information on hosting a child development, parental enrichment, or marriage and family enrichment seminar at your church or civic organization, please contact the Friends Helping Friends Resource Center, Inc. at (252) 266-2952 or by email fhfcenter@earthlink.net. Dr. Burney may also be reached through the General Baptist State Convention corporate headquarters: Dr. Simon A. Burney, Executive Director of Resource Development, 603 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, N.C. 27601-2338; or call (919) 836-0061.*



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Delores Griffey

## Praise and Thanksgiving

The Model Prayer which we call the Lord's Prayer begins and ends with praise. Giving praise to God helps us to understand just how awesome He really is! We should praise Him for how powerful He is. We should praise Him for how giving He is. We should praise Him for how loving He is. We should thank Him for all that He has done, is doing and will do for us as His children. And the list goes on...

In the New Testament Paul tells of giving thanks to God:

*"We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, ...and joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light. For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins."* Colossians 1:3, 12-14.

*"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.

We are actually commanded to give praise and thanksgiving to God:

*"Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise — the fruit of lips that confess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased."* Hebrews 13:15-16.

In the Old Testament one can find passage after passage of praises to God; especially in the book of Psalms which is packed with chapters on the praise of God and His power and glory. Here are two examples:

*"O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise because of your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger. When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him? You made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor. You made him ruler over the works of your hands; you put everything under his feet: All flocks and herds, and the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas. O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!"* Psalm 8

*"Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy. How awesome is the Lord Most High, and great King over all the earth! He subdued nations un-*

*der us, peoples under our feet. He chose our inheritance for us, the pride of Jacob, whom he loved. God has ascended amid shouts of joy, the Lord amid the sounding of trumpets. Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises. For God is the King of all the earth; sing to him a psalm of praise. God reigns over the nations; God is seated on his holy throne. The nobles of the nations assemble as the people of the God of Abraham, for the kings of the earth belong to God; he is greatly exalted."* Psalm 47

Our children can praise God and show Him how thankful they really are by helping the homeless. You and the children could put together a "Needs Bag." Sit down and talk about the type of needs we could fill for the people we meet. First, we'd meet the physical needs of food and drink with non-perishable food and a drink box. Then we'd offer help for spiritual needs by adding a booklet for the Gospels or a New Testament in an easy-to-understand translation (these sell for less than a dollar at most Christian bookstores). We'd also include a map and list of local churches, soup kitchens, job training sites and shelters in case they have were unaware of the locations.

We can shop for supplies and put together a few Needs Bags to keep in the car. When we're out running errands, we give a bag to the needy people we see as we're driving. We stop and ask them if they'd like a bag, then talk a bit more (kids are naturals at this). As we drive away, we pray for the person — preferably by name.

### Bag It

To get started, all you need are a few basics, like:

- tuna and crackers (individual serving style)
- juice box or foil juice pack (individual serving style)
- pudding or gelatin pack (individual serving style)
- bread roll or bagel
- spoon
- napkin
- water bottle
- blanket (winter option)
- book of Gospels or a New Testament
- information on local church services, such as soup kitchens, shelters and job training

*"Thanksgiving comes from love of God, not from outward circumstances."*



# Christian Education for the 21st Century

By Portia Brandon, M.Div., Christian Education Coordinator

You say you will never forget where you were when you heard the news, Sept. 11, 2001. Neither will I.

I was on the 110th floor in a smoke filled room with a man who called his wife to say "Good-Bye."

I held his fingers steady as he dialed. I gave him the peace to say, "Honey, I am not going to make it, but it is OK...I am ready to go." I was with his wife when he called as she fed breakfast to their children. I held her up as she tried to understand his words and as she realized he wasn't coming home that night.

I was in the stairwell of the 23rd floor when a woman cried out to me for help.

"I have been knocking on the door of your heart for 50 years!" I said.

"Of course I will show you the way home — only believe on Me now."

I was at the base of the building with the Priest ministering to the injured and devastated souls.

I took him home to tend to his Flock in Heaven. He heard my voice and answered.

I was on all four of those planes, in every seat, with every prayer. I was with the crew as they were overtaken.

I was in the very hearts of the believers there. Comforting and assuring them that their Faith has saved them.

I was in Texas, Kansas, London. I was standing next to you when you heard the terrible news. Did you sense Me?

I want you to know that I saw every face. I knew every name — though they did NOT all know Me. Some met me for the first time on the 100th floor. Some sought me out in their last breath. Some couldn't hear me calling to



Portia Brandon, M.Div.  
Christian Education Coordinator

them through the smoke and flames, "Come to Me...this way...take my hand."

Some chose, for the final time, to ignore Me. But, I was there.

I did not place you in the Tower that day—you may not know why, But I DO.

However, if you were there in that explosive moment in time, would you have reached for me?

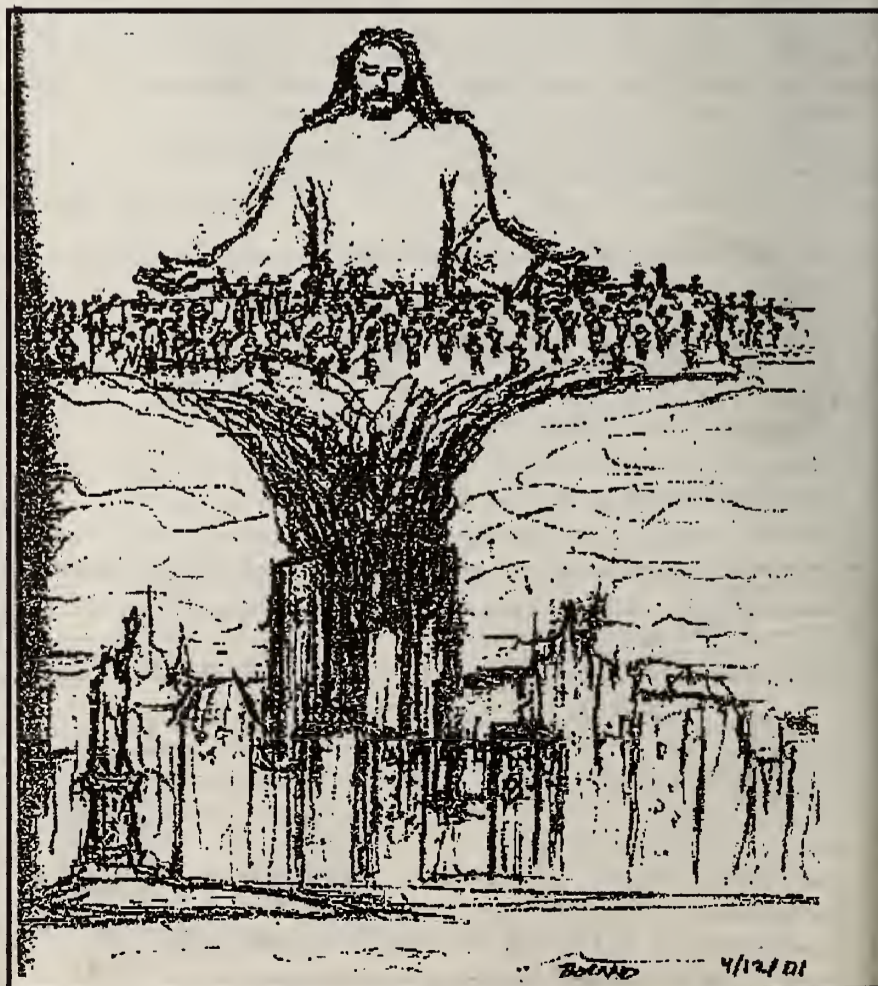
September 11, 2001, was not the end of the journey for you. But someday your journey will end. And I will be there for you as well. Seek Me now while I may be found.

Then, at any moment, you know you are "ready to go."

I will be in the stairwell of your final moments.

Source (internet)

## Where were you on September 11, 2001? "Come unto me"



This was drawn by a school age child in PA (wow!). It's amazing... and comforting.

## New Pastor's Corner

### Compassion

By

Rev. Sandra Holland Trotter  
Pastor/Shiloh Temple of Faith  
Missionary Baptist Church,  
Fayetteville, NC



Rev. Sandra Holland Trotter

the heart of God in Christ, is the revelation of a Divine conception, that alone endures even unto death, and through which nature and love of God is revealed to a dying world.

In Luke 10:30-35, a story of great compassion is found. How many times have we passed up the opportunity to be compassionate to a brother or sister in need? How often do we bruise a soul because of lack of compassion? On Sunday morning we put on our Jesus face and shout all over the place.

How many times has a need knocked on your door? When one of your loved ones has received a bad diagnosis and you begin to pray and cry out to God. How many times have we had a personal need and cried out to God in prayer to send someone from somewhere with something to be a blessing to us?

Open up your heart and find the compassion of Jesus. Not because it is thanksgiving, but do it all year long. The sorrows of others moved the soul of Jesus and touched his heart.

If we ever succeed in doing that big thing, that great thing, that unspeakable thing that God purposed that we should do, it can only be when we enter into that Divine compassion of the Son of God.

One of the greatest things that Jesus showed the world was to exercise compassion for one another.

The greatest movement in the soul of God Himself was that movement of compassion for a needy world, which was so great, that the word says, "God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16).

Compassion reaches further than law; further than demands of Judges. Compassion of Jesus was the divine secret that made him lovable. Religious people are exacting; good people are exacting; but good folks have to learn to exercise the compassion just like others do. There is no limit to the compassion of Jesus.

Jesus' example on the cross is set forever and ever as the very acme and the very soul of the compassion of God, through Christ. After they had pierced His hands, and pierced His feet, with His breath He prayed to God, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. (Luke 23:34).

When a man is able to look upon his own murderers and speak such words as these, surely it shows, that he speaks beyond that which the human heart is capable of giving and speaking only that which the soul of God can give.

How long should we endure? How long should we endure the misunderstanding of friends without rebuff? How long?

If we consider these things, surely we see the secret of life that he endured. All the way and unto the very end, he was blessed by God. In the Divine fullness of

## A Christian Education Moment

By Dr. Jasper P. Reed, President  
Congress of Christian Education

### The Book of Genesis Shows Ways of Righteousness and Wickness

Let us return to the series introduced in the October Informer and develop it further. This month our focus is on the Genesis Section of the Book of the Psalms. This section which is composed of forty-one psalms and multiple themes that highlights man from the perfect blessed state to Christ in the midst of His people. Let us for our spiritual growth examine Psalm one because it introduces us to two ways that are open to us this day. They are the way of the righteous and the way of the wicked. For this reason we characterize its theme as being a Wisdom Psalm.

Listen as the Psalmist describes the man who seeks righteousness. "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful," (Psalm 1:1). Look for a moment at the trilogy that is presented. First, a just man, that is a blessed man, does not walk around displaying the behavior or carrying out the plans of a bad person. Secondly, a blessed man does not stand boldly in nor by conversation esteem the life style of one who is accounted guilty of something. Thirdly, a just or blessed man does not sit in personal judgment to the detriment of an assembly or place of habitat. He is not contemptuous neither is he contentious in his behavior. He does not treat his brothers and sisters with disdain, ridicule, and neither does he deceive them. Note that to observe mankind as they pass from a bad person to a judgmental, contemptuous, contentious person is like taking a sled ride from the top of a hill to its bottom. That is from the fresh air at the top to the polluted air at the bottom or going from bad to worse.

The blessed or righteous man is a delight. As we read this second verse again observe the process, "But this delight is in the Law of the Lord; and in His Law doth he meditate day and night." One who is not identified by evilness is blessed. He is right with God and inherits the peace and joy that comes from that relationship. We should forever be mindful that a godly person is not influenced by unrighteous people but rather by his/her meditation on the Word of God. The desire to study and retain the Word is what the Psalmist is describing as a delight. As we study God's Word we find instructions and guidance rather than drudgery or hardwork in the Law of God. Continuing the Psalmist ultimately declared that the righteous will prosper. Again, if we meditate on God's Word our activities and actions will be godly. Then our God-controlled activities will prosper because of their divine directions.

Observe how the ungodly is compared to the godly in verse four. Here the Hebrew word being used for ungodly means wicked. Among other things it means that they live according to their own passions, laws and rules of conduct. Even though some of them



Dr. Jasper P. Reed, President  
Congress of Christian Education

may do kind and charitable deeds their hearts are not clean. It is good to remember that it is not man who will evaluate in the end it is God. The scripture clearly states that His thoughts are not ours and His ways are unlike ours. The wicked is characterized as being like the worthless husk that is blown off the grain as we prepare for food.

The Lord, who knows everything, knows the way of the righteous. Salvation in the day of judgment is being known by the Lord. "And when will I profess unto them, I never knew you; depart from me, ye that worked iniquity," (Matthew 7:23). The way of the wicked will perish. One's whole manner of life, including what directs it and what it produces, is judged by God. Like bad fruit the ungodly will not endure.

#### A Christian Education Moment for Our YOUTH and Young-at-Heart: A Quiz November is a month of Gratitude or Thankfulness

1. What shall be offered with the cakes and wafers in the peace offering? Leviticus 7:12
2. How did Ruth visibly express her gratitude? Ruth 2:10
3. List the four things that David did to express his gratitude to God and Jonathan. 1 Samuel 20:41.
4. How and when did the Levites show their gratitude to God? 1 Chronicles 23:30
5. How and why should we show our gratitude to God? Psalm 106:1
6. Why should the redeemed show their gratitude to God? Psalm 107:2
7. How should we, in a spirit of gratitude, act during adversity? Jeremiah 33:10-11
8. How did Jesus show gratitude? John 6:11
9. Should we seek gratitude for our brothers and sisters? Colossians 1:9-12

CHARLES NORTON  
PRESIDENT  
919-779-3731  
FAX 919-779-5687

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### The Elephant in the Courtroom

An adult education curriculum exploring issues of race and justice in the state of North Carolina and touching on themes of community, forgiveness and action.



Based on a report by the North Carolina Council of Churches' Task Group on Racism and Restorative Justice. A Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation grant makes this curriculum available free of charge by contacting the Council at 919-828-6501.



# Health & Human Services

By Anita Holmes, Executive Director

## Taking Charge — Reducing The Risks Of Flu And Pneumonia

Once again we enter a season of special thanks for our many blessings and celebration of the birth of our Savior. To better assure a healthy and happy season, we hope you and other members of your congregation will join in a national Diabetes and Flu/Pneumococcal Campaign being launched by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and supported by the N.C. Diabetes Prevention and Control Unit.

Influenza (flu) is a serious disease. It is caused by a virus that spreads from the infected persons to the nose or throat of others. The "influenza season" in the U.S. is from November through April each year. Influenza can cause fever, cough, chills, sore throat, headache and muscle aches. People of any age can get influenza. Most people are ill only a few days, but some get much sicker and may need to be hospitalized. Influenza causes thousands of deaths each year, mostly among the elderly.

For persons with diabetes, getting the flu can mean more than aches and pains. It can mean being sick longer, going to the hospital, as well as dying. During flu epi-

demics, persons with diabetes are six times more likely to go to the hospital. This risk is even higher for persons with other illnesses, such as heart disease and kidney disease, in addition to diabetes. Persons with diabetes are about three times more likely to die from complications of the flu, with deaths among people with diabetes increasing five to 15 percent during flu epidemics. Unfortunately, about 50 percent of persons with diabetes do not get an annual flu shot.

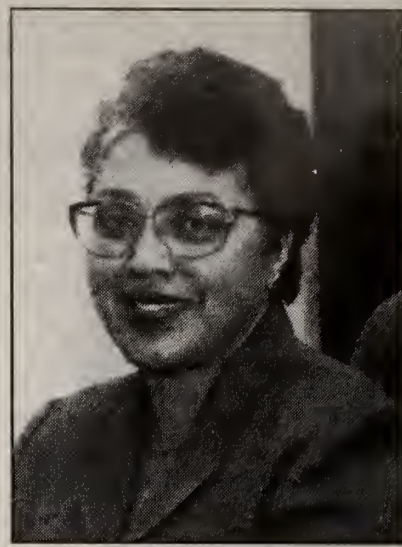
Just as people with diabetes are more susceptible to the flu, they are also at high risk of developing pneumonia. Pneumococcal disease kills more people in the United States each year than all other vaccine-preventable diseases combined. Anyone can get pneumococcal disease. However, some people are at greater risk from the disease. Persons with diabetes are at greater risk. Other persons at greater risk are people 65 and older, the very young, and people with such health problems as alcoholism, heart or lung disease, kidney failure, diabetes, HIV infection, and certain

types of cancer.

Pneumococcal disease can lead to serious infections of the lungs (pneumonia), the blood (bacteremia), and the covering of the brain (meningitis). About one out of every 20 people who get pneumococcal pneumonia dies from it, as do about two people out of ten who get bacteremia, and three people out of 10 who get meningitis. People with the special health problems mentioned above are even more likely to die from the disease.

Fortunately, there is a way to receive protection from flu and pneumococcal pneumonia, the cause of the most common form of severe pneumonia. Contact your doctor, healthcare provider or local health department for dates, times and places where flu vaccines are given. Both flu and pneumococcal vaccines are covered by Medicare, Part B. Make sure to talk to your doctor before getting vaccinated.

The flu virus changes every year, so it is important to get a shot every year before or during flu season. In addition to people at risk for getting a serious case of influenza or influenza complications, it is also



Dr. Anita Holmes

recommended that people in close contact with them (including all household members) get the vaccine.

The N.C. Diabetes Prevention and Control Unit and the CDC provided the above information concerning the flu and pneumococcal vaccines. Please contact your doctor about your particular situation. You may also obtain additional information from:

•Phillip Tarte, N.C. Division of Health Services — 919-715-8180

•Your local health department

•Centers for Disease Control and Prevention — 800-232-2522 and/or <http://www.edc.gov/nip>

**HELP SPREAD THE WORD!!**

By Charolette H. Leach, M.S.

By the time this issue of Faith and Fitness is read, we will be well into the month of November. The days of this year have gone fast. With November, comes the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. With the end of the year, comes, work celebrations and family get-togethers. The end of the year also brings more functions at church that center around food. Black Baptist are known to eat, and the end of the year brings even more reason to come together in fellowship and celebration. I often wonder why a time of celebration and fellowship cannot occur without food, but I have come to understand and accept this as a fact of life.

If there must be food, then our aim should be to make it as healthy as possible. I do understand that this can be dangerous, simply because we are a people who tends to resist change.

The change to eat healthier must begin with us, as individuals. I have always proposed a gradual plan to change eating habits. It's like taking baby steps. Set a small goal and work toward making that permanent before setting another, small goal. Remember, true nutritional health will never be reached, but goals toward healthier eating can continue to be set and worked toward. You may look at the overall plan to eat better as the "**REPLACEMENT PLAN.**" Determine items in your diet that are not healthy. You may eat too much meat, too many sweets, or too much fried food. Consider how much you actually eat in the particular category on a daily or weekly basis. You may determine that you eat 5 servings of meat a day and may want to cut down to only 3. Determine what servings you want to eliminate and choose a healthy food item, a fruit or vegetable that you will **replace** it with. Decide, that instead of that second piece of chicken for dinner, I will now have a little more salad. Once you have done this for a couple of weeks, look at another unhealthy item to replace. Before you know it, you are well on your way to

## FAITH AND FITNESS

### Consider the "Replacement Plan"

healthier eating.

After you begin with individual changes, be sure to incorporate these changes into your home and family. Most of the time, I make sure that I have a vegetable with dinner, but when I cook two, my husband eats two. It is amazing, but whenever I give my son a baggie of carrots as a snack, he eats them just as if I had offered him buttered popcorn. Be sure to include your family in your healthy cooking and eating strategies and plans.

We also must begin to offer healthier food at our church functions. We have determined that food will most likely continue to be served at our functions. That being the case, we must take steps to improve the quality of the food that is served.

At my home church, Lewis Chapel Baptist Church, we are fortunate right now to be receiving encouragement from the American Cancer Society (ACS). We are in the middle of the implementation of the Body & Soul project. *Body & Soul, A Celebration of Healthy Living* is a nutrition program sponsored by ACS with a proven record of success in getting participants of African-American churches to increase the servings of fruits and vegetables they eat. This project was adapted from two effective projects, "Black Churches United for Better Health" and "Eat for Life." There are three major groups involved in the project:

1) **Project Participants** — These Participants agree to take steps to increase the number of servings of fruits and vegetables that they eat, along with being involved in the church initiatives that will encourage healthier eating. These participants also complete surveys that track their eating

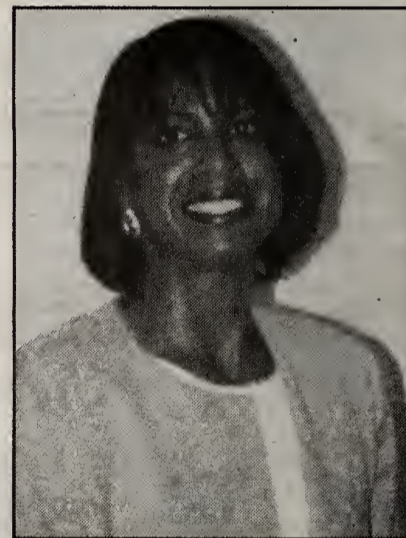
habits.

2) **Volunteer Advisors** — These Advisors will contact the Project Participants by phone and will attempt to help them to overcome barriers to eating more fruits and vegetables. Two days of training to learn a special phone technique is required.

3) **Church Committee** — This group is responsible for planning church-wide initiatives for the entire congregation and the Project Participants that can lead to healthier food selections.

The American Cancer Society stresses the importance of Pastor support and one initiative by the Pastor is required. Pastor Fuller has decided that he will deliver a sermon that includes the importance of healthy eating.

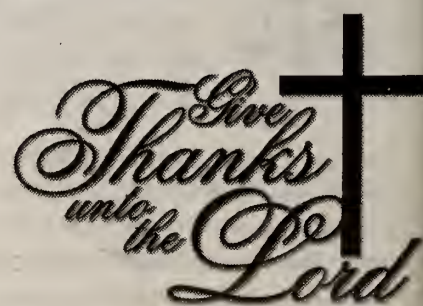
My thought is that God's timing in allowing Lewis Chapel to become involved in the Body & Soul Project is just about perfect, considering that the end-of-year celebrating is about to start. Volunteer Advisors will receive training toward the end of October and we will begin making calls to Project Participants in November. The 19 Volunteer Advisors will, of course see the importance of trying to practice what we preach, so we will be trying to eat healthier. We will also encourage 100 Project Participants to try to eat healthier. This is a representation of about 120 individuals that will encourage about 120 families to eat healthier. The church-wide initiatives will prayerfully have an impact on the remainder of the congregation. When the project concludes in April of 2002, our prayer is that with God's help, lifestyle changes toward improved nutrition will have occurred in many individuals and



Charolette H. Leach, M.S.

families. Long-term proper eating habits could lead to healthier minds and bodies with more energy and stamina to be more effective witnesses for the Lord. I will keep you updated in the project's progress as we go forward.

Consider trying to take some steps in your church to encourage healthier eating as you celebrate and fellowship over the next several months. If nothing else, talk with those who are responsible for supplying the food for your events and suggest that fruits and vegetables will always be made available. Someone there may be working with the **REPLACEMENT PLAN** and may want to replace a piece of fried chicken with an apple. You never know. Be blessed!



## Evangelism Corner

Submitted by  
Dr. H.C. Miller

Chairman of Evangelism

*How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation. Isaiah 52:7*



Dr. H.C. Miller

need to stand around watching the wind or looking at clouds, because then we would not plant or reap. We are to be sowing seeds by every stream. This activity gives us the privilege of offering a juicy apple to someone who is hungry and cool water to those who thirst. We must break the pattern of what Joseph Parker has called "Middle Zone." We must challenge the prevailing passivity of our times. Our calling is to lead people beyond religion as recreation. The preaching of conquest must return to the pulpit. One gentleman was known to have said that what drew him to the preaching of a particular preacher was that, that preacher never spoke about lost souls without tears in his eyes. My prayer to God is that He would create or renew within us a passion to see the lost come to Christ.

Finally, our feet are only beautiful if we bring good news, proclaim peace, bring good tidings and proclaim salvation.

The Holy Spirit is the agent of the new birth (John 3:5, 1 Corinthians 6:11). Everything which we assert with respect to the ministry of the Holy Spirit is predicated on the orthodox understanding that the Holy Spirit is a person and is deity. Immediately upon conversion the believer is sealed with the Holy Spirit (2 Corinthians 1:22; Ephesians 1:13). The sealing of the spirit has to do with our assurance. It authenticates the birthright of all who are believers in Christ and our right relationship with Him as witness by the Holy Spirit. We should also make note that if we grieve the Holy Spirit or quench Him, or resist Him, we find ourselves in struggle or turmoil.

It is extremely important to note that ours must be a concern to preach a converting gospel. Preaching should always give men what they need rather than what they simply want. One eminent preacher was quoted to say "With so many preaching to the times we need someone preaching to the eternities." We are deputized to cast our bread upon the waters. We do not

## From the Desk of the 4th Vice President By Rev. Nilous M. Avery II, M.Div.

To the General Baptist Family, "to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be holy, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ—Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ." (1 Corinthians 1:2-3, NIV).

WWJD? What would Jesus do? This phrase has become both popular and profitable. Bracelets, clothing, trinkets, books, etc. have all become a major enterprise in the world today. The life of Jesus, the Savior of the world, has been commercialized and dramatized in many forms on the stage, screen, and at the checkout counter. Jesus, the one who said, "I am meek and lowly in heart" has become a major box-office draw.

Now this is not all bad. For instance, all this attention has caused some individuals to view the historical Jesus as a real person who actually lived. Yet, the danger exists in that the real message, ministry, and mission of Jesus may be hidden behind the commercialism. The world must understand what true believers already confess and profess: Jesus is the world's Savior. To think of Him in any other way is to demote Him from His rightful position as the Son of God.

Jesus is not a superstar. He is the world's Savior. The role of a superstar is to entertain. We then become spectators who watch and enjoy their performances. Jesus Christ is the "Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world" (John 1:29, NIV). Therefore, Jesus is not an entertainment icon and we are not spectators. He is our Savior and we must become involved in His mission and ministry. We do not look to Jesus for entertain-

ment, we look to Him for eternal life. We do not look to Jesus to enjoy His performance, we seek His pardon, peace, power, presence and provision.

And because Jesus is our Savior rather than our entertainer, we must obey Him. Instead of a standing ovation, we must be committed to giving Him our heart's devotion. We must move from tradition to transformation...from worry to worship...from thrilling the masses to reaching the masses...from meetings to ministry. We must respond to Jesus' marching orders: "...do you love me...FEED MY SHEEP...FEED MY LAMBS...FEED MY SHEEP!" (from John 21:15-17).

The opportunity exists for us to respond in a mighty way to Jesus' marching orders. Feed the ministry that exists at the Central Children's Home in Oxford, NC with your stewardship (TIME, TALENT, TREASURE). Contact Mr. Michael Alston and his hard-working staff today. They are ready and willing to come share the possibilities that are available for your church, community, and/or association in feeding this worthwhile ministry.

You may also contact me for more information on how this ministry can be a blessing to you and how you can be a blessing to it:

(704) 637-0954 (office);  
(704) 637-1137 fax); or  
E-mail: AveryRevKin@gateway.net

The children/youth at the home are anxiously awaiting your "feeding ministry." "The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you. My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen." (1 Corinthians 16:23-24, NKJV).

## From 2nd Vice President Dr. Howard W. Parker Jr.

Since having the opportunity of being in the office of the Second Vice President, I have tried to gather information to the members of the General Baptist State Convention about what is happening on the foreign field. To date, most of this information comes from the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention.

I have also invited individuals who have traveled to the foreign field to send a report to me about their purpose and mission of work in the places they visit and work in.

The Baptist Informer has been the avenue by which this information is published each month. I am almost in monthly contact with Dr. David Emmanuel Goatley, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Lott Carey Convention or his staff about the work which is in progress with Lott Carey.

Dr. Elbert Lee, Pastor of the North End Missionary Baptist Church in Rocky Mount in August submitted an article to me about his involvement in Bomi County, Liberia in trying to help the people their with healthcare, education, school supplies, clothing etc. This information was also in



Dr. Howard W. Parker Jr.

the Baptist Informer.

I continue to invite others to share with information and news about their work on the foreign field and I will continue to share information about the work of the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention through the Baptist Informer.

## News from the Foreign Field: The Lott Carey Convention

### HIV/AIDS Initiative Plan of Action

Submitted by Dr. Howard Parker  
Second Vice President

#### What We Have Done

- Empowered and trained over 100 pastors and their spouses to address HIV/AIDS in Zimbabwe
- Empowered 100 young Zimbabweans to address HIV/AIDS
- Bought school supplies for 100 orphans; helped support their teachers; provided shoes for 56 orphans who never had shoes; covered school fees for 34 orphans in 19 different schools in five (5) villages (Kiringo, Busiringe, Lukunhu A, Lukunhu B, and Mbiko) in Uganda.
- Supported the All Africa Conference of churches in educating the faith leadership of 33 African countries (165 church leaders) in developing joint plans and strategies for churches addressing HIV/AIDS in their countries
- Educated over 600 young people concerning the HIV/AIDS pandemic at the Lott Carey Youth Seminar on the campus of Shaw University
- Published the Lott Carey HIV/AIDS Fact Sheet monthly
- Developed the HIV/AIDS segment of the Lott Carey website ([www.lottcarey.org](http://www.lottcarey.org))

#### What People Are Saying

Zimbabwe — "I would like to express my appreciation to Lott Carey for the opportunity to attend the consultation. It was a time to learn from one another and I learned a lot. Sharing with people living with HIV and AIDS had a great impact on me. The church needs to give hope to those who are hurting." (Dr. Henry Mugabe, Baptist Theological Seminary of Zimbabwe)

Uganda — "Thank you so much for your support. We have kept you in our prayers as a Team. Some of the HIV/AIDS patients we have been helping have died, but we are continuing to work with the families that are left behind, especially the

orphans. Your email has brought a lot of joy and screams here at the base! All the staff are saying thank you." (Mr. Sam and Mrs. Tushaba, AIDS Orphans Education Trust)

Kenya — "Funding from Lott Carey International made it possible for our dream to become a reality." (Ms. Battu Jambawal, All Africa Conference of Churches)

Liberia — "It would be timely if something is done in health care relative to HIV/AIDS in Liberia, which is more on the preventive level now." (Dr. Jeremiah W. Walker, Lott Carey Mission School)

#### Action Plan—What You Can Do

September 1, 2001 — Forward a one screen e-mail prayer for the elimination of the pandemic to us at [LottCarey@aol.com](mailto:LottCarey@aol.com)

October 1, 2001 — Send a one page email letter to one of the Lott Carey countries to express your prayer support to the people of that country c/o [LottCarey@aol.com](mailto:LottCarey@aol.com)

November 1, 2001 — Make a significant financial contribution to the Lott Carey HIV/AIDS Initiative. Make checks payable to Lott Carey with HIV/AIDS on the memo line.

December 1, 2001 — Conduct a local activity for World AIDS Day in your community with your youth, and document it. Pray for everyone living with HIV/AIDS and their families. E-mail a copy to us.

January 1, 2002 — Announce your commitment to your community via a media/press release. Do something "special" in 2002 to address HIV/AIDS in your own community and in a Lott Carey country.

February 1, 2002 — Identify and recognize people in your own community for their contribution(s) of time, talent and other resources.

Wear your "Sign of Hope" pin to indicate your continued support for reducing and eliminating the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

# Jeremiah, The Prophet Speaks

By Rev. Dennis Leach  
BS. M. Div.

Assistant to the President &  
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

*Your wickedness will punish you, and your apostasies will convict you. Know and see that it is evil and bitter for you to forsake the Lord your God; the fear of me is not in you says the Lord of host. Though you wash yourself with lye and use much soap, the stain of your guilt is still before me, says your God. As a thief is shamed when caught, so the house of Israel shall be shamed they, their kings, their officials, their priest, and their prophets. (Jer. 2:19, 22, 26 NRSV).*

Jeremiah, in this oracle for the most part condemns the false worship and idolatry of the Hebrews, but on occasion he condemns social injustice as vividly as Amos had (5:21-24). This section emphasizes the fact that Israel's sin is long standing and deep rooted. Israel is compared to a person washing himself in vain with lye soap, and finally to a thief. The prophet Jeremiah was intimately concerned with rewards and punishment, the recompense for good and evil, faithfulness and disobedience.

On the 11th day of September two-thousand and one "911," terrorist apparently broke through many of the nations security measures and using high-jacked airplanes as guided missiles caused a national crisis, devastating the World Trade Center, and the Pentagon. I, like most of the world watched and listened as these tragic events unfolded via the media on the stage of human history. Like many around the nation I watched this tremendous tragedy unfold on national television over, and over, and over again. The media's appetite for sensationalism was fed and fueled by these tremendous concurrent tragedies. The stories behind these horrific events are still unfolding, and at last count I heard eighty countries lost, or have citizens missing and presumed dead. The heart of a global community has been wrenched, and broken by the apparent enormous loss of life. My daughter asked me a question in the aftermath of these tragic events: "Dad you being a preacher, what was your first thought?" I told her my first thought was, God, what are you trying to say?

In the wake of this tragedy, deep down in my soul there was a clamoring for a prophetic word. In such an hour as this if America ever needed a prophetic voice, it sure is now, able to speak to this present hour. America, like the Israel of old needs an uncompromising prophet, willing to issue a clear clarion call, able, and willing to clearly and courageously differentiate between prophetic and political utterances. I watched and listened in the days to follow as the message of our nations leaders appeared to be shaped and influenced by popular public opinion polls. Many who spoke, guarded their words, and uttered what they believed the nation and the people wanted, and needed to hear. Media personalities baptized themselves, and uttered who would dare speak prophetically, or against the President in an hour such as this? I must confess; I did not look forward to hearing what our President had to say; because I believed it would be the rhetoric of revenge, rage, and retaliation. He did not disappoint. The media acting in tandem with the political and military will and wishes of our government dehumanized, and demonized the Taliban, and Afghanistan as a wicked primitive place and government. To soothe the so-called religious consciousness of this nation, the campaign for war began with the dolling out of bread to Afghan refugees, which will soon be followed by bombs and then bullets.

The prophets who common place the alphabet religious networks TBN, and CBN failed to soothe my longing for a prophetic word. I am not unmindful, or untouched by the grief and mourning being experienced by many in this nation as a result of the events of September 11. For you see, I'm a Black man who grew up in America, a descendant of a historically oppressed people in this country. And, one thing about oppressed people, they can easily identify with the sufferings and sorrows of others, using their own social grief as a reference point.

A few days after September 11th President Bush uttered some telling words on national television when he said: "I don't know an America without freedom, liberty and justice." And I said to myself, that's it, Mr. President, you don't know an America without justice, and liberty, but too many people do! They are namely African-Americans and other minorities in this country. Perhaps President Bush really needs a prophet Nathan, like king David of Israel had. After, the call to patriotism has gone out many embattled by the lasting legacy of racism in this country grapple with its meaning. How do you propose to engender feelings of loyalty, and patriotism from citizens who have inherited the social and economic disdain of this nation heaped upon their ancestors, and passed down through generations? If the President did not know, even now there is no one symbol that can unite us, and adequately represent the social sentiment of all of America's people. Even the cross of Jesus and what it represents has not wiped clean America's slate filled with social injustices and permanently marred by racism, or caused this to be a more just and fair nation towards African-Americans. If the cross of Jesus couldn't do it, how can we expect the U.S. flag to unite us? Racial divisions and divisiveness still permeate the social fibers of this nation cutting a clear path along economic and cultural lines. You can drive through my town U.S.A., and you will always know what side of the track you are on based on economic dividing lines. Whether President Bush will acknowledge it or not he has inherited what is commonly known as "white privilege," on a grand scale. But on the other hand African-American's for the most part inherited from their slave ancestors a crippling legacy of racism, and entrenched poverty supported by political administration, after political administration. Industries, corporations, and individuals in this country now enjoy the wealth earned on the backs of slaves. How, can America expect one tragic event to erase from the current collective, and experiential consciousness the marks of oppression, and racism of a people who still are seeking social and economic justice? America stole our ancestors from Africa, brought them to this country, treated them horrendously and worked them without pay. This country took away their humanity, self-worth, and dignity. "We hold these truths to be self-evident; that all men are created equal" of the Declaration of Independence did not apply to Negroes. Does America need to be reminded of its sins, past and present? Does a nation in mourning need to repent? Or, has God's statute of limitations run its course? Even if America believes it's not time to remember her sins, one day soon it will be.

On August 28th of 1963, one of America's greatest prophets stood on the steps of the Lincoln memorial and proclaimed that almost one hundred years after the freeing of slaves, the Negro in America still was not free, and that statement by the late Reverend Doctor Martin Luther King Jr. is still true today.

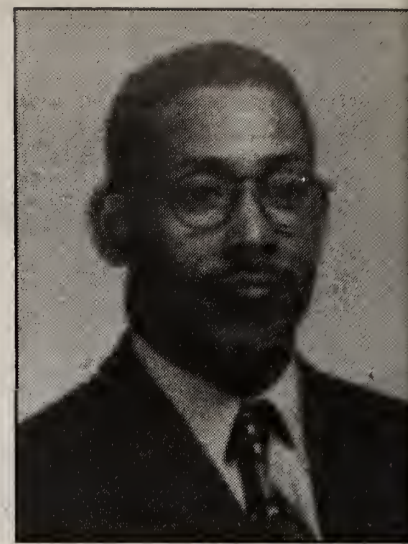
Neither has the check owed to African-Americans that Dr. King spoke of that day for African-Americans been honored, and administration, after administration has refused to recognize the debt owed to people of color by this country.

In a day deemed a national day of prayer by the President, America paraded before us its sanctioned prophets, notably, Reverend Billy Graham. In the course of his message he used the word repent. And, for a few brief moments I thought; is he going to go there! Perhaps, the hardened stares of the calloused politically powerful crowd sitting before him, made him think otherwise. In any event, he quickly retreated from the theological implications of that word for this nation, and left it hanging out there, unmeaningful, unattached, and alone. Since September the eleventh I have heard a lot of voices, but I kept listening waiting and wanting to hear a prophetic word. Is there no one to give voice to the dying, and the long dead? Have they all died or will they all die in vain, whose souls were snatched from distant shores?

Does America need to remember its sins? Does a nation in mourning need to repent? Has God's statute of limitations run its course? Or, does the blood from many ground zeros cry out to God from, The infamous Middle Passage, the plantations, strange fruit from southern trees, Wounded Knee, a Trail of Tears, The Red Summer, Rosewood, Tulsa, etc. like the blood of Able? And, were Hiroshima, and Nagasaki military targets, and the two hundred and forty thousand people who died collateral damage?

Many in the media say America has changed forever. But, the media blitzkrieg is not enough for the historically, and socially conscious to be lulled into thinking that in this country because of the recent tragedy we have closed the social and economic gaps, and healed the wounds of historic injustices perpetrated against Native Americans, African-Americans, and other minorities by generations of Whites in this country. Although, we mourn with, and for those families affected by these horrendous events we do not allow the dust clouds rising from the wreckage of the World Trade buildings, the Pentagon, or the plane crash in Pennsylvania to obscure the lasting legacy of Racism permeating the social, political economic, and cultural fibers of this nation. The word "evil" and a picture of Osama Bin Laden were posted on the cover of many national newspapers. But, that picture in this country use to be represented in this country by Native Americans, African-Americans, Japanese Americans, and now Arab Americans. We know "evil!" For us it once wore, and sometimes still wears clansman robs and hoods, bankers suits, judges robs, policemen uniforms, corporate power suits, or carried a legislator's pen.

America, calls itself a Christian nation, and recently in the media celebrated the courage of two White women willing to risk their liberty for spreading Christianity in Afghanistan. I guess when you really look at it; the epitome of Christian idealism is a willingness to stick your neck out, even if it means getting hung on a cross. Yet, when Black Congresswomen Barbara Lee courageously voted against giving President Bush total unchecked war power authority, she received many death threats. America has changed, when, and for whom? The saddest part of these historic injustices is the complicit participation of the White church. The religion practiced by many white churches is Americanized Christianity, and it leaves much to be desired. For the most part, the Christian-



Rev. Dennis Leach BS.M.Div.

ity practiced by the White church in America has avoided the issues of social justice like the plague. This could not have taken place without conscripted clerics who refuse to speak, or condoned the stripping of the human resources of Africa. Perhaps we did need to hear this nation was still strong, and able to defend its right to liberty, and freedom militarily. But, many still need to hear this nation is going to make a real move towards social justice and equality. A move that involves facing the nations sins of racism, theft, and repenting. Repenting, that involves more than words, but also real dialogue on the issue of reparations. America is and always will be a nation of hero worshippers, and some of America's heroes were demons to the Black community inviting violence, segregations, and discrimination into our social equation. America creates and chooses its heroes and prophets conveniently, and clearly along social, and economic lines.

In conclusion, God had to lead me to look back over two thousand and seven hundred years to hear a voice willing, and ready to speak prophetically. As you can see, sometimes the words of a prophet even in times of national crisis can seem harsh, and unyielding. But, has it ever been the right time to remind America of her sins? Does a nation in mourning need to repent? Has God's statute of limitations run its course? Even if America believes it's not time to remember her sins, one day it will be. I'm no prophet, I'm just a preacher trying to do the right thing, and what I heard in my spirit, was this is an opportunity for America to show grace. But, America doesn't do grace, or mercy, just ask Native American, or African-Americans. There is a song that we sing in the Black church that asks: "Do you have good religion, do you have it like the Bible says?" Does America have good religion, and does it have it like the Bible says? "He hath showed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God? (Micah 6:8) This country with its history, and practices of discrimination and racism chose to dismiss itself from the recent Conference on Racism held in Durban South Africa. But, one day there will be another conference on the matter of real social justice, called and convene by the God; America says it loves. Every nation will be in attendance. When that meeting is called to order, and the Lamb of God to forward to preside; every knee will bow, and every tongue confess; that Jesus is Lord to the glory of the Father. It will be a captive audience no nation will be excused, and God will roll his play-by-play tape of America's horrendous history, not just the one it celebrates. To this date, there won't be any incidence of repentance, or apologies for the horrors of slavery on it. To this date, there won't be any recollection of the repayment of its past debts to African-Americans, and other minorities. And, then God, who is the only one capable of rendering "infinite justice," will give to every nation its due rewards, evil for evil, and good for good. Amen.

# SHAW UNIVERISTY

## Shaw's Office Of Career Development Hosts Career Day

Shaw Univeristy's Office of Career Development held a Career Day on Monday, Oct. 15, from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. in the Spaulding Gymnasium.

Career Day provides public and private companies and organizations the opportunity to exhibit the various career opportunities within their organization. This annual event produces an atmosphere conducive for effective networking between Shaw University students

and the corporate world.

Some of the companies and organizations participating are: Belk, Capital Broadcasting Company, Carolina Holdings, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police, State Bureau of Investigations, Spartanburg County Schools, U.S. Army Recruiting, U.S. Marine Recruiting-Navy, Wake County Schools, ECU-Human Resource Department and more.

Career Day is free and open to students, alumni and the general public.

## Annual Coronation Ceremony Held at Shaw University

Shaw University held its Annual Coronation Ceremony for Miss Ayoka Gay, a senior from Havelock, N.C., on Friday, Oct. 12, at 7 p.m. in the Spaulding Gymnasium. Miss Gay, who is majoring in Computer Information Systems, will reign for the 2001-2002 academic year.

Miss Gay is a Presidential Scholar, Gates Millennium Scholar, Student Ambassador and Women's Residence

Advisor. She is also a member of the Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society, Shaw University Choir and is President of the Alpha Rho Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. In addition, she has worked as a legal assistant, consultant and developed a summer tutoring program called YES! (Summer 2000)

She is the daughter of Ms. Annie Morris and Mr. Ronald Gay of Havelock, N.C. She has a younger sister, Laura, who is a sophomore in high school.

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Psalms 46:10 "Be Still and Know That I am God"  
"He's More God Than I Ever Need"

## Shaw's Calendar of Events

### November

- Sunday 4** Rev. Joanne Brown Jennings, Marriage and Family Counselor (Chapel Speaker)-Thomas J. Boyd Chapel-Free and Open to the Public
- Sun.-Sun 11-18** Homecoming Week
- Sunday 11** Rev. Larry Williams, Associate Pastor, First Baptist Church of Lincoln Gardens, Somerset, NJ (Chapel Speaker)-Thomas J. Boyd Chapel-Free and Open to the Public
- Monday 12** Crowning of Miss Homecoming-Miss Tiffany Washington, Denmark, SC, Spaulding Gymnasium, 7 p.m.-Free and Open to the Public
- Thursday 15** Athletic Hall of Fame Banquet-Willie E. Gary Student Center, 7 p.m.-Free and Open to the Public
- Friday 16** Graveside Service-Memorial Gardens 10:15 a.m.-Free and Open to the Public. Founder's Day Convocation-Civic Center, 11 a.m.-Free and Open to the Public. Alumni Awards Banquet-Wake County Shrine Club 6 p.m.-Free and Open to the Public
- Sunday 18** Rev. Dr. Morris Shearin, Pastor, Israel Baptist Church, Washington, DC. (Homecoming Speaker)-Thomas J. Boyd Chapel-Free and Open to the Public



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## A Call To Greatness

(Book Announcement)

In 1970, L. Venchael Booth, was appointed a vice-president of the Baptist World Alliance nine years after he founded the Progressive National Baptist Convention (PNBC). PNBC is one of 13 member bodies of the BWA in the United States and Canada.

