

## CHURCH NEWS

### News of note

• **Hampton University** will host its 83rd Minister's Conference, June 2-6. This year's theme will be "The Future of the Black Church: Where Are We Going and How Do We Get There?" Invited speakers and panelists include, Bishop John Hurst Adams, Bishop Cecil Bishop, Bishop Nathaniel Linsey and Dr. Henry Lyons. For more information, call (757)727-5255.

• **Evangelistic Temple Outreach Ministries** worships each Sunday at the Masters Inn, 2701 Independence Blvd. Sunday School begins at 10 a.m., Morning worship 11 a.m. and evening worship at 4 p.m. For more information, call Evangelist Evetta Lyons, 372-6354.

### Thursday

• **Adams Metropolitan AME** 5520 Nations Ford Road  
Anniversary services for the Rev. Wanda Howell continue through Friday at 7 p.m.

### Friday

• **District Missionaries** Barbara Lockett, Barbara Payne and Valerie Logan. For more information, call 334-8099 or 563-6814.

### Saturday

• **Rockwell AME Zion** 6301 Rockwell Church Road  
Women's day celebration continues through Sunday. Saturday 8 a.m., breakfast at Denny's on Sunset Road.

• **Adams Metropolitan AME** 5520 Nations Ford Road  
Gospel singing, 7 p.m. featuring the Sunlight Gospel Singers, Forest City and the Gospel Supremes, Shelby.

### Sunday

• **Adams Metropolitan AME** 5520 Nations Ford Road  
Anniversary Banquet at the Renaissance Place Restaurant, 4 p.m. For tickets, call 527-6700.

• **New Vision Full Gospel Baptist** 101 S. Hoskins Road  
Ted Martin and the Charlotte Inter-Denominational Mass Choir of the Gospel Music Workshop will be in concert at 3 p.m.

• **The Greater Providence Baptist** 2000 Milton Road  
The church will celebrate its 62nd anniversary at 8 a.m. and 11 a.m.

• **Rockwell AME Zion** 6301 Rockwell Church Road  
Women's day celebration continues. 11 a.m. worship service featuring Glenda Horton-Manning. Rainbow tea, 5 p.m. at Greenville Center, 3300 Spring St.

• **Ministry of Reconciliation** will continue revival services at First Mayfield Memorial Baptist Church at 6 p.m. The speaker is evangelist/prophet Anthony Triplett of the Whole Armour Evangelistic Ministries.

• **Shiloh Institutional Baptist** 2400 Greenland Ave.  
Women's Day, 11 a.m. featuring Evangelist Mildred A. Humphries of Hedges & Highways Evangelistic Church of Salvation.

• **O'Zion AME Zion** 12921 Hamilton Road  
Choir concert featuring O'Zion Mass Choir.

• **Grace Memorial Missionary Baptist** 4001 Nevin Road  
Hymn Choir Anniversary, 3 p.m. The guest speaker will be the Rev. Clinton Caesar of Shiloh Institutional Baptist Church.

• **Cathey Memorial AME Zion** 624 Chicago Ave.  
Pastor's appreciation service, 3 p.m. featuring the Rev. John I. Jackson of Moore's Sanctuary AME Zion Church.

• **Prince of Peace Lutheran** 3001 Beatties Ford  
Revival services continue through Friday at 7 p.m. The church anniversary will be celebrated Sunday at 3:30

p.m. with a message by Vicar Howard Alexander of Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit.

• **New St. John Baptist** 2000 St. John Church Road  
Usher's Day will be observed at 3 p.m. The speaker will be the Rev. Herman Rushing, associate pastor, Chappell Memorial Baptist Church. Youth revival services, 7 p.m. with the Rev. Kevin Long of Temple Baptist Church.

• **St. Luke Baptist** 1600 Norris Ave.  
Adult Choir Concert 6:30 p.m.

• **Pleasant Hill Baptist** 517 Baldwin Ave.  
Sanctuary Choir concert, 4 p.m.

### Monday

• **University Park Baptist** Keller Avenue and Senior Drive  
Annual spring revival through May 23 at 7 p.m. Evangelist, the Rev. Walter Thomas, of New Psalmist Baptist Church, Baltimore, Md.

### Tuesday

• **Gethsemane AME Zion** 531 Campus St.  
May Pole Service for senior citizens, 10:30 a.m.

## Chavis fights UCC decision on ministry

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Ben Chavis compromised the standards of the UCC and forfeited his position as one of its ordained leaders. This Church believes that Jesus is the Christ, the one and only Savior. Black Muslims believe Jesus is just a prophet, and Elijah Muhammad is God's one and only true prophet. This is just one of many contradictions between Christianity and Islam — and one essential to basic Christian doctrine. The UCC had the obligation and responsibility to its followers to ensure it's ministers preach what it teaches. Is this not what Black Muslims do? Is this not what any organization does?"

C. Beatty (cbeatty@charlotte.infnet) agreed. "It is justified because he decided to follow another faith," Beatty wrote. "He can not serve two masters. He can

not be, a Muslim and a Christian at the same time. For Muslims do not recognize Jesus as the plan of salvation. My hat is off to the UCC for taking a stand in a back boneless society."

Pip, (Pip 256@aol.com,) disagreed.

"I think Chavis made a mistake by joining the N.O.I.," Pip wrote. "But his religious beliefs should have no bearing with his relationship with the UCC."

If you have thoughts on Ben Chavis Muhammad or any other religious topic, we would like to hear them. You can e-mail the Post at charpost@clt.mindspring.com or check out our web page: <http://www.thepost.mindspring.com>. You can fax us at (704)342-2160.

