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A Message In This 'Mess Age'

Young Apostolic bishop starts new movement, strives to build church for God

By PATRICIA SMITH-DEERING
Chronicle Staff Writer

At a very early age, Kenneth Rogers knew that God had touched his life and that he would have a special calling. He describes himself as being a "babe in arms," yet, he possessed the inspiration of God.

Bishop Rogers, at the age of 17, has joined with Bishop L.J. Goodwin, who is the general overseer of the United Church of God in Jesus Christ Apostolic at 826 Effird Street. What he hopes to do is build a ministry that will one day allow him to branch out with his own church.

Bishop Rogers received his calling when he was nine years old. "It was the inspiration of God and my spiritual mother, Eva Nance Singletary," he said, "that inspired me. She was a member of St. Paul's Apostolic Church." However, he felt that he needed to wait until he was old enough to understand his calling and what

that meant before beginning to preach.

He preached his first sermon

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-- Bishop Kenneth Rogers

at the United Church of Jesus Apostolic where Bishop O.D. LeGrant was the state overseer. He was all of 14 years old.

A year later, he was ordained as the North Carolina Jurisdictional Overseer of the True Vine Pentecostal Churches of Jesus Apostolic where Dr. Robert L. Hairston is the presiding prelate.

Bishop Rogers said he sometimes takes a lot of teasing from

his schoolmates at Carver High School, where he is in his senior year. "They call me 'Little Rev.' There are some that don't believe

that you can be a minister at an early age," he said.

But he views his youth and his calling as positive proof that age is not a barrier to being and doing whatever a person wants in life. "If you look at me, you can be what you want to be at a young age," he said.

His sermons focus especially on the young people in his church, counseling against drugs, on

moral behavior, and on everyday problems such as dating. "There is a message in this 'Mess Age,'" he said.

"I try to preach to them, telling that drugs are not the answer. You can be successful if you put God first in your life. And when they date, I tell them to try to get someone in the church, someone who is living right," he said. He separates his Apostolic faith from that of other Apostolic churches. "We believe in the oneness of God, not the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost," he explained.

As Bishop Goodwin's associate, Bishop Rogers makes visits to other churches in both the Apostolic faith and those in the Trinitarian faith who are contemplating a move into the Apostolic faith.

His long-range goal is to have a church which will be affiliated with the church where he is currently ministering. "It will be named Deliverance Temple of Prayer Apostolic Church," he said.

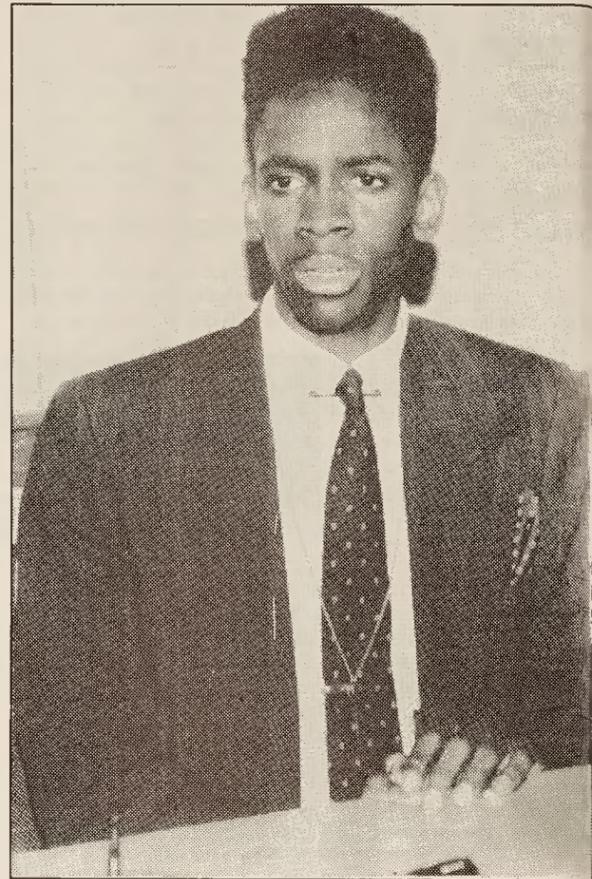


Photo by L.B. Speas Jr.
Bishop Kenneth Rogers explains the thrust of his ministry the church and for God.

