



Photos by Timothy Ramsey

Omega Psi Phi Brothers from the Psi Phi graduate chapter volunteer to help build the Habitat for Humanity home for Alice Everett. From left to right are Murray Miller, Carlos Roseboro, Cassius J. Smith, Brian McMillan and Azeez Aileru.



Alice Everett and her daughter Mahagony Degraffinreadt are very excited to receive their own home, which is being built. Everett says she is happy to have a home she can call her own.

Habitat

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to announce the BB&T challenge. The challenge is a three year commitment of seed money to build 30 homes in the Boston-Thurmond community. BB&T will allocate \$25,000 for 10 homes per year for a total of \$750,000. A typical Habitat for Humanity home costs \$65,000 so they are looking toward other businesses and those in the community for the additional funds. This is the largest gift in the history of Habitat for Humanity.

According to BB&T Triad regional president Cuntey Alexander, part of BB&T's mission is to give back to the community and make it a better place to live and work. He said that Winston-Salem is the home of BB&T as well,

and they want to do all they can to assist those in their efforts for home ownership.

Everett was thrilled that she was able to secure a Habitat for Humanity home as it was her goal to become home owner and not be a renter her entire life.

"This home will be a sense of stability for me," said Everett. "You pay rent for months and years and it will never be yours. This home will be mine. It gives me a feeling of knowing that my family will be able to live in this house for a long time."

Reverend Alvin Carlisle of Exodus United Baptist Church is her pastor and he stated home ownership advances the lives of people. He said that he is happy with the work that Habitat for Humanity has done in the community and glad Everett is able to enjoy her piece of the

American dream.

There were over 30 volunteers on hand from all walks of life. The Psi Phi graduate chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity was among those there to lend a hand.

"We came out today because the organization itself is about service and it's a good opportunity to just give back to the community," said Cassius J. Smith, Basileus of the Psi Phi chapter. "This is our second time doing it and we wanted to come out and lend a helping hand again."

Everett recommends for those who are thinking about applying for a Habitat for Humanity home to step out on faith and not worry about being denied. She stated that this is a great opportunity for people to not only own a home, but to help others as well.

Youth

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he is thankful for the blessing. Seeing first hand what can happen to a church without new and young members, this conference was very important to Pastor McCloud. To connect with the young members, he brought back Pastor Lathan Wood of It's a Movement Worship 'out of Fort Mill, S.C. for a second year in a row.

"I wanted Pastor Wood to come back because of his anointing and his transparency," said McCloud. "The young people really listen to him because he really puts his story out there. The anointing he did here tonight impacted so many young people, their lives will be changed for the better and we thank God for his anointing that he brought here tonight to Fresh Fire."

On Friday night of the conference the praise and worship team kicked the night off with modern Christian music that appealed to the younger generation in attendance. Throughout the night there were multiple gift card giveaways for fast food and clothing stores.

Pastor Wood then took the pulpit and immediately made his presence known. His flare for the dramatic by walking on pews and having the children run around the church and dance all resonated with the young people in the church.

"God gave me the passion and I think he puts a passion inside each person toward a certain demographic," said Wood. "All my life I have been in youth ministry, so when God puts something in you, you can't just walk away from it."

He stated his passion

for the youth is as strong as ever because of the young people he speaks to on college campuses around the Charlotte area. His message to the youth in attendance was that they have an "assignment on their life." He also said the assignment may be a heavy one and there are those who are to "spot" you in the lifting of your assignment. The phrase "Hurry up and spot me" was uttered multiple times throughout the night to convey the message that you may not be able to carry the weight on your own and be aware you may need help.

Following his message, Pastor Wood began to personally pray with many individuals in the crowd and seemed to pinpoint many issues people were dealing with.

One young lady in attendance stated that he touched her deeply with his



Photo by Timothy Ramsey

Guest speaker Pastor Lathan Wood prays with a man whom he felt a connection with while preaching.

words and that she has a lot of thinking to do going forward.

According to pastor

McCloud, this is the 10th year of the church and they have held the conference every year. He feels

Waughtown Baptist is the perfect place for Fresh Fire because he knows they are needed in the community.

Rel. Cal.

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761-1358. A complete UMMBC DivorceCare meeting schedule can be located online at: <http://www.divorce-care.org/groups/62759>.

