

Churches use anniversary to remember Katrina's dead

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people to make some progress," the Rev. Marshall Truehill Jr., the Baptists' pastor, said. "Progress makes hope."
A coat of primer on the

church, a revamped sign outside and the tent—all recent additions—are attracting attention, he said. "We plan to introduce ourselves back to this community," the preacher, who sleeps in a FEMA

trailer behind the church, said.

Two blocks away, Mass was under way at the Grace Episcopal Church, which took on 4 feet of water. It has been open for months but the signs of

Katrina are everywhere: The doors are warped, windows are broken and construction material sits in the hallways.

The shadow of Katrina hung over the Mass on Sunday, which was dedicated to

the people killed during Katrina. During the intercession, the parishioners—some with tears in their eyes—slowly read the names of the dead and lit candles representing the souls of those who per-

ished. Bells tolled overhead. "Light emerges from darkness," the Rev. Walter Baer said, "and darkness does not overcome it."

Authors explore connections

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us into many of the problems we now find ourselves in—from 9/11 to the Israel-Lebanon conflict to the ban on stem cell research," says Dolan. Houghton Mifflin's vice president and editor in chief

Others, such as Jonathan Miller, a Democrat and Kentucky's state treasurer, see a positive, unifying role for religion. His "The Compassionate Community" advocates a "values-based policy agenda," based in part on biblical writings, and includes an after-

word by former Vice President Al Gore, a Democrat, and a blurb from Republican Christine Todd Whitman, the former New Jersey governor and head of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Danforth's book may remind readers of Whitman's "It's My Party Too," published in 2005 and a call for Republican moderation. Danforth, an Episcopal priest and former Republican senator from Missouri, says he was inspired to write "Faith and Politics" by the dispute over

Terri Schiavo, the irreversibly brain-damaged Florida woman who became a favorite cause of the religious right, and leading Republicans. Schiavo died last year after her feeding tube was removed following a long court battle between Schiavo's husband and parents.

"That was the 2-by-4 that hit me over the head. I felt that was totally inappropriate and out of hand," says Danforth, whose book is being published by Viking with a first printing of 100,000.

Walk through Bethlehem event

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November 17
Pastor Valari Logan and Women of the Harvest present a Women's Fall Retreat, "Listening to GOD with our Total Mind, Body, and Soul." The event runs through Saturday and registration is \$85. The deadline is September 15 to register. Send cash or money order to Kingdom Fellowship-Women of the Harvest, PO Box 444334, Charlotte, NC 28215.

The retreat will be held at The White Oak Conference Center in Winnsboro, S.C. For more information (704) 531-2246.

December 2
Matthews United Methodist Church will host its annual Walk Through Bethlehem event after a one year hiatus. The event models the Town of Bethlehem as it

appeared when Christ was born and offers visitors an interactive experience. The church is located at 801 S Trade St. Matthews. The event runs from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.

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