

# Mount Zion announces Lenten Revival

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Mount Zion Baptist Church announces its Lenten Revival schedule for 2015. The schedule includes a series of special devotions and worship services at Mount Zion leading up to Easter. Lent is a season of the year where Christians focus on simple living, prayer, and fasting in order to grow closer to God.

It's the forty days before Easter, excluding Sundays.

Pastors and congregations from eight area churches will be co-celebrants with Mount Zion in its Lenten observance this year. A joint worship experience at First Baptist Church on Highland Avenue will lead off the

revival series on Ash Wednesday, February 18. The revival series move back to Mount Zion each Thursday night thereafter. All of the evening services begin at 7 pm.

The full lineup of pastors and churches coming to Mount Zion for its 2015 Lenten Revival is an inclusive list: February 26, Dr. James Linville and Piney Grove Baptist Church. March 5,

Rev. Frederick O. Bass Jr. and Mount Vernon Baptist Church of High Point. March 12, Rev. Dennis Bishop and First Waughtown Baptist Church.

March 19, Dr. Dennis Leach and Morning Star Baptist Church.

March 26, Rev. Frank Thomas and Mount Zion



Baptist Church of High Point.

Locally, Mount Zion's Lenten Revival culminates with two high worship experiences.

On Maundy Thursday, April 2, Dr. Paul Lowe and his congregation from Shiloh Baptist Church will

worship at Mount Zion.

The crowning experience in this annual series will be Sunrise Service on April 5. Rev. James Cook and the St. Stephen Missionary B

aptist Church Family will join Mount Zion at this time for worship and a fellowship breakfast, with service beginning at 6:30 a.m.

Various Mount Zion ministries will assume leadership roles in the revival format.

A special devotional book written by host pastor,

Dr. Serenus T. Churn Sr. will be given to each person attending the Lenten Revival on Thursday nights.

All of the Lenten Revival services are open to the public.



Submitted photo  
Yette Renee Matthews-Phifer, composer and director of music at Winston Salem Preparatory Academy, sings with the school's Mixed Chorus.

## A.M.E.

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N. Snellville, Ga.

A.M.E. church members buying from those two businesses will cause the churches to benefit from those sales; then identify other businesses in and around the states and "replicate this process", Weaver described. After tracking the sales, initiated by the churches, the hope is that other church districts will get involved and that the movement will spread to other businesses and other churches.

"And we certainly hope and pray that this will become a much larger Black faith effort and we will reach out to the Baptist community, the Church of God and Christ and the list goes on," Weaver said. "If we're able to affect a significant change in terms of relationships with Black businesses, can you imagine if we're able to boost their profit margin and therefore they are going to have to hire more people and therefore they will be reaching back to the faith community. More people will have jobs, they will have better jobs; therefore there will be less frustration, economically, in our community."

So far, the congregations have been receptive to the idea, Weaver said. "Quite frankly, I've not met any resistance thus far."

In his speech, Grant reminded the audience that a legacy of Black economic develop was at the core of the founding of the A.M.E. Church.

"I agree with that great A.M.E. historiographer, Dr. Dennis C.

chain of restaurants based in

Dickerson, who said that the history of the African Methodist Episcopal Church -- founded -- by Bishop Richard Allen -- reflects the black liberationist narrative of African-American history," Grant said. "Nearly eight decades before the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation, Allen, a free man, was already promoting Black economic development. So it is fitting that we come to his church today with an urgent message: The time for Americans of African descent to take our place at the round table of economic opportunity is now. With each passing day, the price of not having a well-thought out economic agenda for Black America continues to extract a toll and degrade our position in this country and throughout the diaspora."

Grant, who last year received the U. S. Department of Commerce's Lifetime Achievement Award for his Black business advocacy, ticked off statistics that undergird the need for an economic movement to support Black-owned businesses and Black-owned banks:

There are currently 1.9 million Black-owned businesses in America, but only about one in 20 have more than one employee and less than 2 percent have annual gross receipts of more than \$1,000,000.

In terms of relative wealth, White America is 20 times richer than Black America, according to a recent Pew Report.

In the 1960s, we had 60 Black-owned banks. Today, that number has dwindled to only 30. "What is insane about this tragic loss is this: The bank

is the only institution in our community that can leverage or multiply dollars 7, 8, 9 or 10 times. That means for every \$1,000,000 dollars of invested capital in these banks, they are able to loan out 7, 8, 9 or \$10 million for economic development, business growth and job creation."

