



DR. REGINALD HAWKINS
...Overwhelmingly approved

It's Official, Now!

Dr. Hawkins Is Pastor Of H.O. Graham Presbyterian Church

The United Presbyterian Church's Permanent Judicial Commission voted overwhelmingly on November 5 to reissue a call to Rev. Reginald Hawkins to pastor H. O. Graham Metropolitan Presbyterian Church.

Rev. Hawkins had vacated the pulpit to follow the proper procedure for accepting a call.

The Catawba Presbytery, which rules all Charlotte-Mecklenburg churches, in January found Hawkins, 57, guilty of insubordination and "failing to maintain peace and unity" in the church. It then stripped Hawkins of his ordination until at least the end of 1980.

Controversy first mushroomed in 1978 when Hawkins began preaching at Metropolitan on an interim basis after the former pastor's death.

Congregation members "issued a call" for Hawkins to pastor regularly. But Presbytery members argued Metropolitan had violated church procedure for filling the pulpit.

An argument centered around the time between Metropolitan's pulpit committee recommending Hawkins to the church's session and that recommendation going before Metropolitan's congregation.

Church laws say a 10-

day notice must precede any congregational meeting, according to Rev. Bob Walton, the Catawba Presbytery moderator.

This procedure was violated in Metropolitan's request to have Hawkins pastor the church.

Therefore, when the Hawkins recommendation reached the local Presbytery, an argument resulted over the procedural violation.

"There is no doubt that a majority of the church's members want Hawkins to pastor the church," Walton said, "but these things must follow procedure."

When Hawkins was first ordered by the Presbytery to vacate the pulpit in July, 1979, he continued to preach. But Hawkins also appealed the ruling to the Permanent Judicial Commission in Philadelphia, the national church's highest court. It supported the local body.

Since Hawkins resisted the national church order, he was tried by the Catawba Judicial Commission in January for violating church laws.

Later he was temporarily stripped of his ordination and ordered for the second time to vacate the pulpit.

In July, the national Commission dismissed charges against Hawkins. But it also said the pulpit at Metropolitan was vacant and the church would have to start over in calling a pastor.

Congregation members have chosen to wait, follow procedure and reissue the call to Hawkins.

Mayfield Memorial Plans

"Senior Citizens' Day"

Senior Citizens' Day, an annual observance at the Mayfield Memorial Baptist Church, will be held Sunday, November 16.

Proud of the fact that they have been given Godly personalities who are representatives of the good and mercy of the Lord as is manifested through the longevity of years the seniors have lived, Mayfield sets aside a time to the senior citizens, "We love you, are proud of you, and deeply appreciate you," Dr. H. S. Diggs stated Wednesday.

One of the special guests for this auspicious occasion will be the Rev. Dr. W. C. Upshaw, of Akron, Ohio, who will deliver the 11 a.m. sermon. Dr. Upshaw is a senior citizen who is 83 years young, still actively pastoring the leading Black church in Akron. He has the very unique distinction of being the first Dean of the National Progressive Baptist Congress of Christian Education. As the young convention was just beginning, the leaders realized the great necessity of having concerned, trained, dedicated and devoted persons in responsible positions.

The minds of that convention turned to W. J. Upshaw as they prayed.



Dr. H. S. Diggs
...Mayfield pastor

fully persuaded him to accept the position that has become a very coveted one. With integrity and foresight, Dr. Upshaw charted the course of the curriculum for the National Progressive Congress of Christian Education from the year 1963-67. The sense of direction given that congress by him has enabled that congress to be recognized as one of the best national congresses in the world. Dr. Upshaw formerly served as a member of the faculty of Arkansas Baptist College before accepting the call to pastor in Akron, Ohio. He now serves as one of the instructors in the congress where he served as first dean.

The annual Senior Citizens' Banquet will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday afternoon. Each senior citizen, and their invited guests, will gather in the Fellowship Hall of the church, where the Eveready Hostess Committee will help make their day more enjoyable by serving an appetizing meal. The Benevolence Committee will assist in helping the entire day be one of enjoyment for the citizens being honored.