Now, in recognition of the groundbreaking work of his father who started this historic denomination, Booth's son, William D. Booth, has written *A Call to Greatness*. Booth is pastor of the First Baptist Church, Hampton, Va.

Among the reviews are these:

"...this book is important for several reasons...it provides a survey of the divisions...that produced a new denomination known as the Progressive National Baptist Convention...it is a valiant tribute of a son to a father...and acknowledgment that amid the pain and brokenness of schism...one truth remains: 'the greatest of these is love.' -Bill J. Leonard, Dean and Professor of Church History, Wake Forest Divinity School.

"From the distinct, unique and even privileged vantage point of someone who lived close to the historical drama about which he writes, William D. Booth has produced a most persuasive and moving essay about the actual founder of Progressive National Baptist Convention." - Clarence G. Newsome, Dean and Associate Professor of Church History, Howard University School of Divinity, Howard University, Washington, D.C.

To order *A Call to Greatness*, contact: Brunswick Public Corporation  
PO Box 555, Lawrenceville, Va. 23868  
Website: [www.brunswickbooks.com](http://www.brunswickbooks.com)

# Shaw University To L



Prior to the 1950's, formal theological education was not available to the vast majority of leaders in the Black Church. The epistemology of practice was knowledge grounded in experience. This method of knowing was especially true during slavery when Blacks were not allowed to learn how to read or write. With the consequences of slavery followed by Jim Crow segregation, Blacks were not rushing to seminaries to gain a theological education. Rather, with rare exception, one's religious education was learned "by heart." Persons who were perceived to have special gifts and talents were singled out by the congregation and nurtured into the faith by the pastor and elders of the church. This practice was reminiscent of the African tradition using the elders of the community to nurture promising young leaders in an oral tradition. The African-American community was forced to use a learning paradigm steeped in orality for what little education that was made available.

Between 1950 and 1975, the entire globe entered a Black Consciousness Movement in which Blacks were moved from objects of history to become subjects of history. During the 60's and early 70's, the movement was strongest in America. The Civil Rights Movement opened the door for the most significant political and social change since the Civil War. Under the aegis of religious leaders, Martin Luther King Jr., *et al.* two major civil rights bills were induced by a decade and a half of nonviolent struggle. The 1964 Public Accommodations Act brought down the segregated barriers of public access to hotels and travel accommodations across the South in the wake of the Birmingham campaign. The 1965 Voting Rights Bill significantly altered the political demographics of the South in dramatic fashion marked by the Selma to Montgomery March. As a by-product of these and other events, colleges and universities initiated Black Studies Programs in response to the demands of Black students and their allies. Blacks were finally recognized as subjects worthy of study. In response to the Black Consciousness Movement, the theological world also began to change. James Cone, Deotis Roberts, and Gayraud Wilmore were among the leaders of what emerged as Black Theology. This movement demanded an interpretation of faith in light of the experience of Black people in America. Shortly after the initiation of the Black Theology movement, Black religious scholars began to look more in-depth at Black Church history. Blacks in the Bible also became a hot topic. Several writers posed the question of Jesus as Black. The emergence of the Society for the Study of Black Religion (SSBR) in 1971 is symbolic of the strength of this theological discussion as an academic enterprise.

Concurrent with the events cited above, new efforts were launched to make theological education available and relevant to the Black Church. There were only three accredited Black seminaries at the time, namely, Howard University Divinity School, the Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC) and Virginia Union School of Theology. Several of the dominant seminaries began Black Church Studies programs geared to responding to the new emphasis to meet the needs of Black students who were preparing for leadership in the Black Church. While most of the programs were at the Master of Divinity level, one program stood out at the doctoral level. During this time, a new professional degree in theological education were recognized by ATS. This degree was the Doctor of Ministry (DMin) degree. While several ATS schools began their DMin program between 1971 and 1975, one school stood out as significantly different. Colgate Rochester Divinity School initiated an innovative program aimed at creating curriculum materials on the Black Church experience suitable for seminary study. Designed by Henry H. Mitchell, the Martin Luther King professor and Dean of the Black Church Studies, the Martin Luther King Fellows Project in Curriculum Studies commenced in 1972 with high-profile mentors for twenty interdenominational candidates of *master pastors* from across the nation. This program was designed to grapple with ministry issues in the Black Church and offered the Doctor of Ministry degree upon completion. Henry Mitchell mentored this program and graduated a group of black church leaders that has assumed a significant role in the leadership of the Black Church. More than fifty published works directly related to Black Church issues have been generated by this group of scholars which included John Bryant, Harold Carter Sr., James Forbes, H. Beecher Hicks, William A. Jones, Floyd Massey, Samuel B. McKinney, William Shaw, Wyatt Tee Walker and others. This



Left to right: J.T. Roberson, Daryl Ward, Prathia Hall, Samuel Proctor, Edward Wheeler, Mary Olson, and Charles Booth.

## Action Research in Ministry Theological Training for Black Church Leadership

By J.T. Roberson Jr.

model of theological training marked an epochal advancement in theological education for the Black Church. The MLK Fellows graduated in 1975 and no successful follow-up development took place with the model until the mid-80s.

In 1985 the model was transplanted to United Theological Seminary of Dayton, Ohio. Under the leadership of Mary Olson and Daryl Ward, a model was established at United that adapted the mentoring philosophy of Benjamin E. Mays and used Samuel DeWitt Proctor as its Progenitor. A new doctoral group was started in 1985 known as the Samuel Dewitt Proctor Fellows. This new group included such persons as Charles Booth, Susan Johnson-Cook, Mac Charles Jones, Frank Moore, Otis Moss, Frank Reid, Jeremiah Wright and Johnny Ray Youngblood, to name a few. Shortly after the first Proctor Fellows group began, several other groups were started.

Among them were other Proctor groups as well as groups mentored by H. Beecher Hicks, Henry Mitchell, Edward Wheeler and others. Several groups were started in which



Dr. Proctor lecturing students.

Samuel Proctor was listed as the mentor along with others like Charles Booth and Otis Moss. This phenomena marked the reproductive nature of the model. Many of those who had been mentored in the model were now coming back as mentors in the model. Some of the products who came back as mentors were: Charles Booth, Harold Carter, Claudette Copeland, Kevin W. Cosby, H. Beecher Hicks, William A. Jones, Walter Malone, Samuel McKinney, Otis Moss, Susan Newman, Gail Poindexter, W. Franklyn Richardson, Gary Simpson, Kelly Miller Smith Jr., Frank Thomas, Wyatt Tee Walker, Ricky Woods, Jeremiah Wright and Johnny Ray Youngblood.

In addition to reproducing itself, this model also attracted Black scholars from other schools. Mentors in the program from other schools included such persons as Molefi Asante of Temple, Albert Aymer of Hood, Leah Fitchue of Eastern, Jackie Grant of ITC, Forrest Harris of Vanderbilt, Dwight Hopkins of Chicago, Clarice Martin of Colgate Rochester, William Myers of Ashland, Ron Peters of Pittsburgh, Marsha Snulligan-Haney of ITC, Cornell West of Princeton, Edward L. Wheeler of Tuskegee and Grayraud Wilmore of ITC.

This model of ministry leadership training for the Black Church gathered the best of African-American theological scholarship, both from an academic and theoretical perspective and from a practical and experimental perspective and made it available to future leaders of the Black Church in a well-developed course of study. The model uses Problems Based Learning as a means to develop a dynamic curriculum best suited to engage students in a participant observer research-in-ministry method that grappled with real ministry issues in the Black Church. It uses a Christocentric model of mentoring and the passion of one's ministry calling to keep students urgently involved in the program. A quick look at the kinds of doctoral projects emerging from this model clearly demonstrates the spiritual as well as social mandate of this model. The model uses an epistemology that values the experience of the participant and the context, the guidance of the Holy Spirit, peer collaboration, as well as theoretical knowledge. Critical reflection and reflective dialogue are essential components in this model.



Dr. Proctor looking on as student Charles Booth robes his student.



Left to right: Cornel West, Claudette Copeland, Wyatt Walker and J.T. Roberson.

# nch Model Program

As director of the program for several years, J.T. Roberson was asked what was it about the model that attracted Blacks. The reply was because of the contextual nature of the program, and it uses an epistemology that resonates well with people grounded in an oral tradition. The resonance of the model with the African-American experience and the



(Left to right) Samuel McKinney, Franklyn Richardson, J.T. Roberson, Wyatt Walker, and Charles Adams.

Black Church is seen in the fact that the United Theological Seminary Doctor of Ministry program exploded in a very short period of time. In the mid-80s, the UTS program had a traditional program with approximately 45 to 50 participants. After introducing this model to the DMin program at UTS and bringing Samuel Proctor in to mentor, followed by others as mentioned above, the UTS DMin program swelled to more than 325 by the early 90s. The significant factor in this growth was the sharp increase in Black church leaders participating in the program. In the few short years between 1985 and 1995, the participation of Blacks in the DMin program at UTS went from approximately 15% to approximately 75%. The sharp growth is attributed to the model and its attractiveness to the African-American community.

The Action Research in Ministry model has been very effective in training leaders for leadership in the Black Church but the model has been located in a majority institution. The time is now right for this model to be planted in a Historically Black College and University (HBCU). There are now six ATS accredited HBCU seminaries. In addition to Howard ITC, and Virginia Union, there is now Hood, Payne, and Shaw. DMin programs already exist in Howard, ITC, and Virginia Union. Indeed many students left these three schools to participate in the UTS program. It would be difficult, at best, to get this model planted at a school where an existing model already exists. Of the remaining three schools, Shaw University Divinity School is in the best position to receive the model. Shaw University was founded in 1865 and is the oldest African-American school in the South. Shaw University has a well-established legacy of innovation and creativity in preparing its students for leadership. The Shaw University Divinity School has existed, in one form or another throughout the life of Shaw University and has shown flexibility in responding to the demands of new realities. Finally, the Divinity School was recently accredited by ATS and SACS and a new dean came onboard in January of 2000. North Carolina has benefited from this model as well. Some of the products of the United Theological Seminary program in the North Carolina area are Ricky Woods, Charlene Hendrix, Sir Walter Mack, Reginald van Stephens, Leonzo Lynch, Clery Phelps, Cornelius Battle, David Forbes, Cathy Gilliard, Freddie Barnes, and John Mendez.

A needs assessment has suggested that this DMin model would be very well received



N.C. pastors Terry Thomas and Ricky Woods.

in the Shaw University community. In a recent survey of ministers in the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, 95% of those surveyed indicated a strong to very strong interest in working on a Doctor of Ministry degree at Shaw University Divinity School. A recent letter from Rev. James V. Prince, Director of Chaplaincy Services for the Division of Prisons of the North Carolina Department of Corrections has suggested that there are more than twenty prospective students waiting to get started in the Shaw University Doctor of Ministry program. This documentary is provided to give the reader background on the model and to solicit support for transplanting this model to the Shaw University Divinity School. We wish to establish the **Action Research in Ministry Institute** or ARMI as the epistemological grounding for the Doctor of Ministry program at Shaw.

Your support is needed to make this dream a reality and return us to *Shaw's Universe*.

## Doctoral Program On Horizons at Shaw

On Friday, Sept. 29, 2001, Dr. Talbert O. Shaw, President of Shaw University, submitted a letter and prospectus to Dr. James T. Rogers of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) requesting that Shaw University be considered for offering a degree at a higher level. In fact, the accompanying prospectus requested accreditation for the Doctor of Ministry degree. This letter marks an epochal event in the history and legacy of Shaw University as it launches the effort to initiate a Doctor of Ministry program. Dr.

Shaw announced that the Divinity School has begun plans to make a Doctor of Ministry degree available by Fall 2002. This effort is being launched under the leadership of Dr. J.T. Roberson Jr., Dean of Shaw University Divinity School. Dr. Roberson, who has seven years of experience managing the Doctor of Ministry program at United Theological Seminary of Dayton, Ohio, joined Shaw in 2000. The challenge presented by Dr. Shaw was that Dr. Roberson and the Divinity School community must raise \$1 million for program planning, development and implementation. Dr. Roberson and the Divinity School community have accepted the challenge and are moving ahead with plans to start a doctoral program in August 2002.

Shaw University stands on a legacy of doctoral programs. It was in 1880 when the trustees of Shaw University approved a medical department and Judson Wade Leonard was moved by the appeal of Henry Martin Tupper to provide the funds for a medical school. Shaw University grew to include the Leonard School of Pharmacy and the School of Law. The doctoral programs became a symbol of hope for the African-American community as African-Americans were trained to serve the needs of their community. Shaw University had the first four-year medical school in the country. Many African-Americans were trained in the Leonard Building and then went on to provide service to their community. It should be said that service was provided to humanity, not just to African-Americans.

The announcement of September 29, 2001, was the first step at reviving the Shaw legacy of training men and women at the doctoral level to bring healing to the African-American community. The Shaw University Divinity School is taking a bold step to launch the Doctor of Ministry Program by Fall 2002.

### Join the ARMI And Be All That God Intends For You To Be

"I'm a soldier in the ARMI of the Lord. I'm a soldier in the ARMI." Recently, this has been the battle cry of many members of the Shaw University Divinity School community. Students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends of the Divinity School are all singing this tune. WHY? Because Dr. J.T. Roberson Jr., Dean of the Divinity School, has just announced plans for a doctoral program model called the **Action Research in Ministry Institute** (ARMI). This Doctor of Ministry (DMin) model has proven itself to be very effective in training leadership in the African-American Church. Dr. Roberson has announced that this model will be established at the Divinity School — the location of the ARMI. Our battle cry is to generate support for the establishment of this model.

**Our Commitment**     \$1 Million over the next year!

**Our Plan**             Recruiting efforts have begun and we are  
Looking for a few good officers and enlistees!

Accordingly, Dr. Roberson has mapped out a support plan for all who support this vision. To be all that God intends for you to be:

- a) examine the support structure shown
- b) determine your military rank, and
- c) get on board!

Please send all contributions to: ARMI Funds, Shaw University Divinity School, P.O. Box 2090, Raleigh, N.C. 27602. Please be on the lookout for further information in the very near future.

Persons giving \$10,000 or more	General of the ARMI
Persons giving \$9,000-\$9,999	General
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Persons giving \$4,000-\$4,999	Lieutenant Colonel
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Persons giving \$900-\$999	Sergeant Major of the ARMI
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Persons giving \$500-\$599	Staff Sergeant
Persons giving \$400-\$499	Sergeant
Persons giving \$300-\$399	Corporal
Persons giving \$200-\$299	Private First Class
Persons giving \$100-\$199	Private

Will you join us in singing

"I'm a soldier in the ARMI of the Lord. I'm a soldier in the ARMI?"

# NEWS AROUND THE GLOBE

## William Louis Poteat Scholarships Are Available

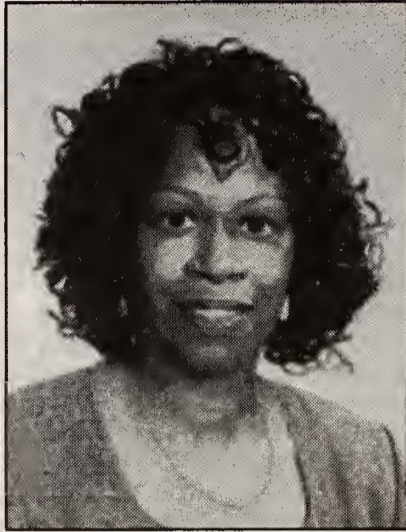
Submitted by Carol J. Smith  
Associate Editor

Wake Forest University offers the Poteat Scholarship to continue the historic relationship between the University and North Carolina Baptists.

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Deadline for applying to Wake Forest University and for the Poteat Scholarship is December 15. For an application and information contact Poteat Honor Scholarship Office, P.O. Box 7233, Reynolda Station, Winston-Salem, NC 27109-7233, or call 800-752-8570.

Other honor and need-based scholarships are available.



Carol J. Smith, Associate Editor

For information, please call the Office of Admissions, (336) 758-5201. see [www.wfu.edu](http://www.wfu.edu), or email [scholarships@wfu.edu](mailto:scholarships@wfu.edu).

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A new GED test will start January 2002!

Submitted by Carol J. Smith  
Associate Editor

\* The new test is more challenging and will require the use of a scientific calculator.

\* Those who have taken parts of the GED test will lose scores, money and have to start over in January.

Why lose those scores you have already earned?

Why waste the \$7.50 you paid to take the GED?

Earn your GED NOW and avoid having to take the new test!

**BUT TIME IS TICKING AWAY!!**

GED classes are FREE and located through Bladen County:

Council, Clarkton, Dublin, Kelly, East Carolina and Elizabethtown. Math and English instructors are available.

Don't miss your diploma by one point in December. **START TODAY!**

Fact: The average GED or Adult High School Graduate makes \$106 more per week than those who don't get their diploma. That's over \$5,500 more per year!

Fact: **Over 80% of today's jobs require a GED!!** Improve your job skills with us.

Call BBC's Basic Skills Department, 862-2164, Ext. 273.

It's never too late to finish high school or earn a GED.



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- The Wind of the Spirit
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# NEWS AROUND THE GLOBE

## THE 2001 EMPOWERMENT SEMINAR AND HOUSING BANQUET DECEMBER 7, 2001 • 7:30 P.M.

DR. WYATT TEE WALKER, LEADER • REV. DR. AL SHARPTON, BANQUET SPEAKER

Call for Tickets: 1-800-639-GBSC

Dr. Thurman Everett:

910-371-2196

Rev. Vinston Rozier:

910-865-4862

Send ticket request form on Page 2 to:

**Baptist Headquarters,  
603 S. Wilmington Street,  
Raleigh, N.C. 27601**

### 1ST ANNUAL CRIME & INCARCERATION CONFERENCE NOVEMBER 30- DECEMBER 1, 2001

Conference Site:

SHAW UNIVERSITY DIVINITY SCHOOL

816 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC

HEADQUARTERS HOTEL

SHERATON CAPITAL CENTER

421 SOUTH SALISBURY STREET, RALEIGH, NC

SINGLES & DOUBLES: \$79 + 12% TAX

### GIVE THE GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING

Church bonds are a great way to save money and are great gifts for Christmas, Birthdays, Anniversaries, Graduation and many other special occasions.

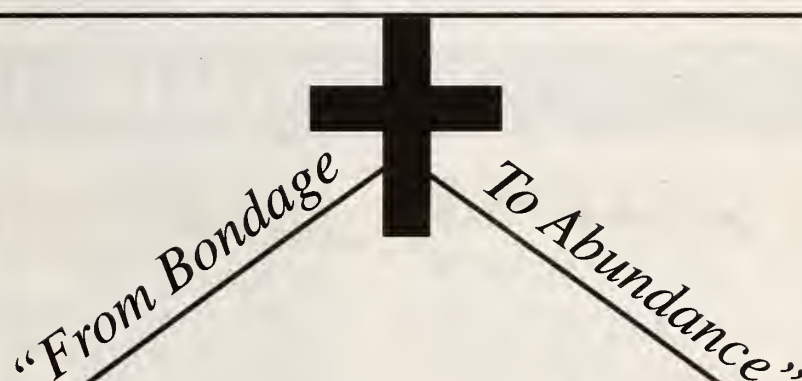
Children, grandchildren, friends and relatives can use these bonds to pay for college expenses, a down payment for a home or new car, supplement income, gift to the Foundation, your church or local charity or for just about anything you can bring to mind.

Some church bonds offer as much as 10% interest. This means on a \$10,000 church bond, you would receive an interest check for \$500 every six months. Once the bond matures, you get your original \$10,000 (called your principal) back. You also have the option of receiving all your interest plus principal at maturity.

Church bonds are backed by real estate and are a key source of funding for expanding God's Kingdom.

If you are interested in learning more about church bonds or to purchase yours today, call the General Baptist Foundation at 1 (866)-OURGOD1 (687-4631) or at (919) 858-7847, if you are in the Raleigh, North Carolina area.

**DISCLOSURE:** Church Bonds are not FDIC Insured or guaranteed by any bank or government. Church bonds are "mortgaged-backed" which means they are secured by a first mortgage on the church's real estate, including their worship facilities. A publicly traded secondary market does not exist. Investors may not be able to resell any bonds purchased should they wish to do so and should be prepared to have funds committed for an indefinite period of time, perhaps until bond maturity or early redemption. Additionally, church bonds are credit rated and the price of Bonds traded in a secondary market is subject to adjustment upward and downward in response to changes in credit markets and prevailing circumstances. Such price could be substantially different from the original purchase price. Principal and interest repayment is dependent on contributions to the church from its membership. Church bonds are tax-exempt.



### General Baptist Convention Of North Carolina Foundation

1400 Crescent Green, Suite G-100, Cary, N.C. 27511

Phone: (919) 858-7847 or 1 (866) OURGOD1 (687-4631) Toll Free

Web site: [www.GBSCOnline.org](http://www.GBSCOnline.org).

**THE MILLENNIUM STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN HAS A GOAL OF RAISING 3 MILLION DOLLARS IN 30 MONTHS TO CREATE AN ENDOWMENT, WHICH WILL ASSIST IN FUNDING THE EXPANSION OF THE PROGRAMS OF THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF N.C., INC.**

THE FOUNDATION HAS TWO WAYS TO MEET THIS GOAL:

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- 2.) VOUCHER PROGRAM (PLEASE CALL FOR DETAILS)

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# NEWS AROUND THE GLOBE

## Brother to Brother Conference A Huge Success

Submitted by

Rev. Dr. Michael A. Johnson, Pastor

The Brother to Brother Conference held on Saturday, June 16 at Ebenezer was a huge success. The purpose of this conference was to develop a dialogue and create strategies to assist young African-American males in understanding and countering the many difficulties which they encounter on a daily basis. With nearly 100 men in attendance, the conference opened with a plenary session which explored the purposes and goals of the conference.

Next, morning workshops were offered on the following topics:

- (1) The Impact of Education, Athletics and Community Activities on Social Development
- (2) The Understanding, Developing and Maintaining Positive Relationships Between Males and Females
- (3) Surviving the Traps of the Criminal Justice System, and
- (4) Developing Self-Confidence and Handling Stress and Discipline.

Lunch was then provided by our very fine and always willing to serve Kitchen Staff. Our hats are off to this great staff.

Following lunch the afternoon workshops began. Upon completion of the afternoon workshops a closing plenary session and inspirational segment was enjoyed by all. Throughout the entire conference, it was obvious how much this type of conference is needed more often. The conference was well received by all in attendance.

Some of the speakers on hand included the following: The Honorable G.K. Butterfield, Associate Justice of the NC Supreme Court; Dr. Les Brinson, Psychologist, North Carolina Central University; Attorney William Dudley, Deputy Director, NC Department of Crime Control; The Honorable Paul Jones, NC Superior Court Judge (Lenoir County); Mr. James Bowden, Deputy Secretary, NC Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention; Dr. Isaac E. Horton III, Chairman and CEO, Remote Light Company, just to name a few.

Conference coordinators Deacon Charles Joyner and Attorney Irving Joyner were pleased with the outcome and wish to thank everyone for the success of this extremely important conference.



(From left to right): Dr. John H. Grant, GBSC First Vice President and President/CEO of Mount Zion Community Development Incorporated; Mr. Calvin Hill; Dr. Jim Mullins, Chancellor of UNCA; and Mrs. Janet Hill, wife of Calvin and mother of NBA All Star Grant Hill. The Campus is located at 72 South Market Street.

### Elizabeth Grant Hill Campus of Learners

By John H. Grant, Pastor, President/CEO

During its 12th Annual Community Economic Development Conference in Winston-Salem this past July, the North Carolina Association of Community Development Corporations awarded its First Annual Faith-Based Initiative of the Year Award to the Elizabeth Grant Hill Campus of Learners. A program of the Mount Zion Community Development Corporation, named in honor of the mother and grandmother of former NFL great Calvin Hill, and current Orlando Magic NBA all star Grant Hill, the Campus focuses on Health, Technology and Entrepreneurship.

## ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

### GATEWAY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CREDIT UNION

*"Building A Spirit of Community"*

Announces 3 Months  
Enrollment Drive

Join Now!

Churches, Associations,  
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members.

Open your  
accounts NOW!

GATEWAY: THE CREDIT UNION WITH  
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Serving Warren, Vance, Person and Franklin counties. Gateway Credit Union is doing its best to provide its members and surrounding community with the highest quality service. Gateway has been dedicated to serving its community for a number of years. By offering services designed with accessibility, courtesy and practical means in mind, GCDCU offers its members satisfaction, understanding and dependability.

#### THE GATEWAY ADVANTAGE

GATEWAY began serving the members of Vance, Person, Warren and Franklin counties in 1994. As a Community Development Credit Union, GATEWAY continues to pro-

mote community, self sufficiency, and good money management. And in the new millennium, Gateway will remain committed to *"Building A Spirit of Community."*

#### OPENING DOORS AND HELPING THE COMMUNITY

#### OUR MISSION

Gateway's mission is to promote thrift among its members by affording them an opportunity to accumulate their savings, and to create for them a source of credit at a fair and reasonable rate of interest, and to provide for its members an opportunity to use and control their own money to improve their economic and social condition.

#### CREDIT UNION MEMBER SERVICES

In its few years of existence, Gateway has gained a committed and growing membership base. Currently serving a thousand plus members each day. Gateway offers services designed to enhance the member's experience. By offering quality services, the door to success has been opened for many of the credit union's members. Take a moment to see what we have to offer.

#### Loan Programs

- Automobile
- Share Secured
- Signature
- Home Improvement
- Education

#### Deposit Accounts

- Share (savings)
- Share Certificates
- Christmas Club
- ATM

#### Youth Credit Union

- Monthly meetings
- Share accounts (savings)
- Annual Trips
- Leadership Skills

#### Other Services Include:

- Mortgage Referral Partnership
- Pre-qualification for ... church loans

#### MEMBER APPLICATION

Member: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Account #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Employment: \_\_\_\_\_  
 SSN/TN: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Driver's License: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mother's Maiden Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Eligibility for Membership: \_\_\_\_\_

#### ACCOUNT TYPE

- Share (savings)
  - Share Certificates
  - Christmas Club
  - Loan
  - ACH, Direct Deposit
  - Payroll Deduction
  - Other
- Your Account is ....

Special Recognition for New Participating Groups  
and Organizations

#### For More Information

Gateway's staff is dedicated to providing you with the best service possible. To inquire about becoming a member of our community development credit union, please contact:

Operations Manager: Thomas Spence  
at Gateway Credit Union

314 South Garnett Street  
Gateway Building, Suite 10  
Henderson, N.C. 27536

Business (252) 492-5854 or Fax (252) 492-7832

# Namesake

## Elizabeth City State University Pays Tribute To Rochelle Vann By Naming A Building In His Honor

By Cal Bryant, News Editor

ELIZABETH CITY — To the average passerby, the quaint, two-story white framed house that sits just off a busy stretch of four-lane asphalt on the southern fringe of this Pasquotank County city is nothing more than another home in a series of numerous structures that literally cover the surrounding landscape.

However, to one Winton man, this house was once his home away from home.

In a ceremony conducted late last week, administrative officials at Elizabeth City State University (ECSU) dedicated the University Farmhouse in honor of Rochelle Vann, a Hertford County native and a 1947 ECSU graduate.

The University Farmhouse, constructed in 1922, was built to house the agricultural professors at what was then Elizabeth City State Teachers' College. Surrounding the farmhouse were acres of fields from where produce was grown to help feed the college students. An adjoining facility housed the hogs that were also used as a part of the students' menu.

"I use to get up every morning at 6 a.m. and leave Butler Hall for the long walk to the Farmhouse where it was my job to feed the hogs," Vann recalled. "That was about a three-mile round-trip and it had to be done before I ate breakfast and before I went to my first class."

While at ECSU, Vann was under the tutelage of two agricultural teachers, Simon Haley and Marvin Albright.

"Mr. Haley was the father of Alex Haley, the man who wrote the book, 'Roots,' that was later turned into a movie," noted Vann.

He continued, "Both of my teachers taught the value of hard work. I must have been listening because that's exactly what I did at ECSU—I worked my way through college. Looking back, I can appreciate that fact. It gives one a sense of satisfaction to work hard for something that you want and in my case back then, that something was an education."

"This building has always meant a lot to me," added Vann. "I thank those responsible for placing my name on it and I promise to continue to support ECSU just like I've always done."

Today, the Farmhouse—twice renovated since 1980—is used as ECSU's Office of Sponsored Programs, Contracts and Grants.

"Mr. Vann is a lifelong supporter of his alma mater," said ECSU Chancellor Mickey Burnim. "He can be counted upon to promote ECSU throughout the region and the state of North Carolina."

Burnim went on to praise Vann for his continuing efforts as President of the Roanoke-Chowan Chapter of the ECSU Alumni Association.

"Mr. Rochelle Vann has certainly influenced record numbers of people, both ECSU graduates and others, to join the Roanoke-Chowan Alumni Chapter," he observed. "Under his leadership, the Roanoke-Chowan Chapter has received the Outstanding Chapter Membership Award from the General Alumni Association for three consecutive years."

Burnim added, "Mr. Vann is an outstanding citizen and a respected member of his community. Because of his fine qualities and his affection for the Farmhouse, for which he holds many fond memories of his college experience, it was without hesitation that I submitted his name to the

ECSU Board of Trustees for consideration for this naming opportunity."

Betty Barr-Randolph, Vice-Chairman of the ECSU Board of Trustees, remarked that under the guidelines set forth by the Board, it was first and foremost that an event as big as naming a University facility in honor of an individual should not be taken lightly."

"Mr. Rochelle Vann is worthy of having his honor bestowed upon him and his family," she stressed. "Speaking on behalf of the Board of Trustees, we know Mr. Vann is worthy. He has been a very viable loop in making ECSU what it is today. He has been diligent in making sure that potential high school graduates know that this University is as fine as any one they could choose from to pursue an education."

She continued, "Mr. Vann has not taken a step back. He has seen the board vision, he has understood the mission and he has taken upon himself to become the drum bearer to make sure that ECSU will stand tall. His name will now go down in history and will be recorded forever. When the Farmhouse is spoken of today and in the future, it will be done in reference to Rochelle Vann."

Prior to the official unveiling of the Rochelle Vann University Farmhouse plaque now permanently mounted next to the front door, former Roanoke-Chowan area District Attorney David Beard offered his thoughts on the honoree.

"When Mr. Vann was a student at Waters Training School in Winton, he rang the bell to signal class changes," said Beard. "Today, he's still ringing a bell, only this time it's for ECSU. When he calls upon us, and I mean us as an Alumni family, you just say, 'what is it you want me to do Mr. Vann.' It's not by accident that the Roanoke-Chowan Alumni Chapter has the highest membership of any of the University's Alumni chapters. That's because Mr. Vann continues to ring the bell for ECSU."

Beard recalled a historic event during the Civil Rights era that allowed ECSU to enter the mainstream way of life in Elizabeth City.

"It was in 1968 that Mr. Vann was named as Chairman of the ECSU Homecoming Committee," revealed Beard. "Under his leadership, the viewing stand for the Homecoming parade was moved from its traditional spot on the balcony at Walston Funeral Home, located in what was the black neighborhood, to the Courthouse Lawn on Main Street."

Vann came to ECSU in 1970 on the heels of a 21-year teaching career at C.S. Brown School in Winton. At ECSU, Vann taught American History, World Civilization and African-American History for 10 years. He then served an additional three years as a visiting lecturer.

Twice (1972 and '74), Vann was named as ECSU's Distinguished Teacher of the Year. In 1994, ECSU honored him with the prestigious title of Professor Emeritus.

He is also a veteran of World War II, serving his country as an Army Medic in the Pacific Theatre.

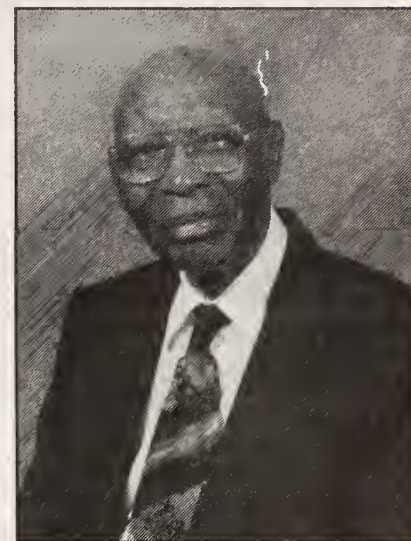
Back on the homefront, Vann's name became synonymous with that of a public and religious servant of Hertford County. He has served as president of the Hertford County Teacher's Association, the Chowan Sunday School Convention and the Triple C Bible Institute. He organized the Boys Development Club of Hertford County;

served as Cub Scout Master of C.S. Brown School Troop; was a part-time instructor at Roanoke-Chowan Community College and for 30 years was the Chairman of the Board of Deacons at First Baptist Church of Winton.

"It's like that prayer I use to pray each and every morning while I was walking to the Farmhouse—God, give me the strength to make it through another day," recalled Vann. "I give God all the praise and the glory for what I've been able to accomplish."

Joining Vann on his special day were numerous family members, including his wife, Susan, son Rochelle Carlos and Marvin, daughters Linda, Jacqueline and Brenda, and grandchildren Ashley, Jacqueline Renee, Jshontista and LaTasha Michelle.

"I'm proud to say that all five of my children graduated from college," concluded Vann. "No, none attended ECSU, but they went out and sprouted their own educational wings."



Rochelle Vann

It's perhaps a good thing that none of the Vann children graduated from ECSU because Rochelle Vann hasn't even come close to the thought of surrendering his position as "bell ringer" for his college alma mater.



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# NEWS AROUND THE GLOBE

## Dedication Of Kemba Headquarters and Education Center

Submitted By James Sampson  
First Baptist Church Reporter  
Rev. Dr. J.Z. Windley, Pastor

Saturday, July 21, 2001—11 a.m.—We came to our old building in Kenansville, NC and were led in devotions by Rev. Dr. Coston, singing "Bless The Lord, Oh My Soul." Rev. Dr. Windley led us in a most fervent prayer. Scripture was read—Acts 17. Rev. D. Coston led us in a long metered hymn, "A God To Glorify." It was stated after this great song that we have 49 churches under our umbrella, and each church will donate \$50. We were led in a song by our moderator — "If It Wasn't For The Lord On My Side." We were dismissed, moving to go to our new house in Warsaw, NC. Our Moderator, Rev. James Davis was led to a long sleek black Cadillac and we began our caravan. You wouldn't believe the cars that followed in the caravan. Many drivers pulled to the side of the road when they saw the long Cadillac. When we cruised in Warsaw to 860 North Pine Street to our new building, the people and cars were everywhere and we began to wonder, where we were going to park and if we were going to be able to enter the building.

Was I surprised, we had plenty of parking

space all around the building and the parking attendant had everything under control and the building seats 400 people. Everyone had to sign the register when entering the building. The program started shortly after we were seated. The Trustee Board members and honored guest were seated in the altar and the Dedication of the K.E.M.B.A. and Education Center began.

Welcome and Recognition of Guest — Dr. Larry M. Bell, Chairman, Board of Trustees, Greetings — County Commissioners, The Honorable Reginald Wells; Duplin County Commissioner, Warsaw City Council, The Honorable Walter Foster, Councilman. Dedication and Ribbon Cutting — Moderator James A. Davis. Selection — Litany was ready by ministers and the people. The Lord's Prayer was repeated by all. Thus we dedicated and consecrated this building, and rededicated and consecrated this building, and rededicated its furnishings in the name of the Creator and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

I know Rev. J.D. Morrissey, Moderator Emeritus and Vice Moderator, Rev. J.Z. Windley, are more than thrilled to see this great structure emerge in the middle of a large open field. Moderator Davis made their dreams come

true. Scripture — Rev. J.D. Morrissey. Remarks and Presentation of Keys — Clifton Halsey, Contractor. Presentation of Keys to chairman Bell and Moderator Davis. Hymn — "The Solid Rock." Scripture—Romans 8:11-19, John 11:47-50 — Rev. David Miller, Second Vice Moderator. Prayer and Benediction — Rev. Sampson Lemon, First Vice Moderator.

We were served a scrumptious lunch by the kitchen committee staff. We were filled with gratitude for the great work that had been created by the Building Committee. How excellent is thy name — the name I am speaking of is Jesus. We can't do nothing without Him. The Weekly Night Services were as follows:

Monday Night, July 23, 2001 — Rev. J.D. Morrissey, Moderator Emeritus and his choir and congregation.

Tuesday Night, July 24, 2001 — Western Union Association, Rev. James A. Mitchell, First Moderator.

Wednesday Night, July 25, 2001 — Middle District Association, Dr. Andre Carr, Moderator.

Thursday Night, July 26, 2001 — Bear Creek Association, Dr. V. Cox, Moderator

Friday Night, July 27, 2001 — Dr. Neverro

Brown, Hines Chapel F.W.B. Church.

All couldn't come together, it was broken down among the 49 churches like this: Monday Night — Friendship, Pender, Willard Chapel, Daisy Chapel, Mount Pleasant, Smith Chapel, Friendship, Duplin; Rainbow, Peters Tabernacle, New Hope, Watha; Otley Plain.

Tuesday Night — Mount Gilead, First Baptist, Thomasville; First Baptist Wilmington; William Love Grove, St. John, Wallace; Hill Chapel, Duplin; Roseville, Union Chapel, First Baptist, Magnolia; St. John, Rocky Point.

Wednesday Night — Hallowsville, Faison Chapel, Greater Six Runs, Mount Herman, First Baptist, Turkey; Mount Holly, Central Baptist, Shiloh, Masonboro, Pilgrim Rest, Stephens Chapel.

Thursday Night — St. Luke, First Baptist, Calypso; Mount Zion, Watha Chapel, First Baptist, Bowden; Eastern Chapel, Hill Chapel, Pender; New Hope, Wilmington, Newton Grove.

Friday Night — Halls Chapel, First Baptist, Scotts Hill; Poplar Grove, Manhollow, New Kenansville First Baptist, First Baptist, Warsaw; Byrds Chapel, Mount Roney, Wilson Chapel.

These are our Association's 49 churches.

## December 7-8, 2001 • Caraway Conference Center • Asheboro, N.C.

### A Passion for Leadership • 14th Annual African-American Church Conference

#### How can this conference benefit you?

- You will be strengthened as a leader in the local church.
- You will experience a fresh recounter with God.
- You will be motivated as a leader.
- You will experience fellowship with other leaders.
- You will acquire leadership principles on becoming a leader after God's own heart.

#### Registration Costs:

Commuter \$35.00 Before Nov. 20 — includes program fee, meals separate  
Commuter \$45.00 After Nov. 20

Overnight \$45.00 Before Nov. 20 — includes program fee, lodging & meals  
Overnight \$55.00 After Nov. 20.

Conference Center available to first 150 registrants, after 150, Days Inn/Asheboro available.

#### Conference Schedule:

##### Friday, Dec. 7

1 p.m.	Registration
5 p.m.	Dinner
6 p.m.	Opening Session
7:15-8:15 p.m.	Conference Workshop #1
8:30-9:30 p.m.	Conference Workshop #2
9:40 p.m.	Ice Cream Social
10:30 p.m.	Late Night Preaching

##### Saturday, Dec. 8

6:30 a.m.	Early Morning Prayer
7:30-8:30 a.m.	Breakfast
8:30-9:30 a.m.	General Session
9:30-9:50 a.m.	Break
9:50-10:50 a.m.	Conference Workshop #3
11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Worship
12:30 p.m.	Lunch

Fees are transferable and non-refundable.

## Just For You!!

Ministers of Music, Musicians, Choir Leaders, Directors and Members

Join us for a time of musical and choral instruction and application.

### December 7th • 3-5 p.m.

Pre-registration for this workshop is only \$10 per participant. A conference Choir will be formed from the participants and will present to the conference attendees a mini-concert on Saturday, December 8. Pre-register for this special workshop no later than November 20. After the 20th the cost is \$15. Please send payment in along with your registration form for the conference. Note this fee is in addition to the conference registration. For more information, call 1-800-395-5102 (425).

### REGISTRATION FORM

#### Who should attend?

Pastors, Ushers, Music Leaders, Deacons, Teachers, Ministers, Trustees, Everyone ministering within the church.

It's time to mark your calendars for the 14th Annual African-American Resource Conference, Dec. 7-8, 2001. Space is limited and reservations will be made as registration forms and payments are received.

Please print name.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City State Zip  
Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Church \_\_\_\_\_  
Commuter Overnight

Please register the following:

Name and address: (street, city, state, zip code) of persons in room. Two people per room required. No. of roommates listed, one will be assigned. Single room requests incur additional charges. Please call for price.

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
2. \_\_\_\_\_

(Please use additional sheet for more names)

#### Total registration:

# \_\_\_\_\_ Commuter @ \$35 by Nov. 20 or \$45 after Nov. 20 \_\_\_\_\_  
Breakfast @ \$4 each \_\_\_\_\_  
Lunch @ \$5.75 each \_\_\_\_\_  
Dinner @ \$6.25 eac \_\_\_\_\_

# \_\_\_\_\_ Overnight @ \$45 by Nov. 20 or \$55 after Nov. 20 \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Note: Conference Center available to first 150 registrants, after 150, Days Inn/Asheboro available.

(Makes checks or money orders payable to Baptist State Convention of North Carolina or BSCNCJ)

Registration Information: Mail this completed registration form and payment to:

Baptist State Convention of North Carolina

Attention: Lorene Wilson

PO Box 1107, Cary, NC 27512-1107

800-395-5102, 919-467-6100, Ext. 414

# VACANT POSITIONS

## EMMANUEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENT

Seeking Full-time Christian Minister of Music, Loyal and Committed to God's program. Must possess people skills, be trained as a Musician, Conductor and Choir Director.

Salary: Commensurate with training and experience.

Interested persons may send resume/portfolio to:

Attention: Trustees

Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church

913 N. Highland Street, Gastonia, NC 28052

## Notice:

### Pastor needed at Star of Zion Church, New Bern, N.C. 28562.

Submit application to:  
Pastor Selection Committee  
2101 Chestnut Ave.  
New Bern, N.C. 28562

## FIRST AFRICAN BAPTIST CHURCH

803 East Harris St., Goldsboro, N.C. 27530

Pastor: Dr. Freddie I. Barnes

### POSITION AVAILABLE: DIRECTOR OF CHURCH MUSIC

First African Baptist Church is a congregation of over 350 members with a Music Ministry that consist of four choirs, Sunshine Choir, Male Chorus, Unity and Praise Choir, Chancel Choir. Music in this ministry consists of gospel (traditional and contemporary) praise and worship, hymns, spirituals and anthems.

Applications and further information may be obtained by contacting Mrs. Johnnie Ingram, Personnel Committee Chairman or Rev. Jerry Dortch at 919-734-4935.

## MINISTER OF MUSIC WANTED

Wake Forest congregation seeks Minister of Music. Duties to include working directly with the Pastor in order to assist and cooperate with him in Christian Worship; playing during Sunday morning worship service; rehearsing with various choirs one night per week; and accompanying the Pastor on engagements to other churches. Please forward a cover letter and resume to:

Evans Grove Missionary Baptist Church • 12700 Creedmoor Road, Highway 50  
Wake Forest, NC 27587 • (919) 870-8874

## CEDAR GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

14600 Railroad St., Gibson, NC 28343

### CHURCH MUSICIAN

The Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church of Gibson, N.C., is seeking a person to serve as Church Musician.

**Qualifications:** Should be a Christian who lives and acts responsibly and has a good character and reputation.

#### Musician requirements:

\*Be able to play a piano, keyboard, organ and be able to work well with a diverse range of singers with directions for musical selections.

\*Be available for necessary rehearsals and Sunday Worship Services.

\*Be available to accompany the pastor and choirs to all church functions when requested.

**Salary negotiable.** Please send resume to Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church at the above address.

## CHURCH MUSICIAN

The New Hope Baptist Church, Gates, N.C., is seeking a person to serve as Church Musician.

#### REQUIREMENTS:

1. Able to play organ and/or organ.
2. Able to play diverse music.
3. Able to accompany the pastor and choir to church engagements if possible.

#### SALARY NEGOTIABLE:

Send resume to:

New Hope Baptist Church, PO Box 91, Gatesville, NC 27938

Attn: Fannie M. Spivey, Secretary

Inquiries may be made by calling (252) 357-1061 after 4:30 p.m.

## CHURCH MUSICIAN

Mount Olive Baptist Church of Lewiston is seeking a musician for a station church, a Christian who is responsible, has good character and a good reputation.

#### Requirements:

\*Plays the organ and piano \*Able to work with a diverse group of singers

\*Experienced in all sacred music \*Reads music and is versatile in playing by ear

Send resumes or responses to: Mount Olive Baptist Church

PO Box 214, Lewiston-Woodville, NC 27849 • Attention: William W. Peele Jr.

## MINISTER OF MUSIC

St. John Baptist Church, 8910 Old Annapolis Road

Columbia, Maryland 21045 • 410-992-6977

Overall Duty: To assist the Pastor in shaping, defining, and effectuating the musical elements of the worship experience.

#### I. MINIMUM QUALIFICATION:

- A. Bachelor's degree in music, or at least 5 years of experience as...
- B. At least 3 years of experience as accomplish/director for choral group(s)
- C. Proficiency in playing piano and organ
- D. At least 3 church-related references

#### II. OTHER QUALIFICATIONS

- A. Personal faith in Jesus Christ...
- B. Background (via education experience) in sacred music, including hymns, spirituals, traditional and contemporary gospel, and praise songs.
- C. Ability to relate well with directors and members of church choirs.
- D. Efficient administrative skills to ensure timely and effective communication with all elements of the musical worship experience.
- E. Ability to teach, direct, compose and play (by written notes or by ear) the various forms of sacred music.
- F. Ability to recognize and respond with appropriate music to the spiritual moods of the service.
- G. Excellent interpersonal and conflict resolution skills.

