

church & religion

Church of the Week

St. Stephens Episcopal

By Beverly McCarthy
Staff Writer

"Now Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen..." Hebrews 11:1

It is the faith of the members of Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church that has caused the congregation to grow and flourish.

Saint Stephen's was organized through the efforts of Attorney and Mrs. Bridges, Mr. Francis M. Kennedy, Dr. and Mrs. J.L. Williamson and five other persons who made up the original congregation. The site of the first church building was at Bruce and Wallace Streets which became the campus of Slater Industrial and State Normal School and is now a part of Winston-Salem State University.

The Rev. J.K. Satterwhite the first priest, took charge of the work in June, 1909.

In 1926, the church property was purchased by the state of North Carolina for Winston-Salem Teachers College. In the interim between the old church and the building of a new church, the members worshipped in the Depot Street School on North Patterson Avenue where the Patterson Avenue YMCA is now located. The new plant was built at North Highland Avenue and Eleventh St. in East Winston. There is no record of a mortgage, suggesting that the Diocese financed the new building. The first service was held on Palm Sunday, April 10 1927 and the Rev. J. McDuffy, Priest-in-Charge, continued to serve until his death.

In Sept. 1930 The Rev. John Herbert Jones became the priest-in-charge. A pavilion was erected on the church grounds which was used for outdoor services in the summer. From 1934 until Nov. 4, 1944, St. Stephen's was without a resident priest. The Rev. John J. Greene of the Church of the Redeemer in Greensboro, NC returned to serve as the supply priest and services were held bi-monthly.

On June 6, 1978, after receiving the degree of Master of Divinity from Yale University School of Divinity, the Rev. Michael Bruce Curry joined the congregation as Deacon-in-Charge of the parish. On Dec. 9, 1978 he was ordained at St. Stephen's



Reverend Michael B. Curry (church of week)

On Nov. 5, 1957, the Rev. Thomas Smith, Jr. became Vicar of St. Stephen's and served the congregation for ten years. Plans were projected to build a new church edifice which would include educational and program facilities. Due to urban renewal, these plans did not materialize. However, for three years, the church was permitted to use houses in the neighborhood for many of its proposed activities.

The Rev. Jacob A. Viverette was servant as supply priest when the old church was finally bought and demolished by the Redevelopment Program of Winston-Salem in May, 1968. Worship services were conducted in the chapel of the Hooper Funeral Home.

A service for groundbreaking for the present church at Highland Ave. and 9th St. was held on Dec. 22, 1968. At this time, the Rev. Robert L. Williams, Jr. was serving as supply priest.

On June 6, 1978, after receiving the degree of Master of Divinity from Yale University School of Divinity, the Rev. Michael Bruce Curry joined the congregation as Deacon-in-Charge of the parish. On Dec. 9, 1978 he was ordained at St. Stephen's

by the RT. Rev. John Melville Burgess, retired Bishop of Massachusetts. Rev. Curry then became Priest-in-Charge and later, Rector of St. Stephens.

Many activities and programs have been inaugurated to involve the parish and the community under Curry's direction. Among these are the Oct. preaching mission; the annual Absalom Jones lecture series; the Lenten sea-food dinners and Stations of the Cross. Through the joint efforts of St. Benedict's and St. Stephen's Episcopal churches, a community day camp for girls and boys between the ages of 6 and 10 was organized. The church has also been equipped with most of its literature needs and publishes a quarterly newsletter.

St. Stephen's has been noted as a small but active church. In the past, the

church was headquarters for the civil rights activities of the Congress On Racial Equality.

Present church officers include Marshall B. Bass, S. Edward Alford, Mrs. Hazel B. Scott, Mrs. Olivette H. Bynum, William Gord, and Melton J. Sadler, III. Services are held each Sunday at 11 a.m. Visitors are welcomed to attend.

Women's Day At Goler

On Sunday, September 27, Woman's Day will be observed at Goler Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church, located at 7th Street and Patterson. The women of the church will be in charge of all services beginning with the Sunday School. Mrs. Velma Jackson will be the speaker for the 11:00 a.m. morning worship service.

