

In search of healing: 'Azusa Street' portrays storefront revivals

By Jenni Spitz
Staff Writer

When Esther Tate journeyed to Israel in 1988 to attend the Feast of the

Tabernacles, she said she heard the voice of God.

"He spoke to me and said, 'I want you to write about William Seymour,'" she said.

So she did.

Tate, a native of Chapel Hill and a modern-day missionary, created a play based on the life of William "Daddy" Seymour, the apostle of the Azusa Street revival of 1906 to 1909. This movement greatly affected the modern black church.

"The Fire Falls at Azusa Street" will be performed at the Carrboro ArtsCenter at 8 p.m. Saturday and at 4 p.m. Sunday. The musical drama portrays the reli-

gious crusade that began in a Los Angeles storefront church. The crusade was highlighted by the Pentecostal outpouring of the Holy Spirit, when people were slain with the Holy Spirit and spoke in tongues. The sick came to Azusa Street to be healed — the church walls were said to be covered with the wheelchairs and canes of those miraculously healed.

Tate said "Azusa Street" had a "deep rooting of religious and spiritual heri-

tage that many will identify with."

Director Sam Irving said his cast of 11 had been rehearsing for two months and had become a strong one.

"We can boast some of the best voices in Chapel Hill," Irving said. "The gospel music is by far the most eloquent and moving."

Irving, who also portrays Reverend Seymour in the play, is a University graduate and has worked as a UNC teaching assistant.

He formerly hosted the local cable talk show "The Art of Self-Discovery." He has been directing local plays for seven years.

"Our play may be particularly inter-

esting for AFAM or history classes because it demonstrates how the church is an institution that helped blacks get out of slavery," he said.

Irving and Tate agree that while their play's message breaks down racial barriers, the play itself also can serve to break down local barriers between the students and the community. They encourage students to attend "Azusa Street" to show their support for community drama.

Tickets are \$10 for general public and \$8.50 for students and senior citizens. For details, call Sam Irving at 929-4846 or the Carrboro ArtsCenter at 929-ARTS.

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Mayor addresses crime, local economy at forum

By Dale Castle
Staff Writer

Chapel Hill Mayor Ken Broun pointed out strengths and admitted weaknesses of Chapel Hill Thursday as he welcomed town newcomers at the Chapel Hill Senior Center.

Broun addressed residents at the Chapel Hill Senior Center in the first of an ongoing series of forums sponsored by the center.

Broun said that to combat financial problems, he had organized a task force. "All local government is running out of money," Broun said.

To improve the town's economy, Broun encouraged new residents to go downtown and walk around Franklin Street. "I would like to see more citizens use downtown as a central place," he said.

Better businesses need to be recruited downtown, and downtown crime also needs to be reduced, Broun said.

But people can help reduce the crime

rate, Broun added. "My feeling is the more people that are downtown, the less crime there will be," he said.

The Chapel Hill Police Department has increased patrols in known drug neighborhoods, Broun said, adding that he was working on programs for youth to keep them off the streets.

But Broun said he had not yet found any definite solutions to the growing crime problem.

"We presently have a project under way to deal with questions about drugs and violent crimes," Broun said.

Broun said volunteers of the community could offer a lot to Chapel Hill. "This senior center is an example of what we can do as a community," he said.

Despite some weaknesses in Chapel Hill, new residents said they liked the town.

Chapel Hill resident Gerry Savage

See Broun, page 7

Campus Calendar

FRIDAY
11 a.m. Ph.D. Public Policy Analysis Curriculum will welcome Kenneth Ryder, deputy associate director of the U.S. Office of Management and Budget, to speak on "Trade-offs Among Domestic Priorities" in 105 Gardner.
NOON: B-GLAD will hold a lesbian lunch in 218 Union.
1 p.m. UNC Juggling Club will meet at the flagpole between Wilson Library and South Building.
1:30 p.m. MSA will offer Salaaf-Ul-Jumrah (Friday Prayer) in 208-9 Union.
2 p.m. University Career Services will offer basic information on how to use the UCS office in 209 Hanes.
2:45 p.m. University Career Services will offer the basics for constructing a professional resume in 209 Hanes.
3 p.m. UNC Young Democrats will welcome Harry Payne, commissioner of labor candidate, to discuss student concerns in 212 Union.
4 p.m. French House: Venez voir le film "A Gauche en Sortant de l'Ascenseur."
7 p.m. BISA Campus Ministry will hold a campuswide worship service in Hanes Art Center.
8:30 p.m. Carmichael Sunsplash '92, a four-hour concert and dance featuring Truth and Rights One Love Reggae Band and reggae D.J. Chris Lyn, will be held in the Great Hall. Admission is \$2. Carmichael residents get in free.

SATURDAY
11 a.m. Carolina Fever will meet in front of Wilson Library to pass out tickets for the Virginia game.
SUNDAY
7 p.m. Newman Catholic Center will have its student mass.
8 p.m. CAA Homecoming Pit movie, "The Bugs Bunny/Road Runner Show," will be shown in the Pit

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Interviewing schedule:
January 21, 1993

For further information and inquiries, please feel free to contact:
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(212) 909-3719



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