



Photos by Timothy Ramsey

The church was filled with family and friends to honor the legacy of Mildred Peppers.

Peppers

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ing as a teacher in the Hickory and Winston-Salem/Forsyth County school systems. In 2001, Peppers retired after 29 years of service.

Peppers was a faithful member of Emmanuel Baptist Church for 40 years. She was a Deacon, Deaconess, Sunday school teacher, missionary and new members class and Vacation Bible school teacher. She was a member of numerous other church ministries. Two ministries that were especially dear to her heart were Kemet and Ujima. She had the gift of teaching not only in the church but with her lessons in *The Chronicle* as well.

"When I came to *The Chronicle* in November 2014, there was no religion column. I found out Mrs. Peppers was ill. After a while, she came back and I was able to work with her through telephone and email. She was great to work with and even assessed her latest illness in a way to allow us to find



Joneice Pledger, daughter of Peppers, gives family tribute.

another person to write the column. She worked with us and helped us find her replacement. She was an icon in the community. People were distraught when they found out she would not be writing the column anymore. We miss her dearly," said Donna Rogers, Managing Editor at *The Chronicle*.

The funeral service was a lovely tribute to Peppers. Reflections were given from the church and family members who spoke most fondly of her. The Rev. Dr. John Mendez, pastor of Emmanuel, delivered the

eulogy. Mendez spoke about the lives that Peppers touched over the years. He spoke about her infectious sense of humor and said "the reality is that Mildred preached her own eulogy" by living such a fruitful and God-loving life.

Peppers was a beloved woman by everyone she came into contact with and her Sunday School Lessons in *The Chronicle* were not only insightful but also inspired others to touch on similar topics for their lessons.

"We have missed Mrs. Peppers' Sunday School Column for a while now," said Ernie Pitt, editor emeritus at *The Chronicle*. "I am certainly saddened by her passing. However, I know firsthand that she was a woman of God. She was a true believer and worked to deliver a lot of lessons to other Sunday school teachers through her column. Godspeed, Mrs. Peppers. We will all see you in the by and by. Peace be unto the family and her many friends ... including *The Chronicle*."



Photo by Todd Luck

WSTA Director Art Barnes listens to a question by passenger DJ Murphy on the new bus routes at a meeting held on Nov. 10 at the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center.

Routes

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stops with all the information needed to check on a bus' arrival time and destinations via text, phone call or online. After that, WSTA staff personally worked with each of the four passengers in attendance on their questions about the routes they use.

One of the passengers was Leo Burton, who is blind and relies on the bus and Trans-AID to get around. At first, the new routes would've eliminated his bus stop and made him walk further to get to the bus. After voicing his concerns in one of the many comment meetings on the new routes earlier in the year, his bus stop was preserved. However, the changes in routes will have him dropped off a few houses down from where

he lives on the return trip. "That's a change, but it ain't no problem," Burton said.

Another passenger was DJ Murphy, who's been riding the bus his whole life. He's studied the new routes and though some of them are a little farther away from where he lives, he felt that overall the streamlined rides and extensive routes will please passengers. He said he found the new routes to be intuitive.

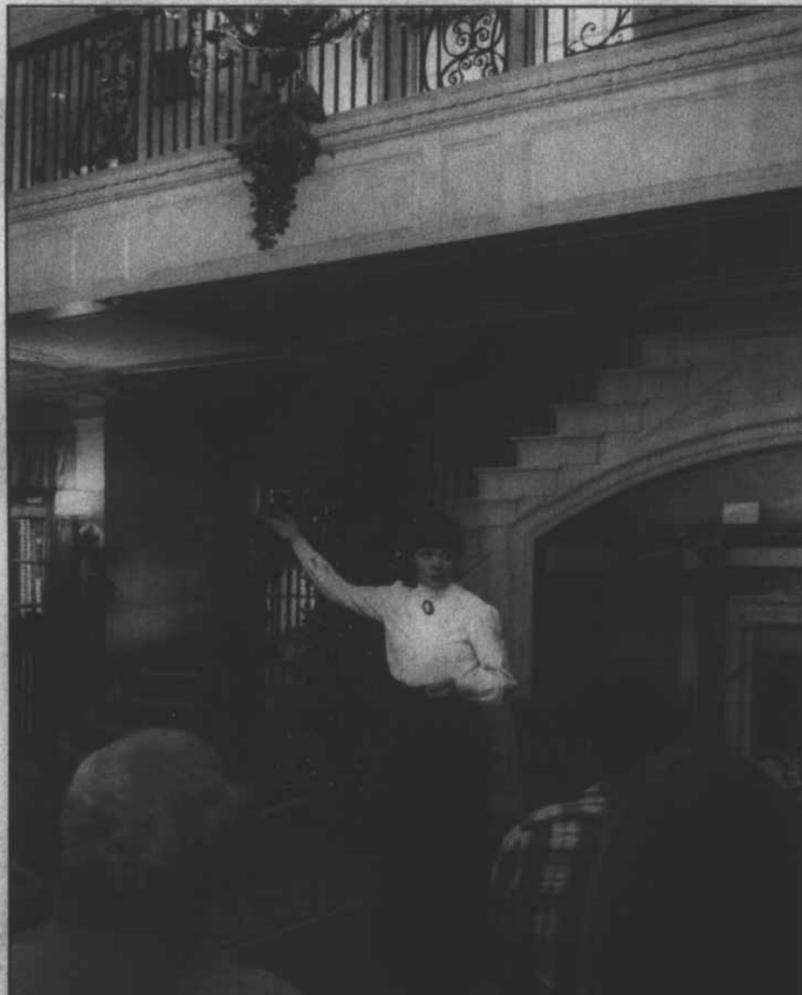
"This system is very easy. It's not confusing," he said.

Murphy did find an issue in some of the routes. He noticed Saturday routes that connect with a bus that goes to Hanes Mall and local hospitals in the morning starts too late for passengers who ride it to work in the morning. Carson-Wilkins thanked him for finding a flaw in the routes they had missed and said WSTA would get to work fixing it.

For a list of the remaining bus route meetings, see the WSTA's ad in this week's *Chronicle*.

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