

Cleveland Avenue Christian Church to move into new sanctuary

FROM STAFF REPORTS

On Oct. 3, Cleveland Avenue Christian Church will reverberate with the harmonious sounds of its well-known choir, as usual. And, as usual, the congregation will be revived with the stirring words of the church's pastor.

"But oddly enough, none of this will take place anywhere near Cleveland Avenue. In less than two weeks, the church will have its very first service in its new location, a mammoth and magnificent structure located on Lansing Street.

The new church is called the Greater Cleveland Avenue Christian Church.

It's truly exciting times for the church's congregation, says the Rev. Sheldon McCarter, senior pastor of the church. While members are anxious to hold their very first service in the new structure, McCarter said the change will be bittersweet.

"It is sad that we are moving away. ... I have so many memories from the past 11 years at (the old church)," McCarter said.

But the new church is a blessing - one that was greatly need-

ed. Overflow crowds made the old structure congested at times, and the church held multiple services in order to accommodate the masses.

Construction on the new church began last summer, McCarter said. It comfortably sits 1,200. The church also boasts projection and video screens, classrooms, a spacious fellowship hall and a bookstore. Plenty of parking space is also one of the new structure's perks.

McCarter says seeing the new church each day still has an effect on him.

"When I drive up and see it, it really humbles me. ... To look at what God has done just blows my mind," he said.

The old church, which has been home to the church for more than 25 years of its 106-year history, will still be used, McCarter said.

"We will be one church with two locations," he said.

Cleveland Avenue's popular Wednesday noontime services will remain at the old structure, and sometime in the near future, McCarter said the church plans to open a day care at the facility.

This week, construction workers are still tying up a few

loose ends at the new church to ensure that everything is ready for the big day. McCarter is inviting everyone to come to the service and experience the new sanctuary.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony will be held the day before the first service. A convoy will leave the old Cleveland Avenue building and travel to the new structure for the ceremony.

A dedication ceremony will also be held. It will take place in the afternoon on the same day as the opening service.

The dedication will have added significance for McCarter. The pastor's father, the Rev. R.T. McCarter, will be a part of the dedication.

The elder McCarter is pastor of a church in Rocky Mount.

The ribbon-cutting ceremony will take place Oct. 2. The convoy will leave the old church at 10 a.m.; the ribbon cutting will take place at the new church on Lansing, which is off Carver Road, at 11 a.m. The first service at the new church will take place Oct. 3 at 10 a.m. The dedication program will start at 3:30 p.m. Services will also be held at the new church on Oct. 5, 6, 13, 14 and 15.



Photo by T. Kevin Walker

Construction workers put the finishing touches on Cleveland Avenue Church's new sanctuary on Lansing Drive.

HAWS is awarded \$237,510 in tax credits and \$75,000 grant for ongoing programs

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Housing Authority of Winston-Salem received funding from two separate organizations recently that will help the agency with ongoing programs.

HAWS was awarded \$237,510 in tax credits from the North Carolina Finance Agency in Raleigh after it applied for a \$560,082 in low income tax credits. N.C. Finance Agency stated that it could only commit the \$237,510 at this time; however, credits still may increase in the future.

The credit will be used to assist in mixed-financing for the proposed

Kimberly Park Senior Apartments. One hundred of the apartments are slated to be constructed on vacant land owned by HAWS.

The apartments will be part of the much-talked about Hope VI project, which will transform the Kimberly Park Terrace community into a mixed-income community with a large variety of housing.

HAWS was awarded the \$27.7 million HUD-Hope VI in October 1997. The apartments will be included in phase one of the project.

Housing authority officials say their goal is to transform Kimberly

Park into a stable and high quality mixed income community, one that reduces the concentration of poverty and assists public housing residents in becoming self-sufficient.

Last week, HAWS was also awarded a \$75,000 grant from the R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Founda-

tion. The grant will be used to continue the HAWS/RJR Homework Assistance Program.

The program provides homework assistance to youths living in public housing. Students in the program can get assistance up to four days a week during the school year.

"As chairman of the Board of Commissioners, I am very pleased with the communications and partnership between RJR and the Housing Authority," said Bill Andrews in a statement. "On behalf of the Board of Commissioners, J. Reid Lawrence, executive director,

and myself, we want to thank RJR Foundation for rendering this much needed service to the Housing Authority."

For the past eight years, the partnership between HAWS and R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company Foundation has created opportunities to assist students.

Vivian Love-Turner, president of RJR Foundation, says the funds are designated for reinforcing academic skills that will be taught during students' regular school day.

She went on to say that the foundation is proud of the role it has played in local social and eco-

nomie development and that the foundation is happy to continue its service to HAWS.

The HAWS/RJR program will run at five major public housing centers each day with teachers from local schools.

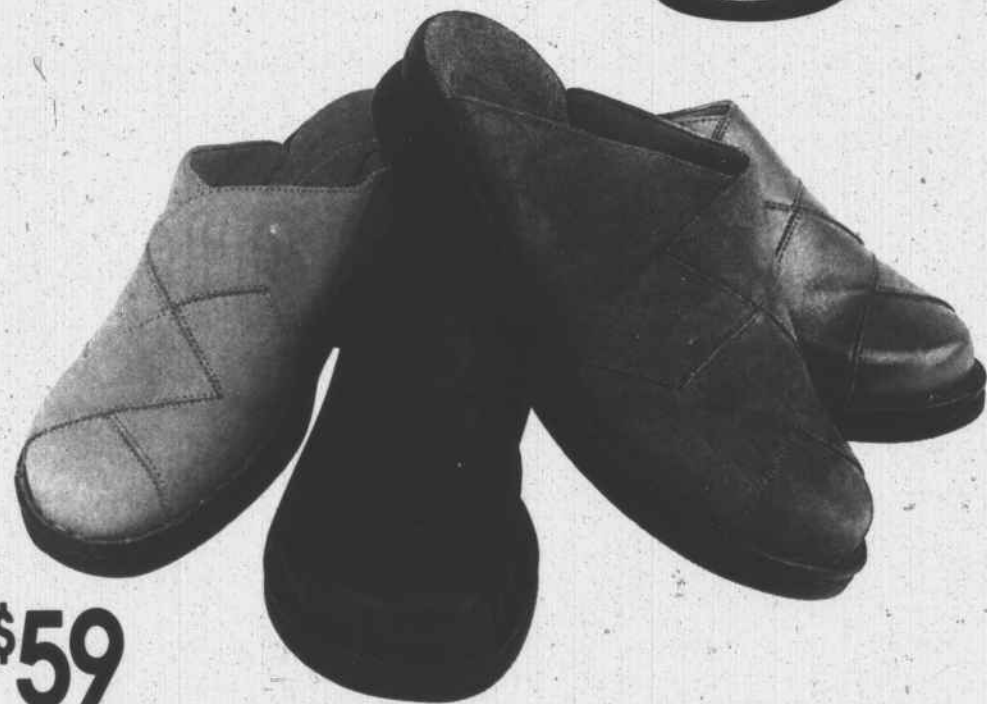
In addition to helping students, the program will seek to provide better communication between students, teachers and parents, in order to ensure that students receive the help they need.

For more information on the assistance program call Connie Smith at 748-3214.



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