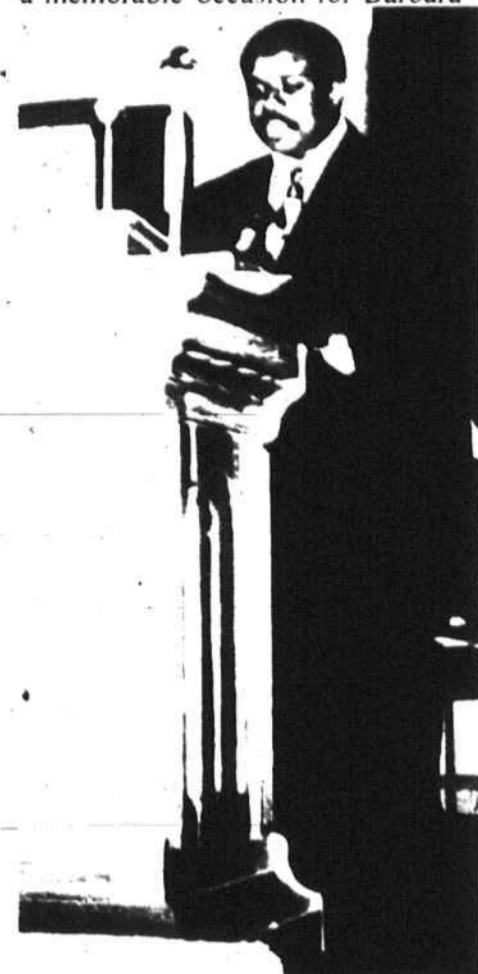


McNeil New Minister at Carmel Baptist Church

On March 7 the Rev. Henry C. McNeil officially became the pastor of Mt. Carmel Baptist Church in Winston-Salem. McNeil and Barbara, his wife of eight years, were the guests of honor at the installation ceremony to welcome McNeil to the church. G.K. Moss of Reidsville Zion Baptist Church delivered the keynote address. The Rev. John Mendez of Emmanuel Baptist Church, gave the charge to McNeil and the Rev. W.C. Hay of Galilee Church gave the prayer of installation.

The installation services were a memorable occasion for Barbara



Henry C. McNeil

and Henry C. McNeil. "I was pleased with the broad participation of ministers, and I was very appreciative to all who made that day possible."

For McNeil, this pastorship installation culminates a journey that began 21 years ago on February 18, 1972, when McNeil was 12 years old. "I was 12 years old when I accepted God's call to become a minister," says McNeil, the Lumberton native. "I did not question the call because I knew even then that I would be used by the Lord to help many people."

At that young age, McNeil received his experience by delivering a five-minute message two Sundays a month at Faith Presbyterian Church in Aberdeen. "On those Sundays, I preached to about 25 young people," says McNeil.

For the next six years, McNeil 33, received invitations from various churches to speak to the youth, and as he got older, his ministry expanded, and he received invitations to speak to the church's general congregation.

"Those six years were a real growing period for me," says McNeil. "I learned a lot about people and about myself."

While handling his very busy preaching schedule, McNeil found time to attend college. He graduated from Sandhill Community College, a two-year community college in Southern Pines, where he received a degree in Human Services Technology. He enrolled in Alderman's Bible College and received a Bachelor of Divinity degree in 1981.

At 19, McNeil pastored his first church, an AME Zion church. The stewards were always older than

me," says McNeil. However, in 1985, he became affiliated with the Baptists and has been with that denomination ever since.

Before coming to Mt. Carmel, McNeil was the pastor of New Ahoskie First Baptist Church in Ahoskie for 3 1/2 years. During that time, 139 people became members of the church. "New Ahoskie first Baptist has the distinction of being the largest missionary Baptist Church in Northeastern North Carolina with a membership of 700 people," says McNeil. "True, the membership was sad about my leaving; however, I felt God has used me there. It was time for me to move on. I wanted to move to a larger city, and I prayed to the Lord to allow that to happen."