Grant said African-Americans lost significant ground in business ownership after integration, largely because African-Americans were no longer forced to support each other.

"As long as we were forced to trade with each other and barter with each other, our businesses (small as they were) thrived. But in our minds, we were never quite good enough. We had internalized the lie about our lack of inherent worth," he said. "When the doors of integration gave us the long-awaited pass to wine and dine with our former oppressors, we enthusiastically abandoned our own in search of an elusive White acceptance. We believed then -- and many of us still do -- that assimilation would bring on assimilation."

Dr. King concluded on April 3, 1968, the eve of his assassination: "We've got to stay together and maintain unity. You know, whenever Pharaoh wanted to prolong the period of slavery in Egypt, he had a favorite, favorite formula for doing it. What was that? He kept the slaves fighting among themselves."

But whenever the slaves get together, something happens in Pharaoh's court, and he cannot hold the slaves in slavery. When the slaves get together, that's the beginning of getting out of slavery. Now let us maintain unity."

## Religion

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Minister Valerie Northington is the program leader. Bishop John C. Parks is the senior pastor of the church.

### Black History service

The Forsyth County Missionary Union will convene Sunday, Feb. 22, at 3 p.m. at First Waughtown Baptist Church, 838 Moravia St. Youth and young adults will meet at 1:30 p.m. Seniors will meet at 3 p.m. (Mini Rally/Black History) Rev. Dennis Bishop is senior pastor. Geneva Payne is president of the First Waughtown Baptist Union. The president of the Forsyth County union is Lenner P. Jefferies. For more information please contact: R. J. Gore at (336) 817-8424.

### Black History Month

Piney Grove Baptist Church, 4715 Indiana Ave., will have a service on Sunday Feb. 22 at 4 p.m. honoring Black History Month. Pastor Richard Miller and Holy Trinity Full Gospel Fellowship Center will be the guests. For more information call (336)-744-5759.

### Beginning Feb. 24 Quarterly Assembly

The first-quarter meeting for the North Carolina Area of the Northwestern District Quarterly Assembly of the Holiness Church of God Inc. will convene Feb. 24 through March 1 at God's United House of Grace and Mercy in High Point, where the host pastor is Ruling Elder Carolyn Lazenby. The weeknight sessions will begin at 7:30 p.m. nightly and the Sunday service begins at 4 p.m. A Bible discussion and business meeting is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 28, starting at noon, at Bethlehem Holiness Church, Winston-Salem. All churches are to submit their reports before this business meeting.

The scheduled churches and speakers are as follows: Tuesday,

Elder Calvin Smith of Miracle Temple Holiness Church (High Point); Wednesday, Overseer Roy Alston (Graham, NC); Thursday- Ruling Elder Wardlow Frasier of Mount Calvary Holiness Church, Friday- Bishop James Ijames of Mount Zion Holiness Church

(Mocksville) and Sunday-Overseer Eugene Kirby of Bethlehem Holiness Church. On Sunday, March 1, the designated church choir will render the nightly music.

Presiding Overseer Eugene Kirby, Jr. invite all members of the NCANW District, friends and the public to come and worship.

### Feb. 27 Job fair

Love Community Development Corp. will sponsor a job fair on Friday, Feb. 27, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Love Community site, 3980 N. Liberty St. Several employers have committed to be on hand for the job fair, such as Novant Health, Lowe's Home Improvement, Bradley Personnel, City of Winston-Salem, Goodwill and AAC Communication. Anyone who needs help in creating or updating a resume should go to the corporation's Job Link from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Interested people should sign up at the front desk at the Love Community site.

## Plan

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discounts if they show their church programs when they dine at a Denny's owned by Thompson.

A.M.E. leaders want to "support people who are willing to provide jobs."

The Rev. Jonathan Weaver, senior pastor of Greater Mt. Nebo A.M.E. Church in Bowie, Md., and board member of the A.M.E. organization that deals with economic growth and development projects, said in a news report that so far, the congregations have been receptive to the idea.

"Quite frankly, I've not met any resistance thus far," he said.

## Church

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on biblical principles to guide spiritual growth.

