

Church News Briefs

Special Committee Of Ministers To Honor Rev. Walker Sunday Night

By Teresa Simmons
Post Managing Editor
If you've ever met Rev. J.W. Walker you know that within a two hour period of time he can make you laugh, cry, and review your spiritual convictions.

He is one of those special people God seems to have given the world. He is a man who can project his religious beliefs: "There's nothing better or more important than accepting Jesus Christ as your personal savior and knowing how to serve Him" without making one feel uncomfortable about certain shortcomings.

Rev. Walker has not only preached the Word since 1930 but has also demonstrated his devotion to the Lord.

"Since his retirement from pastoral duties seven years ago," Rev. William Lee, Jr., pastor of Silver Mount Baptist Church, began, "Rev. Walker has found it a great joy visiting dozens of churches during revival services and programs. He has given outstanding support and fellowship with churches, pastors and ministers through the years. It is for this reason that a special appreciation celebration will be held in his honor."

The service, headed by a special committee of ministers will be held Sunday, April 29, at 7 p.m. at Silver Mount Baptist Church on Old Pineville Rd., South Carolina.

Many friends and relatives will be present including city-county officials, associations, minister's conferences, special groups and choirs.

TAKING ADVICE
Born in 1904, Rev. Walker was one of eight children of Perilla and Herbert Walker. "We lived on a farm in Allendale, S.C. We raised cotton, corn, peas, potatoes and watermelons. We had cows and hogs. I remember you had to do things right to stay there and my parents would always carry us to church." By 1915 he had moved to Charlotte.

Rev. Walker attended school in the county and then attended boarding school in Blackville, S.C., for several years. He quit school in the ninth grade and in later years studied the Bible. At the age of 22 he married.

To this union were born 13 children - 12 are still living. He also has 29 grandchildren and 10 great



REV. J.W. WALKER

.....To be honored Sunday

grandchildren. His first wife, departed from this life in 1971.

In 1930 Rev. Walker entered the ministry "I had a feeling when I was called to minister." He has pastored eight churches during his career including Gilfield Baptist (now University Park Baptist) and the most recent, Galilee Baptist.

In beginning his ministerial duties Rev. Walker adhered to the advice offered by the Bible. "Before anyone can preach you have to find the Lord then stay on the right road and believe in the Word. It is important to bring others to Christ and to treat your neighbor as you want to be treated."

The worst thing in life, in Rev. Walker's opinion, is "...to confess Jesus Christ as your personal savior, and then fail to serve Him."

GIFTS FROM GOD
"Rev. Walker can speak to a church briefly and can crack up the congregation," Rev. Lee smiled. "If he had gone into the entertainment field he would have been another Flip Wilson."

Instead, Rev. Walker chose to be involved in God's work. Down through the years he has successfully coupled his special gifts with spreading God's word but he also knows when to get serious for the lord.

He was able to retire from pastoral duties in 1977 - after serving almost 60 years. He married a

beautiful lady reigning from Pittsburgh, Pa., and former school teacher, Maxine Walker in 1979. She was an ardent church worker. In fact they met at a religious function and remembering Rev. Walker smiles, "Out of hundreds I saw her in the balcony and I wanted to meet her."

Together they attend First Mt. Zion Baptist Church where he has been a member for 60 years.

Professionally Rev. Walker went into business for himself as a painter and wallpaper hanger. During the first of his 40 years as a painter he learned and perfected the skills. His last job was remodeling the Lemon Tree Motel in Charlotte. He hung all the wallpaper and painted nearly 200 rooms. Rev. Walker has one surviving sister and one brother, Gaines Walker, owner of Walker's Wedding Service in Charlotte.

All of these ventures: a knack for humor, a beautiful family, a lovely second love, the strength to worship and share his knowledge and owning his own business are all gifts of God. In many ways his life represents the truth that God still blesses those who have faith in Him.

IN APPRECIATION
The committee for the Appreciation Service in honor of Rev. Walker has invited friends, relatives and government officials to the service to be held April 29 at 7 p.m. at Silver Mount Baptist Church. Letters to Rev. Walker will

be placed in a book of memory for him. Many have already planned to give special gifts in appreciation of Rev. Walker's support and love for others through the years.