"It is interesting to see how the Lord allowed the union of Mt. Carmel and me to materialize. 'It's the way I found out about Mt. Carmel and the way they found about me,'" says McNeil. A fellow preacher advised McNeil of the opening at Mt. Carmel. McNeil preached at the All Baptist State Convention held at the Benton Convention Center in Winston-Salem. Unbeknownst to McNeil, Mt. Carmel members were in the audience; they liked what they heard; they didn't have a pastor; they asked for McNeil's resume; they invited McNeil to preach a trial sermon; and the rest is history.

"I went to Mt. Carmel and received a warm reception," says McNeil. "Mt. Carmel was the type of church that suited my ministry which leans towards the evangelical side. I felt that response from the

people; they were responsive in worship."

Since McNeil has been pastoring at Mt. Carmel, attendance has picked up, and approximately 29 people have become members. However, McNeil believes there are many goals yet to be accomplished at Mt. Carmel.

"I want Mt. Carmel to be what God wants it to be, and to be the best that it can be. I would like to see Mt. Carmel become very community oriented with many outreach programs," says McNeil. Currently, Mt. Carmel wants to implement a daycare program, a food-bank program, a G.E. D. program, a Senior Citizens Ministry and a program for youth development.

McNeil currently reaches out to youth by performing 60 concerts a year at public schools and colleges where he sings contemporary gospel. In addition, he is an active member of the Baptist State convention of North Carolina. He sits on the General Board of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina where he is the youngest pastor serving on the board. He has served on the Evangelism Commit-



Pictured are pastors who assisted in the installation service.

tee of the Baptist State Convention, and was former vice moderator of the West Roanoke Baptist Association.

Pastor McNeil has two honorary doctorates. A doctorate in the Humane Letters from the Tri-County Bible College in Robeson County.

The other is a doctorate of divinity from Alderman Bible College in Keysville, Ga.

"We welcome everyone to

come to Mt. Carmel," says McNeil. "the type of worship we have at Mt. Carmel is a praise-oriented church that loves the word of God...and is the kind of church of people who want to be blessed by the Lord."

The Mt. Carmel schedule is as follows: Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.; Morning Worship, 11 a.m.; Intercessory Prayer: Monday at 7 p.m.; Bible Study, Wednesday 7 p.m.; Youth Christian Discipleship, Thursday 6:30 p.m.; Girls Scout: Tuesday and Wednesday 6:30 p.m.

Smith Pleads Guilty in Stoner Killing

(Editor's note: Because of a technical error, this story did not run in its entirety in last week's issue.)
BY MARK R. MOSS
Chronicle Staff Writer

Mark Anthony Smith, one of four defendants who have been charged with the brutal slaying of Carlos Colon Stoner, pleaded guilty Tuesday and will testify against the other two men who have been implicated in the murder.

Smith, 22, of 1147 W. Academy St. agreed in Forsyth Superior Court to plead guilty to second-degree murder and conspiracy to commit murder.

John Totten, Smith's attorney, said his client also agreed to testify against Ricky Eugene Knight, 28, of 1158 Bank St. and James Andrew Gilbert, 23, of 170 Granville Drive. The fourth defendant, Dwayne Gregory Doby, 22, of 1717 Cone St. agreed in August to testify against the others.

"It was simply in our client's best interest to plead guilty," said Totten, who, along with Nancy Wooten, represents Smith.

Totten said Smith faces up to 50 years on the murder charge and a maximum of 10 years on the conspiracy count. Just how much time Smith actually receives depends upon his testimony in the trial of Gilbert and Knight. Totten said in Tuesday's hearing, Judge Melzer A. Morgan Jr. postponed sentencing until after the resolution of the other trials.

Stoner, an African American, was found dead near Washington Park last May 27. He had a large hole in the left side of his chest and his penis had been stuffed in his mouth. The statement that Smith made to Winston-Salem police officers a day after Stoner's body was found, was admitted into evidence at the hearing. In it, Smith said that after meeting Stoner on Academy Street, they all drove to Washington Park. Stoner was pushed out of the "little red truck" they rode in and was kicked and beaten by all of the defendants. After the beating, Knight and Gilbert proceeded to stab the Stoner, who was lying down.