## First Missionary Baptist Church

The First Baptist Church is now seeking a pastor to serve as its spiritual leader, teacher, counselor and administrator. All interested persons should submit a letter of interest and resume to the Pulpit Search Committee.

#### Qualifications

Born Again Christian

Ordained Missionary Baptist Minister

Knowledge of Baptist Doctrine and Faith

Seminary Training preferred

Teaching Bible Study Weekly

Proficient in church organization and ability to train Church

Pastoral Experience Preferred

Family Oriented

Able to Plan and implement innovative youth programs

Interested Applicants should Mail Resumes to:

Pastoral Search Committee

First Baptist Church

ATTENTION: Deacon Calvin Graham Jr., Chairman

P.O. Box 679, Stedman, North Carolina 28391

## ST. FRANCIS BAPTIST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

is looking for a Pastor

This person should be:

I. Missionary Baptist

II. Have good organizational and leadership skills

III. Commuting Distance

IV. Family Oriented

V. Experience Preferred

Interested parties should send resume to: c/o Pulpit Committee

St. Francis Missionary Baptist Church, P.O. Box 736, Windsor, NC 27983.

## GREEN CHAPEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

450 Hickman Hill Loop Road, Havelock, NC 28532

The Pulpit Search Committee of Green Chapel Missionary Baptist Church of Havelock, North Carolina is searching for applicants for a full time pastoral vacancy.

#### Qualifications:

1. Must be an experienced, licensed, ordained Missionary Baptist Minister living according to First Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9

2. The applicants should have a vision for the church according to Proverbs 29:18

3. Must possess the ability to work with all age groups, with particular emphasis in youth development, and with all auxiliaries of the church.

4. Must possess effective oral and written communication skills.

5. Must be community oriented.

6. Must possess strong and proven administrative experience, with a broad knowledge of the Baptist Doctrines, church policies, and practices.

7. Must be willing to work with the Old Eastern Missionary Baptist Association.

Education: Must possess a high school diploma (or equivalent) preferring a degree or courses in Seminary Training, and willing to do further study.

Interested applications should provide the following:

1. A resume of relevant experience.

2. A copy of certificate of license and ordination.

3. One business and two personal reference (NO FAMILY MEMBERS).

All interested applicants should send resume, and copies of certificates to:

Green Chapel Missionary Baptist Church

Pulpit Committee

450 Hickman Hill Loop Road, Havelock, NC 28532.

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Third and Mulbury Street, Weldon, North Carolina 27890

The Pulpit Committee of First Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of Pastor. Mail resumes to:

Deacon Stanley Edwards, 908 Country Club Rd., Weldon, NC 27890

Applicants must have the following qualifications:

• Born again Christian

• Must be able to preach and teach God's Word

• Preach quality sermons

• Possess strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, policies and practices

• Able to lead and communicate with all age groups

• Able to work effectively with church boards and committees

• Some college and seminary training preferred

## Pulpit Vacancy

The pulpit committee of Olive Branch Missionary Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of pastor. Applicants should possess the following qualifications:

Must be a born-again, spirit-filled, ordained and divinely called minister with strong family and community values.

Must be a licensed Missionary Baptist minister.

Must be able to preach and teach Bible study.

Must have a broad knowledge of the Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures.

Must have experience as a senior or associate pastor.

Must be able to administer communion, perform baptisms, weddings and funerals.

Must possess strong and proven administrative skill and experience.

Must possess good oral and written communication skills and have the ability to communicate with all age groups.

Must be a just and fair individual and possess tact.

College degree is preferred but will consider any combination of education and pastorate experience.

Responsibilities will be in accordance with the bylaws of the church.

Resumes should be sent to:

The Pulpit Committee

Brother Elonza Joyner, Chair

106 Graves Avenue

Elizabeth City, N.C. 27909

elonzajoyner@hotmail.com

# VACANT POSITIONS

## GREATER LOVELY HILL BAPTIST CHURCH

The Pulpit Search Committee of the Greater Lovely Hill Baptist Church, located in Warren County, N.C. is searching for applicants for its pastoral vacancy. Currently the Greater Lovely Hill Baptist Church has regular worship services twice monthly, on the first and third Sunday.

### Qualifications:

1. Must be an experienced licensed ordained Missionary Baptist Minister living according to First Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9.
2. The applicants should have a vision for the church.
3. Must possess the ability to work with all age groups, with particular emphasis in youth development and community outreach, and with all auxiliaries of the church.
4. Must possess effective oral and written communication skills.
5. Must be community oriented.
6. Must possess strong and proven administration experience with a broad knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and practices.

### Education:

Must possess a high school diploma (or equivalent) preferring a degree or courses in Seminary Training from an accredited college or university.

Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume of relevant experience.
2. A copy of the certificate of license and ordination.

Send resumes to: Mrs. Lucy E. Branch, PO Box 52, Warrenton, NC 27589

## PULPIT VACANCY

The pulpit search committee of the Mount Zoar Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of pastor. Applicants must possess the following qualifications/responsibilities.

### Qualifications

- Born again, spirit-filled, ordained and divinely called with strong family and community values.
- Be a licensed, ordained Missionary Baptist Minister.
- Must be able to preach and teach Bible Study
- Must be able to work with all age groups with emphasis on youth department
- Strong knowledge of the Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures
- Experienced as a senior pastor, but will consider years of experience as an associate pastor
- Must be willing to attend Sunday School and teach Bible Study
- Spiritual maturity; preach and teach God's word
- Willingness to administer communion and perform baptismal service
- Possess strong and proven administrative experience
- College degree preferred but will consider a combination of education and experience

### Responsibilities

- Plan, prepare and deliver sermons
- Visit and commune with sick and shut-in members and bereaved families
- Plan and implementation of activities and projects designed to promote the church's progression and encourage active participation.
- Interested applicants should mail resume with a recent photograph to address below.
- Special notes: Photograph will not be returned

Mount Zoar Missionary Baptist Church  
C/O Ann Dixon

Pulpit Search Committee, PO Box 71736, Durham, NC 27704

## ANTIOCH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH OF GOLDSBORO, N.C., INC.

601 West Elm Street, Goldsboro, NC 27530 • (919) 735-2176

The Antioch Missionary Baptist Church, with a membership of approximately 200 members, is seeking a full-time pastor.

### MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Plan and lead worship that is sensitive to the needs of the congregation
2. Attend to the spiritual development of the congregation
3. Provide administrative leadership to the congregation, secretarial and pulpit staff
4. Council members having personal, family and/or work related problems
5. Support religious programs for children, youth and adult.
6. Develop and instruct weekly Bible Study Classes and directing the Bible Study and Sunday School Staffs
7. Support the church's financial program
8. Involve the congregation in the existing church programs and ministries.
9. Meet regularly with the chairperson of the Deacon, Deaconess, Trustee Board and other Auxiliaries of the church
10. Visit the sick, shut in and bereaved in the hospital and at home
11. Preside at funerals and weddings unless the families have someone else of their own choosing
12. Support the World Mission of the church
13. Share in the civic leadership of the community

### QUALIFICATIONS-EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

SAVED AND FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT and able to proclaim the unadulterated word of God that will lead people to Christ. Degree in Theology/Religion preferred. Ordained and at least five (5) years experience as a pastor of a MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH.

Interested candidates should send a resume with a cover letter to:

Pulpit Committee

c/o Kirby L. Hamilton, Chairman

Antioch Missionary Baptist Church of Goldsboro, Inc., 601 West Elm Street, Goldsboro, NC 27530

P.S. Please include a copy of your credentials (Ordination Certificate and License)

## PHILLIPS CHAPEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Phillips Chapel Missionary Baptist Church in Winston-Salem, NC, is currently seeking a senior pastor, spiritual leader, counselor and administrator. All interested persons should submit a letter of interest and resume no later than December 15, 2001.

The successful candidate will meet the following qualifications:

- Must be born-again, spirit filled, divinely called minister with strong family and community values.
- Must possess the willingness to follow by the By-Laws governing the church.
- Must have a knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures and be willing to follow such.
- Must be a licensed, ordained Baptist minister.
- Must have significant experience as a Senior Pastor.
- Must have a Bachelor's Degree in Religion, Theology, or Divinity from an accredited college, university or divinity school.
- Must be willing to work with all age groups with particular interest in the spiritual growth and development of our youth.
- Must be able to develop and share a vision for the future growth and development for the church.
- Must visit and commune with sick, shut-in and bereaved families.

All applicants should provide the following information:

- Copy of college degree(s), certificates of license and ordination
- Proof of completion of ALL accredited theological training
- Name, address and telephone number of (4) personal and professional references with no more than (2) coming from other ministries

All materials should be forwarded to:

Dr. Ernie Wade

Chairman, Pulpit Committee

Phillips Chapel Missionary Baptist Church

132 N. Glenn Avenue, Winston-Salem, NC 27105

## PENN AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH

225 West McClanahan Street, Oxford, N.C. 27565

Rev. Willie S. Darby, Pastor

(919) 693-5396 • (919) 693-1015, Pastor's Office

The Penn Avenue Missionary Baptist Church of Oxford, N.C. is currently seeking a MINISTER OF MUSIC.

### QUALIFICATIONS:

- \*Must be a born again Christian.
- \*Must be able to play the piano, keyboard and/or organ.
- \*Must be able to read music and is versatile in playing by ear.
- \*Must be able to work well with a diverse range of singers and age groups.
- \*Must be able to teach and direct hymns, anthems, spirituals, gospels and other sacred music.
- \*Must be able to rehearse choirs at a scheduled time unless otherwise notified.
- \*Must be available for Sunday morning worship services.
- \*Must be available to accompany the pastor and choirs when requested or provide a qualified substitute.
- \*Must be able to assist in the selection of appropriate songs for worship and services.
- \*Will be responsible with the pastor's approval in hiring other musicians if deemed necessary.

### Salary: Negotiable

Penn Avenue Missionary Baptist Church is a warm, spirited-filled church that has worship services 52 Sundays a year and at present there is one musician available for 2nd Sunday worship services. Service begins each Sunday at 11 a.m. with the exception of 5th Sunday services which begin at 10 a.m.

Please send resume to the above listed address or inquiries may be made by calling one of the above listed numbers.

## FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

715 West Willis Ave., High Point, NC 27260

CHURCH MUSICIAN

The Friendship Missionary Baptist Church are accepting resumes for a Church Musician.

### Qualifications:

Should be a Christian who lives and acts responsibly and has a good character and reputation.

### Musician requirements:

- Be able to play a piano, keyboard, organ and be able to work well with a diverse range of singers with directions for musical selections.
- Must have experience in church music (anthems, hymns, spirituals, praise and worship, etc.) of gospel traditional and contemporary.
- Be available for necessary rehearsals and Sunday Worship Services.
- Be available to accompany the pastor and choirs to all church functions when requested.

Salary negotiable:

Please send cover letter and resume to:

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church

Attn: James W. Flake, Pastor, 909 Barbee Avenue

# NOTICE

## PASTOR NEEDED

at

## Friendship Baptist Church

## Whiteville, NC

For Application Write:

Pastor Selection Committee

PO Box 1365, Whiteville, NC 28472

## Baptist Grove Church

7109 Leesville Rd., Raleigh, NC 27613

919-787-4528 • 919-787-9784 Fax • Baptistqc@aol.com

Baptist Grove (a predominately African American congregation) is accepting resumes for a Full Time Youth Minister.

### Principle Functions

- Provide youth and volunteer leadership
- Plan, conduct and evaluate programs
- Provide youth Christian education

### Qualifications

- Licensed Baptist Minister
- Strong program planning and implementation skills
- Excellent communication skills, (presenting, writing, active listening)
- Ability to effectively interact with all age levels

To apply, send resume and cover letter to:

Baptist Grove Church, Attn. Personnel Committee, 7109 Leesville Road, Raleigh, NC 27613

# VACANT POSITIONS

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

329 West Avenue, Hamlet, NC 28345, (910) 582-5732

### Full Time Position:

All interested ordained Missionary Baptist Ministers should submit a resume as soon as possible.

### Qualifications:

1. Good moral Christian reputation in the home and community
2. Sound Christian and Baptist Doctrine.
3. Pastoral Experience at least (3) years with Seminary Training
4. Divinity School graduate (preferred).
5. Dynamic Preacher with teaching and counseling skills.
6. Mature, Stable and Family Oriented.
7. Has interest and capability to build a comprehensive church program/visionary
8. Shows evidence of community, awareness and involvement
9. Ability to communicate with the congregation and public
10. Ability to train church officers
11. Willingness to visit sick members and administer communion
12. Ability to work with all age groups in the church

### Send resume to:

Velma Gibson, Chairman, Pulpit Committee  
First Baptist Church, 329 West Avenue, Hamlet, NC 28345

Or Fax to: (910) 582-2303

## MINISTER OF MUSIC WANTED

Wake Forest Congregation seeks Minister of Music. Duties to include working directly with the Pastor in order to assist and cooperate with him in Christian Worship; playing during Sunday morning worship service; rehearsing with various choirs one night per week; and accompanying the Pastor on engagements to other churches. Please forward a cover letter and resume to:

Evans Grove Missionary Baptist Church, 12700 Creedmoor Road, Highway 50  
Wake Forest, NC 27587 • (919) 870-8874

## PROGRESSIVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

2504 Creech Road, Raleigh, NC 27610

Rev. William H. Brock Sr., Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Leo Williams Jr., Assistant Pastor

Rev. James Richardson, Minister of Youth

Growing young Missionary Baptist Church in southeast Raleigh, Seeking a Christian Church Musician who can play piano/organ. Specifically organ. Must be able to read music as well as play by ear. Should be able to play hymns, anthems, spirituals, gospel.

Call church office to arrange interview (919) 828-8373.

## POSITION AVAILABLE: DIRECTOR OF CHURCH MUSIC

First African Baptist Church is a congregation of over 350 members with a Music Ministry that consist of four choirs, Sunshine Choir, Male Chorus, Unity and Praise Choir, Chancel Choir. Music in this ministry consists of gospel (traditional and contemporary) praise and worship, hymns, spirituals and anthems.

Applications and further information may be obtained by contacting, Mrs. Verna Best, or Rev. Jerry Dortch at 919-734-4935.

## ZION BAPTIST CHURCH SEEKS PASTOR

On April 20, 2000, Rev. Curtis E. Bender, pastor of Zion Baptist Church in Omaha, Nebraska, tendered his resignation. He has blessed Zion and the Omaha community with his leadership for more than 20 years. Although we will miss our Pastor, we humbly submit to the Will of God. Consequently, the recently formed Zion Baptist Church Pulpit Search Committee would like to solicit your help in this search. Please notify the members of your District/Convention that the Zion Baptist Church pulpit is vacant and that we have begun accepting applications for Pastor. Among other things, we require applicants who:

- Are Called by God. (1 Timothy 3:1-7)
- Are Graduates of an accredited and respected seminary.
- Have had a minimum of 10 years as pastor of a large Black Baptist Church. (500 or more members).
- Are members in good standing and with a track record of membership in the National Baptist Convention U.S.A., Inc.
- Have proven leadership and training skills.

Interested candidates are asked to request in writing applications from:

Zion Baptist Church

Pulpit Search Committee

2215 Grant Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68110

Please pray for our effort and thank you for your help in this notification.

Yours in Christ, Dea. Jesse Sharpe, Committee Chairman, Sis. Jacqueline C. Hart, Church Clerk

## SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH

US Hwy 158, Macon, NC 27551, Warren County • 252-257-5570

### Is Seeking A Pastor

The pastor search committee of Second Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of pastor. Applicants must possess the following qualifications and responsibilities.

### Qualifications:

- \* Born again, spirit-filled, ordained and divinely called, with strong family and community values.
- \* Be a licensed, Ordained Baptist Minister.
- \* Must be able to preach and teach Bible Study.
- \* Must be able to work with all age groups.
- \* Strong knowledge of Baptist Doctrines, church policies and procedures.
- \* Experienced as a senior pastor, but will consider an experienced associated pastor.
- \* Must have Spiritual maturity, and be able to preach and teach the Word of GOD.
- \* Willingness to administer communion and perform Baptismal service.
- \* Possess strong and proven administrative experience.
- \* Divinity school degree preferred, but will consider a combination of education and experience.

### Responsibilities:

- \* Plan, prepare and deliver sermons.
- \* Visit and commune with sick and shut-in members and bereaved families.

Interested candidates please submit resume to:

Ms. Sylvia Dunston, Church Secretary, Rt. 2, box 13 A, Warrenton, NC 27589, (252) 257-0221

## CHURCH MUSICIAN

First Missionary Baptist Church of Clinton is seeking a person to serve as musician. The responsibilities include playing for the Adult Choir on the First Sunday, and accompanying the other choirs on the remaining Sundays.

### Qualifications:

Should be able to play the piano and the organ, and be able to work well with diverse groups of singers.

Experience in sacred music is a must as well as the ability to read music and play by ear.

The musician is also expected to accompany the pastor and choirs to outside functions when necessary.

Interested persons may send resume to: First Baptist Church, 900 College St., Clinton, N.C. 28328.

## MUSICIAN WANTED

### Metropolitan Baptist Church

Rocky Mount, NC

Progressive church music department looking for Director of Music to provide leadership for growth spiritually and musically. Must have experience in church music (anthems, hymns, spirituals, etc.) or equivalent. Able to lead music and direct/accompany. Available on 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays. On call as needed.

To apply call:

Metropolitan Baptist Church

Rocky Mount, NC

252-442-4623

## MINISTER OF MUSIC • ST. MATTHEW BAPTIST CHURCH

P.O. BOX 1710, OXFORD, NC 27565

1. Must be a Christian to serve as minister of music each Sunday.
  2. Will prepare choirs for Sunday morning worship services and special services.
  3. Will teach and direct hymns, spiritual selections and other sacred music.
  4. Will implement and/or carrying out guidelines pertaining to choir members' conduct.
  5. Will rehearse choirs at a scheduled time unless otherwise notified.
  6. Will be available to accompany the Pastor and choir to church functions requested.
- Please send resume to the above address: Attention Pastor. Inquiries may be made by calling 919-693-6354.

## POSITION:

Interim Pastor to provide pastoral leadership and duties to a congregation of approximately 200 members located in Goldsboro, NC.

### ORGANIZATION:

Antioch Missionary Baptist Church  
601 W. Elm Street, Goldsboro, NC 27530

(919) 734-2066

### DESCRIPTION:

The Antioch Missionary Baptist Church is currently seeking an individual to perform in the capacity of INTERIM PASTOR. This position is not intended or expected to lead to the role of permanent pastor. This role requires you to focus on the pastoral task in the congregation during the interim period to help free the leaders of the congregation to focus on seeking a new pastor. You will provide leadership and stability in a positive manner during this transitional period of our church. The ability to settle issues and migrate the congregation from the former pastor to the new pastor is critical. You will be working closely with the chairman of the Deacon Board and Trustee Board when addressing issues that affects the congregation at large. While the duration of this position is unknown at this time, you must be available for any period from two months to two years if needed.

Major Duties and Responsibilities:

- Plan and lead worship that is sensitive to the needs of the congregation
  - Attend to the spiritual development of the congregation
  - Provide administrative leadership to the congregation, secretarial and pulpit staff
  - Counsel members having personal, family and/or work related problems
  - Support religious programs for children, youth and adults
  - Develop and instruct weekly bible study classes
  - Support the church's financial program
  - Directly involve the congregation in the planning and leadership of existing church programs and ministries
  - Meet regularly with the chairpersons of the Deacon, Deaconess and Trustee Board for planning and direction
  - Visit the sick, shut in and bereaved in the hospital and at home
  - Preside at funerals and weddings
  - Support the world mission of the church
  - Present social issues before members
- Qualifications-Education and Experience:
- Saved and filled with the Holy Spirit and able to proclaim the unadulterated word of God that will lead people to Christ
  - Degree in Theology or Religion preferred — however, will accept training and experience in Divinity or Church Ministries
  - Ordained for a minimum of five years
  - Five years of experience as a pastor or assistant pastor of a Missionary Baptist Church
  - Experience in working as an interim pastor is a plus

### CONTACT INFORMATION

For immediate consideration, please send a cover letter and your resume to the following address:

Antioch Missionary

Baptist Church

Attention: Deacon Lessie Davis

601 W. Elm Street

Goldsboro, NC 27530

## GENESIS BAPTIST

### Youth Minister needed full-time.

Qualified candidates must be trained at a seminary, mature spiritually, and experienced working with children and youth. Mail or fax resume and salary requirements to:

Genesis Baptist Church

Cathy Daniels-Lee, Search Committee Chairperson

2812 E. Bessemer Ave., Greensboro, NC 27405

Ph. (336) 379-1133 • Fax. (336) 379-1615

Web site: www.greensboro.com/genesis

# VACANT POSITIONS

## FIRST BAPTIST CHARITY CHURCH Greenevers, N.C.

The First Baptist Charity Church of Greenevers, N.C. is accepting resumes from interested Missionary Baptist Ministers for the position of pastor.

**Qualifications:**

1. Divinely called spirit-filled, born-again Christian with strong Family values.
2. Pastoral experiences is required.
3. Must work closely with the officers of the church.
4. Must have at least 2 years of college or seminary training.
5. Must be able to preach and teach.
6. Must have good leadership and communication skills.
7. Family oriented.
8. Have knowledge of and willing to follow Baptist doctrines, policies and procedures.
9. Must be willing to visit and commune with the sick and shut-ins.
10. Must be willing to work with all age groups.

Services are first, second, third and fourth Sundays with Sunday school beginning at 10:00 a.m. and morning service beginning at 11:00 a.m.

Please send resumes to:

Deacon Fernald Rawls, Jr., 920 Pasture Branch Road, Rose Hill, NC 28458

## MORNING STAR MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH OF DURHAM is seeking a person to serve as musician.

**Qualifications:**

Should be a Christian who lives and acts responsibly and has a good character and reputation.

- Should be able to play the piano and organ.
- Work well with diverse range of singers.
- Experience in diverse music (Hymns, gospel, contemporary, traditional).
- Ability to read music and play by ear.
- Be available for scheduled rehearsals, Second Sunday Morning Worship Service.
- Be available to accompany Pastor and choirs to church engagements as scheduled.
- Be available for evening programs as scheduled.

**Interested persons may send resume to:**

Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church  
4610 Fayetteville Rd.

Durham, NC 27713, **Attention:** Sis. Esther Thompson or Call 544-8596

## UNION GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH Warrenton, North Carolina

The Union Grove Baptist is currently seeking and accepting resumes from interested licensed, ordained Baptist ministers. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

1. Spiritual maturity
2. A minimum of three years experience as a pastor, but will consider years of experience as associate pastor
3. Administrative and leadership skills
4. Must be able to work with various age groups with specific emphasis on youth development.
5. Strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures.
7. Good oral and written communication skills and ability to communicate with all age groups.
8. Have excellent teaching ability.

Other responsibilities include:

Planning, organizing and implementing programs that encourage participation of youth and young adults that promote church growth and progress.

Please send resumes to:

Brother Alonza Jones, Board Chairman, Route 2, Box 128, Norlina, N.C. 27563, % The Pulpit Committee

## MINISTER OF MUSIC VACANCY SPRING GREEN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH PO Box 924, Warrenton, NC 27589 Rev. Dennis G. Lindsay, Pastor

The Spring Green Missionary Baptist Church seeks a Minister of Music to provide musical direction and accompaniment for 4 choirs in the church. This person will work closely with the Pastor to provide spiritual leadership in the ministry of Jesus Christ through music, i.e. hymns, spiritual songs, and praise and worship music that glorifies God.

We are accepting resumes from candidates with the following qualifications:

1. Born-again Christian, Spirit-filled, and divinely gifted in music ministry.
2. Willingness to spiritually align the music ministry with Pastoral vision.
3. Able to play the piano, keyboard and/or organ; able to read music and versatile.
4. Able to prepare choirs for Sunday morning worship services and other services.
5. Able to teach, as well as direct choirs, with humility and love.
6. Able to rehearse with all choirs on schedule, and available for all Sunday services
7. Able to accompany Pastor and choirs to other services as required (or ensure qualified substitute is available).
8. Able to select appropriate hymns and songs for worship service.

Please submit resumes to the address above. Any inquiries, please contact Pastor Lindsay at (919) 361-3003.

## UNION BAPTIST CHURCH 110 Lincoln Ave., Lexington, NC 27292

Needed: Minister of Music or Organist.

Please send resume to:

Union Baptist Church, 110 Lincoln Ave, Lexington, NC 27292. Attn: Rev. Darrell L. Thomas. Or call 336-243-1648 and leave your name and number.

# JOB OPPORTUNITIES

## POSITION:

**Interim Pastor to provide pastoral leadership and duties to a congregation of 400 active members located in the North Philadelphia area of the city.**

## ORGANIZATION:

Miller Memorial Baptist Church

1518 North 22nd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19121

## DESCRIPTION

The Miller Memorial Baptist Church is currently seeking an individual to perform in the capacity of **INTERIM PASTOR**. This position is not intended or expected to lead to the role of permanent pastor. This role requires you to focus on the pastoral task in the congregation during the interim period to help free the leaders of the congregation to focus on seeking a new pastor. You will provide leadership and stability in a positive manner during this transitional period of our church. The ability to settle issues and migrate the congregation from the former pastor to the new pastor, is critical. You will be working closely with the chairpersons of the Deacon Board and Trustee Board when addressing issues that effect the congregation at large. While the duration of this position is unknown as this time, you must be available for any period from two months to two years if needed.

## Major Duties and Responsibilities:

- Plan and lead worship that is sensitive to the needs of the congregation
- Attend to the spiritual development of the congregation
- Provide administrative leadership to the congregation, secretarial, and pulpit staff
- Counsel members having personal, family and/or work related problems
- Support and/or lead religious programs for children, youth and adults
- Develop and instruct weekly bible study classes
- Actively and visibly support the church's financial program
- Directly involve the congregation in the planning and leadership of existing church programs and ministries
- Meet regularly with the chairpersons of the Deacon, Deaconess and Trustee Boards for planning and direction
- Work closely with the Superintendent of the Sunday School
- Visit the sick, shut in and bereaved in the hospital and at home
- Preside at funerals and weddings
- Support the world mission of the church
- Participate in local community activities, issues and problems
- Present social issues before members

## QUALIFICATIONS - EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

- Bachelors Degree in Divinity, Masters of Divinity Degree preferable
- Ordained for a minimum of five years
- Five years experience as a pastor or assistant pastor of a Baptist Church
- Experience in working as an interim pastor is a plus.

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

For immediate consideration, please send a cover letter and your resume to the following address:

Miller Memorial Baptist Church  
Attention: Deacon David Pridgen  
1518 North 22nd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19121

## MOUNT ZION FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

The Pastoral Search Committee of the Mount Zion First Baptist Church of Rocky Mount, N.C., is currently seeking and accepting letters of interest/resumes for the position of pastor from licensed and ordained ministers. Mount Zion First Baptist Church is the oldest Missionary Baptist Church in the city of Rocky Mount, and the surrounding area, and prides itself on being a church "in the heart of the community, with the community on her chart." The soon-to-be-130-year-old church has a membership of 226.

Our congregation is seeking a strong spiritual leader, administrator, and teacher, who is educated and knowledgeable in the word of God, and a believer in the Baptist doctrine.

## Qualifications

- 1) Must be a licensed, ordained minister with at least a bachelor's degree in religion or related field.
- 2) Must have pastoral experience or significant ministerial experience.
- 3) Must possess effective oral and written communication skills.
- 4) Must be willing to work with all age groups, with particular focus on the spiritual development and growth of our youth.
- 5) Must be family and community oriented.
- 6) Must be willing to continue learning in an effort to prepare motivating and inspiring sermons.

## Job Responsibilities

- 1) Plan, prepare and deliver sermons.
- 2) Develop spiritual, enrichment programs that meet the needs of the congregation and surrounding community.
- 3) Be a good administrator/leader; work well with people to accomplish various tasks.
- 4) Work closely with all church auxiliaries.
- 5) Counsel members having personal, family and/or work related problems.
- 6) Foster programs that will carry out the mission of the Missionary Baptist Church.
- 7) Motivate members.
- 8) Support and lead religious programs aimed specifically towards the youth, young adults and older members.
- 9) Support the church's financial programs.
- 10) Pay close and careful attention to the credibility/image of the church.

Apply only if you meet all the qualifications and are led by God to do so. Letters of interest and resumes should be submitted along with the following information:

- 1) Copy of license and ordination certificate.
- 2) Proof of educational degree(s) and additional theological studies transcript(s).
- 3) The names, addresses, telephone numbers, and email addresses of at least four references, of which only three can be ministers.

All correspondence should be addressed to:

Christopher P. McPhatter, Chairman  
Pastoral Search Committee  
The Mount Zion First Baptist Church  
P.O. Box 1294

Rocky Mount, N.C. 27801

The deadline for application is November 30, 2001.

*Fall is here!*

# VACANT POSITIONS

## SAVANNAH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

6675 Tabor Church Road, Fayetteville, NC 28301

The pastor's search committee of Savannah Missionary Baptist Church is accepting letters of interest/resumes for the position of Senior Pastor from licensed and ordained Missionary Baptist Ministers. Apply only if you are sincerely interested and meet all the qualifications.

### QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Must be born again, filled with the holy spirit and called by God to preach the word.
2. Must be family oriented and possess a strong, Godly character.
3. Prefer college degree but will strongly consider a combination of education, training and experience.
4. Possess a strong knowledge of the Missionary Baptist doctrine, church policies and practices.
5. Be an effective leader, communicator, administrator and counselor with good interpersonal skills.
6. Must have skills required to work with all age groups with emphasis on spiritual growth and development.
7. Must have skills required for planning and implementing a vision for both spiritual and physical growth of the church.
8. Must work effectively with boards, auxiliaries and committees.

Interested persons meeting all of the above qualifications should submit the following information:

Letter of interest or resume

Copy of license and ordination certificate

Proof of educational degree, and additional theological studies transcript

The names, addresses, telephone numbers, email addresses of at least five references of which only two can be ministers.

The committee will provide each candidate with an information packet.

All correspondence must be addressed as follows:

Savannah Missionary Baptist Church

ATTN: Sister Ernestine Tucker, 6675 Tabor Church Road, Fayetteville, N.C.

## OAKEY GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH OF CLAYTON

is searching for a pastor. Congregational size is about 100 members with attendance of 50-65 depending upon the season. Worship service is held twice monthly. We are a small rural church located about 5 miles east of Clayton and about 6 miles west of Smithfield on Hwy. 70 business. Our congregation represents all ages and all backgrounds.

Our pastor must be knowledgeable and believe in the Baptist Doctrine. Must be a strong spiritual leader, administrator and teacher. One who will proclaim the Good News in a meaningful way that will help members learn to apply Biblical concepts to their everyday lives.

We are an autonomous Missionary Baptist Church that is affiliated with the Johnston District Missionary Baptist Association and its auxiliaries and the General Baptist State Convention and its auxiliaries.

Please include in your resume the following:

1. Name/Address/Day and Evening Phone Numbers
2. Age
3. Marital Status
4. Education/Schools Attended
5. Pastoral Experience (Where, When, Number of Years)
6. References

### Qualifications:

1. Ordained Missionary Baptist Minister
2. Possess Leadership, Administrative, and Counseling Skills
3. Willingness to follow Baptist Doctrines, Policies and Procedures
4. Able to lead and communicate with all age groups
5. Family oriented
6. Must possess good moral and ethical conduct

Interested persons should send resumes to:

Oakey Grove Baptist Church, Pulpit Search Committee

Deacon Loomis Hodges, Chairperson, PO Box 2435, Smithfield, NC 27577

## THE UNITED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

of Oxford, N.C., is seeking a pastor with the following qualifications:

Dedicated Christian leader

Ordained minister

Educated in the word of God

Can relate to all age groups

Skilled in administrative duties

Prefers a college and seminary graduate

Interested in building a church

Radius of 60 miles of church

Please send resumes to: ATTN: Deacon Rebecca Fuller, PO Box 2142, Oxford, NC 27565.

## FULL TIME DIRECTOR/RESS OF CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

Greater Mount Sinai Baptist Church

Dr. George Cook Jr.

### Qualifications

≠ Masters of Divinity or Masters of Religious Education or an equivalent degree/experience.

≠ Possess skills in coordinating and working with various age groups.

≠ Having had experience in this area would be a plus.

≠ Demonstrate exceptional skills in interpersonal relationships, team building, team playing and delegation.

### Appointment

≠ The Director/ress of Ministries shall be appointed by the Pastor upon recommendation by the Personnel Committee with final approval by the church.

### Responsible To

≠ The Pastor

### Status

≠ Full-Time (Forty-hour minimum schedule. Determined jointly between Director/ress and Pastor.)

### Responsible For

≠ Supervising and coordinating all activities pertaining to ministries.

### Salary

≠ Commensurate with qualifications, experience, achievement and commitment

≠ Salary range \$30,000 - \$35,000

≠ Fringe benefits will be offered.

### Responsibilities

1. To have general oversight of outreach ministries.

2. To provide training for ministries on a scheduled basis to include, but not limited to, such areas as: partnering with God in prayer, planning, communication skills, servant leadership, volunteer enlistment and recruiting.

3. Make available specific ministry aids to assist in gaining greater knowledge regarding the specific ministry.

4. Establish accountability structures for each ministry.

5. Establish a "Ministry Standard" which outlines measurable checkpoints.

6. Maintain a church-wide Calendar of Events to include all ministry events and church-wide activities.

7. Provide a vehicle for communicating various ministries of church to the membership and visitors.

8. To work with auxiliaries and groups to resolve any procedural and scheduling conflicts they may run into.

9. To provide monthly reports, in writing, to the Pastor that reflects implementation progress as well as upcoming plans.

10. Establish and maintain a time line to monitor the productivity of each auxiliary.

11. To perform other duties as assigned by the Pastor.

### To Apply

Qualified persons should submit the following items:

≠ A Cover letter stating your interest

≠ A resume or vitae

≠ Three letters of recommendation

≠ These materials will not be returned

**Deadline** All materials should be postmarked no later than Saturday, November, 17, 2001.

Candidates will be notified by Tuesday, January 15, 2002 concerning the status of the application.

### Mail all items to:

GMSBC Personnel Committee, Greater Mount Sinai Baptist Church

1243 West Boulevard, Charlotte, NC 28208

## Lee's Crossroad Baptist Church

Route 1, Lake Wendell Rd., Wendell, NC 27591

The Lee's Crossroads Baptist Church is seeking a Pastor and is accepting resumes from interested, ordained Baptist ministers. Please include the following in your resume:

1. Name/address/day and evening phone numbers

2. Age

3. Marital Status

4. Education/Schools attended

5. Pastoral Experience

6. References

### Qualifications

1. Born again Christian

2. Ordained Baptist Minister

3. Ability to preach and teach God's Holy Word

4. Possess leadership and administrative skills

5. Willingness to follow Baptist Doctrine

6. Must be a good role model of moral and ethical conduct

### Resumes may be sent to:

Lee's Crossroad Baptist Church, Pulpit Committee

Deacon James R. Adams, 1342 Medlin Rd., Clayton, N.C. 27520

## Galilee Missionary Baptist Church

PO Box 644/601 Pine Street, Oakboro, NC 28129

The Pastoral Search Committee of the Galilee Baptist Church is currently accepting resumes to fill its Pastoral vacancy. The minimum qualifications are desired for consideration:

• ordained Baptist minister

• be able to work well with church, promoting Church agenda

• teach and preach competently

• possess high spiritual, moral and ethical integrity

• possess strong knowledge of the Scriptures

• visit sick and be active in community

• active in Zion Association

• seminary training preferred and willing to advance studies

• attend church ministry functions

• coordinate and develop ministries to accommodate growing church

We have church services every Sunday (including 5th). We are looking for a pastor, not someone who only desires to preach. In interested please send resumes to: Deacon James Ashcraft, PO Box 644, Oakboro, NC 28129.

## First Baptist Church, 329 West Ave., Hamlet, NC 28345 • 910-582-5732

### Full Time Position:

All interested ordained Missionary Baptist Ministers should submit a resume as soon as possible.

### Qualifications

1. Good moral Christian reputation in the home and community.
2. Sound Christian and Baptist Doctrine.
3. Pastoral Experience at least (3) years with Seminary Training.
4. Divinity School graduate (preferred).
5. Dynamic Preacher with teaching and counseling skills.
6. Mature, Stable and Family Oriented.
7. Has interest and capability to build a comprehensive church program/visionary.
8. Shows evidence of community awareness and involvement.
9. Ability to communicate with the congregation and public.
10. Ability to train church officers.
11. Willingness to visit sick members and administer communion.
12. Ability to work with all age groups in the church.

Send resume to: Velma Gibson, Chairman, Pulpit Committee, First Baptist Church, 329 West Avenue, Hamlet, NC 28345 Or Fax to: (910) 582-2303

## Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church

414 Hadley Street, Wilson, NC 27893

Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church is seeking a licensed, ordained Missionary Baptist Pastor to serve as a spiritual leader, counselor and administrator. Ebenezer is a progressive church with a vision of growing in grace and walking with the Lord. We seek a Pastor with this same vision and passion, who is capable of leading our congregation to a higher realm.

All interested candidates please submit resumes and inquires to:

**Ebenezer Search Committee, Attention: Deacon Ronald Wright**

**PO Box 351, Lucama, NC 27851 • 252-239-0097**

(Applications will be mailed upon request)

### Qualifications:

- Ability to preach and teach
- Ability to relate to all groups
- Willing to deliver morning services on 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays
- Affiliated with the General Baptist State Convention
- Theological or Seminar Training
- Pastoral Experience of one year

# VACANT POSITIONS

The deadline to submit information for the "Baptist Informer" is the 10th of each month prior to publication.

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ADVANCED PAYMENT REQUESTED!

Chinquapin Grove Baptist Church is accepting resumes for its vacant pulpit. Qualifications include but are not limited to the following:

1. Called by God.
2. Preaches, teaches, and lives according to the New Testament.
3. Adheres to the tenets of the missionary Baptist Church.
4. Is able to work cooperatively with church officers and members.
5. Has a plan for the spiritual and physical growth of the church.
6. Lives within a reasonable distance from the church.

Chinquapin Grove Baptist Church is a small rural church that has services every Sunday. We seek a sincere, dedicated, humble, honest Christian minister as our shepherd. Please send your resume to the following address:

Mr. Richard Moore, Chairman  
The Pulpit Committee  
Chinquapin Grove Baptist Church  
4462 North Carolina Hwy. 801 North  
Mocksville, North Carolina 27028  
Telephone: (336) 998-3362

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  7. Radio Preacher, Evangelist, Bible Teacher
  8. Member of the School Board Advisory Committee
  9. Academic training in Counseling especially "Family Counseling"
  10. Ability to work with all age groups
  11. Wife is a University graduate with a B.S. Degree in Education and completing her work on a Master of Education, also a Public School Teacher
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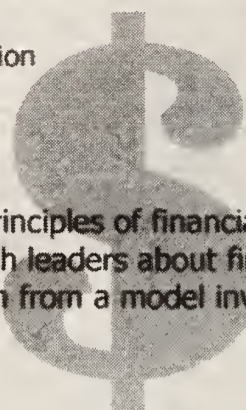


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About the Author:

Dr. Serenus T. Churn Sr., received his Doctor of Ministry Degree from Drew University, Madison, N.J., in 1979, his Graduate Certificate in Pastoral Care from the Foundation for Religion and Mental Health, Grasslands Hospital, Westchester County, N.Y., in 1970, his Master of Divinity Degree from Howard University, School of Religion in Washington, D.C., in 1969, his Bachelor of Divinity Degree from Howard University, School of Religion in 1965 and his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Morgan State College, Baltimore, Md., in 1962.

He was born in Camden, N.J., to the late Dr. Charles H. Churn Sr., and Violet M. Churn and was licensed to preach at the age of 15. He is married to the former Shirley Brown of Washington, D.C., and

has two sons. Dr. Churn is currently the Senior Pastor of Mount Zion Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, N.C. Member of Novant Health Board of Trustees, Mount Zion Site Director and Adjunct Instructor, Shaw University Divinity School and Drew University Theology School. He is the Radio Host of God's Trombone WPOL. He has preached across the United States, Great Britain and India.

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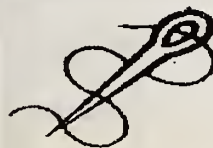
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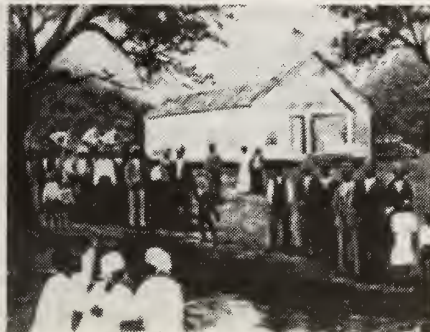


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# From The Desk of the Executive Secretary-Treasurer Rev. Archie D. Logan Jr., Ed.D.

## Why Do We Exist:

### The Mission/Purpose of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.

#### INTRODUCTION

**Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ!** As your Executive Secretary-Treasurer I often reflect on the MISSION/PURPOSE of the General Baptist State Convention. As we begin a new fiscal year I want to lift up this topic again. We must be reminded periodically who we are and what we stand for. As I travel across the State of North Carolina I am asked the question: What does the General Baptist State Convention do with the stewardship money we send in? What do we support? Why should our church, association or union support the GBSC? What is our Mission/Purpose? Pastors, Moderators, Church Officers and Presidents please share this information with your congregations, associations, unions: Why do we exist? WE EXIST TO HELP OTHERS! It is not about us but about those we SERVE and seek to ASSIST.

It is important that we keep before us as a CONVENTION what drives our Mission and Purpose. Why do we exist? Why did God bring together a group of free African-Americans, freedmen and former slaves in 1867? What is our work of ministry all about? As we march forward in the new century what does God want us to do? Why is the GBSC, Inc., still in existence? Why has God called you to pastor to lead a congregation? Why are you a Moderator at this particular time in history? Why are you a deacon, trustee, missionary, youth volunteer, usher, choir member, laymen, etc.? Why were you selected to hold an office in your Church, Association, or Union? Why are we apart of a religious body and not lost to the world? The GBSC, Inc., has been and continues to be about Kingdom Building. What can we do to promote the "Good News of Jesus Christ" through our unified witness?

**WHY ARE WE HERE? WHY ARE WE ON THE PLANET? WHY HAS GOD BLESSED OUR WORK & MINISTRY?** We have the leading African-American Baptist Convention in the State and one of the leading Missionary Baptist Conventions globally. Since our existence as an organized body the work has been dedicated to Evangelism, Christian Education, the advancement of the race, empowerment and Kingdom Building. As leaders of the GBSC, Inc., you are the vehicles that God uses to provide help and hope to those in most need.

**THIS IS OUR STORY,** keep it alive, pass it down through your congregation, association, and union. Let us always remember where we originated and why we came to be: In 1867, the General Association of the Colored Baptist of North Carolina was formed to support the "Gospel ministry and to promote missions." A small band of free African-Americans, freedmen, ex-slaves and white ministers from the Bap-

tist State Convention met to better promote the work of Evangelism and Kingdom Building. At 4:00 p.m., October 17, 1867, at the First African Baptist Church, Goldsboro, North Carolina, a small band of African-American Baptist organized, the General Association of Colored Baptist of North Carolina, Elder Lemuel Washington Boon, was selected to serve as temporary President, of the "Colored Baptist" of North Carolina. He opened the historic session and presided as President until the nominating committee elected the first permanent officers.

The first officers, as listed in the first Minutes of the convention were: "For President, Elder [William] Warrick; 1 Vice President Elder M. Ligon; 2 Vice President, brother A. Scott; 3 [Vice President], [William] Dewy; Recording Secretary, L. W. Boon; Corresponding Secretary, Elder [Edward] Eagles; Treasurer, C. C. Best. Others present at this first meeting were: Elders C. Johnson, B. B. Spicer, H. Grimes, John Washington, Charles Bryant, Sutton Davis, R. P. Harper, Stephen Parker, R. C. Carroll, W. A. Patillo; and, Doctors N. F. Roberts, A. W. Peguese, S. N. Vass, and Augustus Shepard.

God blessed the work and the Convention grew. With growth and changing demographics its name changed several times. Between 1889 and 1947 the several African-American Missionary Baptist conventions made attempts to merge. The first major attempt began in 1889 when a group of young men from the various Baptist conventions began to express a desire to bring the organizations together. On October 23, 1889 several of these organizations from across the state came together and formed the Educational Missionary State Convention. They realized that the work of African-American Baptists could be more effective if all state bodies were working as one. In 1915 at the Baptist State Convention, meeting in New Bern, North Carolina at the Guilfield Baptist Church, Dr. C. C. Staton, pastor; committees from Baptist groups across the state formally proposed that the bodies consolidate and form one body to carry out the objectives of North Carolina regular Baptist.