August 6 & 7 Homecoming Cookout and Anniversary Celebration

Holy Trinity Full Gospel Fellowship Center with Pastor Richard C. Miller, Sr. & Co-Pastor Ernestine Miller are celebrating The Process beginning with their Homecoming Cookout on Saturday August 6, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Little Creek picnic shelter. All events are free and open to the public. The 80th Church Anniversary Celebration will take place on Sunday August 7. Morning Speaker: 11 a.m., Joseph A. Miller Sr. Evening Speaker: 4 p.m. Overseer B. Stephen Brown. Come help us celebrate. The church is located at 5307 Peter's Creek Parkway. For more information, contact the church office at 336-784-9347.

Aug. 11 Free concert featuring Dove award-winning artists

First Christian Church Ministries, 1130 N. Main St, Kernersville, will be hosting Dove award winning artists The Collingsworth Family for a free concert on Thursday, August 11 at 7 p.m. A love offering will be taken. For more information, contact Drew Grounds at drewgrounds@gmail.com or (336) 996-7388.

August 14-19 Church Revival

New Hope AME Zion Church, 7000 Shallowford Rd., Lewisville, will celebrate its Annual Revival, August 14-19. Rev. Dairl L. Scott, Sr., pastor of New Hope AME Zion Church, will deliver the 11:00 a.m. message. The 3:00 p.m. message will be delivered by Rev. Dr. Samuel Scales, Jr. and the congregation of Bold Springs Baptist Church of Ruffin, NC. Lunch served at 1:30 p.m. Speakers for the week: Monday, August 15, Rev. Tyrone K. Rigsby of Center Grove AME Zion Church, Tobaccoville; Tuesday, August 16, Rev. James Grant, New Patterson Grove Faith Church, East Bend;

Wednesday, August 17, Rev. Dairl L. Scott, Jr., Union Chapel AME Zion Church, Linwood; Thursday, August 18, Rev. Jimmy C. Griffin, Union Chapel AME Zion Church, Lexington; Friday, August 19, Rev. J. Ruth Davis, Shiloh AME Zion Church, Statesville. Nightly service will begin at 7:00 p.m. For more information, call New Hope AME Zion Church at 336-945-9083 or 336-945-5618.

September 14 Expect A Miracle

First Christian Church Ministries, 1130 North Main Street, Kernersville, will hold their annual special service called Expect A Miracle on Wednesday, September 14 at 7 p.m. Come and listen to the testimonies of people whose lives have been touched by God and His incredible power. For more information, call the church office at 336-996-7388.

Ongoing

Monday - Friday Free lunch and snack

Between noon and 2 p.m. Monday through Friday, free lunch and snack will be provided to any child at Life Changing Transformation Church Ministries. The church is located 2001 E. 25th St. (corner of Ansonia and 25th Streets). Sr. Pastor Mitchell is the host pastor.

Providing hope through teaching

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., where we provide hope through teaching and preaching presented by Calvary Hill's ministerial staff. For more information contact the church at 336-744-3012.

Lesson

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controlling power of sin. Third, the new birth Christians experienced in union with the Son was the basis for the Spirit enabling them to bring glory to the Father (vs11). (David C. Cook). In practical application, believers were to conform their behavior to the reality of their new birth by allowing the new-found freedom in Christ or slavery to righteousness to control their thoughts, emotions and actions. Belief in Christ and union with Him is the basis for victory in these areas. As believers, every aspect of their and our lives are to be presented in service to God for His purposes (vs13). Spiritually regenerated believers are no longer under the Mosaic Law, but

are under the dominion of God's "grace" (vs14). Paul expresses that there is now freedom from sin. The Romans were enslaved to sin prior to conversion (Rom 6:17), but are now freed from "sin" (Rom 6:18) and now become enslaved to "righteousness." Paul continues in verses 19-23 that they are now free to be holy. He points out that they had surrendered their lives to moral filth and wickedness (vs19), but now are surrendered to please God, who justifies and makes holy through sanctification. Now being entirely dedicated to God, we are to keep away from all forms of iniquity, injustice and immorality ... we are to live in a holy manner. Slavery to sin and slavery to righteousness were mutually exclusive options.

The clear choice here is to be enslaved to God and committed to His upright moral standards (vss. 20-22). The outcome or reward here is eternal life with the Creator. Sin on the other hand resulted in separation from God in a place of great suffering (Luke 16:24-25).

For Your Consideration: What does it mean to be a slave to righteousness? What are some ways holiness is evident in the lives of believers?

Life's Application: We have been rescued from a life of old habits and negative behavior. We have been given the opportunity to have a new life of positive thinking, peace of mind and wholesome and moral behavior that are pleasing to God. The question is ... Do we chose the "gift" or the "wage?"

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