

# RELIGION

## CALENDAR

### Happening now

#### Vacation Bible School at Zion Memorial

The Vacation Bible School at Zion Memorial Baptist Church will be held June 22 - 26, from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. All ages are invited and refreshments will be served nightly. The theme for this year is "Chosen Champions For Jesus." For further information, contact the church office at 336-725-7390. The pastor is Dr. Joseph Jones.

#### Youth event

The Youth Department of Ambassador Cathedral is presenting Youth Explosion 2009. Events started yesterday and will continue today (June 25) speaker Dr. Kedrick Lowery and Grace Church of Durham at 7 p.m. Friday NiTe LIVE will be June 26 at 7 p.m. with Phillip Watkins, Shatara Edwards, Tyra Dykes and Jason Jowers. The Union Baptist Adult mime team, Calvary Covenant Fellowship Youth Choir will also be special guest. The Sunday Morning Service at 11 a.m. will feature Elder Jarrard Goldsmith. A Worship & Praise Celebration will be held Sunday evening at 6 p.m., featuring the AC Dance Company and many more. For further information, contact Davida Allen at 336-407-2305.

#### Summer Revival

Second Calvary Missionary Baptist Church (1751 New Walkertown Road) Pastor's Aid will have a Summer Revival on June 25 and June 26 at 7 p.m. Dr. Claude Thomas and Genesis Victory Outreach Center Inc. will be the guests. The public is cordially invited.

#### Kemet Academy registration

Emmanuel Baptist Church will host its popular Kemet Academy once more this summer. The Kemet Academy is a youth summer program that is designed to enhance learning, sharing, and development of strong minds and wills. Events will include guest speakers and field trips to sites like the North Carolina Museum of History, the Civil Rights Museum and the Charlotte Hawkins Museum. For more information, contact Emmanuel Baptist Church at 336-788-7023.

#### Summer Breeze Worship Service

Union Baptist Church, 1200 N. Trade St., is offering a 7:30 a.m. worship service from May through August. The Summer Breeze services will be held on Sunday and are designed for those who desire an earlier morning worship experience. Sunday worship services are also held at 8:45 and 11 a.m. For more information, call the church office at 336-724-9305 ext. 223.

#### Beginning June 24

#### AME Zion Conference

The 119th Western North Carolina Annual Conference of the AME Zion Church will be held in Winston-Salem from June 23 - 28 at the Benton Convention Center. This year's conference will be hosted by Goler Memorial AME Zion Church, where the Rev. Dr. Seth O. Lartey is pastor. The conference will feature a variety of vendors who will be on hand from June 24 - 27 from 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. All vending is open to the public.

#### Beginning June 26

#### Church Anniversary

Joy Temple Holiness Apostolic Church, 4823 Old Rural Hall Road, will celebrate its 14th Church Anniversary, June 26 - 28. The speakers on program are: Pastor Mark Mack, June 26, 7:30 p.m.; Bishop Ray Sterling, June 27, at 7:30 p.m.; and Pastor Shirley Johnson, June 28, at 4 p.m. For more information, contact Pastor Allen W. Rice at 336-418-0766, 336-969-4869 or via e-mail, arrun@windstream.net

#### Summer Revival

The House of Faith Outreach Center, 1384 West Sedgefield, will have its Summer Revival on June 26 and June 27 at 7 p.m. and at 5 p.m. on June 28. The church will also have Youth Sunday on June 28 at 11 a.m. Bishop Stephan Jordan is pastor.

#### June 27

"Promise, Price, Prize" Daughters of Zion will present.

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## Grace graduates to be recognized



Walter O'Neil Farabee

### Hampton grad will give keynote speech

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Grace Presbyterian Church, 3901 Carver School Road, will observe Graduate Recognition Sunday on June 28, during the 11 a.m. worship service. The featured speaker will be Walter O'Neil Farabee. He is the son of Walter and Carolyn Farabee, and a recent magna cum laude graduate of Hampton University, where he earned a bache-

lor's of science degree in economics. Graduates who are members of Grace will be recognized and honored during this service. The public is cordially invited to attend. The moderator for this ministry is Thelma Hines. Committee members are Elsie Blackman and Billie Matthews. The pastor of Grace Presbyterian Church is Dr. Samuel Stevenson.



Craig D. Atwood

## ST. JAMES WELCOMES NEW PASTOR AND FIRST FAMILY

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

St. James AME Church has welcomed its new pastor, the Rev. Steven L. Lyons, and first lady, Nikki Lyons. The first couple, who have one son, Joshua, arrived in April.

Licensed to preach in 1999, ordained as an itinerant deacon in 2002 and an itinerant elder in 2004, Rev. Lyons was previously appointed to Allen Chapel of Laurinburg and led that congregation to greater service and Christian witness. During their time there, Allen Chapel grew in membership, programs, outreach and evangelism.

