

# PERLASTING FATHER, TH



The choir sang hymns throughout the service on Sunday.

Photo by Timothy Ramsey

## Church

from page B4

itors were entered into. The church raffled off gift cards of various denominations to fast food restaurants and Walmart.

Senior Pastor Essie McCullough delivered the sermon. Her message was titled "Plenty Good Room." She spoke about how there is room for all of us in the Heavenly Kingdom and all we have to do is "take our seat and sit down." She told those in attendance of the greatness of God, and he will wipe away our sins and make room for all.

After the sermon, various ministries and friends presented Pastor McCullough with love gifts.

When asked about the gifts she received, McCullough said, "It tells me that they all care, and I know that they made sacrifices for me. I am just very touched and pleased."



Senior Pastor Essie McCullough glows after the Friends and Family Day service on Sunday Dec. 18.

McCullough personally thanked everyone for her gifts along with thanking those who came out to visit.

"I was inspired to see how much they love, and love does not talk; love shows," said McCullough. "Most people think that when people go to church, you just go to find people in church. The church began in the street and Jesus went to the sinners. The world needs the church."

## Service

from page B4

harpist, Winifred Garrett. With a career that spans over 30 years, Garrett has had the privilege of being the first African-American harpist to grace the stage in countless performance venues and settings. The founder/artistic director of The Harp Studio, based in Durham, has been featured in extensive and diverse performances, including the Metropolitan Opera House in New York City

and Radio City Music Hall.

Readers will present Scripture lessons followed by selections by the Emmanuel Mass Choir and Hand Bell Choir under the direction of Dr. Linda Parker, associate professor of music at Bennett College.

The Emmanuel Tots Choir youth dancers and mime ministry also will worship through songs and dance. The Spiritual Choir, which is a tradition at Emmanuel, will sing, leading to the Christmas mes-

sage by the Rev. Dr. John Mendez, pastor.

The program closes with "Silent Night" while everyone holds lit candles to symbolize Christ as the light of the world.

This sacred Candlelight service "is an opportunity to pause for a moment and reflect on the birth and life of our Savior Jesus Christ," Emmanuel officials say.

Emmanuel also invites the community to join in the Watch Night Service on Dec. 31 at 10 p.m. This service will observe the culmination of year 2016

and usher in the year 2017 in songs, prayer and praise.

The Emmanuel choir will render musical selections and the Rev. Dr. John Mendez will deliver the Watch Night message.

"In spite of the present circumstances, the service is an expression of our faith as we look to Him who has sustained us down through the years," Emmanuel officials say.

The public is invited to Emmanuel for these services.

## Lesson

from page B4

entrance having come from God's very presence. There was a brilliant light resonating from him, which frightened the shepherds (verse 9). The angel says "fear not" my message is a good one "tidings of great joy" for all mankind (verse 10). Born that day in Bethlehem, David's hometown, is another king (Micah 5:2), but this one is the savior of Israel from all sin, the anointed one ... deliverer and king, and "Lord" the ultimate master and ruler of all nations (verse 11). The angel then gives instructions for confirmation and the key here is "lying in a manger" ... swaddling clothes it seems were common (verse 12). To amp-up the announcement a "multitude of heavenly hosts" appear praising God. (multitudes have in other references indicated thousands). The angels offered praise to God and peace on earth and goodwill toward men who please God (verses 13, 14). After singing and praising God, the angels withdraw and the shepherds are left to act on what has been told them ... "let us now go even unto Bethlehem" and see for ourselves. Moving quickly in what appears to be a short trip, they located "Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger" (verse 16). Now with an eyewitness account, the shepherds spread the word... "tidings of great joy" that Christ is born and that he is the long awaited messiah. Mary listened to the accounts of the angels visit and the conversations it prompted. Certainly she was pondering past angelic events...her own and Elizabeth's and hiding the known and unknown in her heart.

**For Your Consideration:** Jesus was visited at birth by shepherds and kings (or was it wise men?) He meant a great deal to each of them, why? Mary did not speak of Christ to the shepherds; she only listened. What advantage or disadvantage did that afford her?

**Life's Application:** The angels praised God for peace on earth and goodwill. I know many of us pray for world peace. That's a noble prayer for sure, but maybe we should fine tune our prayers and start with peace in the neighborhood, peace on the job, peace in the church or in many cases peace in the home. I'm convinced that goodwill toward men...God's favor toward us will produce peace, if not in our surroundings, certainly in our spirits. Provision was made two thousand plus years ago ... yet we put up trees and lights, sing and buy gifts when we should follow the example of the shepherds and SEEK HIM.

## Williams elected Ministers Conference president

BY TIMOTHY RAMSEY  
THE CHRONICLE

The nominations for the new officials of the Ministers Conference of Winston-Salem and Vicinity (MCWSV) were announced Tuesday. There was a race for the president position for the conference.

The committee nominated the Rev. Dr. Lamont Williams and the Rev. Anthony Jones was a

write-in candidate. There were no write-in candidates for any other position. The results are as follows:

President- Winner: The Rev. Dr. Lamont Williams won over the Rev. Anthony Jones

1st Vice President, the Rev. Alvin Carlisle  
2nd Vice President, Elder Tembilia Covington  
3rd Vice President, the Rev. Omar Dykes  
Secretary, Pastor Debra Terry Stephens  
Treasurer, the Rev. Dennis Leach  
Parliamentarian, Elder Deborah Jeter  
Chaplain, the Rev. Benjamin Humphries

Eric J. Sadler, DDS

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In loving memory of

**Mrs. Pauline Lash Sims**  
December 14, 1920-December 25, 2001

Thanks to you Mother  
It was easy to understand the meaning of love because you gave so much of it.  
You didn't even have to put it into words.  
Although you often did.  
For it was in your voice, in your smile and in everything you did and always did for me and the family.

So sadly missed and loved,  
Your son,  
John A. Lash, Sr. and Family

**Have a Story Idea?**  
Let us Know  
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GALILEE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH PRESENTS

**Upcoming HOLIDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

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**CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE**  
SUNDAY, DEC. 25TH - 10:00AM

**WATCH NIGHT SERVICE**  
COUNTING OUR BLESSINGS  
SATURDAY, DEC. 31ST - 6:00PM

**NEW YEARS DAY SERVICE**  
SUNDAY, JAN. 1ST - 10:00AM