

# RELIGION

## CALENDAR

Through Dec. 11

### Black Nativity play

The North Carolina Black Repertory Company, 610 Coliseum Drive, will present the play Black Nativity by Langston Hughes through Sunday, Dec. 11. The play directed and choreographed by Mabel Robinson focuses on a Christmas story combining gospel music, dance and spoken word. The play will have special school performances on Dec. 9-10, Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday matinees at 3 p.m. Tickets for adults are \$26, students are \$21 and children 15 and under are \$18. All seats are \$18 on Saturday matinees at 3 p.m. For group rates, call 336-723-2266 for more details.

Today, Dec. 8 & Dec. 11

### Worship Services and Ceremony

Union Baptist Church Jamestown-High Point, Castle McCulloch 3925 Kivett Drive, Jamestown N.C., will have a series of services from Dec. 8-11, with Dr. Kia Hood being installed as the first site pastor. Dr. Hood has served as youth pastor of Union church for 11 years. The Jamestown location is under the leadership of Bishop Sir Walter Mack Jr. overseer and senior pastor. Two pre-installation services will be held, on today, Thursday, Dec. 8 and Sunday, Dec. 11. The Dec. 8 service will begin at 7 p.m. with Rev. Reggie Sharpe, pastor of House of Hope in Macon, Georgia, as the guest speaker; Dec. 11 will start at 10 a.m. with Rev. Cheryl Moore, pastor of Zion Temple in Durham, N.C., as guest speaker. The installation ceremony will be held on Sunday, Dec. 11 at 4 p.m. at Union Baptist Church, 1200 N. Trade St. with Bishop Sir Walter Mack delivering the message. Guest ministers will also be in attendance at the ceremony. All services are free and open to the public. For more information, contact the church office at 336-724-9305 or visit unionbaptistwsnc.org.

Dec. 9

### Plate Sell

Hanes Memorial CME Church, 819 North Highland Ave., is sponsoring a fish and pork chop plate sell on Friday, Dec. 9 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. The cost is \$7 per plate; sandwiches are \$4 and homemade desserts are \$1.50. Deliveries will be made on orders of five or more. For more information, call 336-724-7151.

Dec. 9

### Open Mic

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 4055 Robinhood Road, will present Marguerite's Coffeehouse on Friday, Dec. 9 at 7 p.m. The event is a monthly open mic, featuring singer/storyteller Barrie Howard playing boogie, blues and ballad. Audiences can sing-along to holiday-themed songs. Performers of all kinds are invited to contribute solo acts and participate in a group jam. A light supper will be provided; visitors are welcome to contribute appetizers and dessert. For more information about performing, contact coffeehouse@uufws.org.

Dec. 10

### Grief Support

Grief Care Ministry at St. Paul United Methodist Church, 2400 Dellabrook Road, will sponsor GriefShare on Saturday Dec. 10 at 10 a.m. The session topic is "Guilt and Anger." GriefShare is a support group for anyone is experiencing grief due to the loss of someone close. The sessions are free, nondenominational, designed to give encouragement and support on one's journey "from mourning to joy". The session will feature biblical teaching on grief and recovery topics. The sessions are self-contained, meaning one does not have to attend in sequence. For further information, call the church office at 336-723-4531.

Dec. 16

### Christmas Concert

New Birth Worship Center Music Ministry, 1033 Newbirth Drive, East Bend, N.C., will present "The Joy of Christmas" concert on Friday, Dec. 16 at 7:30 p.m. The concert will feature the Mass and Youth Choirs and the Angels of Mercy Dance Ministry. The senior pastor is Dr. James L.E. Hunt. For more information, please call 336-699-3583 or visit www.newbirthworshipcenter.org.

Dec. 18

### Christmas Performance

Mt. Olive Baptist Church, 1301 C.E. Gray Drive, will present "The Birth of Christ In Song and Dance" on Sunday, Dec. 18 at 4 p.m. There will be fruit bags and two \$100 gift card drawings. To receive the gift card drawing, you have to be present. For more information, call 336-721-1959. For a needed ride, call 336-391-5143. The public is invited to attend.

Dec. 20

### Holiday Concert

Home Moravian Church, 529 S Church St., will hold a holiday concert by Salem Band on Tuesday, Dec. 20 at 7:30 p.m. The concert will consist of a mix of sacred and secular music of the season with guest vocal soloist Ted Federle and Salem Band Principal Horn Richard Saylor. Pre-concert music will be performed by the small ensembles. Donations from the community to the charity partner Sunnyside Ministry are welcome. Admission is free.

## Giving back to the community brings joy to hearts

BY TIMOTHY RAMSEY  
THE CHRONICLE

In the midst of the holiday season comes the drop in temperature, which means there are many individuals who need assistance for clothing and shoes to bear the frigid winter days and nights.

Messiah Community Christian Church is well aware of the needs and did

something to help.

