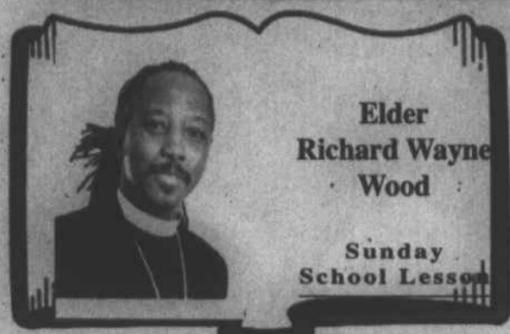


RELIGION



Elder
Richard Wayne
Wood

Sunday
School Lesson

The Peaceful Kingdom

Lesson Scripture: Isaiah 11:1-9

By the end of this lesson, we will

*Get a clearer picture of the nature of God's future millennial Kingdom

*Understand how God will bring about peace in His future kingdom

*Begin to experience peace now in daily life in view of God's sovereign control

Background: The time is 733 B.C. Isaiah is one of the Major Prophets and writes to Judah of all they are doing wrong and how God will handle them. He is also a writer of the coming Messiah. Isaiah writes not only of Christ in New Testament context, but also in millennial staging. In Isaiah's present writing, Judah is strong commercially and militarily, but is experiencing a spiritual decline.

Lesson: The prophet Isaiah speaks of the lineage of Jesus as coming through Jesse rather than David perhaps to note the lack of royalty that would be recognized in the Messiah. Verse 1 informs that a Branch with a capital B "shall grow out of his roots;" the Branch here is the Messiah (see also Isaiah 4:2; Jerimiah 23:5; 33:15, II Samuel 23:5, John 15:4, 5). The qualifications of the Messiah are given in verses 2-3a. and are accompanied by anointing Spirits, as was David anointed king and as Jesus was anointed when He was baptized by John. The Spirit here is in trilogy noting a triune Godhead imbuing Jesus with the Spirit of wisdom and understanding for intelligent and sound judgment, the Spirit of counsel and might for the ability to plan and implement with accuracy and the Spirit of knowledge and fear of the Lord indicating an intimate relationship with God and a reverence of His holiness and obedience to His word. These qualifications will enable the Messiah to rule justly and effectively. The nature of the rule of the Messiah is addressed in verses 11:3b-5. "What His eyes see ... what His ears hear." Isaiah lets us know that the Messiah's perception will not be like that of a natural king or ruler because His perceptions are supernatural beyond usual sources. In verse 4, Isaiah speaks of the treatment of the poor and afflicted and he says here that the Messiah will correct Israel's earlier dealings with the underprivileged (3:14, 15: 10:2). The rule over the nations will be forceful (see Revelation 19:15; 49:2; Ps 2:9). "The breath of His lips" is a pointer to the Messiah's means of inflicting physical harm as His Word is spoken in judgment is a sword that slays the wicked (Revelation 1:16: cf. John 12:48). The girdle referred to in verse 5 is a belt used to gather loose garments together. Here it represents the readiness for conflict.

Righteousness and faithfulness are His preparation (cf. Ephesians 6:14) (MacArthur Study Bible). Isaiah's prophecy speaks also of a peaceful kingdom in verses 6-9. The conditions of peace as originally intended in the Garden of Eden will prevail in this kingdom to the extent that discord between men and among animals and between men and animals will disappear. The animals will be vegetarian as they were in the beginning (Genesis 1:30). Verse 9 "full of the knowledge of the Lord" ... everyone will know who Christ is when He returns to fulfill His New Covenant with Israel (Jerimiah 31:34). God's sovereignty ever-present as it is dictates that we will be a peaceful, righteous regenerated people in the millennial earth ... because God said it ... and it is so. When? Only He knows.

Life's Application: Isaiah prophesies of a period in times that we know will occur, with conditions and situations that we can only imagine. But the New Testament outlines clearly a path to "abundant life" now. Christ has provided for us now ... let Him be the right-now Messiah for you that He bled and died and rose again to be. Live in the fullness of Christ.

