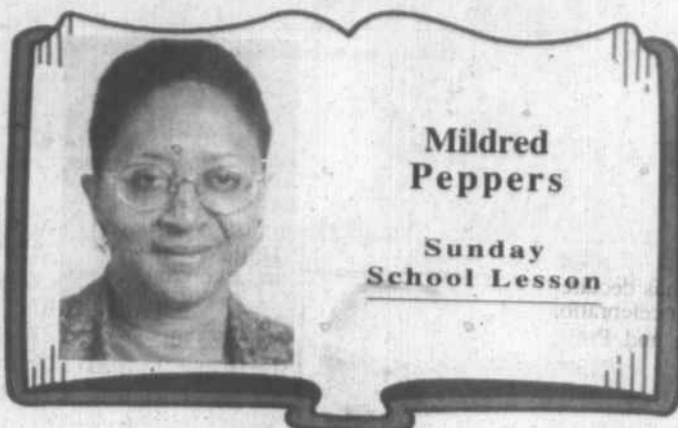


Nothing beats faithful determination!

Lesson Nehemiah 4:1-3, 7-9, 13-15; 6:15

Scripture:

upon him and that King Artaxerxes gave his permission (2:17-18) as well. The work soon began and so did the opposition. Nehemiah's plan was thorough in that all Jews living in the region (Judah) were given a specific portion of the wall to rebuild. Using that method, no part of the wall was vulnerable to attack. Chapter 3 gave the specific assignments. From the very beginning there was opposition! The two major forces were Sanballat (San BAL ut), governor of Samaria and Tobiah (Toe BYE uh) an Ammonite official. Both ridiculed the project thinking that alone would discourage them. As chapter 3 ended, the rebuilding was coming along fine when the enemies stepped up their hostilities. Nehemiah has fasted and prayed every step of the way. His prayer was that God would use him to promote the



Mildred Peppers

Sunday School Lesson

Lesson Aims: to summarize the Scripture lesson, to recognize that opposition will come when doing God's Work, to commit to God's Plan for our lives.

Background: Nehemiah led the third and final group of exiles back home to Judah between 445 - 444 BC. His mission was clear - rebuild the wall surrounding Jerusalem. After quietly inspecting the ruins of the wall, he developed a plan to rebuild it. With all of that being done, Nehemiah approached the priests, nobles and local officials to encourage them to follow his plan. He reminded them of the disgrace and trouble that a city without walls faced. He also shared that God's hand was

welfare of his people.

Lesson: When Sanballat, Tobiah, and the others hear about the Jews' success, they become furious. Their words are mocking and very discouraging as they play "mind" games on the already weary workers. They imply that the Jews are weak and inept. In the face of this ridicule, once again, Nehemiah prays. He

asks God to turn the enemies' insults back on them. Now, the scoffers threaten to attack the Jews thus ending the project. Nehemiah has a plan! Half of the workers stand guard (with weapons) while the others work on the wall with weapons in hand. Because they are spread out, a trumpet will sound to call them to fight. They will live inside the walls and take turns

guarding it during the night. To encourage them he calls for them to remember God's power and awesomeness and to fight for the entire group not just their family. The enemies find out that the Jews are prepared, they do not attack. In the face of rumors, they remain focused! Chapters 5 and 6 record the divisions among God's People and how the cupbearer handles the situations. In 52 days, the wall is completed!

Application: How many times has God given us tasks to accomplish but we get sidetracked? There is more to this lesson than simply building a wall. Are we faithful to God in every aspect of our lives? The cupbearer consults God on all matters. He not only prays but he fasts as well. Let's be realistic - anytime you do God's Work, evil will show up!! That doesn't mean

give up, quite the contrary. When any obstacle gets in the way it is a testament of our faith how we handle it. Don't let your emotions get the best of you. Stop. Pray. Then follow God! Nehemiah did it. Why can't we? The central figure in today's lesson also points out what makes a good leader for God. These standards will work for the temporal world as well. Nothing beats "faithful determination"! Remaining in close contact with the Master and being obedient will lead to all sorts of successes. Now when that happens, don't forget to give credit to God Almighty. Each of us has been called to work for Him, have you answered and did you get the job done? Faithful determination along with prayer and fasting are the keys to success. Ask believers to share their faith story with you to gain strength.

French to keynote Ideal Club's 50th anniversary

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The Ideal Club of Goler Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church will celebrate its 50th Anniversary on May 18.

On Sunday, during the 11 a.m. worship service the guest speaker will be the Rev. Dr. James A. French, a former pastor of Goler Memorial. His tenure of service in pastoral ministry spans more than 35 years having served in the States of North Carolina, Alabama and currently in Florida as the pastor

of the Houser Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church, Pensacola, Fla.

He is a graduate of the public school system of Salisbury, N.C. He earned a B.A. Degree from Livingstone College; the Master of Divinity at Hood Theological Seminary; the Master's of Religion at Hood Theological Seminary; continued study at Candler School of Divinity, Emory University; and was awarded the Doctor of Divinity Degree from Livingstone College.

The community is invited to share in the yearly tradition of Women's Day. The 100 Women in White sisters gathering celebration will also be held during the 11 a.m. worship service on Sunday.

The Ideal Club was reorganized under the pastorate of Rev. N. A. Gibson in 1958. The club has had four presidents whose leadership has enabled it to be a major contributor toward church related projects. They are; Johnnie Landingham, 1958-

1960; Earnestine Bingham, 1960-1961; Margie Scarborough, 1961-1996 and Gloria Love-McIver, 1996-present.

The church is located at 630 N. Patterson Ave. The Rev. Dr. Seth O. Lartey is the pastor. Gloria McIver is president of the Ideal Club.

For directions, transportation or additional information, contact the church office at 724-9411.