A native of Moore County (Cameron), Lyons spent his formative years in Rocky Mount, NC. He attended Gupton-Jones College of Funeral Service in Atlanta, earning an associate's degree in mortuary science. He has served as a licensed funeral director and embalmer for more than 17 years.

He is a graduate (Summa Cum Laude) of St. Augustine's College and has earned the Master of Divinity Degree from Shaw University Divinity School. Lyons is a member of unity Lodge #64 Free & Accepted Masons of Rocky Mount and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. At the appointment of the Southern Region Vice President of the Fraternity, he serves as the Southern Region Chaplain, which covers the Carolinas and several other states. He is



Pastor and First Lady Lyons with their son, Joshua, left.

chaplain of his local chapter, Phi Lambda of Raleigh.

Nikki W. Lyons is a native of and a cum laude graduate of St. Augustine's College. She is employed by Wake County as a supervisor in the Child Protective Services Division. She is also a proud member of the Raleigh Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. First Lady Lyons recently served as the local Women's Missionary Society (WMS) president at Allen

Chapel, where her husband was previously assigned and is the Martha McCauley WMS Area Leader.

Joshua W. Lyons just completed his second-year at North Carolina Central University, where he is majoring in criminal justice.

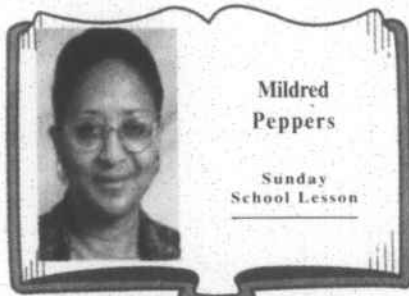
The St. James AME family welcomes their ministry, vision and leadership with love, joy and excitement. The church is located at 1501 North Patterson Ave.

## RELAX, GOD IS BESIDE YOU

Lesson Scripture: Exodus 14: 15-25:30

Lesson Aims: To summarize the Israelites' deliverance; to recognize and appreciate God's protection and deliverance; and to live confidently, knowing that God is on your side.

Background: This child born of Amram (6:20) and Jochebed was saved from the Pharaoh's decree to kill all of the Israelite (Hebrew) boy babies (1:22). Raised as an Egyptian by his Hebrew mother, Moses had the best of both worlds (maybe). His identity with his people eventually



Mildred Peppers

Sunday School Lesson

caused him to flee. Settling in Midian, he married the oldest daughter (Zipporah) of Jethro, the priest. Life was good once again. He was

commissioned by God at the burning bush to lead his people to freedom. After offering numerous excuses, he accepted the Call with his brother, Aaron as his mouthpiece. During that encounter, God told Moses that He would harden the Pharaoh's heart that all may see God's power. Now back in Egypt, things weren't going so well. Moses probably wasn't surprised that Pharaoh didn't recognize God, but he was shocked that the leader would be so cruel to the Israelites. The chronicle of events heightened after the "bricks without

See Lesson on B3



Actors in a scene from the play.

## CHURCH PLAY ASKS, 'IS IT THAT GOOD?'

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The R.I.C.H. Community Development Corporation Drama Ministry of Holy Trinity FGBC recently staged the production, "Is It That Good?" at Carver High School.

This drama depicts the highs, lows, troubles and temptations of the well-known pastor of a developing church. Pastor Kevin Griffin is involved in an extramarital affair with an ex-prostitute with a vindictive pimp.

While entertaining, the production strives to address real-life issues and struggles faced by people everyday and to leave audiences with positive themes of hope and faith. Several members of Holy Trinity FGBC shined as actors in the production. They included Minister Darrell Jeter, Toni Jeter, Deacon Rick Howell, Latoya Stevenson, Aquilla Miller and Akeem Howell. The production is the brainchild of Minister Shelba Jeter.

## Union to offer training, degrees through Apex School

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Durham-based Apex School of Theology will offer degrees through a satellite location at Union Baptist Church,

where Pastor Dr. Sir Walter Lee Mack Jr. will serve as dean and Dr. Eric Greaux, an assistant professor of religion at Winston-Salem State University, will serve as a program and academic consultant. The purpose is to promote God's Kingdom by offering quality theological education and training to students committed to Christian service.

The Apex School of Theology at Union Baptist Church recognizes that students' reasons for obtaining theological education and training vary. Some students will take classes for Biblical enrichment; others will take classes to sharpen their skills for local ministry, and some students will enroll in order to obtain a higher degree that can be used in full-



Dr. Eric Greaux with Dr. Sir Walter Lee Mack Jr.

See Union on B3