Mt. Olive holds Appreciation Day

BY NEBRA HALSEY
SPECIAL TO
THE CHRONICLE

On Sunday, Aug. 28, Mt. Olive Baptist Church held an Appreciation Service for a few of its long serving members. Pastor Gray gave thanks to the Lord for these four individuals and says that others in the congregation will be appreciated in the future.

The individuals that Pastor Gray and his congregation honored included: Gwen J. Brown, Rev. George A. Gray, Mr. Michael E. Gray and Mr. Rodney E. McCormick.

Gwen J. Brown has been a member of Mt. Olive for over 50 years and serves as the church clerk. She is also a member of the Financial Staff, the Benevolence and Program Committees, the Women's

Class of the Sunday School Department and the Fellowship Hall. She serves as the financial secretary of the Senior Usher Board.

Rev. George Gray has been a member of Mt. Olive for 37 years. He is an associate minister, a teacher in the Sunday School Department, and a member of the Pastor's Aide, the Gospel Choir, and the Youth Department.

Michael Gray, who is Pastor Gray's son, has been a member for 37 years and serves as our assistant minister of music, director of all dance ministries and choirs. He is a member of the financial staff, treasurer of the Pastor's Aide, a member of the Men's Class of the Sunday School

See Mt. Olive on B6



A young man named Omar with special needs sings a personally written song to the congregation during Sunday's service.

Local church celebrates individuals with disabilities

BY TIMOTHY RAMSEY
THE CHRONICLE

Many people with disabilities, whether physical or mental, are overlooked and sometimes ostracized in today's society. As a way to celebrate and bring attention to such individuals, Union Baptist Church held its inaugural "Champions with DisAbilities Sunday" service.

The Champions with DisAbilities Sunday is designed to bring awareness and inclusion for people with all disabilities and to provide support for disability professionals and caregivers. The service provided an opportunity for disability awareness and a way to educate the congregation together as a whole. Many people with disabilities who are Christians have talents and richness in their walk with Christ, which would greatly bless those in the

church, organizers say.

Pastor Barry Washington of Whole Man Ministries delivered the message during the 11 a.m. service. Washington was injured in an accident years ago and lost the use of his legs. He now uses a wheelchair to get around.

"My accident humbled me and made me more sensitive of others who have disabilities, and as a result of that I hopefully have become a pioneer for God," said Washington. "I know that there are many people out there that are going through the same thing I am as far as having a disability."

During the service, those with disabilities, both mental and physical, were acknowledged. Some of the individuals with disabilities were involved with the service by per-

See Celebrates on B6

CALENDAR

Today, Sept. 1-5 Northwestern District Quarterly Assembly

The N.C. Area of the Northwestern District Quarterly Assembly of the Holiness Church of God will continue today, Sept. 1, through Sept. 5 at Kimberly Park Holiness Church, 1640 S.M. Caesar Dr. Services will be led by the following churches: Thursday, Sept. 1, 7:30 p.m., Mount Calvary Holiness Church; Friday, Sept. 2, 7:30 p.m., Mount Zion Holiness Church. There will be a Bible discussion and business meeting on Saturday, Sept. 3, noon, and a worship service on Sunday, Sept. 4, at 4 p.m. The host pastor is Elder Robert E. Edmond Jr. and presiding-overseer is Eugene Kirby Jr.

Today, Sept. 1 Author's Talk at Winter Blues

The Women's Ministry of First Christian Church is excited to welcome best-selling author Angie Smith to Winter Blues 2016. One of the most popular speakers and bloggers in the country, Angie Smith is the author of "Mended, I Will Carry You" and "What Women Fear." This event will take place on Saturday, Sept. 17 at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15 per ticket in advance, \$20 at the door. Tickets may be purchased online at fccministries.com or in the church office. First Christian Church is located at 1130 N. Main St, Kernersville. For more information, contact Patty Sorrells at pattys@fccministries.com or (336) 996-7388.

