

# Praising Jesus goes high-tech via broadband or dialup

**Continued from page 5B**  
members can tith online. But no bank accounts are needed. New Life's Web site accepts Visa or MasterCard.

Those in charge at Living Word Community Church in York Township are also con-

sidering software that would allow church members to give money online. But they are not quite there, yet.

"We've been testing software," said Steve Grames, the church's executive administrator. "And studying the dif-

ferent merchant accounts (that process credit cards)."

The church is also looking to add to its online services to allow people to purchase or reserve tickets to various church events.

"This would be a real bene-

fit to those who, for example, are out of town or sick," Grames said.

For church members who are sick or are out of town, but still want to hear Sunday's service, they can download the audio to their com-

puter or MP3 player.

"We also make them available on tapes or CDs," Grames said. "So there are many different ways for people to hear our sermons."

On the Net:  
Living Word Community Church

at <http://www.lwccyork.com>  
New Life Assembly of God at <http://www.eastberlinassembly.org>  
Zion Lutheran Church at <http://www.zionlutheran.org>

# N.C. Baptist delegates approve anti-gay policy

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**GREENSBORO** — The Baptist State Convention of North Carolina voted Tuesday to bar congregations that affirm or approve of homosexuality from membership, enacting one of the most rigid anti-gay policies among the nation's Christian churches.

The vote changes the convention's long-standing laws, which previously only had one simple requirement for membership: support the convention with both cooperation and financial contributions. Now any church that "knowingly act to affirm, approve, endorse, promote, support or bless homosexual behavior" can't belong to the group.

"This action does not mean that you should avoid ministry to the homosexual community," said convention executive director Milton Hollifield Jr. "Even though we believe that homosexuality is wrong, we still love and engage those in this lifestyle."

With over 4,000 member churches and 1.2 million members, the North Carolina Baptist convention is the second-largest

association of Baptist churches in the nation.

The policy is similar to one approved by the nation's largest Protestant denomination, the Nashville, Tenn.-based Southern Baptist Convention. The Southern Baptists changed their constitution in the early 1990s to say that "churches which act to affirm, approve, or endorse homosexual behavior" are "not in cooperation" with the convention.

In the past two decades, the SBC has approved several resolutions condemning homosexuality, most recently in 2003 when it voted to oppose gay marriage. Such resolutions are nonbinding and all member churches are autonomous in their ministries, but the Southern Baptists have severed ties with several congregations over the issue of homosexuality since the late 1980s.

Seventeen churches in North Carolina will come under immediate scrutiny under the policy, convention spokesman Norman Jameson said. Those churches are associated with the Alliance of Baptists, a Washington D.C.-based group that welcomes gays

as equal members.

"In our day and time, no other sin marches so defiantly across our national landscape," said Mark Harris, a pastor with First Baptist Church in Charlotte.

Those churches contribute just \$185,000 to the Convention's \$36 million budget, Jameson said.

The proposed change to the Convention's Articles of Incorporation needed a two-thirds majority to pass. Voting was done by voice and not counted, but convention officials declared that the measure had passed.

A number of convention delegates—even those from churches who oppose homosexuality—criticized the change.

"Let's spend more time confessing our own sins than exposing the sins of others," said Don Gordon, senior pastor of Yates Baptist Church in Durham, who still labeled homosexuality as sinful behavior. "Let's let the whole world know that God loves every person."

# First Mount Calvary celebrates 95th anniversary

**Continued from page 5B**  
information, call (704) 283-2784.

**November 19**  
First Mount Calvary Baptist Church, 209 West 28th St., will host its annual senior citizens program. The event begins at 3 p.m. and C. Don Steger, pastor of Reeder Memorial Baptist Church,

will be the preacher for the event.

**November 26**  
First Mount Calvary Baptist Church, 209 West 28th St., will host its 95th anniversary at 3:30 p.m. The Rev. J.A. Cuthbertson, pastor of Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, will be the guest preacher.

**December 1**

First Mount Zion Baptist Church will host a retirement banquet for Rev. C.V. Owens at 7 p.m. at Charlotte Marriott Executive Park. For more information, call (704) 332-8335.

**December 2**  
Matthews United Methodist Church will host its annual Walk Through Bethlehem. This event mod-

els the Town of Bethlehem as it appeared when Christ was born. The church is located at 801 S. Trade St. Matthews. The event runs from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Peace Moravian Church will host its annual Christmas Bazaar and Candle Tea Service from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at 4418 Rea Road. Admission is free.

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Sabbath School..... 9:15a.m.  
Sabbath Service..... 11:00a.m.  
Wed. Prayer Service..... 7:00p.m.

**Reeder Memorial Baptist Church**  
3725 Beatties Ford Road  
Charlotte, North Carolina 28216  
[www.reederchurch.org](http://www.reederchurch.org)

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**The Charlotte Post CHURCH DIRECTORY**

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(704) 375-3900

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Dr. Sheldon R. Shipman  
(704) 595-4742

Weping Willow AME Zion Church  
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Pastor Wessell Henderson  
(704) 532-9125

**BAPTIST**

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Dr. Ricky A. Woods  
(704) 372-1075

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(704) 333-0810

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Dr. John H. Walker  
(704) 392-8486

Friendship Baptist Church  
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Pastor John A. McCullough  
(704) 935-9016

Mt. Carmel Baptist Church  
7227 Tuckaseegee Rd.  
Rev. Dr. Casey B. Kimbrough  
(704) 394-3625  
Fax: (704) 926-9467

Floeder Memorial Baptist Church  
3725 Beatties Ford Road  
Dr. Don Steger  
(704) 398-2914

Mayfield Memorial Baptist Church  
700 Sugar Creek Road  
(704) 596-7935

Pleasant Hill Baptist Church  
517 Barkers Avenue  
Rev. J.A. Cuthbertson  
(704) 376-1201

Silver Mount Baptist Church  
501 W. Amwood Road  
Dr. Lincoln C. Lee  
(704) 522-1528

St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church  
1600 Norris Avenue  
Rev. Clifford Matthews, Jr.  
(704) 375-9550

St. Paul Baptist Church  
1421 North Main Street  
Pastor Gregory K. Moses, Sr.  
(704) 334-5309

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6025 Beatties Ford Road  
Rev. Dr. Claude E. Alexander  
(704) 392-3881

Greater Providence Baptist Church  
2000 Milton Road  
Dr. Fred Gibson  
(704) 532-8228

First Mt. Zion Baptist Church  
1515 Remount Road  
Dr. C. V. Owens  
(704) 332-8335

Taney Park Baptist Church  
9715 Trinity Rd.  
Rev. Eric R. Miller  
(704) 393-9130

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