## Bible by and for blacks gets mixed reaction

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experience: slavery, black heritage, economic empowerment are among the devotions written by African American theologians and thinkers.

"The project actually began five or six years ago," Zondervan marketing representative John Sawyer said. "We did a major survey to understand the interests and needs of the African American community."

According to Sawyer, several surveys were done to insure the acceptance by the African American community.

"We talked with members of the board of CNBC," Sawyer said. "We also worked with 30 local ministers for the concept, cover and content to insure that it fit into African American churches and communities."

Reaction to the Bible have been positive, but merchants

question the need for a Bible for African Americans.

"The reactions have generally been positive," Zondervan's Gary Knapp said. "But there were some retailers who wondered whether it would underscore differences between Caucasian Christians and African American Christians. We made sure not to use anything that would alienate anyone."

Knapp, editor of the Bible, said it is simply a way to recognize the unique religious experience of African Americans.

"Their journey is different than that of most Caucasian Christians," Knapp said. "African Americans have different insights that we wanted to recognize."

Baptist Bookstore manager Jim Edwards said he will stock the Bible.

"I will certainly have it," he said. "I have heard a lot about it, but we get a lot of information from Zondervan. We will have it soon."

Edwards expects the Bible to do well.

"There was another African American Bible that came out several years ago that didn't do as well as I expected, but I was in another area at the time," he said. "I think this will do well."

Zondervan is taking a unique approach to marketing the Bible.

Less emphasis will be placed on retail sales. Zondervan and CNBC plan to sell the Bible through churches and individual denominational conferences.

"This is a different market than we normally work with," Knapp said. "The channels through which we will sell

through is congregations and conferences. We're not doing as much through retail. That's just the way we think African Americans will buy it."

Some blacks have also questioned the publishing of an African American Bible through a white press.

"There are other black publishers," Byrd said. "Zondervan has a long history of publishing devotional Bibles. We don't have an exclusive arrangement with Zondervan and don't intend to."

The key is to produce a Bible that is acceptable to African Americans, Byrd said.

"We as a community do lots of devotional reading," Byrd said. "We want people to understand the Bible is not just for African Americans. Everyone can get something from it."

## Volunteers building churches across South

By Marquita Smit  
THE SUN HERALD

DIAMONDHEAD, Miss. — With chain saws roaring in the background and the sound of power drills buzzing in the air, a group of Methodist volunteers finds a quiet place for prayer before beginning a day's work.

They pray for blessings and guidance before they start their task — church building — which is no ordinary job, especially for a group of volunteers.

But this group of men, part of the Southeastern Jurisdiction of United Methodist Men, are special. Many of them are expert builders and use their talents to build churches across the Southeast.

Through the summer, they will construct a new building for the Diamondhead United Methodist Church, said the Rev. Jeff Pruett, pastor of the church.

"They're only volunteers, in the sense that they're not getting paid," he said. "These people are professionals."

The craftsmen include retired draftsmen, carpenters, electricians and contractors who are working daily to build the church and have it ready for services on Aug. 10.

"We're really moving along," Pruett said.

The 12,400-square-foot building was estimated to cost \$1.95 million, but the actual price will be half that amount because of the free labor, said

Bill Perkins, state volunteer coordinator.

The group's first project was Kings Bay United Methodist Church in Kingsland, Ga. Diamondhead will be its seventh project.

Hired help and volunteers began clearing the 7.5 acres of land on Noma Drive in February. Construction started in April. The building will be a starter unit, including a sanctuary, kitchen, storage room, pastor's study and a nursery, that can be expanded later.

Why do the volunteers come? That's hard to say.

"People give up their vacations and holidays to come work for free," said Morris Oglesby Sr., who retired after 50 years as master builder. "A lot of people can't understand it, and I'm not sure I do, either."

Over the summer, more than 700 volunteers will come from Florida, Tennessee, Louisiana, Virginia, Maryland and Georgia to build the Coast church.

Many congregations would not be able to build churches if it were not for some assistance, Oglesby said.

"That's why they help out as much as possible," he said.

But church members also do their share. They provide meals and water for the volunteer workers and many of them worked to clear the land.

"It's always something for everyone to do," said Chris Langheld, a volunteer from Ozark, Ala.

Langheld worked as an elec-

trician for 40 years, and he'll complete the wiring in the new church.

While some of the volunteers will leave before the building is finished, but he'll stay until the end.

"I'll do whatever I can," Langheld said. "I'm out here working for the Lord. I love to work and, I enjoy seeing things go up. It's just in my blood."

While volunteers help to build the church, a group within the Methodist organization, called the New Church Development Kingdom Builders of the Mississippi Annual Conference, is paying for the construction.

In the last 15 years, the conference has helped to build at least eight churches on the Coast.

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING CHURCH NEWS ARTICLES IS MONDAY AT 5 P.M.**

The Post is looking for ministers to write for "The Pastor's Study." To participate, please submit an essay on the religious topic of your choice to:

P.O. Box 30144,  
Charlotte, N.C. 28230



### GALILEE BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. F.A. Griffin, PASTOR

Sunday School 9:45a.m.  
Sunday Worship 11:00a.m.  
Sunday School Study - Wed. 7pm  
Prayer Service - 8pm

2933 Shady Lane • Charlotte, NC 28208

333-0810

### SIMPSON-GILLESPIE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Dr. Carl Arrington, Senior Pastor

Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Worship - 11:00 a.m.  
Bible Study, Wednesdays - 7:00 p.m.

3545 Beatties Ford Rd. • (704) 399-2717



Dr. Carl Arrington

### WNOW AM 1030

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