Bulldogs, Camels, Yellow Jackets reunited

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collectively the alumni could be a catalyst for change in the community, they felt that the first step was to create an opportunity to bring those classes together. The idea for "Camel Fest" was born.

The Class of '66 formed a non-profit organization, chartered under the auspices of the State of North Carolina and officially known as "The Atkins Alumni 1966 Inc." The affair that they planned was billed as "the first ever all-class celebration" and was held Saturday at the M. C. Benton Convention Center.

Approximately 1,000 people, representing the Classes of 1932-1971 danced to music from the years when they were at Atkins, rooting for the Camels and treading lightly in the halls of principals Togo D. West Sr. and Mr. John Carter.

The event was dedicated to Mr. Ernest Frye Wilson, former assistant principal under Principal West, and in memory of Mrs. Ja

Vone Adams-Rice, a charter member of The Atkins Alumni 1966 Inc. Mrs. Avonia Hill, secretary at Atkins for more than 30 years, was honored for her long service at the school.

Rutherford Moorman Jr., president of the Class of 1966, hopes that the all-class reunion will result in an organized group, a caucus, that can be prepared to lobby for or against proposed courses of action that would impact the African-American community and its interests. Based on the success of last weekend's one-evening event, it may be the prelude to a larger, weekend Camel Fest next year.

The Anderson Bulldogs All Class Reunion

For the second year, members of Anderson High School classes of 1961-70 returned for a gathering of alumni, a concept that originated with a committed group from the Anderson Senior High Class of 1967. "It's our goal to

keep Anderson alumni Bulldogs united," said Mrs. Vivian Bitting, class president.

The Class of 1967 had held reunions to mark their 10th, 15th, and 20th years and were the only

class that had, according to Mrs. Bitting. "But, we wanted to take the focus off of us and put it on

the others...to get everyone unified," she said.

At the Saturday night dance, the officers of the Class of '67 presented a plaque, designated the B. Reynolds Award, that they purchased that will be given each year to the class that has the most alumni in attendance.

Coincidentally, the class was to do it this year. "We were running neck and neck with the Class of 1969," Mrs. Bitting said. "It will be on display at the new Lawrence Joel American Legion Post," she added. She said the other officers felt that more people would have an opportunity to see it if it were placed at the Post, she explained.

Approximately 300 people joined the festivities at the annual dance, Mrs. Bitting estimated. Proceeds are used to fund the next year's annual dance. She added that the Class of 1967 will celebrate its 25th annual reunion in 1992.



Photo by L.B. Speas Jr.

Members of the Anderson High School Class of 1967 hold A.B. Reynolds Award plaque given to class with most alumni attending annual reunion dance. From left are Birdie Johnson, Curtis Evans, Jackie Harris, Theodis Foster, Vivian Bitting, class president, and Doris Teeter

CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

- Bishop Robert Kellam and the choir and congregation of Mount Olivet Apostolic Church, Martinsville, Va., will worship with Christ Rescue Temple Church at 3 p.m. The speaker will be Bishop Kellam. Host pastor is Bishop Willie Davis, Jr.
- St. Mark Baptist Church Nurses' Board will have a program at 4 p.m. Pastor Charles Craver of the New Hope Baptist Church will be guest speaker. Pastor James Fulwood is host pastor. The church is located at 1100 Manley St.
- A memorial service will be held in honor of the late Waddell B. Penn Jr. at Ambassador Cathedral, 1500 Harriet Tubman Drive at 6 p.m. All relatives and friends are cordially invited to attend. All proceeds will be used for the Waddell B. Penn Jr. Memorial Endowment Fund at Winston-Salem State University. For additional information, contact Jane D. Penn at 788-6734 or 761-1976.
- Emmanuel Baptist Church Choral of Emmanuel Baptist Church located at 1075 Shalimar Drive will celebrate its 25th Anniversary at 4 p.m. at the church. Special guests will be singing groups from the city and surrounding areas.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

- The Steward Board of Wayside CME Church, 3780 Carver Road, will present the Hanes Christian Men's Chorus in concert at 4 p.m. President of the chorus is Willie Jones. James D. Smith is director and organist.