Key Baptist serving on the consolidation committee were: Dr. G. O. Bullock, Dr. A. W. Peguese, and Dr. R. R. Spiller. Meeting later at the White Rock Baptist Church, Durham, North Carolina, with former congressman, H. P. Cheatham presiding at the assembly, the bodies formally merged and took the name "Union Baptist Convention of North Carolina." The Reverend George D. Griffin of Hertford, North Carolina was chosen convention President. The Union Baptist Convention later was joined by other Baptist bodies, and on December 16, 1946, the body approved the Certificate of Incorporation for the General

Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc." The document was formally Chartered by the State of North Carolina, February 5, 1947. Finally, Baptist were united in a common Gospel mission and purpose. Today we come to reaffirm and renew the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.

The Convention has grown from its humble beginning to more than 600,000 members; the budget has increased from less than \$1,500.00 to more than \$3,000,000.00. The GBSC has five Auxiliaries: The Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina; the Congress of Christian Education; the Ushers' Convention, the Laymen's League, and the Ministers' Council.

#### THE WOMAN'S BAPTIST HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONARY CONVENTION

The Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention was organized in 1884. Mrs. Lizzie Neely, of Salisbury, North Carolina was the first President of the convention; Mrs. Lizzie Saunders, of Henderson, Secretary; and Mrs. Mary E. Tinsley, of Oxford, Treasurer. Mrs. B. E. Green and Miss Helen R. Jackson assisted in the organization of the body.

The WBH&FMC also initiated the work at the J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill, North Carolina. President J. J. Johnson and his family donated land to the WBH&FMC for an Assembly site in Scotland County. The present Superintendent of the Assembly is the Reverend T. R. Davis, Pastor, Jones Chapel Baptist Church, Laurinburg, North Carolina. The Assembly site was deeded to the GBSC in 1997. Dr. Clifford A. Jones, Sr., the immediate Past President of the GBSC shared a 20 year vision for the Assembly site. A 15 million dollar project to make it one of the leading Baptist Retreat Sites in the country. In 1998 the GBSC under the leadership of President Jones and the generosity of the Johnson Family purchased approximately 15 acres adjacent to the Assembly.

The current President of the WBH&FMC is Mrs. Julius McDonald, Monroe, North Carolina. For many years Mrs. Bethenia Horne, Winston-Salem, North Carolina served as President and Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the WBH&FMC. Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie, of Franklinton, North Carolina, followed Dr. Horne as Executive Secretary-Treasurer.

The Baptist State Sunday School Convention, was organized at the First Baptist Church, Raleigh, North Carolina, in May 1873. Dr. Augusta D. Shepard was its first President. In 1900, the Baptist Young People's Union was organized. As the Young People's Union grew and progressed, the name was changed to the Baptist Training Union, to include training for



Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr.

all Baptist Christians. These two bodies later combined and are now identified as the Congress of Christian Education. The current President of the Congress is Dr. Jasper Reed, Wilmington, North Carolina.

In 1947, the Laymen's League was formed and the brethren set out on their mission. The current Laymen's League President is Mr. Jarvis Morgan, Raleigh, North Carolina. The Laymen's work is coordinated by Mr. Romas Hales, Laymen's Field Worker.

Ushers of North Carolina met at the Baptist Headquarters, Raleigh, North Carolina with a committee from the General Baptist State Convention to organize a State Ushers Convention, May 31, 1949. The first president was Mr. Arthur Williams, Louisburg, North Carolina. The current Ushers President is Mr. Charles Fletcher, Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Mrs. Nancy High, Zebulon, North Carolina, serves as the Ushers, State Coordinator.

On October 26, 1988, Dr. J. B. Humphrey, President of the GBSC recommended that a new auxiliary be created: The Minister's Council provides leadership seminars and is a body that focuses on the needs of the clergy. Dr. Leonzo Lynch, Charlotte, North Carolina is the present Coordinator of the Minister's Council.

In 1991 the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc., decided to focus on student ministry in North Carolina at the eleven historically African-American college and university campuses. Reverend Percy Chase, Cary, North Carolina, serves as the Director of the GBSC Student Union.

The publication organ of the General Baptist State Convention is "The Baptist Informer." It had its origin in 1877, at Shaw University, the first name of the publication was "The African Expositor." Other names of our publication have been: Gold Dust; The Baptist Headlight; The Chowan Pilot; The Baptist Quarterly; The Baptist Sentinel Monthly; The Baptist Sentinel Weekly; The Union Reformer; and, The True Reformer. The current Baptist Informer is published monthly and is the leading Missionary Baptist state convention

(Continued on next page)

paper in the country. The current Managing Editor is Ms. Carol Smith of Raleigh, North Carolina.

The Baptist Headquarters Building was erected in 1953 during the presidency of Dr. P. A. Bishop and the leadership of Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Dr. O. L. Sherrill. In recent years, Dr. C. C. Craig served for over 33 years as Assistant to the Executive Secretary-Treasurer and Executive Secretary-Treasurer. Dr. Leo Williams served as Director of Christian Education for over 25 years. The current Executive Secretary-Treasurer is the Reverend Dr. Archie D. Logan, Jr. Dr. Logan was elected to the position on March 3, 1997. Logan is the 9th Executive Secretary he follows: Dr. G. W. Watkins; Dr. J. H. Moore; Dr. O. S. Bullock; Dr. W. C. Somerville; Dr. C. E. Griffin; Dr. Thomas Kilgore; Dr. O. L. Sherrill and Dr. C. C. Craig laid the foundation for service. The present President of the GBSC is the Reverend Dr. John D. Fuller, Sr., Pastor, Lewis Chapel Mission-

ary Baptist Church, Fayetteville, North Carolina.

**PRESIDENTS OF THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION**

- Lemuel Washington Boon
- George O. Bullock
- William Warwick
- P. S. Lewis
- A. B. Williams
- O. S. Bullock
- Edward Eagles
- J. S. Brown
- Lemuel Washington Boon
- R. R. Cartwright
- Joshua Baysmore
- J. T. Hairston
- Cesar Johnson
- P. A. Bishop
- Joshua Perry
- R. Mack Pitts
- N. F. Roberts
- John W. White
- J. J. Worlds
- C. R. Edwards

- Augustus D. Shepherd
- J. J. Johnson
- C. S. Brown
- J. R. Manley
- J. A. Whitted
- E. Burns Turner
- A. W. Pegues
- James B. Humphrey
- E. E. Smith
- W. B. Lewis
- George D. Griffin
- Clifford A. Jones, Sr.
- John D. Fuller, Sr.

in that year. In 1887 the orphanage was chartered as the "Colored Orphanage Asylum of North Carolina" a name it carried for 40 years. Over the years the Home has been named the Oxford Orphanage and now is known as The Central Children's Home

Today the Home cares for boys and girls who are deprived of parents by neglect or death. The services provided are food, clothing, shelter, education, religious and recreational opportunities to help them become mature adults. The Executive Director is Mr. Michael Alston.

**LOTT CAREY**

The Lott Carey Baptist and Foreign Mission Convention of the United States was organized, December 16, 1897 at the Shiloh Baptist Church, Washington, D.C. Our foreign missions program provides support for 133 foreign missionaries in seven categories (Guyana, Northern & Southern India, Liberia, Kenya, South Africa, Jamaica, Haiti and Nigeria). The Lott Carey Convention has just concluded its 104th Annual Session, in Columbus, Ohio under the leadership of Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Dr. Emanuel Goatley. The Convention support includes building churches, hospitals, clinics, and schools around the world. It also sponsors, institutes, workshops and seminars for members of the GBSC.

The Lott Carey has been a leader in response to the HIV/AIDS pandemic. If African-Americans do not lead the war against this deadly plague who will? We must seek comfort and cure for our Sisters and Brothers around the world. There is a balm of cure.

**CONCLUSION**

These institutions give us insight and focus on WHO we are as GENERAL BAPTIST. First and foremost we are about the SALVATION of the lost! We seek to spread the Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. God has also given us a special MISSION/PURPOSE to help and assist others those who hurt, suffer and are oppressed. We are called share the GOOD NEWS the JOY OF SALVATION the HOPE of HIS PROMISES and LOVE.

The main reason we exist is to assist others. We encourage members of our Convention to support our Mission Objectives. In recent years the Convention has extended its mission/purpose through its Health and Human Services Program; Adoption and Foster Care Ministry; and, its Housing and Disaster Relief Ministry. Join us in 2001-2002 as we make a greater witness to our calling. We cannot rest on our past success not find satisfaction on what we have accomplished. The challenge before us is greater. We must find a way to do more for those causes we believe in.

**PEACE \*\* JOY \*\* UNITY!**

**SHAW UNIVERSITY & SHAW UNIVERSITY DIVINITY SCHOOL**

From the very beginning the GBSC and Shaw University have been joined in a bond of Christian Education, fellowship, and the training of African-American clergy-persons. Shaw was founded by Reverend Dr. Henry Martin Tupper, December 1, 1865. Dr. Tupper's work began with African-American adults at the close of the Civil War in Raleigh, North Carolina through the promotion of literacy and Christian education. Shaw University is the oldest African-American Institution of Higher Learning in the South. His work continued through adult basic education classes at Shaw Collegiate Institute, 1865-1875 and, Continuing and Professional Education for African-American adults at Shaw University, 1875-1893. Dr. Tupper laid a strong foundation for Christian Education ministry, before his death in 1893.

Today Shaw University and the Shaw University Divinity School provide educational opportunities for more than 2,400 college students. The Divinity School provides religious training for men and women who are preparing for the Gospel ministry and to teach in areas of Christian Education. Both the University and Divinity School are fully accredited. Dr. Talbert O. Shaw is the current President of the University and Divinity School. Dr. J. T. Roberson is the Dean of the Divinity School. Attorney Willie Gary, is the current Trustee Board Chairman. Under the leadership of Dr. Shaw and Attorney Gary, Shaw University has become one of the leading Universities in the world. Its Department of Ethics is the leader in educational circles.

**THE CENTRAL CHILDREN'S HOME**

The thought of an orphan home for African-American children was born in the Shiloh Baptist Church, Henderson, North Carolina, the Reverend Dr. Augustus Shepherd, Pastor and the Wake Baptist Association in 1882. They proposed the formation of the "Colored Orphanage Association." In 1885 the orphanage was officially named "The Grant Colored Asylum" in honor of President Ulysses S. Grant, who died

**Statement of Ownership**

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Full Name	Complete Mailing Address
<b>General Baptist State Convention of NC</b>	<b>Same as above</b>
<b>Dr. Archie D. Logan, Jr.</b>	<b>Same as above</b>

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Full Name	Complete Mailing Address

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a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)	<b>9,683</b>	<b>9,872</b>
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(2) Paid In-County Subscriptions Stated on Form 3541 (Include advertiser's proof and exchange copies)	<b>76</b>	<b>87</b>
(3) Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Non-USPS Paid Distribution	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
(4) Other Classes Mailed Through the USPS	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
c. Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4))	<b>9,183</b>	<b>9,372</b>
d. Free Distribution by Mail (Samples, complimentary, and other free)		
(1) Outside-County as Stated on Form 3541		
(2) In-County as Stated on Form 3541		
(3) Other Classes Mailed Through the USPS		
e. Free Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)	<b>450</b>	<b>450</b>
f. Total Free Distribution (Sum of 15d and 15e)	<b>450</b>	<b>450</b>
g. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15f)	<b>9,633</b>	<b>9,822</b>
h. Copies not Distributed	<b>50</b>	<b>50</b>
i. Total (Sum of 15g and h.)	<b>9,683</b>	<b>9,872</b>
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I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

*Have a Safe and Happy Thanksgiving,  
 from our church families to yours!*



# GENERAL BAPTIST LAUNCH HISTORIC MILLENNIUM STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN 3 Million Dollars in 30 Months

By Dr. W.B. Lewis, Past President, Overall Chairperson

Deuteronomy 34:1-4. "Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is across from Jericho. And the Lord showed him all the land of Gilead as far as Dan, all Naphtali and the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, the South, and the plain of the Valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees, as far as Zoar. Then the Lord said to him, "This is the land of which I swore to give Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, saying, 'I will give it to your descendants.' I have caused you to see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there." (NKJV)

During our 134th Annual Session, held in Asheville, NC, on November 1, 2001, we make our official announcement of our 3 Million Dollar 30 Month Stewardship Campaign. All Pastors, Moderators and leaders have been notified and given material about the Campaign. We have outlined our work at the present time, and where we must go to maintain our MISSION/MINISTRY/MESSAGE! We must have your prayers and support. This initiative will be the greatest and largest in GBSC, Inc. history. We must move our work form clearinghouse to Kingdom station. The funds received from this campaign will be used to build the infrastructures for the expanded GBSC, Inc. programs including: A new Headquarters Building; The General Baptist Foundation; Health & Human Services; Adoption & Foster Care; Housing & Faith-Based Development.

Our Stewardship Campaign will have four major components:

- ✓ STATE MISSIONS: We will ask each Church, Association, Union and GBSC Auxiliary to support the Campaign.
- ✓ GENERAL BAPTIST FOUNDATION, INC; The GBF, Inc., will coordinate Corporate and Private Giving: \$3,000; \$30,000; \$300,000 gifts.
- ✓ PERSONAL CONTRIBUTIONS: Each General Baptist will be asked to contribute.
- ✓ Change For CHANGE PROGRAM: Every church will be given a Change For CHANGE container to support the work.

The Executive Secretary-Treasurer, The President and Vice-Presidents and a Statewide Steering Committee will head this Campaign along with the Chairperson of the Foundation, and Convention Moderators. We have been given the VISION by GOD—come run with us to see what the end will be. We call on you to pray that God will lead us to do HIS work at such a time as this. Call for information 1-800-639-GBSC alogan@gbsc.org. Join the Campaign Team today; we need your prayers and help.

**PEACE • POWER • PRAYER**

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# Baptist Informer

Vol. 124, No. 11

Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc.  
Voice of 500,000 North Carolina Baptists

November 2001

## 1st Annual Crime & Incarceration Conference

### November 30-December 1, 2001

Conference Site: Shaw University Divinity School

816 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, N.C. 27601

Headquarters Hotel: Sheraton Capital Center

421 South Salisbury Street, Raleigh, N.C. 27601

**Singles & Doubles — \$79.00 + 12% Tax**

*Reaching, Reconciling, Restoring Broken Lives*

(See Page 12)

2001 Empowerment Seminar Housing & Banquet

**December 7 • Greensboro, N.C.**

Wyatt Tee Walker, Lecturer • Al Sharpton, Banquet Speaker

(See Front Page)

Page 1	2001 Empowerment Seminar	Page 15	New Pastor's Corner
Page 2	Executive Secretary	Page 16	Health & Fitness
Page 3	President's Page	Page 17	Evangelism Corner
Page 3	President's Page	Page 18	Rev. Leach's Column
Pages 4-6	Woman's Page	Page 19	Shaw University News
Page 7	Laymen's League News	Pages 20,21	Shaw's Model Program
Pages 8-11	Adoption & Foster Care	Pages 22-26	News Around The Globe
Page 12	Institution Ministry	Pages 27-31	Vacant Positions
Page 13	From the Moderator	Pages 32-37	Advertisements
Page 14	Kid's Corner	Pages 38-39	Why Do We Exist?

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# BAPTIST INFORMER

B 2233

Volume 124, Number 12

Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C. Inc.  
Voice of 500,000 North Carolina Baptists

December 2001

## General Baptist State Convention 2001 Year Ends December 31, 2001

By Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr.  
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

We greet you in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ! Another GBSC year is coming to an end. This year we have not received projected stewardship contributions. Several churches have not met their pledges and stewardship quotas. If you have not sent your stewardship contributions to the GBSC during 2001 please send them to Baptist Headquarters, 603 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, N.C. 27601-2338, 919-821-7466, 800-639-GBSC, as soon as possible and before December 21, 2001. Please pray for the success of our glorious cause.

The GBSC has made a measurable difference in the lives of lost souls, high-risk health populations, flood victims and deeply hurting people; however, we need your additional steward-

ship contributions this year. Please send your checks before December 21, 2001. The GBSC is a family, if we all carry our corner the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ can reach the loss and those in need. We have made commitments to Shaw University, Shaw University Divinity School, Central Children's Home, Lott Carey, State Missions and other worthy causes that must be met. The GBSC staff will be contacting you for your commitments!

We realize that all of you have obligations and responsibilities of your own Churches and Associations. Our appeal starts from the "bottom-up." If your Church or Association has not made ANY OR ONLY A SMALL STEWARDSHIP CONTRIBUTION to the "work" of the GBSC this year please send your stewardship checks today. We still are receiving 2001 contribu-

tions and suggested quotas for the Ushers, Congresses of Christian Education, Laymen's Leagues, the UNIFIED PROGRAM, designated gifts and worthy causes. Every stewardship contribution makes a difference, regardless of how large or small! The strength of the GBSC is in our unity. Each Church, each Association, each Union, and each member of the convention is like a link on a chain. As we join together in support of common goals and objectives we are able to do great mission work and ministry. The greater the support we have for the causes of Kingdom building.

Finally, President John D. Fuller Jr., joins me in thanking you for your support and sacrifices this fiscal year. Many



Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr.

of you have gone the extra mile to support the "work." Please send your contributions before December 21, 2001. *The Challenge Is The Same: Reach The — Masses*" (John 12:32) KJV

## Praise God! The GBSC Celebrates 135 Years

2002 Proclaimed Year of Celebration  
& Remembrance

By Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President

Our Convention has its beginnings at 4 p.m., Oct. 17, 1867, at the First African Baptist Church in Goldsboro, N.C., when a small band of African-American Baptist organized, the General Association of Colored Baptist of North Carolina, Elder Lemuel Washington Boon, was selected to serve as temporary President, of the "Colored Baptist" of North Carolina. He opened the historic session and presided as President until the nominating committee elected the first permanent officers. The first officers, as listed in the first Minutes of the convention were: "For President, Elder (William) Warrick; 1. Vice President Elder M. Ligon; 2. Vice President, Brother A. Scott; 3. (Vice President), (William) Dewy; Recording Secretary; L.W. Boon; Corresponding Secretary, Elder (Edward) Eagles; Treasurer, C.C. Best."

We have grown from our humble beginning to more than 2,000 churches, 62 Associations and over 600,000 members; the State Mission budget has increased from less than \$1,500 to more than \$3,000,000. The GBSC has five Auxiliaries: The Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina; the Congress of Christian Education; the Ushers' Con-

vention, the Laymen's League, and the Ministers' Council. The GBSC supports several major Objectives: State Missions; Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention (Foreign Mission); Shaw University; Shaw University Divinity School; and Central Children's Home. We support health, housing and adoption/foster care.

God has blessed and kept the work for many seasons. GBSC President Dr. John D. Fuller Sr. has proclaimed 2002 as a year of celebration and remembrance. During 2002 we will officially celebrate our 135th year. We will have special events, memorial services and tributes to those who have preceded us on this journey and current GBSC members. Next year will be a year of humble thanks and hard work. The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc., continues to be the leading and largest African-American faith-based organization in the State. Plan now to join us in this historic celebration.

The 135th Year Celebration begins with the 2002 Martin Luther King Jr. Banquet on Friday, Jan. 11; and The WBH&FMC Mid-Year Session, Saturday, Jan. 11, 2002, at the Raleigh Civic Center. God continues to bless the ministry and "WORK" of the Convention.

To God be the Glory.



## DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

LATE NIGHT WORSHIP SERVICE JANUARY 11, 2002

SPEAKER:

REV. DR. WALTER S. THOMAS

PASTOR OF NEW PSALMIST BAPTIST CHURCH, BALTIMORE, MD.

PRESIDENT OF HAMPTON MINTERS CONFERENCE

LOCATION:

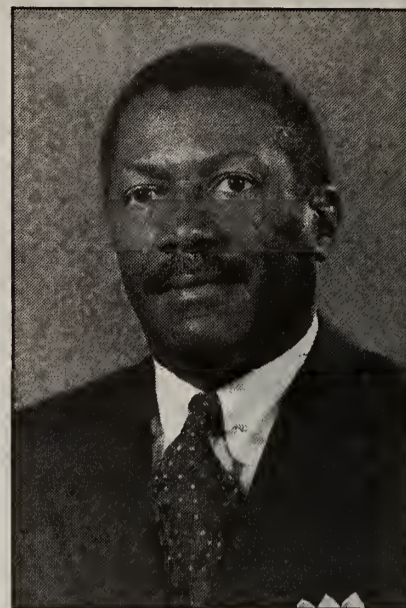
SHERATON CAPITAL CENTER • HOTEL BALLROOM  
421 SOUTH SALISBURY STREET, RALEIGH, NC

TIME: IMMEDIATELY AFTER BANQUET  
(APPROXIMATELY 9:30)

SPECIAL MUSIC

# From The Desk of the Executive Secretary-Treasurer Rev. Archie D. Logan Jr., Ed.D.

## Dr. Benjamin S. Ruffin MLK, Jr. Banquet Speaker



**Dr. Benjamin S. Ruffin**

### Dr. Walter S. Thomas, President Hampton Pastor's Conference, Late Night Speaker

The General Baptist State Convention will hold its Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Banquet on January 11, 2002, at the Raleigh North Carolina Civic Center.

Dr. Benjamin S. Ruffin, chairman of the University of North Carolina Board of Governors, will bring our address.

Dr. Benjamin S. Ruffin is the President of The Ruffin Group in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Effective February 28,

1999, he left R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company as the vice president of corporate affairs leading the company's local, state and national partnerships with key minority business, civic and professional organizations. He remains as an advisor to R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company.

Ruffin joined the RJR corporate family in 1986 as director of corporate affairs for RJR Nabisco. He was appointed vice presi-

dent of corporate affairs R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company in October 1989.

Prior to joining RJR, Ruffin worked for two years as vice president and special assistant to the president of North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company.

Before joining North Carolina Mutual, Ruffin worked for seven years as special assistant to North Carolina Governor James B. Hunt Jr. While serving under Governor Hunt, Ruffin was responsible for increasing the number of black judges in the state, and expanding the number of blacks employed in state government.

Ruffin's civic activities include serving on the boards of YMCA of Greater Winston-Salem 1991 Capital Campaign, Mechanics and Farmers Bank, and the Winston Lake Family YMCA. In September 1999, he was appointed to the Board of North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company. Ruffin is chairman of the UNC Board of Governors; member of Emmanuel Baptist Church, Winston-Salem; and a Life Member and Golden Heritage Member of the NAACP. He is former Polemarch of the Winston-Salem Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity. Ruffin serves as chairman of the corporate roundtable of the National Black Caucus of State Legislators and is a Prince Hall Mason, A.S. Hunter Lodge No. 825. He also serves on the boards of J.A. Jones, Inc., the National Business League, the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation and the National Urban League. Ruffin is chairman of the N.C. In-

stitute for Minority Economic Development, Trustee of Old Salem and the 1998 Winston-Salem United Way Capital Campaign Steering Committee.

He is the recipient of the 1991 NAACP Kelly M. Alexander Humanitarian Award, the Donald H. McGannon Citation by the National Urban League and Dollar & Sense magazine's Blackbook Award for professional achievements.

A native of Durham, N.C., Ruffin holds a bachelor's degree from North Carolina Central University in Durham and a master's degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He also holds honorary doctorate degrees from North Carolina Central University, North Carolina A&T State University, Edward Waters College, Elizabeth City State University and Winston-Salem State University.

Ruffin and his wife, Avon, have two daughters, April and Benita. Plan now to join us for this historic occasion.

### GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION YEAR ENDS DECEMBER 31, 2001 • FINANCIAL REPORT

603 SOUTH WILMINGTON STREET, RALEIGH, NC 27601-2338

To: Pastors, Moderators, Officers and Members of the GBSC

From: Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President

Dr. Archie D. Logan, Executive Secretary-Treasurer

Date: November 15, 2001

Subject: End of 2001 Year

Date \_\_\_\_\_

I am enclosing \$ \_\_\_\_\_

From \_\_\_\_\_ (Church, Union, Association)

Located at \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_ Fax # \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor's/Moderator's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Our Church is a member of \_\_\_\_\_ Association

- |                                                   |          |
|---------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 1. STATE MISSIONS CONTRIBUTION                    | \$ _____ |
| 2. J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly 2000-2001 Pledge | \$ _____ |
| 3. Shaw University                                | \$ _____ |
| 4. Shaw University Divinity School                | \$ _____ |
| 5. Central Children's Home                        | \$ _____ |
| 6. Foreign Missions (Lott Carey)                  | \$ _____ |
| 7. Change for CHANGE                              | \$ _____ |
| 8. Millennium Stewardship Campaign                | \$ _____ |
| 9. Other _____                                    | \$ _____ |

TOTAL AMOUNT \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please send your contributions postmarked no later than Dec. 21, 2001. Pray for the continued success of the GBSC. Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

### Directions:

#### Sheraton Capital Center Hotel:

421 South Salisbury Street  
Raleigh, North Carolina • 919-834-9900  
Singles & Doubles \$89.00 + Tax

#### From Interstate 40:

Take Exit 298-B South Saunders Street. Follow South Saunders St. in the direction of downtown. Turn right on Davie St. Then right onto Salisbury St. The hotel is on the left and a parking deck is on the right.

#### From Route 64 East:

Come into town on New Bern Ave. which be-

comes Edenton St. Just past the Capitol Building turn left on Salisbury St. Hotel is in the 6th block on the left. A parking deck is on the right.

#### From Route 70 West:

Stay on Glenwood Ave. until it dead ends into Morgan St. Turn left on Morgan. Turn right on Salisbury St. The hotel is on the left after you cross Davie St. A parking deck is on the right.

#### From Route 1 North:

Take Downtown Blvd. which becomes Dawson St. Turn left on Morgan St. and right on Salisbury St. The hotel is on the left after you cross Davie St. A parking deck is on the right.

## The Baptist Informer

Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.

Voice of 500,000 Baptists

(USPS 042-680)

Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Editor

Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie, Executive Editor

Ms. Carol J. Smith, Managing Editor

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THEME: "By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness..." (II Corinthians 6:7)

THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF  
NORTH CAROLINA, INC.

**DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. BANQUET**

RALEIGH CONVENTION CENTER, 500 FAYETEVILLE ST., RALEIGH, NC

**January 11, 2002 • 6:30 p.m.**

**GUEST SPEAKER: DR. BENJAMIN S. RUFFIN**

THE RUFFIN GROUP, PRESIDENT

CHAIRMAN OF THE UNC BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Dr. John D. Fuller Sr.

President

Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr.

Executive Secretary-Treasurer

HEADQUARTERS HOTEL

SHERATON CAPITAL CENTER HOTEL, 421 SOUTH SALISBURY STREET, NC.

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# From The Desk of Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President

## Relationships And Blended Families

By Rev. Dennis Leach  
B.S.M. Div.

For the past two years, I along with my wife have been asked to do a workshop at Lewis Chapel Baptist Church in Fayetteville for its annual family conference in October. Appropriately, we have been given the topic of "blended families," focusing on families who have come together as a result of remarriage and the many related issues associated with these families. Preparing for that workshop has proven to be a time of reflection, and learning for both of us. We have had to look at and consider our own experiences, and how we were able to reconcile them in light of many denominators, to include biblical, social and cultural mores. What follows is a synopsis of that workshop.

**Relationship Network:** The constellation of important relationships surrounding, informing, and influencing a person. Each person has a set of relationships which provide primary emotional satisfaction, guidance for living, personal assistance, and opportunity for giving and self-expression. The cohesiveness, volume, flexibility, and dependability of our relationship network are crucial variables for individuals within them. The resources they provide and the burdens they bring with them are central determinants of the quality of life for all persons, and in emergency can literally be the difference between life and death.

The relationship network of both husband and wife are important elements in any transaction. For instance, the quality of the network in which each is embedded has an important bearing on whether the new marriage relationship will occur and at what level of intensity and usefulness it will function. Men and women who are not well linked in their own network will typically not link well with each other. It is important for each person to access relative connectedness and/or isolation of each person. This information reveals a great deal about the likelihood of the individual to bond dependably and usefully with a new spouse, or with growing children. God's grace is mediated through human relationships (John 13:35; Rom. 12:9,10).

**Remarriage:** For persons seeking remarriage it involves a look backward and forward. Guilt, grief, and the need for reintegration are three areas to focus around. Early approaches to remarriage focused almost totally on the couple or the individual who was divorced, however recent developments have come to be aware of the place of the community, and society in general.

**1. Guilt:** The historic and perhaps still most pronounced area of concern centers on guilt. The experience of divorce leads to questions of failure, unhappiness with oneself, and anger. There is a need to be aware of the feelings of the self, guilt, anger, depression, affection, and love-hate. There is then also the need to learn how to deal appropriately with these feelings. "Scripturally" the realization of forgiveness is a key response to the experience of guilt. It is in the context of forgiveness that a person becomes free to see the nature of the personal feelings, to "own" them, and to deal with the feelings appropriately as not to be bound by them. Failure to make such forgiveness leads to projection of hates,

fears, and anger on the new spouse (Psalm 103:2-4; Eph. 1:7; 1 John 1:9).

**2. Grief:** The grief dimension of divorce was identified by John Calvin, who spoke of circumstances in which, after divorce, a person could remarry as though the spouse were dead. Originally, the analogy of grief related only to the death of a spouse. Now grief is related to the dynamic of separation. Movement from one stage of life to another requires separation from the previous stage. The previous stage has to "die" in order for the new stage to be reached successfully (Phil. 3:13). For those considering remarriage there are several levels of concern. One level concerns the first marriage, which has to be "let go." The hurts, ties, and scars from the break need to be healed in order to move on to the next stage of life, and an assessment should be made as to whether grief work from divorce has been successfully completed. Another level involves the concerns, problems, and factors that the individual carried into the prior marriage that may have helped cause the break. What was not dealt with from the time before the marriage must be dealt with now if there is to be hope for moving on to a new stage of life. Attention to these "early" factors may be difficult because renewed awareness may imply that the individual must accept some responsibility for the divorce that he or she does not want to take. Judgment becomes part of the process — not because the counselor judges, but because judgment in the situation comes to conscious awareness (Matt. 7:1-5).

**3. Reintegration:** In remarriage, the "look forward" requires letting the past go. Pastorally, attention must be given to the question of purpose, meaning, and direction in a new marriage. Letting go of the past and looking forward to the future requires a new integration of the person. The integration, which results from this forward thrust, is variously described as healing, wholeness, and completeness. In remarriage, this pastoral concern is for wholeness at the areas of the inward person, the nuclear system of the new intimate relationship, and the wide community. In general, the dynamics of preparation for a new marriage must be blended with each partner's process of adaptation to divorce. Inwardly, there is a need, a sense of wholeness of the ego. "Awareness of soul" and the work of the personal are other ways of describing this "wholeness of ego." The ability to "own" one's self, feelings, and experiences and to recover a sense of one's being of worth are part of this new wholeness. Integration allows for pulling together all those internal systems of the personality wherein there comes a new sense of being — being who we are, being a man, being a woman, being a person, and being a soul.

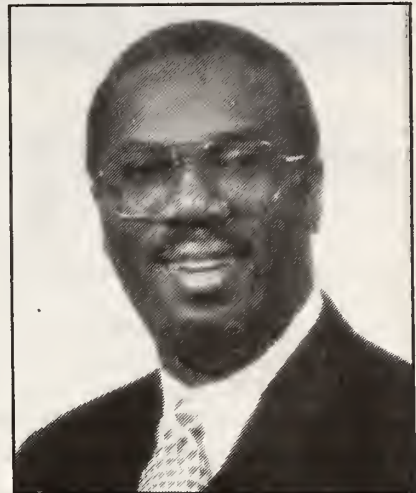
There are themes, and myths deeply rooted and ingrained, that appear to influence and inform everything we do in our life. Sometime it is necessary for us to edit, and reauthor, the personal, marital, and family myths that make up our image of self, our attitudes towards interactions with others, and our expectations regarding performance and role. Such self-searching enables us to be more human, and to use our own healed inadequacies as a source of strength.

### Stepfamilies

Families in which at least one of the spouses is a stepparent. The relationship of stepparent to stepchild is based on marriage, not blood. A stepfamily is created by a marriage when at least one of the partners brings children into the relationship, usually from a previous marriage. Stepfamilies face complex and difficult issues in addition to the normal problems faced by any family. It is often very reassuring to let stepparents know that not all their problems are caused by living in a stepfamily. These include:

**1. Loss.** Most members of a stepfamily face the complete or partial loss of a primary relationship. In this situation the children are no longer living full-time with both of their natural parents; spouses are no longer living with their previous partners. Even if the previous primary relationship is perceived negatively, loss is still experienced. For example, a couple that has been together for a period of time has, to some degree become bonded together. The breaking of this bond (even when considered a positive step) occasions the experience of loss. For children experiencing divorce there is generally a deeply felt hope that somehow their parents will reunite. It is often the remarriage of one of the parents (to a new partner) that shatters this hope and brings on the experience of loss. In regards to the pastoral care and counseling of a stepfamily, it is crucial to focus on this (often denied) experience of loss.

**2 The Role of Stepparent:** The stereotypical image of the stepparent is a decidedly negative one. (i.e., the common portrayal in folktales of the wicked stepmother and the cruel stepfather). The role is particularly difficult since there is no common agreement on what a stepparent is or should be. For example, a stepmother cannot become a stepchild's natural mother; that role is already taken. Yet, in carrying out family responsibilities certain mothering activities are taken over by the stepmother. From the child's perspective, the stepparent is often seen as attempting to usurp the position of the natural parent. In pastoral work with stepparents, it is important to help them understand that they cannot replace the natural parent. However, a stepparent should clearly assure the stepchild that he or she is very interested in



Dr. John D. Fuller Sr.

becoming a loving, nurturing adult in the child's life. The relationship between stepparent and stepchild requires time, patience, and a willingness to offer love with no guarantee of reciprocity.

**3. The Primacy of the Couple's Bond:** Often lost sight of within the complexity of the stepfamily is the reason for the family's existence: the relationship between the stepparents themselves. The nurturing of this bond requires time, attention, and privacy; it is the foundation for the success of the stepfamily. It can also serve as a powerful demonstration to the stepchildren that marriage in fact, can work. Effective pastoral care and counseling often need only focus on strengthening this bond in order to make a major contribution to the well being of the stepfamily.

### Pastoral Counseling

Pastoral Counseling is a specialized type of pastoral care offered in response to individuals, couples, or families who are experiencing and able to articulate the pain in their lives and willing to seek pastoral help in order to deal with it. Counseling is the process of encouraging growth from within, which in the final analysis is the only true growth. It is rooted in the awareness of one's self. From this should come a less distorted way of seeing persons and relationship and greater courage to accept one's responsibility to make commitments. Counseling is an opportunity for self-diagnosis, self-discernment, and self-discovery with a view to self-decision. The individual life cycle takes place within the family life cycle, which is the primary context of human development. For that reason it is important to look the individual life cycle in terms of the intergenerational, connectedness, and dynamics.

### Donor:

General Baptist State Convention of N.C. Inc.  
603 S. Wilmington St., Raleigh, N.C. 27601-2338

Thank you for your contribution for our "Building Homes, Changing Lives" Program, which is designed to bring together diverse groups, whether racially, religiously or socio-economically, to help break down existing stereotypes and barriers. This exciting honor could not happen without the encouragement and backing of our friends in the community.

On behalf of the Habitat for Humanity staff, board, homeowners and volunteers I want to thank you for your gift. We could not accomplish our goals without your financial support. Your contribution enables us to provide hard working, low-income families an opportunity of a lifetime...to own their own homes. Thank you for opening the door to a brighter future for these families.

Sincerely yours,  
Kay D. Lord, Executive Director

Habitat for Humanity of Forsyth County is an ecumenical Christian ministry which works with individuals, churches and other religious organizations, civic groups, business and government entities to eliminate substandard housing in Winston-Salem and Forsyth County by building and selling quality, affordable housing to low-income families at no profit and with 20-year, no-interest mortgages.

# Women's Page Highlights

## "Let Us Adore Him"

### "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

*O come, all ye faithful,  
joyful and triumphant,  
Come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold Him,  
born the King of angels:*

*Sing, choirs of angels sing in exultation,  
Sing all ye bright hosts of heav'n above:  
Glory to God, all glory in the highest:*

*Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,  
born this happy morning,  
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n:  
Word of the Father,  
now in flesh appearing:*

*O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ, the Lord.*

Translated by Frederick Oakeley

Again we have come to the calendar season of Christmas. This season helps to

emphasize the coming to earth of One Who made, makes, will make a difference on earth and in the world. Though the ground in America and other countries is infested with many thorns: thorns of sorrow, grief, thorns of hate, envy, jealousy; thorns of violence; thorns of uproar, thorns of confusion; thorns of dislocation; thorns of unemployment; thorns of rejection of God's gift, Jesus, to the world, there is still the message of faith, hope and love. This message came embodied in human flesh from and of God, Jesus. He is the Son of God, Son of Man, the Good Shepherd, the Head of the church, the High Priest, the King of the Jews, the Lamb of God who overcomes the Beast (the Anti-Christ), the Light of the World, the Word (Logos). He is superior to any and all angels or any creature. He is God's Only Begotten Son. He is Creator. He is God. Many other names the Scriptures give for Jesus, but the listed remind us of the necessity for His coming to earth, for His ministry, and for His birth being worthy of special celebration, for He is worthy to be praised. He brings Hope, Love, Light, Truth, Holiness,

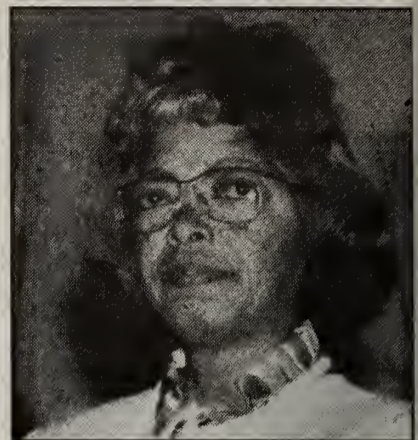
Peace, Joy, Healing, Deliverance and many more to a thorn-infested ground (world). He is God's Sent Answer to resolve the problems of a sinful and love depleted world. O come, let us receive Him as our Savior and Lord! O come, let us adore Him, for He is worthy to be praised. **"TO ALL A BLESSED CHRISTMAS!"**

Thank you for your continued gifts, but more sacrificial funds are needed to carry out the mission assigned to our hand.

### REMINDERS

1. The 2001-2002 Budget is in the amount of \$801,357.00: Shaw University - \$49,500.00; Shaw Divinity - \$33,500.00; Foreign Missions - \$80,200.00; Central Children's Home - \$36,500.00; Baptist Assembly - \$40,500.00; State Missions - \$561,157.00.

2. On Saturday, January 12, 2002, will be the One-Day Session of the Woman's Convention at the Raleigh Civic Center, beginning at 9:00 a.m. for Seniors, Young Adults, and Youth. Among the guests will be representatives of our objectives. A-1's and Lydia organizations, and preaching will be featured. Please begin praying now and



Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie  
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

making preparations to attend this session. Also, please bring a very sacrificial gift to help realize \$25,000.00 for State Missions.

3. Suggested financial quotas for 2001-2002 have been sent out to church missionary circle presidents or a contact person. If your church has not received a suggested quota please contact the Convention office immediately.

## N.C. Woman Elected To International Office

Mrs. Colene Baldwin Stanley of Lake Waccamaw was recently elected as first vice president of the Lott Carey Woman's Auxiliary to the Lott Carey International Convention Headquartered in Washington, D.C., whose President is Dr. John O. Peterson of Petersburg, Va.

As the first vice president, Mrs. Stanley serves with the newly elected president, Dr. Beverly Scott of Orange, N.J.

Mrs. Stanley's recent election follows her 20 years of service to the Foreign Missions Convention as the Young Adult Coordinator, Workshop Facilitator and Motivator for the youth and intermediates.

Presently, Mrs. Stanley is serving the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missions Convention of North Carolina as the Board of Directors Chairperson and Certified Missions Instructor.

Mrs. Stanley is a graduate of Shaw University and Shaw Divinity School of Raleigh with a B.A. degree in church administration and Christian education. She is currently working with young adults, seniors and youth, serving as President of the Brunswick and Waccamaw Baptist Association, serving Columbus, Brunswick and New Hanover counties.

She is a life member of the Little Wheel of Hope Missionary Baptist Church of Lake Waccamaw, presently serving as adult Sunday school teacher, coordinator of the children's church, having served 20 years as church finance clerk and chairperson for the trustee board for the past six years.

She is the widow of the late Deacon Pryce Baldwin Sr. and Deacon John Henry Stanley of Nakina.

After 25 years of social work, she retired from Seveland Community Action Inc. having served as Headstart Director, Day Care Coordinator and Executive Director, serving Columbus, Brunswick and Pender counties. She is a long time member of the Columbus County Mental Health Association where she has served two terms as president. Her service roll as a volunteer is outstanding, having served on numerous committees and boards.

## WBH&FMC Deacons' Wives Fellowship

Submitted by: Mrs. Evelyn C. McLean

The Deacons' Wives Fellowship Committee ended the physical year on a spiritual high as we gave praise to God during our program on Tuesday of our Woman's Convention Annual Session. A mini workshop was presented by Mrs. Valeria S. Collins on the "Angel of Mercy." New Officers were installed and we renewed our commitments to further the cause of Christ, by continuing to work diligently and earnestly in the vineyard. Chair: Mrs. Evelyn McLean/Fayetteville, NC, Co-Chair: Mrs. Margie Clark/Chatham, Virginia, Secretary: Mrs. Barbara L. Faulk/Durham, NC, Assistant Secretary: Mrs. Lavern B. George/Whiteville, NC

God continues to bless us mightily as we grow spiritually and physically. When we look at the financial report we see that our giving increased. When we look at our overall attendance, we can note that is reached a new high. While God continues to bless us our desire to please him should be limitless as we reflect on the scripture, "The race is not given to the swift, but to he who endures to the end."

Our predecessors had the foresight and vision to come together under the unction of the Holy Spirit and provide goals and objectives which will not only bless this generation, but many to come. Some of these include.

- Providing funds to give aid to the maintenance and development of the J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill, NC.

- To enlist all Deacons' Wives across the state of North Carolina who are members or affiliated with the Woman's Convention.

- Support the program/ministry of the Woman's Convention

- Function at the pleasure of the Woman's Convention and according to its direction.

- Plan a program for sharing during the Annual Session.

- Meet at least once during the year (e.g., before or after the One Day Session or Leaders Workshop).

It is the responsibility of the Deacons' Wives Fellowship Committee to support, nurture and pray for these objectives. Our financial goal committee to be for each Deacon's Wife/Spouse to give \$50.00 annually toward these causes. If this presents a hardship, pray about it and give as God has blessed you. Please begin to send now donations earmarked for the DWFC to the: Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention/GBSC, P.O. Box 1818, Raleigh, NC, 27605.

A brief planning meeting is scheduled for January 10, 2002 at 8:00 a.m. at the Raleigh Civic Center prior to the Mid-Annual Session. Please make plans to attend now and bring a Sister with you.



Gizelle Harris

## Wake County WH&FM Missionary Union Hold Contest

On Sunday, July 1, 2001, the Youth Department of the Wake County Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Union held its annual Mr./Miss Shaw Contest at the Olive Branch Baptist Church in Wake Forest, N.C.

The Rev. Mary Walker, president of the WCWH&FMU, crowned Miss Gizelle Harris of the Wakefield Missionary Baptist Church in Zebulon, N.C., as Miss Shaw for 2001!

Miss Harris represented Wake County at the Mid-Year Session of the North Carolina State Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Union where she placed first in talent in her age group and third overall.

The daughter of Gregory and Karlita Harris, Gizelle enjoys playing the piano, singing and cheerleading. Her hobbies include collecting baby dolls and reading. She plans to continue making good grades so that she can attend college and become a teacher.

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

# All Roads Lead To Asheville • The 134th Annual Session

**By Lucile Griswold Paige**

The 134th Annual Session of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina met in Asheville at the Hill Street Baptist Church on Oct. 28-Nov. 1, 2001.

Dr. Nilous Avery was the Host Pastor. A continental breakfast was served each morning from 8 to 9:30 a.m. at Hill Street Baptist Church.

On Tuesday morning, the sermon was by the Rev. Queen Penny, pastor of First Baptist Church in Lillington. Her sermon title was "Building on the Solid Rock." The text was taken from Matthew 7:24-25, "Therefore whosoever heareth these things of mine and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock! And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house, and it fell not; for it was founded upon a rock."

Build your house on a solid rock and don't let fear draw you back. She ended her message by reciting the Solid Rock.

Dr. A. Russell Awkard, a special guest, spoke on "A Shepherd's Task." The text was taken from John 10:27. My sheep hear my voice and I know them, and they follow me."

The parable of the Good Shepherd described Jesus' role perfectly. Unlike a hired worker, Jesus through love and affection, offered to lay down His life for His flock. Believers trust and know Him.

The President's Banquet was on Tuesday, Oct. 30, 2001, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Renaissance Hotel. The speaker was Dr. Jerry Young, pastor of New Hope Missionary Baptist in Jackson, Miss. His subject was "Trouble In the Baptist Church." Some churches are calling themselves "Full Gospel Churches" and have pulled out from the Convention so that they can become a Bishop. We need the wind to blow in all our churches. Baptist believe in a pastor and deacons, Baptist don't have Bishops — oxymorons.

There is a distinction between the Gospel and the gifts. Preachers are confused. Gospel is the good news. Gifts that God has given to the church can't be pastor and prophet. Some preachers are trying gimmicks to get people in the church. We need the Holy Ghost in our church.

What does this mean? What shall we do? We don't know who we are nor whose we are. If you are going to meet the masses, you must have a contagious congregation. Dare you to have saved deacons, saved trustees, saved Pastor, saved teachers, saved choir members and every member of the church be saved. There is trouble in the Baptist churches.