Rev. French

Women's Day observed at Mount Sinai A.M.E.

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The women of Mount Sinai A.M.E. Zion Church, in Advance, will observe Women's Day on May 18. The theme is "Women Improving Empowered Through Jesus."

The Rev. Dr. Karen R. Miller will be the 11 a.m. speaker. Rev. Miller is the first lady of the Winston-Salem District of The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church.

Dinner will be served immediately following the morning worship service. Mable P. Allen is chairperson.

The church is located at 488 Peoples Creek Rd. Dr. Otis B. Robinson, Sr., is host pastor.

Appreciation celebration for Apostle Jordan

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

House of Faith will be having an Appreciation and Birthday celebration for Apostle Stephan Jordan. Services will begin May 15 at 7 p.m. The guest speaker will be Pastor Barr of St. Matthew's Pentecostal Holiness Church. May 16 at 7 p.m., the guest speaker will be Pastor Beverly and Co-Pastor John Milligan of House of Praise Deliverance Church. The guest speaker on May 17 at 6 p.m. will be Pastor Charlié Jenkins of Miracle Temple Deliverance Church. On Sunday, May 18 at 5 p.m., Apostle Stephan Jordan will be the guest speaker at Shining Light Cathedral of Praise Church.

Apostle Jordan's vision is to provide hope by increasing member's faith through training, empowering men and women to be effective in society and building families. His stated mission is to build faith and hope. Apostle Stephan Jordan has been married to Co-pastor Pamela Jordan for 21 years.

The public is invited. For more information, contact the church at 788-4088 or 997-0407.



Apostle Stephen Jordan with his wife, Co-pastor Pamela Jordan.

Macedonia to have its holy convocation

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Macedonia Holiness Church of God of The Apostolic Faith, Inc. will hold its 28th Annual Holy Convocation May 19 through May 25. All services for the week-long observance will be held at the church headquarters located at 4111 Whitfield Rd.

Services will be held nightly at 7:30 p.m. Several local and area churches will be participating. On Saturday morning at 9:30 a.m., Dr. Robert L. Wise Sr., will teach on the convocation's theme, "Love of God is the Foundation of Heaven."

The concluding service

will begin on Sunday afternoon at 3 p.m.

Dr. Robert L. Wise Sr., is pastor and general overseer.

Everyone is invited to attend all services. For transportation call 767-3700.

Calendar

from page B10

Women in Red Fellowship
Reynolds Chapel Baptist Church, 327 Hibler Rd. In Greensboro, invites you to their Women In Red Fellowship on Sunday, May 18, at 4 p.m. The color red was chosen to represent the blood and power of Jesus. The guest minister is the Rev. Victoria Johnson from New Jerusalem Baptist Church. The host pastor is the Rev. Anthony C. Hopkins. For more information, call 895-8928

Beginning May 21

Spring revival
Living Witness Baptist Church will celebrate its spring revival beginning May 21 through May 23 beginning at 7:30 p.m. nightly. The evangelist will be Dr. James Fulwood, pastor of St. Mark Baptist Church. The church is at 3758 Ogburn Ave. The public is invited to attend. The Rev. Larry Reynolds is host pastor.

May 25

Nurses Board anniversary
Mount Olive Baptist Church Senior Nurses Board will celebrate their 74th Anniversary on May 25 at 4 p.m. The guest speaker will be the Rev. James Clement from Fairfield Baptist Church, Mocksville. The public is invited to attend. The church is at 1301 C. E. Gray Dr. Dr. Charles E. Gray is the host pastor.

Pastor's anniversary
Greater St. Matthew Baptist Church, 149 N. Wheeler St. will have its 16th anniversary celebration for Pastor, William J.

Purvis, Sr. on May 25 at 4 p.m. Dinner will be served. The Rev. Kenneth Davis of Mt. Olive East Christian Church, Va. will be the guest speaker.

Beginning June 11

Summer Camp
Emanuel Baptist Church is sponsoring Kemet Academy Summer Camp, June 11 through Aug. 22, Monday through Friday, from 7 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. at the Church, 1075 Shalimar Dr. The theme is "The Art of Leadership: Recognizing and Cultivating Talent." Their intent this summer is

to expose the youth to the full and rich history of past and present great leaders by engaging them in activities which will allow them to explore and cultivate their talents.

Registration forms are available. Call 788-7023 for more information. The Rev. Dr. John Mendez is pastor.

Macedonia Holiness Church Of God Of The Apostolic Faith, Inc.

Sunday Services
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
M.Y.P.U 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday Services
Prayer & Bible Study 7:30 p.m.

4111 Whitfield Drive
Phone: 336-767-3700
Fax: 336-767-7006

Louise Smith Summer Adventure Camp

First Baptist Church
700 North Highland Avenue
Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27101
(336)722-5605
Rev. Darryl Aaron, Pastor
Rev. Glenn Pettiford, Assistant Pastor

"Come And Learn With Us"
June 16, 2008 - August 8, 2008
Monday - Friday: 7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

FEES
Registration Fee: \$65.00 per child
This fee is non-refundable
Weekly Fee: \$80.00 per week

The camp will provide a safe Christian program for children ages 5-12. Academics will be taught based on the North Carolina Standard Course of Study. Certified teachers will be teaching each class. Fun activities will include recreation, sports and field trips.

Ms. Alma M. Peay - Camp Director
Mrs. Clementine V. Mauney - Assistant Director

Please contact the church office daily from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. for more information.

Mount Zion Baptist Church's

2008 SUMMER ARTS CAMP

for Children Ages 6-12

June 16 - August 8 (8 weeks)

August 11 - August 22 (2 weeks)

7:00 AM until 5:30 PM

For more information:
(336) 722-2325