

Religion

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Mount Calvary Holy Church to host youth conference

By ROBIN BARKSDALE
Community News Editor

Last year when the Mount Calvary Holy Church organization held its annual youth convention, everyone knew where the next convention would be held. Everyone, that is, except the delegation from Winston-Salem.

For several years, members of the church organization met at the convention and the site for the following year's convention was determined by majority vote. Each year, Winston-Salem confidently cast their votes for their hometown only to lose out to larger, more popular locations in states across the country. By the time last year's convention rolled around, the local members, holding out little real hope of success, went through the routine of nominating their city to host a convention. They were stunned by what happened next.

"For so long we'd go to the convention and they would ask the body where they wanted the next convention to be held. Each time, we raised our hands and said we wanted it in Winston-Salem. Everybody would say, 'Winston-Salem? No, let's go here or let's go there,'" said the Rev. Bobby Wilson, head of the youth department at the local Mount Calvary Holy Church. "This time, we stuck up our hands and asked that it come to Winston-Salem and all of a sudden everyone said 'Yes, yes, let's go to Winston-Salem.' We were shocked. But we were very happy. We thought we'd be going somewhere else again."

More than 600 delegates will converge on the Twin City Tuesday for the 49th National Youth Conference of the Mount Calvary Holy Churches of America Inc. The conference, which will run through next weekend, will feature various seminars, workshops and classes for young members of the church organization. Rev. Wilson said that the church is most concerned with helping its young members handle the stresses and con-

fusion of peer pressure.

"We discuss topics that involve young people. We bring up things such as teen-age pregnancy, peer pressure and the ups and downs of being a preacher's kid," he said. "We also will provide marriage counseling and offer sessions on drug abuse prevention issues. We want to offer them different views as to a better way out of the situations they are in. We want to present them with hopeful situations to turn to."

Rev. Wilson said that pressure from friends is at the root of most of the problems young people are confronted with today. He said that the conference has been organized in a way that will present the messages the church wants to send in a way that will be attractive to young people.

"We're going to put on what we decided would be a local version of the 'Oprah Winfrey Show,'" he said. "We're going to have a panel of people from states across the country who will discuss issues and open the discussion up to the audience. We want to help these young people adapt to peer pressure. We feel that half the time they would not get on drugs if not for peers making them feel that they're not up to par if they don't do drugs or if they don't hang out all night. We want to help them realize that they're not alone."

Part of the battle against peer pressure, Rev. Wilson said, can be won by building up a young person's self-esteem, a characteristic he said is lacking among Afro-American youth. He said that if a young person is comfortable with his own values and his own abilities, he has little need to give in to the will of other people. But he admits that pinpointing the source of low self-esteem is not easy.

Rev. Wilson has worked with his church's youth department for the past three years. He has been a member of the church "for all of my 30 years." He works closely with the young people in the youth



photo by Mike Cunningham

The Rev. Bobby Wilson, left, and Kevin Shouse are wrapping up plans for the youth convention of the Mount Calvary Holy Church organization.

department and said that watching them and working with them is a source of much happiness for him personally.

"I just love them. They need somebody with a lot of energy and someone who can understand them," he said. "I'm older than they are but I'm not 50 years older than they are so things haven't changed a whole lot from the time I was their age. I love them and they seem to respect me. It just seems like this is what the Lord wanted me to do."

Rev. Wilson said, too, that his church has not experienced the scarcity of young people that some churches are suffering. He said that is due in large part to the emphasis that the church's pastor, Bishop Harold

Williams, places on involving young members in church activities.

"There is no real generation gap at our church. The majority of our young people grew up in the church," Rev. Wilson said. "With us being a holiness church, our music is up tempo and the young people can play drums or whatever they want to do. They can have a good time in the church and they bring their friends. Their friends come, enjoy themselves and stay. We just have fun and that's why young people enjoy coming to church. We're like a family church, not in terms of blood relations, but in terms of atmosphere and attitude. Our pastor has the youth at heart. They play a big role in the church."

CHURCH CALENDAR

SATURDAY, JULY 8

- Wayside CME Church will honor its pastor, the Rev. Emma Duren with an appreciation service at 4 p.m. at Shouse Temple CME Church on Carver Road.

