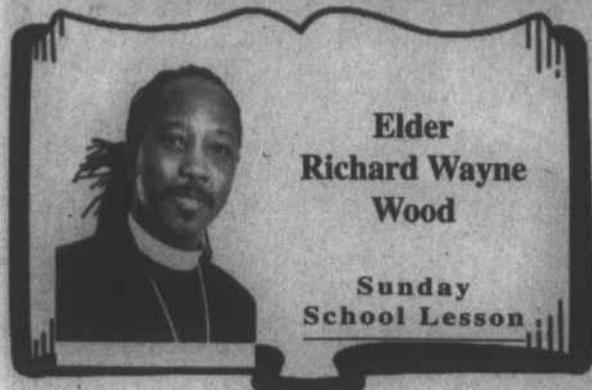


RELIGION



Elder
Richard Wayne
Wood

Sunday
School Lesson

The Foundation of the Earth

Lesson Scripture: Isaiah 40:21-31

By the end of this lesson, we will

- *Understand the sovereign control of God over creation and over nations
- *See the sovereign Creator as the source of strength and power in our lives
- *Acknowledge the need to wait on the Lord to provide the strength and help we need for life's situations

Background: Isaiah is speaking to a defeated Jerusalem telling them of what God can and will do. They have now been punished enough. They have lived among the heathens and seen them worship gods made of wood and metals, none of them actually having power or even being. Isaiah points out the powers and excellence and superiority of God to any and all idol gods. In other words, he says "open your eyes and ... take a moment and think". IJS. "Ponder the greatness and uniqueness of God." (Standard Lesson Commentary 2016-2017).

Lesson: Isaiah starts here asking in an exasperating tone it seems: "Don't you know by now who God is and what He can do?" It's been drilled into us from the time of creation itself. Verse 22 simply says God sits as Ruler of the earth and we appear to Him as small creations that He provides habitation for in all the earth. God's sovereign power over earthly rulers is expressed in verse 23 and 24. We are reminded here that all power comes from God. Royalty and judicial power are nothing and exist at God's allowance and the extent and duration of said power are all at His will. God's sovereignty extends even over the stars. God asks the question: "To whom then will ye liken me, or shall I be equal? saith the Holy One." (vs25). Then Isaiah instructs us to look up in the sky at all the stars and the constellations. God made them all and calls them all by name. We take them for granted, but Isaiah says God pays them special attention. No one else could do that ... for that he is strong in power; not one faileth. (vs. 26). Knowing who God is ... how could Israel think, even in exile, that He would forget them or be ignorant of their condition? "If God has counted stars and given them names, will He not also care for His people and keep His promises to them?" (SLC 2016-2017). God is never-failing and Isaiah's question now to Israel is, "Don't you know that God will not get tired? He doesn't even stop to catch His breath and we cannot possibly know His understanding. God has a never-ending strength and makes it available to those who need it. The energy of the youth and the vitality of young men say Isaiah is exhaustible and will end (vs. 30). The conclusion of the matter is, if we wait on God and trust in Him, our outlook is changed. We get fresh strength; our ability to keep pace and even exceed what is expected is possible in Him. "It is He, not the world, who empowers us through life." (SLC 2016-2017)

For Your Consideration: How often do you stop and consider the vastness of creation and your value or worth in it? How are the stars in the sky and the hairs on your head similar in God's view?

Life's Application: The questions Isaiah posed to Israel are appropriate for us today. Do we really consider who God is and His awesomeness? In times of weakness or failing strength, do we know to count on Him? When all else fails, do we know that He never does? We should know even in these modern days of man's vast accomplishments, the power of rulers and the long arm of the judicial system, God is still supreme and all sovereign. He is omnipotent, omnipresent and omniscience. To quote God Himself... "I AM THAT I AM." (Exodus 3:14). Get that in your head!

First Baptist to hold Say It With Music concert

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The Women's Service Council of First Baptist Church will sponsor its annual Say It With Music concert on Sunday, Sept. 25, at 4 p.m. at the church, at 700 N. Highland Ave. The concert is free.

This year's concert will feature the Willie Mason and Friends Choir and the Inspirational Choir of Mount Zion Baptist Church.

Organized in 2009 by founder and director Willie Mason, the choir is comprised of some of the most talented vocalists and musicians in the Triad. Presenting their gospel music throughout the area and beyond, the Willie Mason and Friends Choir seeks to raise sounds of joy and share the Gospel through song.

The Inspirational Choir of Mt Zion Baptist Church was founded in 1977 and is currently under the direction of Dionn Owen. Known to the community for its outstanding spiritual and inspiring Poetry and Song Concerts, the choir is also recognized for both traditional and contemporary music.



Members of Holy Trinity perform an interpretive dance routine during Sunday's service.

