

# RELIGION

## CALENDAR

### Today

**Faith in Action Care Program**  
Drea Parker and Linda Lewis of the Faith in Action Care Program from The Shepherd's Center of Greater Winston-Salem will share information about services for older adults and opportunities for joining with The Shepherd's Center in assisting with needs in the Rural Hall area on Thursday, Jan. 29 from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Learn more about opportunities in the Rural Hall area. Contact Robin Shamel at 336-969-0411 to sign up by Jan. 26 so the group can plan accordingly for lunch that day.

### Feb. 1

**Faith building**  
The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 4055 Robinhood Road, will hear the Rev. Lisa Schwartz speak on "Building a Twenty-First Century Faith" at 9 and 11 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 1. At the 9:15 a.m. forum, Norma Jean

Wilkes will present a talk titled "Brain Storms: One Woman's Struggle With Bipolar Disorder." The topic at the 9:30 a.m. Sunday School for adults will be "The Evolutionary Basis of Morality," led by Paul Decker. Visitors are welcomed. More information is at [www.uufws.org](http://www.uufws.org).

**Super Bowl party**  
The Rich CDC Males Program will host an evening of food, fun and fellowship on Super Bowl Sunday, Feb. 1, at 6 p.m. at Holy Trinity Full Gospel Fellowship Center, 5307 Peters Creek Parkway. The public is invited. For more information, call the office at 336-784-9347.

### Starting Feb. 7

**Grant-writing workshop**  
The Love Community Development Corp., 3980 North Liberty St., will sponsor a free grant-writing workshop from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Feb. 7, and Saturday, Feb. 14. Dr. Dorothy Yarborough, vice chairwoman of the Board of Commissioners in Burlington, will be the facilitator. "The Grant Writing Process" workshop will provide any schools, faith-based organizations, non-profit agencies or community groups with the tools necessary to successfully compete for grant funds. Register at 336-306-8119 or email: [lovecenter45@yahoo.com](mailto:lovecenter45@yahoo.com).

### Starting Feb. 11

**Reality challenges**  
Holy Trinity Full Gospel Fellowship Center, 5307 Peters Creek Parkway, invites you to attend the open forum of WOW Wednesday's called "What's Your Reality Challenge" every second and fourth Wednesday (Feb. 11th and 25) at 7 p.m. The service is an open forum for people of all ages who have questions about reality challenges. Questions and answers will be shared with those who are seeking knowledge on how to handle day-to-day events that sometimes go unanswered. No question is too big or small to ask. The public is invited. For more information, call the church office at 336-784-9347.

### Feb. 14

**Extravaganza**  
Mt. Olive Baptist Church, 1301 C. E. Gray Drive, where the pastor is Dr. Charles E. Gray, will host an Extravaganza on Saturday, Feb. 14 from 4 to 7 p.m. Food, fun games, Christian Comedy featuring Rev. Clee and Christian fellowship will be provided. The cost is \$15 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. "The Greatest Gift of all is Love" (1

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## 'Showcase of Song' slated for Feb. 3

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

In celebration and honor of Black History Month, the Human Relations Commission will hold its 3rd annual "Showcase of Song: An African-American Cultural Celebration," Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2015, at 6:30 p.m. at the Benton Convention Center.

The event will include secular and non-secular musical performances (choirs and instrumentals performing hymnals and spirituals) that illustrate the link between the African culture and modern-day African-American culture.

Slated to perform are the Downtown School Drumming Squad, Kidane Mehret Ethiopian Orthodox Church of the Triad, James H. Diggs Heritage Choir, Parkland High School Ensemble, The Light Gospel Choir and Gospel Dance, Wake Forest University Gospel Choir, and the Greater Cleveland Avenue Christian Church.



City of W-S Photo

For more information call CityLink 311.

Youth from the Kidane Mehret Ethiopian Orthodox Church of the Triad perform at last year's event.



Schwartz



WFU Photo

President Nathan O. Hatch speaks at a school event last year.

## Panel to discuss Wake Forest president's book

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

A quarter century after it was published, scholars are still talking about the award-winning book, "The Democratization of American Christianity," written by Wake Forest University President Nathan O. Hatch.

