

Peppers

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much to be done. Jesus gave some instruction, informing them that the Counselor (Holy Spirit) would reveal the rest. Once again, they were warned about the impending persecution at the beginning of chapter 16. In verses 7-11, the disciples were told of the threefold work of the Holy Spirit. After His ascension, more would be opened unto them. It was important that they not lose their faith in the face of persecution. Reassurance was what they needed. No, He didn't sugar-coat anything but shared with them, along with relying on the Holy Spirit to give them staying power. This small community was facing a daunting future, but joy would come out of it.

Lesson: Jesus instructs them about His death and resurrection using the phrase "in a little while." Did they understand? No, they didn't but instead of asking Jesus, they discuss the matter with each other. The first "little while" refers to the hours ahead resulting in His crucifixion. Scholars disagree on the meaning the second time it is used. Some believe that it refers to His post-resurrection appearances. Others believe that it is the coming of the Comforter while a third group sees the phrase as His second coming. Like the disciples, we don't always understand. To make it real, Jesus uses a parable teaches them a little more. For most women, childbirth is very painful, but once she holds the joy in her arms, her perspective changes. Jesus is planting the idea that pain will come to them. They are to stay the course because joy follows! That joy will give them the confidence to continue. This joy that they will experience the world can't take away. They are told to ask God in His name

and it will be given. This asking is in the will of God for our lives. The death and burial are complete as the Sabbath approaches. All of the ugliness has scared and shaken the small community of believers. The disciples are held up in a room together while others are simply silent. Early on the first day of the week, a group of women go to the tomb to prepare the body. Once they realize that it is empty, they run to tell the disciples. They go to see and return to their homes lacking understanding. Mary however remains at the tomb crying. Angels minister to her. Her concern is the moving of the body without proper preparation. The gardener, she supposes, also asks about the tears. She offers an explanation until He calls her name. Immediately, she recognizes Him! "Rabboni," she cries out!

Application: Trouble, disappointment, sickness, and the like will come. For a great many, persecution and death are in that same basket of life. While Jesus prepares us for His death and resurrection, He also prepares us for life as believers. Within the community, pain will be present, but joy will be there too. To fully appreciate that joy, we must go through something. Life on this side of Jordan isn't always easy. God never said that it would be. Our lesson today focuses on the ups and downs in this life. Jesus knew that the small community of believers was about to face its biggest challenge. He prepared them and us to face whatever this world threw at us. If we take a moment to reflect, our greatest joys have come from some terrible pain. Even today as we face ugly on all levels, keep the faith and joy will follow. May His resurrection inspire each of us to get up and follow the Holy Spirit for our lives.



Delta Sigma Chapter President Reginald D. McCaskill (far left), Chapter Advisor Calvin Holloway (far right) and the members of the Delta Alpha Chapter.



Delante Hatchett with Regional Director Quentin Goodwin.

WSSU Sigma chapter shines at conference

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The Delta Alpha Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., located on the campus of Winston-Salem State University, attended the fraternity's Southeastern Regional Conference from March 26-28 in Knoxville, Tenn. Local members participated in a variety of workshops that focused on recruitment, retention, chapter image, protocol and community service.

Chapter President Stephen Butler and Vice President Delante Hatchett led members

Brady Ferguson, Kortney Grayson, Matthew Kirk, Jason Philippe, Ezekiel Polk, Jeffrey Withers, Anthony Williams and Joseph Williams at the conference.

Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. has a national partnership with the Center for Disease Control. This affiliation has led the fraternity to take a national initiative to educate African Americans about the dangers of HIV. The local brothers attended an HIV wellness forum that culminated in a mass testing in which all brothers were encouraged to

participate.

Six Delta Alpha members - Brown, Ferguson, Fullerton, Grayson, Kirk and Anthony Williams - were recognized at a Leadership Luncheon as graduating seniors. Anthony Williams was also first runner-up in the Collegiate Brother of the Year competition. He was the State of North Carolina winner this past October in Fayetteville. At the conclusion of the luncheon, the Delta Alpha Chapter from Winston-Salem State University was crowned Southeastern Regional Collegiate Chapter

of the Year. During the closing session, Hatchett was voted to the Regional Board as the Assistant Secretary.

"I am very proud of the hard work and focus by the chapter," said Chapter Advisor Calvin Holloway. "This group of gentlemen really understands the fraternity's principles of Brotherhood, Scholarship and Service."

Delta Sigma is the sponsoring Alumni Chapter of Delta Alpha. Reginald D. McCaskill serves as president of the Delta Sigma chapter.

Energetic event raises money for Enrichment Center

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

It was a joyous day of "moving fast and having fun" as folks danced to various Latin and Hip Hop beats at the Enrichment Center's Zesty Zumbathon Fundraiser.

The event, which drew more than 100 people, was designed to raise money to save the Health & Wellness Program at the Enrichment Center, 1006 S. Marshall St., which is being threatened with closure because of budget cuts. The program provides swimming classes and trips to the YMCA for the mentally and physically challenged adults that the Center serves.

The Zumbathon Fundraiser, organized by Cortney H. Wilson of FiF



FiF Element Fitness Owners Jersey and Cortney Wilson; Valerie Vizona, executive director of the Enrichment Center; Angie Huffman, Enrichment Center development/fundraising director; and Kim Young, assistant marketing coordinator for FiF Element.

Element (Fitness is Fun!), help fund the Enrichment Center's Health and Wellness

Fund. Funds were raised via the fee that participants paid to take part in the event, which featured energetic Zumba exercise routines led by Wilson, Courtney Jackson, Diana Reed and Ingram Johnson.

"Oh my gosh, the event and the turn out was amazing," said Angie Huffman, Development/Fundraising Director for the Enrichment Center. "Everyone here at the Enrichment Center thanks everyone who came out and supported us at the event, as well as those who began giving before the event!"

The event also featured a balloon release in memory of Debbie Davidson, a longtime Enrichment Center client and Zumba enthusiast.

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