An Oratorical presentation was by Miss Monica Saner. The title was "Man/Woman in the Mirror." A Christian who does not know who he is will not live a productive life. We should recognize that we are God's children. Throughout her speech she referred to scriptures from John I, II Corinthians 5:17 and II Corinthians 3:18. She concluded her speech by saying "The Man in the Mirror" is the image of God.

Miss Saner is the winner of the GBSC, Inc. Congress of Christian Education Senior Division Oratorical Contest. She is a senior at Alexander Central High School, Taylorsville, N.C. Her parents are the Rev. and Mrs. Jarvis Saner.

After the banquet, we went to the Prison Ministry Session at Hill St. Baptist Church where Chaplain Jeff Locus, First Baptist Church presided. The sermon was by the Rev. Alfonso Fulwood, pastor of Riley Hill in Wendell. His text was Mark 1:40. The man was confused and in sheer desperation. His

back was against the wall. What is the importance behind the man approaching Jesus about his crisis situation? It was not faith that motivated him to Jesus. He was not a practitioner of the faith, but he said, "If they will you can make me whole." This man did not keep his distance — he got close to Jesus. He placed Jesus in the position to be contaminated. He disregarded the rules, he wanted to be healed. He didn't fail to cry out. When you are likable, people want to get close to you.

The Rev. Michael R. Smith Jr.'s sermon was "The Treasure In The Trash." The text was Matthew 13:44-47 and referred to the tragedy at the World Trade Center. Rev. Smith stated that no matter what appears, there is treasure to be found. In speaking to His Disciples, Jesus described the Kingdom of Heaven as a treasure hidden in a field — the world. This has relevance to Prison Ministry. A prison is only a trash can — dirty, smelly and unclean. It is a place where we put law breakers. It is made so God's people can help them be restored to society. In the Old Testament it was restitution, now it is incarceration. Nobody in the church is willing to go out to try to save them. We don't value their lives. The church needs to reach, restore and reconcile the trash.

Many cannot see because they don't walk by faith. We spend more money on flowers than for prison ministry and more for anniversaries. There is great treasure in the trash — can you see it? They deserve the mercies of the church. Jesus didn't die so that we could go to church. We are the church. The only difference behind the prison wall is the cross of Christ.

Dr. C.R. Edwards stated that he was the oldest rat in the barnyard. He preached his first sermon at the State Convention in 1948 while he was a student in the School of Religion at Shaw University. He was elected as president of the convention in 1970-1974. He said this will probably be his last sermon. He has held many positions and served on many committees since that time. The title of his sermon was "Back To The Basis." The text was Luke 10:20. New ways of doing things are not always the most effective. Think about what the church is saying and what the church is doing. Jesus reminds his disciples that the harvest is great but the laborers are few. Pray that he might send laborers. He said, "I send you as lambs among wolves." Carry no shoes and nothing but what is on your back. Shake the dust from your feet if they don't receive you." Even the devils are subject unto us. Nothing shall hurt you because I have given you power over all things that will hurt you.

The disciples were laying the foundation for greater work. The church must realize they have greater things to do. The purpose for Jesus coming to earth was not to heal the sick, but that lost men might have their names written in Heaven, Rev. 20:10. Each church has a major thing to do — to get some names written in Heaven. If your name is written in Heaven you will rescue the perishing and enlarge your territory. You are saved until the day of redemption. He mentioned that his name was written in many places and on many degrees, but most of all he is glad that it is written in Heaven. Our job is to be sure that our names are written in the Book of Life.

Rev. A.A. Johnson spoke from Luke 4:14-21, "The Challenge Is The Same, Receiving Gospel That Sets Individuals Free." We must be committed and dedicated to our service for the Lord and increase our giving for the support of the church. To whom much is given, much is required. Rise above your selfish concern and to the glorious concern of others. Lift Jesus up higher and higher. Don't worry who gets the credit or who is

the president. Be about the business of lifting Jesus up. Are we committed enough to stand up to the challenge? Be humble and willing to set aside our agenda to help others.

We need to know the Holy Ghost — power from on high. The Holy Ghost knows what God wants us to do. Submit to the Holy Ghost, He will direct you. Whatever you build can be torn down. What the Holy Ghost does no one can tear down. The Holy Ghost come before the preacher comes. Our eyes should be focused on the poor. We spend so much time on building up our ministries that we forget the masses.

Rev. James A. Webster's sermon was "Lord Renew Our Witness." The text was Luke 1:8, I John 1:12-14. We should refine our definition of witnessing and tell what God has done in your life. We should refine our way of witnessing in our way of life — inner and outward evidence. We should witness by word of mouth — nothing takes the place of evangelism. The reason masses will not come to church is because of empty members in the church.

Rev. Frank B. Weaver spoke from John 1:40-42. "One Life Can Be A 'Difference' Man." Every believer can be a "difference" man. Many people struggle to be known. Peter's name was a household name. He was famous. No one had heard of his brother, Andrew. If it had not been for Andrew, Peter may not have been introduced to Jesus. Many people who go to church have not met Jesus. You can't get to do for others unless you have met Jesus for your self. The sad news is that most of us live our lives in a common and ordinary way. You may not be famous because you want to be, but anyone can become something for God. You don't preach to look good, have fine homes, and fine cars. The purpose of preaching is to make people God-consciousness.

Act like you know the Lord. You bring people to Jesus because of the life you live. After Sept. 11, people who had never been speaking to each other began speaking. There are three things that we can all do:

1. Whatever we do, do it with gusto.
2. Minister — be a helper wherever you can.
3. Make a difference with your pocket-book. If you can't support the convention, you don't deserve to be a pastor. It's not about position, it's about bringing someone to Jesus. You can't make me doubt it, I know too much about it!

Dr. Paul Drummond's sermon was "From Marah to Eden." The text was Exodus 15:23. The Israelites were three days in the wilderness and no water. The water was bitter. They wondered why they were tested when they had tried to do their best. You can't rush relationships. Marah is a place that will come against you if you are doing the Lord's business. When you come to your Marah remember how you got there. Marah is a place where God wants to talk to you. When you get redeemed you have to get a new concept. If you have been redeemed you will be changed. If you act right, God will not only supply your needs, but will give you some plus.

Thursday was the President's Annual Address. Dr. Fuller stated that there are some churches who don't believe that they should bless the pastor. They don't think that they should pay him and then give him money in appreciation for what he has done. It cost money to be president if you are going to do a good job. There has been many challenges in his presidency Y2K, Hurricane Floyd, Terrorist attack Sept. 11, 2001 and Anthrax.

He has been blessed with a faithful congregation. We are all sinners and some are saved by grace. Don't go out to be a good hell raiser, but to be a good deacon!

To be in leadership one must be daunting and persuasive. He recommended that we condemn the terrorism on America and that we support the men and women in foreign service.

His text was Numbers 12:1-9. "Leadership Jealousy." A lot of jealousy is associated with leadership by those close to you — laity, clergy, trustees and deacons. There is also family jealousy in the church and convention. How can our word not be our bond?

Miriam was involved in a baby-sitting job for her brother. Her quick thinking allowed him to be raised by his mother. Miriam and Aaron were jealous of Moses leadership. Leaders need somebody to be a sounding post to tell us the truth about ourselves. A wife should have such an influence with her husband and vice versa.

When you are insecure about your job, you have to blame someone. The issue was Moses was the most important man in Israel. Their place at the table was diminished. Some people want to elect and tell the preacher what to do before he gets the approval from God. They want him to get their approval. Some of the pastors in our churches are afraid of the members, the deacons and the trustees. If God calls you, you should listen to Him. If its in the budget you can't spend it all. After five years, you shouldn't have the same problem.

We measure success by the amount of money there is in the treasury instead of how many souls are saved. We have a committee of penny pinchers who make decisions on how to use the money.

The church is God anointed, it is not a representative of people in the congregation. The pastor represents God. Aaron took his sister's side. If they are not on the board, they feel your advice is not good enough. (I know as much as you do). The question is "Who did God assign?" They were there before everybody else and now he is using the newcomers. They are bothered that they didn't approve the leaders, until God shows it to me, I can't support it.

Moses was a leader, he knew when to speak and he knew what God told him to do. If you are going to be a leader you have to be deaf. Don't let someone outside control what you say. If you want me to respond, you must tell me to my face. You don't have to answer every question. I'm not the only one whom God speaks to, but I am the only one God said to lead you. When you know the Lord, He speaks to you and you don't have to answer everyone. There is a price to pay for annoying the anointed man of God. God had a quick answer for Miriam and Aaron. Miriam was stricken with leprosy for her punishment. The one who speaks up for us is the one we mistreat. If you have anything against your brother go to him about it. You have to stay somewhere long enough to get something done. Too many pastors hang out with people who can't help them. If you have a role model, you must get someone who is in touch with God. Why is it so hard to say I'm sorry? It will change the hearts of your accusers. How many times should I forgive my brother? If you don't forgive, God want forgive you.

Everyone who attended the convention received a certificate.

Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President, GBSC  
Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr.,

Executive Secretary-Treasurer, GBSC  
Dr. Freddie Barnes,  
Program Committee Chairman

# Our Story

By Mrs. Elizabeth Marrow and  
Mrs. Carrye Pritchett

Each day is truly a day that the Lord has made that we may be glad and rejoice in it, but November 3, 2001, was an exceptional day of rejoicing in the Lord and His Holy Word, as the 20th Annual Youth Evangelism Conference ignited the hearts and minds of both young and old. The Conference took place in the Cumberland County Memorial Auditorium in Fayetteville, North Carolina. The Sub-theme was "Transforming Family Communication By the Renewing of Your Mind, Attitude, and Life Through the Holy Spirit." Hosts of the Conference were the Lower Sampson County Union and the Upper Sampson county Union led by Presidents, Mrs. Annie Matthews and Mrs. Carrie Robinson, respectively.

The service began with a musical prelude followed by a song, scripture and prayer. Ms. Vernice Lassiter, Youth President, representing District 5, Group 2, presided over the service with poise and dignity. Words of welcome were brought by Mrs. Audrey P. Battle, Second Vice President and Mrs. Ellender W. LeMay, Youth Supervisor, on behalf of the Woman's Convention. Mrs. Annie Matthews, Mrs. Carrie Robinson, Ms. Dianne Autry and Minister Marion Pope greeted the Conference on behalf of the host unions.

Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, announced that adults interested in serving as counselors for the Youth Bible Camp should contact the office in January, and in March for applications for youth to attend the camp. She complimented the youth for the good behavior report given by the management of the facility and asked them to continue with the good behavior.

Music for the Conference was provided by a mass choir of approximately 130 youth from the Lower Sampson and Upper Sampson County Unions. Mr. Marcus Bass, Assistant Youth Secretary, read a poem and several selections were rendered by "Six Little Cousins" prior to the *Theme Discussion*.

The *Theme Discussion* was taken from Romans 12:2. The first speaker was Ms. Jasmine Davenport and her focus was on "The Mind." Ms. Davenport informed us that the first step in renewing the mind is to keep your mind stayed on Jesus. She addressed some of the pressures facing young people today such as jealousy, smoking, drugs and premarital sex. She explained that we are tempted by the flesh because we are born into a sinful nature and that some possible solutions to the transformation of the mind might be to separate ourselves from the worldly influences which included television, friends, and the kind of music that we listen to. These are all sources that Satan uses to attack the mind.

Our next speaker for the morning was Ms. Maya Thompson and her topic was "Attitude." Ms. Thompson first defined the word attitude according to Webster's Dictionary. She further expounded on its meaning by explaining its effect on everyday life. She stated that attitude was the determining factor in decisions made and the way one responded to others. As Christians, we must think like Christ and not the world, for our attitude will determine our actions.

She encouraged the youth to follow the words of Ephesians 5:18 and be filled with the Spirit. She explained how the effects of alcohol take control of the body in a negative way. Likewise we should let the Spirit take control and lead us in a positive manner. Familiarity with the Word is necessary in the transformation of the mind.

The final speaker for the *Theme Discussion* was Mr. Lavar Marlow and his subject was "Life." He exhorted us to follow the example that Jesus gave his disciples in Matthew 18, verses 2 and 3 and become as children. He asked us, "Have you transformed your life?" He then informed us of the measures to take to do so: (1) Be humble, submit, convert and accept Christ as your personal Savior. (2) Keep the faith - turn your life over to God. (3) Give God a few minutes each day in sincere prayer and study. He left us by bringing to our remembrance that God loves us and can transform our lives if we call on Him and believe that He hears us.

After a musical selection by the choir, a *Question and Answer Period* followed, facilitated by Ms. A. Louise Lassiter, Associate Supervisor. Some of the questions were: "What happens when we get baptized?" "If you listen to Rap and are saved, is your mind not renewed?" "Why did Jesus die for our sins?" "How does the church feel about cornrows?" "Should the church turn a pregnant teenager away or should she ask forgiveness of the congregation?" "Can you lose your salvation?" The sometimes challenging questions were answered by youth panelists assisted by Rev. Wayne Hines, Rev. Clarence LeMay and Rev. George Battle, Sr. Many youth came forward and asked questions which were in the minds of both youth and adults alike.

The *Question and Answer Period* was followed by the *Attendance Recognition* by President McDonald. The Registration Committee reported that there were 31 counties present and 996 persons in attendance; however, the number present was believed to be greater due to the fact that not everyone present registered. President McDonald presented the Attendance Banner to the Fayetteville City Union. President McDonald also reminded us of the dangers of the popular "Harry Potter" series books, which are reported to be full of witchcraft and demonic influences.

The highlight of the Conference was the inspiring and soul-stirring message preached by Rev. J. Vincent Terry, pastor of the Mount Peace Missionary Baptist Church in Raleigh, using a text entitled, "Our Story." The scripture used was 1 Corinthians 15:1-4. The message was one of faith and thanksgiving. He first spoke about men such as Mohammed who called himself a prophet of God, emphasizing that he died and is **STILL DEAD**, but, "Our Story" is about JESUS CHRIST, who died and rose on the third day and is **STILL ALIVE**. - forgiving sin and saving souls. Rev. Terry stated that many religions have some true qualities, but we as Christians are set apart because we have the true story. We serve a **LIVING GOD** and He is still on the throne. To God be the Glory!

Several persons rededicated their lives to Christ following the message. The session closed with an *Altar Call* for prayer. It was truly a blessing to see so many youth enjoying Jesus.



Youth Department, ages 11-14, Mrs. Phylisa Kelly, mentor.



Youth Department, ages 1-10, Mrs. Phylisa Kelly, mentor.

## Servant Families Occupying Until Jesus Comes

By Mrs. Elizabeth S. Marrow  
& Mrs. Carrye W. Pritchett

From across the state of North Carolina, on a foggy Saturday, Sept. 22, 2001, families, friends, seniors, young adults and youth gathered for workshops, singing and preaching at the New Ahoskie Baptist Church in Ahoskie, N.C., as the 22nd Annual Family Missions Conference (WBH&FMC) convened. In attendance were 159 families, representing 25 counties and seven districts. Pastor Patrick Young and his congregation extended a most gracious and warm welcome to all present.

President Julius McDonald presided, gave opening remarks and stated the theme which was "Effectively Building Families Through God's Word." An inspiring devotion was led by Mrs. Mattie Johnson followed by greetings from Pastor Young, President Rebecca White of the New Ahoskie Missionary Circle, and Mrs. Nancy Outlaw, representative of the West Roanoke Woman's Auxiliary. Response to

the greetings and welcome were given by Mrs. Vanester White.

Executive Secretary-Treasurer Priscilla A. Brodie, in giving the purpose, stated that the Conference inspires, encourages and motivates the Christian family to abide by what God says and not by its own opinion.

Concurrent workshop sessions for the three departments began at approximately 9:30 a.m. The topic taught and discussed was "Families Becoming God's Servant Leaders." Workshop sessions lasted about 90 minutes.

In visiting the different class sessions, we saw the youth involved in hands-on activities, discussing issues and attentively listening to presenters. Youth instructors were Ms. Jewyl Dunn — ages 15-20; Mrs. Phylisa F. Kelly — ages 11-14; Mrs. Gloria Harper, Ms. Jennie Sue Poston and Mrs. Audrey Moore — ages 1-10. The Young Adult class, taught by Rev. and Mrs. Christopher Harris, listened and responded as tips

(Continued on next page)

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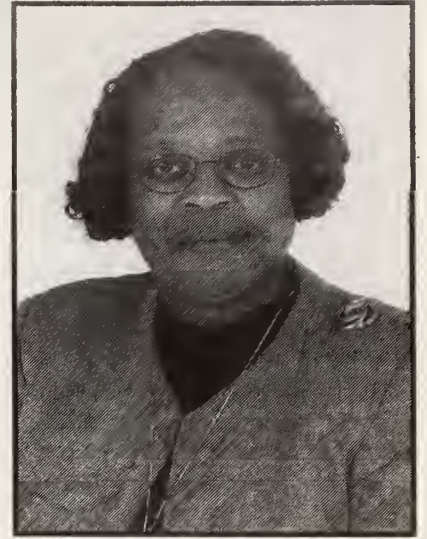
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By President Julius M. McDonald

# The Gift — Jesus



President Julius M. McDonald

human failure and morality, God chose to enter our world and share our human limits in Jesus. Taxes displace a family from its home at the most importune time. A poor family has to take shelter in a barn, no room in the inn. Common folks have a great celebration. Powerful jealousy people plot murder to protect their power. A family has to leave the neighborhood for the safety of its child. Many children are murdered by rampaging acts of violence. A mother marvels at the beauty of her child and wonders what he/she will be. A father must act decisively to care for his family. Gifts are exchanged by people who don't really know each other except a shared sense of Hope.

This is also the story of Jesus' birth. This is the way God chose to come to earth, not as a conquering king, but as one of us; not in a royal procession isolated from realities of human struggle, but placed in a feed trough right in the middle of human struggle. God anchored himself to our world through the common and everyday realities of our lives so we could know we are invited to go be with Him when our time here is completed.

When we see the headlines in the newspaper or broadcast on the evening news, remember Jesus came to insure that we find peace by taking part in a world without peace. The headlines we hear are the headlines he lived. More than a sentimental journey, Christmas is a reminder that God loved us so much that he would wear human skin and face human challenge so we could find peace in him when we're finished here.

"Peace on earth, goodwill to men!" That's God's blessing to his troubled children. So don't just look for God's grace in the twinkling lights and sweet smiles of happy children at Christmas. Hear the bad news of the headlines and be reminded of his grace because he has lived beneath those

same headlines so that we wouldn't always be bound to them. **Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth, goodwill to all people. (Luke 2:14)**

This is Christmas in the real world. We have put men on the moon, but cannot even conquer the selfish desires of our own hearts. Between God and man, we have put up a barrier, opened up a division, which no man can cross. Because of this breakdown in communication, something or someone was needed to heal this division. To fulfill that role, God himself became man in the person of His Son, Jesus Christ. As God looked upon the world, He had created, what great compassion there was! What love in all its purity! Despite the depths to which it had sunk, it was and is still God's world.

At Christmastime, we give gifts because we love one another. God's gift to the world has His Son. Why? Because His love for us is so great that he cannot bear to see the way in which we have fallen. Through the gift of His Son, a free and willing gift, we have an opportunity to receive an even greater gift than anything that money can buy. It is the gift of eternal life. The Bible states it like this:

**"God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life."**

We live proverbial three score and ten years. Doctors, through the most wonderful modern technology, can extend that for a few years. But in the end, we are born, live in haste, and pass into eternity. To die is a fate, which awaits us all, even that Babe born in the manger, but to live for eternity with the God who made us is good news. The true meaning of Christmas is that the same Jesus Christ, whom we see as a cute little baby in a sanitized stable, was the same Jesus Christ of the Easter story. The same Babe in the wooden manger is the same man nailed to a cross to die for us. The same Babe, humble, meek, and mild, is the same man who was raised from the dead and who will return as King. As that carol states it:

**"Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by. We shall see Him, but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high."**

The gifts that we exchange at this time

of year are nothing compared with the total, self-giving love that God gives us every moment of our lives, if we but follow him. In the midst of trouble, His gift is peace. In the midst of sorrow, his gift is joy. In the midst of guilt, His gift is forgiveness. In the midst of sickness, His gift is health. In the midst of death, His gift is life. Yet, like any human gift, the love of God needs to be received. Imagine the reaction of our loved ones if they had spent all that they had on the most perfect gift money could buy...and we turned it down. God gives us not only His Son, but the free choice as to whether or not we choose to accept Him or not. The gift is there for us; it is up to us to decide whether or not we wish to receive it. We can enter into the most wonderful gift of all this Christmas, a real and personal relationship with God. I have known Jesus from my childhood and would not give up my faith in Him for anything. The gift I have found is ready. Are you ready to receive it?

Time is short, but if you would like to know more about this gift or about any aspect of the Christian faith you may begin to read Scriptures For Salvation at the end of this article. May you have a Christmas filled with the gift of God Himself, His Son — Jesus Christ!

The Woman's Convention invites you to come to Christ today. Put Christ in every home and not Xmas, but **CHRISTmas**. For **Jesus Christ is the "GIFT" and the only "Reason for the Season."**

Scriptures for Salvation: John 3: 3, 5-7, 16-17; John 1:9, 12; John 5:11-13, 34; 8:36, 1 John 4:19. These are just the beginning of Scriptures for Salvation refer to the Holy Bible.

## Servant Families

were given to help families become servant leaders. In her young adult echoes to the audience, Ms. Jewelyn Dunn shared thoughtfulness, respect and responsibility as some of the bonds that cement family unity as families work towards becoming true servant leaders for God. Rev. and Mrs. George E. Battle Sr. were the senior workshop instructors. Through the use of colorful and informative charts and a printed text booklet they imparted information on the family order as established by God. Colossians 3:18-21 was one of many scriptures they used to expound on family order.

The workshop sessions were followed by summaries in the general assembly from each class. Time was allotted for questions and answers. Prior to this Conference, "A Family Study Guide," prepared by the Christian Family Life Enrichment Ministries Committee, had been issued to families for the purpose of providing information and activities to help strengthen family relationships toward Godly living. Those families who completed a ten-day study were presented a beautiful certificate by President McDonald, Dr. Brodie and Ms. Esters and were congratulated for their valiant efforts.

The highlight of the day was the sermon given by Rev. Ralph White, Pastor of Indian Woods Baptist Church in Windsor, N.C. Romans 10:14 reads, "How then shall they call on him in whom they have not

believed? And how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?" We heard the preacher! His sermon text was taken from Luke 19:13, "And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, Occupy till I come." His subject was, "Occupy Until He Comes." Rev. White told us that scripture tells us that we don't know when Christ shall return but we are to (1) evangelize with the Word, (2) edify the body of Christ, and (3) glorify God by allowing the character of His Son to dominate our character. "Occupy does not mean to sit and wait." We are to be about Kingdom building until He comes." The New Ahoskie and Indian Woods Choirs respectively rendered music for the Conference. The *Family Dedicatory Prayer* and benediction were given by Rev. White as we gathered around the altar.

The day was exciting, informative and Spirit-filled with good fellowship, good teaching and good preaching. During the Conference a wealth of information was given, through the discussions and handout materials, to be used to strength family relationships when God's agenda is followed.

The 2002 Family Missions Conference will be held at the First Baptist Church in Oxford, N.C., where Rev. Lacy Joyner is pastor. Let's triple the numbers present and be blessed from hearing God's message from God's messengers.

## Happy Holidays!

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# LAYMEN'S LEAGUE NEWS

## Laymen Participate In Convention

By Romas L Hales

The State Laymen's League participated in the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina that was held at the Hill Street Baptist Church in Asheville, N.C., October 28-November 1. The Laymen had an Executive Committee meeting, participated in the Outreach Ministry that was sponsored by the Western North Carolina Laymen's Union. Greetings by president Jarvis Morgan, and recognized the State Laymen's League Field Worker.

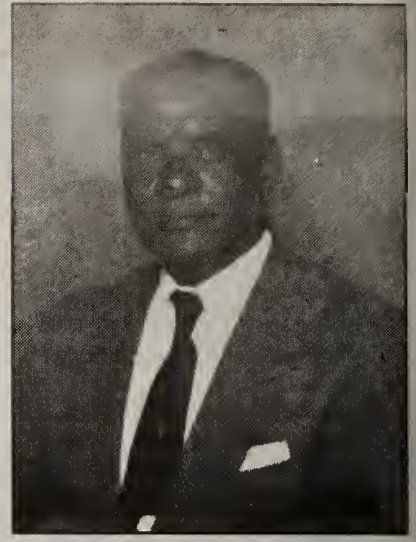
As your State laymen's League Field Worker, I would like to take this opportunity to thank

the General Baptist State Convention and my fellow Laymen for the recognition you gave me. It was a humble and thankful experience. The flowers that was presented to my wife and the gifts given to me will be remembered for a long time. Again, we say thank you. Please remember, we pray the work that has been done and the work in the future is done to the glory and honor of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

The Calendar year of 2001 is coming to a close. We have had a blessed good year. The Lord has blessed us to carryout the planned activities we had set forth to do during the year.

All of you know this work the ending of one thing is the beginning of something else. So, lets press on and set our goals for higher heights for the next year. There are still Laymen in several churches to be organized and there are many souls to be saved. We must continue to pray to God to give us the strength, the courage, and the faith to do our part and His will.

Thank you for what you have done in the past and for what we know you will do in the future. May God continue to bless you and that you will have a Merry Christmas.



Romas Hales  
Laymen's League Coordinator

## GBSC Appoints Dr. Simon A. Burney, Ph.D. Director of Resource Development

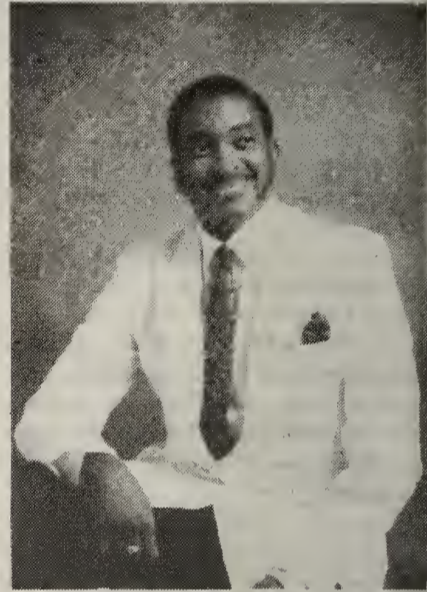
By Dr. Archie D. Logan

We would like to welcome aboard Dr. Simon A. Burney, Ph.D., who has been appointed to serve as Executive Director of Resource Development by the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina. Dr. Burney who has a highly esteemed record of public community outreach services, will be developing regional and national resources of support to respond to socio-economic issues, higher educational opportunities, and Collaborative Faith-based initiatives. Dr. Burney will also be working in collaboration with legislative and congressional representatives along with many foundations and corporations

throughout the state of North Carolina. He will be developing and initiating creative and proactive community developmental programs, working with various integrated components of the General Baptist State Convention Millennium Stewardship Campaign and also developing strategic long-term initiatives at the General Baptist State Convention corporate level.

We are very pleased to welcome aboard Dr. Burney along with his wife, the Rev. Annie H. Burney, who will serve as Dr. Burney's administrative director. Dr. Burney's exemplary background has been well documented in the local and regional news media. He serves as the president of

the distinguished Friends Helping Friends Family Resource Center, Inc. located in Rocky Mount, North Carolina. The family center was highly commended by the North Carolina Division of Emergency Management, for providing outstanding integrated family services and creative youth programs to the FEMA mobile home park communities, in Nash and Edgecombe counties during the aftermath of the devastation of Hurricane Floyd. Dr. Burney, along with his wife, and many wonderful volunteers continue to serve the families throughout eastern North Carolina with integrated proactive educational and family developmental programs that are enriching the lives of hundreds of families.

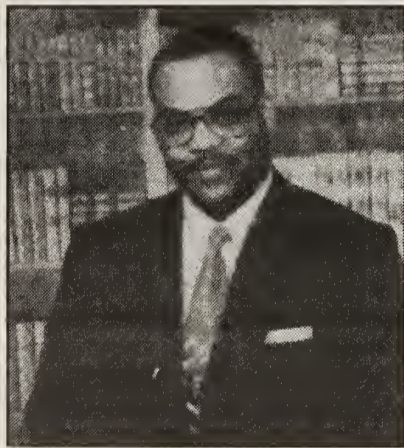


Dr. Simon A. Burney

## Rev. Michael R. Smith Sr. Selected Supervisory Chaplain of Federal Correctional Complex In Butner

Raleigh native, Rev. Michael R. Smith Sr., will assume supervisory duties as the Head Chaplain at the Federal Correctional Complex in Butner, N.C., Nov. 18, 2001. Rev. Smith was selected from among other federal chaplain candidates from around the country. He is the son of Wade and the late Marcelline Smith and is a product of the Raleigh Public School System, a graduate of Fayetteville State University (1975-79) B.A. Sociology, and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary (1986-89), Master's of Divinity degree. He is presently endorsed by the General Baptist State Convention of N.C. and the American Baptist Churches, USA for ministry in correctional chaplaincy. Rev. Smith's new ministerial responsibilities will include oversight and supervision of all religious programming, financial budgets, contract/volunteer persons and six staff chaplains throughout the four facility complex that houses approximately 3,100 federal inmates.

Chaplain Smith began his career in corrections as a Correctional Officer at Raleigh's Central Prison in 1979. He became Staff Chaplain at Central Prison in 1988 and was promoted to North Central Area Chaplain II in 1993. He later went to the Federal Bureau of Prisons as Chaplain in 1995 where he has served at the Metropolitan Correctional Center in Chicago, Ill., (1995-97), Federal Correctional Complex in Butner, N.C. He was instrumental in starting Project Nehemiah at Raleigh's Wake Correctional Center (a Pre-release and Aftercare ministry) in 1994. He also has served in the General Baptist State Convention's Prison Ministry since 1988 and presently is Chairman of the GBSC



Rev. Michael R. Smith Sr.

Office of Institutional and Specialized Ministries. He has been instrumental in organizing the GBSC 1st Annual Crime and Incarceration Conference on November 30-December 1, 2001, at the Shaw University Divinity School.

Rev. Smith's calling is to reach, reconcile and restore broken lives impacted through crime and incarceration since being licensed and ordained at Martin Street Baptist Church under the pastorate of Dr. David C. Forbes Sr. and is presently an Associate in Ministry at Christian Faith Baptist Church in Raleigh. He looks forward to his new responsibilities at FCC Butner and being a catalyst in North Carolina for effective and innovative ministry in the correctional setting and community.

He is married to the former Renee V. Jones of Raleigh and has four children Michael Jr., Dedrick, Faith and Joel and resides in Raleigh.

## Foundation News

By Dexter Perry

The General Baptist Foundation was established in 1983 for the purpose of supporting the various programs endorsed and carried out by the General Baptist State Convention. The Foundation's current goal is to support the Millennium Stewardship Campaign by raising \$3 million dollars in 30 months, to create an endowment, which will assist in funding the expansion of this program of the General Baptist State Convention.

In addition, The Foundation has created several programs available for you to use related to Personal Finance, Church Finance and Technology. When you use those programs, you support the Foundation. For example,

Did you know that the Foundation, through its network of Attorney's, can help you prepare a WILL or a Trust?

Did you know that the Foundation can help you create a retirement plan or a college savings plan for your children or grandchildren?

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Did you know that the Foundation can help your church establish a Web Page for its ministry.

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Now, if you didn't know these things, now you know.

Lastly, the Foundation wants to communicate directly to you and your church. We are currently creating an ON-LINE directory of all churches and individuals related to the General Baptist State Convention.

We are asking that everyone call in and register yourself and your church for this directory. Registration is free.

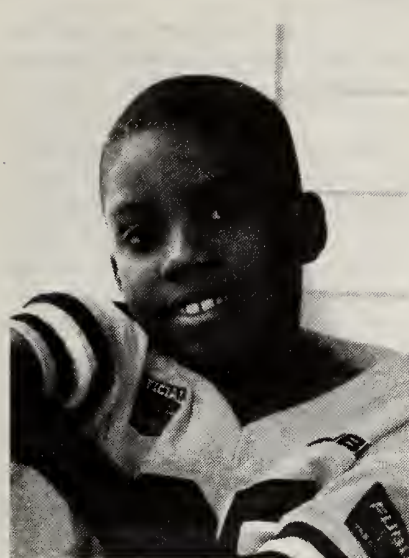
You can reach the Foundation by calling 1-866-OUR GOAL or 1-866-687-4631.

Go to:  
[www.gbsc.org](http://www.gbsc.org)

# UPDATE: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE



Asia



Davante

### Introducing Asia and Davante...

Asia and Davante are beautiful, inquisitive children. They both love to fish. Asia loves animals and can't bear to see them hurt. Davante is loving and sweet and loves to talk about himself.

### A Closer Look at Asia...

Asia loves to watch the animal shows on the Discovery Channel. She enjoys roller blading, swimming, skating, singing, dancing and writing. Asia is quite an artist and talented in drawing, painting and making pottery. She also loves music and can play the guitar. Personal time and private space are very important to her. Asia attends a class in school where the work is tailored to meet her needs. While she does not receive exceptional or special education resources, Asia has to work very hard to keep up with her grade level. She takes medication to help her focus and to control her feelings. Asia has made significant progress in learning to verbalize her feelings and behaviors and understands consequences to inappropriate actions.

### A Closer Look at Davante...

Davante is an active, energetic and athletic little boy who loves to skip, jump, run and do cartwheels. He likes all sports, but his favorites are football, baseball and basketball, in that order. Davante also enjoys playing with his remote control car, riding his bike and playing video games. He likes going to church every Sunday and says that he loves God. Davante attends a classroom where his energy can be redirected toward his schoolwork. His behaviors have improved a great deal, though he still needs to work on social skills and communication. Davante works well with redirection, positive reinforcement and consequences.

### A Family for Asia and Davante...

Asia and Davante have made tremendous improvements in their attitudes and behaviors since moving into their current foster home. They will need a patient family willing to allow a slow transition into their adopted home. Their new family should be willing to continue using the redirection, positive reinforcement and consequences methods that have proven to be so effective with them.

Asia and Davante need a forever home together where they will feel the love, security and stability they have come to understand and expect. (NC #060-818) (NC #060-967)

### Introducing Erica...

Erica loves to sing and often sings solo with her church choir. She also has a band with her younger sister, with whom she'd like to maintain contact. Drawing, shopping and fixing her hair are also things Erica enjoys. Erica is described as friendly, talkative, lovable and affectionate. Erica likes school and does well in most subjects, although she says math is her favorite. She has strong, positive goals and hopes to go to college. While she can test limits at times, Erica generally knows how far she can go. She has a good imagination, but she needs to remember not to go overboard. She also needs to work on learning to maintain friendships.

### A Family for Erica...

Erica is interested in being adopted by a strong, close knit family. As with most teens, she will need a family who can provide structure, guidance, clear guidelines and consequences. She also would like to continue contact with her sister. (NC #041-761)



Erica

For more information on these children or adoption in general, please call the toll free NC Kids Hotline at 1-877-625-4371.

## WANTED!!

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Please contact: Dr. Joseph C. Paige or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige  
2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27610 • 919-231-9774; Fax 919-212-3656;  
or e-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com or dotteddem@maxxconnect.net

## ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

Ministry of the GBSC State & Convention of N.C., Inc.

By Dr. Joseph C. Paige, Chairperson

Greetings and Peace on the name of Jesus Christ. We would like to request your active participation and support of the North Carolina African-American Faith Communities United for Children: Adoption and Foster Care.

This Initiative is a cooperative partnership between the General Baptist State Convention and Human Services, Division of Social Services. Ours is an exciting and challenging journey, and a real opportunity to make a serious contribution to a real serious cause at this time.

The African-American Children's Initiative Adoption and Foster Care, as a cooperative church-based effort designed to help identify African-American single persons and couples who are interested in adoption African-American children or becoming foster parents to African-American children. This initiative is based on the fact that every child deserves a long, nurturing and caring home.

At the present time, there are many African-American children in the North Carolina Foster Care System, both boys and girls, who are currently eligible for this effort. The goal is to help speed up the adoption process. Time is of profound essence. There is also an urgency to identify potential Foster Care parents.

We are anxious to make a real difference within the next few months and we can do this only with your help. Volunteers will receive additional guidance from us on marketing strategies in your respective areas just as soon as I hear from you. In addition, we are in the process of soliciting and identifying volunteers to work with us throughout the state in the following categories, and we are requesting your assistance.

1. County Adoption/Foster Care Recruitment Volunteer Coordinators (one volunteer for each county).
2. Church Adoption/Foster Care Recruitment Volunteer Coordinators (one per church)
3. We are also requesting Adoption/Foster Care Recruitment Volunteer coordinators to work with us at the town, city, and area levels, to help us spread the word that all children need and deserve a loving and caring home.

If you agree to serve as a volunteer or if you know someone who is willing to serve with us, write me today and mail it to me at the address below:

Dr. Joseph C. Paige, Chairperson  
The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry  
PO Box 24273, Raleigh, NC 27611-5273

Please don't hesitate to call me if you have any questions (919) 231-9774. Or you can e-mail me at JoePaigeSr@aol.com or you can also e-mail me at JoePaigeSr@aol.com.

I look forward to working with you.

### SHARE THE VISION WITH US!! HELP US SPREAD THE WORD

THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC. &

THE NORTH CAROLINA AFRICAN-AMERICAN FAITH COMMUNITIES UNITED FOR CHILDREN: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

*Making A Difference in the Life of a Child*

*Finding Adoptive and Foster Care Homes for African-American Children*

The North Carolina African-American Faith Communities United for Children, a partnership with North Carolina Division of Social Services, is comprised of African-American congregations and community organizations from across the State, NAYKEL and the North Carolina Association of Black Social Workers committed to finding adoptive and foster homes for African-American children.

Yes, I'd like to do my part ...

Please complete and return to Dr. Joseph Paige.

I'd like someone to call me.

Please send me information about adoption. Please send me information about foster care.

I'd like to be a field worker.

I am interested in being an adoptive parent.  I'd like to be a county volunteer.

I am interested in being a foster care parent.

I'd like to be a church volunteer.  Other (please specify)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City

State

Zip

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Dr. Joseph C. Paige at 2610 Albemarle Ave., Raleigh, NC 27610, 919-231-9774, 919-618-8343, mobile • e-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com

# UPDATE: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

By Dr. Joseph C. Paige and  
Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige

Greetings in the BLESSED NAME of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

November was National Adoption Awareness Month, and in North Carolina, it was indeed special — one of celebration and praise, a time to take a serious look at the plight of our children — those in the North Carolina Foster Care System, and children in need of families and homes, nationwide, and make a special resolve to join with others in helping to make a positive difference in their lives.

**The North Carolina Adoption Awareness Month observance began with a big GALA KICK-OFF TAIL-GATE CELEBRATION on the grounds of the State Capitol from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 1, before a capacity crowd of participants and on-lookers — politicians, state employees, educators, business persons and a representative group of clergy from around the state.**

In honor of the month-long celebration, Gov. Michael F. Easley issued a Proclamation proclaiming November 2001 to be "Adoption Awareness Month in North Carolina," in which he urged "all citizens to recognize the value of adoption of children in need of permanent homes with loving families."

## THE CELEBRATION

Gov. Easley was unable to attend the celebration and the Proclamation was read by Ms. Sonja Barnes of the Governor's Office of Community Affairs. Ms. Barnes is well known in the Raleigh area and throughout the state and was well received as she mingled with participants following her presentation. Ms. Barnes represented the Governor well as she read the Proclamation at the Gala Kickoff. Other speakers at the Gala Kickoff Tailgate Celebration included Health and Human Services Secretary Carmen Hooker-Buell and Dr. James T. Robeson, Dean, Shaw University Divinity School.

A TIME FOR PARTNERING AND TO-

## GETHERNESS

In his proclamation, Gov. Easley stated that adoption was the plan for 3,100 children in North Carolina at this time, and that approximately 900 are ready to be placed in permanent homes.

The governor emphasized in his proclamation that during the month of November, county Departments of Social Services, private adoption agencies, the faith community and advocacy groups, will participate in a statewide public awareness campaign, adding that "this collaborative effort will focus greater attention on children who need permanent adoptive families and honor the families who have adopted."

## SECRETARY CARMEN HOOKER-BUELL

The Honorable Carmen Hooker-Buell, Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services was the keynote speaker. Secretary Hooker-Buell is always a hit with audiences around the state — personable, knowledgeable and dedicated. As one observer stated, "our Carmen is just good to be around...easy to relate to."

In her remarks, Secretary Hooker-Buell outlined the needs for more and faster placement of children with adoptive parents, and challenged all to join the campaign to help find adoptive homes. Like Gov. Easley and Gov. Hunt before him, they are very supportive and encouraging of faith-based and community-based initiatives, in partnership with the state and other public and private sectors, working together to help resolve social problems and improve the quality of life for all. The secretary had a crowded schedule for the day, but even so, she remained at the celebration and mingled with and encouraged the participants. Of course I am probably a bit biased, but I personally consider the secretary to be among the greatest of Gov. Easley's appointments. She has the unique knack of fitting in, of being at home, with North Carolinians, generally — beyond race, religion and other forms of pettiness.

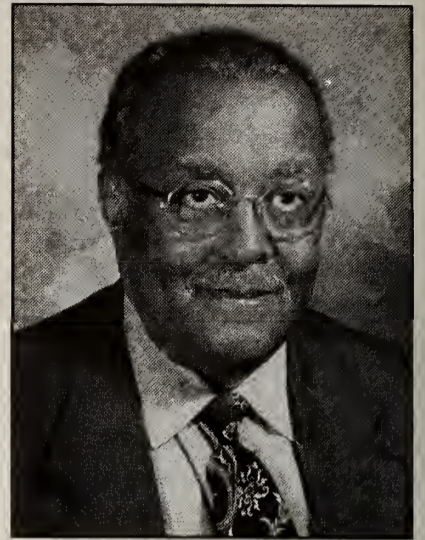
GOD IS STILL BLESSING OUR MIN-

## ISTRY

In terms of recruitment and adoption/foster care advocacy, November was again encouraging. And, as I repeatedly say each month if this outpouring of interest continues, and there is every indication to believe that we will have another banner year in terms of outreach and the recruitment of potential African-American adoptive and/or foster parents. Ministers, and laity are helping us spread the work among the various faith communities that "every child is special to God" and that "every child deserves a loving and caring home. We give God the glory.

We were encouraged by our attendance and participation in the Annual Session of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc., held at the Hill Street Baptist Church, Asheville. We were both inspired and encouraged by the number of persons stopping by our booth, and the number of clergy and laity, women and men, who, on the spot, signed up to either volunteer with us, or to initiate the process of becoming a foster or adoptive parent.

I want to thank the Convention planners for providing for our program participation,



Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr.

and the Moderator of Moderators for allowing me to make a special appeal at their special session.

We also met with several individuals, organizations and community groups, conducted training for volunteers, and responded to inquiries from persons interested in Adoption and/or Foster Care.

(Continued on next page)

## FOSTER CARE & ADOPTION NEWS

We urgently seek to identify persons interested in becoming Adoptive and/or Foster Care Parents in each of the 100 counties. There is an urgency. Every child deserves a loving and caring home.

Please contact at:

Dr. Joseph C. Paige or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige  
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Phone/Fax (919) 231-9774

E-Mail: jpaige@maxxrep.com or dottiedem@maxxconnect.net

Make a decision to change your life NOW!  
PLEASE CONTACT US. WE WILL RETURN YOUR CALL!

### The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. and the N.C. African-American Faith Communities United for Children: Adoption and Foster Care Finding Adoptive & Foster Care Homes For African-American Children

#### Touch a Life Forever ... ADOPT!

#### Children waiting for adoptive families are ...

- Sisters and brothers who want to be adoptive together
- Children who have experienced neglect, abuse or abandonment
- Older children who want a permanently family
- Children who need families who care and are willing to make a lifetime commitment

#### You can adopt if you ...

- Are single, married or divorced
- Can provide a stable home
- Have the ability to care for a child not born to you
- Are willing to take on the responsibilities, joys and challenges of parenting

#### Families who adopt ...

- May be homeowners or renting
- May have a fixed income
- May be an adult of any age

#### North Carolina Needs More Foster Homes

Thousands of children in North Carolina, ranging in age from infants to 18 years old, enter the foster care system each year. These children may have been neglected, abused, or abandoned and need a safe place to stay temporarily. The number of children coming into care is increasing faster than the number of foster homes in our state.

#### You Can Become A Foster Parent If You ...

- Are between the ages of 21 and 65
- Are willing to be fingerprinted and have a criminal record check
- Have a stable home and income
- Are able to provide a safe, temporary place for children until they can be in a permanent home
- Complete all required training and be licensed by the State of North Carolina

You do not have to be married, wealthy or own your own home to be a foster parent.

## MORE ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

Again, we say "thanks" to people like you for helping us spread the news. The word is now out. The belief that every child deserves a loving, caring and nurturing home is widespread. And people, overall, in all walks of life, seem to agree that our ministry is a worthy cause deserving broadly based support at every level.

### OUR MANDATE

1. To identify African-American singles and couples who are interested in becoming adoptive and/or foster parents for African-American children already in the Foster Care System of the North Carolina Division of Social Services (NC-DSS).

2. To advocate, motivate and stimulate interest among African-American singles and couples of the various faith communities in becoming adoptive and/or foster parents for African-American children already in the Foster Care System of North Carolina Division of Social Services.

