

RELIGION

CALENDAR

Ongoing

Free lunches

Christ Rescue Temple Church, where Bishop Willie Davis Jr. is pastor, will serve free lunches every Thursday, starting at noon, to the first 100 people who arrive at the church, 1500 Dunleith Ave. For more information, call 336-722-9841.

Restoration Christian Fellowship services

Pastor Halbert Richardson Sr. and Restoration Christian Fellowship will hold services at the Hawthorne Inn & Conference Center, 420 High St. Sunday worship will begin at 10 a.m. and Bible Study will be held on Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. The public is invited to attend. For more information, contact Nick Rumph at 336-327-1921.

Substance abuse help

Ordered by God Outreach Center is currently interviewing women for its new Women's House of Transition. The ministry also offers weekly substance abuse therapy groups. For more information, please call 336-986-7725.

NYC trip

Alpha & Omega Church is sponsoring a trip to New York City on Sept. 24, 2010. The trip will include tours of Chinatown, Historic Harlem, Dinner at Sylvia's Soul Food Restaurant and shopping. The cost is \$300 per person and a \$50.00 deposit is due by Jan. 25. The cost includes the bus ride, breakfast en route and double occupancy at the Hampton Inn, with complimentary breakfast. For more information, contact Belva via e-mail at belva2004@aol.com or by phone at 336-529-3170.

Today

Holiday dinner

The Annual Pre-Christmas Dinner for the homeless and community at-large will be held on Thursday, Dec. 17, beginning at 1 p.m. at Shiloh Baptist Church, 916 East 12th Street at Highland Ave. It is sponsored by the P.A. Lowe Anointed Interpreters of Praise and the Security Ministries of Shiloh. The Clothing Bank will be open for those in need. The church's pastor is the Rev. Paul Lowe.



Rev. Lowe

Dec. 18

Holiday gala

Tabernacle of Faith will host "A Night of Elegance Christmas Gala" in the LJVM Coliseum's Windsor Club on Friday, Dec. 18 from 7-11 p.m. For more information, call the church at 336-725-2517 or 336-777-1113.

Luther Barnes performance

Goodwill Baptist Church, 541 Goodwill Rd. in Clemmons, will have a Christmas Banquet on Dec. 18 at 7 p.m., featuring singer Luther Barnes. Call 336-201-2976 for more information and/or tickets.

Dec. 19

Bags of food to be dispensed

Beulah Baptist Church's Beyond the Walls Ministry - Feed My Sheep Program will dispense bags of food to people in need on a first come first served basis on Saturday, Dec. 19 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. (or until all the bags are dispensed) at the church, 1352 North Trade St. The senior pastor is the Rev. L. Bruce Ford. For more information, call 336-722-2907.

Christmas play

The Mt. Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church Drama Ministry will present the play, "With Love at Christmas," directed by Ronnie Sockwell and co-directed by Benay Williams, at 6 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 19 at the church, 495 NW Crawford Place. The attire for the presentation is semi-formal, and a catered dinner will be served immediately following the production in the Fellowship Hall. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for children. For tickets and/or questions, call 336-725-9623. Bishop Sherwood T. Davis Sr. is the host pastor.

Dec. 20

See Calendar on B5

Much thanks is given at annual service

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Holy Trinity Full Gospel Baptist Church gave the Lord thanks for all of his goodness at its Thanksgiving morning service.

The congregation filled the pews for the 10 a.m. service, which featured songs of praise and worship performed by the praise team and testimonies delivered by those who wanted to publicly give thanks for their blessings.

Minister Olympeia Howell, the oldest daughter of Pastor Richard Miller, presented the message, "Why I am Thankful." The Scripture readings came from Psalms. She also reflected on Lamentations 3:21-23.