Mayfield Memorial Baptist Church is located at 700 Sugar Creek Road West.



The reason some parents no longer LEAD their children in the RIGHT DIRECTION is because the parents aren't going that way THEMSELVES.

Fraternity To Honor 14 Black Citizens Sunday

Median Family Income Rose

11 Percent

Median family income in the United States rose to \$19,680 in 1979 -- 11.6 percent higher than in 1978 -- but the rise was almost entirely offset by an 11.3 percent rise in prices, according to a report issued today by the Commerce Department's Bureau of the Census.

The report also shows that an estimated 25.2 million persons, 11.6 percent of the population, were below the poverty level in 1979. Although this figure is 700,000 higher than the year before, the number is not considered significantly different in a statistical sense from that of 1978. The poverty threshold for a nonfarm family of four was \$7,412 in 1979.

No significant changes occurred in the relative incomes of white, black or Spanish origin families, the report notes. Median family income in 1979 was \$20,520 for whites, \$11,650 for blacks, and \$13,320 for Spanish origin families. Although there was some evidence of a decline of about 4 percent in real median family income for blacks and no change for whites or Spanish origin, these changes are not statistically different from one another due to sampling variability. In 1979, black median family income was 57 percent of that for white families, not significantly different from 1978's figure of 59 percent.

The report shows that although there has been no significant change in the overall number or proportion of persons below the poverty level since the 1975-76 period, certain population subgroups showed changes between 1978 and 1979. For example, the number of poor persons 65-and-older increased from 3.2 million in 1978 to 3.6 million last year.

The more detailed income questionnaire was tested in connection with the March 1979 survey and a detailed analysis of its impact on the estimates is contained in "Current Population Reports," Series P-60, Nos. 123 and 124.



PRETTY SONJA MARIA LANEY
...Ransom Junior High student

Sonja Maria Laney Is Beauty Of Week

By Teresa Burns
Post Staff Writer

Sweetness and that tinge of innocence only a 13-year-old young lady can possess are just a few characteristics of Sonja Marie Laney.

The only child of Ms. Betty Laney, our 5'3", 103-pound beauty has an athletic inclination. "I enjoy playing volleyball and running track at Ransom Junior High," she began, "During the school year it's a change in activities for me."

As co-captain of the volleyball team, Ms. Laney doesn't mind practicing everyday. "I'm pretty tired when I get in, but I don't mind," she confessed.

It seems our beauty enjoys a challenge. It's a good indication that her ambition is parallel to her life's pattern. "I'd like to study to become an attorney. It looks as though it will be an interesting subject for me."

But for now she is immersed in her present school work. Science is Ms. Laney's favorite subject,

mainly because of the techniques used in the learning process, such as frog dissection and the laboratory.

Art and dancing are also favorites of Ms. Laney's. And as for television, she enjoys the antics of the "Good Times" cast. On Sunday she can be found at East Stonewall AME Zion Church. There, she sings alto on the Junior Choir.

She supports the West Charlotte Lions (her cousin Zonta Laney plays on the team) and sites her mother as her favorite person.

Ms. Laney has received numerous honors, including a certificate of recognition in track this year and being crowned Miss McCrory YMCA in 1978.

Both the volleyball court and the track field are parts of our beauty's life. But she has also realized the various tracks of life as well -- and it's probable that she is on her way to becoming a champion in her own right.

As far as Ms. Laney is concerned her life has only just begun and her path seems to be directed towards great success.

Omeas Cite Blacks For Community Contributions

By R. Douglas Spears
Special To The Post

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. has designated November 9-16 as National Achievement Week. Sunday at 4 p.m. the fraternity will honor 14 Black citizens for their contributions to the community at the Omegas of Charlotte Fraternity House, 3301 Statesville Ave.

