6B

rirginia chapel built by newly freed slaves

Continued from page 5B walls, water damage stains the ceiling and deep divots dot the cemeter

walls, water damage stains the ceiling and deep divots dot the cemetery.
But even with its imperfec-tions, Longs Chapel is receiv-ing top honors when it comes to historical significance. Last month it was added to the Virginia Landmarks Register, and it could be added to the National Register of Historic Landmarks soon.
"The (state registry) board felt that it was important to celebrate the African Ameri-can heritage there' by putting Longs Chapel on the registry, said Marc Wagner, national registry manager. "It's the only surviving building from (Zenda)."

(Zenda)" Interest in preserving Longs Chapel began in 2003 when Jenkins and his wife, Robin, were vacationing in Rockingham County from South Carolina, and someone suggested they drive past the chapel. Covered with trees and briars, the chapel was

barely visible from the road and the cemetery was cov-ered with brush, Jenkins recalls

Even though the chapel Even though the chapel was less than impressive, Jenkins says, he couldn't help but think that something needed to be done to save it. That's when the Jenkinses made it their mission to find out who owned the chapel and take the necessary steps to preserve it.

ut who owned the chapel and take the necessary steps to preserve it. They started by researching the property at the Rocking-ham County Courthouse. They started by researching to verse that Roger Emerson, who owns the property adja-to the chapel, bought it in a tax sale. Dedicated to preserving boundarde Emerson and asked if he would be willing to sell the chapel and the gemetery surrounding it. Emerson agreed on the condi-tion that the Jenkinses move forward with plans to ave

"I just hated to see it destroyed," Emerson said. "He said he wanted to restore everything, and I thought that was pretty good that was pretty good (because) it's got historical significance."

that was pretty good (because) it's got historical significance." The Jenkinses vowed to pre-serve the property They bought the chapel and the lot for about \$3,200 in October 2004. A couple of months after making the purchase, Jenk-ins received a call from exhi-tions and the start of the search wished to remain anonymous. "He said, You tell me what you would like done," Jenkins recalls. Jenkins told the man broperty of trees and brush. The man, Jenkins said, offered to cut down all the present the bankinses did-the man, Jenkins said, present to keep," Jenkins recalls. Mout a month later, jenkins said he visited the about a month later, jenkins said he visited the head the land was cleared."

could not believe it," Jenkins

could not believe it," Jenkins said. "I was set." Since then, Jenkins and his family have moved from South Carolina to Rocking-ham County, with big goals for the chapel. And they are goals, Jenkins says, that will be assier to accomplish now that the chapel is recognized by the state. This and foremost, Jenkins said, the Longs Chapel Preservation Society plans to hird volumes to help work on the chapel IIs roof, the ohumas that hold it up and he exterior walls are all in needs or repair. The interior also needs work to make if to tours, Jenkins said. "We want to preserve it for tome and learn from (the for-more slaves") tremendous offert to rise above where the

mer slaves") tremendous effort to rise above where they started and live out the Amer-ican dream," Jenkins said. ican dream," Jenkins said "We want it to be a living site for black history."

First Mayfield Memorial Baptist Church **COME AND BE BLESSED BY GOD!**

Redeemed: Saved By the Blood of Jesus! Reconciliation: Come Back Home to God! Renewed: In the Joy of God!

Homecoming/Church Anniversary Sunday, October 8th, 2006 at 3:00 p.m. Speaker: Reverend Benji McMiller Guest Pastor of the Nazareth Primitive Baptist Church **Revival Services** Monday - Thursday (October 9th-12th) at 7:00 p.m. **Guest Evangelists Nightly:**

TRANSPORTION IS AVAILABLE – PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE by 5:00 p.m.

Paul W. Drummond, D. D., Pastor 901 Oaklawn Avenue Charlotte, North Carolina 28206 Church Office: 704.334.4525



Continued from page 5B registration at 8 a.m. Work-shop sessions begin at 9:15

a.m. October 22 The Mighty Children's Choir of Steele Creek AME Zion Church, 1500 Shopton Road, will have their 31st anniversary. The theme is "Let the Children Sing!" The program will begin at 3p.m. October 29 The Gospel Choir of Steele Creek AME Zion Church, located at 1500 Shopton

Road, will have their annual fall concert. The theme this year is "I Need A Church". The concert will begin at 5p.m. The minister of music is Brother Stanley McCul-lough Necessber 12

lough November 17 Pastor Valari Logan and Women of the Harvest pre-sent a Women's Fall Retreat, "Listening to God with our Total Mind, Body, and Soul," The event runs through Sast urday and registration is \$85. The deadline to register is

Sept. 15. Send cash or money order to Kingdom Fellow-ship-Women of The Harvest, PO Box 444334, Charlotte, NC 28215. The retreat will be held at The White Oak Conference The White Oak Conference Center in Winnsboro, S.C. For more information, call (704) 531-2246. The

December 2 Matthews

Dr. James R. Samuel, Pastor

Methodist Church will host its annual Walk Through Bethlehem The 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 in Matthews The event runs from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. m 3 p.m. to o United

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"The Seventh Day is the Sabbath of the Lord" - Exodus 20:10

Northeast SDA Church

Reeder Memorial Baptist Church 3725 Beatties Ford Road Charlotte, North Carolina 28216 www.reederchurch.org



Sunday School:9:45am Morning Worship: 11:00an Vednesday Bible Study 7:00p Youth Meeting 3rd.Sat.2pn A Church that cares for your soul 2 Chron. 7:14 Senior Pastor, Rev. Samuel Guthrie, Jr. Charlotte, NC, 28214 • 704-392-7890

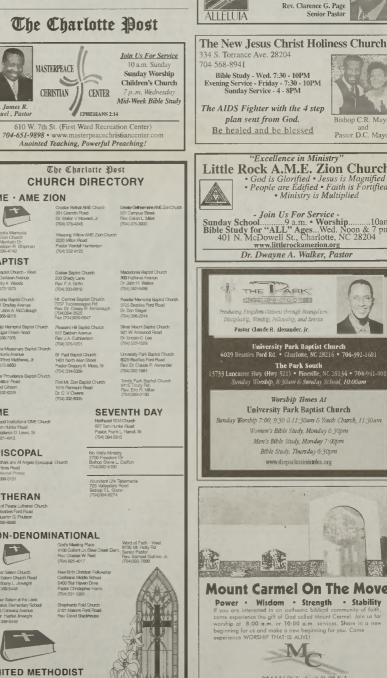


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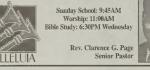
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