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Focus On Religion

Enrichment Program For Elderly And Handicapped Fulfills Needs

BY AUDREY L. WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

Except for her beautiful snow-white hair, Mrs. Leornia Jackson, at an attractive 70, shows few signs of aging. "It's really a joy being here," she says. "But the things I really miss about going to the YWCA are the swimming and bowling."

What began in 1978 at the Winston-Salem YWCA as an outreach program for the elderly and handicapped was, to the disappointment of many, discontinued within a year and half because funds were no longer available to keep it going.

But Mrs. Bessie Allen, a retired teacher, who had been YWCA volunteer for the program, just couldn't see herself letting the program die without a fight and neither could the members.

With diligence and the support of her church, Wentz Memorial United Church of Christ on Carver Road, Experience in Self-Reliance, her church association, and the help of many others, Mrs. Allen kept the program alive.

This Sunday at 4 p.m., Mrs. Allen and the 20 members of the enrichment program will celebrate the fifth anniversary of the Adult Enrichment Program for the Elderly and Handicapped at Wentz Memorial.

"I did everything I could to keep the program from folding," says Allen. "Once I began working with them, I couldn't let them loose."

The enrichment program doesn't just include senior citizens. A few of the members are blind or mentally handicapped, and Allen says she feels compassion for all of them, especially since she, as well as the members, is provided an outlet.

Inside the church's basement, three tables are filled with crafts that the members have made. Beautiful latch-hook rugs, pillows, patchwork quilts and other crafts made by group members are displayed on the tables.

"Within the last two years, we have made about \$300 selling the crafts," says Allen. "The money that we raise goes to keeping the program going."

Crafts and mingling are not the only outlets the program has to offer. Workshops of various subjects are also an added attraction.

Law workshops headed by Clifton Graves, affirmative action officer at Winston-Salem State University, have also proved beneficial to group members who have questions about various legalities, says Allen. "Richer Living" is a series headed by the Rev. B.F. Daniels, and it offers support through Bible study and religious counseling. These are just a few of the many activities that make the program enriching.

"God helps me to guide and provide the members with things they need. He gives me endurance because there have been times I wanted to throw up my hands."

-- Mrs. Bessie Allen

"God helps me to guide and provide the members with things they need," says Allen. "He gives me endurance because there have been times I wanted to throw up my hands."

"But when we went to the mountains a couple a weeks ago, I knew it wasn't anything but God," she says.

For those members who would normally be alone during the holiday season, the program provides them with holiday dinners and cheer, she says. She adds that the community has been very supportive of the program and without them, it wouldn't have survived.

Galilee Baptist Church, Mrs. Louise Wilson of ESR and many others in the community, says Allen, have given the program quality commitment so that it will survive.



Although the Adult Enrichment Program for the Elderly and Handicapped at Wentz Memorial lost its funding from the YWCA, Mrs. Bessie Allen, director, is doing her best to keep it going. Pictured, left to right, are Mrs. Mamie Moore, Mrs. Eugenia Wright and Mrs. Allen. Back row: Mrs. Leornia Jackson and Ms. Luvenia Hairston (photo by James Parker).

"When the program was at the Y," says Allen, "I got \$50 a week, but I don't miss that. When the program discontinued, I just did everything I could to keep it from folding."

In desperation, Mrs. Allen went to Mrs. Wilson at ESR, who helped her locate funding for the program. Because money is still a bit of problem for the group, it now only meets once a week at Wentz Memorial.

Mamie Moore has been assisting Allen for some time now. Allen says she lured her in because Moore's hus-

band was a member of Wentz Memorial. But Mrs. Moore doesn't care for being in the limelight and makes herself as scarce as possible.

"I'm disabled, but I love working with these people," says Mrs. Moore.

The program is currently designed to serve adults over 50 years old and adults, old or young, who are handicapped but ambulatory.

"When you give yourself in something like this," says Allen, "It comes back to you. It's really a blessing to be able to help someone."

