

RELIGION

Dr. Mack to deliver next Gray Lecture

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The Rev. Dr. Sir Walter L. Mack Jr., pastor of Union Baptist Church in Winston-Salem, will be the final speaker in the 2010-2011 James A. Gray Lecture Series at Winston-Salem State University.

The presentation will be on "Facing the Post-Modern Challenge of Preserving Our Story" at 4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 30 in the K. R. Williams Auditorium on the WSSU campus. Dr. Roy Belfield, Jr., assistant professor of music at WSSU, will provide an organ prelude beginning at 3:45 p.m. and the Union Baptist Church Choir and the UBC Steppers will perform during the program. The event is free and open to the public.

"We attempt to build on the synergy of ongoing conversations on the role of religion and ethics in 21st Century America by bringing outstanding speakers in academia, public life, theology or some combination of those areas to the WSSU campus and to this community," said Dr. Cedric S. Rodney, program coordinator and the James A. Gray Distinguished Professor of Religion and Ethics at Winston-Salem State. "While we seek speakers who will provide an interesting and thought provoking presentation, we also strive to focus on topics that will generate discussion about some of the greatest challenges facing the world today."

Mack has led Union Baptist Church from a congregation of 300 to more than



Rev. Dr. Sir Walter L. Mack Jr. is pastor of Union Baptist.

4,200 members. Additionally, he has led the church in creating a variety of programs to serve the community, including the renovation of an apartment complex, the development of Union Urban Ministries to provide basic necessities for the homeless

and the Unity Prayer Gathering, which garnered support from hundreds of churches of various denominations, races and cultures in Winston-Salem. Mack also created a drug dealers' conference that brought in hundreds

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Marvin Sapp was the big winner.

Gospel's brightest honored

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Marvin Sapp topped the list of winners during the 26th Annual Stellar Gospel Music Awards, which were held last Saturday night at Nashville, Tenn.'s iconic Grand Ole Opry House Theater.

Sapp took home four awards, including Artist of the Year, Traditional Male of the Year, CD of the Year and Traditional CD of the Year. A highlight of the evening was his emotion-filled finale performance of his biggest hit "Never Would Have Made It." He performed the song with Donnie McClurkin and dedicated it to his recently-deceased wife, Dr. Malinda P. Sapp.

"It's great to be honored by your peers, and you do your best to give honor and glory to God," said Sapp. "But it's bittersweet with my wife not here with me."

Other top winners included James Fortune & FIYA, who received two awards for Group/Duo of the Year and Contemporary CD of the Year; Bebe & Cece Winans, who received the Urban Inspirational Single or Performance of the Year and Music Video of the Year awards. Bebe Winans also received the Song of the Year award, while CeCe Winans was named Contemporary Female of the Year.

Karen Clark Sheard received the first-ever Albertina Walker Female Vocalist of the Year award, presented to her by legends Shirley Caesar and Vickie Winans. In addition, Kristina Halloway won the hotly-contested Best New Artist category.

Gospel superstar Kirk Franklin was honored with the Thomas A. Dorsey Most Notable Achievement Award for his Haitian relief efforts. He was moved to tears during an all-star tribute of the song he wrote to benefit disaster victims, "Are You Listening: A Love Song for Haiti" by his friends and colleagues.

The show also recognized the great accomplishments of some of Gospel's brightest stars as Donald Lawrence received the James Cleveland Lifetime Achievement Award and Vanessa Bell Armstrong received the Ambassador Dr. Bobby Jones Legends Award. Both were lauded for their significant contributions to Gospel music and for setting the bar for future generations of artists.



Franklin

CALENDAR

Happening Now

New location

The Seed Worship Center has moved to a new location - 1530 Martin St., Suite 208. Martin Street is between Miller and Ebert streets, off of Silas Creek Parkway. The pastor is Dr. Brenda M. Rowdy.

Day Shelter open

The Ordered by God Outreach Center Day Shelter, located at 112 Northwest Blvd., is now open. This week, it is open from 12 - 3 p.m. from Tuesday through Friday. For more information, call Prophetess Patterson at 336-986-7725.

Jan. 29

Zumba classes

Revelation Outreach Center is sponsoring Zumba fitness classes on Saturday, Jan. 29 in the gym of Mineral Springs Elementary School, 4527 Ogburn Ave. There will be classes at 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. Admission is \$5 and there will be drawings for prizes at each class.

Jan. 30

Family and Friends Day

The Pilgrim Rest Missionary Baptist Church, 1905 N. Jackson Ave., will have its first quarterly Missionary and Family and Friends Day of the year on Sunday, Jan. 30 at 11 a.m. Pastor Paul Hart will deliver the Word.

'No More Boundaries' service

St. Peter's Church and World Outreach Center, 3683 Old Lexington Rd., will hold its "No More Boundaries - Miracle Healing & Deliverance Service" on Sunday, Jan. 30 at both 8 and 10 a.m. Dr. James C. and Mrs. Joyce Hash are the host pastors. For more information, call the church at 336-650-0200 or visit www.spwoc.com.

Faith Unity's 5th Anniversary

Faith Unity Missionary Church will celebrate its 5th church anniversary on Sunday, Jan. 30 during the 11 a.m. worship service.



Pastor Williams

Everyone is cordially invited. The church is located in the chapel of the Masonic Lodge Prince Hall at 1025 E. 14th St. Pastor Nathaniel P. J.