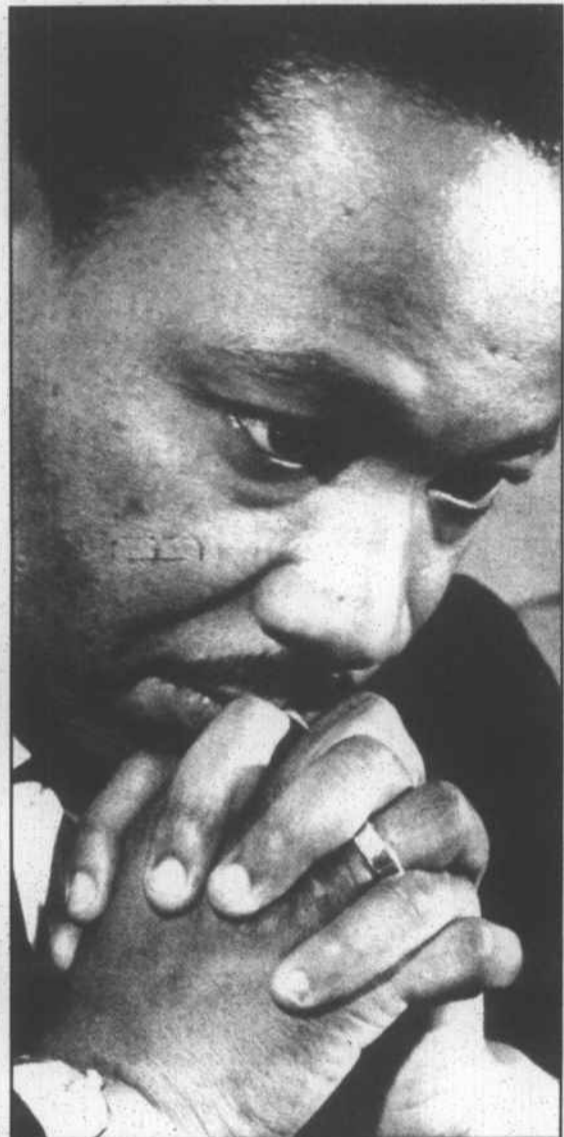
Minister Howell ended her message in song, with the classic "When I think of the Goodness of Jesus." The praise team joined in.



Minister Olympeia Howell delivers the word.

Prominent Raleigh minister named head of MLK Commission

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT



Dr. Dumas A. Harshaw Jr. has been appointed as chairman of the Martin Luther King Jr. Commission by Gov. Bev Perdue.

The mission of the Commission is to encourage appropriate ceremonies and activities throughout the State relating to the observance of the legal holiday honoring Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday. It also gives out grants to agencies and projects that promote Dr. King's dream.

A member of the Commission since 2007, Dr. Harshaw is senior pastor of the First Baptist Church of Raleigh.

"Dr. Harshaw embodies Dr. King's message of equality and opportunity for every individual regardless of race, gender or creed, and like Dr. King, Dr. Harshaw is a gifted orator," Perdue said. "I look forward to great work from this commission with Dr. Harshaw as chair."

The 2010 State Employees' Martin Luther King Jr. Observance Program, co-sponsored by the Martin Luther King Jr. Commission, will be held at 12 noon on Jan. 15 at First Baptist Church, 99 N. Salisbury

St., Raleigh.

"In support of Gov. Perdue's leadership across the state, we certainly want to make the Martin Luther King Jr. Commission as strong and vibrant and effective as it can be," Dr. Harshaw said. "We particularly want to inspire young people to embrace the philosophy of Dr. King, to know what he stood for and what he accomplished - to change America and the world."

A native of Springfield, Ill., Dr. Harshaw was ordained in 1978 at Trinity Baptist Church in Los Angeles through the National Baptist Convention USA Inc. and the American Baptist Churches USA.

Pastor of First Baptist Church in Raleigh since 1996, he has traveled the world extensively by serving as Area Director for Africa, Europe and the Middle East with the American Baptist Churches, USA. In addition to his pastoral duties at First Baptist, and his community ministries, he has taught at Duke University Divinity School, Shaw University Divinity School and Campbell University Divinity School.



Rev. Harshaw

Women Unmasked Conference receives rave reviews

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Whole Man Ministries' Nov. 21 Unveil Yourself Conference attracted women from Winston-Salem as well as Ahsokie, Statesville, Mocksville, Knightdale and other cities and towns throughout the Triad.

"What an incredible relief for the ladies to be able to release pinned up frustrations, disappointments, past hurts and unfor-giveness," said Pastor Camilla Washington, who organized the event.

The event was designed to be an open, loving environment where women could let down their guards and express themselves freely. Many attendees say that is exactly what they experienced at the conference.

"It was an awesome time in the Lord. Everyone was loving and accommodating," said Barbara Brimmgage, an attendee who works for the Christian television station, WLXI TV 43. "It was a great time of fellowship."

Aside from the soul-refining workshops and speakers, attendees also took away t-shirts and door prizes from the conference. Pastor Washington said she has already received many inquiries about next year's conference, which is already in the works.