CALENDAR

Compiled By Lucile Douthit

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4

•First Baptist Church at 501 W. Fifth St. will observe World Community Day at 11 a.m. The Rev. Ginny Britt will be the guest speaker.

•The Junior Choir of New Bethel Baptist Church at 1016 N. Trade St. and Christ Temple Church of God in Christ of Mocksville will sponsor The Angelic Gospel Singers of Philadelphia, Penn., in concert at 7:30 p.m. at New Bethel.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5

•A special Voter Referendum Workshop will be held at 10 a.m. at New Bethel Baptist Church, 1016 N. Trade St., for anyone interested in learning more about the approaching \$35 million bond referendum.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6

•The annual weeklong fall revival services at Macedonia Holiness Church of Kernersville will begin at the 11 a.m. worship service. Evening service will be held at the church on Monday-Friday at 7:30 p.m.

•Morning Star Baptist Church at 1400 Fitch St. will celebrate its second anniversary at 3 p.m. Dr. J. Ray Butler will be the guest speaker.

•Honor Day will be observed at St. Stephen Baptist Church at 2071 Bowen Blvd. at 7 p.m. All deacons of the church will be honored. The Rev. Charles Smith, associate pastor, will be the speaker.

•The Pastor's Aide of Zion Memorial Baptist Church at 101 N. Dunleith Ave. will celebrate its second anniversary at 4 p.m. The Rev. F.A. Leak of Grove Baptist Church in Yadkinville will be the guest speaker.

•The Willing Worker Club of St. Mark Baptist Church at 1100 Manly St. will celebrate its second anniversary at 4 p.m. The Rev. Melvin Frazier will be the guest speaker.

The Chronicle welcomes church calendar notices. Announcements should be concise and typed or neatly printed. They should also include the day, time, place and sponsors of the event, plus a number to call for additional information. Announcements should be addressed to the Winston-Salem Chronicle Church Calendar, P.O. Box 3154, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27102. The deadline for announcements is Mondays at 5:30.

Funerals

Funeral Services Held For Mr. Willie E. Reid Jr.

Mr. Willie Edward Reid Jr.

Funeral services for Mr. Willie Edward Reid Jr., of 1011 Louise Road, were conducted Oct. 27 at 4:30 p.m. in the chapel of the Hooper Funeral Home, with Elder Joseph Lowery officiating.

Interment followed in the Evergreen Cemetery. Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Lera E. Reid of the home; one son, Mr. Timothy Davis of this city; five daughters, Miss Andrea Davis, Miss Norma Davis, Miss Tanya Davis, Mrs. Delesa O'Neal and Mrs. Mancell Mitchell; thirteen grandchildren, and other relatives.

Hooper Funeral Directors took charge of services.

Mr. Willie Thomas Oliver

Funeral services for Mr. Willie Thomas Oliver, of 3456 Harper Road, Clemmons, N.C., were conducted Oct. 26 at 3 p.m. at the Dreamland Park Baptist Church, with the Rev. Ronald Fisher officiating.

Interment followed in the Hickory Grove AME Zion Church Cemetery.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Elizabeth W. Oliver of the home; three sons, Mr. Willie J. Oliver of the home, Mr. Thomas L. Oliver and Mr. Edward D. Oliver, both of this city; two sisters, Mrs. Faye Williams and Mrs. Juanita Wilson, both of this city; one brother, Mr. Charlie Oliver of Opa Locka, Fla.; two daughters-in-law; a devoted cousin, Mrs. Elizabeth Eccles; five grandchildren, and other relatives.

Hooper Funeral Directors took charge of services.

Mr. Walter Clark McGriff

Mr. Walter Clark McGriff, of 1447 Emerald Street, died Oct. 24 at the Forsyth Memorial Hospital.

He was a native of Lancaster, S.C., and had lived in this city for the past 38 years.

Mr. McGriff was employed at the R.J. Reynolds

Tobacco Co., Factory No. 90-3, and was a member of the St. Stephen's Baptist Church, a member of the Esther Missionary Society and Deacon Union of the Church.

