

RELIGION

CALENDAR

Happening Now

General Assembly
Born Again Free Deliverance Tabernacle Church of God the Apostle's Faith, Inc., 741 Moravia St., is holding its annual General Assembly through Aug. 19. Bible classes will be at 11 a.m. and Praise and Worship will be held at 7:30 p.m. on weekdays; 7 p.m. on Saturday; and 10 a.m. on Sunday. The host pastor is Apostle Lindsey W. Adams Sr., For more information, call 336-251-8717.

Revelation Seminar
A "Revelation Seminar" will be held at Ephesus Seventh Day Adventist Church, 1225 N. Cleveland Ave., at 7 p.m. on Sundays, Tuesdays and Fridays throughout August and the first week of September. To learn more, call 724-0491.

Camp
Life Changing Transformation Church Ministries, 2001 E. 25th St., is holding its Funtime Adventure Mini Camp from Aug. 6-24 from 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Campers will go on weekly field trips. For more details, call 336-995-3516.

New Hope revival
New Hope A.M.E. Zion Church, 7000 Shallowford Road in Lewisville, will celebrate its annual revival from Sunday, Aug. 12 - Friday, Aug. 17. Various ministers are delivering the 7 p.m. evening messages. For further information, call 336-945-9083 or 336-945-5618.

Beginning Aug. 16

Youth conference
Community Deliverance Holiness Church, 7609 Horney Road in High Point, will host their annual Youth Caught in Action Conference from Aug. 16-18. For more information, contact Elder Maurice Middleton at 336-437-4418 or Brother Jeremy Sumpter at 336-858-6236.

Women's conference
Goodwill Baptist Church in the Arcadia Community, 541 Goodwill Road in Clemmons, will have its Annual Women's Conference, Women of God Moving the Master, on Thursday, Aug. 16 and Aug. 17 starting at 7 p.m. and 10 a.m. on Aug. 18. Guests will include Co-Pastor Rita Wilson of Cathedral of Refuge and Pastor Cheryl Moore of Zion Temple United Church of Christ of Durham. For more information, call the church at 336-764-3930.

Beginning Aug. 18

Wentz Food Pantry
Pastor Renee Griffin and the members of Wentz Memorial United Church of Christ have announced the opening of the church's food pantry, which will provide free fresh and non-perishable food items to anyone who wants them. The pantry is open the third Saturday of each month, beginning on Aug. 18, from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. The church is located at 3435 Carver School Rd.

Community Day
Holy Trinity Full Gospel Fellowship Center, 5307 Peters Creek Parkway, will host Community Day 2012 on Saturday, Aug. 18 from noon - 4 pm. It will include games, live entertainment and much more. The rain date will be Aug. 25. The church will hold its Back to School Jam on Sunday, Aug. 19 at 10:45 a.m. For more information, call the church at 336-784-9347.

Aug. 18
Steward's Chapel events
Steward's Chapel and Benbow Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church, 198

See Calendar on B7

McCarter to celebrate anniversary

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Bishop Sheldon M. McCarter will celebrate his 24th anniversary as the senior pastor of Greater Cleveland Avenue Christian Church on Aug. 18 and Aug. 19.

A picnic will be held on Saturday at Tanglewood Park in Clemmons. On Sunday, the celebration will continue at the 9 a.m. worship service at the church, 5095 Lansing Drive.

The guest speaker will be Bishop James Adams of Florida. At the 11 a.m. service, various church groups will

honor Bishop McCarter with special music and fine arts presentations.

McCarter began his pastorate at the then Cleveland Avenue Christian Church in August 1988. The tremendous anointing in Pastor McCarter's life, his zeal for serving God and his dynamic preaching led to phenomenal growth. When he arrived, the church had approximately 200 members; today there are more than 3,000 members.

With such a growth explosion, Pastor McCarter led the church in the completion of a new 33,000-square-foot edifice that was dedicated in October 1999. In January 2001, the 32,000 square foot S. M. McCarter Family Life Center opened.

In July of 2005, Bishop McCarter was consecrated to the office of bishop in the United Pentecostal Churches of Christ, now the United Covenant Churches of Christ, where he holds the position as assistant presiding bishop under the leadership of Presiding Prelate Eric D. Barnes.

McCarter is married to Co-Pastor Joyce N. McCarter. They are blessed with three children—Alana, Alaya, and Xavia; a granddaughter, Zaria; and daughter in covenant, Kemona.

For more information, contact the church at 336-661-0226.



Submitted Photos
Scout Master David Timmons (left) and Assistant Scout Master Anthony Lindsey stand behind current scouts (from left) Jeremiah Brown, Douglas Gilliam Jr., Katlin Galloway, Patrick Smith Jr., Demetrius Morgan and Ernest Morgan Jr.

Below: Members of the church pose with one of Mt. Zion's first troops.

Mount Zion adding to long scouting tradition

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Mount Zion Baptist Church made it possible for six kids to attend the Boy Scouts' Camp Raven Knob from July 15-20. In March 2012, Deacon David Timmons stood before the Mount Zion congregation to report the revitalization of scouting at the church.

Local blacks became involved in scouting in 1931 after a committee was formed to involve more African-Americans in the Boy Scouts. Mount Zion was among the first four black churches to start troops.

On Dec. 12, 1943, the church, under the direction of Pastor R.L. File, applied to charter Troop 164 and Troop 69 (now 869) through the Old Hickory Council. BSA records, according to the Old Hickory Council's Jewel Dotson, show that Mt. Zion was very active from the '40s through 2007, sponsoring an average of more than 80 children at any given time. Dotson also reported that Mount Zion was the only sponsor in Forsyth County to charter two troops at the same time.



