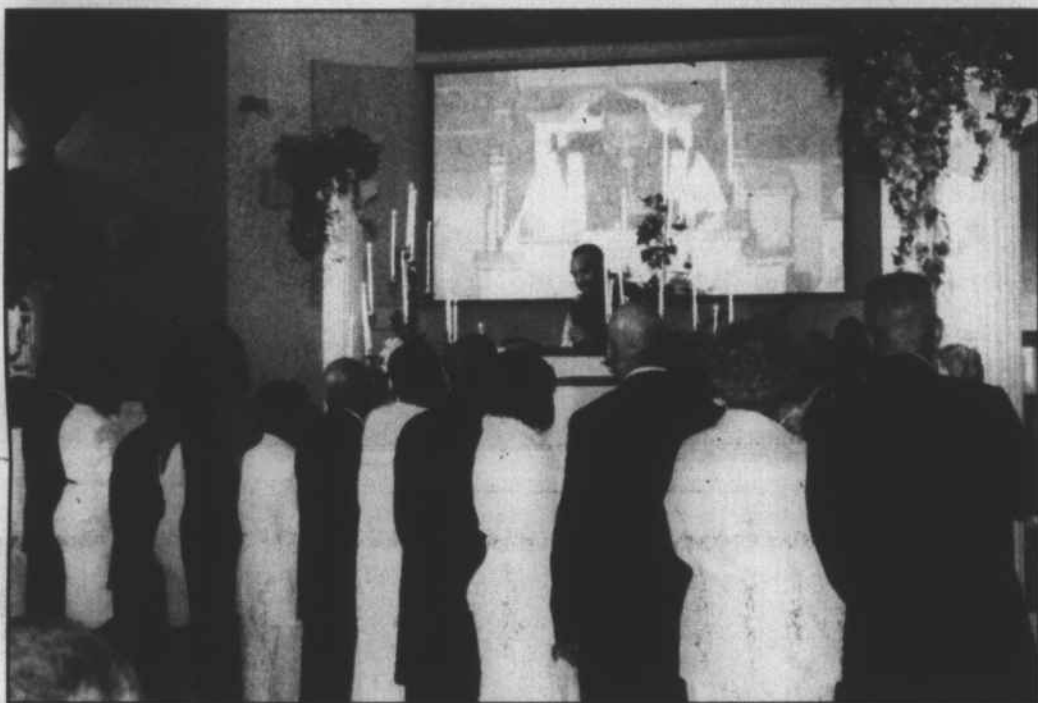




Photos by Layla Farmer
Newlyweds Kina and James Washington pose with (from left): Dr. Eric Gladney, Rev. Dr. Sir Walter Mack, their daughter, Matron of Honor Jennie Boyd and Best Man Charles Boyd.



Newlyweds Deborah and Roger Martin pose with family members and service leaders.



Dr. Mack leads couples in the renewing of their wedding vows.

Weddings

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now have a home and a car, and James Washington, a delivery truck driver, said they are looking forward to more good things in the coming year.

"We're looking forward to bigger and better things, a brighter future," said Mr. Washington, 30. "This is a day we've been looking forward to for a very long time."

The ceremony was the result of a vision Union's pastor, Rev. Dr. Sir Walter Mack, unveiled at the start of 2011, as part of an increased focus on marriage and family the church embraced last year. Mack, who tied the knot himself in 2011, reminded those in the audience who had not yet found mates to remain optimistic.

"Just because you are not married does not mean God has left you out of His plan. I spent 44 years as a single man and now God has blessed me with a beautiful wife," Mack, who made his vows to the former Kim Romaine Bush, before thousands at a lavish ceremony in May, told the audience. "Keep your head lifted up, take care of yourself and know that God has something for you."

Mack said the ceremony, which was funded entirely by donations - complete with bridal attire and limousine rides - and offered at no cost to the participants, was designed to target couples that were cohabitating and encourage them to make their relationships official.

"So often, the church has been judgmental of people who are living together but not necessarily providing a method for them to get out of it," he said. "I believe it is the church's duty to provide solid theological critique to social causes but also to provide a method and a way of deliverance."

For Kina Washington, 33, the ceremony came at just the right time. She and James had discussed getting married for more than a year, and were tentatively planning to do so in the spring. When Kina began attending Union several months ago and learned about the mass ceremony, she said it seemed like a perfect fit.

"It must have been God's purpose because we were already talking about getting married," said Mrs. Washington, a city native. "When we came to this church and they announced it, we were like, 'Let's go for it.'"

Both Mr. and Mrs. Washington had been married previously, but Kina said Saturday that getting married at a church before her family and friends was a first for her.

"The moment that I hit the door, my heart was pounding," she said of making her



Kina Washington is escorted down the aisle by her father.

entrance before hundreds of supportive onlookers. "I was like oh my gosh, I'm finally doing it the right way."

The dozen couples who renewed their commitments to one another during the ceremony celebrated everything from 10 to a whopping 58 years of holy matrimony. Mack praised Clenzo and Lorraine Barringer, Harold and Shalonda Brandon, McReadell Sr. and Linda Butler, Sammie and Inez Gray, Arthur and Sonya Harris, Jeffery Alan and Crystal Hoover, Phillip III and Mary Jeffries, Aaron and Annie Johnson, Lawrence and Bridgette Reaves, William Jr. and Joyce Smith, Clifton and Walteria Spaulding and Robert and Ann Wells of Alaska for their continued dedication to their marriages, even in the face of the myriad challenges that they have undoubtedly faced over the years.