He was a member of the Johnson Brothers Quartet, a veteran of World War II and a former member of the Elks.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Mary Broome McGriff of the home; two sons, Mr. Willie McGriff of this city, and Chaplain Captain Clark L. McGriff of Panama Canal Zone; one daughter, Mrs. Walteranette M. Talbert of this city; six grandchildren; three sisters, Mrs. Virginia McCullough, Mrs. Alicia Barksdale, both of this city, and Mrs. Betty J. L'Lando of Philadelphia, Pa.; five brothers, Mr. Hazel McGriff Jr., Prenell McGriff, Mr. Andrew McGriff, Mr. Leray McGriff, and Mr. Cleother McGriff; eight aunts; four uncles; two brothers-in-law, and other relatives.

Funeral services were conducted Oct. 30 at 1 p.m. at the St. Stephens Baptist Church with the Rev. J.R. Samuels officiating.

Interment followed in the Evergreen Cemetery.

Hooper Funeral Directors took charge of services.

Mrs. Dessie L. Washington

Mrs. Dessie L. Washington, of 1620 E. 24th Street, died Oct. 28 at her residence.

She was a native of Greenville, S.C., and had lived in this city for the past 60 years.

Mrs. Washington was a member of the Peoples Saving Club and of the Shiloh Baptist Church.

She was a retired employee of the R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co.

Surviving are four sons, Mr. Leroy Lindsay, Mr. Andrew Lindsay, Mr. Clyde Junior Washington, and Mr. Julius Washington; one brother, Mr. James Arthur Lindsay; several grandchildren, and other relatives.

Funeral services were conducted Nov. 1 at 2 p.m. at the

Shiloh Baptist Church with Dr. J. Ray Butler officiating. Interment followed in the Evergreen Cemetery.

Hooper Funeral Directors took charge of services.

Mr. Willie Davis Taylor

Mr. Willie Davis Taylor, of 1309 N. Dunleith Avenue, died Oct. 29 at the N.C. Baptist Hospital.

Mr. Davis was a construction worker and a veteran of World War II.

Surviving are an aunt, Mrs. Helen Ferguson, a devoted friend Miss Margretta Penn, and other relatives.

Graveside services were conducted Nov. 1 at 1 p.m. at the Evergreen Cemetery with interment following.

Hooper Funeral Directors took charge of services.

Mr. Sylvester Bonner

Mr. Sylvester Bonner, of 519 West 8th Street passed on Oct. 25 in the Veterans' Administration Hospital in Salisbury, N.C.

His remains were removed to Clark S. Brown & Sons Funeral Home.

He was a native of Winston-Salem and attended the local public schools and Florida A&M University.

He was a veteran of the Korean War, a Surveyor, and of the Baptist faith.

Surviving are four sisters, Mrs. Gracie Armstrong, Mrs. Opal Jenkins, Mrs. Pearl Beal, all of this city, and Mrs. Cornelia Grier of Bronx, N.Y., one brother, Mr. Horace A. Bonner of this city; one uncle, Mr. Ernest Walker of Washington, D.C.; one aunt, Mrs. Annie Belle Garrison of Spencer, N.C.; several nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends.

Clark S. Brown & Sons Funeral Home took charge of services.

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Bethlehem AME Zion Church will be celebrating its 102nd anniversary on Sunday (photo by James Parker).

Church Notes

Bethlehem Marks 102

Bethlehem AME Zion Church will celebrate its 102nd anniversary this Sunday at 3 p.m.

The theme for the celebration is, "Love for 102 Years."

The Rev. S.V. Campbell, pastor, will deliver a special sermon at the 11 a.m. service and music will be rendered by combined choirs of the church.

Special gifts will be presented by the membership. Dinner will follow in the Fellowship Hall.

Dr. Jerry Quick, pastor of Goler Metropolitan AME Zion Church, will deliver the evening service sermon. He will be accompanied by the gospel choir and congregation of his church.

General Assembly Begins

The 61st Annual General Assembly of the Glorious Church of God, will convene today through Sunday at Mt. Sinai Glorious Church of God.

The theme for this year's assembly is, "Performing the Kingdom Work."

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