

Ever Green Church News by Mrs. Leacie Brooks

Sunday School opened at 9:30 with a song of praise to the Lord.

The superintendent, Bro. Chavis, was unable to attend. Keep him on your prayer list.

The lesson text was Acts 24:10. The subject was "Confrontation With Truth." A great discussion was taken from Acts 24.

FACING FALSE ACCUSATIONS

Paul's defense before Felix was in response to the accusations brought by the Jews against him. Testulus was the spokesman for the High Priest and the elders accused Paul of being a seditious person and a ringleader of the Nazarenes. Paul denied the first part of the accusation. But did not deny that he was a follower of Jesus, the Nazarene. He was glad for the opportunity to witness to Felix; and he was so persuasive that Felix allowed him certain freedom and continued to talk with him

about his beliefs.

DEFENDING THE TRUTH

Paul answered his accusers by telling how he was only in Jerusalem twelve days earlier and had not caused any disturbance but had been camping out the requirements of the Law in the Temple. He admitted that his belief was such that it was called heresy by the Jews, but he considered it the worship of the God of his father. He went on to witness to his faithfulness to all the Word of God and to the fact that he maintained a conscience that was void of offense toward God or man. Paul used the doctrine of the resurrection in his defense. It was the fact of the resurrection of Jesus Christ that was the chief thing that the Jews refused to accept. They could not accept the resurrection, for to do so would require them to accept His divinity. If He did rise from the grave, then they would have to believe that He was what He

claimed to be. The reality of the resurrection is still the foundation of the Christian faith. Paul wrote to the Corinthians and told them that man's faith and salvation hinge upon the reality of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

POSTPONING DECISIONS

Paul's defense was so powerful that Felix was impressed. As Paul reasoned to righteousness, temperance and judgment to come, Felix was so deeply moved that he sent Paul away. Too often men come face to face with the decision of their own destiny and turn away from the continued to delay a decision because he hoped that Paul would offer to purchase his freedom. The corruption of the world had to much hold on him.

Mrs. Dinna Blue's class that the program for Sunday. They did some beautiful singing, accompanied by Tracy Lowry on the guitar. These young ones put on a script based on the Concern of Others. They brought it out plain for you and I to see it is better to give than to receive. At the ending of the program the song they sang was so touching, especially now that life is so tough, with so many homes being burned and many in distress. The song said "There's a roof up above me. I've got shoes on my feet.

There's food on my table. I've got a good place to sleep. You gave me your love Lord and a fine family. Thank you Lord for your blessings on me."

Just think, today there are many many people in this world who are unable to have all these blessings. Why shouldn't we praise the Lord? He's wonderful. I do love him. He's special to me.

Once again the adult class received the attendance banner. Thanks adults. I'm proud of you.

Miss Janice Gocudin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Godwin, paid her birthday offering to the church.

Worship service was opened by Bro. Valdoesia Locklear.

A special prayer for the sick was held. Please pray especially for Sister Nancy Ann Oxendine. She is in a Fayetteville Hospital, also my sister-in-law, Mrs. Catherine Cummings who is in the Lumberton Hospital.

The pastor, Rev. Joseph Lee Locklear preached from First John, First Chapter and Seventh Verse, using for a text "The Blood." His thought was "Life in the Blood." Some wonderful points were brought out about the blood of Jesus.

Most of us children enjoyed a good dinner in the home of our sister, Arpie and husband Rev. C.W. Maynor. Those present were Lucratie Locklear, Ida Mae Hunt, Relford Cummings, James B. Cummings, his wife Mable Cummings and myself. There was plenty of delicious food. Once a month since we lost our precious mother, we children have made it a point to meet for lunch. There is always that vacancy. But deep inside each of us feel our loss of Mom is heaven's gain. I do thank God for that confidence.

Mothers, let's live in a way after we're gone, our children can say the same. We can if we pray enough.

Beside the birthday cake, they enjoyed eating hot dogs, chips, cheese curls and drink. Those who helped in this celebration were Jennifer Oxendine, Heather Lowry, Tevana Lowry, Kevin Lowry, Bryan Cummings, Dewayne Oxendine, Nicole Oxendine, Christian Oxendine, Lance Oxendine, Selethia Oxendine, Monica Oxendine, Jimmy In-cennan, Danny Oxendine, Reeses Ransom, Brasly Oxendine, Junior Freeman, Monica Oxendine, James Lee Oxendine, Jr., Rosie Locklear, Tina Locklear, Nikki Lowry, Junior Jerry Oxendine, Jimmy Freeman, Carey Locklear, Susie Oxendine, Cynthia Freeman, Linda Oxendine and her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Bradford Oxendine.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY
Genesis 15:1 "I am thy shield." Psalms 103:8 "The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and plenteous in mercy." Oh! What a savior.

Please pray for us at Ever Green.

Community Calander

TRIP TO WORLD'S FAIR PLANNED IN JUNE
A trip to the World's Fair in Knoxville, Tennessee is scheduled for June 25-27. The price is \$128.80. This includes two nights and three days. If interested in going, call Hazel Hunt at 521-4233 or 521-0572 after 4:00 p.m.