Deacon Timmons is excited to get the church back into the scouting tradition. He believes that scouting provides young African-American boys with an outlet to learn new skills and overcome societal barriers. "I am looking to take scouting to the next level by coming up with new

programs to keep our boys interested and motivated," he said. "With the help of Mount Zion and the local community, we can help our parents mold our young African-American boys into remarkable African-American men and citizens."

Actor to speak at youth conference

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Former child star Kel Mitchell will be a special guest at Union Baptist Church's Takeover Youth Conference, which will be held from Aug. 17-19.

Kids in grades 5-12 will be the focus of tomorrow's (Aug. 17) activities, which begin with registration from 7:30 - 8:30 a.m. and an open session at 9 a.m. Several breakout sessions will be held during the day. A dinner and social will be held at 5 p.m., followed by a worship service at 6 p.m. featuring guest speaker Mitchell.

On Saturday, Aug. 18 workshops, a book reading presentation, games and fun will be held for students in grades K-4. A Red Carpet Conference Youth Gala will take place at the Hawthorne Inn from 3 - 5:30 p.m., with separate events for younger and older kids. The conference will conclude on Sunday, Aug. 19 at the 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. worship services.

A Chicago native, Mitchell began his acting career at the young age of 12. He was an original member on Nickelodeon's "All That" from 1994-1999. He then starred with Kenan Thompson in the spin-off series "Kenan & Kel" from 1996-2000. The pair also appeared in the 1997 film "Good Burger," which was based on a popular "All That" sketch.

These days, the actor regularly motivates kids by giving speeches at high schools and other venues. He does a web-series called "Ask Pastor Zeigler," with his pastor, Rev. Pastor Garry D. Zeigler of Los Angeles' Spirit Food Christian Center. Mitchell also puts on a live dance competition each month for inner city youth called "The Back House Party" at The Dream Center in Compton, Calif.

Conference registration is \$30 and includes meals, workshops, conference t-shirt and the gala. Call 336-724-9305 or register online at www.unionbaptistwnc.org.

Union Baptist Church is located at 1200 N. Trade St. The church is led by pastor and teacher Dr. Sir Walter Mack Jr.



Press Photo
Kel Mitchell



Submitted Photo
Bishop and Pastor Heath with Daphne Gainey, left, and Mother Dianne Rowdy, right.

Women take center stage at conference

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Greater Higher Ground Ministries Worldwide, Inc. held its 2012 Women of Excellence Conference from July 11-15. This year's theme was "Expectancy," from Jeremiah 29: 11.

First Lady Pastor Janice O. Heath hosted the event, which included speakers Prophetess Sandy Johnson of Lexington's Harvest Place Worship Center; Lady Leah McNair of Thomasville's Emmanuel Baptist Church; Pastor Jeanette Hester of High Point's Glory Bound Ministries; and Elder Ilesha Tillman of High Point's Oak Grove Baptist Church.

Women of Excellence Awards were presented to Daphne Gainey and Mother Dianne Rowdy, both members of Greater Higher Ground Ministries. The women were honored for their continued service to the church and their dedication and commitment to others.

Bishop John H. Heath is the founder and senior pastor of the Greater Higher Ground Ministries Worldwide, Inc.

The Just Leader Cometh



Devotional Reading:
Psalm 33:1-5

Lesson Scripture:
Jeremiah 23: 1-6; 33: 14-18

Lesson Aims:
Understand the responsibility of leadership; recognize that God's judgment continues; and rejoice that God sent Messiah to restore.

Background: Jeremiah prophesied to Judah during the reigns of Josiah (640-609 BC), Jehoiakim (609-598), Jehoiachin (598-597) and Zedekiah (597-586). Like Israel, Judah was headed for God's judgment. Josiah was the last "good king" who died in battle near Migiddo.

After him, Judah's government was very unstable and corrupt. Jeremiah's call came during the latter half of Josiah's tenure. His twofold prophecy was to warn the southern kingdom to repent and then to encourage them once Babylon captured them. God gave him a glimpse of Judah's dreadful future. Because of this, he agonized over their fallen condition. His open expression of grief made his writings the most emotional of the Old Testament.

He was dubbed the "weeping prophet." Jeremiah endured rejection, hatred, threats on his life, and apathy. God promised him in 1:19 "They (leaders) will fight against you but will not overcome you, for I am with you and will rescue you, declares the Lord." By worldly standards Jeremiah wasn't successful; however, he did what God told him to do.

Lesson: God's judgment upon Judah is inevitable (because of poor leadership) by the time we get to chapter 22. Jeremiah informs King Zedekiah to be subject to Babylon's rule. See II Kings 24: 18-25 and II Chronicles 36:11-23. The king comes very close to killing Jeremiah. The first deportation occurs in 605 BC. Ezekiel, one of the captives, speaks for the Lord in Babylon. Jeremiah condemns the leadership of Judah - both political (the king) and spiritual (the priests and false prophets) - for scattering and destroying God's People.

This is done in several ways. First, the leadership increases their wealth at the expense of the poor. Then justice becomes a non-factor as those who oppose the selfish rulers are locked up or killed. This self-centeredness disregards their responsibility for the masses. God will punish them for their abuse of power by allowing Judah to be swept away by Babylon and Zion (Jerusalem) left in waste. But God will gather His scattered flock (Israel and Judah) Himself.

They will be brought to a pasture where they will experience security and justice. God will raise up a descendant of David who will be like no other - wise, just and right! His name is "The Lord Our Righteousness." In the days ahead, God will fulfill His promise to save and restore His People.

Application: Based on events of the past few weeks,

See Peppers on B4