

RELIGION

CALENDAR

Beginning Nov. 8

Pastoral and church anniversary

Greater St. Luke Church of the Apostolic Faith, Inc., is having its 13th annual pastoral and church anniversary beginning Sunday, Nov. 8 through Sunday, Nov. 15. At 3796 S. Main St. Service will be at 7:30 p.m. nightly, except for Nov. 8, which will be at 4 p.m., and Nov. 15, which will be at 11 a.m. The theme this year will be "Obey the Man of God in Your Life: Hebrew 13:17". All are invited to attend. For more information, call 336-788-4381, or email greater_stluke@yahoo.com

Nov. 8

Steward's Chapel Day

Steward's Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church, 198 Anderson Road, Rural Hall, will have its Steward's Chapel Day program on Sunday, Nov. 8 at 3 p.m. Rev. Dr. Tyrone K. Rigsby, pastor of Center Grove A.M.E. Zion Church, Tobaccoville, will be the guest speaker.

Rev. William Speas is the host pastor. For more information, call 336-969-2711.

Nov. 8

"Religion without Creed"

The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Winston-Salem, located at 4055 Robinhood Road, will have its service entitled "Religion without Creed", delivered by Rev. Lisa Schwartz on Sunday, Nov. 8 at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. At the 9:15 a.m. forum, Earl Scott will review "The New Jim Crow" by Michelle Alexander. For more information, visit uufws.org.

Nov. 8

Anniversary and Promoter's program

The Effort Club of New Bethel Baptist Church will celebrate its 91st anniversary and have its annual Race Progress Promoters Program on Sunday, Nov. 8 at 3 p.m. at 1016 NW Trade St. The Race Progress Promoters Program honors African American individuals and groups who have made significant contributions in Winston-Salem to promote community visibility. A meet and greet reception will be held in honor of the award recipients. For more information, contact the church at 336-724-1824.

Nov. 8

Choir anniversary

The New Birth Worship Center is celebrating its Ensemble's anniversary on Sunday, Nov. 8 at 3:30 p.m. at 1033 Newbirth Drive in East Bend. The youth choir will be performing, as well as "Angels of Mercy" dance ministry. The theme is "A New Beginning and a New Start". For more information, contact the church at 336-699-3583 or visit www.newbirthworshipcenter.org.

Nov. 8

Veterans Observance

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 810 N. Highland Ave., will hold a Church Service in observance of veterans on Nov. 8, at 11 a.m. fellowship in the Parish Hall will follow the service. All are welcome. For more information, contact Elnora Gore- 336-766-2344.

Beginning Nov. 9

Faith summit

Greater Cleveland Avenue Christian Church, located at 5095 Lansing Drive, will hold a Faith Summit beginning Nov. 9 through Nov. 11 at 7 p.m. nightly. Guest speakers will include Bishop Vaughan McLaughlin, senior pastor of the Potter's House International Ministries in Jacksonville, Fla.; and Bishop Jerome Williams, pastor of New Testament Church in Portsmouth, Virginia. For more information, contact the church at 336-661-0226.

Nov. 13

Church Bazaar

St. Stephen's Episcopal Churchwomen, 810 N. Highland Ave., will have its annual Bazaar on Friday, Nov. 13 from 11 a.m. until 7 p.m. Features: Lunch (11 a.m.-2 p.m.), Dinner (4-7 p.m.) of Fried Fish, \$10/Baked Chicken \$8, with sides; Baked Goods and Flea Market. All are welcome! Tickets sold in advance or at the door. Contact Elnora Gore, 336-766-2344.

Nov. 14

Singers' anniversary

The Napper Singers will celebrate their 55th anniversary on Saturday, Nov. 14 at 6 p.m. at Galilee Missionary Baptist Church, 4129 Northhampton Drive. The doors will open at 5 p.m. Special guests will be George Dean and the Gospel Four of Memphis, Tenn., and the Chosen Disciples of Asheboro. Other guests will be the Divine Connection, the Scott Brothers and Dion Owen and Renaissance. For more information, contact Constance Daniels at 336-918-3471.

Nov. 15

Pastoral anniversary

The Pilgrim Rest Missionary Baptist Church will celebrate its pastoral anniversary of Pastor Paul W. Hart on Sunday, Nov. 15 at 11 a.m., on 1905 N. Jackson Ave. Elder Sherman Hart will be the speaker present. For more information, contact the church at 336-761-1351.