An all women chorus will present the music under the direction of Mrs. Kathleen M. Hunt. Mrs. Roxie Baxter will preside over the Sunday School Department. A Candlelight Service under the direction of Mrs. Beatrice Kirby will be held at 6:00 p.m. The women of

the Usher Board will serve in this area. The men will support the women in this effort.

WSSU Chaplain To Preach At Dellabrook

On Sunday, September 27, 1981, at 6:30 p.m., the Reverend Cedric Rodney, Chaplain at Winston-Salem State University, will deliver the message for the



Reverend Cedric Rodney

Annual Men's Day Service of the Dellabrook Presbyterian Church, 115 Dellabrook Road. Chaplain Rodney will preach on the topic: "A Time for Choosing." The Men's Choir of the First Baptist Church, Highland Avenue will render the special music for this service of worship.

During the worship, three men of our city will be honored in recognition and appreciation for their meritorious and unselfish service to the church and community. These three

men are: Mr. Andrew David, member of the St. Andrew's Episcopal Church; Mr. John Martin, member of the United Metropolitan Baptist

Church; and Mr. Clarence Nottingham, member of the Dellabrook Presbyterian Church.

Men and women are cordially invited to attend this service. Refreshments will be served after the worship at the reception for the guest preacher and honorees. Please plan to attend.

Revival and Homecoming

Bethlehem A.M.E. Zion Church in Pfafftown will begin a week of Revival Services on Sunday, Oct. 4th. Homecoming will follow.

The Sunday Morning service will be conducted by the pastor, The Reverend Samuel Campbell. At 3 p.m., Dr. Horace C. Walser of Goler Metropolitan

Church will have charge. He will be accompanied by the choir.

Monday evening's service will be conducted by Rev. Robert H. Bailey with New Hope and Double Springs Churches in charge.

Other ministers and their churches are as follows: Rev. James L.E. Hunt and the gospel choir of Goler

Memorial; Wednesday: Rev. E.L. White of Hickory Grove at Clemmons, NC; Thursday: Rev. John L. Bennett of Center Grove Church at Tobacoville; and Friday: Rev. Bobby Smith of Bethania A.M.E. Zion Church. The public is invited to all services. All evening services begin at 7:30 p.m.

An Abstract of the

Sunday School Lesson

By Clara Lawrence



Subject: The Everlasting God

Sept. 27, 1981

Lesson

Scripture

The Supremacy of God..... Isaiah 40:21-23 & 25-28
The Adequacy of God..... Isaiah 40:29-31

Background Scripture...Isa. 40

Lesson Background

Isaiah, one of the greatest Hebrew prophets and author of the book which bears his name, has been called the prince of prophets. His book is special because it includes references concerning the coming messiah and his predictions of coming grace. The book has also been referred to as "The Bible in Miniature" for it has 66 chapters, the same number of chapters found in the Bible; both the book of Isaiah and the Bible have 39 chapters in the first part. (Old Testament considered the first part). The second part of Isaiah covers 27 chapters, and the New Testament also covers 27 chapters.

The fortieth chapter of Isaiah in the first of 16 chapters that speak to Israel in exile. The purpose of which was to rekindle the peoples' faith in God, and to give a message of hope and deliverance from Babylonian captivity.

Verses 12-17 contrast God's absolute supremacy and infinite wisdom with man's limited influence and knowledge. And verses 18-20 refer to the idolatry present in the Jewish community.

Lesson Explained

Isaiah probably realized the Israelites' need to remember the futility of making and worshipping the idol gods of their captors. They had learned the truth about the one true God. And he was amazed at their ignorance of the power of God. He began his prophesy by asking four questions. The first two speak of what was possible; "Will you not know?" Will you not hear?" The last two questions speak of what was actually true; "hath it not been told you from the beginning? Have ye not understood from the foundations of the earth?"

