

## Religion

# Worship Center is open

The new Family Worship Center Church of God on Highway 74 West was almost filled to capacity Sunday for the dedication of Phase I of the building program, which includes a spacious sanctuary to seat 300, numerous classrooms, offices, bathrooms and a pastor's study.

Rev. James Allen, in his sixth year as pastor, says the church is growing. On the drawing board for the not-so-far future are a retirement center for the elderly and a day school, and all on church property.

Allen said the church is continuing to use the former 55 year old church on Parker Street for recreation but is advertising the church for sale. "We simply outgrew it," he said.

Allen says that a retirement center is an alternative to nursing homes for elderly and he sees building of such a facility a top priority for the congregation, second to the need for a Day Care Center for children of the church. Set in a home like environment, the homes would be one-bedroom with small den/kitchenettes, he said, and would be a special care facility. Allen said the concept is long overdue by the church. During his 42 years in the ministry he said he has seen the elderly abandoned by relatives with no place to turn. Allen says the church should fill that need. Allen says the Day Care Center would provide the educational needs of children in a Christian setting, also a program long overdue by the church.

Kings Mountain Church of God on Parker Street was organized by 10 members in a house in 1937 by Rev. Sam Cope. The only living charter member of the church, Mrs. Doris Short, was in the congregation Sunday for services marking a milestone in the church's history. She recalled that the church was so poor there was no money for nails. They prayed and God gave the pound of nails.



**CHURCH AND PASTOR'S COUNCIL** - Pictured are members of the Church and Pastor's Council at Family Living Church of God. From left, Jack Sims, Rev. James Allen, pastor, and Steve Grigg; back row, from left, Mitch Norris, Calvin Hughes, Dr. Terry Sellers, Ronnie Whetstine and Steve Leigh. Whetstine is chairman of the building committee which also includes Norris and Sims. Grigg is also church clerk and Sellers is Director of Youth and Christian Education.

Allen said the witness of the church to the community has been in answered prayers and he points to his own life. Allen said God healed him twice from diagnosed tumors which the doctors saw on X-rays 10 years ago but which disappeared after the matter was turned over to God. Allen, a former missionary to West Indies and a former state overseer of the Church of God denomination, was called to preach at the age of 21. He recalled that his mother still has the letter he wrote to God as a teenager, giving his heart to God to preach the gospel ministry. Allen, 63, said he volunteered five years ago to serve the local church, coming from a larger congregation. The 13 acres for the new church had been purchased four years earlier from the Ware family on Shelby Road for \$800,000. The property was paid off within one year after his arrival and discussions got underway on building the new church.

Allen joined the Army Air Corps at the age of 16 during World War II. He said God uses every situation, noting that he went to high school in service and finished college on the G. I. Bill. He said one of his proudest moments was when a young man walked up to him in Chicago and thanked him for saving his life. The young man, now a minister, was attempting suicide. Allen said he had seen many young people on alcohol/drugs turn to God and see their lives turned around.

Allen and his wife are parents of two children, a son, who is a minister in Lexington Park, Md. and a daughter and four grandchildren. His wife, the former Louise Harm, grew up in the Church of God Children's Home and started corresponding with him during World War II before they were introduced formally. Allen's mother, 83, was also in the audience Sunday for the formal dedication of the church. His late father was a professional baseball player for the Baltimore Orioles and died when his son was four years old. Allen's stepfather died last year at age 91.

The new Family Living Church of God got its new name when the congregation bought the land for the church. The spacious house of worship is carpeted in mauve with matching pews with an impressive Baptistry at the front of the church and a spacious choir loft. The high windows give the sun's rays from the west over the slanted-type pews which give the sanctuary a unique arrangement. The mauve theme is carried out in Sunday School classrooms which feature hand-carved lecterns from the farm of Summie and Ethel Norman and made by Fred Dixon.

Allen's mother, 83, was also in the audience Sunday for the formal dedication of the church. His late father was a professional baseball player for the Baltimore Orioles and died when his son was four years old. Allen's stepfather died last year at age 91.

The new Family Living Church of God got its new name when the congregation bought the land for the church. The spacious house of worship is carpeted in mauve with matching pews with an impressive Baptistry at the front of the church and a spacious choir loft. The high windows give the sun's rays from the west over the slanted-type pews which give the sanctuary a unique arrangement. The mauve theme is carried out in Sunday School classrooms which feature hand-carved lecterns from the farm of Summie and Ethel Norman and made by Fred Dixon.