To mark the book's 25th anniversary, Wake Forest will host a half-day symposium Friday, Feb. 6 featuring seven of the country's most distinguished scholars of early American religion reflecting on the influence of the book.

The event will run from noon to 4:30 p.m. in Farrell Hall's Broyhill Auditorium and is free and open to the public. Registration is not required.

Described as one of the three most significant books on American Christianity in the last century, President Hatch's book argues that the empowerment of ordinary people wrought by the American Revolution has been as central to the history of American religion as it has been to American political history.

"People often ask why America is so much more 'religious' than her Western European counterparts," said Jay Ford, professor and chair of Wake Forest's religion department and one of the organizers of the symposium. "Dr. Hatch's book

remains significant because it uncovers the very seeds, planted in the early republic, to the rich vibrancy of American Christianity still evident today."

After a welcome and introduction, two discussions led by a panel of distinguished scholars will address the influence and impact of "The Democratization of American Christianity" and highlight more recent scholarship and critical assessments of the book. The event will conclude with a response from President Hatch.

The following professors will participate: Catherine Brekus, Charles Warren Professor of the History of Religion in America at Harvard Divinity School; Sylvester Johnson, Associate Professor of African-American Studies and Religious Studies at Northwestern University; Mark Noll, Francis A. McAnaney Professor of History at University of Notre Dame; Seth Perry, Assistant Professor of Religion at Princeton University; Amanda Porterfield, Robert A. Spivey Professor of Religion at Florida State University; Harry Stout, Jonathan Edwards Professor of American Christianity at Yale University; and Grant Wacker, Gilbert T. Rowe Professor of Christian History at Duke Divinity School.



Johnson



Damon

## Damon president of ministers' spouses group

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The Interdenominational Ministers' Wives and Ministers' Widows of Winston-Salem and Vicinity has elected Shirley Woodard Damon as its new president.

Damon graduated from Livingstone College with a BA degree in music and has taught in eastern North Carolina and in the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County School System. She served as director of music of the Western Carolina Annual Conference of A.M.E. Zion for 16 years.

Damon has been a member of the local Interdenominational Ministers' Wives and Ministers' Widows' chapter for a number of years, bringing forth much teaching and knowledge to the sisterhood. She serves as instructor of Hymnology in the organization's North Carolina State Association. She served as president of the local wives some years ago; so, she is no stranger.

The local wives will meet at St. Mark Baptist Church, 1100 Manly St., on Tuesday, Feb. 3 at 7 p.m.

Membership is open to all wives and widows of pastors, ministers and evangelists. The chapter is interdenominational and linked with the state, national and international organizations.

## Devotion to God

**Lesson Scripture:** Daniel 1:5, 8-17; Matthew 6:16-18

**By the end of this lesson, we should**

- Understand that prayer, fasting and discipline strengthens our faithfulness
- Recognize that the world wants to control us
- Live the love of Christ as a lifestyle and not a show

**Background:** Our background today is very familiar. After warning Judah (southern kingdom) many times to repent, God sent His judgment. The Assyrians who conquered Israel (northern kingdom) in 722 BC were no longer in power. It was the Babylonians (Chaldeans) that every nation feared. They invaded Judah three times



(605, 597, and 586 BC). As a result of the first invasion, Nebuchadnezzar took treasures from the palace and the Temple (II Kings 24:13) along with the royal male youths back to Babylon. Those young men were to be indoctrinated into Babylonian culture to serve the king. While the

Captivity was God's punishment, most of their experiences were not characterized by extreme suffering.

**Lesson:** The young male deportees are to be molded into "good" Babylonian citizens. Daniel and the three Hebrew boys' names are changed initially. Their new names are Belteshazzar, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. See Daniel 1:6, 7. The others' names are changed as well. Step one is accomplished because this action begins to erase your identity. Now for the next three years, the young captives will be fed from the king's table - the best of everything! Daniel (knowing the Law) speaks to the eunuch over them requesting a diet of pulse and water. Fearful for his

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