The GBSC Adoptive and Foster Care Ministry and our Outreach arm, **THE NORTH CAROLINA AFRICAN-AMERICAN FAITH COMMUNITIES UNITED FOR CHILDREN: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE**, are the major adoption and foster care faith communities advocated in our state. We are convinced that our efforts have made and continue to make positive differences in the attitudes of the faith communities and their members toward adoption and foster care, in particular and toward the State and County Departments of Social Services in general. Ours is a unified effort. **Together, we are making a difference.**

### ELIZABETH CITY ORIENTATION/TRAINING

Thanks to Rev. Ricky Banks, we had a very successful Orientation/Training session in Elizabeth City on Nov. 3, which was coordinated by Calvin and Priscilla Spellman, our senior volunteers in the area. The Spellmans were appointed to work with us as area and church volunteers by Pastor Ricky Banks.

Persons in attendance included Calvin and Priscilla Spellman, Erica Riddick, JoAnn Williams and Curtis and Gladys Tann.

### THE EVERY CHURCH ADOPT ONE PROJECT

THE EVERY CHURCH ADOPT ONE initiative, influenced after the successful Virginia pioneering effort, continues to gain broad support statewide, among the various faith communities, and again, we give God the glory and the praise. We will continue to push this initiative statewide. And we are serious.

We are grossly encouraged and buoyed by

the expressions of support of pastors attending the Annual GBSC Session in Asheville. We received similar expressions of support by collaborating faith communities across denominational lines.

THE EVERY CHURCH ADOPT ONE is a highly successful interfaith initiative, and we strongly encourage all churches to join us in this special challenge and opportunity. Join the growing number of churches that are uniting for children. This **HELPING AND CARING MINISTRY** is being pushed by moderators, conference leaders, elders, bishops, ministers and assorted church laity. Many church missionary departments have accepted this ministry as a primary focus for the year 2001, in addition to their other ongoing ministry priorities.

### PARTNERING WITH FAITH COMMUNITIES

Again, our outreach arm, **The North Carolina African-American Faith Communities United for Children: Adoption and Foster Care**, an initiative of the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry, deserves both continuing praise and thanks. Both ministers and laity, women and men, are actively spreading the work that children need love, that they need a nurturing and caring home environment. **This interfaith, interdenominational body, inspired by God and directed by the Heavenly leadership of the Holy Spirit, has been a God-send. We pray fervently and listen and patiently wait for God's guidance in all that we do. The success of our ministry is further confirmation that with God, all things are possible.**

We encourage African-American Faith Communities wishing to volunteer with us to call, write or send me an e-mail: Joseph C. Paige Sr., 2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, N.C. 27610. Phone (919) 231-9774; e-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com.

### VOLUNTEERS

It is essential that we continue to expand our network of adoption and foster care volunteers, recruiting through our expanding church contacts, associations and conferences of the various faith communities. We are especially grateful to the moderators, elders and overseers of the various faith communities for their continuing support of our efforts and for the generous time and energy our volunteers give to our effort. Like us, our volunteers believe that every child deserves a loving, caring and nurturing home and they are committed to helping make this happen.

Thanks again for your support and encouragement.

## A Message from the Director of Church Relations

### Attention all African-American Singles and African-American Couples!

*Bridge the gap to permanency through Adoption and Foster Care!*

By Rev. Anthonette Wright  
Director of Church Relations  
GBSC Adoption and  
Foster Care Ministry

North Carolina needs more African-American singles and couples willing to adopt or foster care African-American children.

The number of children coming into care is increasing faster than the number of adoptive homes in our state. Let's continue to help open doors for the many children in the child welfare system so that they may have a permanent, loving, nurturing and safe place to call home.

Do you have what it takes to be an adoptive parent? Think about a few of these qualities. Adoptive parents are people who are willing to make a commitment to a child for a permanent lifetime relationship, people who are flexible in finding ways to adjust to new situations and changes, people who understand that truly accepting a child as part of their family means accepting a child's past history and people who are probably a lot like you.

We need your help! Support this ministry by becoming an adoptive parent or a foster care parent and volunteer to recruit African-American Singles and Couples willing to adopt or foster African-American Children. With your help, we can make



Rev. Anthonette Wright

a difference in the life of a child. Please contact me for more information on what you can do to help make a difference in a child's life. You may write me:

Rev. Anthonette Wright  
Director of Church Relations  
211 Six Forks Road, Suite 209-B  
Raleigh, N.C. 27609 or  
E-mail me:  
Nwrightgbsc@aol.com  
or telephone me:  
919-754-8800.

## Dr. J. Allen Lewis Succumbs

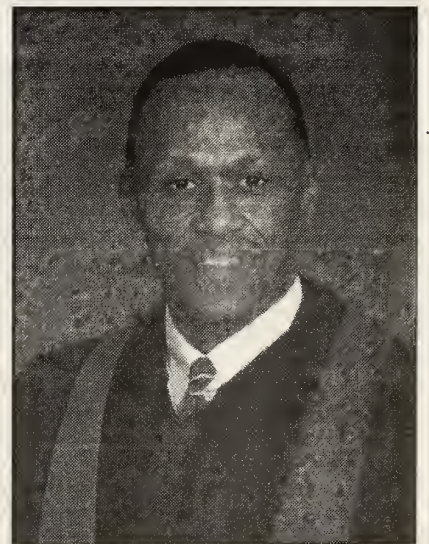
By Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr.

Dr. J. Allen Lewis died Thursday, Oct. 18, 2001. His funeral was held at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 23, at Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Cary, N.C. He was buried in Montlawn Memorial Park in Raleigh. Rev. George A. Jones Sr. officiated.

Jackie "Jack" Allen was born Oct. 29, 1951, in Franklin County, N.C., to Joseph and Lucy Lewis.

Dr. Lewis was educated in the Franklin County School System. He attended Shaw University, Shaw Divinity School, and N.C. Central University. He received his doctorate in divinity under the leadership of Dr. Davis of Ohio.

Dr. Lewis was a member of Saint Delight United Church of Christ in Louisburg, N.C., where he served in the choir. He later joined Juniper Level Baptist Church in Raleigh, N.C., where he served on the choir and as a Sunday school teacher. At Juniper Level, he accepted his calling in the ministry and became an associate minister under the leadership of Dr. George A. Jones Sr. The Lord led him to Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Cary, N.C., where he became the pastor in October 1979. He served as the pastor of Mt. Zion until he was called home to be with the Lord. He had a lot of love for his church and church



Dr. J. Allen Lewis

family.

He was married to Phyllis G. Lewis and to this union God blessed them with three sons, Linwood Earl Mills, Timothy Cranford and Demetris Allen Jamar Lewis; and a special guardian relationship with a nephew, Jesse Burnette and family friend, David Campbell.

He was a very loving and kind-hearted person. He always wore a cheerful smile.

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*A star is shining bright  
in the skies!*

# From the Moderator of Moderator's Committee

*Oh! How Things Have Changed?*

Grace and Peace to all of you, my brothers and sisters!

Twenty-five or fifty years ago, lifting up and speaking on legal issues and church conflict matters as I have been trying to do in these articles would not be of as much interest to us as Missionary Baptists. To me, it seems that when it came to the church, there were just some things that our parents, grandparents, and great grandparents would and could not do. Churches and pastors were not involved in court disputes to the extent that we see it now. There seemed to have been more love, respect, confidence and trust toward one another than what we are seeing in our churches today. When a pastor walked down the street or about the community, people readily recognized him/her as a person of the cloth. Folks felt that the pastors' words were their bond. Oh! How things are changing?

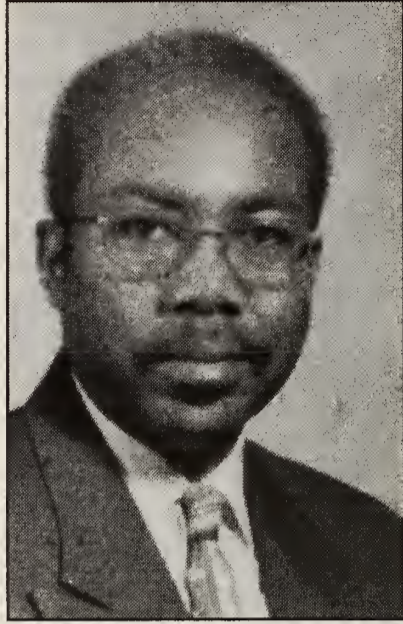
Yes, our society and culture are changing but as Christians, our love, respect, confidence and trust for one another must not change. Hebrews 13:1 says, "Let brotherly love continue." In the 8<sup>th</sup> verse of this same chapter, it states, "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever." I have stated all of this to raise an issue that needs honest discussion.

During a workshop, I was asked the question, "Brother Moderator, what do you think about pastors signing employment contracts with a church?" I say, "Well, personally I don't like it." Then I was asked, "Would you sign one?" To that question, I said, yes." Now, I am waiting to hear from some of you who want to call me a hypocrite.

You see, I don't like it but I do understand that the times are changing. Secondly, I do not want to be responsible for telling some young perspective pastor not to sign a contract and eliminate his/her chances of getting a church. But there are some real issues that churches and pastors need to consider. Consider this if you will. An employment contract for a pastor setting forth the following:

- a). The hours he/she needs to spend at the church
- b). The days and times for sick visitation
- c). The contract shall be for a duration of five years
- d). At the end of the five year period, the pastor shall be evaluated and recommendation made to the church to determine if the contract should be extended.

Now think about this. Does the church need to tell us what we ought to be doing anyway if we profess to be called by God? We really work for the Master and not the church. Many pastors have gotten up at



Rev. James W. Smith, J.D.

midnight and early morning hours to spend hours with a family in the emergency room and no one was aware of it except those involved. It is tough to do that when days and nights are specified. On the other hand many of us have not been diligent in our work for the Master and therefore we have created a lack of love, respect, confidence and trust within our congregations and thereby making employment contract necessary. Also, I get concerned with two, three, four, and etc. year's contract. If we are not satisfied with our performance as pastors, or the church is not satisfied, then neither of us should have to wait until the contract expires for fear of incurring damages for breach of contract. Likewise, we do not want to stay believing things are going well only to find out that at the end of the contract term, it will not be renewed or extended because of the recommendation of a partial evaluation committee.

As pastors and churches, let us not forget that love, respect, confidence and trust still define us and, "Oh, How things are changing," these should remain the same.

If you wish our services in any way, please contact us at the following:

Rev. James W. Smith, JD  
146 Presidents Drive  
Durham, NC 27704  
(919) 479-0501  
Email: jsmith9450@aol.com  
Rev. W. J. Cox  
107 Gray Street  
Goldsboro, NC 27534  
(919) 751-9899  
Dr. Joshua J. Haire, Jr.  
P.O. Box 53803  
Fayetteville, NC 28305  
(910) 323-1508

# W.N.C. Laymen's Union Meet

On Monday, October 29, the W.N.C. Laymen's Union in conjunction with the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. held an Outreach Ministry at the corner of 70 South Market Street, known to downtown Asheville as "the Block."

We were welcomed by the President of the W.N.C. Laymen's Union, Deacon Amanda Henson who gave the purpose of the Outreach Service, which was to "share the good news of Jesus Christ." We also had greetings from the President of the North Carolina Laymen's Union, Mr. Jarvis Morgan. He greeted us and encouraged the Laymen to stand tall and continue the work of the Lord. Tracts were passed out and we were divided into teams and went to the

street. After about one hour we returned to the site for music, food, witnessing and testifying.

Rev. Lavon Gilmore, Jr. from the New Shiloh Baptist Church uplifted us with a soul stirring message from God. Rev. Fred Gordon, Moderator of the Mud Creek Association gave the call to discipleship. Two young people came and gave their life to Christ.

There were over 100 people in attendance. God richly blessed us in this outreach ministry. We are convicted now more than ever of the Great Commission to "go." Therefore, preach and teach the good news of Jesus Christ, the Risen Savior. We give God all the honor and glory for the things He has done!

*Happy Holidays*



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Go to:  
[www.gbsc.org](http://www.gbsc.org)

## New Pastor's Corner

### You Are Never Alone

By  
Rev. Sandra Holland Trotter  
Pastor/Shiloh Temple of Faith  
Missionary Baptist Church,  
Fayetteville, NC



Rev. Sandra Holland Trotter

While it is true that each of us has a separate and unique journey to make in this world, sometimes we find ourselves alone. The holidays are a challenge for single people. Being alone is not a time of waiting, but a time of becoming, becoming all you can be for our Lord and Savior Jesus the Christ.

The Christmas season is a time for giving and sharing. A time to spend with family and friends.

To some of us it's a time to give more of ourselves to help others. It's a time of giving and not a time to give up. Solomon writes in Ecclesiastes 3:1, "To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven. Just as there are seasons in the world, we also have seasons in our lives.

There is the winter season. We view winter as a time of resting and waiting. Winter is a season of pruning and cutting away. A season of change. A season of letting go of the old and preparing for the new. Preparing for the season of purpose. In this long season we have experienced grief, depression from loss, despair and even death. The season to come is the season of purpose and change. To move out of the winter into spring. Simply say good-bye to the old and welcome the new by letting go of the past, embracing the present and looking to the future. We formulate a dream by seeking the support of friendships and encouragement of others, by learning the power of prayer, releasing our fears and actively forgiving.

This is a season of spiritual beginnings. Old things are passed away; behold, all things become new. (2 Corinthians 5:17)

However, a transition is not just the pause between letting go of the old and holding on to the new. It is the entire process from crisis or restlessness to instability through chaos and unfolding into the resolution and a new equilibrium.

Even though we know letting go of the old is a good thing, it is painful grieving old losses, developing new habits and thinking new thoughts. We may ask for more wisdom, patience, understanding and compassion, and at the same time pray, "God please don't let it hurt."

The summer season is a time of first fruit and a new harvest. Trouble does not last always. Things always look better in the summer of our lives. It's a season of emotional balance, a time to reevaluate our

lives, our hopes and our dreams.

When we look at the colors of autumn, we see a dramatic shift from the green grass of summer to the golden hues of autumn. Autumn is a time for destiny to move out of the way for destiny. Destiny walks us into autumn; we become bold, strong and courageous Disciples of Christ. In the autumn of our lives we understand the process of growth. We learn power and peace through personal discipline. In the autumn of our spiritual lives we learn the secret to success is giving, not just on Christmas, but all year long. Giving of your time, your gifts, your talents and your love.

If you find yourself single this Christmas remember...

**You are never alone.**

**Jesus said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."**

(Hebrews 13:5)

**Meditate on the word of God and be of good cheer.**

**Remember who you are.**

**I am the salt of the earth.**

(Matthew 5:13)

**I am a child of God.**

(John 1:12)

**I am chosen and ordained by God.**

(John 15:16)

**I am peculiar people.**

(1 Peter 2:9)

**I am of the royal priesthood.**

(1 Peter 2:9)

**The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.**

(Psalms 23:1)

**The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear.**

(Psalms 27:1)

**The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall be afraid.**

(Psalms 27:2)

Take this time, this precious time, to remember whos you are and who you serve. Get ready for a new year. Make a change. Make a difference. Make this the best Christmas ever! Keep in mind, Jesus is the reason for the season. Remember, Jesus said, "and lo, I will be with you always!!!  
**You are never alone!**

CHARLES NORTON  
PRESIDENT  
919-779-3731  
FAX 919-779-5687

# Century

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## Christian Education for the 21st Century

By Portia Brandon, M.Div., Christian Education Coordinator

### There Is A Message In Your Dress

When you step into a room, even though no one in that room knows you or seen you before, they will make ten decisions about you based solely on your appearance.

1. Your economic level
2. Your educational level
3. Your trustworthiness
4. Your social position
5. Your level of sophistication
6. Your economic heritage
7. Your social heritage
8. Your educational heritage
9. Your success
- 10 Your moral character

The way you present yourself to the public is a statement of how you regard yourself, it is also an indication of how you handle responsibility.

#### What Message Are You Sending?

Even in the days of the Bible, there were people who were remembered for what they wore or for their glamour.

1. Absalom was remembered for his thick and long hair, even in his death (2 Samuel 14:25-26)
2. King Xerxes' wives attended a twelve month beauty spa complete with personal trainers (Esther 2:12)
3. The Ishmaelites were a whole tribe who were known for their gold earrings (Judges 8:24)
4. You might remember Samson. His long hair was braided into seven braids



Portia Brandon, M.Div.  
Christian Education Coordinator

(Judges 16:19)

5. Joseph, one of Jacob's 12 sons was renowned for his richly ornamented robe (Genesis 37:3)

6. Adam and Eve were the quintessence of understatement in their garments of skin made by God himself (Genesis 3:21)

7. No one could forget Soloman's lovely bride with strings of jewels and earrings of gold studded with silver (Song of Soloman 1:10-11)

8. Jezebel dressed for her own execution in gaudy eye make-up and a new hairdo (2 Kings 9:30-31)

9. Even the priests were known to wear tunics and turbans of only fine linen (Exodus 28:4)

10 As a child, the prophet Samuel could be seen each year in a new robe (1 Samuel 2:19)

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(919) 557-1227

*Psalms 46:10 "Be Still and Know That I am God"  
"He's More God Than I Ever Need"*

### The Elephant in the Courtroom

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Based on a report by the North Carolina Council of Churches' Task Group on Racism and Restorative Justice. A Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation grant makes this curriculum available free of charge by contacting the Council at 919-828-6501.





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## Wise Men Come To Jesus

When Jesus was born some wise men saw His special star. So, they followed the star a long way to see the Savior. The wise men asked, "Where is the baby who was born to be the king of the Jews? We have come to worship Him."

King Herod was upset about baby Jesus, because he thought Jesus would be king instead of him. So, Herod tried to trick the wise men. He asked the wise men to find Jesus and tell him where Jesus was. Herod lied and said he wanted to worship Jesus, too.

When the wise men found Jesus, they gave Him special gifts of gold and perfume. And they worshipped Him. Matthew 2:1-12

### ESCAPE TO EGYPT

The wise men did not tell King Herod where Jesus was staying. God had warned them about Herod's trick. Then God's angel spoke to Joseph in a dream. The angel said Herod was going to try and kill Jesus. So, Joseph, Mary and Jesus escaped to Egypt in the middle of the night.

Herod gave an order to kill all the baby boys in Bethlehem and around the city. He said to kill every baby boy who was less than two years old. But they did not find Jesus.

Joseph, Mary and Jesus stayed in Egypt until Herod died. Then they went home to Israel. Matthew 2:13-20

Matthew 2:13-20



Submitted by  
Dr. H.C. Miller  
Chairman of Evangelism

## The Building of an Evangelistic Sermon

If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. 1 Peter 4:11

The actual preparation of the sermon itself must begin with a thoroughgoing time of prayer and personal devotion to Christ. Then comes the selection of the text (or the text choosing you). If the preacher is proceeding *lectio continua* through a bible book, the decision has already been made. Either way, the text needs to be read and reread in the original language (if the preacher has the tools or training to do so) and in various translations. The preacher should never go to the commentaries too quickly and thus be deprived of exploring the text lexicographically on his or her own. Similarly, the preacher should not read the sermons of others on the text too soon. There is a proper time for commentaries and for sermons but not prematurely so as to skew original thinking and research. We need to take time to luxuriate in the richness of the passage in its context and for creative brooding over its meaning.

Out of this wrestling and grappling emerges the sense of "the intention" (David Buttrick) or the "proposition" (John Broadus). This carefully focused sentence will succinctly summarize the main thrust of the sermon and should be developed and argued in a series of main points drawn from the natural order of the text. This out-



Dr. H.C. Miller

line is the body of the sermon.

We should remember, in preaching evangelistically we are addressing those who have not yet submitted to divine authority or are in process of so doing. We must strike points of contemporary contact with our audience.

Interpretation of the Biblical text has much to do with applying the truth of that text to today's world.

Henry Sloan Coffin, long-time president of Union Theological Seminary in New York City in a previous generation who pressed the thesis that evangelism is the supreme duty of the Christian preacher gave a word of good advice:

1. Select great and moving themes.
2. Choose haunting and wooing texts.
3. Use language which makes people see.
4. Press them to a decision.

The basic skills learned in all preaching apply to the minister seeking to preach an evangelistic message. It is and shall continue to be my prayer that the Lord will bless your efforts as you seek to win souls into the kingdom. Be reminded that without preaching there is no bridge; and without the spirit in preaching there is no lure to cross the bridge.

# A Christian Education Moment

By Dr. Jasper P. Reed, President  
Congress of Christian Education

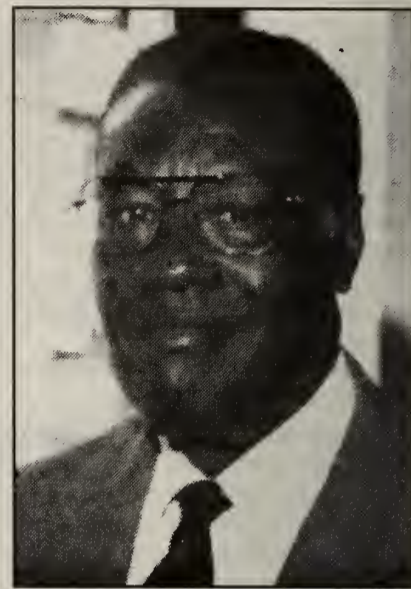
## "O Little Town Of Bethlehem

As we prepare to celebrate Christmas 2001 and attempt to recall the reason for the season our thoughts naturally reverts to "O Little Town of Bethlehem." How comforting it is for us to go there because we are reminded of the Angelic events and the music associated with the Advent Season. For many of us the advent begins a scenario that takes us from birth to the cross with an interlude for Jesus to stray away from His family to teach the elders of His time. For most of us this ends our knowledge concerning the silent years in the life of our Saviour. For that reason let us take the time to read Psalm 69. Hopefully it will enable us to peer into some of the things that Jesus experienced as we listen to David speaking through the words of this Psalm.

This Psalm can be seen as an introduction to life experiences as well as a harbinger of events relative to the Life of Jesus. There are many themes in this Psalm. I simply want to lift a few. In addition to an introduction we find a messianic portion and a somewhat special prayer. This Psalm is second only to Psalm 22 as far as being quoted in the New Testament writings. It is quoted in Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Acts and Romans.

After you have finished reading this Psalm in your favorite Bible let us begin with verse four. This verse introduces us to the events occurring in the life of Jesus. Listen as Jesus Himself quotes it and applies it to His life in John 15:25, "But this cometh to pass, that the word might be fulfilled that is written in their law, **They Hated Me Without A Cause.** (KJV)." The enemies of the Lord Jesus hated Him and there was no justification for their hatred in Romans 3:24-26a we find, "But God treats us much better than we deserve, and because of Christ Jesus, he freely accepts us and sets us free from our sins. God sent Christ to be our sacrifice. Christ offered His life's blood, so that by faith in Him we could come to God (TEV)." Is this a reason to hate Him?

Verse eight gives us a second glimpse into the Life of our Saviour. This verse tells us something that we would not otherwise know unless we were in the word. Let us look anew at the words in this verse, "I am like a stranger unto my brethren and an alien to my mother's children, (KJV)." The scripture confirms that Mary, the mother of Jesus, had other children. Could it be that Mary was questioned by her other children about who Jesus really was? It was no secret that Joseph was not his father in the sense of his other children. This mystery surrounding His life made Him an alien unto the rest of Mary's children and to the world today. Could this have affected the quality of life in the family? Was it a happy home? Please note that the verse did not say an alien unto my father's children. He is not an alien unto us His Christian brothers and sisters. We are all children of the King Further, this verse speaks to the Virgin Birth of Jesus thereby making this a messianic psalm.



Dr. Jasper P. Reed, President  
Congress of Christian Education

Verses 22 through 25 introduces us to a special prayer. It is called an imprecatory prayer which is characterized as a prayer of judgment. It is difficult to have peace without putting down unrighteousness and rebellion. Apparently God the Father intends to do just that and makes no apology for it. Please turn with me to Acts 1:20 and let us read, "For It Is Written In The Book Of Psalms, **Let His Habitation Be Desolate, and Let No Man Dwell Therein: And His Bishopric Let Another Take, (KJV).**" God through the imprecatory psalm, invites us to "be angry but not to sin." Hear the scripture in Psalm 4:4, as it say, "Stand in awe, and sin not: Commune with your own heart upon your bed, and be still." Keeping this in mind we must fulfill the New Testament Teaching, "Do not let the sun go down while you are angry, and do not give the devil a foothold, (Ephesians 4: verses 25-26)."

### A Christian Education Moment For Our Youth and Young-at-Heart The Arab Nations

1. What did the Lord's Angel call Hagar's unborn son?  
Genesis 16:10-11
2. How did the Angel describe Hagar's sons?  
Genesis 16:12
3. What did the Lord promise Hagar?  
Genesis 21:18
4. Who chose Ishmael's wife?  
Genesis 21:20-21
5. How many sons did Ishmael have?  
Genesis 25:13-14
6. How old did Ismael live to be?  
Genesis 25:17-18
7. What did the Kings of Arabia give to Solomon?  
II Chronicles 9:13
8. What happened to the Arabs during Uzziah reign?  
II Chronicles 26:7
9. How did the Arabs treat Nehemiah?  
Nehemiah 2:19
10. How does John describe the Jihad Principle?  
John 16:2

## From the Desk of the 4th Vice President

By Rev. Nilous M. Avery II, M.Div.

"To the [General Baptist Family] of God in [North Carolina], to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be holy, together with all these everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ — their Lord and ours: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 1:2-3, NIV).

I always thank God for you as I travel around this great state through the channels of this great Convention. God is doing great things through you in ministry and the manifestation of spiritual gifts. Jesus' statement in Matthew 5:14 rings loudly in my ears: "You are the light of the world." When we carefully and prayerfully examine this statement, it is clearly a bold, yet bewildering proclamation. Imagine how perplexed the listeners of Jesus' day were when they heard this profound proclamation.

Here they were, living in a land that was far removed from the awesome and magnificent power of imperial Rome. They perhaps had envisioned what the great city of their oppressor must have looked like. Rome to them was the bright light that shone upon a hill. Yet, Jesus proclaimed them (His disciples) to be "the light of the world." Could it be that Jesus already saw them wrapped in a power so awesome — so marvelous — so impressive — so formidable, that Rome's light paled in comparison? YES!

Jesus knew that the power of God, which was promised to those who trusted and followed Him, could and would achieve what no other power in existence could! Jesus proclaimed this promise several times. Look at it in two specific passages:

• "I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high" (Luke 24:49, NIV)

• "...Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about...you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you..." (Acts 1:4b, 8a, NIV)

Jesus was declaring that those who receive God's power would accomplish what no other power on earth could do. Through them, God's power would provide light to a world that was bound by the darkness of lesser powers. Through them, God's light would *enable, equip, and empower* them to be witnesses of Christ, even "to the ends of the earth." The light of Rome was no match for the promised power that the disciples would receive in order to serve as the light of the world.

The same is true today. My sisters and brothers in Christ, **YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD!** This is the promise of Christ from Christ to all who trust and follow the Lord. The source from which we receive this world-illuminating power from God is an intimate companion-

ship and communion with the once crucified, but now risen Christ! That's it! That is why the Apostle Paul could exclaim with confidence: "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me" (Galatians 2:20, NIV).

With this power:

• we overcome weakness because God's power works through human weakness;

• we are rescued and healed; thus, we become rescuers and healers because God's power rescues and heals those who are handcuffed in the ruins of destructive experiences;

• we become a Christian community which reaches out to the least, the lost, those who are left out, looked over, and let down because God's power strengthens Christian communities.

**YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD!** General Baptists, we are the light of the world. Everything we do has but one purpose: to **GLORIFY GOD & EDIFY OTHERS.** We are a faith community that is powered by the Holy Spirit. As such, we are challenged by our Lord to grow **UPWARD, INWARD, and OUTWARD.** In responding to Jesus' proclamation of our illuminating power, we must embrace the call to become witnesses in action (Matthew 25:31-40)

The opportunity is available for us to shine. The Central Children's Home in Oxford, N.C. is waiting to be illuminated by God's light that shines in us. Shine today through your gifts of time, talent, treasure, and the temple (your presence/visits). Shine today — turn on your light by giving Mr. Michael Alston (Executive Director) a call and let him know that you are ready to shine! Let him share with you how your church, your association, your community, etc. can become a light for the Home. Shine today by contracting me — I will be glad to share with you through mail, e-mail, telephone, or in person how blessings will flow abundantly through your illumination upon the Home:

Mr. Michael Alston, *Executive Director*  
211 West Antioch Drive, Oxford, N.C. 27565  
E-mail: cch@gloryroad.net; (919) 693-7617;  
(919) 693-1213; (919) 693-3963 - Fax  
Reverend Nilous M. Avery, II

*4th Vice-President GBSC*  
Pastor, Mount Zion Baptist Church  
P.O. Box 2767, Salisbury, N.C. 28145-2767  
E-mail: averyrevkin@aol.com; (704) 637-0954 - office; (704) 633-6227 - home; (704) 637-1137 - Fax.

I look forward to hearing from you as we shine together! "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).

## Rev. Nilous M. Avery II Announces Candidacy For 2nd Vice-President of the GBSC, N.C., Inc.

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).

With this powerful challenge and assurance as a foundation, I humbly and prayerfully announce that I am a candidate for the office of 2nd Vice-President of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc. I come before you as one who is the least among you and do not even deserve to be all that I am. "But by the Grace of God, I am what I am..." (1 Corinthians 15:10a).

Words are not adequate to express the humility and gratitude I have for such a time as this. Words are also inadequate to express the profound love I cherish for the relationship, fellowship, friendship, and kinship that I share with each of you in Christ Jesus. In the past, you have allowed the mantle of ministry and leadership to be placed upon me with a deep and sincere trust. I have sought to be faithful in all of this. By the power, presence, and provision of God's abundant grace, I pledge to continue to uphold the charge to keep that I have under the blood-stained banner of the risen Christ.

Please allow me to briefly share with you three points: *Voyage, Vision, & Victory.* First, my *Voyage* has been one that was and is ordained by God who knew me before I was formed and set me apart before I was born. I am the oldest of four children born to Rev. Dr. N.M. Avery and Mrs. Christine Watson Avery. I am a native of Asheville, N.C. and a son of the Hill Street Baptist Church as well as the Mud Creek Association. I matriculated at Shaw University, Western Carolina University, and Shaw Divinity School. Presently, I serve as Pastor of the historic Mount Zion Baptist Church in Salisbury, N.C. where the Lord has blessed us with nine years of fruitful ministry.

Currently, our stewardship involves **A Passion for God and Compassion for People** through service on: numerous local, regional, and national religious and civic boards; the Rowan Association; the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.; and the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention. I am a lifelong member of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc. God has blessed me to serve in varied areas of ministry in our great Convention:

• Participant in the summer youth camps (formerly held at Shaw University)

• The Executive Committee and the General Board

- The Evangelism Committee
- The Program Committee
- The Committee for Higher Learning
- The Election Committee
- 4th Vice-President of the GBSC, N.C., Inc.

Second, my *Vision* for ministry through our Convention is anchored in several convictions. We must be *United in Christ, Propelled by Hope, and Equipped for Ministry.* We must have *A Passion for God and Compassion for People.* As your 2nd Vice President, I will "assist the President in the operation of the Convention, and shall perform all other duties {regarding} this office," and "shall chair the Committee for the Department of Foreign Missions" (Article V, Section 6, Item #4). This involves promoting and supporting the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention, the Foreign Mission Bureau, Overseas Adoption Plan, C.A.R.E., C.O.R.E., and other foreign mission programs. My goal is to encourage and challenge all members of our Convention to support foreign missions through: *Participation, Cultivation, Elevation, and Multiplication.* I will expand and expound upon these principles in the coming days and months.

Finally, our *Victory* is affirmed at Calvary and an empty tomb. We must never stray from that which is our power source: the love of God manifested in the gospel of Jesus Christ. We must advance the gospel, celebrate the ordinances, and send out missionaries (Acts 13:1-4). In the words of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ: "My food is to do what God wants! God is the one who sent me and I must finish the work God gave me to do...Open your eyes and look at the field! They are ripe for harvest." (John 4:34, 35b, paraphrased).

Please continue to support the work God gave us to do through the Convention in your prayers and total stewardship. Pray for all of our officers, auxiliaries, and the candidates in the upcoming election. May the Spirit of the Lord fall fresh on us as we strive to be all that God created us to be. I look forward to meeting and sharing with all of you in the near future.

I issue a call to my Christian brothers and sisters who have declared or may declare their candidacy in the Convention: **"BE ON YOUR GUARD; STAND FIRM IN THE FAITH, BE {PEOPLE} OF COURAGE; BE STRONG. DO EVERYTHING IN LOVE"** (1 CORINTHIANS 16:13-14, NIV). TO GOD BE ALL GLORY, HONOR, AND PRAISE! AMEN!

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## Terrorist Attacks: They Impact Christian Communities

**Dr. James H. Carter, M.D., M.Div.**

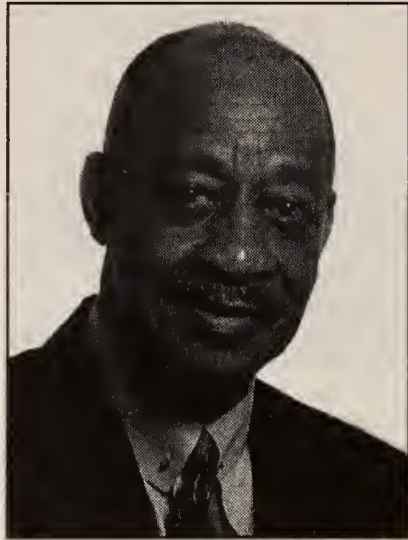
The September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon were devastating. This debacle precipitated panic around the globe. Not since the Civil War had America experienced this degree of carnage on its soil. Major consequences have been anger and emotional distress with an immediate cry for justice; that is, an "eye for an eye" (Exodus 21:24). Not too surprisingly, some Christian communities favored revenge in the name of the Almighty. As some Christians looked inward, they blamed the attack on the sins of feminists, abortionists, and homosexuals; ignoring the fact that "all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God" (Romans 8:23). Unwittingly, this rhetoric, when expounded by respected religious leaders, carries the potential of inciting violence against innocent groups of Americans.

Interestingly, the September 11, horrific attack has been referred to as an "act of war." Despite the loss of nearly six thousand innocent lives, we in the Christian community must realize that this crime is not technically an act of war. Perhaps this highly emotionally charged term has been used to call our attention to the seriousness of the event. An act of war is initiated only when one state attacks another state. This tragedy can best be described as a criminal act; behavior of a group who parenthetically stated they were doing God's will.

The emotional consequences of this crisis have yet to be fully assessed and it may be months or years before we can appreciate the full emotional impact. Already many Americans, especially young and older adults are experiencing significant emotional problems. Prior to this travesty, research had shown that one out of every ten women was at risk of experiencing at least one major episode of depression during life and one out of every fifteen men was expected to suffer from a major depression during life. A year ago, it was reported by the National Institute of Health that one out of every four adult Americans is depressed to a significant degree. Therefore, we anticipate the rate of mental disorders to be much greater since these attacks. I have been struck by the number of individuals who fear that additional terrorist assaults will occur, to include biological (anthrax) and toxic chemical attacks.

What symptoms are we now observing? Most often, there are complaints of feeling sad and many Americans find it difficult to remove themselves from their televisions that give repeated accounts of the tragedy. There are uncontrollable crying spells, nightmares, dreadful dreams, and feelings of "emptiness." In some instances an increase or loss in appetite, poor concentration, loss of energy, preferring to stay at home, and feelings of hopelessness are noted. There are usually nightmares and dreams about the scenes of the attack and the faces of people who are traumatized.

A question that seems to always arise



**Dr. James Carter**

is, do Christians become depressed? The answer is of course is yes; Christians are not exempt from diseases. We read in the scriptures, "that the afflictions of the righteous are many" (Ps. 34:19). Regrettably, too many fellow Christians feel guilty for suffering major depression because of the stigma, which we have imposed. Consequently, they may delay seeking the much needed treatment. This is true not only with major depression but with other treatable, potentially dangerous medical diseases.

The Christian community must seek to become informed and remain supportive of persons with symptoms of major depression or other major emotional problems. It has been discovered that forty percent of those who seek professional health for major mental disorders have initially consulted someone in the Christian community. We now know that major mental disorders are due to a chemical imbalance within the brain; more technically, a dysregulation of neurotransmitters. In more than ninety percent of the cases, treatment for depression is successful and may require medications. To God be the glory that there is overwhelming evidence that medications are effective. It was because of His grace that medicine has these new effective medications. For example, a study done in Sweden in 1999 revealed that the suicide rate due to depression, dropped by thirty percent when appropriately treated with antidepressants.

What specifically can the Christian community do? We can listen and be supportive; encourage prayer, sleep, good nutrition, and grooming. I suggest that we make ourselves available but not smother the depressed person. We must not judge them if they are angry and allow them to express their feelings. We should forgive rash words during their emotional times. If the depressed person seems unable to resolve their emotional turmoil or it appears that they are contemplating self-harm, we should suggest that they seek professional help. Let us therefore "bear one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ" (Gal. 6:2).

## State Ushers News

District III Ushers held their annual Fellowship Dinner Banquet, Nov. 17, 2001 at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Paul M. Baptist Church, in the Ray of Hope Center. The church is located at 1401 N. Allen Street, Charlotte, N.C. Dr. G.K. Moss, Sr. was host pastor. The keynote speaker was Dr. Clifford A. Jones, Senior Pastor of the Friendship M. Baptist Church, Charlotte, N.C. Donations were 13.50 for adult tickets and 9.00 for youth under 17. Bro. Forest M. Eaves, Jr. District president/coordinator. The menu was: Fried and baked chicken, green beans w/potatoes, macaroni and cheese and potato salad; apple and peach cobbler, pound cake, dinner rolls and iced tea. Approx. 550 persons were expected to attend this event.

Western Union M. Baptist Association Ushers, Clinton, N.C. held their annual Ushers Banquet, Oct. 6, 2001, at 6:00 p.m. at the Mt. Pleasant M. Baptist Church, Clinton, N.C. The speaker was Dr. Varnie Fullwood, host pastor. Approx. 150 persons were expected to attend. This was a "dress up" occasion for all ushers and their friends. Bro. Roy Williams, Pres., Bro. Earlie Melvin, Vice pres.

Have received one person's name, who has been ushering for 52 years. Mrs. Effie B. Cooper, New Salem M. Baptist Church, P.O. Box 2004, Elizabeth City, N.C., 27909; her pastor is Rev. Stanford Jones. Mrs. Cooper is pres. of ushers at New Salem M.B. Church and is still active. The General Baptist State Convention honored her with a certificate in 1999 for 50 years of ushering! This makes 52 years of ushering for the Lord. Mrs. Cooper, you are truly one of God's doorkeepers! Will speak to Pres. Charlie Fletcher, Vice pres. Forest Eaves, and state coordinator Nancy High about some type of Awards for your long years of service; to be given at the State ushers One Day Session in Winston Salem, N.C. in Feb. 2002. I'm sure there are others that have been ushers for a long time. Send your name, church, pastor, so you can be put on the list. Let me hear from you. Mrs. Effie Cooper, you are #1!

This poem was passed out in church along with a piece of peppermint: "Mint"

I "Mint" to call and thank you, but my time was in demand.

I "Mint" to say I love you, but I knew you would understand.

I "Mint" to send you flowers, but they cost so much you know.

I "Mint" to pray for you this morning, but I had some place to go.

I "Mint" to say forgive me, but that's so hard to do.

I heard my Lord say "Bless you Child" I hope He "Mint" Me too!

For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:11. Ushers read Luke, 2nd chapter-The Christmas Story, during the Christmas Holidays and thank God again for sending his son Jesus to save the world. In this year of 2001 and the approaching 2002, we really need a Savior.

The Big Piney Grove M. Baptist Church, Clinton, N.C.; pastor James Mitchell and the Mass Choir rendered services at the annual Ushers Workshop Nov. 10, 2001 at the J.J. Johnson Assembly Building, Laurinburg, N.C. Rev. Mitchell is well known for his dynamic preaching. Looking to have a good time in the Lord.

Western Union Ushers held their Annual Ushers Banquet at the Greater Mt. Pleasant M. Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, Oct. 9, 2001 at 6:00 p.m., Clinton, N.C. The Hall was beautifully decorated in fall colors, the ushers and guests were beautifully attired. (No ushers uniforms) The Dr. Varnie Fullwood, pastor of Greater Mt. Pleasant M. Baptist was the speaker. He spoke from Proverbs 22 - "A Good Name" is better to have than silver or gold. Awards were given to 10 persons for having served as ushers for 20 years. The speaker was dynamic, the food was real good, and the fellowship was great. The Lord truly blessed me. Approx. 150 persons attended. Bro. Roy Williams is president and Bro. Earlie Melvin is vice-president.

District III Ushers held their first musical concert, Oct. 28, 2001 at the St. Luke M. Baptist Church, Charlotte, N.C. at 3:00 p.m. The Rev. Clifford Matthews, Jr., host pastor - District III Ushers; Ebenezer, Gaston County, Gold Hill, Guiding Light, Mecklenburg General, Mt. Peace, Lane Creek, Rising Star, and Stanley County Auxiliaries. Brother Forest Eaves is District III pres. and coordinator. Also State Vice President. All ushers were asked to wear uniforms.

Brother Roy Williams, pres. of Western Union ushers, has been an usher for 42 years and is a member of Elizabeth M. Baptist Church, Autryville, N.C., Rev. R. Jones, pastor. He will join Mrs. Effie Cooper, New Salem M. Baptist Church, Elizabeth City, N.C. who has been ushering for 52 years! Come on ushers - I'm sure we have more with long years of service. Let me hear from you.

May Joy, Love, Hope, and Peace - Like Candles- Light Your Holidays and Every-day of the New Year. Send News: P.O. Box 105, Newton Grove, N.C. 28366.

*A Black College is not so much a harvest ground as it is a road to Higher Ground. Judith Boswell Griffin*

### SAVE THE DATE

**BLACK COLLEGE AWARENESS DAY  
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2002 • 10 A.M.-3 P.M.**

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## The Rev. Michael T. Williams Installation Service

The Rev. Michael T. Williams will be installed as Pastor of the Oberlin Baptist Church in Raleigh on Jan. 27, 2002, at 4 p.m.

The Rev. Dr. W. Franklyn Richardson, pastor, Grace Baptist Church, Mount Vernon, N.Y., will be the guest speaker.

You are cordially invited to the service. For more information call, 919-832-1353.

# Health & Human Services

By Anita Holmes, Executive Director

## Stay Healthy During The Holidays

By Mary D. Jacobs Ed.D.  
Project Coordinator,  
Faith and Health Initiative  
Office of Health  
and Human Services

This is the season to celebrate the birth of Christ. Most of us will find ourselves attending many family and church activities that involve a continuous feast of "Soul Foods" such as country ham, chitterlings, ribs, pig feet, greens seasoned with fat back or ham hocks, candied yams, etc. Contrary to many beliefs, Yuletide eating can bring pleasure without overindulging and consuming foods that contain high amounts of fat, sodium and sugar.

While we are enjoying the season, we must be ever mindful of I Corinthians 6:19 "What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost, which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?" As servants of God we must take care of our bodies by eating right and being physically active, even during the holidays. As you make your plans, keep these 20 tips in mind.

### Healthy Holiday Checklist

- ✓ Don't skip meals. Continue to eat three meals a day. Skipping meals can leave you overly hungry causing you to overeat. Start the day by choosing a high fiber cereal, milk and fresh fruit. A healthy breakfast can help keep you energetic while boosting your nutrient consumption.
- ✓ Plan ahead for holiday events. Just as you balance your checkbook, you need to balance your nutritional account. Eat a lighter breakfast and lunch if you are going to attend an evening gathering.
- ✓ Choose smaller portions. Fool your stomach and your eyes. Use a small plate instead of dinner sized one. You will eat less and feel better. It is possible to enjoy traditional holiday foods high in fat and calories if you practice moderation.
- ✓ Use healthier recipes when preparing foods. Decrease the amount of fat, sugar

and salt or use substitutes. For example, use a small amount of vegetable oil instead of lard or butter. Low-fat or skim milk can be used instead of whole milk and reduced-fat mayonnaise and cheese can take the place of regular mayonnaise and whole milk cheese.

- ✓ Make fruits and vegetables the focal point of your meals. Choose fruit with breakfast, include a large fruit or vegetable salad with lunch and dinner, and enjoy fruit for dessert to get 5-9 servings of fruits and vegetables per day.
- ✓ Drink plenty of water. Drinking water in-between meals can help prevent unnecessary snacking. Be sure to get at least eight glasses per day.
- ✓ Limit unnecessary fat. Sauces, gravies, butter, sour cream, and salad dressings can add up to 100 high fat calories per tablespoon. Try breads without butter, potatoes without gravy. Use reduced-fat or low-calorie dressings for your salads. Or, try vinegar or lemon juice with a small amount of oil.
- ✓ Distance yourself from the serving table. Engage in conversation and focus on fellowship while steering clear from the holiday treats. If you find yourself seated beside a tempting food, pass it on or move to another place to help resist the temptation.
- ✓ Don't fall prey to the buffet. Buffet dinners are offered to give you a sample of foods. To avoid overloading your plate, look over the entire buffet before you make your selection. Allow yourself two trips to the buffet: the first time fill your place with fruits and vegetables (without sauces and dressings), and the second time for portions of entrees. Go easy on cheese, chopped meat, bacon bits, marinated vegetables, pasta and potato salads and coleslaw. Select only one dessert and share it with a friend.
- ✓ Avoid heavy meals. A report from the American Heart Association shows that risk of heart attack is four times greater than

normal after eating a large meal that is high in fat and calories.

