



Photos by Timothy Ramsey

The cast of the play "Words from the Trail," are (L-R) Ernie Wade, Crystal Glen and Lamont Bethea.

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Successful gospel singers who travel the country. They believe the struggle is over, but when Uncle Jake arrives for a visit, he decides to give them somewhat of a history lesson.

They tell Uncle Jake that it's a new day in America for black people in part because we have a black president, but he fires back with a comment simply stating if it's a new day, why are so many people who don't look like me upset because he does look like me?

Uncle Jake's nephew initially resents his uncle's

visit, but changes his tune with uplifting and motivational singing, along with words of wisdom and hope for the future.

Uncle Jake recounts the important lessons and struggles of the past. Uncle Jake tells them that the fancy hotels they stay in when traveling, someone marching got them in there.

Uncle Jake tells them that while they were attacked by racist policemen and vicious dogs, their secret weapon was God, and for change to fully occur, we all must first look inside ourselves.

The play is also filled

with uplifting and motivational singing, along with words of wisdom and hope for the future.

"I've been writing on this topic for more than 30 years and after speeches that I wrote for occasions like Black History Month and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day

kept piling up, I decided to put them together and write a play with the help of a friend," said Wade of how he came up with the concept of the play.

According to Davis, he became aware of the production from Wade in late 2015 and found the concept very interesting. He initially wanted the performance to take place during Black History Month, but with a cast member falling ill, they had to postpone it until a later date and thought with the anniversary coming up, now would be the perfect time.

Dr. Serenus T. Churn and the congregation of Mount Zion Baptist Church joined Mount Pleasant in Day Two of the church anniversary on Sunday, with Churn delivering the sermon.



Pastor Davis

Rel. Calendar

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March 25

Good Friday Service

The Winston Salem District will sponsor the annual Good Friday Service on March 25 at 7 p.m. at Goler Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church, 630 N. Patterson Ave., where the Rev. Dr. George C. Banks is the Pastor and the Rev. Dr. Calvin L. Miller is the Presiding Elder.

March 25

Annual Easter program and Easter egg hunt

The Winston Salem District will sponsor the Annual Easter Program and Easter Egg Hunt at 10 a.m. at Bethlehem A.M.E. Zion Church, 6475 Yadkinville Road, Pfafftown where the Rev. Beverly W. McMillian is the Pastor. Mrs. Marie Jamerson is the District Director of Christian Education.

March 25

Seven Last Sayings of Jesus Christ

Greater Tabernacle Worship Center, 1410 Attucks St., presents the "Seven Last Sayings of Jesus Christ" on Friday, March 25, at 7 pm. On Saturday, March 26, we will have our annual Easter Egg Hunt at Civitan Park in Kernersville from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Host Pastor is Apostle BJ McCloud. For additional information contact Greater Tabernacle Worship Center at 336-777-1113.

March 27

Easter Sunrise Service

Easter Sunrise Service will be held jointly with Goler Memorial A.M.E. at Goler Metropolitan A.M.E. Zion, 1435 E. Fourth St., at 6 a.m. The Rev. Dr. George C. Banks, pastor of Goler Memorial, will be the messenger. After the service, breakfast will be served.

March 27

"The Last Seven Words of Christ" cantata

Goler Metropolitan A.M.E. Zion Church, 1435 E. Fourth St., will present a cantata titled "The Seven Last Words of Christ" on Sunday, March 27 at 6 p.m.. The Cathedral Choir and guest soloists will perform with the orchestra. Duncan Gray is the director, Marian "Pete" Thomas, is the organist, and Julie Hunter, the pianist. This performance features seven movements corresponding to the seven last words of Christ as He hung on the cross; a musical depiction of the earthquake following the crucifixion; and exploring and revealing the emotional resonances inherent in the story of the crucifixion. The community is invited to attend.

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Photos by Timothy Ramsey

St. Augustine's president, Dr. Ward, middle, and St. Stephen's Priest-in-charge Rev. Dr. Hector Sintim (right of Dr. Ward) along with the St. Stephen's members who are also St. Augustines graduates celebrate.

Celebrates

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North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University.

According to Ward, he wanted to focus on three keys during his tenure: focusing on returning the institution to financial stability; strengthening the faith of the students, employees, and alumni in the viability of the school; and engaging the community and corporate stakeholders for mutually beneficial partnerships.

Ward stated that he wants to keep St. Augustine's connection to the Episcopal Church strong and vibrant as it was in the past.

According to Ward, St. Augustine's once held the distinction of being the premiere institution for producing more African-American priests than any other institution in the country. He wants to return to that tradition and the only way to return to that is through the church. To assist

in that effort, they reinstated the tradition of all freshmen students attending chapel every Sunday.

The St. Augustine's University choir led by M. Kimberly Dunn sang beautifully throughout the service as well.

"We believe as a historically black college, we are in a position as a private institution to look at the whole student, so it's not just what happens inside of the classroom but outside it as well, because leadership and intellectual development requires a holistic approach so we work on mind, body, and soul," said Ward of his approach to his students' development.

Ward closed by saying it is paramount to prepare every student for success beyond the walls of the college and he does not want it to stop there. He wants to instill in every student that it's not enough to just achieve personal accolades and accomplishments, but they have an obligation to

go back to the community and help the next generation of people.

"We believe as a historically black college, we are in a position as a private institution to look at the whole student, so it's not just what happens inside of the classroom but outside it as well"

-Dr. Everett Blair Ward

Lesson

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house. The disciples run in all directions deserting Jesus as He foretold. But Peter, being in his mind anyway a loyal follower, followed at a safe distance to be unnoticed. After building up a little courage, Peter moves a little closer to the house to see what was going on with Jesus. While warming himself at the fire, a servant girl recognizes him saying, "You also were with Jesus of Nazareth." As predicted by Jesus, Peter denies knowing Him and moves to another location to avoid the girl ... and the rooster crows once. The servant girl, determined to make sure everyone knows that Peter is a follower of Jesus,

points him out a second time and he again denies knowing Jesus (vv 66-69). Sticking around the house participating in conversation, Peter's accent is recognized as Galilean and once again for the third time he is identified as a follower of Jesus. And for the third time Peter denies and the rooster crows for the second time. Peter remembers what Jesus had told him and runs away weeping. Peter realized he had done exactly what he said he would not.

For Your Consideration: Peter was overconfident in his faith and lacking in what? How can we guard against deserting Christ in our lives?

Life's Application: There will be times when we feel as if our relation-

ship with Jesus needs to be strengthened. There will be high points when through His faithfulness Jesus is answering our prayers. But on the other hand, there will be low points when we succumb to sin. In the low times, we must remember that, like Peter, God's grace can help us to recover and once again follow the Lord. It is imperative that we remember the truth of God's grace, especially during times of trouble, as we say. We can easily be caught off guard by the lure of sin and made to stumble. But no matter the sin - be commission or omission - there is always hope until we give up hope. God's unconditional forgiveness is what ultimately enables us to continue our faithful walk with Him. (David C. Cook, Bible Lesson Commentary 2015-16)



The St. Augustine's University choir sings during the school's celebration day at St. Stephens Episcopal



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