In Education, Mrs. Vinie M. Watkins, former principle, and Rev. James Teamer, founder of the Teamer School. Mass Media, Mrs. Willie Mae Porter (posthumously) reporter for the Afro-American Newspaper, Eugene S. "Genial Gene" Potts, former radio announcer for WGIV and Willie L. "Bill" Johnson, Publisher of The Charlotte Post.

In Business, Arthur Grier (posthumously), owner of Griers Funeral Service, Zack W. Alexander (posthumously), owner of Alexander's Funeral Home, and A. E. Spears, former manager of North Carolina Mutual Insurance Company.

In Religion, Rev. Frank Shirly (posthumously), local Presbyterian minister, and Bishop Lovette Warner, (posthumously), former Bishop in the AME Zion Church.

In Law Enforcement, Armstead "Bub" Houston, one of the first Black policemen of Charlotte-Mecklenburg. In Recreation, Mrs. Lula Mae White Brown, first Black recreation supervisor for the Charlotte Parks and Recreation. In the Military, Colonel CLSA Taylor, one of the first Black commissioned officers in Mecklenburg County.

Local Chapters including Rho Chapter at Johnson C. Smith University, Epsilon Zeta Chapter at University of North Carolina at Charlotte, and Pi Phi Chapter a graduate chapter, will be in observance during the National Achievement Week, November 9-16.

Pi Phi Chapter will hold its Seventeenth Annual Awards Banquet on Friday evening at 8 p.m. at Waggoner Hall, Holiday Inn

Youth

Appreciation

Week Set

To celebrate Youth Appreciation Week, the West Charlotte Optimist Club is giving 100 area high school students tickets for the state football playoffs.

After raising \$3,500 to support black community athletics, the club will present 25 students from J. T. Williams, Lincoln Heights, Northwest and University Park with tickets for the Friday, November 14, game that will feature West Charlotte Senior High School.

The local Optimist group which was chartered in May, 1980, now boasts of 100 members, according to its president, Wylie Harris.

Its first project was sponsoring Camp Expo, which involved a group of Johnson C. Smith University students in athletic activities.

North. The black tie affair will feature the Rev. J. Herbert Nelson, pastor of St. Luke United Presbyterian Church, Orangeburg, S.C. as the keynote speaker. The coveted Omega Man of The Year award will be presented to the Omega brother who has met all the necessary requirements. The Citizen of The Year Award, the second highest given by the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, will be presented to the citizen who has made an outstanding contribution to the Charlotte-Mecklenburg community.

The famed Pi Phi Ensemble, under the direction of Fredrick Ervin, will render the music at the banquet and the Sunday morning worship service at First United Presbyterian Church at 11 a.m.



Linda Stinson
...Dalton's manager

Book Fair Will Benefit Equal

Rights Council

The Charlotte Equal Rights Council will hold a Holiday Book Fair Saturday, November 15, at B. Dalton's Bookstore in Charlottetown Mall from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

According to B. Dalton's manager, Linda Stinson, a variety of books and gifts for holiday giving will be available, including children's books, calendars, art and photography books, and a wide selection of best-selling and classical fiction and non-fiction.

"We will feature a special selection of books by and about blacks, minorities and women, in keeping with the theme of equal rights," said Stinson, the only black woman manager of a local bookstore.

A percentage of Saturday's Book Fair sales will go to benefit the work of the Charlotte Equal Rights Council. The ERC is a Council of organizations and individuals that have come together "to struggle for and achieve the equality of all people who have been discriminated against because of their nationality and color, religion, sex, economic status, age, physical or mental condition."

In the past year the Charlotte ERC has been active in the struggle against the Ku Klux Klan, in support of human rights, in efforts to gain a new trial for John E. McCombs, Jr. and other criminal justice issues, and in opposition to the bus fare increase. The ERC has also supported union organizing efforts and other equal rights struggles through local actions and its monthly newspaper, "The Southern Advocate."