

**Sunday School Lesson**



Rev. Waylon Wallace

Greetings fellow Bible students! Our lesson for this week comes from Acts 6:1-8:3. The printed text will be Acts 7:2, 44-53, 57, 58. It is entitled, *Stephen: Martyred Messenger*. We might just as well entitle it *Stephen: Faithful Witness*, for reasons we shall soon see. Upon reading the subject, the question must come to some one, "What is a MARTYR?" There are two ways of defining the word. There is the secular definition, a person who chooses to suffer or die rather than give up his faith or principles. It is good but inadequate. The biblical definition goes to the greek origin of the word which is "mártus" or "martur" and means witness. Suffering and dying came to be associated with the word because early in the history of the church suffering and dying came to be the price that the "faithful witness" had to be willing to pay. Truly, the blood of martyrs was the seed of the church.

Another question confronts us: "Who was Stephen?" We know him to have been one of the even chosen and appointed to insure the fair distribution of food and money to the poor. He was recommended as a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit. He was an Evangelist, doing great wonders and signs among the people and teaching in the synagogues.

On the occasion our scripture relates, Stephen had been teaching in a synagogue that was largely attended by Jews who had been in slavery but had now either purchased their freedom or been released. Having been previously enslaved by gentiles, perhaps they had a more than usual hatred for them. Therefore, they were tremendously angered by the statements of

Stephen which extended God's salvation to people of all nations. They were so angry at Stephen that they made up lies on him and had him arrested. Stephen was brought before the Sanhedrin Council, heard the accusations against him and was given an opportunity to make a defense. Stephen made an excellent defense, not of himself to secure release, but of the Christian faith which gained him death. And so, Stephen whose name means, "crown" was the first to wear the martyr's crown.

A brief look at Stephen's teachings would benefit us. There were two things of unsurpassable importance to the Jews. One was the Temple, the only place they could make sacrifice for their sins and the only place God could truly be worshipped. The other was the Law which could not be changed. But, Stephen had the nerve to tell them that the Temple must pass away and that the Law was a stage to the Gospel. He had the gall to tell them that God's salvation goes out to all the people. He told them that the great men of Israel's past had been men of faith, obedience, grace, hope and wisdom who worshipped God long before there ever was a Temple. But, said Stephen, the Israelite people have continuously rejected and persecuted the prophets God sends to them. They have continuously received privileges from God, while continually being disobedient. They had also greatly limited God.

Stephen's death stimulated the spread of the gospel from Jerusalem to all the world. God is calling upon us all to be witnesses for him. We must be faithful witnesses to the end in order to be saved.

**Richmond To Address Conference**

By Dianne Simpson  
POST Staff Writer

Alan Richmond, a freshman at Livingstone College in Salisbury, N. C., was recently selected as one of three youths from North and South Carolinas to address the Carolinas' Division of the American Red Cross during its 1978 Conference.

This Conference, hosted by the Greenville Chapter of the Red Cross, was held in Greenville, S. C. at the Sheraton Palmetto Inn.

Alan is actively involved in the Charlotte chapter of the American Red Cross and served as Vice-President and later President of the Senior High Council of the Charlotte Chapter. He has been a Red Cross volunteer for six years and has been involved in many other areas of Red Cross work. Alan received the honor of being one of North Carolina's 1977 volunteers of the year and was nominated by the Youth Service Program of the Charlotte chapter.

Alan is a 1977 graduate of South Mecklenburg Senior

High School. At South Meck, Alan was involved with numerous groups and activities. At Livingstone College Alan is majoring in Social Welfare and hopes to go into the field of theology. He is a dormitory counselor and a member of the University's choir.

Alan is a member of El-Bethel AME Zion Church here in Charlotte. There he is a member of the R.A. Gospel Singers, a junior trustee and superintendent of the Sunday school.

Alan lives with his grandmother, Mrs. Cora Ross of 1143 Bethel Road. He has a twin sister who is a freshman at A & T State University.

**GETHESEMANE**

The Sunday School Department of Gethsemane AME Zion Church will present a skit and panel discussion entitled "Why A Church School?" Sunday, April 23 at 4 p.m. The program is open to the public.