## Breakfast Saturday at Macedonia

Senior Adults of Macedonia Baptist Church will serve breakfast Saturday morning from 6-10:30 a.m. in the church fellowship hall. The meal is \$3 per plate and will

include choice of livermush, bacon or sausage with scrambled eggs, grits or gravy, homemade biscuits, jelly and coffee or orange juice. The public is invited.

**RIGHT AT HOME**

**THE BLOODMOBILE IS COMING TO CLEVELAND MALL**

So, it's up to you! Will you give an HOUR of your time and a unit of blood to provide a **"LIFETIME"** for someone else

**FRI., JAN. 24 2:00-7:00 P.M. Center Stage**

Highway 74 Bypass East • Shelby, NC • 704/484-2001 • Mon.-Sat. 10-9, Sun. 1-6

## Poor Boy Supper to benefit Styers

Love Valley Baptist Church will sponsor a poor boy supper to benefit Michael Styers Sat., Feb. 1 from 4-8 p.m. at the church fellowship hall at 2032 Bethlehem Road.

The supper is being sponsored by the Church Benevolence Committee.

Styers, a 23-year-old Love Valley resident, has cerebral palsy. The proceeds will go toward the

purchase of a home computer for Michael who hopes to use it to file income taxes and do other work at home.

The meal will be a take-out or eat-in affair. Tickets are \$3.50 for adults and \$2 for children under 12 and may be purchased in advance or at the door.

The church is located at 2032 Bethlehem Road, Kings Mountain.

## Kyles to return to Bush Country

The Bush Country of Africa gave them none of the comforts of home last summer but Harry and Wanda Kyle are going back in June as paramedics for two weeks to minister to hundreds of children with malaria, worms, and scabies.

The Kyles will carry medical supplies and set up clinics in villages where there is no running water and electricity miles away from the nearest doctor and hospital and will be going on their own at the invitation of the Kenya Migorian Four Square Church and Pastor Titus Opunga. The third member of the missionary team will be Wanda's co-worker at Gaston-Cleveland-Lincoln Mental Health Clinic Brenda Monge.

When they left last summer Kyle, a former Kings Mountain policeman, was offered 50 acres of land by a villager to build a much-needed medical clinic. Kyle hopes to help do that in about 11 years when he retires from Lincoln County Hospital EMS but in the meantime he wants to take medical supplies to the natives and do what the couple did last year--vaccinate as many people as possible. This time, Harry will also be able to stitch wounds, thanks to the recent training he received.

"The Lord willing, we will be on the airplane for a 20 hour flight June 15 and working with a team of natives until July 2," said Kyle.

"Because the cost of airline tickets have jumped to \$5,000 for a round trip fare for the couple, Kyle is asking churches to help send them to the mission field and also

to help donate money for supplies. Donations, which are tax deductible, may be mailed to Kenya 92, PO Box 1792, Kings Mountain, 28088.

The Kyles say last year's mission trip was a real learning experience but this summer they will be more equipped to meet the needs of the people. They also hope to help build a church and teach their paramedic skills to the natives.

Harry said this year's trip will also take them to an island on Lake Victoria which takes two days by ferry boat and four more hours in a motor boat. The islanders have never seen white people and the medical team will be sleeping wherever they can and roughing it, something they learned how to do last year in Africa.

With 10,000 African natives on the island and only one mobile clinic, the Kyles have their work cut out for them when the only touch with land is a ferry boat.

Wanda Kyle will show a video of Kenya at Trinity Episcopal Church on Phifer Road February 16 at 10 a.m. and is available to churches and organizations to a give a program on Kenya. She can be reached at 739-9649.

Harry, who has been corresponding with the Christian workers in Kenya since last August, sent them copies of The Kings Mountain Herald which carried pictures and stories from their 1991 trip. "The natives were so excited to see their pictures in an American newspaper and the preacher read to them the article," said Harry Kyle.

**Belk Stevens**  
CLEVELAND MALL

Shelby, N.C.

Winter SALE & CLEARANCE

6 pm Thursday thru Sunday

SAVE an Extra **20%** on all Yellow Ticket Clearance Merchandise

Savings Up To **68%** Off

Example:

Regular	\$50.00
50% Off	\$25.00
Additional 20% Off	\$5.00

**Your Cost \$20.00**

Storewide savings up to 50% on items for the entire family. Hurry while selection is good.