After the stabbing, Gilbert

threw "his knife away toward the creek," and they left the park. The four of them returned to Smith's neighbor's house, but Smith said he wasn't sure if they all went inside.

Because Smith was drunk, he said he could not give an accurate account of where they went after stabbing Stoner. But he said he remember meeting with the four men later that night. Smith said it was then that he learned that Doby and Knight had returned the scene of the crime about an hour after the incident.

In the statement, Smith relates what Knight told him: "He (Knight) said he stabbed him in his neck, below his ear. Somewhere around his ear and he told me that he'd cut his dick off and stuck it in his mouth."

Smith said Knight told him that he stuck the knife in Stoner's ear and twisted it. According to Smith's statement, Knight said he learned that from "somebody's dad being in Vietnam or something."

Before the group parted, they made a pact not to talk about what had happened.

Elected Officials Seminar to be Held

"Making a Difference in the Fight Against Drug and Alcohol Abuse" will be the topic of the next Elected Officials Seminar scheduled for March 25, at 6 p.m. at the Club House at Tanglewood Park. All elected officials in Forsyth and Davie counties have been invited. Program presenters include Linda Carter, chairperson, Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Coalition on Drug and Alcohol Abuse; Mary Hodgen, president of FIRST; George Sweat, chief of police, Winston-Salem; Nancy Dominique, director of Support Services, Davie County Schools; Bert Wood, president, of Step One Inc.; and Robert Clemmer, principal Carver High School.

The purpose of the Elected Officials Seminar program is to provide an opportunity for all elected officials to meet informally on a regular basis for educational programs, discussion of issues of common concern and social interaction.

The program is initiated by the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service in Forsyth County and Davie County. Financial sponsorship for the March 25 event is provided by the Sara Lee Corporation.

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Kids' Corner

What's up 'round the 'hood?

SATURDAY, MARCH 20

9 a.m. — The YWCA, 1201 Glade St., is holding pre-registration for its 1993 children's summer program, "The Time of Your Life." The program will include field trips, art, drama, swimming, recreation, sports, friends and fun! Registration lasts until 12 p.m. A deposit for one week of the summer program is \$10. For information call Kathy Ausen at 722-5138.

ONGOING

• The 4-H Club of the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service is sponsoring several summer camps and treats for youth. Camps include topics in horsemanship, computers, electricity and new technology, sailing and marine ecology, space, teen issues, wildlife and fish and game, photography. For information call 767-3557.

• The YWCA, 1201 Glade St., has planned some exciting after-school activities for kids to commemorate and explore the importance of women in our community. Every week in March the YWCA will have speakers from many walks of life who will talk with the kids about their contributions and career choices. The sessions are free. Sessions will be held March 22 and 30. For information call Ellen Paine at 722-5138.

• Habitat For Humanity of Forsyth County Inc. is sponsoring a design competition for high school students. From now until April 16, architectural students in the county's eight regular high schools who join the competition will be busy designing a three-bedroom, 900 to 1,100-square-foot house. The best design will

be used by Habitat to build a house as part of its mission to provide affordable housing to low-income families in Winston-Salem and Forsyth County. The competition is voluntary, but students who participate will receive course credit for their work. The three best designs from each school will be submitted by April 16 to a judging committee. The winner will be announced May 3. In addition to having his or her house built, the winner will receive an award and his name will be placed in the house when built. For information, call Kenneth Carlson Jr. at 722-5700.

• The city of Winston-Salem Workforce Development Department is accepting applications for JTPA summer jobs. Interested youth, 16-21 years old (by June 14), may pick up an application at any one of the following locations: high school guidance departments, public libraries, Housing Authority Resource Center, social service department (Carl Russell, old courthouse, downtown), Reynolds Health Center (lobby), Discount Records, and Three Girls Convenience Store. For more information, call 727-8004 or 727-2420. Application deadline is April 30.



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