

Pleasant Hill Baptist Church youth host annual revival program

Continued from page 8B

- University Park Baptist Church at 029 Beatties Ford Road will hold Dress Down on Easter Sunday.
- Friendship Missionary Baptist Church will hold its Easter Musical Worship Experience: Part The second (Sunrise) service at 6 a.m. It will also hold Resurrection Day Worship Services.
- Freedom Temple Ministries, Inc. will hold its Easter Live on Main Celebration at City Hall Plaza located on Black Street between Hampton St. and Dave Lyle Blvd.

April 13

West Orange High School Choral program will render an evening of choral music form their 2004 Spring Tour at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church.

April 14-16

The youth of Pleasant Hill Baptist Church at 517 Baldwin Avenue will hold their annual Youth Revival at 7:30 p.m. The Junior Choir will hold a musical program at 4 p.m.

April 17

Morehouse College Men's Glee Club will hold a concert at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church at 7 p.m.

April 22-24

Transfiguration Ministries will hold "Rise, Shine For the Light Has Come" at 2707 Little Rock Road at 7 p.m.

April 22-25

O'Zion AME Zion Church at 13921 Hamilton Road will hold its Music Ministries 2004 Gospel music Workshop.

April 24

Women of Real Destiny will hold its program "Fulfill Your Destiny" at 2707 Little Rock Road at 9 a.m.

April 25

The New Zion Missionary Baptist Church will hold its Pastor's Aid anniversary at 3 p.m.

- District III Usher's Annual Day Program will be held at 4 p.m. at Saint Luke Missionary Baptist Church at 1600 Norris Avenue.

April 23-24

"Living the Gospel: An Economic Justice Workshop" will be held at St. Paul Baptist Church at 1401 North Allen.

May 9

Mother's Day Gospel Fest will be held at the Stanley County Agri-Civic Center at 3 p.m.

Church chef suggests Easter dinner menu

By Joan Brunskill
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — If you're the designated cook this Easter, you may want to consider some menu suggestions from the chef at one of Manhattan's landmark churches, whose experiences give his food a special flavor.

Ron Svenningsen, catering manager at Marble Collegiate Church, and owner of a new restaurant nearby, Svenningsen's, offers a couple of recipes for Down-East seafood courses as well as a traditional ham for Easter tables.

Svenningsen is a native of Staten Island, but he spent time up in Portland, Maine, where he apprenticed under a French master-chef and began to learn about preparing fine food for large groups (at the church they estimate they serve about 50,000

meals a year).

He opened and managed his own restaurants along the Maine coast, and owned a lobster boat and fishing business. Then he came back to New York City, and took the church job in 1986.

Svenningsen was engaged as chef by Dr. Arthur Caliendo, the church's senior minister, who sees the "breaking of bread" as an additional opportunity to build community, for people to sit down together and share thoughts.

"When I was hired they had food here, but it was real old-style, simple church food — more just sandwiches and coffee," Svenningsen said in a recent interview. "Now we've taken the food program to a different level."

Nowadays people's eating habits have evolved, so the church's menus are more varied and up-to-date, Svenningsen explained.

"We always have a vegetarian alternative, for example. And the menus are in keeping with healthy-eating ideas. Dr. Caliendo has encouraged a heart-healthy angle to menus, that's a real change."

Svenningsen's Maine taste shows in the "catch of the day" fish items he says are on the menus, whatever is good and fresh that day. And among his "theme meals" there's a popular cified clam bake that's become an annual occasion in late spring. It

features not only lobsters, clams, corn and all the trimmings, but a quasi beach rigged up with sand and sea shells inside the church building.

Meals Svenningsen caters at the church range from soup and salad, to full dinners and hors d'oeuvre-type parties, he says. "We feed up to 600 on big occasions, but it's a varied catering operation, going on most days of the week, with Sunday brunches right after service for about 250," he said.

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