Williams Jr. and Associate Pastor Wanda H. Williams lead Faith Unity. Contact the church at 336-771-0023 or faithunitymc@yahoo.com.

Spiritual Renewal at Shiloh

Shiloh Baptist Church, 916 E 12th St., will hold its first missionary program of 2011, "Spiritual Renewal - Reconnecting Back to the True Vine," on Sunday, Jan. 30 at 3 p.m. Associate Minister Mitchell R. Harris will be the guest speaker. Dr. Paul A. Lowe Jr. is the pastor. Everyone is invited to attend. For more information, contact Elmerette Irby at 336-414-8552.

Beginning Feb. 3

Prophetic Breakthrough Revival

Salvation & Praise Cathedral, 405 Salisbury St. in Kernersville, will have its Prophetic Breakthrough Revival, featuring Prophet Edgar White and Prophet Vndre Williams, from Feb. 3-6 at 7 p.m. each night. The host pastor is Ellen Hunt. For more information, call 336-287-2984.

Feb. 6

KidZone Super Bowl Bash

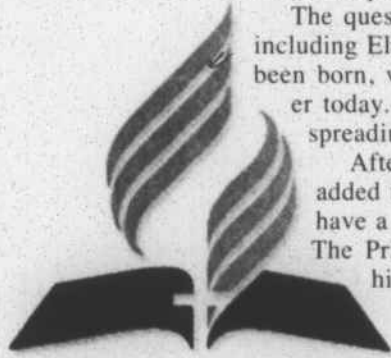
St. Peter's Church and World Outreach Center, 3683 Old Lexington Rd., will have a KidZone Super Bowl Bash for kids in grades 1st - 5th on Sunday, Feb. 6 at 10 a.m. There will be character-building exercises, ESPN Sports Talk, sports chal-

See Calendar on B5

CHURCH PONDERERS A QUESTION ABOUT JESUS

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

On the Sabbath morning of Dec. 25, 2010, Ephesus Seventh Day Adventist Church family asked the question, "What if Jesus had not been born?"



SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

The question was answered by a number of members, including Elder Bravette Lyles, who stated, "If Jesus had not been born, we would not have joy and love for one another today. Jesus wants us all to be missionaries today in spreading the good news."

After sharing a personal testimony, Elder Paulette added that, "If Christ had not been born, we would not have a healer today. His name is Wonderful Counselor! The Prince of Peace, and Healer of the Land, I know him as a healer."

"If Christ had not been born Hmmm, that's a horrific thought," stated Hazelina Johnson as she approached the podium to speak. "If Christ had not been born, who would hear man's cry for help? Who would be our Salvation?"

Elder Don Wood says followers should celebrate the fact that Jesus was indeed born in their everyday actions.

"Praise God that Jesus was born," said Wood. "Not by just demonstration of emotions but by the way we live our lives should be of continued praises for His life and death."

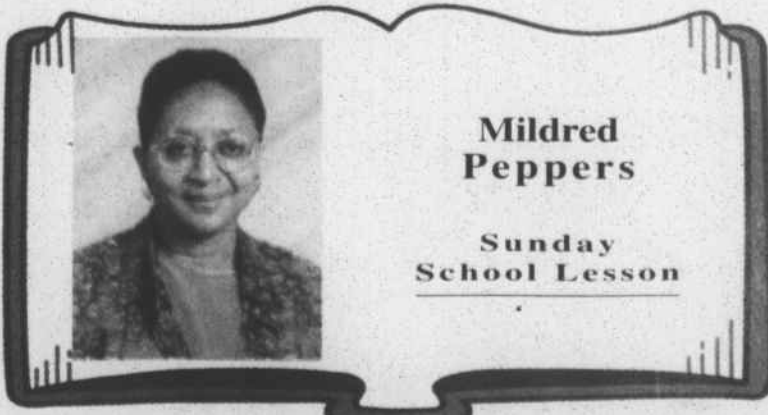
The Sabbath Day service ended with a performance of the Hallelujah Chorus, directed by Thomas Fulton Jr., with Jimmy Brown as pianist.

The Gift of Salvation

Lesson Scripture: Isaiah 53

Lesson Aims: To explain the Servant's mission; to reflect on His suffering; and to always be thankful for salvation.

Background: Our lesson today comes from the fourth and longest of the Servant Songs. They basically summarize chapters 40-66 of Isaiah. Quoted more frequently in the New Testament than any other passage, Isaiah 53 is referred to as the "Gospel" in the Old Testament (Zondervon's NIV Study Bible). The Ethiopian eunuch was studying a portion of this song when Philip appeared to explain it (Acts 8: 26-40). As we study Deutero-Isaiah (chapters 44-66), we must keep in mind that the prophet is



telling what will happen after the captivity ends. Judah at that time had not been captured by Babylon. God promised His chosen people a servant who would put them back in right relationship with Him. The

prophet brought stinging words of judgment upon the people in chapters 1-39. After doing so, he brought words of comfort. The Servant Songs describe what God's Servant - humanity's Saviour,

would be doing and His rejection. All people in that region view blood as the equivalent of life. In the Old Testament, the Israelites were saved during the tenth plague because lamb's blood was on their doorposts. After the Law was given, the priests were charged to use two goats on the Day of Atonement. Read Leviticus 16 for more details. Hebrews 9:22 says that "without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness." Jews understand this very well.

Lesson: The description of the Servant of God (for this song) begins in 52:13-15. Messiah will reign wisely. He will be exalted, even though the nations (except Israel) had no warning. Israel must

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