- ✓ Season collard greens and turnip greens with smoked turkey parts (even better if skin is removed) and instead of fatback or ham hocks.
- ✓ Include fresh vegetable and fruit trays with low fat dressings or dips instead of high-fat hors d'oeuvres and appetizers. They add color, flavor, fiber and fun to your holiday meal even if purchased from the grocery store. Pile fresh greens on sandwiches.
- ✓ Bake sweet and/or white potatoes. Go very easy on the butter and sour cream or add low-fat margarine.
- ✓ Use less meat and more vegetable and/or grains in holiday soups and casseroles. Refrigerate soup stocks, stews and meat drippings several hours or overnight. Remove the hardened surface fat before serving or rewarming.
- ✓ Trim excess fat from meat and remove skin from chicken before cooking. For low fat meat preparation, remember the four B's: Bake, Broil, Boil or Barbecue.
- ✓ Avoid self-basting turkeys; instead baste a plain turkey with broth for a flavorful result. Don't roast stuffing in the bird or vegetables in the pan. They soak up the fat. Cook them separately and combine just before serving.
- ✓ Include fish in your holiday fare. Avoid breaded fish products as they often include additional salt and fat.
- ✓ Force yourself to exercise. Walk around the neighborhood instead of taking a nap before or after a meal. Limit television and video games. Don't waste time circling the parking lot until a close space opens or waiting for the elevator. Park at the far end of the parking lot and take the stairs when shopping at the mall.
- ✓ Keep food safe. Wash your hands with soap for at least 20 seconds before preparing or eating food. Use separate cutting boards and utensils to prepare new raw



Dr. Anita Holmes



Mary D. Jacobs

meats and poultry. Keep hot foods hot and cold foods cold. Never leave food at room temperature for more than two hours. After this, food should be refrigerated or discarded.

- ✓ Just remember: an ounce of prevention from food borne illness is worth a pound of cure. Besides it can spoil your holiday fun.
  - ✓ Choose low fat snacks as pretzels, low-fat popcorn, fat free crackers, frozen yogurt, sherbet or low fat ice cream instead of chips, dips, nuts and regular ice cream.
- Remember the reason for the season. Holidays are for enjoying family and friends. And, above all, they are for giving thanks and praise to our creator for all of our blessings.

*Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice. Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. Phil. 4:4-5.*

"Rejoice, Rejoice Emmanuel!" These are words that are part of the refrain of one of the Christmas carols that we will be singing shortly. These words give us instruction to always be full of joy in the Lord. When we consider Jesus and all that his birth and death provide for us, we understand that this gives us reason to rejoice. This makes it easy for us to be full of joy. Because of that joy, we celebrate. The time of the year that we celebrate the most is approaching quickly.

How do we celebrate? Most of us celebrate the way our parents and grandparents did. We celebrate based on how we've been taught to celebrate. As small children, we were taught to look forward to the Christmas season as a time to receive gifts and to get together with family and friends.

Even though we know that Jesus is supposed to be central in our celebration of Christmas, we tend to have something else that takes center stage. That central focus is

## FAITH AND FITNESS

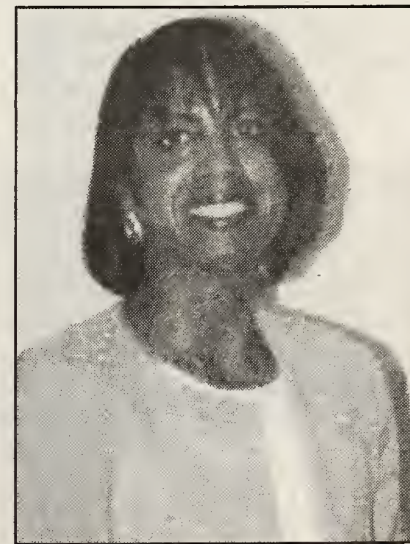
### "Rejoice, Rejoice Emmanuel!"

a one-syllable word, simply "FOOD." To bring life to my point, consider the amount of time, energy and money that is spent with regard to food for the holidays. The planning of the menu, the shopping, cooking and eating of the food tends to become very time-consuming at this time of year. If food is not prepared at home, then decisions are made as to where the family, the work group, or the friends will meet to eat.

Can true celebrating take place without food? I guess it quite possibly can, but would be quite difficult especially in terms of African-American Baptist (or non-Baptist) folks. You show me that you care, by bringing a cooked dish when a new baby is born, by taking me to lunch when I've been promoted, and by throwing me a surprise

birthday party (with the cake and all of the trimmings), when my birthday rolls around. Why should we not consider food as a part of our celebrating? We all must eat. Food is central to our living.

I had a thought (of course too late) during last month. My pastor, Dr. John Fuller, celebrated his 28th anniversary as the shepherd of Lewis Chapel Baptist Church. During the entire month of October, different auxiliaries and groups of the church had an opportunity to schedule to have lunch or dinner with Dr. Fuller, as a way of celebrating. At the end of the month, I thought that it would have been good to have invited our pastor to join the "Believer's Striving For Health" for one of our walking sessions. This would have given us time to



Charolette H. Leach, M.S.

fellowship with him and to encourage better health at the same time. Even though we missed the opportunity during the month long celebration, this an invitation that I still plan to extend.

(Continued on page 19)

# Rev. Frank Weaver Retires From Watts Chapel Baptist Church



Left to right: Dr. Frank B. Weaver and Dr. Talbert O. Shaw



Left to right: Dr. Frank B. Weaver and granddaughter Christina Jeanne Weaver, daughter-in-law, Mrs. Kathryn H. Weaver.



Left to right: Deacon Eugene Weeks, Deacon Ray Debnam, Dr. Queen L. Weaver, Dr. Frank B. Weaver, Dr. Frank C. Weaver.

By Rev. Chester Debnam Jr.,  
Church Reporter

On Aug. 25 and 26, 2001, the Watts Chapel Baptist Church family held culminating events to honor and recognize their pastor, Dr. Frank B. Weaver, and his wife, Queen, as they retire after 34 years of leadership. Dr. Weaver's ministry spans 50 years, during which he pastored five churches including Watts Chapel. Needless to say, Dr. Weaver and his lovely wife have made a lasting impression on the lives of many. When one considers all of the qualities of a good pastor and first lady, Dr. and Mrs. Weaver possess all of them. Dr. Weaver is my dear friend and the many conversations we have shared have been enriching.

For the celebration events, people came from different parts of the country to show their appreciation for Dr. and Mrs. Weaver. Dignitaries, friends, and family members gave words of reflection and tribute to Dr. and Mrs. Weaver. We sincerely appreciate those who came to be with us. It was a joy to be part of the recognition services. Dr. Weaver requested that all events be held at the church and that the programs be simple. While we were able to honor his first request by having all events at Watts Chapel, we found it difficult to keep the programs simple, as we wanted to show our love and appreciation for the years of dedicated service he and Mrs. Weaver have provided.

Dr. Weaver was officially installed as pastor of Watts Chapel Baptist Church on Oct. 13, 1968. Under Dr. Weaver's leadership, the church experienced tremendous growth. The church made many strides under Dr. Weaver's leadership. In 1983, a new Christian Education Building was erected. New auxiliaries were formed which included the Deaconess Board, Laymen's League, Library, Helping Hands, Educational Forum, Hospitality and Recreation Committee. Boy Scout Troop 253 and Cub Scout Pack were organized. A Youth Department Committee was organized to teach youth to serve each third Sunday and a tutorial committee was orga-



Dean Roberson of Shaw Divinity School.

nized to tutor youths. In 1998, the first Evangelistic Radio Ministry was started. In 1995, the church purchased approximately 48 acres of land and in 1999, a new sanctuary, pastor's study, cry room, sound room, deacon room, trustee room, first aid room and four classrooms were erected.

Not only is Dr. Weaver an effective leader in the church, but also his career in the field of education, which spans more than 49 years, is equally commendable. During his educational career he served as principal, state supervisor, superintendent of schools, and visiting professor at three universities and one theological school. He is an author of four books and several articles.

I can still remember a portion of an altar call prayer he once prayed: "Dear Lord, I am an imperfect pastor trying to lead an imperfect people..." These words reflect his humility. As a retired military veteran, I salute Dr. and Mrs. Weaver for their years of tireless service. The Weavers are loved by many and will be dearly missed by the congregation. In fact, we miss them already. Someone once said, "All good things must come to an end." Through God's grace, Dr. and Mrs. Weaver and their family have been "a very good thing" for Watts Chapel, the community, the state, and the nation. We thank Deacon Walter Drayton for capturing many of the special moments in the photos shown.



Left to right: Mrs. Betty Gilmore, Mrs. Joyce Hawkins, Dr. Frank B. Weaver, Rev. Juan Hune.



Front row: Mrs. Clydia Hill and Rev. Mrs. Frances Matthews.



Front row: Dr. Frank B. Weaver and family, congregation and friends.



Left to right: Deacon Walter Drayton, Dr. Queen L. Weaver, Dr. Frank B. Weaver; standing in the background is Deacon Ray Debnam.

## A Call To Greatness

(Book Announcement)

In 1970, L. Venchael Booth, was appointed a vice-president of the Baptist World Alliance nine years after he founded the Progressive National Baptist Convention (PNBC). PNBC is one of 13 member bodies of the BWA in the United States and Canada.

Now, in recognition of the groundbreaking work of his father who started this historic denomination, Booth's son, William D. Booth, has written *A Call to Greatness*. Booth is pastor of the First Baptist Church, Hampton, Va.

Among the reviews are these:

"...this book is important for several reasons...it provides a survey of the divisions...that produced a new denomination known as the Progressive National Baptist Convention...it is a valiant tribute of a son to a father...and acknowledgment that amid the pain and brokenness of schism...one truth remains: 'the greatest of these is love.' -Bill J. Leonard, Dean and Professor of Church History, Wake Forest Divinity School.

"From the distinct, unique and even privileged vantage point of someone who lived close to the historical drama about which he writes, William D. Booth has produced a most persuasive and moving essay about the actual founder of Progressive National Baptist Convention."

- Clarence G. Newsome, Dean and Associate Professor of Church History, Howard University School of Divinity, Howard University, Washington, D.C.

To order *A Call to Greatness*, contact: Brunswick Public Corporation

PO Box 555, Lawrenceville, Va. 23868

Website: [www.brunswickbooks.com](http://www.brunswickbooks.com)

## HINTS & TIPS

Submitted by Carol J. Smith  
Associate Editor

### GENERAL TELEMARKETING TIPS

• **Do business with those you know and trust.** If you aren't familiar with the company, ask for information to be sent to you about the products or services it's offering. A legitimate company will be glad to provide that information, a fraudulent marketer won't.

• **Understand the offer.** Be sure you know who and where the company is and how to reach it, what is being sold, the total price, the delivery date, the return and cancellation policy, and the terms of any guarantee. If that information isn't in a catalogue or other materials that you have, get it in writing from the company.

• **Check out the company's track record.** Ask your state or local consumer protection agency if the company has to be licensed or registered, and with whom, and check out to see if it is. You can also ask consumer agencies and other Better Business Bureau in your area about the company's complaint record. But keep in mind that some companies open and shut quickly, so lack of a complaint record is **no guarantee** that a telemarketer is legitimate.

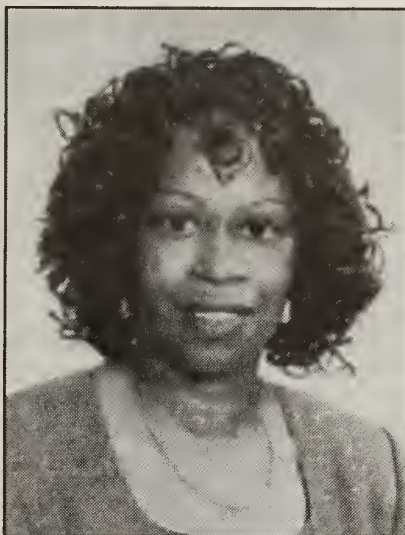
• **Be careful to whom you give your financial or other personal information.** Don't provide your bank account numbers, credit card numbers, social security number or other personal information unless you know the company is legitimate and the information is necessary for the transaction. Even with partial information, con artists can make unauthorized charges, deduct money from your account, and impersonate you to get credit in your name.

• **You may be better off paying by credit card than with a check, cash or money order, as long as you know with whom you're doing business.** When you use your credit card for a purchase and there is a problem, you have the right to notify your card issuer that you are disputing the charge, and you don't have to pay it while your dispute is being investigated. It's easier to resolve a problem if you haven't already paid.

• **Take your time to decide.** While there may be time limits for special offers, high-pressure sales tactics are often danger signs of fraud.

• **Resist pressure to send your payment by private courier, wire transmission or overnight delivery.** These tactics are sometimes used to prevent you from changing your mind and to avoid law enforcement authorities such as the U.S. Postal Service.

• **Don't enter contests or other games of chance unless you know the company or organization sponsoring them.** Fraudulent telemarketers often get lists of potential victims from entry forms for free trips or other prizes that consumers drop in boxes at fairgrounds or



Carol J. Smith, Associate Editor

shopping centers, and from responses to mailings for sweepstakes, contests and puzzles.

• **If you've lost money to a fraudulent telemarketer, beware of bogus "recovery services" that offer to get it back for you — for an upfront fee.** People who are victimized once are often targeted again by the same crooks or others. Legitimate law enforcement agencies don't charge for attempting to help telemarketing scam victims.

• **You do have some control over who calls you.** Under federal law, you can tell a telemarketer not to call again. If you want to exercise that right, be specific — don't just say that you're interested. Keep a list next to the phone with the company names and dates. If you are called again on behalf of those companies, report it to your state attorney general and the Federal Trade Commission.

• **You can reduce unwanted calls.** Sign up for the Direct Marketing Association's Telephone Preference Service. DMA member companies that participate in this industry-sponsored program will put you on their "do not call" lists. If you are repeatedly called by fraudulent telemarketers, you may want to consider changing your phone number.

Telephone Preference Service, PO Box 9014  
Farmingdale, NY 11735-9014

• **Don't be shy about hanging up.** Your phone is just like the door to your home or apartment. You don't have to open it or invite people in, and you can ask guests to leave at any time. Fraudulent telemarketers are very good at lying to, bullying or sweet talking their intended victims. The longer you stay on the line, the deeper they sink their hooks. Don't let a criminal in your home through your telephone line!

If you need advice about a telephone solicitation or you want to report a possible scam, call the NFIC hotline at 1-800-876-7060 or online at: <http://www.fraud.org/telemarketing/teletips/gentips.htm>.

## Kwanzaa: A Celebration of Family, Community and Culture

Submitted by Carolyn Smith,  
Associate Editor

December 26-January 1  
The Values of Kwanzaa

There is no way to understand and appreciate the meaning and message of Kwanzaa without understanding and appreciating its profound and pervasive concern with values. In fact, Kwanzaa's reason for existence, its length of seven days, its core focus and its foundation are all rooted in its concern with values. Kwanzaa inherits this value concern and focus from Kawaia, the African philosophical framework in which it was created. Kawaia philosophy is a communitarian African philosophy which is an ongoing synthesis of the best of African thought and practice in constant exchange with the world.

**The Nguzo Saba (The Seven Principles):** Kwanzaa was created to introduce and reinforce seven basic values of African culture which contribute to building and reinforcing family, community and culture among African American people as well as Africans throughout the world African community. These values are called the Nguzo Saba which in Swahili means the Seven Principles, Developed by Dr. Karenga, the Nguzo Saba stand at the heart of the origin and

meaning of Kwanzaa, for it is these values which are not only the building blocks for community but also serve to reinforce and enhance them.

**Nguzo Saba (The Seven Principles)**  
**Umoja (Unity):** To strive for and maintain unity in the family, community, nation and race.

**Kujichagulia (Self-Determination):** To define ourselves, name ourselves, create for ourselves and speak for ourselves.

**Ujima (Collective Work and Responsibility):** To build and maintain our community together and make our brother's and sister's problems our problems and to solve them together.

**Ujamaa (Cooperative Economics):** To build and maintain our own stores, shops and other businesses and to profit from them together.

**Nia (Purpose):** To make our collective vocation the building and developing of our community in order to restore our people to their traditional greatness.

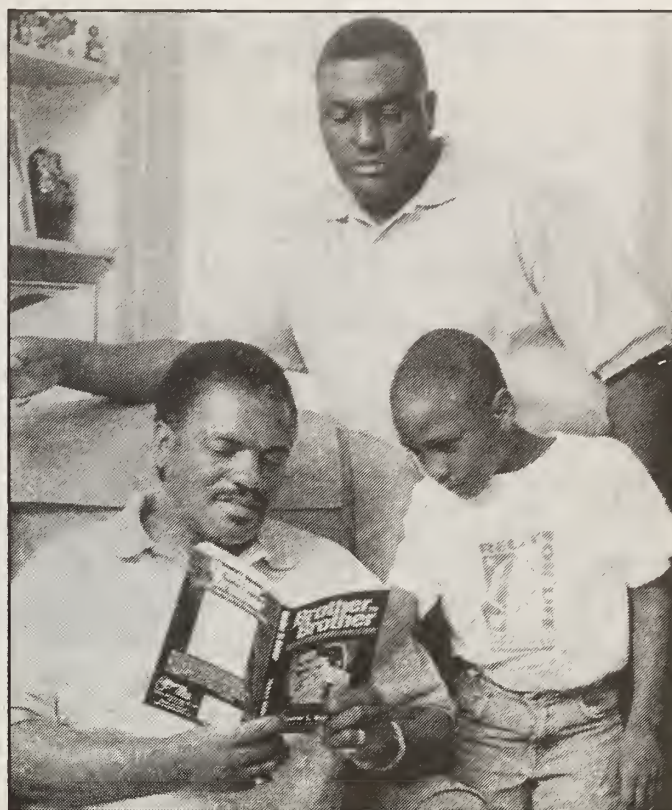
**Kuumba (Creativity):** To do always as much as we can, in the way we can, in order to leave our community more beautiful and beneficial than we inherited it.

**Imani (Faith):** To believe with all our heart in our people, our parents, our teachers, our leaders and the righteousness and victory of our struggle.

## Prostate Cancer Awareness

Prostate cancer is the most common form of cancer in men. Statistics show that African-American men have the highest death rate from prostate cancer than any other group in the country. Enlargement of the prostate is normal starting in a man's late 40's. However, a doctor should perform a physical examination to ensure the enlargement is non-cancerous.

The disease is sometimes heredity, but some other risk factors include a high-fat diet, high levels of the male hormone testosterone, pro-



Rev. Thomas Walker, sitting, son Timothy, standing and grandson.

longed exposure to certain chemicals and tobacco use. Men can reduce their risk by eating a well-balanced, low in fat, abstaining from tobacco use, and receiving annual check ups.

Statistics also show that Edgecombe County has the highest incidence of prostate cancer in the country. Rev. Thomas Walker, pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church in Rocky Mount, N.C., and resident of Edgecombe County, knows first hand about dealing with the disease. He was diagnosed with prostate cancer in 1996. Fortunately Walker's case was detected early and he immediately began treatment. This discovery also prompted him to research the disease and write the book **Brother To Brother — You Don't Have To Die With Prostate Cancer**, (Eternal Gold Publishers). This book seeks to empower men and their families through education. **Brother to Brother** outlines the emotional trauma, the family's involvement, and Walker's day-by-day experiences after learning he was stricken with prostate cancer until he was declared cured.

For more information about Prostate Cancer, contact the ATOM Health Center at 252-212-5480 or write to 652 Raleigh Road, Rocky Mount, N.C. 27803.

## Faith and Fitness

Family is wonderful, from the youngest to the oldest. I love my family and love getting together with them during the holidays. I believe that my family is quite typical when considering the African-American family. My mother is one of two remaining daughters of her nine siblings. Her four brothers and three sisters, who have passed, died of chronic diseases, namely heart disease and cancer, related to their lifestyles. Many of them passed away over 20 years ago, which put them at a young age to die considering that my mother will turn 69 on this coming Christmas Day. My mother, who is still relatively young, had a mild stroke last month. She has had two confirmed heart attacks, has high blood pressure, arthritis, gout, glaucoma and an aneurysm. She will be seeing specialists within the next couple of days to determine if surgery is an option to try to prevent another stroke. I have a brother who had surgery a couple of years ago for prostate cancer and the majority of my family is overweight.

The major culprit of many of the chronic diseases that took my uncles and aunts at early ages and that touch the African-American family is overindulgence. Our focal scripture from Philippians talks of moderation. We are to learn to live our lives moderately. We stray away from this a good portion of the time, but especially at times of celebration and with regard to food.

I challenge you during this holiday season to incorporate some changes into your celebrating:

1. **Come up with some ways of celebrating with your family and friends that are**

**not related to food.** Some things that you may try:

• Plan an afternoon or evening of nothing but board games. Break out Monopoly, Scrabble or Sorry. I am sure they are in your closet (or under your bed). You may want to buy a new game that the family has never played.

• Plan an afternoon of tag football or basketball for the entire family.

• Get the whole group together and head to the bowling lanes or the roller rink.

• Have an evening of looking at old pictures. Make a game of it to see if the younger ones in the family can identify the older members.

Since we know that we do have to eat,  
2. **Determine that you will make healthier choices of the food that is prepared and eaten.**

• Find and try some more healthy recipes of the foods normally prepared for the holidays (collard greens, macaroni and cheese, pumpkin pie).

• Determine that you will not eat to the point of wanting to do nothing but take a nap.

• Learn about true serving sizes to get a feel for the amount of food that you are eating.

I do understand that those traditions of what has been done in the family to celebrate for years and years are hard to get away from. The important thing is that the family is coming together. Once you come together, consider some changes that will allow you to continue to come together for many years to come. Let us not forget that the Lord is at hand. We want to be found taking care of the health that God has provided for us. Consider making some changes as you **Rejoice, Rejoice Emmanuel!** Be Blessed!

## Gilchrist Elected Moderator Of Pee Dee Association

The Pee Dee Association Missionary Baptist Educational Association elected Rev. Jimmy L. Gilchrist as its new moderator during its 130th Annual Session on Friday, October 12, 2001. Each church received two votes for every 100 members. Rev. Gilchrist, pastor of St. John Baptist Church in Aberdeen, N.C. received 45 votes from delegates representing their churches. Rev. Samuel Norman, pastor of Center Grove Baptist Church in Red Springs, N.C. received 32 votes. Rev. Purnell McQueen, pastor of Popular Springs Baptist Church in Rockingham, N.C. received 20 votes.

Rev. Robert Martin, pastor of Galilee Baptist Church in Taylortown, N.C. was elected Vice Moderator at Large. Rev. Carvie Jones, pastor of Holly Grove Baptist Church in Rockingham, N.C. was elected 1st Vice Moderator.

Rev. Gilchrist has been very active in the Pee Dee Association. He served as vice moderator and chairman of the building committee. As chairman, he led the association in building its headquarters in Hamlet, NC.

Rev. Gilchrist is looking forward to working with the 34 churches in the Pee Dee Baptist Association.

The following officers were elected during the annual session: Rev. Stanley Webster, President of the Union; Sandra M. Francis, Recording Secretary; Yvonne McGraw, President of the Congress; Evangelist Alberta Jones, Vice-President of Con-



Rev. Jimmy L. Gilchrist

gress; Mary Swann, Dean; Mary Deberry, Chautauqua Chairman; Rebecca Boyd, Oratorical Director; Patricia Russell, President of Women's Auxiliary; Delores Steen, Vice-President of Women's Auxiliary; Berniece Patterson, Vice-President of Women's Union; Johnnie Stanback, Secretary to Women's Auxiliary; Mary Ann Gibson, Youth Supervisor; Lakeia Gibson, Vice-President of Youth; John O. McDonald, Treasurer; Rev. Robert Taylor, Financial Secretary; and Randolph Goodwin, Parliamentarian.

## From 2nd Vice President Dr. Howard W. Parker Jr.

### News from the Foreign Field: The Lott Carey Convention

#### An Invitation to Meet the World!

The Baptist Youth World Conference is held every five years to bring young people together for fellowship, worship, culture exchanges, networking, evangelism, and missions. Since the first conference in 1931, it has been a watershed for evangelism and spiritual awakening among young people.

You are invited to the 14th Baptist Youth World Conference, July 16-20, 2003 in Hong Kong, China. The conference offers stimulating speakers, dynamic worship, international music, workshops and seminars, mission opportunities and interaction with people from around the world. Prayerfully consider joining other young people for this great spiritual experience. Contact:

14th Baptist Youth World Conference  
6733 Curran Street, McLean, Va. 22101  
Phone: 1-866-292-6397

Email: Youth@bwanet.org

#### Pray for Safe Travel!

The Lott Carey Mission Leadership Team of the International office spends a lot of time traveling to promote and support the work of Christian missions around the world. In addition to traveling to churches and communities in the United States, they spend long periods of time traveling and serving in many countries. The Leadership Team consists of Dr. David Emmanuel Goatley (Executive Secretary-Treasurer), Rev. Yvonne Y. Best (Associate for Program Development), Rev. B.K. Harewood (As-



Dr. Howard W. Parker Jr.

sociate for International Youth Development), and Rev. Samuel Nixon Jr., (Director of the HIV/AIDS Initiative). During this year, members of the team have worked in Canada, England, Guyana, Jamaica, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Togo, Uganda and Zimbabwe.

Also, please remember to pray for our Leadership Team based in the United States while you pray for our mission partners around the world? Ask God to give them traveling mercies and to care for their families who stay behind while these ministers travel! We know that God answers prayer!

## United Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church Honors Clergy Dr. J. Ray Butler In October

Dr. J. Ray Butler became a clergyman July 1947. He has pastored several churches and used his administrative abilities to bring ordinance of the church. Author of two books that were written to enhance pastors and their flock.

Since coming to United Cornerstone he has set an example in family living, deep consecration and unstinting labor.

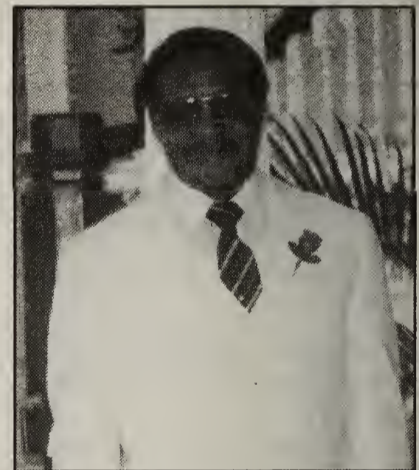
He punches no clock but is available any hour day or night. Feeds the souls upon God's word, challenging members to holy living in their spiritual endeavors.

His vision has lifted their horizons of faith. He stands by their sides in the hospital as loved ones struggle for life. He has with certain hand led members by God's grave through many valleys of deep dark shadows.

Rejoice with members when their babies were born and consoled them as love ones slipped beyond the veil.

Through his own compassion for others he has led members to see opportunities to serve the Lord in the passing events of the day.

The mission ministry honored Dr. Butler in



Dr. J. Ray Butler

October with monetary or material tokens of their appreciation and love for him.

Their desire is that God will give them many more happy and fruitful years together as pastor and people.

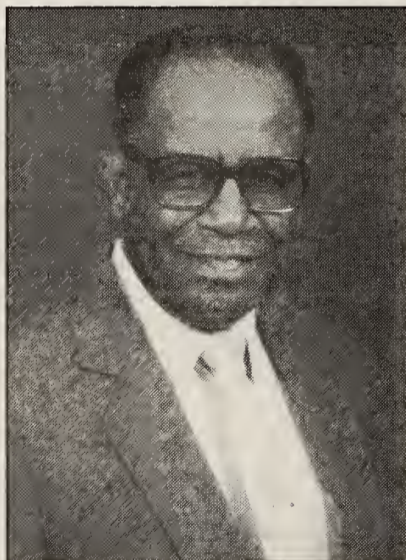
## New Elected Moderator Of High Point Educational, Missionary Baptist Association, Inc.

During the 112th Session of the Associational Setting, Dr. Joseph T. Walker Sr. was elected Moderator of the High Point Educational and Missionary Association, Inc. He succeeds Dr. James Webster, of First Baptist, Oak Ridge, N.C.

Dr. Walker is a by-product of the Winston-Salem, Forsyth County Schools. He is a veteran of the 82nd Airborne Division. He is a graduate of Russell's Business College and he studied at Piedmont Bible College and Winston-Salem Bible College. He received his Bachelor of Art Degree in Religion and Philosophy at Shaw University. And he studied at Shaw Divinity School. He received the Degree of Honorary Doctor of Divinity, from Bethlehem Bible College. He received his Master of Divinity and his Doctor of Theology Degrees from Bethlehem Bible College. He has attended and studied in Workshops and Seminars at several other colleges.

Dr. Walker is also a product of the High Point Association, he has served as Sunday school teacher, deacon, associate minister, field worker, pastor and vice moderator. He is pastor of Jones Chapel Missionary Baptist Church in Reidsville, N.C., and God has blessed him with 22 years of service there. He enjoys being a servant of God.

Dr. Walker serves in civic and community affairs along with his religious work. He is a member of The Minister's Confer-



Dr. Joseph T. Walker Sr.

ence, and The Minister's Alliance of Winston-Salem and a member of Reidsville Minister's Association. He is a member of the Dublin Community Club, James H. Young Masonic Lodge, Community Bible Club, and has helped in the Wheels On Meals program.

Dr. Walker is married to Mrs. Mattie M. Walker, and they have three daughters and one son.

Dr. Walker's favorite song is "Can't Nobody Do Me Like Jesus."

## SHAW UNIVERISTY NEWS

From the Office of the Third Vice President Rev. N.T. Davis

### Shaw University and Shaw Divinity School News

*Grace and Peace to all the Saints across North Carolina from God the Father and from His only Son Jesus Christ.*

This space last month was used by Dr. J.T. Roberson Jr. to lift up the new program at Shaw Divinity School. It is my prayer that we enjoyed the new news from our Divinity School.

So at this time I want to say to all, I hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving and may God bless you through the Holiday Season.

This is the time of year to look to the birth of our Savior, without him no Christmas Season. He is the reason for the season.

Our faith has taught us that he was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary. He had no earthly father. He was raised by Joseph. He went about doing all the good He could do,

yet they crucified Him on Calvary. Surely He was God's only Son.

As for Shaw University, each month I always talk to the office of Dr. T.O. Shaw. As of this date Shaw University is doing well and is preparing for Founders Day.

Shaw is a well run school, and I thank God for those who share with it through our educational system.

A special thanks to Dr. Roberson for sharing the new and exciting programs at Shaw Divinity School.

We just left the mountain top as our Convention closed on November first.

Let us go back to our local churches and do better. God has blessed us with an abundance, so let us give more.

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## GIVE THE GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING

Church bonds are a great way to save money and are great gifts for Christmas, Birthdays, Anniversaries, Graduation and many other special occasions.

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If you are interested in learning more about church bonds or to purchase yours today, call the General Baptist Foundation at 1 (866)-OURGOD1 (687-4631) or at (919) 858-7847, if you are in the Raleigh, North Carolina area.

DISCLOSURE: Church Bonds are not FDIC Insured or guaranteed by any bank or government. Church bonds are "mortgaged-backed" which means they are secured by a first mortgage on the church's real estate, including their worship facilities. A publicly traded secondary market does not exist. Investors may not be able to resell any bonds purchased should they wish to do so and should be prepared to have funds committed for an indefinite period of time, perhaps until bond maturity or early redemption. Additionally, church bonds are credit rated and the price of Bonds traded in a secondary market is subject to adjustment upward and downward in response to changes in credit markets and prevailing circumstances. Such price could be substantially different from the original purchase price. Principal and interest repayment is dependent on contributions to the church from its membership. Church bonds are tax-exempt.

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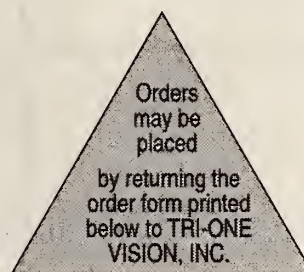
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- The Pain of the Promise
- The Wind of the Spirit
- They Did Not Glorify God
- What the Enemy Wants From You
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- When The Wind Runs Out
- Who's On Trial Here?
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# VACANT POSITIONS

**SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH**  
 US Hwy 158, Macon, NC 27551, Warren County  
 252-257-5570

**IS SEEKING A PASTOR**

The pastor search committee of Second Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of pastor. Applicants must possess the following qualifications and responsibilities.

**Qualifications:**

- Born again, spirit-filled, ordained and divinely called, with strong family and community values.
- Be a licensed, Ordained Baptist Minister.
- Must be able to preach and teach Bible Study.
- Must be able to work with all age groups.
- Strong knowledge of Baptist Doctrines, church policies and procedures.
- Experienced as a senior pastor, but will consider an experienced associated pastor.
- Must have Spiritual maturity, and be able to preach and teach the Word of GOD.
- Willingness to administer communion and perform Baptismal service.
- Possess strong and proven administrative experience.
- Divinity school degree preferred, but will consider a combination of education and experience.

**Responsibilities**

- Plan, prepare and deliver sermons.
- Visit and commune with sick and shut-in members and bereaved families.

Interested candidates please submit resume to:

Ms. Sylvia Dunston  
 Church Secretary  
 Rt. 2, Box 13A  
 Warrenton, NC 27589  
 (252) 257-0221

**WANTED**

Minister of Music for a Missionary Baptist Church: Plan, coordinate, operate and evaluate the Music Ministry. High school graduate with proven musical ability and/or college or school of music graduate. Experience. Basic knowledge and skills in reading, playing, conducting, singing, teaching, and working with groups.  
 Salary negotiable.

Send resume to: Rev. Darryl Canady

PO Box 849, Wilson, NC 27893

And/or call (252) 243-4496 for more information.

## NOTICE PASTOR NEEDED

at

**Friendship Baptist Church**  
**Whiteville, NC**

For Application Write:

Pastor Selection Committee

PO Box 1365, Whiteville, NC 28472

**Keaton  
 Barrow  
 Realty, Inc.**

4010 Barrett, Suite 205,  
 Raleigh, NC 27609



Michelle Barrow  
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 Home (919) 662-7304  
 E-Mail: michelle@keatonbarrowrealty.com  
 Web: keatonbarrowrealty.com

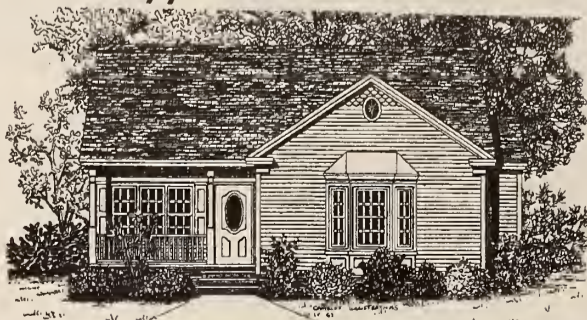
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 Of North Carolina Foundation**

1400 Crescent Green, Suite G-100, Cary, N.C. 27511  
 Phone: (919) 858-7847 or 1 (866) OURGOD1 (687-4631) Toll Free  
 Web site: www.GBSONline.org.

**THE MILLENNIUM STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN HAS A GOAL OF RAISING 3 MILLION DOLLARS IN 30 MONTHS TO CREATE AN ENDOWMENT, WHICH WILL ASSIST IN FUNDING THE EXPANSION OF THE PROGRAMS OF THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF N.C., INC.**

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# VACANT POSITIONS

## Galilee Missionary Baptist Church

PO Box 644/601 Pine Street, Oakboro, NC 28129

The Pastoral Search Committee of the Galilee Baptist Church is currently accepting resumes to fill its Pastoral vacancy. The minimum qualifications are desired for consideration:

- ordained Baptist minister
- be able to work well with church, promoting Church agenda
- teach and preach competently
- possess high spiritual, moral and ethical integrity
- possess strong knowledge of the Scriptures
- visit sick and be active in community
- active in Zion Association
- seminary training preferred and willing to advance studies
- attend church ministry functions
- coordinate and develop ministries to accommodate growing church

We have church services every Sunday (including 5th). We are looking for a pastor, not someone who only desires to preach. In interested please send resumes to: Deacon James Ashcraft, PO Box 644, Oakboro, NC 28129.

Chinquapin Grove Baptist Church is accepting resumes for its vacant pulpit. Qualifications include but are not limited to the following:

1. Called by God.
2. Preaches, teaches, and lives according to the New Testament.
3. Adheres to the tenets of the missionary Baptist Church.
4. Is able to work cooperatively with church officers and members.
5. Has a plan for the spiritual and physical growth of the church.
6. Lives within a reasonable distance from the church.

Chinquapin Grove Baptist Church is a small rural church that has services every Sunday. We seek a sincere, dedicated, humble, honest Christian minister as our shepherd. Please send your resume to the following address:

Mr. Richard Moore, Chairman  
The Pulpit Committee  
Chinquapin Grove Baptist Church, 4462 North Carolina Hwy. 801 North  
Mocksville, North Carolina 27028 • Telephone: (336) 998-3362

## SEASONED PASTOR SEEKING TO POSSIBLY RELOCATE TO A NEW CHURCH 20 YEARS OF PASTORAL EXPERIENCE • Ricky139@bellsouth.net

1. Gifted in preaching and communication will all ages
2. Presently pastoring a Baptist Church with approximately 500 members
3. Call to the ministry in 1975, licensed and ordained in 1979
4. Accredited College and Seminary trained: Earned his B.S. Degree; Master of Religious Education; Master of Divinity; Doctor of Ministry
5. Has a Vision for the church
6. 20 years in Pastoral Ministry with proven Leadership and a good report
7. Radio Preacher, Evangelist, Bible Teacher
8. Member of the School Board Advisory Committee
9. Academic training in Counseling especially "Family Counseling"
10. Ability to work with all age groups
11. Wife is a University graduate with a B.S. Degree in Education and completing her work on a Master of Education, also a Public School Teacher
12. Married for 25 years, have 4 children and is 44 years old.

IF A PROGRESSIVE MINDED CHURCH IS INTERESTED:  
CALL (864) 576-4961 OR 576-3747  
AT YOUR REQUEST A RESUME WILL BE SENT AND DIRECTIONS TO THE CHURCH FOR A PULPIT COMMITTEE OBSERVATION

## First Baptist Church, 329 West Ave., Hamlet, NC 28345 • 910-582-5732

### Full Time Position:

All interested ordained Missionary Baptist Ministers should submit a resume as soon as possible.

### Qualifications

1. Good moral Christian reputation in the home and community.
2. Sound Christian and Baptist Doctrine.
3. Pastoral Experience at least (3) years with Seminary Training.
4. Divinity School graduate (preferred).
5. Dynamic Preacher with teaching and counseling skills.
6. Mature, Stable and Family Oriented.
7. Has interest and capability to build a comprehensive church program/visionary.
8. Shows evidence of community awareness and involvement.
9. Ability to communicate with the congregation and public.
10. Ability to train church officers.
11. Willingness to visit sick members and administer communion.
12. Ability to work with all age groups in the church.

Send resume to: Velma Gibson, Chairman, Pulpit Committee, First Baptist Church, 329 West Avenue, Hamlet, NC 28345 Or Fax to: (910) 582-2303

# ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

## GATEWAY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CREDIT UNION

*"Building A Spirit of Community"*

## Announces 3 Months Enrollment Drive

**Join Now!**

**Churches, Associations,  
invited to become  
members.**

**Open your  
accounts NOW!**

GATEWAY: THE CREDIT UNION WITH  
YOU IN MIND

Serving Warren, Vance, Person and Franklin counties. Gateway Credit Union is doing its best to provide its members and surrounding community with the highest quality service. Gateway has been dedicated to serving its community for a number of years. By offering services designed with accessibility, courtesy and practical means in mind, GCDCU offers its members satisfaction, understanding and dependability.

### THE GATEWAY ADVANTAGE

GATEWAY began serving the members of Vance, Person, Warren and Franklin counties in 1994. As a Community Development Credit Union, GATEWAY continues to pro-

mote community, self sufficiency, and good money management. And in the new millennium, Gateway will remain committed to *"Building A Spirit of Community."*

### OPENING DOORS AND HELPING THE COMMUNITY

#### OUR MISSION

Gateway's mission is to promote thrift among its members by affording them an opportunity to accumulate their savings, and to create for them a source of credit at a fair and reasonable rate of interest, and to provide for its members an opportunity to use and control their own money to improve their economic and social condition.

#### CREDIT UNION MEMBER SERVICES

In its few years of existence, Gateway has gained a committed and growing membership base. Currently serving a thousand plus members each day. Gateway offers services designed to enhance the member's experience. By offering quality services, the door to success has been opened for many of the credit union's members. Take a moment to see what we have to offer.

#### Loan Programs

- Automobile
- Share Secured
- Signature
- Home Improvement
- Education

#### Deposit Accounts

- Share (savings)
- Share Certificates
- Christmas Club
- ATM

#### Youth Credit Union

- Monthly meetings
- Share accounts (savings)
- Annual Trips
- Leadership Skills

#### Other Services Include:

- Mortgage Referral Partnership
- Pre-qualification for ... church loans

### MEMBER APPLICATION

Member: \_\_\_\_\_

Account #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Employment: \_\_\_\_\_

SSN/TN: \_\_\_\_\_

Driver's License: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Maiden Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Eligibility for Membership: \_\_\_\_\_

### ACCOUNT TYPE

- Share (savings)
  - Share Certificates
  - Christmas Club
  - Loan
  - ACH, Direct Deposit
  - Payroll Deduction
  - Other
- Your Account is ....

Special Recognition for New Participating Groups  
and Organizations

For More Information

Gateway's staff is dedicated to providing you with the best service possible. To inquire about becoming a member of our community development credit union, please contact:

*Operations Manager: Thomas Spence*  
at **Gateway Credit Union**

314 South Garnett Street  
Gateway Building, Suite 10  
Henderson, N.C. 27536

Business (252) 492-5854 or Fax (252) 492-7832

# VACANT POSITIONS

## EMMANUEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENT

Seeking Full-time Christian Minister of Music, Loyal and Committed to God's program. Must possess people skills, be trained as a Musician, Conductor and Choir Director.

Salary: Commensurate with training and experience.

Interested persons may send resume/portfolio to:

Attention: Trustees  
Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church  
913 N. Highland Street, Gastonia, NC 28052

### Notice:

## Pastor needed at Star of Zion Church, New Bern, N.C. 28562.

Submit application to:  
Pastor Selection Committee  
2101 Chestnut Ave.  
New Bern, N.C. 28562

## FIRST AFRICAN BAPTIST CHURCH

803 East Harris St., Goldsboro, N.C. 27530

Pastor: Dr. Freddie I. Barnes

### POSITION AVAILABLE: DIRECTOR OF CHURCH MUSIC

First African Baptist Church is a congregation of over 350 members with a Music Ministry that consist of four choirs, Sunshine Choir, Male Chorus, Unity and Praise Choir, Chancel Choir. Music in this ministry consists of gospel (traditional and contemporary) praise and worship, hymns, spirituals and anthems.

Applications and further information may be obtained by contacting Mrs. Johnnie Ingram, Personnel Committee Chairman or Rev. Jerry Dortch at 919-734-4935.

### MINISTER OF MUSIC WANTED

Wake Forest congregation seeks Minister of Music. Duties to include working directly with the Pastor in order to assist and cooperate with him in Christian Worship; playing during Sunday morning worship service; rehearsing with various choirs one night per week; and accompanying the Pastor on engagements to other churches. Please forward a cover letter and resume to:

Evans Grove Missionary Baptist Church • 12700 Creedmoor Road, Highway 50  
Wake Forest, NC 27587 • (919) 870-8874

## CEDAR GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

14600 Railroad St., Gibson, NC 28343

### CHURCH MUSICIAN

The Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church of Gibson, N.C., is seeking a person to serve as Church Musician.

**Qualifications:** Should be a Christian who lives and acts responsibly and has a good character and reputation.

#### Musician requirements:

\*Be able to play a piano, keyboard, organ and be able to work well with a diverse range of singers with directions for musical selections.

\*Be available for necessary rehearsals and Sunday Worship Services.

\*Be available to accompany the pastor and choirs to all church functions when requested.

**Salary negotiable.** Please send resume to Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church at the above address.

### CHURCH MUSICIAN

The New Hope Baptist Church, Gates, N.C., is seeking a person to serve as Church Musician.

#### REQUIREMENTS:

1. Able to play organ and/or organ.
2. Able to play diverse music.
3. Able to accompany the pastor and choir to church engagements if possible.

#### SALARY NEGOTIABLE:

Send resume to:

New Hope Baptist Church, PO Box 91, Gatesville, NC 27938

Attn: Fannie M. Spivey, Secretary

Inquiries may be made by calling (252) 357-1061 after 4:30 p.m.

### CHURCH MUSICIAN

Mount Olive Baptist Church of Lewiston is seeking a musician for a station church, a Christian who is responsible, has good character and a good reputation.

#### Requirements:

\*Plays the organ and piano \*Able to work with a diverse group of singers  
\*Experienced in all sacred music \*Reads music and is versatile in playing by ear

Send resumes or responses to: Mount Olive Baptist Church

PO Box 214, Lewiston-Woodville, NC 27849 • Attention: William W. Peele Jr.

