

RELIGION

CALENDAR

Dec. 16

Christmas concert

New Birth Worship Center Music Ministry, 1033 Newbirth Drive, East Bend, 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. 17

Christmas concert

Antioch Christian Church, 1432 Underwood Ave., will have the 2016 Christmas concert: "A Christmas to Remember" on Saturday, Dec. 17 at 3 p.m. The concert is free and open to the public. The performance will feature guest musician Anderson "Butch" Stewart, who has worked with artists such as James Brown, Shirley Caesar and Isaac Hayes. A light dinner will be served after the performance. The pastor is James A. Gilliam with Kelley Gilliam as the Minister of Music. For more information, contact April Gilliam or Kelley Gilliam at 336-761-8200 or visit antioch1432@gmail.com.

Dec. 18

Annual candlelight service

Wentz Memorial Congregational United Church of Christ (UCC), 3455 Carver School Road, will celebrate its annual Christmas candlelight service on Sunday, Dec. 18 at 5 p.m. The service will feature readings from "The Mood of Christmas," a collection of meditations written by noted theologian Dr. Howard Thurman. The combined choirs of Wentz UCC and Parkway UCC, under the direction of Dr. Connie McKoy and Mr. Craig Collins, will provide the music for the service. The music selections by the choir will include Glory to God, In the Silence, Choral Fantasy on Creator of the Stars of Night and The Wexford Carol. The customary lighting of the candles will be joined by the congregation singing Silent Night. The concert is free and open to the public. The pastor is Rev. Renee G. Griffin.

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. 18

Friends and Family Day and play

New Direction Movement Cathedral, 3300 Overdale Drive, will host a Friends and Family Day on Sunday, Dec. 18 at 11 a.m. Then at 4 p.m. the Sunday School Department will sponsor a Christmas Play.

Dec. 18

Musical service

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Winston-Salem, 4055 Robinhood Road, will present "Northern Lights" a musical service at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, Dec. 18. The choir of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Greensboro will join in the musical service. Gus Preschle will speak on "Citizenship in an Era of Globalization" at 9 a.m. for At Explorations. There will be a 9 a.m. Forum led by Steve Weston reviewing "Breaking the Spell: Religion As a Natural Phenomenon" by Daniel Dennett. For more information, visit www.UUFWS.org.

Dec. 18

Christmas production

The Drama Ministry of Mt. Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church, 495 N.W. Crawford Place, will present the production of "Christmas on Trial" by Greg Thomas. The drama will take place on Sunday, Dec. 18 at 6 p.m. The production will have a performance by the Dance Ministry, Mime Ministry and a special Guest Psalmist. The production director is Ms. Lucille Lewis. The host pastor is Bishop S. T. Davis Sr.

Dec. 18

Musical concert

The Watoto Children's Choir, a group of 18 orphans from Uganda, will end its six-month U.S. tour featuring a brand new concert, "Oh, What Love", at Winston Salem First, 3730 University Parkway, on Sunday, Dec. 18 at 6:30 p.m. The concert, based on the Bible verse 1 John 3:1,

will feature worship songs that share the stories of the children and the hope that they have because of God's love. All performances are free and open to the public.

Dec. 20

Movie and speaker discussion

TEEM (Temple Emanuel's Environmental Movement) will have a free environmental movie and speaker series at Temple Emanuel, 201 Oakwood Drive. The film and discussion will be on Tuesday, Dec. 20 from 7 - 9 p.m. focusing on the movie "Jane's Journey." The films focus is on the topic of Biodiversity extinction and primates in Africa through Dr. Jane Goodall famous work. For more information, contact Gayle Tuch at gtuch@yahoo.com or call 336-766-2767.

Church Girl Scout troop gives to women's shelter for kids

BY TIMOTHY RAMSEY
THE CHRONICLE

The Girl Scout troop out of United Metropolitan Missionary Baptist Church embarked on a journey to earn one of their community service Bronze level awards.

Last week, the girls from Troop 40419 gave to the battered women's shelter.

The troop collected gently used toys, stuffed animals and books to give to the children at the shelter. And with this being the holiday season, those items are needed more than ever. The troop also made bookmarks and homemade holiday greeting cards as well.

After collecting and making the items, the girls delivered them to the shelter on Saturday, Dec. 10. Troop

leader Shannon Shore said they wanted the children at the shelter to have a "sense of home."