"The mere fact that you're standing here today says that you're stronger than any of those things that have tried to come against you," the pastor intoned. "I feel the bliss of love, I feel the connection of spirit between you."

Mack said he was hopeful the couples who participated in the service would serve as strong examples of Christian marriage, just as his own marriage has.

"I was ecstatic to see these couples unite and reunite," he declared. "If they do what we did, and that is to keep God in their relationship, they're going to have plenty of 'great days ahead of them.'"

What's Happening NOW in City Government
CityNOW

GET READY FOR ROLLOUT RECYCLING

Come April 2, all curbside recycling in Winston-Salem will switch to BIWEEKLY rollout recycling with a 96-gallon rollout cart for all household recyclables. No sorting necessary!

- Continue to use your green carry-out bin through the end of March.
- If you do not have a green bin, put your recycling in a bag (paper or plastic) until April.
- A brochure delivered with your cart will have your collection schedule and guidelines for using the cart.

Help Winston-Salem Grow
 The city wants your thoughts on how to improve the development process

Public Comment Sessions
 Room 530, Stuart Municipal Building, 100 E. First St.

- ▶ Jan. 10, 4 - 5:30 p.m.
- ▶ Jan. 24, 10 - 11:30 a.m.

Send written comments to: Nancy Gault, 195 Education Park Blvd., Winston-Salem, NC 27103. Or via e-mail to: ngault@cityofws.org. For more information call Nancy at 733-2222.

Recycle Your Tree

Set your Christmas tree at the curb. The city will collect it and turn it into mulch.

Find drop-off sites for condos and apartments at www.CityofWS.org or call CityLink 311.

Garbage/Recycling Collection Schedule for 2012

<p>MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY - Jan. 16 Garbage: Normal Schedule Recycling: Normal Schedule Yard-Waste Carts: All collections postponed one day</p>	<p>THANKSGIVING DAY - Nov. 22 & 23 Garbage: Moved up one day: Tues. on Mon.; Wed. on Tues., Thurs. on Wed. Friday collected on Monday, Nov. 26 Recycling: Blue Week; Mon. - Wed.: Normal schedule Thurs. & Friday postponed one day. Yard-Waste Carts: Mon. & Tues. collected Monday Wed. on Tues.; Thurs. on Wed.</p>
<p>PRESIDENT'S DAY - Not Observed</p>	<p>CHRISTMAS - Dec. 24 & 25 Garbage: Tues. - Thurs. postponed one day Friday collected on Monday, Dec. 31 Recycling: Red Week; Monday: Normal schedule Tues. - Fri. postponed one day Yard-Waste Carts: Mon. & Tues. collected Wednesday Wed. & Thurs. postponed one day</p>
<p>EASTER - April 6 Garbage: Tues. - Thurs.: Normal schedule Friday on Monday, April 9 Recycling: Normal Schedule Yard-Waste Carts: Normal Schedule</p>	<p>NEW YEAR'S DAY 2013 - Jan. 1, 2013 Garbage: Tues. - Thurs. postponed one day Friday collected on Monday, Jan. 7 Recycling: Blue Week; Monday: Normal schedule Tues. - Fri. postponed one day Yard-Waste Carts: Monday: Normal schedule Tues. - Thurs. postponed one day</p>
<p>MEMORIAL DAY - May 28 Garbage: Normal Schedule Recycling: Red Week; all collections postponed one day Yard-Waste Carts: All collections postponed one day</p>	<p>Have a question about a holiday collection? Call City Link 311 - 7 days a week, 24 hours a day.</p>
<p>INDEPENDENCE DAY - July 4 Garbage: Tuesday: Normal schedule Wed. & Thurs. postponed one day Friday collected on Monday, July 9 Recycling: Blue Week; Mon. & Tues. normal schedule, Wed. - Fri. postponed one day Yard-Waste Carts: Mon. & Tues. normal schedule, Wed. & Thurs. postponed one day</p>	<p>LABOR DAY - Sept. 3 Garbage: Normal Schedule Recycling: Red Week; all collections postponed one day Yard-Waste Carts: All collections postponed one day</p>
<p>COLUMBUS DAY - Not Observed</p>	<p>VETERANS DAY - Not Observed</p>

GARBAGE YARD-WASTE RECYCLING

13 WSTV SHOWING THIS MONTH ON TIME
 WARNER CABLE CHANNEL 13:
 • After the Storm
 • Let's Do Business
 • Open Net

Report a problem
 Request a new service
 Send suggestion or comment
 Open 24 hrs./7 days
CityLink311
 Call 311 or 336-727-8000
citylink@cityofws.org

Question or concern about city government services? City Link 311 (727-8000) is now open 24-hours-a-day to service all non-emergency calls, 7 days a week.

The City of Winston-Salem does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, age, national origin, religion or disability in its employment opportunities, programs, services or activities.

Mayer: Allen Joines City Council: Vivian H. Davis, Mayor Pro Tempore, Northeast Ward; Denise D. Adams, North Ward; Dan Deane, Southwest Ward; Robert C. Clark, West Ward; Molly Light, South Ward; Wanda Merzuhl, Northwest Ward; Darwin L. Montgomery, East Ward; James Taylor, Jr., Southeast Ward City Manager: Leo Garity

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