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**Church News Briefs**

**Mt. Carmel Has Become Proud Adoptive Parents Of 500 Youngsters**

BY JERI HARVEY  
Post Staff Writer

Mount Carmel Baptist Church has become the proud adoptive parent of more than 500 youngsters at Enderly Park Elementary School. The only predominantly black church in Mecklenburg County to participate in the project which is coordinated by the public school system, Mt. Carmel hopes to provide needed volunteer services to the school while becoming a more viable force in the Enderly Park community.



Ms. Catherine Lockhart Gains recognition

Initially, seven volunteers are assisting teachers 2 1/2 hours per week, performing services ranging from helping youngsters improve vocabulary, reading comprehension, and math computation skills to preparing materials for classroom use. The volunteers each devote from 1/2 to 2 hours at least two days a week. Most of the volunteers work with one or two students at each session.

The program is coordinated at the school by Ms. Pat Thompson, a reading teacher and Mrs. Easter Johnson of Mount Carmel.

Enderly Park Elementary School is located at 1318 Clay Street, one block from Tuckaseegee Road and approximately four blocks from the church. The school houses youngsters in kindergarten through grade six, has 37 teachers and 14 support staff.

The volunteers themselves are very pleased with the way things are going. Gloria Brown, who works the night shift at a local hospital, devotes four and a half hours a week to tutoring duties. Mallissa Hearn and Hoppie Belton sandwich in five and a half hours between their classes. They are both college students.

Ruby Johnson volunteers her services three hours a week and works full time while Shirley Johnson tutors youngsters twice a week on her lunch hour. Polly Williams devotes several hours at the school. Mattie Adams and Seabram Way add another three and a half hours top the total.

The tasks are not difficult, the rewards are great. Our thrust in the next few weeks is to encourage more people to become involved," said Easter Johnson. "All it takes is one or two hours per week and a lot of love."

If you are interested contact Mrs. Johnson or Rev. Leon Riddick through the Mount Carmel church office (telephone 394-3525.)

**STEELE CREEK**  
Rev. George McNeely will conduct a Sunday School Workshop for officers and teachers of Steele Creek AME Zion Church on Saturday, April 15, at 12:30 p.m.

**FIRST BAPTIST**  
David Bryant Lucas, president of the Youth Department of the North

Carolina Baptist State Missions Convention, will be the guest speaker at the *Missions Emphasis Day* program during the 11 a.m. worship service on Sunday, April 16, at First Baptist Church, 1801 Oaklawn Avenue.

David is a graduate of Kings Mountain High School, where he was a four-year winner of the Kiwanis International Talent Show, and the 1975 Southwestern 4-H Carowinds Talent Show winner. Before entering Pfeiffer College, he was a member of the Dilworth Rotary Music International Concert Choir. He has toured the United States with the Pfeiffer College Concert Tour Choir.

During the summer months, he is Youth Counselor at the J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly in Laurel Hill, N. C. This fall he will enroll in Fisk University to further his education, as a voice major.

The Missions Emphasis Day program is being sponsored by the Youth Missions Department of First Baptist Church, Dr. J. B. Humphrey, pastor; Mrs. Sarah C. Ballard is the Youth Supervisor, and Miss Rachella Sweetenburgh is the Youth President.

The Public is cordially invited to attend this special program.

**ANTIOCH**  
Antioch Baptist Church will present World Wide Pictures Film, "The Gospel Road" Sunday, April 16, at 6 p.m. in the church sanctuary.

The film stars Johnny Cash and June Cash. It tells the story of Jesus in a most moving and inspirational drama and songs. The public is urged to attend this film presentation. There will be no admission charge. A free-will offering will be taken.

The Nurses of Antioch Baptist Church will present the second in a monthly series of open door Clinics, Saturday, April 16. The Clinic begins at 12 noon and closes at 6 p.m.

The First Baptist Church of Concord, Rev. V. M. Worthy, Pastor, is hosting the Seventh Annual Workshop of the Rowan Baptist Association.



Mrs. Mary Proctor

...1st Mt. Zion speaker Saturday, April 15th, beginning at 10 a.m.

The theme is "What Every Pastor, Officer, and Church Member should know about the work of the church and the work of the General Baptist Convention."

Dr. J. C. Harris is the moderator and will be presiding. Other dignitaries of the General Baptist Association will bring the workshops.

The First Baptist Church is inviting the public.

**SHILOH BAPTIST**

Rev. Dr. Morris H. Tynes, consultant to the Department of Human Services and special assistant to the mayor of Chicago, and pastor of the Greater Mt. Moriah Baptist Church in Chicago, will be guest speaker at Shiloh Baptist Church on Sunday, April 16, at the 11 a.m. worship service.