SUNDAY, JULY 9

- The Spiritual Choir of St. Stephen Baptist Church, 2071 Bowen Blvd., will present its annual song festival at 3 p.m. Various choirs will participate.
- Friendship Baptist Church, 1317 N. Cherry St., will hold a youth revival through Friday, July 14, at 7:15 nightly. The revival will begin with the 11 a.m. Sunday service. The Rev. Walter Richardson, pastor of Sweet Home Baptist Church of Perrine, Fla., will be the revival speaker. The Rev. S.E. Tyndall is host pastor. Music will be provided nightly.
- The Pastor's Aid of Antioch Baptist Church will celebrate its anniversary at 4 p.m. The Rev. Z. Pratt and members of Second New Bethel will be the guests. The Rev. J.L. Montgomery is host pastor.
- The Galilean Choral Ensemble will minister in music and song at 4 p.m. during a special concert at Galilee Baptist Church. All choirs from the city are invited to join the program. Dr. W.C. Hay is host pastor.
- The Rev. Carlton Rucker of St. Paul Missionary Baptist will be the speaker for the ushers' anniversary program at Red Bank Baptist Church at 4 p.m. The Rev. J.R. Clyburn is the host pastor.
- Missionary Day will be observed at Zion Hill Baptist Church during the 11 a.m. service. Mrs. Bronnie Daniels will be the guest speaker. The Rev. John H. Walker is host pastor.

MONDAY, JULY 10

- Vacation Bible School will be held at Mount Zion Baptist Church beginning July 10 and running through July 14. Classes will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Highlights will include fellowship through Bible study, arts and crafts. Dr. Serenus Churn is host pastor. Deacon Robert L. Young is the Bible school director.
- St. Stephen Baptist Church, 2071 Bowen Blvd., will hold Vacation Bible School from 6 to 9 nightly. Betty Harris is the director. The Rev. J.R. Samuels, is the pastor.

TUESDAY, JULY 11

- Macedonia TVPH will hold its UPCOD convention through July 14. Bishop S.D. Johnson is host pastor.

SATURDAY, JULY 15

- The Winston-Salem Day Chapter of Women's Aglow Fellowship International will hold an interdenominational meeting at 9:30 a.m. at the Central YMCA. Jean Derrick of Greensboro will be the speaker. For more information call 723-0864.

CHURCH NOTES

Mount Zion ends centennial event with fellowship banquet

Mount Zion Baptist Church concluded a monthlong celebration of its 100th anniversary last weekend with a fellowship banquet Saturday night and two religious services Sunday, July 2.

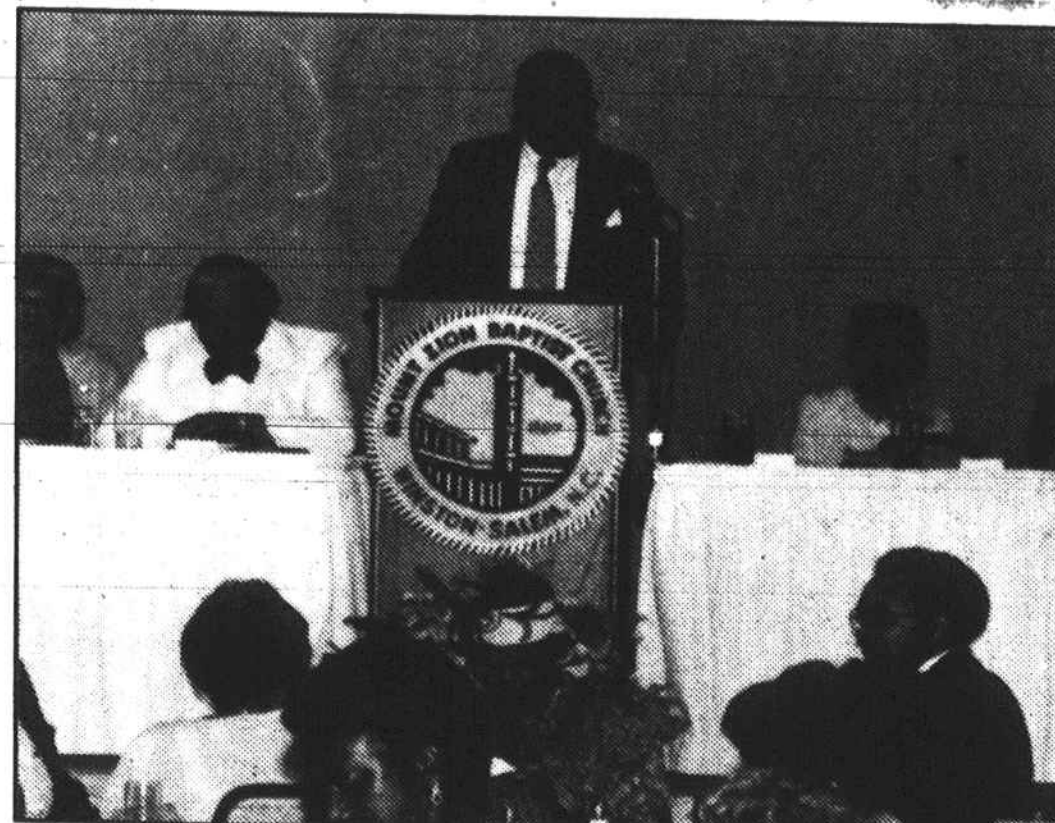
The theme for the entire celebration was "1989 -- A Year of Jubilee -- Let Mount Zion Rejoice."

