

Gay bishop: Opposing bishops violated ordination vows

By Richard N. Ostling
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — The Episcopal Church's first openly gay bishop, V. Gene Robinson, said Monday it is "pretty clear" that five bishops opposed to his election who led an Ohio confirmation service Sunday violated their vows taken as members of the hierarchy.

Six conservative congregations that also oppose Robinson invited the five bishops from outside the diocese without required approval from Ohio's Bishop J. Clark Grew II. They do not accept Grew's leadership because he voted for Robinson.

Robinson, a Lexington, Ky., native, was speaking to reporters before a ceremony to receive the annual Leadership Award from the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, the oldest U.S.

gay rights organization. Plans to provide special bishops for dissenting congregations like those in Ohio are the top issue at a meeting of the nation's Episcopal bishops that opens Friday in Texas.

Robinson said he supports a plan from the head of the denomination, Presiding Bishop Frank Griswold, to allow visiting bishops with permission of the regular resident bishop, as provided under current church rules.

Conservatives have already declared that plan unacceptable and warn there could be further Ohio-style disobedience if the bishops' meeting does not provide an absolute right to be led by outside bishops they consider acceptable.

Robinson's consecration has provoked a severe dispute in the Episcopal

Church and even more so in the international Anglican Communion, of which the U.S. denomination is a part.

Robinson said he is "very open" to allowing visiting bishops in his own New Hampshire diocese, so long as he continues to make periodic visits to dissenting congregations and the visitor does not "try to undermine my authority" or "take the congregation out of the Episcopal Church."

The award from the task force showed the degree to which Robinson has become a symbol for the nationwide gay movement.

Task force Executive Director Matt Foreman said Robinson's elevation ranks in significance with recent steps toward same-sex marriage in Canada, Massachusetts and several U.S. cities.

"He is a hero to our com-

munity," Foreman said, not only for becoming a church bishop but for "the way in which he has conducted himself in the face of vitriolic attacks."

As a gay celebrity, Robin-

son was also named "Person of the Year" by The Advocate, a gay periodical. And he was featured last week in a segment on CBS' "60 Minutes" that included a visit to a New York gay bar.

"I have this double life," he remarked. "I'm not the gay bishop in New Hampshire. I'm just the bishop."

On the Net:
Episcopal Church:
<http://www.episcopalchurch.org>

No pressure: Bible Belt families welcome Muslim refugees into homes

By Jenny Burns
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

COLUMBIA, S.C. — Sponsor Francie Markham wanted to take her Somali Bantu refugee family to a local mosque for services, so the Methodist woman veiled her head and visited the Islamic Center of Columbia.

She wanted her church's refugee family — having finally escaped ethnic persecution in their homeland — to worship freely and she wanted to be able to take them herself.

The federal government is helping 120 Somali Bantu refugees resettle in the Columbia area. Christian, Muslim and Jewish groups

will greet them at the airport and become their new companions, paying for the families' living expenses for six months.

Their new life in the Bible Belt — far from Kenyan mud houses where there's no electricity and refugees sleep in fear — will be full of change. Some locals are making sure one of those changes won't be a religious one.

Markham says she now feels comfortable taking a Bantu mother to prayer at the mosque.

"Because I went there and learned, she will know that I am not trying to proselytize her," Markham said. "I look forward to the day when I will be her guest at the

mosque. We need to be connected through our love of God and Allah."

While Lutheran Family Services, the organization that helps resettle the Bantu, is supported by eight Christian denominations, its agreement with the U.S. State Department is not about conversion.

"Our intent is not conversion to, or away from, any particular religion," according to the agency's proselytizing statement.

EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH



Easter Worship Schedule

6am - "Sunrise Service" @ Greater Mt. Sinai • 1234 West Boulevard
Held Jointly with Chappell Memorial, Greater Mt. Sinai & St. Paul Community Baptist Churches

Rev. Norman Kerry Pastor, Chappell Memorial Dr. George Cooke Pastor, Greater Mt. Sinai Rev. Daryal Mayfield Pastor, St. Paul Community

8:30am - Church School and 10am - Easter Worship
@ Ebenezer • 2020 W. Sugar Creek Road, Charlotte, NC 28262,
Located 1/2 mile north of I-85, Exit # 41

• 704-598-2219 • FAX: 704-598-8774 Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch Pastor, Ebenezer



To Advertise


704
376-0496

Present Day Ministries of Jesus Christ Church

- Join Us For Service -
Sunday School.....10am • Sunday Worship.....11am
Wednesday Bible Study "School of Success".....7pm
Friday "TGIF" Service.....7pm

Pastor, Rev. Gwen Curry.