## MINISTER OF MUSIC

St. John Baptist Church, 8910 Old Annapolis Road  
Columbia, Maryland 21045 • 410-992-6977

Overall Duty: To assist the Pastor in shaping, defining, and effectuating the musical elements of the worship experience.

#### I. MINIMUM QUALIFICATION:

- A. Bachelor's degree in music, or at least 5 years of experience as...
- B. At least 3 years of experience as accomplish/director for choral group(s)
- C. Proficiency in playing piano and organ
- D. At least 3 church-related references

#### II. OTHER QUALIFICATIONS

- A. Personal faith in Jesus Christ...
- B. Background (via education experience) in sacred music, including hymns, spirituals, traditional and contemporary gospel, and praise songs.
- C. Ability to relate well with directors and members of church choirs.
- D. Efficient administrative skills to ensure timely and effective communication with all elements of the musical worship experience.
- E. Ability to teach, direct, compose and play (by written notes or by ear) the various forms of sacred music.
- F. Ability to recognize and respond with appropriate music to the spiritual moods of the service.
- G. Excellent interpersonal and conflict resolution skills.

## First Missionary Baptist Church

The First Baptist Church is now seeking a pastor to serve as its spiritual leader, teacher, counselor and administrator. All interested persons should submit a letter of interest and resume to the Pulpit Search Committee.

#### Qualifications

Born Again Christian  
Ordained Missionary Baptist Minister  
Knowledge of Baptist Doctrine and Faith  
Seminary Training preferred  
Teaching Bible Study Weekly  
Proficient in church organization and ability to train Church  
Pastoral Experience Preferred  
Family Oriented  
Able to Plan and implement innovative youth programs

Interested Applicants should Mail Resumes to:

Pastoral Search Committee

First Baptist Church

ATTENTION: Deacon Calvin Graham Jr., Chairman

P.O. Box 679, Stedman, North Carolina 28391

## ST. FRANCIS BAPTIST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

is looking for a Pastor

This person should be:

- I. Missionary Baptist
- II. Have good organizational and leadership skills
- III. Commuting Distance
- IV. Family Oriented
- V. Experience Preferred

Interested parties should send resume to: c/o Pulpit Committee

St. Francis Missionary Baptist Church, P.O. Box 736, Windsor, NC 27983.

## GREEN CHAPEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

450 Hickman Hill Loop Road, Havelock, NC 28532

The Pulpit Search Committee of Green Chapel Missionary Baptist Church of Havelock, North Carolina is searching for applicants for a full time pastoral vacancy.

#### Qualifications:

1. Must be an experienced, licensed, ordained Missionary Baptist Minister living according to First Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9
2. The applicants should have a vision for the church according to Proverbs 29:18
3. Must possess the ability to work with all age groups, with particular emphasis in youth development, and with all auxiliaries of the church.
4. Must possess effective oral and written communication skills.
5. Must be community oriented.
6. Must possess strong and proven administrative experience, with a broad knowledge of the Baptist Doctrines, church policies, and practices.
7. Must be willing to work with the Old Eastern Missionary Baptist Association.

Education: Must possess a high school diploma (or equivalent) preferring a degree or courses in Seminary Training, and willing to do further study.

Interested applications should provide the following:

1. A resume of relevant experience.
2. A copy of certificate of license and ordination.
3. One business and two personal reference (NO FAMILY MEMBERS).

All interested applicants should send resume, and copies of certificates to:

Green Chapel Missionary Baptist Church

Pulpit Committee

450 Hickman Hill Loop Road, Havelock, NC 28532.

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Third and Mulbury Street, Weldon, North Carolina 27890

The Pulpit Committee of First Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of Pastor. Mail resumes to:

Deacon Stanley Edwards, 908 Country Club Rd., Weldon, NC 27890

Applicants must have the following qualifications:

- Born again Christian
- Must be able to preach and teach God's Word
- Preach quality sermons
- Possess strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, policies and practices
- Able to lead and communicate with all age groups
- Able to work effectively with church boards and committees
- Some college and seminary training preferred

## Pulpit Vacancy

The pulpit committee of Olive Branch Missionary Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of pastor. Applicants should possess the following qualifications:

Must be a born-again, spirit-filled, ordained and divinely called minister with strong family and community values.

Must be a licensed Missionary Baptist minister.

Must be able to preach and teach Bible study.

Must have a broad knowledge of the Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures.

Must have experience as a senior or associate pastor.

Must be able to administer communion, perform baptisms, weddings and funerals.

Must possess strong and proven administrative skill and experience.

Must possess good oral and written communication skills and have the ability to communicate with all age groups.

Must be a just and fair individual and possess tact.

College degree is preferred but will consider any combination of education and pastorate experience.

Responsibilities will be in accordance with the bylaws of the church.

Resumes should be sent to:

The Pulpit Committee

Brother Elonza Joyner, Chair

106 Graves Avenue

Elizabeth City, N.C. 27909

elonzajoyner@hotmail.com

# VACANT POSITIONS

## GREATER LOVELY HILL BAPTIST CHURCH

The Pulpit Search Committee of the Greater Lovely Hill Baptist Church, located in Warren County, N.C. is searching for applicants for its pastoral vacancy. Currently the Greater Lovely Hill Baptist Church has regular worship services twice monthly, on the first and third Sunday.

### Qualifications:

1. Must be an experienced licensed ordained Missionary Baptist Minister living according to First Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9.
2. The applicants should have a vision for the church:
3. Must possess the ability to work with all age groups, with particular emphasis in youth development and community outreach, and with all auxiliaries of the church.
4. Must possess effective oral and written communication skills.
5. Must be community oriented.
6. Must possess strong and proven administration experience with a broad knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and practices.

### Education:

Must possess a high school diploma (or equivalent) preferring a degree or courses in Seminary Training from an accredited college or university.

Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume of relevant experience.
2. A copy of the certificate of license and ordination.

Send resumes to: Mrs. Lucy E. Branch, PO Box 52, Warrenton, NC 27589

## SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH

US Hwy 158, Macon, NC 27551, Warren County • 252-257-5570

### Is Seeking A Pastor

The pastor search committee of Second Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of pastor. Applicants must possess the following qualifications and responsibilities.

### Qualifications:

- \* Born again, spirit-filled, ordained and divinely called, with strong family and community values.
- \* Be a licensed, Ordained Baptist Minister.
- \* Must be able to preach and teach Bible Study.
- \* Must be able to work with all age groups.
- \* Strong knowledge of **Baptist Doctrines**, church policies and procedures.
- \* Experienced as a senior pastor, but will consider an experienced associated pastor.
- \* Must have Spiritual maturity, and be able to preach and teach the Word of GOD.
- \* Willingness to administer communion and perform Baptismal service.
- \* Possess strong and proven administrative experience.
- \* Divinity school degree preferred, but will consider a combination of education and experience.

### Responsibilities:

- \* Plan, prepare and deliver sermons.
- \* Visit and commune with sick and shut-in members and bereaved families.

Interested candidates please submit resume to:

Ms. Sylvia Dunston, Church Secretary, Rt. 2, box 13 A, Warrenton, NC 27589, (252) 257-0221

## ANTIOCH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH OF GOLDSBORO, N.C., INC.

601 West Elm Street, Goldsboro, NC 27530 • (919) 735-2176

The Antioch Missionary Baptist Church, with a membership of approximately 200 members, is seeking a full-time pastor.

### MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Plan and lead worship that is sensitive to the needs of the congregation
2. Attend to the spiritual development of the congregation
3. Provide administrative leadership to the congregation, secretarial and pulpit staff
4. Council members having personal, family and/or work related problems
5. Support religious programs for children, youth and adult.
6. Develop and instruct weekly Bible Study Classes and directing the Bible Study and Sunday School Staffs
7. Support the church's financial program
8. Involve the congregation in the existing church programs and ministries.
9. Meet regularly with the chairperson of the Deacon, Deaconess, Trustee Board and other Auxiliaries of the church
10. Visit the sick, shut in and bereaved in the hospital and at home
11. Preside at funerals and weddings unless the families have someone else of their own choosing
12. Support the World Mission of the church
13. Share in the civic leadership of the community

### QUALIFICATIONS-EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

**SAVED AND FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT** and able to proclaim the unadulterated word of God that will lead people to Christ. Degree in Theology/Religion preferred. Ordained and at least five (5) years experience as a pastor of a **MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH**.

Interested candidates should send a resume with a cover letter to:

Pulpit Committee

c/o Kirby L. Hamilton, Chairman

Antioch Missionary Baptist Church of Goldsboro, Inc., 601 West Elm Street, Goldsboro, NC 27530

P.S. Please include a copy of your credentials (Ordination Certificate and License)

## Baptist Grove Church

7109 Leesville Rd., Raleigh, NC 27613

919-787-4528 • 919-787-9784 Fax • Baptistqc@aol.com

Baptist Grove (a predominately African American congregation) is accepting resumes for a Full Time Youth Minister.

### Principle Functions

- Provide youth and volunteer leadership
- Plan, conduct and evaluate programs
- Provide youth Christian education

### Qualifications

- Licensed Baptist Minister
- Strong program planning and implementation skills
- Excellent communication skills, (presenting, writing, active listening)
- Ability to effectively interact with all age levels

To apply, send resume and cover letter to:

Baptist Grove Church, Attn. Personnel Committee, 7109 Leesville Road, Raleigh, NC 27613

## PHILLIPS CHAPEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Phillips Chapel Missionary Baptist Church in Winston-Salem, NC, is currently seeking a senior pastor, spiritual leader, counselor and administrator. All interested persons should submit a letter of interest and resume no later than December 15, 2001.

The successful candidate will meet the following qualifications:

- Must be born-again, spirit filled, divinely called minister with strong family and community values.
- Must possess the willingness to follow by the By-Laws governing the church.
- Must have a knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures and be willing to follow such.
- Must be a licensed, ordained Baptist minister.
- Must have significant experience as a Senior Pastor.
- Must have a Bachelor's Degree in Religion, Theology, or Divinity from an accredited college, university or divinity school.
- Must be willing to work with all age groups with particular interest in the spiritual growth and development of our youth.

- Must be able to develop and share a vision for the future growth and development for the church.
- Must visit and commune with sick, shut-in and bereaved families.

All applicants should provide the following information:

- Copy of college degree(s), certificates of license and ordination
  - Proof of completion of ALL accredited theological training
- Name, address and telephone number of (4) personal and professional references with no more than (2) coming from other ministries

All materials should be forwarded to:

Dr. Ernie Wade

Chairman, Pulpit Committee

Phillips Chapel Missionary Baptist Church

132 N. Glenn Avenue, Winston-Salem, NC 27105

## PENN AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH

225 West McClanahan Street, Oxford, N.C. 27565

Rev. Willie S. Darby, Pastor

(919) 693-5396 • (919) 693-1015, Pastor's Office

The Penn Avenue Missionary Baptist Church of Oxford, N.C. is currently seeking a **MINISTER OF MUSIC**.

### QUALIFICATIONS:

- \* Must be a born again Christian.
- \* Must be able to play the piano, keyboard and/or organ.
- \* Must be able to read music and is versatile in playing by ear.
- \* Must be able to work well with a diverse range of singers and age groups.
- \* Must be able to teach and direct hymns, anthems, spirituals, gospels and other sacred music.
- \* Must be able to rehearse choirs at a scheduled time unless otherwise notified.
- \* Must be available for Sunday morning worship services.
- \* Must be available to accompany the pastor and choirs when requested or provide a qualified substitute.
- \* Must be able to assist in the selection of appropriate songs for worship and services.
- \* Will be responsible with the pastor's approval in hiring other musicians if deemed necessary.

### Salary: Negotiable

Penn Avenue Missionary Baptist Church is a warm, spirited-filled church that has worship services 52 Sundays a year and at present there is one musician available for 2nd Sunday worship services. Service begins each Sunday at 11 a.m. with the exception of 5th Sunday services which begin at 10 a.m.

Please send resume to the above listed address or inquiries may be made by calling one of the above listed numbers.

## FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

715 West Willis Ave., High Point, NC 27260

### CHURCH MUSICIAN

The Friendship Missionary Baptist Church are accepting resumes for a Church Musician.

### Qualifications:

Should be a Christian who lives and acts responsibly and has a good character and reputation.

### Musician requirements:

- Be able to play a piano, keyboard, organ and be able to work well with a diverse range of singers with directions for musical selections.
- Must have experience in church music (anthems, hymns, spirituals, praise and worship, etc.) of gospel traditional and contemporary.
- Be available for necessary rehearsals and Sunday Worship Services.
- Be available to accompany the pastor and choirs to all church functions when requested.

### Salary negotiable:

Please send cover letter and resume to:

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church

Attn: James W. Flake, Pastor, 909 Barbee Avenue

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

329 West Avenue, Hamlet, NC 28345, (910) 582-5732

### Full Time Position:

All interested ordained Missionary Baptist Ministers should submit a resume as soon as possible.

### Qualifications:

1. Good moral Christian reputation in the home and community
2. Sound Christian and Baptist Doctrine.
3. Pastoral Experience at least (3) years with Seminary Training
4. Divinity School graduate (preferred).
5. Dynamic Preacher with teaching and counseling skills.
6. Mature, Stable and Family Oriented.
7. Has interest and capability to build a comprehensive church program/visionary
8. Shows evidence of community, awareness and involvement
9. Ability to communicate with the congregation and public
10. Ability to train church officers
11. Willingness to visit sick members and administer communion
12. Ability to work with all age groups in the church

Send resume to:

Velma Gibson, Chairman, Pulpit Committee

First Baptist Church, 329 West Avenue, Hamlet, NC 28345

Or Fax to: (910) 582-2303

*The "Reason for the Season" Is Here!*

# VACANT POSITIONS

## MINISTER OF MUSIC WANTED

Wake Forest Congregation seeks Minister of Music. Duties to include working directly with the Pastor in order to assist and cooperate with him in Christian Worship; playing during Sunday morning worship service; rehearsing with various choirs one night per week; and accompanying the Pastor on engagements to other churches. Please forward a cover letter and resume to:

Evans Grove Missionary Baptist Church, 12700 Creedmoor Road, Highway 50  
Wake Forest, NC 27587 • (919) 870-8874

## PROGRESSIVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

2504 Creech Road, Raleigh, NC 27610  
Rev. William H. Brock Sr., Senior Pastor  
Rev. Dr. Leo Williams Jr., Assistant Pastor  
Rev. James Richardson, Minister of Youth

Growing young Missionary Baptist Church in southeast Raleigh, Seeking a Christian Church Musician who can play piano/organ. Specifically organ. Must be able to read music as well as play by ear. Should be able to play hymns, anthems, spirituals, gospel.

Call church office to arrange interview (919) 828-8373.

## ZION BAPTIST CHURCH SEEKS PASTOR

On April 20, 2000, Rev. Curtis E. Bender, pastor of Zion Baptist Church in Omaha, Nebraska, tendered his resignation. He has blessed Zion and the Omaha community with his leadership for more than 20 years. Although we will miss our Pastor, we humbly submit to the Will of God. Consequently, the recently formed Zion Baptist Church Pulpit Search Committee would like to solicit your help in this search. Please notify the members of your District/Convention that the Zion Baptist Church pulpit is vacant and that we have begun accepting applications for Pastor. Among other things, we require applicants who:

- Are Called by God. (1 Timothy 3:1-7)
- Are Graduates of an accredited and respected seminary.
- Have had a minimum of 10 years as pastor of a large Black Baptist Church. (500 or more members).
- Are members in good standing and with a track record of membership in the National Baptist Convention U.S.A., Inc.
- Have proven leadership and training skills.

Interested candidates are asked to request **in writing** applications from:

Zion Baptist Church  
Pulpit Search Committee

2215 Grant Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68110

Please pray for our effort and thank you for your help in this notification.

Yours in Christ, Dea. Jesse Sharpe, Committee Chairman, Sis. Jacqueline C. Hart, Church Clerk

## FIRST BAPTIST CHARITY CHURCH

Greenevers, N.C.

The First Baptist Charity Church of Greenevers, N.C. is accepting resumes from interested Missionary Baptist Ministers for the position of pastor.

### Qualifications:

1. Divinely called spirit-filled, born-again Christian with strong Family values.
2. Pastoral experiences is required.
3. Must work closely with the officers of the church.
4. Must have at least 2 years of college or seminary training.
5. Must be able to preach and teach.
6. Must have good leadership and communication skills.
7. Family oriented.
8. Have knowledge of and willing to follow Baptist doctrines, policies and procedures.
9. Must be willing to visit and commune with the sick and shut-ins.
10. Must be willing to work with all age groups.

Services are first, second, third and fourth Sundays with Sunday school beginning at 10:00 a.m. and morning service beginning at 11:00 a.m.

Please send resumes to:

Deacon Fernald Rawls, Jr., 920 Pasture Branch Road, Rose Hill, NC 28458

## MINISTER OF MUSIC VACANCY SPRING GREEN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

PO Box 924, Warrenton, NC 27589

Rev. Dennis G. Lindsay, Pastor

The Spring Green Missionary Baptist Church seeks a Minister of Music to provide musical direction and accompaniment for 4 choirs in the church. This person will work closely with the Pastor to provide spiritual leadership in the ministry of Jesus Christ through music, i.e. hymns, spiritual songs, and praise and worship music that glorifies God.

We are accepting resumes from candidates with the following qualifications:

1. Born-again Christian, Spirit-filled, and divinely gifted in music ministry.
2. Willingness to spiritually align the music ministry with Pastoral vision.
3. Able to play the piano, keyboard and/or organ; able to read music and versatile.
4. Able to prepare choirs for Sunday morning worship services and other services.
5. Able to teach, as well as direct choirs, with humility and love.
6. Able to rehearse with all choirs on schedule, and available for all Sunday services
7. Able to accompany Pastor and choirs to other services as required (or ensure qualified substitute is available).
8. Able to select appropriate hymns and songs for worship service.

Please submit resumes to the address above. Any inquiries, please contact Pastor Lindsay at (919) 361-3003.

## UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

110 Lincoln Ave., Lexington, NC 27292

Needed: Minister of Music or Organist.

Please send resume to:

Union Baptist Church, 110 Lincoln Ave, Lexington, NC 27292. Attn: Rev. Darrell L. Thomas. Or call 336-243-1648 and leave your name and number.

## CHURCH MUSICIAN

First Missionary Baptist Church of Clinton is seeking a person to serve as musician. The responsibilities include playing for the Adult Choir on the First Sunday, and accompanying the other choirs on the remaining Sundays.

### Qualifications:

Should be able to play the piano and the organ, and be able to work well with diverse groups of singers.

Experience in sacred music is a must as well as the ability to read music and play by ear.

The musician is also expected to accompany the pastor and choirs to outside functions when necessary.

Interested persons may send resume to: First Baptist Church, 900 College St., Clinton, N.C. 28328.

## MUSICIAN WANTED

### Metropolitan Baptist Church Rocky Mount, NC

Progressive church music department looking for Director of Music to provide leadership for growth spiritually and musically. Must have experience in church music (anthems, hymns, spirituals, etc.) or equivalent. Able to lead music and direct/accompany. Available on 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays. On call as needed.

To apply call:

Metropolitan Baptist Church  
Rocky Mount, NC  
252-442-4623

## MINISTER OF MUSIC • ST. MATTHEW BAPTIST CHURCH

P.O. BOX 1710, OXFORD, NC 27565

1. Must be a Christian to serve as minister of music each Sunday.
  2. Will prepare choirs for Sunday morning worship services and special services.
  3. Will teach and direct hymns, spiritual selections and other sacred music.
  4. Will implement and/or carrying out guidelines pertaining to choir members' conduct.
  5. Will rehearse choirs at a scheduled time unless otherwise notified.
  6. Will be available to accompany the Pastor and choir to church functions requested.
- Please send resume to the above address: Attention Pastor. Inquiries may be made by calling 919-693-6354.

## POSITION:

Interim Pastor to provide pastoral leadership and duties to a congregation of approximately 200 members located in Goldsboro, NC.

## ORGANIZATION:

Antioch Missionary Baptist Church  
601 W. Elm Street, Goldsboro, NC 27530  
(919) 734-2066

## DESCRIPTION:

The Antioch Missionary Baptist Church is currently seeking an individual to perform in the capacity of **INTERIM PASTOR**. This position is not intended or expected to lead to the role of permanent pastor. This role requires you to focus on the pastoral task in the congregation during the interim period to help free the leaders of the congregation to focus on seeking a new pastor. You will provide leadership and stability in a positive manner during this transitional period of our church. The ability to settle issues and migrate the congregation from the former pastor to the new pastor is critical. You will be working closely with the chairman of the Deacon Board and Trustee Board when addressing issues that affects the congregation at large. While the duration of this position is unknown at this time, you must be available for any period from two months to two years if needed.

### Major Duties and Responsibilities:

- Plan and lead worship that is sensitive to the needs of the congregation
- Attend to the spiritual development of the congregation
- Provide administrative leadership to the congregation, secretarial and pulpit staff
- Counsel members having personal, family and/or work related problems
- Support religious programs for children, youth and adults
- Develop and instruct weekly bible study classes
- Support the church's financial program
- Directly involve the congregation in the planning and leadership of existing church programs and ministries
- Meet regularly with the chairpersons of the Deacon, Deaconess and Trustee Board for planning and direction
- Visit the sick, shut in and bereaved in the hospital and at home
- Preside at funerals and weddings
- Support the world mission of the church
- Present social issues before members

### Qualifications-Education and Experience:

- Saved and filled with the Holy Spirit and able to proclaim the unadulterated word of God that will lead people to Christ
- Degree in Theology or Religion preferred — however, will accept training and experience in Divinity or Church Ministries
- Ordained for a minimum of five years
- Five years of experience as a pastor or assistant pastor of a Missionary Baptist Church
- Experience in working as an interim pastor is a plus

## CONTACT INFORMATION

For immediate consideration, please send a cover letter and your resume to the following address:

Antioch Missionary  
Baptist Church  
Attention: Deacon Lessie Davis  
601 W. Elm Street  
Goldsboro, NC 27530

## GENESIS BAPTIST

### Youth Minister needed full-time.

Qualified candidates must be trained at a seminary, mature spiritually, and experienced working with children and youth. Mail or fax resume and salary requirements to:

Genesis Baptist Church  
Cathy Daniels-Lee, Search Committee Chairperson  
2812 E. Bessemer Ave., Greensboro, NC 27405  
Ph. (336) 379-1133 • Fax. (336) 379-1615  
Web site: www.greensboro.com/genesis

# VACANT POSITIONS

## MORNING STAR MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH OF DURHAM

is seeking a person to serve as musician.

### Qualifications:

Should be a Christian who lives and acts responsibly and has a good character and reputation.

- Should be able to play the piano and organ.
- Work well with diverse range of singers.
- Experience in diverse music (Hymns, gospel, contemporary, traditional).
- Ability to read music and play by ear.
- Be available for scheduled rehearsals, Second Sunday Morning Worship Service.
- Be available to accompany Pastor and choirs to church engagements as scheduled.
- Be available for evening programs as scheduled.

### Interested persons may send resume to:

Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church  
4610 Fayetteville Rd.

Durham, NC 27713, Attention: Sis. Esther Thompson or Call 544-8596

## UNION GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH

Warrenton, North Carolina

The Union Grove Baptist is currently seeking and accepting resumes from interested licensed, ordained Baptist ministers. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

1. Spiritual maturity
2. A minimum of three years experience as a pastor, but will consider years of experience as associate pastor
3. Administrative and leadership skills
4. Must be able to work with various age groups with specific emphasis on youth development.
5. Strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures.
7. Good oral and written communication skills and ability to communicate with all age groups.
8. Have excellent teaching ability.

Other responsibilities include:

Planning, organizing and implementing programs that encourage participation of youth and young adults that promote church growth and progress.

Please send resumes to:

Brother Alonza Jones, Board Chairman, Route 2, Box 128, Norlina, N.C. 27563, % The Pulpit Committee

## FULL TIME DIRECTOR/RESS OF CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

Greater Mount Sinai Baptist Church  
Dr. George Cook Jr.

### Qualifications

- ≠ Masters of Divinity or Masters of Religious Education or an equivalent degree/experience.
- ≠ Possess skills in coordinating and working with various age groups.
- ≠ Having had experience in this area would be a plus.
- ≠ Demonstrate exceptional skills in interpersonal relationships, team building, team playing and delegation.

### Appointment

≠ The Director/ress of Ministries shall be appointed by the Pastor upon recommendation by the Personnel Committee with final approval by the church.

### Responsible To

≠ The Pastor

### Status

≠ Full-Time (Forty-hour minimum schedule. Determined jointly between Director/ress and Pastor.)

### Responsible For

≠ Supervising and coordinating all activities pertaining to ministries.

### Salary

≠ Commensurate with qualifications, experience, achievement and commitment

≠ Salary range \$30,000 - \$35,000

≠ Fringe benefits will be offered.

### Responsibilities

1. To have general oversight of outreach ministries.
2. To provide training for ministries on a scheduled basis to include, but not limited to, such areas as: partnering with God in prayer, planning, communication skills, servant leadership, volunteer enlistment and recruiting.
3. Make available specific ministry aids to assist in gaining greater knowledge regarding the specific ministry.
4. Establish accountability structures for each ministry.
5. Establish a "Ministry Standard" which outlines measurable checkpoints.
6. Maintain a church-wide Calendar of Events to include all ministry events and church-wide activities.
7. Provide a vehicle for communicating various ministries of church to the membership and visitors.
8. To work with auxiliaries and groups to resolve any procedural and scheduling conflicts they may run into.
9. To provide monthly reports, in writing, to the Pastor that reflects implementation progress as well as upcoming plans.
10. Establish and maintain a time line to monitor the productivity of each auxiliary.
11. To perform other duties as assigned by the Pastor.

### To Apply

Qualified persons should submit the following items:

≠ A Cover letter stating your interest

≠ A resume or vitae

≠ Three letters of recommendation

≠ These materials will not be returned

**Deadline:** All materials should be postmarked no later than Saturday, November, 17, 2001.

Candidates will be notified by Tuesday, January 15, 2002 concerning the status of the application.

### Mail all items to:

GMSBC Personnel Committee, Greater Mount Sinai Baptist Church  
1243 West Boulevard, Charlotte, NC 28208

# JOB OPPORTUNITIES

## POSITION:

Interim Pastor to provide pastoral leadership and duties to a congregation of 400 active members located in the North Philadelphia area of the city.

## ORGANIZATION:

Miller Memorial Baptist Church

1518 North 22nd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19121

## DESCRIPTION

The Miller Memorial Baptist Church is currently seeking an individual to perform in the capacity of **INTERIM PASTOR**. This position is not intended or expected to lead to the role of permanent pastor. This role requires you to focus on the pastoral task in the congregation during the interim period to help free the leaders of the congregation to focus on seeking a new pastor. You will provide leadership and stability in a positive manner during this transitional period of our church. The ability to settle issues and migrate the congregation from the former pastor to the new pastor, is critical. You will be working closely with the chairpersons of the Deacon Board and Trustee Board when addressing issues that effect the congregation at large. While the duration of this position is unknown as this time, you must be available for any period from two months to two years if needed.

## Major Duties and Responsibilities:

- Plan and lead worship that is sensitive to the needs of the congregation
  - Attend to the spiritual development of the congregation
  - Provide administrative leadership to the congregation, secretarial, and pulpit staff
  - Counsel members having personal, family and/or work related problems
  - Support and/or lead religious programs for children, youth and adults
  - Develop and instruct weekly bible study classes
  - Actively and visibly support the church's financial program
  - Directly involve the congregation in the planning and leadership of existing church programs and ministries
  - Meet regularly with the chairpersons of the Deacon, Deaconess and Trustee Boards for planning and direction
  - Work closely with the Superintendent of the Sunday School
  - Visit the sick, shut in and bereaved in the hospital and at home
  - Preside at funerals and weddings
  - Support the world mission of the church
  - Participate in local community activities, issues and problems
  - Present social issues before members
- QUALIFICATIONS - EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:**
- Bachelors Degree in Divinity, Masters of Divinity Degree preferable
  - Ordained for a minimum of five years
  - Five years experience as a pastor or assistant pastor of a Baptist Church
  - Experience in working as an interim pastor is a plus.

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

For immediate consideration, please send a cover letter and your resume to the following address:

Miller Memorial Baptist Church  
Attention: Deacon David Pridgen  
1518 North 22nd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19121

## SAVANNAH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

6675 Tabor Church Road, Fayetteville, NC 28301

The pastor's search committee of Savannah Missionary Baptist Church is accepting letters of interest/resumes for the position of Senior Pastor from licensed and ordained Missionary Baptist Ministers. Apply only if you are sincerely interested and meet all the qualifications.

## QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Must be born again, filled with the holy spirit and called by God to preach the word.
2. Must be family oriented and possess a strong, Godly character.
3. Prefer college degree but will strongly consider a combination of education, training and experience.
4. Possess a strong knowledge of the Missionary Baptist doctrine, church policies and practices.
5. Be an effective leader, communicator, administrator and counselor with good interpersonal skills.
6. Must have skills required to work with all age groups with emphasis on spiritual growth and development.
7. Must have skills required for planning and implementing a vision for both spiritual and physical growth of the church.
8. Must work effectively with boards, auxiliaries and committees.

Interested persons meeting all of the above qualifications should submit the following information:

Letter of interest or resume

Copy of license and ordination certificate

Proof of educational degree, and additional theological studies transcript

The names, addresses, telephone numbers, email addresses of at least five references of which only two can be ministers.

The committee will provide each candidate with an information packet.

All correspondence must be addressed as follows:

Savannah Missionary Baptist Church

ATTN: Sister Ernestine Tucker, 6675 Tabor Church Road, Fayetteville, N.C.

## Lee's Crossroad Baptist Church

Route 1, Lake Wendell Rd., Wendell, NC 27591

The Lee's Crossroads Baptist Church is seeking a Pastor and is accepting resumes from interested, ordained Baptist ministers. Please include the following in your resume:

1. Name/address/day and evening phone numbers
2. Age
3. Marital Status
4. Education/Schools attended
5. Pastoral Experience
6. References

## Qualifications

1. Born again Christian
2. Ordained Baptist Minister
3. Ability to preach and teach God's Holy Word
4. Possess leadership and administrative skills
5. Willingness to follow Baptist Doctrine
6. Must be a good role model of moral and ethical conduct

## Resumes may be sent to:

Lee's Crossroad Baptist Church, Pulpit Committee

Deacon James R. Adams, 1342 Medlin Rd., Clayton, N.C. 27520

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The deadline to submit information for the "Baptist Informer" is the 10th of each month prior to publication.

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**BAPTIST INFORMER**  
 603 SOUTH WILMINGTON ST., RALEIGH, NC 27601  
 800-639-GBSC or www.gbsc.org

**VACANT POSITIONS**

**Oakey Grove Missionary Baptist Church of Clayton**

is searching for a pastor. Congregational size is about 100 members with attendance of 50-65 depending upon the season. Worship service is held twice monthly. We are a small rural church located about 5 miles east of Clayton and about 6 miles west of Smithfield on Hwy. 70 business. Our congregation represents all ages and all backgrounds.

Our pastor must be knowledgeable and believe in the Baptist Doctrine. Must be a strong spiritual leader, administrator and teacher. One who will proclaim the Good News in a meaningful way that will help members learn to apply Biblical concepts to their everyday lives.

We are an autonomous Missionary Baptist Church that is affiliated with the Johnston District Missionary Baptist Association and its auxiliaries and the General Baptist State Convention and its auxiliaries.

Please include in your resume the following:

1. Name/Address/Day and Evening Phone Numbers
2. Age
3. Marital Status
4. Education/Schools Attended
5. Pastoral Experience (Where, When, Number of Years)
6. References

**Qualifications:**

1. Ordained Missionary Baptist Minister
2. Possess Leadership, Administrative, and Counseling Skills
3. Willingness to follow Baptist Doctrines, Polices and Procedures
4. Able to lead and communicate with all age groups
5. Family oriented
6. Must possess good moral and ethical conduct

Interested persons should send resumes to:

Oakey Grove Baptist Church, Pulpit Search Committee  
 Deacon Loomis Hodges, Chairperson, PO Box 2435, Smithfield, NC 27577

**Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church**

414 Hadley Street, Wilson, NC 27893

Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church is seeking a licensed, ordained Missionary Baptist Pastor to serve as a spiritual leader, counselor and administrator. Ebenezer is a progressive church with a vision of growing in grace and walking with the Lord. We seek a Pastor with this same vision and passion, who is capable of leading our congregation to a higher realm.

All interested candidates please submit resumes and inquires to:  
**Ebenezer Search Committee, Attention: Deacon Ronald Wright**  
 PO Box 351, Lucama, NC 27851 • 252-239-0097

(Applications will be mailed upon request)

**Qualifications:**

- Ability to preach and teach
- Ability to relate to all groups
- Willing to deliver morning services on 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays
- Affiliated with the General Baptist State Convention
- Theological or Seminar Training
- Pastoral Experience of one year

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 here is the steeple  
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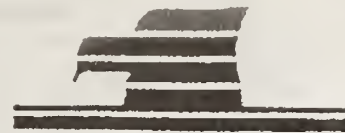
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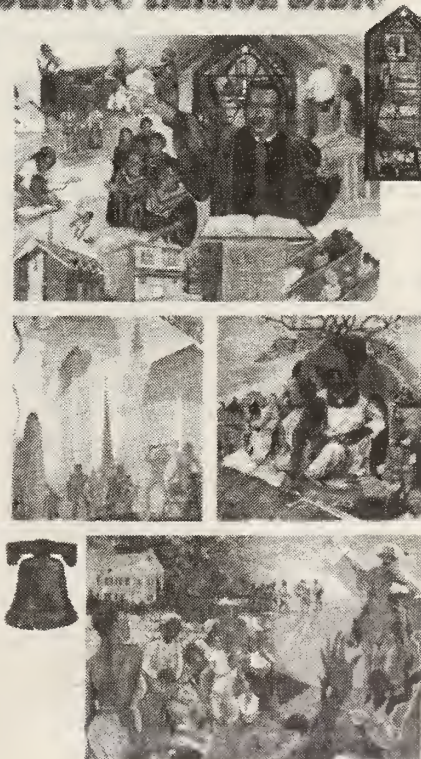
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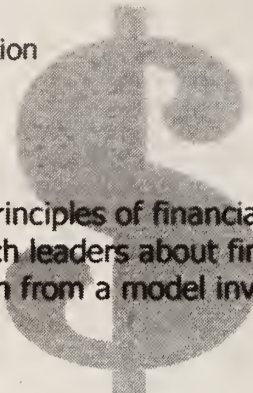
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Dr. Serenus T. Churn Sr., received his Doctor of Ministry Degree from Drew University, Madison, N.J., in 1979, his Graduate Certificate in Pastoral Care from the Foundation for Religion and Mental Health, Grasslands Hospital, Westchester County, N.Y., in 1970, his Master of Divinity Degree from Howard University, School of Religion in Washington, D.C., in 1969, his Bachelor of Divinity Degree from Howard University, School of Religion in 1965 and his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Morgan State College, Baltimore, Md., in 1962. He was born in Camden, N.J., to the late Dr. Charles H. Churn Sr., and Violet M. Churn and was licensed to preach at the age of 15. He is married to the former Shirley Brown of Washington, D.C., and

has two sons. Dr. Churn is currently the Senior Pastor of Mount Zion Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, N.C. Member of Novant Health Board of Trustees, Mount Zion Site Director and Adjunct Instructor, Shaw University Divinity School and Drew University Theology School. He is the Radio Host of God's Trombone WPOL. He has preached across the United States, Great Britain and India.

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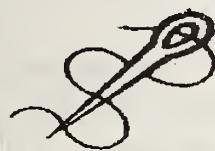
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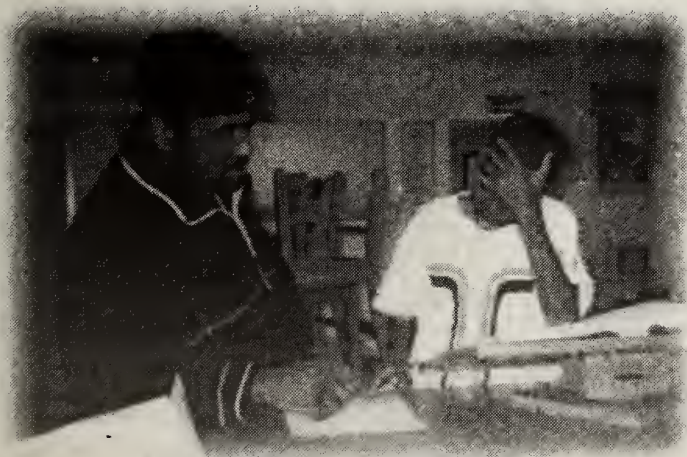
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In order for you to get the most out of this "journey" you must be spiritual prepared.  
 The basic preparation is to know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, so that He can be  
 your spiritual guide.

The Bible teaches that no matter how insignificant by worldly standards, even the giving  
 of a cup of cold water will not go unrewarded. What a deal! The Lord who takes not of the  
 sparrow's fall also takes not of all the little things believers do for the Lord.

Are there some corrections you need to make in your financial life in order to have a  
 "journey to financial freedom?" The longer you wait to make those changes, the greater  
 your loss. So, don't put them off; get started today on a "journey to financial free-  
 dom," which includes making life's only lasting investment.

Purchasing your "Journey to Financial Freedom" workbook from Rev. Tyrone Mar-  
 tin. Workshop information available by calling: 919-266-4709.

**Call Today to Start Your Journey!**

# THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC.

## DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. BANQUET

RALEIGH CONVENTION CENTER • 500 FAYETEVILLE ST.  
RALEIGH, NC

### January 11, 2002 • 6:30 p.m.

GUEST SPEAKER:

### DR. BENJAMIN S. RUFFIN

THE RUFFIN GROUP, PRESIDENT CHAIRMAN OF THE UNC BOARD OF GOVERNORS

*Dr. John D. Fuller Sr.*  
*President*

*Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr.*  
*Executive Secretary-Treasurer*

**LATE NIGHT WORSHIP EVANGELISM SERVICE**  
**HOTEL BALLROOM, DR. WALTER S. THOMAS, BALTIMORE, MD.**  
**HEADQUARTERS HOTEL: SHERATON CAPITAL CENTER HOTEL**  
**421 SOUTH SALISBURY STREET, NC.**  
**919-834-9900 • SINGLES & DOUBLES: \$89 + TAX**  
**RESERVATION DEADLINE: DEC. 3, 2001**  
**TICKETS: \$40 (TICKETS AT THE DOOR \$50)**

**General Baptist State Convention Martin Luther King Jr. Banquet  
Ticket Form • January 11, 2002**  
**Raleigh Convention & Civic Center, 500 Fayetteville St., Raleigh, NC**  
**Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President GBSC**  
**Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer**

Church \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Pastor \_\_\_\_\_  
Association \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone # Church ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # Pastor ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Your Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Your Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Messengers \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$40.00 each Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(Tickets at door \$50.00)  
Please send your ticket request form to: Baptist Headquarters, GBSC MLK, JR. BANQUET  
603 S. Wilmington St., Raleigh, NC 27601-2338 • (4272) • 919/821-7466  
Headquarters Hotel: Sheraton Capital Center Hotel  
421 South Salisbury St., Raleigh, NC 27407  
Singles & Doubles: \$89 + tax, 336-292-9161, 919-834-9900  
Reservation Deadline: Dec. 3, 2001



### THE 2001 HOUSING BANQUET TICKET REQUEST FORM December 7, 2001 • 7:30 p.m.

**Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President GBSC**  
**Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer**  
**Dr. Thurman Everett, Chairman**

Church \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Pastor \_\_\_\_\_  
Association \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone # Church ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # Pastor ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Your Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Your Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Banquet Tickets \$250 Per Person



Number of Messengers \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$250.00 each Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(includes banquet, seminars)  
Please send your ticket request form to: Baptist Headquarters  
603 S. Wilmington St., Raleigh, NC 27601-2338 • 800-639-GBSC (4272) • 919/821-7466  
Headquarters Hotel: Sheraton Greensboro Hotel at  
Four Seasons, 3121 High Point Road at I-40, Greensboro, NC 27407  
Singles & Doubles: \$99 + 12% tax, 336-292-9161, 800-242-6556  
Reservation Deadline: Nov. 23, 2001  
**PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS EARLY!!**

**DR. MARTIN  
LUTHER KING JR.**

**LATE NIGHT  
WORSHIP SERVICE  
JANUARY 11, 2002**

**SPEAKER:**

**REV. DR. WALTER S. THOMAS  
PASTOR OF NEW PSALMIST BAPTIST CHURCH  
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND,  
PRESIDENT OF HAMPTON MINTERS CONFERENCE**

**LOCATION:**

**THE SHERATON CAPITAL  
CENTER HOTEL  
RALEIGH, NC**

**TIME: IMMEDIATELY AFTER  
BANQUET (APPROXIMATELY 9:30)**

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

**THE MILLENNNIUM  
STEWARDSHIP  
CAMPAIGN  
*3 Million Dollars in  
30 Months*  
VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED**

We need volunteers statewide to help us with our Millennium Stewardship Campaign. Persons needed to make contacts, write grants, make telephone calls, do mailings and identify perspective givers. If you are interested and have skills in these areas please contact us at Baptist Headquarters, 603 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27601-2338, 919-821-7466, 800-639-GBSC, HYPERLINK "mailto:alogan@gbsc.org" alogan@gbsc.org; HYPERLINK "http://www.gbsc.org" www.gbsc.org. Please pray for the success of this campaign. Your participation will make a difference in this project.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile # \_\_\_\_\_ Pager # \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Fax Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

website \_\_\_\_\_

**THE 2001 EMPOWERMENT SEMINAR  
AND HOUSING BANQUET**

**DECEMBER 7, 2001 • 7:30 P.M.**

**DR. WYATT TEE WALKER, LEADER • REV. DR. AL SHARPTON, BANQUET SPEAKER**

**Call for Tickets: 1-800-639-GBSC**

**Dr. Thurman Everett:**

**910-371-2196**

**Rev. Vinston Rozier:**

**910-865-4862**

Send ticket request form to:

**Baptist Headquarters,  
603 S. Wilmington Street,  
Raleigh, N.C. 27601**

# **UPCOMING SESSIONS!**

*"THE CHALLENGE IS THE SAME: REACH THE MASSES" John 12:32 (KJV)*

**January 11, 2001**

**Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Banquet**

Raleigh Convention Center, 500 Fayetteville Street, Raleigh, NC  
Speaker: Dr. Benjamin S. Ruffin, Chairman of the UNC Board of Governors

**January 12, 2002 • One-Day WBH&FMC Session**

Civic Center, Raleigh, N.C. • 9 a.m. • Seniors, Young, Adults and Youth

**February 9, 2002**

**One-Day Session Congress of Christian Education**

M.C. Benton Convention and Civic Center, 301 West Fifth Street, Raleigh, NC

**February 14-16, 2002**

**Ministers' Council, 2002 Leadership Summit**

Ebenezer Baptist Church, Charlotte, NC

**February 23, 2002**

**One-Day Session Usher's Convention**

M.C. Benton Convention and Civic Center, 301 West Fifth Street, Winston-Salem, NC

## **Baptist Informer**

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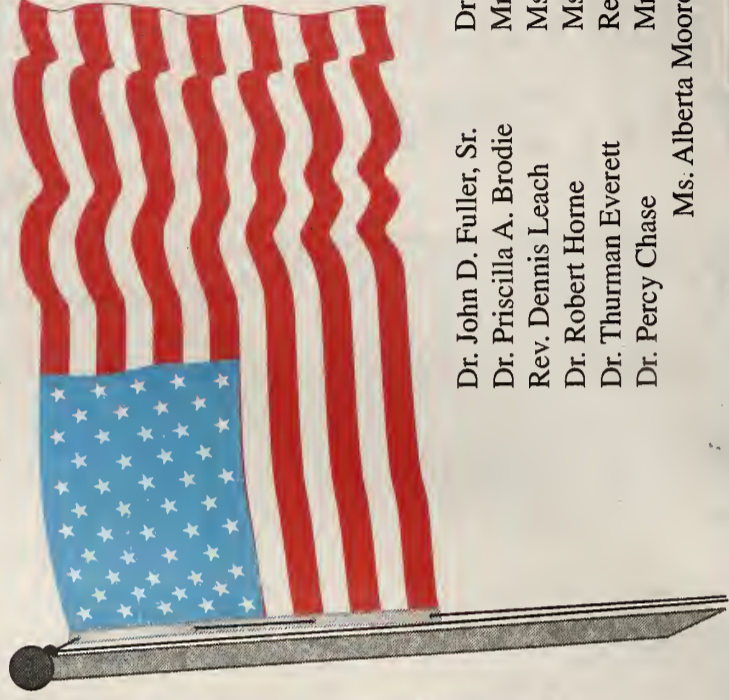
Vol. 124, No. 12

Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc.  
Voice of 500,000 North Carolina Baptists

December 2001

# **GOD Bless You!**

## *Happy Holidays!*



**"The Challenge  
Is The Same:  
Reach The  
Masses"**  
John 12:32

Dr. John D. Fuller, Jr.  
Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie  
Rev. Dennis Leach  
Dr. Robert Home  
Dr. Thurman Everett  
Dr. Percy Chase

Ms. Alberta Moore

Dr. Archie D. Logan, Jr.  
Mrs. Portia Brandon  
Ms. Carol J. Smith  
Ms. Mattie Murphy  
Rev. Jimmie Whitehurst  
Mr. Romas Hales

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