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Spencer Memorial Christian Church, 1410 Douglas Ave., will hold its Fall Revival Services Sept. 10-14 at 7:30 p.m. each evening. The Rev.

Serenus Churn, pastor of Mt. Zion Baptist Church on File Street, will serve as evangelist for the week.

- The annual Fall Revival will be held at Mount Calvary Holy Church Sept. 17-21. Elder Hilton Stone Jr. of the Grace Assembly Church will be guest minister. Elder Wardlow Frazier is host pastor. Services will begin each night at 7:30 p.m. Mt. Calvary is located at 1615 E. 22nd St.

- Ishi Pentecostal Temple, 1319 Excelsior Street, will host its third annual Sunday School Convention. September 7-9. The theme of this year's convention is "Get Armed for the Battle of the '90's." Evangelist Carolyn Showell of Baltimore, MD, is the featured speaker. Adult and teen seminars will be presented by representatives from Step One, Inc. and the AIDS Task Force. Dr. Harold Sawyer of Richmond, Ind., will be among the seminar leaders. The registration fee is \$5, which includes lunch on Saturday. Elder Percy L. Woods Sr. is pastor of Ishi Pentecostal Temple, and Mrs. Eunice A. Woods is the Sunday School superintendent.

- Noon prayer is held every Tuesday at St. Peter's World Outreach Center, 1031 N. Highland Ave. Mother's Noonday Prayer is held at noon every Monday and Friday. Morning Bible Study is held every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. Host Pastor is Elder J.C. Hash. In addition, Early Morning Prayer is held at the center at 6 a.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, contact the church office Tuesday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

- Private physicians operate a free clinic held at Trinity Moravian Church, 220 E. Sprague St., on the first and third Thursday of each month from 6 to 8 p.m. The free medical clinic usually held on the first Tuesday of each month at First Baptist Church on Fifth and Spruce streets will not be held during July. For more information call 724-7875.

- Evangelist Virginia Hoyle-Wofford will present recollections of her tours of Israel, the Holy Land, West Africa, East Africa, Kenya, Eastern Europe and the Western States by request. For more information call 767-0057. Letters to Evangelist Wofford will be received at 6125 Mead-

owdale Drive, Winston-Salem, 27105.

- St. Peter's World Outreach Center, 1031 N. Highland Ave., will hold a mathematics tutorial program, "Mastering Math with the Master Touch," every Thursday from 6 to 7:15 p.m.

- New Faith Chapel Holiness Church will serve breakfast from 8:15 to 9:15 a.m. every Sunday morning before Sunday school in the church fellowship hall. For a \$2 donation, breakfast will be provided.

- Free tutoring services will be held at Shiloh Park and Retreat, 2601 Shiloh Drive, Saturday mornings from 10 a.m. to noon. Tutoring will be available in English, grammar, general math, reading and general life skills.

- The Rev. Walter Covington will be teaching Bible study every Wednesday night at Antioch New Birth Church of Christ Christian Faith from 8 to 9 for several months. Prayer meeting will be held one hour prior to the Bible study. Elder L.J. Goodman is the church's pastor.

- St. Peter's World Outreach Center, 1031 N. Highland Ave., will hold its prayer and healing school, meeting the needs of the whole man, spirit, soul and body, Tuesdays and Thursdays, beginning with intercessory prayer from noon to 12:30 p.m. Healing school services begin at 12:30 p.m. Healing services also will be held every second Sunday at 6 p.m.

- Pitts Memorial Missionary Baptist Church will hold weekly prayer services every Tuesday night at 7 and Bible study classes every Thursday night at 7. The teacher for the Bible study classes is the Rev. Henry Massey of Morning Star Baptist Church. Dr. B.H. Bonham Sr. is host pastor. For more information call 784-5737.

- The Saints Home Day Care Center is now accepting applications for children, ages 2 to 5. The day care center is state-licensed and certified. Hours of operation are 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. For more information call

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