Need A Ride? Call Today: 704-393-2005
2730 Rozzells Ferry Road, Charlotte, NC 28208



"Salvation, Healing and Deliverance for the total Man reaching the lost at any cost!"

Emmanuel Tabernacle Center of Hope

204 West Woodlawn Rd.
Mailing address: P.O. Box 7322 Charlotte, NC 28241

Sunday School - 9 AM
Sunday Morning Worship - 10 AM
Wednesday Evening: Prayer, Anointing and Bible Enrichment - 7 PM
Saturday Morning Broadcast: Rejoice Radio 1370 & 1490 - 11:30 AM

Rev. Van Dyke & First Lady Davonia Freeman


PRAYER FOR THE SICK IN EVERY SERVICE COME EXPECTING A MIRACLE!

"The Seventh Day is the Sabbath of the Lord" - Exodus 20:10

Northeast SDA Church

827 Tom Hunter Rd. • P.O. Box 560647
Charlotte, NC 28256
(704)394-5615 Office • (704)596-9767 Fax
Frank L. Harrell, Sr. - Pastor

Sabbath School..... 9:15a.m.
Sabbath Service..... 11:00a.m.
Wed. Prayer Service..... 7:00p.m.



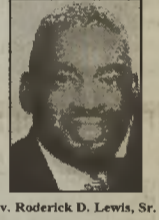
PARKWOOD INSTITUTIONAL

Christian Methodist Episcopal Church
Rev. Roderick D. Lewis, Sr., Pastor

802 Tom Hunter Road • Charlotte, NC 28213
(Ph) 704-921-4915 (Fax) 704-921-4917
website: www.parkwoodmc.com
Radio Broadcast: Sat. 8AM WGIV 1600AM
Sunday Worship: 8AM and 11AM
Sunday Breakfast: 8:45AM
Sunday Church School: 9:45AM
Bible Study: Wed. 12 Noon and Thur. 6:30PM

"The Church Where Everybody is Somebody and Christ is Lord of All."
TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE

Rev. Roderick D. Lewis, Sr.



MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH

"A Ministry of Love & Excellence"

Dr. John H. Walker, Pastor & Minister Rosie Walker

SUNDAY

Christian Education School.....10:00 a.m.
Worship.....7:45 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Youth Church 1st, 2nd, 3rd & 5th.....11a.m.


WEDNESDAY

"Hour of Power" Midday Worship 12 Noon
Prayer & Praise: 6:00 p.m. • WOW Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.

TV. BROADCAST MINISTRY:

Cable 9: Sat., 3:00 p.m. • CMPA 21: Sun. 6:00 p.m.
RADIO MINISTRY: WGSP 1310 AM
M/W/F 12:20 p.m. • Sun. 9:30 a.m.

704-392-8496 • 1300 Hatteras Ave.,
www.macedoniaofcharlotte.org



+++

silver Mount Baptist Church

"Continuing the Legacy - By Fulfilling the Vision"

Come And Worship With Us!

Morning Worship Service 9:45am Children's Church 8:45am Wed. Night Bible Study 7:00pm
Sunday School

501 W. Arrowood Road - Charlotte NC 28217
(704) 522-1528 • (704) 527-2499 - fax
www.silvermount.org
email: smbc501@bellsouth.net

Dr. Lincoln C. Lee, Pastor




Greater Bethel A.M.E. Church

Rev. Dr. Walter V. Howard, Jr. Pastor
201 Grandin Rd. - Charlotte, NC 28208
Phone: 704-376-4345 • Fax 704-376-4350
Morning Worship Services - 7:45am & 11am
Sunday School - 9:30am - 10:30am
Intercessory Prayer - Friday - 7:00pm
Wed. Bible Study 11:45am - 1:00pm & 7:00pm - 8:00pm

A.C.E. Fellowship: Sun. 6:00 pm
Combined Worship - 1st Sunday @ 10:00am
<http://www.gbamec.org>

Dr. Walter V. Howard, Jr.
Pastor & Mrs. Howard



St. Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church

- Join Us For Service -
Sunday School and Morning Worship, Sunday 10:30 am
4228 Hovis Road • Charlotte, NC 28208
704-399-3151
Rev. Wendel Phillips, Pastor




Greater Gethsemane A.M.E. Zion Church

"The Church with the Community at Heart"