Attorney Locklear to speak at Saddletree Jaycee Meeting

You are cordially invited to attend the Saddletree Jaycees' monthly membership meeting, held at the Saddletree JC Clubhouse Thursday night at 7:30. The high light of the meeting will be Attorney Arnold Locklear. Mr. Locklear finished Law School at North Carolina Central at Durham. Locklear's main topic will be all legal aspects of interest concerning Today's Woman. The meeting will be hosted by Mrs. Grace Jones and Mrs. Wanda Jones.

BIBLE INSTITUTE ENROLLMENT

The Burnt Swamp Bible Institute begins its Spring session on Tuesday, Feb. 23. Two courses will be taught during the ten week session. Rev. L.P. Hardy, pastor of Berea Baptist Church, will teach the doctrinal course entitled *The Doctrine of the Church* on each Tuesday morning 10-11:30 a.m. Rev. Tony E. Brewington, Director of Associational Missions, will teach the New Testament course entitled *The Growth of the Early Church* in the evenings, 7:30-9 p.m.

The completion of these courses will provide credit toward one of two degrees, the Yokefellow of Divinity or the Disciple of Divinity. The cost per course is \$10 which includes registration and text. The Bible Institute is open to any person.

CHURCH TRAINING MEETING

The Burnt Swamp Baptist Association will hold a Church Training Mass Meeting on Monday evening, Feb. 22 at Zion Hill Baptist Church, 7:30 p.m. Associational churches are encouraged to attend. Special recognition is given to churches with the highest attendance and first associational quarter grade.

N.C. Jaycees plan annual Awards Ceremony

The North Carolina Jaycees will hold their Annual Awards Weekend Ceremonies on Feb. 19th, 20th, and 21st at the Airport Hilton Inn in Greensboro. The purpose of the events are to recognize and honor those outstanding young men and women from across North Carolina who have developed their leadership potential and achieved success through contributions made to their families, communities, churches, and professions.

Special guest for the Friday Night Banquet will be Seventh District Congressman, Charles Rose, from Fayetteville. Congressman Rose will address the group and help present the Outstanding Young Educator, Outstanding Young Farmer, and Jaycee Boss of the Year Awards.

Herman R. Clark, newly appointed Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Crime Control and Public Safety, will address the group during Saturday's Luncheon Program. Secretary Clark will also be assisting in awards presentations to the Outstanding Young Law Enforcement Officer, Outstanding Young Rescuer, Outstanding Young Correctional Officer, and the Outstanding Young Firefighter.

North Carolina Representative, James F. Morgan, Jr., will be the featured speaker for the Saturday Night Banquet at which the Five Outstanding Young Men and Five Outstanding Young Women in North Carolina for 1981 will be honored. Representative Morgan, from High Point, was President of the North Carolina Jaycees during 1975-1976, and is the only individual ever to be recognized twice as one of the Five Outstanding Young Men of North Carolina.

Assisting the Jaycees with the presentation and sponsorships of these programs are American Defender Life Insurance Company, Wachovia Bank and Trust Company, Peoples Bank and Trust Company, Nantahala Power and Light Company, Carolina Power and Light Company, Virginia Electric and Power Company, and Duke Power Company.

With chapters located in over 225 communities across North Carolina, Jaycees are constantly striving to provide their members with leadership training through community service. Any young man between the ages of 18 through 36 should contact their local Jaycee chapter for further information.

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Mr. and Mrs. Charles Brooks of Baltimore, Md. announce the birth of their second daughter, Laura Chenoa, on Thursday, Jan. 21 at 12:50 a.m. She weighed 8 lbs and 13 1/2 oz.

She is the granddaughter of Earl C. and Lorraine Brooks of Baltimore, Md. and the great granddaughter of Lela H. Brooks of Pembroke, NC and Mrs. C.C. Burnette of Lumberton, NC.

Cindy Locklear BIRTHDAY PARTY
Cindy, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lester Locklear celebrated her 10th birthday. The group had a great time.



Easy, inexpensive curtains can be made from kitchen towels. Take your pick of lively designs and colors.



Tobacco got its name from the Y-shaped pipe called a tabaca, which Columbus saw Caribbean Indians using.



ASSOCIATIONAL EVANGELISM CONFERENCE

Special Notice. The Burnt Swamp Associational Evangelism Conference has been rescheduled. All three services will be held at Harper's Ferry Baptist Church on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Feb. 25-27, 7:30 p.m. nightly. More information will appear in next week's issue of the CIV.

Protect your Future...Plan for your Retirement...Talk with an Expert...3:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 22, 1982...Pembroke Elementary Cafeteria...Sponsored by the Robeson County Association of Educators.

BRIEFS

- Poll indicates Americans concerned about crime.
- 44 million Americans said facing "midlife."
- Rise seen in counterfeiting food stamps.
- Miss Venezuela new Miss Universe.
- Another recession predicted as GNP drops.
- Brazilian coffee plants damaged by cold weather.
- Army confident in M-1 tank despite some bugs.

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