Nov. 15

Pastoral anniversary

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church will continue its annual pastoral anniversary services on Sunday, Nov. 15 at 10 a.m. at 1201 New Hope Lane.

See Religion on B5

Kimberly Park Holiness Church gains minister

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

A manager at Winston-Salem State University has been ordained as a minister.

Dr. Vanessa Duren-Robinson was ordained as a minister during the 98th General Assembly of the Holiness Church of God Inc. at Kimberly Park Holiness Church. Elder Robert Edmond Jr. is pastor.

Minister Duren-Robinson has been a lifelong member at Kimberly Park Holiness Church and was called into the ministry Nov. 25, 2012. She says her calling is to, "Preach a message of faith, hope and the love of God." "There are many hurting people

who need encouragement and need to know that God loves them, and is not mad at them."

General Bishop Arnie H. Joyce officiated the Oct. 2, ordination service along with Vice-Bishop Theodore Rice and Vice Bishop James Ijames, and the Elders Board.

Minister Duren-Robinson is married to Charles Ross Robinson, Jr. and has two daughters, Deborah and Lakeshia Winfield. She is employed at Winston-Salem State University and is director of research in the School of Health Sciences, and assistant professor in the Healthcare Management program.



Duren-Robinson



Bishop Barbara Adams took over as senior pastor of Born Again Free Church after her husband died in 2014.

Photos by Timothy Ramsey



Born Again Free Church is at 741 Moravia St. in Winston-Salem.

Pastor's wives who are now pastors see trend for women in the pulpit

BY TIMOTHY RAMSEY FOR THE CHRONICLE

Men typically fill the role of senior pastor in most African-American churches. What happens when the senior pastor dies?

For the parishioners of the Born Again Free Church and Mt. Sinai Full Gospel Deliverance Center, the pastors' wives became the senior pastors. Bishop Barbara Adams and the Rev. Yvonne H. Hines lead the Winston-Salem churches, respectively.

Hines has been in that position at Mt. Sinai since 1995. She took over for her husband, Bishop John L. Hines, who unexpectedly passed away in 1995. Mt. Sinai celebrated its 100-year anniversary in October. Hines' transition to her current position had some initial speed bumps, but she was chosen by a majority of her congregation as the one to assume the role of senior pastor. She said she has flourished in this capacity for the last 20 years. She was the first community-recognized female senior pastor of an African-American church in the area.

"You don't take preaching up; preaching takes you up," said Hines of her calling to the ministry. "A lot of people see preaching as a job. I don't see it as a job. I see it as a call, and I think that's what it should be."

Hines says that she did not have aspirations of becoming senior pastor of Mt. Sinai, but after her husband died, she said, "it pursued me" and she understood that this is her life's calling.

"If we are going to be successful, we need to be thoroughly prepared from the pulpit aspect and the administrative aspect as well," Hines said of women in the top roles in the church.

She said gender should not have any bearing on whether people attend a church if people attend church for the gospel and a well-operated ministry.

Adams assumed her role at Born Again Free Church in 2014 after her husband, Apostle Lindsey W. Adams, died. He was also the church founder. The Born Again Free Church just celebrated its 35th anniversary in September, the first since the passing of Apostle Adams.

"There are more women who are being acknowledged and receiving the call for the ministry," said Bishop Adams when asked about female pastors.

Adams went on to say, "When people look at the ministry, most of them look at it for the glamour, and they have seen a lot of female TV ministers, and they get caught up in

that. When you are dealing with the souls of people, that is a great responsibility."

There are still some individuals who think that a woman should not be in the pulpit. When asked about that, Adams touched on how some take certain Scriptures from the Bible to fit their own misogynistic agendas and that being a minister is not a position that was solely designated for men. She also said that many people overlook the fact that women pastors are mentioned in the Bible in the Old and New Testament.

Both Adams and Hines expressed their pleasure in the fact that more women are pursuing a life in the ministry and are no longer just relegated to subordinate roles in the church.

Hines stated that the proverbial glass ceiling has now been shattered, and women are now able to access more prominent roles in the pulpit.

The senior pastors also shared their hope that this current trend will continue into the next generation of young women and ultimately get to the point where they are not looked at as female pastors, but just pastors in general.

"There are a few young women who come up to me from time to time and say they want to be like me, so

See Wives on B5

Sunday School Lesson column expected to resume

Sister Mildred Peppers has retired as the Sunday School Lesson columnist. We thank her wholeheartedly for her years of service to The Chronicle and the Winston-Salem community. Look for the column to resume with a new columnist in the future.