If you would like more information about the Appreciation Service you may call Rev. D. K. Martin, 392-4961; Rev. C. V. Owens, 525-8784; or Rev. William Lee, 596-3821. You may also mail letters or gifts for Rev. Walker to P. O. Box 26142, Charlotte, N.C. 28213.

Everyone is cordially invited to attend.

CLEMENT MEMORIAL
Clement Memorial AME Zion Church will observe its first Annual Spring Revival April 29 through May 4. Services will begin each evening at 7:30.

Speakers will include Rev. C. E. Dewberry-Sunday; Rev. H. Johnson-Monday; Rev. L. D. Parker-Tuesday; Rev. Fred McCullough-Wednesday; Rev. William Lee-Thursday; and Rev. J. Robinson-Friday.

Clement Memorial AME Zion Church is pastored by Rev. Ell Price and is located at 2207 Newland Rd.

CORINTHIAN
The Beulah Baptist Church of Concord will be the special guest Sunday, April 29, at Corinthian Baptist Church, 140 North Church St.

Rev. Houston, pastor of Beulah Baptist, the congregation and choirs will render the services during the 11 a.m. and 8 p.m.



Rev. William Lee, Jr.
.....Clement Mem. speaker

worship hours.
Rev. J.E. Thomas is pastor of Corinthian Baptist. The public is cordially invited to attend.

GRIER HEIGHTS
On April 29 Women's Day at Grier Heights Presbyterian Church will be observed.

Guest speaker will be Laura H. Kearns. She will speak during the 11 a.m. service.

A native of Charlotte, Mrs. Kearns attended Barber-Scotia College and Johnson C. Smith University. She completed graduate studies at the University of Virginia and John Hopkins University specializing in Early Childhood Education.

In 1975, she was named "Outstanding Elementary Teacher of America." She retired from teaching while with the public schools in Baltimore, MD.

She has served the Presbyterian Church on all judicatory levels. She is past president of both Cape Fear and the Southern Virginia Presbyterials. She is also a former member of the National Executive Committee of the United Presbyterian Women.

As a member of the Joint Bible Study Committee for



Rev. C.E. Dewberry
.....Hosts Mt. Peace

United Presbyterian Women, she participated in planning the 1981 and 1982 Bible Studies.

Mrs. Kearns has also spent time in Cuba and other Latin American countries observing and interpreting the witness of the church.

She is married to Rev. Curtis A. Kearns, retired minister in the United Presbyterian Church.

Katie Clawson is president of the Grier Heights United Women. Rev. Lloyd B. Morris is pastor of the church, located at 325 Skyland Ave.

NEW ST. JOHN
Sunday, April 29, the theme for Rev. Robert

Leak's, pastor of St. John Baptist Church, sermon will be "Peter By The Fire, Under Fire." The youth of the church will be in charge. One youth will also speak.

At 6 p.m., the Stars of Faith, one of the church's gospel singing groups, will be in concert at the church.

Special out-of-town and in-town guests will also be singing religious renditions. The church is located at 2000 St. John Rd. in Newell.

MGBA
The Mecklenburg General Baptist Association Sunday School and BTU Congress will convene during their fifth Sunday Session at Union Missionary Baptist Church on 35th Street. The pastor is Rev. L.D. Jeffers. Dr. J. B. Humphrey, moderator of the association; Deacon Cedric Jones, president. **GETHSEMANE BAPTIST**
The Mt. Peace Association will convene Sunday, April 29, at Gethsemane Baptist Church, 2670 Dr. Carver Rd. Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m. Dinner will be served at 1 p.m. in the fellowship hall prior to the evening service.

Rev. W. A. Rorie, moderator, will be the speaker for this occasion.

The public is cordially invited to attend. Rev. C. E. Dewberry is host pastor.

FIRST MAYFIELD
On Sunday afternoon, April 29, the Fifth Sunday Choir will celebrate its first anniversary at First Mayfield Memorial Baptist Church. The choir is planning a singing program. All of you are invited to come out. Plan to attend and support this choir and help them to celebrate this occasion.

First Mayfield and See **FIRST** On Page 14A

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Rev. Dr. J. B. Humphrey
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372-1075 372-0950

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Prices Good At All Family Dollar Stores Through This Weekend. Quantities Limited On Some Items. No Sales To Dealers.