On Sunday, Nov. 20, Messiah held its "I am Somebody Special" service, during which the church supplied clothes, hats, scarves, and shoes to the less fortunate. Senior pastor the Rev. Louis Threatt expressed to his congregation weeks before that he wanted quality



Photo by Timothy Ramsey

The Messiah Community Christian Church looks to help those in need during the holiday season.

clothing and shoes to be donated. They happily complied.

The church, at 2651 Belews Creek Road in Winston-Salem, accumulated so many items that

they have subsequently opened their doors every Sunday since then to welcome the less fortunate to continue to look through

See Joy on B6



Submitted photo

Members of several congregations and businesses united to help people in Lumberton who were affected by Hurricane Matthew.

## Local churches, businesses helping with Hurricane relief

FROM SUBMITTED REPORTS

A group of churches and businesses from the Mocksville and Winston-Salem areas sent relief efforts to the people of Robeson County that were affected by Hurricane Matthew.

Also, members of Galilee Missionary Baptist Church in Winston-Salem took much-needed items to affected people in Kinston.

For the Robeson County assistance, an effort that was

headed up by Cedar Grove Baptist Church, Mt. Zion Holiness Church of God of Mocksville as well as Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church in Winston-Salem and other local churches. They sent a truckload of water, toiletries, clothes, and cleaning supplies to Lumberton to help the people of Robeson County on Nov. 12.

Upon arriving into the city, the effect of the storm was evident as there were blocks of houses that had been con-

See Hurricane on B6

## ISUPK teachers say the real Jews 'are Black'

BY TIMOTHY RAMSEY  
THE CHRONICLE

The Israelite School of Universal Practical Knowledge (ISUPK) holds weekly classes at the Carl H. Russell Sr. Recreation Center from 7 to 9 p.m.

Ahbaraham, an ISUPK officer in Winston-Salem, said that all Blacks, Hispanics and Native Indian people are welcome to attend as they seek to just spread what they believe to be "the truth." He says in their classes they tackle every question from issues of the past and those of today, such as child support, the high number of black men in prison and the gentrification of urban neighborhoods in major cities all across the country.

The ISUPK teaches that Blacks, Hispanics and Native Indians are the true Jews of the Bible. ISUPK teachers also believe that according to the Bible, Jesus Christ is a black man, not olive or a man of all colors.

Ahbaraham says, "Every Black, Hispanic and Native Indian should know there is color in the Bible, there is hate in the Bible, there is prejudice in the Bible, and these prejudices are for one specific people, they are not for everybody. The Bible wasn't written for everybody."

The history of ISUPK goes back to the freedom of the slaves in the United States. After the emancipation of the slaves, slaves began reading the very book they had been kept from reading for so long, which was the Bible. While learning the truth of the Scriptures, they also migrated north, forming synagogues to learn the Bible.

These ex-slaves passed the "truth" on to some in Harlem, N.Y. As their brothers started spreading their message in Harlem, Abba Bivens was one of the brothers that came up through their ranks. Bivens, who started a school in Harlem, was murdered for his beliefs. Three brothers who followed him started a new school and

See Jews on B6

## The Affirmation of a Promise

Lesson Scripture:  
Luke 1:39-56

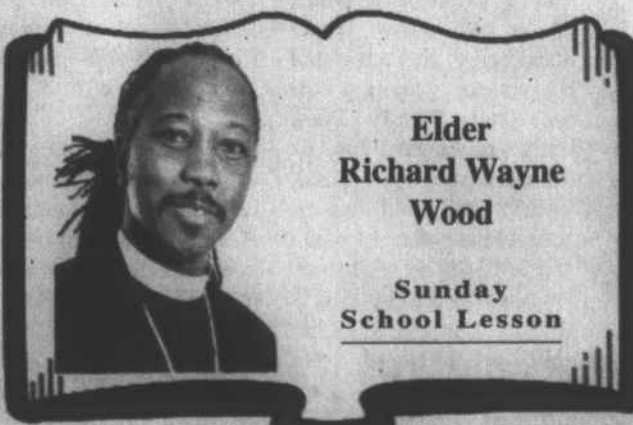
By the end of this lesson, we will

\*Observe God's miraculous workings in the lives of Elizabeth and Mary

\*Recognize the importance of details in our lives and our walk with the Lord

\*Be aware of the need for looking for God at work in our daily experiences

**Background:** The time given for this writing is 7-6 B.C. and the place is in the hill country of Judea. It is likely that Mary was a pious and devout student of the Scriptures since her prayer is often compared to Hannah's



Elder  
Richard Wayne  
Wood

Sunday  
School Lesson

prayer to God concerning Samuel (1 Samuel 2:1-10). Note that Elizabeth and Mary are kinsmen, which makes Jesus and John the Baptist relatives as well ... cousins perhaps.

**Lesson:** Our lesson starts with a hurried trip by Mary into a city of Judea where Elizabeth and Zacharias live. This visit is viewed as proof of sorts of Mary's fully embracing

the message from Gabriel (verse 39). Mary's greeting of Elizabeth was also the first meeting of Jesus and John the Baptist. The Holy Ghost fills Elizabeth and she is immediately aware that Jesus is present in Mary's womb.

See Lesson on B6