

# The former Winston-Salem school holds 42nd founding reunion

Sister Clara Muhammad Elementary and Secondary School alumni gather in Winston-Salem

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Sister Clara Muhammad Elementary and Secondary School (SCMS), 1500 Harriet Tubman Drive, operated in Winston-Salem from January 1973 to June 1988.

On May 23, for the first time in 42 years, former teachers, principals, the founding director, parents, the now adult students and their children and even their children's children converged on the Carl H. Russell Community Center to honor the 42nd Founding of the Winston-Salem Sister Clara Muhammad School.

Nearly 100 attended, coming from near and far. Though everyone had aged as the years have gone by, the sheer presence of so many was a rallying indication that the courageous, determined, and committed spirit that founded the school had not diminished, organizers said. They said that it was evident that what is right and good seeks its own level and is redirected for posterity.

As a result, another gathering is being considered for the very near future. There were others that were not able to come the first time but are excited about the next time. Over the 15-year period, annual enrollment at the school ranged from 15 to a high of 62 students of both Muslim and Christian faiths.

The school had an accelerated curriculum was designed for a student who entered at 3½ years old to complete pre-kindergarten through high school at SCMS and graduate in 11 years. The school operated year-round. Though the school was co-ed, in the early years male students attended in the morning and female students attended in the afternoon.

Families paid a modest tuition payment for each child;

other financial support was obtained strictly from the charitable efforts and support of the believers and friends of the sponsoring Masjid Al Muminum of Winston-Salem.

There were six high school graduation ceremonies, namely Classes of 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1984, and 1985. Graduates attended and or graduated with undergraduate degrees from Bennett College, N.C. A&T State University, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and University of North Carolina at Greensboro; some went on to obtain graduate degrees.

The school was directed by Imam Irvin Shakir (spiritual leader), from 1973-1988. School principals were Sister Gail McCarthy (Jan. 1973-Spring 1974); Sister Kathann El-Amin (1974-1979) and Sister Judy Rashid (1979-1988).

Instruction was given by the director, principals and teachers Imam Denard El-Amin, Brother David and Sis. Betty Muhammad, Brother Donnie Hilliard, Sister Maryum Karim, Sister Betty Hasan, and Sister Rasheeda Fareed.

Volunteer teachers were Sister Jennifer (El-Amin), Sister Gertrude Umrani, Brother William Slade, Sister Gail Anderson, Sister Armeda Hummings, Sister Angela Saleem, Brother Leonard Abdullah, Sister Wylene Hameed and, Sister Khaliah Hasan. All fulltime teachers and many of the volunteers were college graduates.

In a statement, organizers said: "Former parents, former students and former administration are indebted to the Winston Salem Community who helped us establish a legacy of excellent private education for 15 years. Let us give thanks and pray for one another. Stay tuned until we meet again, by the permission of Almighty God."

**Dr. J. Sadler, DDS**

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M.Y.P.U ..... 6:30 p.m.

**Wednesday Services**

Prayer & Bible Study ..... 7:30 p.m.

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## Breakfast

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applaud Carpenter for his work on a program that is working to remove the question regarding past arrests from applications.

"That is one program that I am totally behind," said Hartfield. "I am glad that is one program that Reverend Carpenter is pushing for."

Linda Sutton, field organizer for Democracy N.C., has been active in the Winston-Salem community

since the early 1970s. Sutton is a cofounder of the Winston-Salem Voting Rights Coalition, a non-profit organization that registers voters and promote programs such as early voting.

Hartsfield praised Sutton for her many accomplishments and said they had grown to become like family over the years.

After accepting his award for community service, Carpenter said he remembers his mother bringing him to prayer

breakfasts when he was a kid, and that it was an honor to be receiving the award.

"As a kid, my mother would drag me to these events on Saturday mornings," laughed Carpenter. "Knowing how much these events and community service meant to her makes this award very special."

Jamezeanna Sudler said the local branch of Church Women United will continue to fight for human rights in Winston-Salem.

During the celebration

a donation was collected for the Church Women United national branch.

## St. James

from page B5

parents exposed him to a wealth of music as a child, all of which influenced his development.

