

CHURCH

Continued from 1A

ple doing that," Mizell said. "There are other people who do that, but I tell you that a big part of what we do, the DNA in our culture and our church, is to look outside the walls."

Mizell explained his ministry's calling.

"The natural response is to look inward," he said. "There are certain needs that are met within a church. Social, spiritual and relationship needs are met within the church. The natural tendency is to improve that experience for those people who are there because it is meeting a specific need. I don't want to say anything derogatory about a church which is pulled in that direction, but that's only part the mandate."

Mizell talked about a multitude of topics ranging from environmentalism to the value of life itself — ideals needed to improve the community. One such topic about racism generated a panel discussion that included state legislators, Superintendent Rob Jackson and Pastor Jonathan Downing of Shalom International Church. While many aspects of society are integrated, Sunday services remain segregated. To address this aspect and perhaps learn more, Downing and Mizell exchanged services — novel idea.

"We left with a couple of things that night that intrigued us about how to improve our community," Mizell said. "One was the intent for races to worship together and understand that we are all in this kind of deal together."

Another idea that bore fruit from the panel discussion was Jackson's idea for providing "scholarships" for pre-k and kindergarten children to assist their education so as to better prepare them elementary school. Mizell said not all students get to attend the pre-K classes needed to build the skills needed for the challenges ahead. Many of these children, who come from disadvantaged backgrounds, desperately need time in the classroom and attention from teachers.

So by acquiring the new property, Open Door Church wants to run a pre-school which will provide another educational option for parents that may not have access such programs, Mizell said. Need based, anyone would have access including children who have received scholarships.

"They get to school and they are significantly behind the other students who have either had significant training at home or they've been in a pre-school environment where they learn the basics," he said. "Those children that start out behind become frus-

trated as well as it becoming a dilemma for the teachers and often these students end up dropping out later. One of the biggest things we can do is to provide a scholarship for a child at the pre-school level — to pay for a kid to go to school. That's not a cheap venture by any stretch. A couple of people in our congregation took it upon themselves to do this personally for a couple of families."

Brew Rescue in Hertford where the profits from the cafe assist programs aimed at stopping human trafficking.

"This part of the ministry that we do in the community," Mizell said.

Mizell said there is a passage in the Bible where Mary has poured alabaster on Jesus' feet. The Disciples object because this money could have been used for other purposes such as providing for the poor, but it doesn't appear if they are meeting the needs of the poor.

"Jesus makes a statement that you always have the poor with you," Mizell said. "That statement tears me because it's kind of a statement that says you're never going to solve this problem, however, it is a problem you should always address. If we solved the world's problems, there would never be anything inside of me that says I'm responsible for my fellow man. We'll always



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Open Door Church Pastor Stephen Mizell delivers bedding to Tyner Manor, a group home for men, as part of an outreach effort from the church to provide new bedding for each of the residents.

have the need that needs to be fulfilled. I'm a firm believer that the church has to stop depending on the government to meet the needs of the people in the community. We have to care of ourselves."

"A church has to look inward and outward at the same time. I think we only fulfill the call that Christ has given the church if we are meeting the needs of people who never come to our church, never enter

our doors and never have an opportunity to be a part of the church or don't want to be a part of the church. Jesus had a lot to say about the least of these — making sure you take care of the least of these."

MARKET

Continued from 1A

gust. Exterior work on the building has been carried

out by Edenton Construction Company.

Mike Griffin donated all his labor to complete exterior and interior painting at the site, she said. And

Chowan County farmer Frederick Inglis of Somers Farm has donated wood he grew, cut and milled that was used inside the building.

MacKenzie said that arrangements are being made to have anyone who contributed to the project be permanently recognized.

"It's going to be a work in progress," she said, noting that some small jobs remain to be completed. "There's going to be a few little projects that will

"It's going to be a work in progress."

Janet MacKenzie
Farmers Market manager

continue throughout the spring."

MacKenzie said that she and the market's board of directors are all proud of the way the community has responded to the need for the Edenton Farmers Market to have the new, permanent home and has shown such strong sup-


port to make sure that happened.

"This has been a true community effort," she said.

MacKenzie said the board has set a target date of reopening the organization's Spring Market in mid-April but much depends on the local strawberry

crop and when it is ready. She said that already special events and workshops are being planned with Chowan County Extension Director Mary Morris and others in preparation for that reopening. The Wednesday afternoon markets will also resume at that time.

"We hope those visiting the Wednesday Markets will find a larger variety of items than what we have had there in the past," MacKenzie said. "That's our goal."



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Chowan County Tax Listing Notice 2018

Real Property

All real property will be automatically listed to the January 1, 2018 owner. You will only receive a listing abstract for real property if the real property was newly acquired during 2017, if you receive a property tax exclusion or exemption on the property, or if there was a change in value. New construction must be reported to the tax department during the month of January.

Personal Property

All personal property owned on January 1, 2018, except licensed motor vehicles, must be listed during the month of January. If you do not receive a listing form for personal property, contact the tax department.

List all unlicensed motor vehicles, permanent tagged vehicles, international registration plated vehicles, boats, boat motors, jet skis, all terrain vehicles, airplanes, farm equipment, and single-wide mobile homes.

All personal property must be listed by January 31, 2018 to avoid a 10% late listing penalty.

Business Property

All businesses are required to file a business personal property form by January 31, 2018. Any business filing for the first time must contact the tax department to receive a listing form.

All business personal property must be listed by January 31, 2018 to avoid a 10% late listing penalty.

Elderly / Permanently Disabled Exemption, Disabled Veterans Exemption, Circuit Breaker Exemption

If you are interested in applying for an exemption, you may request an application by calling 252-482-8487, and an application will be mailed. Applications are also available in the tax listing department of the Chowan County Tax Office, and on the county web site www.chowancounty-nc.gov. All exemption applications must be filed no later than June 1, 2018.

Chowan County Tax Department
PO Box 1030
305 W. Freemason Street
Edenton, NC 27932
(Phone) 252-482-8487
(Fax) 252-482-1528

HOGAN

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earned a BA degree in Organizational Management. Hogan furthered her graduate studies at East Carolina University in Greenville.

Hogan currently serves as vice chair of the Elizabeth City State University Board of Trustees and is a

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board member of the North Carolina Commission on Community Service and Volunteerism.

Hogan is the author of "Beyond the Quote: 50 Motivational and Empowering Quotes to Heal the Broken Woman," which was published in the spring of 2013. Her second book, "Prayer and Meditations to Fuel the Broken Woman," is due to be released in 2018.

In related news in response to the question asked by MLK Jr., "What are you doing for others?," the Edenton-Chowan Food Pantry will sponsor a "Day of Service" at the food pantry on Monday, January 15.

Community leaders, including representatives from the Edenton Town Council, the Chowan County Board of Commissioners and the Edenton Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Day Committee, have been invited to serve as guest volunteers at the food pantry in recognition of Dr. King's birthday.

"It is a day on, not a day off," according to food pantry director Roger Coleman.

Dr. King once said, "Everyone can be great because everybody can serve." "We take this to heart," says Coleman who sees the pantry not only as a place to address food needs but as a place to build bridges and to move closer to Dr. King's vision of a "Beloved Community."

This is the second year that the Edenton-Chowan Food Pantry has sponsored a "Day of Service" as part of the local Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration. In re-

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