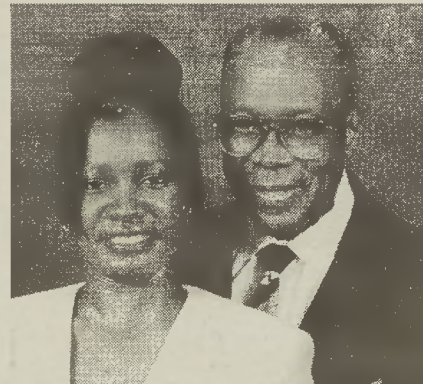


Mechanics & Farmers Bank Church of the Month Hanes Memorial CME Church "Fishers of Men"

By Paula McCoy

Mechanics and Farmers Bank recognizes Hanes Memorial Christian Methodist Episcopal (CME) Church as their Church of the Month. "We recognize Hanes Memorial CME Church for their evangelical outreach", says Evelyn Acree, city executive for Mechanics and Farmers Bank. "Their love journey's are a unique ministry for communicating the mission of the church to the community. We wish them much success in their efforts, says Acree.



Rev. and Mrs. Rayfield Medcalf

Hanes CME Church has begun love journeys, an evangelistic vehicle or strategy that allows the church to effectively communicate the message of the gospel. Members from the church walk door-to-door with hearts in hand, demonstrating their love. The love journeys allow for 'two-way' communication where a sermon or evangelistic address may not. "The purpose of the love journeys is to win souls for Christ," says Rev. Rayfield Medcalf, current pastor of Hanes CME Church. "One way the church can be felt in the community is when the church moves out of its four walls and go to them," Medcalf says. The love journeys are a way for the church to communicate or interact with community people over common ground – a place where they can be talked to, not preached at. One of the goals of the love journeys is to reach many people who might not ever come to the church. The church plans to do the love journeys at different intervals and make their presence felt in the community.

The focus that the church has on evangelism comes out of their doctrine that believes that evangelism is the main purpose of the church. "God called us to be 'fishers of men', says Medcalf, "and to go out and make disciples. If we are not winning souls to Christ, we are not doing what we are commissioned to do". Medcalf explained the difference between making disciples and having church members. "A disciple is a learner that studies and continues in the Word", he says. "Continuing in the Word gives us a personal relationship with Jesus; people do not have to beg you [to serve], you do it out of your heart". Medcalf says that the church has to take church members and make disciples of them by studying the Word everyday not just one day a week. "You shall know the truth, and the truth shall set you free", quotes Medcalf.

Hanes CME also ministers to the community's 'felt needs'. A felt need is anything in the area of people's lives that they perceive as a need. These issues may be around marriage, parenting, jobs, etc. "Anybody can come into the church and fill out an application stating their need", says Medcalf.

Regular services at Hanes CME Church are Sunday's 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m., Sunday School, Bible Study every Wednesday, 11:30 – 1:00 and Thursday 6:30 p.m. The church is located on

Reverend Rayfield Medcalf has been with Hanes CME church for two years. A native of Dallas, Texas, Medcalf's last charge was in Charlotte, NC where he pastored at Parkwood Institutional CME Church for 19 years. Parkwood Church had just completed the construction of a 2.5 million dollar sanctuary when the Carolina CME Conference asked Medcalf to take the Winston-Salem church. Rev. Medcalf's wife is Eva and they have four children; one daughter, Angela, 4 years old and three sons, Andrew Brown, age 22 (NC A&T), Christopher Brown, age 20 (Barber Scotia) and Ian, age 12 (Clemmons Middle School).

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