Also participating on the panel is Jasmyn Graham. Graham is a second-year student at the Wake Forest University School of Divinity with a concentration in Congregational Ministry. She earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from Morris College with a major in Christian Education. Graham aspires to become a pastor.

LeTika Stephens, coordinator of the Youth Liturgical Dance Ministry at St. John CME Church, will serve as moderator.

All are invited to attend, especially all youth and young adults.

The Rev. Omar L. Dykes is the pastor.

## Peppers

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enemy throws whatever he (they) can, to deter the effort. Where the believer's head is will determine behavior. Salvation comes through Jesus Christ. He overcame death and will defeat evil once for all. The church can never forget this no matter how hot the battle is. The sword can be used to defend or to attack. To cap off the armor, the believer has to remain in relationship with God. This

is done by prayer and study. Both keeps the church connected to the Almighty. That connection makes everything worthwhile.

**Life's Application:** Are you clothed and ready for battle? We face the enemy daily whether it is on the job, in the community, over the airwaves, in our homes and even in the congregation! We've got to stay prayed up or our sur-

roundings will get the best of us. Regardless of what's before us, there is hope because we know who the victor will be! As a good soldier clothed and ready, we know our Commander's voice and His love for us and we know what is right. When we stand for God, it has to be in love, not hate; in humility not arrogance; and in forgiveness not vengeance.

# Diggs Memorial fetes leaders at BHM program

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Diggs Memorial United Holy Church held a Black History program on Feb. 8 with the theme "Know those that Labor Among You."

The Rev. Annie Duck was the facilitator and president for the event. The Rev. Travest Hunter, principal of the School of Excellence of Winston Salem, served as the master of ceremony.

The Diggs youth dance ministry (Kayla Smooth, Diamond and Dallas Martin, Jada Tate) provided a moving liturgical ministry.

Evangelist Monique McClenney galvanized the audience with a warm welcome. The Rev. Sharon Isaiah presented the poem "Life."

Duck presented certificates of recognition honoring the service of "Unsung Heroes & Herions" from the community who are still alive and are still making contributions to our community. Those included: Ms. \*Joycelyn Johnson, social worker and former councilwoman of the East Ward.

\*Isaac "Ike" Howard, deacon at Shiloh Baptist Church, teacher and former Dallas Cowboys football player.

\*Nigel Alston, motivational speaker, columnist and talk show host.

\*Yette Renee Matthews-Phifer, composer and director of music at Winston Salem Preparatory Academy (WSPA), and minister of music.

The culminating aspect of the black history celebration was the stellar performance of the Winston-Salem Preparatory Academy's High School and Mixed Chorus and Ladies Ensemble, who presented "A Journey in Music from Africa to America."

Matthews-Phifer and the choir took the audience on a tour in music back to the traditional African-American spirituals of Africa with songs such as "Hold on," "Ezekiel Saw the Wheel" and "I Want to be Ready."

The Ladies Ensemble continued the journey, reaching back for traditional songs such as: "God's Heaven, Swing low, Sweet Chariot" and closed with an old-time spiritual medley.


The WSPA Mixed Chorus picked up the driver seat and brought the audience up to the contemporary African-American gospel sounds of songs such as: "So Amazing," and "Strong Finish."

When the journey was over, the audience felt as though they had traveled the time capsule from the African-American roots of Negro spirituals to the contemporary sounds of gospel today.

The principle of WSPA, Rev. Richard Watts was recognized for his work commitment to making a difference with youth. The recognition and obvious respect of the WSPA Choir and parents for principle Watts was made clear as he was recognized.

Mother Carrie Miller, culinary president of Diggs Memorial, and her staff were recognized for her leadership and food preparation of the wonderful meal served to WSPA Choir and the community at large. Pastor Lamonte Williams, along with the officers and members of Diggs Memorial, say they would like to thank the community for supporting the event.

**Macedonia Holiness Church Of God Of The Apostolic Faith, Inc.**



**Bishop R.L. Wise, Sr.**  
D.D.; S.T.D. - Pastor

**Sunday Services**  
 Sunday School ..... 9:45 a.m.  
 Morning Worship ..... 11:00 a.m.  
 M.Y.P.U. .... 6:30 p.m.

**Wednesday Services**  
 Prayer & Bible Study ..... 7:30 p.m.

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