531 Campus Street • Charlotte, NC 28216
(704)375-3900 • Fax 372-0614

Worship Services: 8AM & 11AM
Sunday School: 9:30AM
Bible Study: Wed. 10:30AM & 7PM
Daycare & Afterschool Available

The Reverend Calvin L. Miller - Pastor
Reverend Karen Roberts Miller - Spouse
E-mail: gamez531@bellsouth.net



REEDER MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Come and share "The Journey" with us.
Sunday Morning Worship - 8 am and 10:45 am
Sunday School - 9:30 am
Tuesday Bible Study - 7:30 pm

A SPIRITUAL JOURNEY MAKING CONNECTIONS
WITH YOUR FUTURE

3725 Beatties Ford Rd. • 704-398-2914

First Mt. Zion Baptist Church

1515 Remount Rd. • (Tel.)332-8335 (Fax)372-7548
28208

Sunday Morning Worship Services... 8:30 - 9:30 - 11:00am
Sunday School..... 9:45 - 10:45am
Singles Ministries (Mon.)..... 6:30 - 7:30pm
Senior Citizens (Mon.)..... 10:30 - 4:00pm

Office Hours: Mon. - Fri. 9:00am - 4:00pm
You are cordially invited to worship with us!

Dr. C.V. Owens



"A Church that exists to make fully devoted followers of Christ"

LUKE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

www.stlukembc.org

Sunday Worship Services.....8:00am • 11:00am • 6:30pm
Sunday School.....9:45am
Wednesday.....Noon Day Worship Study.....12:00

Evening Worship Study.....7:00pm
Rev. Clifford Matthews, Jr., Pastor • 375-9650
1600 Norris Ave. • Charlotte, NC 28206 • FAX: 375-8397




MOUNT CARMEL BAPTIST CHURCH

"Pastor and People Prevailing Together"
Mission Statement: "Celebrating Christ to reach, teach and equip people for the service of Christ"

Sunday Worship at 8:00 A.M., 9:30 A.M. and 11:30 A.M.
Sunday School Ministry at 9:30 A.M.
Children (4-11 yrs.), Youth (12-17 yrs.) & Nursery: 11:30 A.M.
Small Groups and Married Couple's: 9:30 A.M.
Wednesday: Praise Worship & Bible Study, 7 P.M.
Youth and Children's Ministry

3201 Tuckaseegee Road, Charlotte, NC 28208-3357
Office: 704-394-3525 Fax: 704-394-8836
Website: www.mcnc.org.
The Reverend Dr. Casey R. Kimbrough, I, Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Casey R. Kimbrough, I



Shepherd's Fold Church

5101 Nations Ford Road • Charlotte, NC 28217 • (704) 583-1436


is This The Only Soul You're Listening to?

Celebrative Early Worship 8:30 a.m.
Dynamic Bible Study 10:00 a.m.
Powerful Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

W.O.W. Word On Wednesday 7:00 pm.
- Hot Day Supper -

"The Vision Is Clear, The Journey Has Begun"

Senior & Founding Pastor C. David Stackhouse & First Lady Irene



SIMPSON-GILLESPIE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

JOIN US FOR SERVICE

Sunday School, 9: 30am • Sunday Worship, 11am
Wednesday: Bible Study, 7pm
Saturday: "Contemporary Worship," 6pm... "Wear Your Jeans"


- Dr. Andrew Brown, Pastor -
3545 Beatties Ford Rd., Charlotte, NC 28216 • 704-399-2717
"We can Do All Things Through Christ Who Strengthens Us"

St. Paul Baptist Church

Our Purpose: "To convince the unconvinced to be convinced and make disciples"
Sunday Worship at 7:30 A.M. and 10:30 A.M.
Sunday Morning Breakfast 8:45 A.M.
Sunday School at 9:25 A.M. - 10:25 A.M.
Radio Broadcast Sunday 11:00 A.M. (1370 A.M. Dial)
Bible Study Wed. 12 Noon - 6:45 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.
Youth Church 2nd & 3rd Sunday 10:30 A.M.

1401 North Allen Street, Charlotte, NC 28205
Office: 704-334-5309

Gregory K. Moss Sr. Pastor



Mayfield Memorial Baptist Church

"A Church Putting Love Into Action"
700 SUGAR CREEK ROAD, WEST CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA 28213

Sunday Church School 9:30a.m.
Worship Service 11:00a.m. and 6:00p.m.
Baptist Training Union 5:00p.m.
Prayer Meeting & Bible Study Wednesdays 7:30pm
Office (704)596-7935 • Fax (704)596-1204
Residence (704)597-1249

