

RELIGION

Church blesses two families

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Bishop John Heath, Pastor Janice Heath and the Greater Higher Ground Ministries Family put into action their motto, "Love Is Not Love, Until You Give It Away," by blessing two single mothers and their families.

Bishop and Pastor Heath continually says you don't have to look far to chose someone to bless, and in this case, they looked into their own ministry and chose two families. Bishop Heath requested that the church family not think of themselves during the blessed season, but to think about someone else and how they can bless them.

He believes that God blesses each of us to bless someone else, and that's what the Greater Higher Ground Family did during the annual Christmas Program on Sunday, Dec. 21.

Each church member was requested to pick a child or adult from the two families and bless them with something on their wish list. The families were showered with gifts, everything from toy trucks to coats. The families showed their appreciation with smiles and "thank you's."

Greater Higher Ground Ministries holds service each Sunday morning at 11 a.m. and each Wednesday at 7 p.m. For more information, call the church office at 336-725-1125.



In the photo above and to the right, Bishop and Pastor Heath pose with the families.



Holy Trinity stages Christmas @ The Post

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

On Sunday, December 14th, Holy Trinity FGBC held its annual Christmas @ The Post event, which was a part of Youth Sunday and especially designed for youthful praise.

The day included games for children of all ages. The youngsters, were thrilled as they took part in musical chairs, hide and seek, charades and other play-time classics.



Min. Miller

In between all the fun, attendees were welcomed to the church. Announcements were then given and offering was also received. And soon it came time for the word, which was delivered by Min. Joseph Miller Sr.

His ministering encouraged each youth to be an example to those following behind them. He relayed to them that God desires the best for them and that He is watching what they do. The youth listened attentively and received the encouragement. Each child was blessed with a gift and a goody bag full of fruit and candy. Adults in attendance also received a bag of goodies. Holy Trinity would like to extend special thanks to R.I.C.H. Community Development Corporation and Toys for Tots that enabled Holy Trinity to present gifts to everyone.

ORDINATION FOR DEACONS AND DEACONESSES



Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church celebrated the sacred ordination of Deacons and Deaconesses during the 11 a.m. Worship Service on Sunday, Dec. 7. Dr. Howard D. Davis Sr., pastor of Mt. Sinai Baptist Church of Georgetown, S.C., served as the guest speaker. The new Deacons and Deaconesses completed a course of study related to their offices. Pictured above from the left are: Deaconess Patricia Ceasar, president of Deaconesses; Deaconess Lamar Perry, Deaconess Angela Pope, Bishop S. T. Davis Sr., pastor of Mt. Pleasant Baptist; Pastor Howard Davis Sr., Deacon Willard Coker, Deacon Wallace Love Sr., Deacon Brian K. McMillan, and Deacon Willie Mouzon, chairman of the Deacons Ministry.

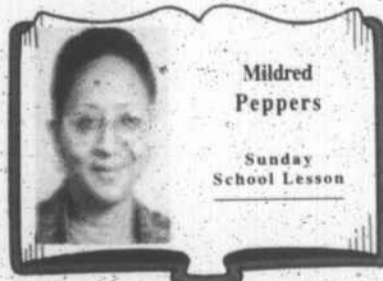
IT TAKES COURAGE TO COMMIT TO GOD

Lesson Scripture: Exodus 1:8-21

Lesson Aims: Be aware of obedience issues in your life; realize that courage from the Holy Spirit is needed to commit to God; and to deepen our personal commitment to God.

Background: The new year is characterized by resolutions of all sorts. Weight loss, getting out of debt, finding a new job, or simply getting a job rank high on our lists these days. As we set goals for 2009, consider your commitment to God. Now don't

just think about it - do something about it. Start small and grow. May I suggest that you begin with a committed study of God's Word in Sunday School and/or Bible study? Yes, you can study alone, but hearing how God reveals Himself in others' lives can strengthen you while broadening your horizons. For the remainder of this



Mildred Peppers
Sunday School Lesson

quarter, our studies on commitment come from the Old Testament. They begin with the Israelites (Hebrews) being in bondage and end with Isaiah answering God's call on his life.

The major theme in Exodus is "God is the promise keeper". Everything that He promised

Abraham (Abram) in Genesis. He began to deliver in Exodus. God also revealed His name, His attributes, His Law, and how to worship Him in this book. It was due to one of Jacob's sons (Joseph) that the Hebrews wound up in Egypt. They were invited (Genesis 47:1-12) to come and settle in the northeast section of the Nile delta and was considered some of the best land in the kingdom. In a sense, they were isolated because the

See Lesson on B9

Community spiritual renewal services planned at Goler Memorial AME Zion

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Psychologists have noted that change in behavior and attitude require consistency and regularity. Anything done over a period of 21 days has a significant impact on the individual's performance. It is with this background that the 21 Days of Community Spiritual Renewal Services was established at Goler Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church.

From a Biblical prospective, 21 Days is based upon Daniel 9. In this passage, Daniel had prayed to God and at that very moment, Satan obstructed the answer until the 21st day, when a greater angel came and defeated the devil. The message of these services is that God answers prayers no matter how long it may take. During these 21 Days of Spiritual Renewal, the community is asked to fast and pray for the family, jobs and the economy, our community, the nation and world, and for a renewal of



Rev. Lartey

the Holy Spirit in our lives for the New Year.

Community leaders will be recognized during these services. This year's theme is "Spiritual Strategies to Surviving Stormy Seasons." Workshops will be held from 6 - 7 p.m. on Jan. 9-12.

Topics include "Your Credit-Your Future" on Jan. 9; "12 Steps to Financial Freedom" on Jan. 10; "Borrowing Basics" on Jan. 11; and "Building A Better Budget" on Jan. 12. The instructor is Eddie Long of Credit Enhancement Services, LLC and are being sponsored by Truliant Federal Credit Union.

More than two dozen other local progressive churches are expected to take part in the 21 Days of Spiritual Renewal with Goler. Members of the general public are welcome as well.

The Rev. Seth O. Lartey is the pastor of Goler. For more information or transportation, call 336-724-9411.

Mt. Zion Girl Scout Troops entertain seniors for the holidays

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Mt. Zion Girl Scout Troops #375, #377, along with The Daughter of Zion from the Church of The Living God, visited the Walnut Cove Nursing Home recently to sing and give holiday gifts to the residents.

The girls have been working very hard in the community doing penny and coat drives and are planning a senior prom in order for the Junior and Cadet girls to receive their bronze award.

Troop Members include Diontra Beacot, Cheyenne and Akosha Miller, Ashley Middleton, Diamond Brown, Kamesha Jackson, Shekeemah and Shekia Moore-Basketville, DeShawna Howell, Tkoya Gregg-Floyd, T'Coria Jacob-Floyd and Lelia Gaither.

The troop leaders and volunteers are Kia Garrett, Ryan Gaither, Selina Jones, Tunshia Lumford, Celestine Kimber and Angela Middleton.



GIRL SCOUTS