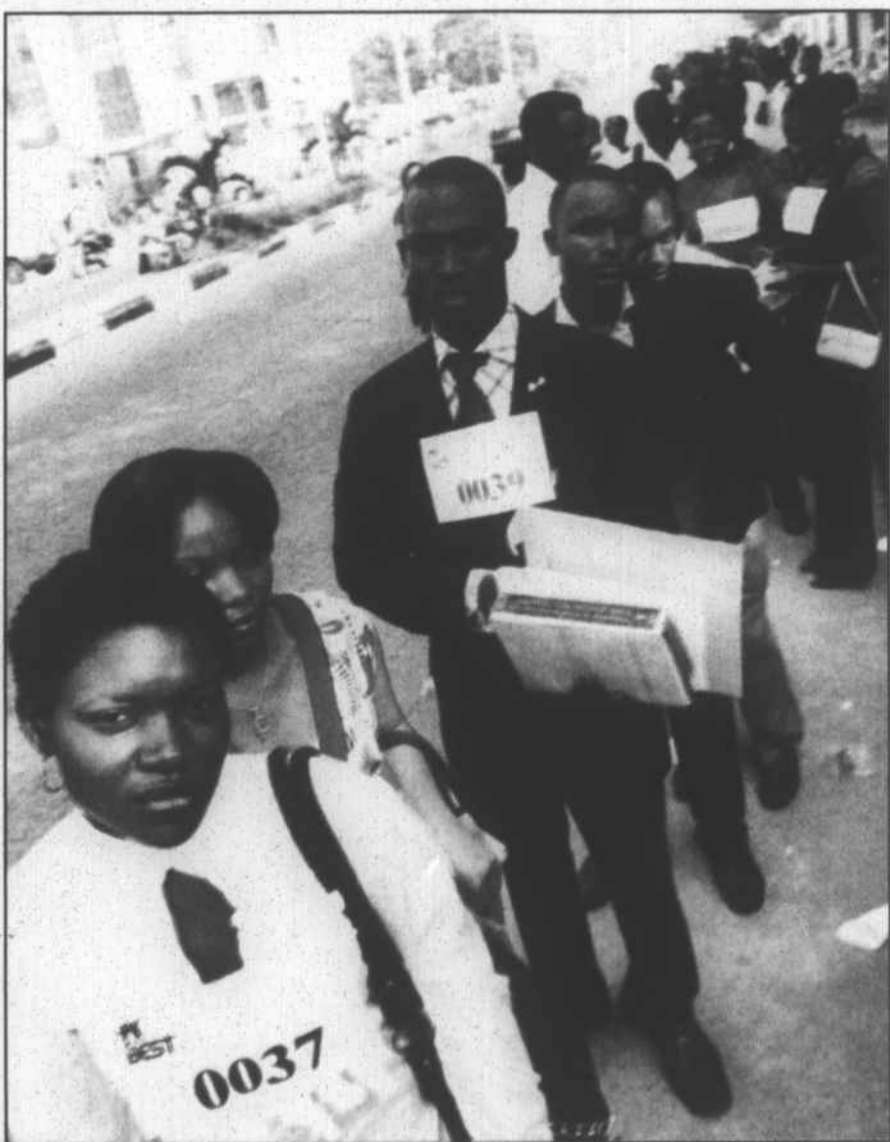
"Many of us come to Church with a mask on, and the atmosphere is not conducive for us to take them off. We refuse to discuss the hidden things of the heart, but here, we discuss those issues and you can safely unveil yourself," said Washington.

To contact Pastor Camilla Washington, call Whole Man Ministries at 336-785-2080.



Rev. Washington

WORLDWIDE SEARCH FOR THE BEST



PRNewsFoto/BET Networks

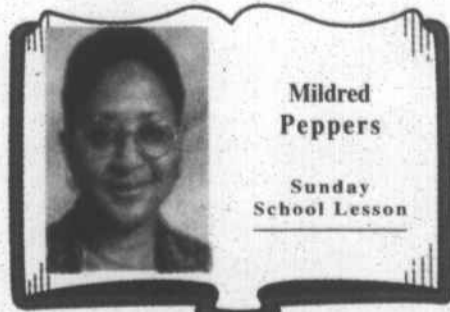
BET's popular gospel competition series "Sunday Best" recently held auditions in Lagos, Nigeria for the upcoming season of the show. Auditions are also being held in various cities across the United States. The winner of the competition wins cash, prizes and a gospel music contract.

EMMANUEL IS BORN!

Lesson Scripture: Matthew 1:18-25

Lesson Aims: To recognize and appreciate God's Call on our lives; to understand that the final atonement for sin had to be divine and human; and to explore new ways to witness for Him.

Background: Seven hundred years ago, Isaiah prophesied the Messiah (Christ) would come to the Jews. Many things happened in their corporate life that continued to point to the prophecy (the silent years). The Messiah would come through the lineage of Abraham and David, their greatest king. Now, under Roman control, they longed for its fulfillment. Like most of us, their expectations for the Saviour was based on worldly standards. The Gospel of Mark was written between AD 65-70 and circulated first. Matthew's Gospel came after that and was specifically for the Greek-speaking Jewish converts. He connected Jesus to their ancestry and prophecies as proof of His identity. Not restricted to them alone, Matthew wanted all hearts and minds on one accord. The modern believers have both testaments to study, the early church did not. Matthew presented the lineage in the first chapter. Altogether, he listed 42 generations, including some women who bore sons for Jews. Isaiah, the prophet, told the circumstances surrounding the Child's birth. The Gospel writer gave Joseph's perspective



Mildred Peppers

Sunday School Lesson

See Peppers on B5