

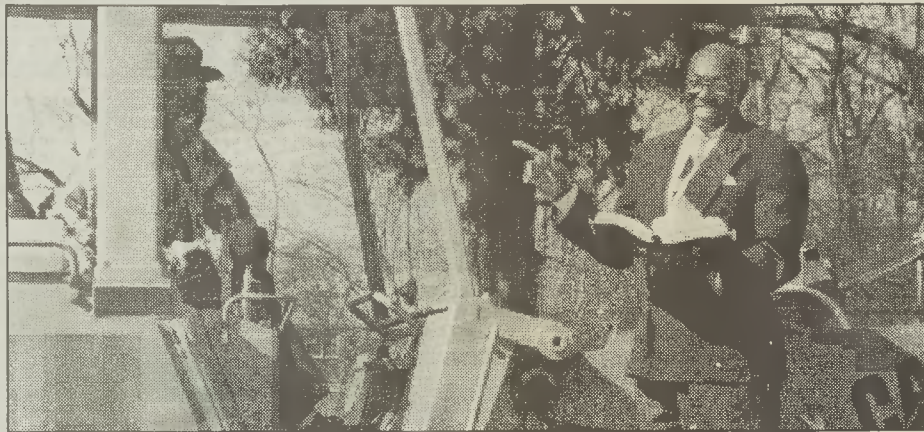
Breaking new ground

By Tammie Tolbert
THE CHARLOTTE POST

Pastor Robert H. Leak of New St. John Baptist Church and his congregation had a ground breaking ceremony for the site of their new church on Sunday.

The present church was built to accommodate 250 members. "The new church will accommodate 650 members and 100 choir members. The new church will also include a full size basement and all the necessary things for a day care facility," Leak said.

The church is also looking to develop an educational department. Pastor Leak has pastored the church for 29 years and since then membership has increased significantly.



Pastor Leak stands in front of the machine that will break the ground for their new church. The church will also include enough room for a child care facility and a 100 member choir stand.

"Sunday's ground breaking ceremony symbolized the beginning point of preparing

the ground for the foundation of the parking lot," Leak said. "I am a man with a vision

who wants build this church to try and meet the needs of people in the church and the

Church news

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cussion "Facing the Truth: Is There Another Way." For more information, call Mary Bonapart at 588-6654.

Teamer Religious and Educational Enterprises Inc.

2600 Newland Road
At 3 p.m. on Sunday the annual President's Rally of the Teamer Religious and Educational Enterprises will end with a special workshop. The Speaker will be the Rev. Archie Gill, Pastor of Mars Hill Baptist Church. Everyone is invited. For more information call 394-2518.

*From 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Liberia

Continued from page 11A

house and distribution center."

Unison has already obtained and repaired several trucks to send to Liberia. It also fixed old farm equipment to help Liberians farm their own land.

Women and children are in need of food, clothing, and housing. Money can take care of the food and clothing. Rodgers says that whatever people can donate in terms of the raw materials needed in building homes would be appreciated. Medical supplies and equipment are desperately needed.

Teaching people agricultural techniques is the primary concern of Unison. "We want to employ people, have them lay down their weapons and start back farming, building houses, constructing schools and clinics," Rodgers said.

The Unison chapter in Charlotte collects the food, medical supplies, money, farming equipment, and the like and transports it to Liberia.

The people in Liberia are looking for people to invest in their country. Liberia has acres of land that is prime for development. "Firestone has one of the largest rubber plants in the world in Liberia," says Rodgers.

According to Rodgers, many investors are interested in the chance to purchase land and develop it. Liberians encourage African Americans to purchase land in their country. "Developing land in Liberia would increase employment empowerment, therefore helping to ease the tension of poverty."

Unison's Charlotte chapter meets from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Wednesday at the Golden Corral on Sharon Amity. For more information on how to help the people in Liberia, call Carolyn Rodgers

on April 6 a Church Building and Construction Seminar will be held. The purpose of this seminar will be to give basic orientation on the acquisition, renovation, and addition of a new church. Registration fee is \$15 and is fully refundable within seven days before the seminar. All proceeds go to Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools Minority Achievement Day Symposium. For more information, call

333-1965.

Mid-Atlantic Christian Education Association

At 9 a.m. on March 23 and 23 Dr. Leith C. Anderson, senior pastor of Wooddale Church in Eden Prairie, Minn. will be the key speaker. There will be professional seminars, over 100 workshops, and inspirational general sessions. For more information, contact Roland



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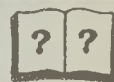
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