Photo by Timothy Ramsey

Holy Trinity reaches out to community

BY TIMOTHY RAMSEY
THE CHRONICLE

A major part of a church ministry is connecting with the surrounding community. The Holy Trinity Full Gospel Fellowship Center held its annual Community Outreach weekend this past Saturday and Sunday.

Holy Trinity held a community gathering at Parkland Park on Saturday, where they had games, food and activities for the surrounding area to let residents know that the church is involved with the people.

During the gathering, the church brought out the Novant Health Breast Mobile, Winston-Salem Fire Department and had fun and games, such as face painting



Pasrir Miller

and double dutch jump roping for the children.

This is the third annual community weekend for Holy Trinity. According to church member Darrell Jeter, the purpose of the weekend is to "give the community a sense of what the church has to offer." Jeter says the community weekend is a good way to get the word out to the community that their church is there for the

See Holy Trinity on B6



Photo by Timothy Ramsey

Lewisville and Clemmons firefighters participated in the preparedness fair to show participants common household fire hazards and what to do in case of a house fire.

Church's emergency preparedness fair teaches awareness

BY TIMOTHY RAMSEY
THE CHRONICLE

Natural disasters and household emergencies can happen at any moment. Many homes are not prepared for a sudden emergency or able to leave the home at a moment's notice if necessary. Seeing a need

to inform the community, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Clemmons held an emergency preparedness fair Saturday, Sept. 10.

The fair was set up with various booths that showed individuals different ways of preparing for emergencies that might come. The

booths included ways to purify water outside of the home, things to pack in a "bugout bag," ways to prepare pets for quick travel and non perishable foods to pack, to name a few.

The Church of Latter Day Saints holds a preparedness fair every two years. Preparedness coor-

dinator for the church, Larry Morris, said they just want to make people aware of how they can prepare themselves for any kind of emergency that may come up. He wants people to have the proper items in the home in case of emergency.

See Emergency on B6

CALENDAR

Sept. 16 and Oct. 1
"News Media 101" seminar

The Winston-Salem Chronicle is sponsoring a free seminar for nonprofits, including churches, called "News Media 101: Getting Your Message Across," from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Oct. 1. It will be at Galilee Missionary Baptist Church, 4129 Northampton Drive in Winston-Salem. Registration is required. The deadline for registration is Sept. 16. To register, send the full name of the nonprofit organization's representative, the name of the nonprofit organization, cell phone number (home phone number if the person doesn't have a cell phone) and email address to letters@wschronicle.com. Please put in the subject field "Registering for News Media 101." For more information, call 336-722-8624, ext. 108.

Sept. 17
Ladies Community Outreach Program

Holy Trinity Full Gospel Fellowship Center will have a community outreach on Saturday, Sept. 17, at 5 p.m. RICH Community Development Corporation and Holy

Trinity FGFC will host its SISTA's fellowship for ladies of all ages. This program is designed to encourage sisters, aunts, mothers and grandmothers to take action successfully in all areas of life. All are invited to attend. For more information contact the administrative office at 336-784-9347.

Sept. 17
Sarah Allen Women's Missionary Society Fundraiser

On Sept. 17 the Sarah Allen Women's Missionary Society (WMS) of St. James A.M.E. Church will sell chicken wing dinners from 11 a.m. until 6 p.m. Dinners are \$8. Wings only are \$4. The public is cordially invited to attend. St. James is located at 1501 N. Patterson Avenue at the corner of 15th Street (across from the U.S. Post Office). The Rev. Dr. Steven L. Lyons is the pastor. This fundraiser will support the efforts of Sis. Diana Drake, who is running for the Vera L. Holt Area Dorcas Queen. Dorcas (also called Tabitha) was known for her good works and acts of love for the poor. She was a charitable person who made things, especially clothing, for

the needy. Pre-orders are welcome. Call 215-327-9991.

Sept. 17
100th Anniversary Celebration Events

The Hanes Memorial Christian Methodist Episcopal Church is celebrating its 100th Anniversary. The theme is "A Century of Honoring the Past, Serving the Present, Dedicated to the Future." Upcoming events are: Sept. 17, 4 p.m., Throwback Fashion Show featuring styles from 1920 to the present. Hosted by Talitha Vickers, WXII News Anchor. (Dinner donation \$10); building a Walkway of Faith - Purchase a personalized brick or bricks in honor or memory of loved ones. (\$50 each); Oct. 30, 3 p.m. - 100th Anniversary Worship Service - The Right Rev. James B. Walker, Presiding Prelate of the 7th Episcopal District of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church will bring the message; Nov. 12, 5 p.m. - 100th Anniversary Gala/Silent Auction - Embassy Suites (Donation \$40); Nov. 2016 - Crystal

See Rel. Cal. on B6