

## Students Entertain Senior Citizens

Submitted Photo

Fifth graders from the Carter G. Woodson School recently treated participants of the Mt. Zion Senior Life program to a medley of beautiful Christmas songs and spirituals. The students also presented gifts to the seniors and program director Clarice Rynes. During the summer, Mt. Zion Senior Life seniors visited Carter G. Woodson to take part in the birthday celebration of Rev. Lee Faye Mack, who is better known as "Mother Mack." Mack is a Mt. Zion Senior Life senior and the mother of Carter G. Woodson School Founder Hazel Mack. School and program officials say that both events were special to the students and the seniors.



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## Fulbright Scholar teaching Swahili at Bennett College

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

On any given day, Anna Mbise can be found in a Bennett College classroom either teaching or taking notes.

A Fulbright Scholar, Mbise hails from Tanzania, a nation in East Africa. Selected to teach Swahili at an American institution, she is also required to take four classes at the host college within a 10 month period. Besides teaching two classes this semester, Mbise is also taking a social work course and elementary French.

With a passion for linguistics, Mbise hopes to learn as many languages as possible. She is currently fluent in English, Swahili and a few local languages of her native country, which is home to hundreds of tribal languages.

"The late president (Tanzanian) JK Nyerere, who was also called Baba wa Taifa (Father of the Nation), did something that was so good. He said we are going to use Swahili as the language that will unify all of us Tanzanians. Language has the power to do that, the power to unify us all," she



Anna Mbise is a Fulbright Scholar.

said.

Even after these short months, Mbise feels like a member of the Bennett family.

"People are just so nice on this campus. I have very good professors and very welcoming students. Also, the global studies area has been so good about taking care of me and my needs," she added.

For students like Justine Ryan, Bennett's newest course was welcome with open arms.

"I'm really glad that Swahili was made available because it offers a new perspective of learning. Since it's not a commonly taught language, it makes me feel unique and like I stand out from the crowd of other language learners," she said. "Overall, it's been a really good experience. [Ms. Mbise] is very knowledgeable and makes what I thought would be a difficult language, easy to learn."

Even though being a

good instructor is high on the priority list for Mbise, she realizes there has to be an even balance in the life of a teacher and a student.

"I have to be sure I get good grades in my classes while also giving time to be there for my students. A Fulbright Scholar is a Fulbright Scholar for the rest of time. I must do well to represent the program and myself," she said.

Before coming to Bennett, Mbise was required to attend a one-week summer orientation that introduced how to teach in United States colleges. This December, all of the international Fulbright instructors will meet at a conference in Washington, DC.

Mbise holds her bachelors in political science and language studies from the University of Dar es Salaam in Tanzania. She is currently working on her masters in development management. She aspires to complete her doctorate in gender studies.

### Calendar

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Wednesday, Dec. 12 at 4 p.m. On Dec. 20, the library will host a teen craft project at 4 p.m. Call 336-703-2940 for more information.

#### Book Release at Gateway Y

The book release for Elder Kendra Davis' "Rivers of Life" will be on Saturday, Dec. 15 at the Gateway YWCA from 2-4 p.m.

#### NAACP "WIN" Luncheon

The NAACP "WIN"

Luncheon will be on Saturday, Dec. 15, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Quality Inn, 531 Akron Drive. The keynote speaker will be Joyce McCarter, Co-Pastor of Greater Cleveland Avenue Christian Church. Call Wayne Patterson at 336-714-8858 for more information.

#### Holiday Concert

The Salem Band will present its annual free Holiday Concert on Tuesday, Dec. 18 at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary of Home Moravian Church, 529 S. Church St. in Old

Salem. An offering will be taken for Sunnyside Ministry. Call 336-413-2180 or email eileenyoung@triad.rr.com for more information.

#### Foster Care, Adoption Open House

There will be a free Foster Care and Adoption Informational Open House for interested adults on Thursday, Jan. 10 and Tuesday, Feb. 4 at The Children's Home, 1001 Reynolda Rd., from 5-6:30 p.m. Reservations are requested by calling Marc Crouse at 336-721-7652 or emailing him at mcrouse@tchome.org.

### Peppers

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church in Ephesus had a problem with this growth. This encouraging letter reminds both groups (Jews and Gentiles) how their transformation took place.

Paul wanted them to understand that they had to experience a different view of life before recognizing they were "dead to sin." A good example would be when an addict recognizes the addiction and then does something about it. Everyone else could see the problem but until that person sees it, nothing happens. This experience could come in isolation or in a group. The revelation is the first step. Others become a support system but only the Holy Spirit can empower the efforts to change. Believers are where they are because of God's grace and mercy. Salvation comes through faith alone; not obedience to the Law or doing good works. Salvation is a gift from God! A deep sense of gratitude swells inside,

resulting in praises to Him.

**Lesson:** Paul calls the converted Gentiles to remember when they were outsiders. His words also conjure up the past for the Jews as well. It is important that they acknowledge where they were before Salvation as compared to now. An outward show (the Jews) means nothing to God if the heart hasn't changed. His love for all is shown by sending Jesus to redeem humanity. Because of Jesus, the barriers no longer exist. Everyone has equal access to the Father.

All human divisions (attitudes, cultures, decrees, races, gender and enmities) are no longer valid reasons to exclude those who are different. The Christ brings unity with each other and with God. This is the fruit of the cross! It did what no other power could do. Therefore the cross shouldn't be taken lightly. Paul concludes with the notion that the foreigners, aliens or outsiders, and the privileged,

chosen or elite are made one in Jesus the Christ.

**Application:** Unity means being on one accord; having the same goals; having like minds. There can be a difference of opinion but the aim remains the same. Unity in the body brings to mind an old hymn by Samuel J. Stone (1834-1900) that says: "The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord. She is His new creation by water and the Word; from heav'n He came and sought her to be His holy bride. With His own blood He bought her, and for her life He died."

All of us at one time or another have been on the outside of acceptable. We were either full of ourselves or thought very little of ourselves. God's grace and mercy fixed it to include all people if only they'd believe! That unity (love) should be greater than any force on this Earth. Examine the "man in the mirror" to determine if you are inclusive. Always remember that God does the separating, not us!

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# SALEM CHRISTMAS

December 8, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

A full day of fun for the whole family:  
puppet shows, hearthside cooking, wagon rides, holiday crafts and more! At 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. don't miss a Soulful Christmas, Christmas carols with a Motown sound, in St. Philips African Moravian Church.

