

Friendship open house

Continued from page 5B scenes.

"The intent was to build a church that represents contemporary but also has a strong emphasis on our tradition," Jones said. "Our tradition as Christians and as Baptists, that's why you have the Baptist tree in the center. And our Protestant strength, that's why you have rows of pews directly in front of the pulpit. We argue that we are a Christian church, a very strong traditional church, but not so traditional that we don't embrace contemporary faith and contemporary worship."

Planning for the new campus started 10 years ago and it took two years for the church to be completed.

Jones said the open house gave members and the com-



PHOTO/CURTIS WILSON

Hundreds visited the new sanctuary at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church.

munity a chance to see what has developed during that time.

"The Lord has smiled on us and there has been consistent

and stable growth with in the life of the church and because of that growth we're able to do what you're seeing today," he said.

'Revival of the Summer 2006'

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ty Outreach Church. The event begins at 9 a.m. at the Bette Rae Thomas Recreation Center, 2921 Tuckasee Road. For additional information, call (704) 691-1472 or (704) 777-1144.

August 20
"The Revival of the Summer 2006" will be held at Trinity Park Baptist Church through August 23. The guest speakers will be:

Bishop George Brooks/Sunday 5p.m.

Rev. Robert McGowan/Monday, 7 p.m.

Rev. George Cook/Tuesday 7 p.m.

Rev. Cornelius Atkinson/Wednesday 7p.m.

The theme is "A Focus on the Family: Lord, Help Us

Raise Our Children
August 26
Northside Church of Christ, 4435 E. W.T. Harris Blvd., will host a Back to School Jam and a 3-on-3 basketball tournament.

Back to School Jam is a one-day youth sporting event dedicated to rejuvenating physical activity by promoting recreational and educational fun for youth through a 3-on-3 basketball tournament format. Church members have donated school supplies towards this event. The organization Men on a Mission (MOM), a mentoring program, has committed to be onsite for tutorial sign-ups for those needing assistance during the 2006-2007 school year. In addition, other organizations in the community will

on-site disseminating information about their programs. The basketball tournament will start around noon. Other activities, games, and food will be operating simultaneously. There will be a dunk, 3-point, and free throw contest, and obstacle courses as well. The event is free.

December 2
Matthews United Methodist Church will host its annual Walk Through Bethlehem event from 8-9 p.m. This event models the Town of Bethlehem as it appeared when Christ was born and offers visitors an interactive experience. The church is located at 801 S. Trade St. Matthews.

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"Hell: A Living Reality" (Part II)
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My aunt Sarah was buried on Tuesday, July 11, 2006. She was 87, I believe. Of all those speakers on the program, not one told how God saves a poor, lost, hell-deserving sinner. Not one gave their personal testimony of the saving grace of God and Blood Redemption in Christ. Isn't that sad? Not one testimony from that podium on God saving a lost sinner! What a tragedy! But as I have often said: you can't tell what you don't know, and you can't lead where you haven't been. I don't care how many doctrines a man knows, nor how many truths he knows. If he doesn't know Christ as a Living Reality to his heart, he cannot tell a sinner how God saves a sinner. In Anson County, I can count on one hand the number of preachers and Bible teachers that can tell a sinner how God saves a sinner, and have fingers left. In a Bible study one night in town, I made this statement: "In all the years I worked in the public, I never had a saved boss, never had a saved co-worker, and I never had supervised a saved employee, as far as I know." That statement stunned a retired principal who was present. He asked: "How can a man make a statement like that?" I'll go a step further: I came up in the public schools and attended Sunday School regularly. My dad was superintendent and a deacon, and I went off to and finished college. Of all those in school with me, teachers and students, not one was ever saved, as far as I know. Kenneth, now you are my cousin. I'll go a step further: of all the Bible teachers and pastors I had when I was coming up in West Deep Creek Baptist Church, not one was saved. When the Holy Spirit awakened me to my lost condition (Lk. 19:10, Eph. 2:1), I looked around me and made this statement: "No one around me is saved, and I've never been to the funeral of a saved person." I know that makes multitudes of you mad. It just shows that you are a total stranger to Holy Spirit Conviction. (Jn. 16:7-11) It makes no difference how many truths a man knows or how many churches he has pastored. If he missed Holy Spirit Conviction, he is not saved! Today's religious leadership has missed Holy Spirit Conviction. It is just the blind leading the blind, and they both will fall into the pit of Hell.

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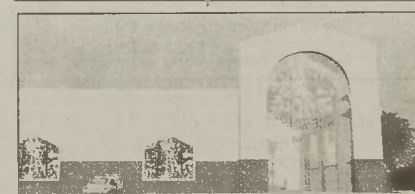
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