The speaker for the fellowship banquet was Robert J. Brown, founder, chair and president of B&C Associates Inc. of High Point.

The Rev. Gilbert Campbell, pastor of New Calvary Baptist Church in Norfolk, Va. and the fourth pastor of Mount Zion, was the speaker at the Centennial Anniversary Service.

The Rev. John Mendez, pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church, was the speaker for Sunday evening's Loyalty Service.

Each speaker congratulated Mount Zion for its accomplishments during the past 100 years and especially for the recent completion of its File-Goodwin Enrichment Center. The speakers noted that the center will make it possible for the



photos by C.B. Hauser

Robert J. Brown delivered the keynote address last Sunday at Mount Zion's Dedication Sunday services.

church to render a greater service to the community, state and nation.

Dr. Berthenia Horne presided at the banquet. Burthel Hoffer gave the statement of the occasion and Shirley Churn gave a brief history

of Mount Zion Baptist Church.

Greetings were brought by Emory Rand, director of the Forsyth County Human Relations Department; Walter Tucker, manager of the Winston-Salem Branch of

Mechanics and Farmers Bank; Harvey Gantt, architect of the File-Goodwin Enrichment Center; Rep. Annie Brown Kennedy, a member of the N.C. General Assembly; and Virginia K. Newell, alderman of the East Ward.

The Rev. W.E. Banks, coordinator of Shaw University's extension branch in High Point, gave the invocation and grace. Music was furnished by Aquilla Y. Hairston and Benita Williams. The Rev. Reuban Gilliam, president of the local ministerial conference, gave the benediction.

The high point of the banquet was the induction and presentation of the centennial membership certificates to 127 members of the church by Deacon Braxton C. Hairston Jr., pastor Serenus T. Churn, Chlories P. Shore and Daisy Henry Durrant.

Other activities during the monthlong celebration included Memorial Sunday June 4, Founders and Pioneers Day on June 1, Concert Sunday June 18, and Dedication Sunday June 25.

Large crowd expected for Winston-Salem Zionites' Christian Education Day

On Tuesday, July 11, hundreds of youth, children and adults will meet at the convention center to celebrate Christian Education Day.

The theme for the convention is "Christ's Message: Zion's Direction."

Classes, seminars, workshops and a symposium will be available to all groups. Topics of discussion

will include self-esteem, family life, sexuality, health, drugs and career awareness. Community resource people will moderate the discussions.

The afternoon service is designed to set the tone and the direction for participants. There will be a processional of Christian educators, church superintendents, min-

isters and church school members from more than 100 churches. Music will be performed by a Mass Choir with Michael Lemmon in charge of arrangements.

Following the processional, the Rev. William Milton Smith, presiding prelate for the Western North Carolina Conference, will give an inspirational address to the youth.

Rev. Smith also will be the cel-

brant for the annual communion service.

The Rev. James A. French is host pastor; Kathleen Hunt is hostess, district director and coordinator of activities.

Parris Favors is coordinator of the career awareness workshop. The Rev. Richard Harris is presiding elder of the district.

Kimberly Park Holiness Church to host Holiness Church of God conventions

The 62nd Sunday School, 44th YPHA and 42nd Education Department conventions of the Holiness Church of God Inc. will convene at Kimberly Park Holiness Church July 11 to 16.

The Sunday School convention will be in charge of the services throughout the day on Tuesday with overseer James Compton, president, presiding.

Elder Robert Bullard of Amityville, N.Y., will be the featured speaker Tuesday evening at 7:30.

The Education Department will be in charge of Wednesday services. Elder Thomas Shuler, president, will preside.

Evangelist Gloria Goldsmith, vice president, will preach at 3 p.m. Elder Shuler will deliver his annual message at 7:30 Wednesday evening.

The YPHA convention will be in charge of Thursday services. Minister Shirley Gillis, president, will preside.

Evangelist Jacqueline Grant,

vice president, will preach at 3 p.m. Minister Gillis will give her annual message Thursday evening at 7:30.

Also the king and queen of the YPHA will be crowned on Thursday.

The Sunday School Department will be in charge of Friday's 9:30 a.m. service. Mr. Compton will preside. Arnie Joyce, vice president, of Kimber West Va., will preach his annual message at 7:30 p.m.

Bishop Boyce McKinney of Graham will be in charge of the Sat-

urday morning service.

At 7:30 Saturday evening, there will be a series of sermonettes and the awarding of a prize.

Deacon James Floyd will be in charge of Sunday School at 9:30 Sunday morning. Mr. Compton will deliver his annual message at 11 a.m.

Music will be provided by the choir of Miracle Temple in High Point and by the Young Adult Choir of Kimberly Park Holiness Church.