Also performing will be comedian Minister Will "EJ" Furches.

Donations are \$40 in advance and \$45 at the door. Dinner is included. Seating is limited.

Contact Myrna D.

Williams (336-923-5881) or Kimberly Howard-Green (336-995-8061) for further information. The Rev. Steven L. Lyons is the pastor. The public is invited to attend.

## Religion

from page B5

lunch will be offered. The public is cordially invited to attend. The Rev. Dr. Linda Beal is the host pastor. For more information contact Tracee Spears at 336-429-0512, or Deacon Beal at 336-528-3256.

### Food and Pantry Clothes Closet

Every second Saturday of each month from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Calvary Hill Church of Greater Deliverance Inc. invites anyone who is in need of food and clothes. The Food Pantry and Clothes Closet is at 4951 Manning St. Direct all question to Missionary Tammy Orr at 336-744-3012.

### Monthly Service

Join Calvary Hill Church of Greater Deliverance Inc. from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. on the fourth

Tuesday of each month at the Bethesda Center, 930 North Patterson Ave., providing hope through teaching and preaching presented by Calvary Hill's ministerial staff. For more information contact the church at 336-744-3012.

### Men Helping Men

All men young and old are invited to fellowship with Calvary Hill Church of Greater Deliverance Inc., 4951 Manning St., during Men Helping Men Be Men every Tuesday from 6:30 to 8 p.m. For more information, contact 336-744-3012.

We appreciate your religious news. Will you help us to process your news more efficiently?

Please give us complete information about the event, such as the sponsor and address, date, time and place of the event and contact information so that the

public can contact someone for more information if needed.

We ask that items be sent in document form in an email or Word or PDF attachment. We ask that photos be sent as attachments to emails and that they are jpegs at least 4 inches wide by 6 inches deep rather than sent on documents.

Starting the week of May 10, the deadline to have all calendar items in to the newsroom will be 11:59 p.m. Sunday for that week's paper.

Send your calendar items to [news@wschronicle.com](mailto:news@wschronicle.com). You can also drop them off, Monday through Friday before 5 p.m., or mail your items to Winston-Salem Chronicle, 617 N. Liberty St., Winston-Salem, NC 27101; or send them via our website, [www.wschronicle.com](http://www.wschronicle.com).

## Peppers

from page B5

Pharisees - thought that killing the rebel Jesus would solve all of their authority issues. They honestly believed that crucifying Him would scare His followers into silence. The reverse happened on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2)! Not only did that event empower Jesus' followers but His teachings were spread throughout the Mediterranean World. Instead of cowering down to the powers that be, the Spirit made the apostles bold while more and more converts were being added to the movement. The Sadducees and Pharisees watched the growth of the movement; something had to be done. After Peter and John healed a cripple man (Acts 3), the Sanhedrin (Jewish court) took action. Both apostles were

detained overnight to be questioned the morning. The court couldn't deny the healing. Peter's bold response to their questions (Acts 4:1-17) led them to forbid the apostles from uttering the name of Jesus. They two were released.

**Lesson:** They return to their people, probably the 120 (Acts 1:15) in the upper room. Reporting what had just happened, they immediately begin to pray. The prayer in verses 24-30 is often called the "Believer's Prayer". The prayer begins by acknowledging the hostility that comes with a new leader (Psalm 2:1-2). The powers that be, the Sanhedrin and Rome, have decided to end this reign quickly. Like David's opposition, God wouldn't allow it. Those in the upper room prayed for God to intervene in the current face of threats and

bless them with boldness to carry out their mission (Matthew 28: 18-20). When the prayer ended, they are filled with the Spirit and continue to preach with boldness in the name of Jesus.

### Life's Application:

The power of prayer is amazing! When individuals and/or groups call on God for help, He shows up. Those who are one accord praying sincerely, the Spirit empowers them. That empowerment looks different depending on the various situations. It could be boldness to speak and act; calm in the midst of storms; or courage in the face of opposition. Prayer is power! It is individual as well as communal addressing the needs of the entire community. Let's continue to pray for others that God will use them in a mighty way!

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(Normal hours: Monday evenings 7:00 - 8:30 pm)

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Chapel in Building A lower level

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