Sept. 3 Clothes Giveaway and Voter Registration Drive

Goler Metropolitan AME Zion Church will have a clothes giveaway and voter registration drive on Saturday, Sept. 3, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. There will be free clothes, shoes and accessories for women, men and children in good condition and varying sizes. Come and get your needed clothes items and register to vote at the same site. Goler Metropolitan is located at 1435 East 4th St. For more information, call 336-723-2325. Everyone is welcome! The pastor is Rev. Johnny L. Ruff.

Sept. 4 72nd Homecoming

The historic Mars Hill Missionary Baptist Church moved to its current location at 1331 E. 4th St. in 1944 during the midst of segregated tension in the heart of East Winston. On Sept. 4, two events highlight the church's Homecoming. The Rev. Hiawatha Hemphill, founder and pastor of Servant's Heart Worship Center in High Point, is a former Mars Hill member. He returns to present the morning message at 11 a.m. "The Challenge of the Cross," a religious drama, reminds church and unchurched individuals of the meaning of being a true disciple of Christ. It will be performed at 3 p.m. All are invited. The Rev. Larry Smith is pastor.

Sept. 4 Service and Forum

The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Winston-Salem, 4055 Robinhood Road, will hear the Rev. Lisa Schwartz speak on "Labor's Silent Partners" and the woodwind quartet Elektra Winds will perform at 10:30 a.m. At the 9 a.m. Forum, Earl Scott will speak on "Meet Me Where I Am," about caring for family members with dementia.

Sept. 4 Church Choir Anniversary

St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church Inspiration Choir will celebrate their anniversary on Sunday, Sept. 4 at 4 p.m. Special guest will be Devine Connection featuring Rev. Dr. Samuel J. Cornelius and Rev. Warren Napper and other special voices of Winston-Salem. The public is invited to attend. The church is at 110 Manly Street. Pastor and teacher is Rev. Dr. James Fulwood. For more information, contact Hattie Fulwood at 336-788-4411.

Sept. 6-8 Shekinah Glory Revival

Union Baptist Church will host their annual Shekinah Glory Revival Sept. 6-8. The Revival will begin on Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. with a Special Prayer Gathering. On Wednesday and Thursday, noonday preaching, evening lectures and worship services will be held. The

noonday revival preacher is Bishop Jerome Ross, Sr., pastor of Tiedstone Missionary Baptist Church. Dr. Charles Booth pastor of Mt. Olivet Baptist Church in Columbus, Ohio will preach the evening services on Wednesday and Thursday beginning at 7:00 p.m. Dr. Robert Scott, former pastor of Central Baptist Church in St. Louis, Missouri will conduct a lecture on Thursday at 6:15 p.m. Youth will have study hall on Wednesday and Thursday from 6-7:00 p.m. Dinner is included. Revival services are free and open to the public. Union Baptist Church is located at 1200 N. Trade St. Bishop Sir Walter L. Mack, Jr. is pastor and teacher. For more information call the church office, 336.724.9305 or visit www.unionbaptistwsnc.org.

Sept. 7-9 Faith Unity's Revival

Faith Unity Missionary Church, in the chapel of the Masonic Lodge Prince Hall at 1025 E. 14th St., will hold its revival Wednesday through Friday, Sept. 7-9, beginning at 7 p.m. nightly. For more information, please contact the church at 336-771-0023 or email at faithunity@yahoo.com.

Sept. 9-11 2016 Women's Conference

On behalf of Reverend Dr. Dennis W. Leach, Sr. Pastor of Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church, 1400 Fitch Street, the community is invited to join us for the 2016 Women's Conference. This conference will begin on Friday, Sept. 9, at 7:00 p.m. Pastor Andrea Walker of Living Word Christian Worship Center will deliver the preached Word. On Saturday, Sept. 10, registration and continental breakfast will begin at 8:00 a.m. General sessions and breakout classes will follow. On Sunday, Sept. 11, Pastor Marcy Jessup from Greater Love Fellowship Ministries of Ramseur will serve as the guest preacher during the 11:00 a.m. worship service. The theme of this year's conference is: "Behind those masks ... the princess within." The conference is free; however, registration is requested. To register or for additional information, please contact the church office at 336-

See Rel. Cal. on B6