There were no families in the shelter at the time of delivery, but Shore says they will have to go back to see the fruits of their labor. She said they plan to read and interact with the children who have to live there.

"I think it would be good for our girls to see they just didn't give something to someone else, and it's just floating out there in space," Shore continued. "These children actually need this, they want it and they appreciate it."

The three young girls from the troop were very excited and happy to be able to help someone else in need.

Troop member Viviana Shore said, "To them, those

See Girl Scout on B6



Members of Dionn Owen's Renaissance Choir perform during the breast cancer awareness program at Morning Star Baptist Church on Dec. 10.

Photo by Tevin Stinson

Making a joyful noise for a good cause

BY TEVIN STINSON
THE CHRONICLE

Last Saturday, The Light Gospel Radio joined forces with Team Pink Gem (TPG), a local affiliate of the Susan G. Komen Foundation, to bring awareness to the impact breast cancer has on the community.

During the event held at Morning Star Baptist Church, some of the best gospel musical talent the city

has to offer was showcased while raising donations to support cancer research in the area.

A representative from Team Pink Gem said it's a joy to see so many people come out and support the program each year. She said Team Pink Gem would not be what it is today without the support of people in the community.

TPG was started in 2012 by breast cancer survivor

See Good Cause on B6

Ministers' Conference to elect new officers

BY TIMOTHY RAMSEY
THE CHRONICLE

The Ministers' Conference of Winston-Salem and Vicinity (MCWSV) is set to have elections for president and vice presidents on Tuesday, Dec. 20, after its weekly meeting.

The conference holds elections bi-annually to choose new leadership. Bishop Todd Fulton, the current president, has led the conference for the past two years.

The two candidates for president



Rev. Jones

men currently serve as first and second vice presidents of the MCWSV.

Williams says he decided to run for president

are Dr. Lamont Williams of Diggins Memorial Baptist Church and Anthony Jones of United Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church. Both

because his desires are very much in line with what the conference stands for. He says he deems himself a "champion of social justice" because the cause is so close to his heart.

"My true definition of who I am is really about serving others," Williams said. "It's the benchmark of a real leader that you seek to inspire those around you by getting them to do what maybe they would not have done, and in the end, you make them feel like it's their objective."

See Officers on B6

The Forerunner of the Saviour

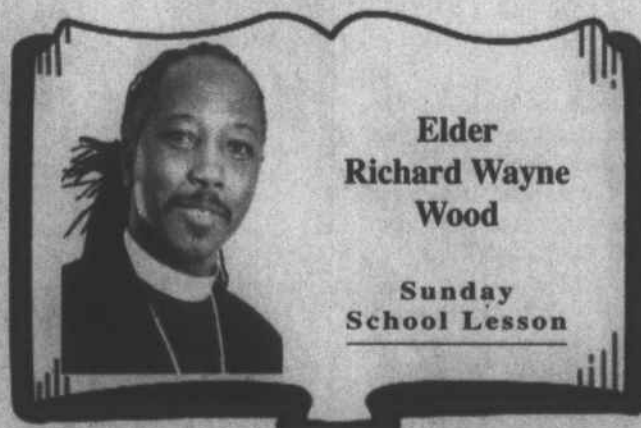
Lesson Scripture:
Luke 1:8-20

By the end of this lesson, we will

*See Zacharias' role in the story of the birth of John

*Identify with Zacharias' feelings of doubt and apprehension

*Accept and fulfill the tasks to which God has called us



Incense was used to provide a good smell with the offerings as they ascended to God. (See Exodus 30:1-10).

Lesson: Zacharias has been chosen (by lot) to serve a week to offer incense, a job to be envied (verses 8-10). While Zacharias was praying inside and burning incense, the people were praying in the outer court and the smoke from the

Background: The time given for this writing is 7-6 B.C. and the place is Jerusalem. Zacharias is a priest, one of many (nearly a thousand). The jobs for priests were offering the morning and evening sacrifices for the nation of Israel, offerings of flour and oil, drink offerings and burning incense ... Zacharias' job was incense burner.

incense was an indication to the congregation that their prayers were going up to God. Zacharias is visited while working, by an angel who tells him his prayers are heard and he will have a son and will name him John (meaning

See Lesson on B6

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