These questions are answered in verses 22 and 23. They give a description of God, and reveal both His works and His person. The prophet pictured God as setting on His throne, high above the circle of the earth, looking down and seeing people as "grasshoppers." His point was to show the folly practicing idolatry.

We're told that God not only controls the earth but He has also dominion over the heavens. And this same God can bring princes and judges to nothing when they misuse their God-given positions. (read Dan. 4:30-32)

Verse 24 (not printed) tells how God will cut off the wicked, and verse 25 echoes verse 18 except that the prophet was speaking, and God is speaking here. Isaiah urged Israel to look above and see that God has created the stars of heaven. His aim was to show them the scope of God's sovereign control. The psalmist also described the greatness of God in a similar fashion. (read Psalm 147:4)

It is believed that Israel had not hidden from God, but they thought that He was no longer concerned for them. So Isaiah charged them with their error of criticism, for God had rescued them many times past, only God did not approve of their sins.

The knowledge of God is spoken of in a forceful declaration of His limitless understanding in verse 28. And verses 29 and 30 spell out the grace of God: to the faint, He gives power, and to the weak, He increases their strength.

Isaiah told the exiles that if they trust God, He would help them whether they fly, run or walk, and they would not tire during their pilgrimage. Note the unusual order of thought expressed here concerning the various rates of speed at which people might go forward. He places them in descending order (fly, run, walk). These verbs illustrate three aspects of the Christian life. This was probably an attempt to convey the thought that God makes allowances for individual abilities.

A Truth To Live By

God's ability stretches beyond the limitations of the earth. All the powers of the universe are under His authority.

Church Calender

Sunday, September 17

● The Young People's Holiness Association of Gospel Tabernacle Church will sponsor a King and Queen Contest at 4:00 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

Friday, September 25

● Saint Peter's Church of God Apostolic, is in the midst of celebrating the 13th anniversary of its pastor, Bishop R.K. Hash. The members of Saint Peter's invites the public to come celebrate such a joyous occasion with them. Services begin at 7:30 nightly.

● The Annual Fall Revival of the Antioch Baptist Church will be held Monday, Sept. 21, through the 25 at 7:30 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

Saturday, September 26

● Saint Andrews United Methodist Church, 1232 Mint Street, will have an Apple Festival at 12:00 noon and continuing until 4:00 p.m. The United Methodist Women, urge you to support this project. Come purchase Christmas gifts in September.

Sunday, September 27

● The Young Adult Department of the Forsyth Missionary Union will meet at 3:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at First Baptist Church. All members are asked to be present.

● "The Traveling Church" gospel crusade will be held at 2:30 p.m. at the Piedmont Circle Community Center. Minister Victor J. Carson is guest speaker.

● Homecoming services will be observed at Mount Carmel Baptist Church, 3230 Heitman Drive. Reverend S.W. Mack and the congregation of Emmanuel Baptist Church will be guests. The service begins at 3:30 p.m. The public is invited to attend. A fellowship dinner will be served at the church at 2:30.

"A Church Where Everybody Is Somebody"

Mercy Seat Holiness Church



Bishop Rice

145 Pinetree Rd

Sunday Worship - 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.

Wednesday - Mid-Week Prayer service

"Come and get your spiritual strength renewed."

25th Anniversary Year

DELLABROOK Presbyterian Church

115 Dellabrook Road
Winston-Salem, N.C.
*Directions - Off Highway 311
South of Winston Lake Road

September 27, 1981, 6:30 p.m.

— Sermon Topic —
"A TIME FOR CHOOSING"
Rev. Cedric Rodney

Rev. Warner Durnell
PASTOR



Happy 13th Anniversary

DR. R.K. HASH

September 26, 1981
7:30 p.m. Honorary Banquet at Holiday Inn
West, W-S, N.C. (sponsored by Pastor's Aid - Sis. Eula Chaplin - M.C.)

ST. PETER'S CHURCH OF GOD APOSTOLIC

1031 Highland Avenue
Winston-Salem, N.C. 27101
PHONE - 722-2285