Shiloh Baptist Church, located at 1210 S. Eugene Street, in Greensboro is observing its 86th anniversary and is inviting the public to hear Tynes.

Tynes is also a special assistant to the president of the Community Discount Center Stores, a subsidiary of TSC Industries.

A native of Lynchburg, Va., Tynes grew up in Greensboro. He is a son of the late Rev. Dr. and Mrs. J. W. Tynes. The late

Dr. Tynes was a former pastor of Providence Baptist Church. Morris Tynes is also a brother of Margaret Tynes and the late Angeline Tynes, both opera singers.

**MT. PEACE AUXILIARY**  
The 13th Annual Mt. Peace Woman's Missionary Auxiliary's Calendar Tea and Fellowship Hour was held with Shiloh Institutional Baptist Church at 3 p.m. Sunday 9, where the Rev. Tommy G. Davis is the pastor.

The officers of the Woman's Auxiliary are: Miss Lucinda Satterwhite, Pres.; Mrs. Cora P. Wilson, Pres. Emeritus; Mrs. Erma Buford, Secretary; Mrs. Robbie Diggs, Program Chairperson, and Mrs. M. Hutto, Corresponding Secretary.

Mrs. Diggs presided over the events. The devotion was conducted by representatives of Green Oaks, St. Mark's and Mt. Calvary Baptist Churches. Mr. Torrence Powell gave a response to the warm welcome from the host church. Rev. Waylon Wallace introduced the speaker of the hour, Rev. T. G. Davis, who spoke on the subject, "He Showed Them His Hands". It was a dynamic message that was well received.

Music was rendered by a choir from the host church and the Auxiliary Choir. Following words of appreciation from Mrs. Lena Berry and the financial report from Miss Carrie Johnson, Rev. Davis gave the benediction and all went to the dining hall of the church for refreshments.

**FAITH MEMORIAL**

The youth of Faith Memorial Baptist Church, 211 Lakewood Avenue, will have its Annual Day April 23 at 3 p.m. Guest speaker will be Rev. J. W. Wingate of Springfield Baptist Church, Stanley.

A Fellowship Dinner will be served following the service. The public is invited to come and share in this occasion.

Rev. Wilch H. Caldwell is pastor of Faith Memorial.

**MYERSTABERNACLE**  
Members of Myers Tabernacle AMEZ Church held an Appreciation Day for Mrs. Catherine Lockhart, Sunday, April 9, at 3 p.m. Mrs. Lockhart was recognized for her many years of service to Myers Tabernacle and her community.

Born in Rowland, N. C., Mrs. Lockhart attended Rowland Southside High School. In 1954 she moved to Charlotte and made Myers Tabernacle her church home in 1960. From that time on she has been a dedicated servant of the church, according to a spokesman.

Mrs. Lockhart is an ordained minister. She preached her trial sermon in 1969 under Rev. John W. Holmes, who was then pastor of Myers Tabernacle.

For approximately 10 years she served as Sunday School Superintendent and was secretary of the "Y's". She became a deaconess under the present pastor, Rev. Carnell Thompson.

For the past 10 years Mrs. Lockhart has been a special counselor and friend to the young people of Boulevard Homes, where she resides. For the younger ones she holds

Bible Story Hours in her home and takes them on trips and outings. Friends say they often go to her home when they have personal problems and she always has time to listen and lend them the benefit of her understanding wisdom.

Mrs. Lockhart is the manager of the Volunteer Gospel Singers who often accompany her when she speaks at churches in Charlotte and the surrounding area.

Those who know Mrs. Lockhart say she spends many hours visiting the sick and shut-in in rest homes and hospitals and is ever ready to give a helping hand to anyone in need.

She is married to James Lockhart and they have two daughters Christine, 16, and Cynthia, 15.

Myers Tabernacle is located at 509 Cherry St.

**FIRST MOUNT ZION**

The pastor and congregation of First Mount Zion Baptist Church will welcome Sack Creek Baptist Church, Gaffney, SC during their Annual Usher's Day Program to be held Sunday, April 16, at 5 p.m.

Mrs. Mary Proctor will be the guest speaker. The public is invited.

Dr. C.V. Owens is the pastor of First Mt. Zion. The church is at 1515 Remount Road.

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