

BRIEFS

Allen Memorial Baptist Church in Grover will present the movie, "Road to Redemption," August 25 at 8:15 p.m. at the Allen Memorial ball field. Take a lawn chair.

The senior adults of **Antioch Baptist Church**, 839 Antioch Rd., Grover, will present the musical "Homeward Bound" Saturday, Aug. 26 at 6 p.m. in the church fellowship hall. The public is invited.

Miracles of Fellowship Church, 1199 Earl Rd., Shelby, will present its 2006 Women's Conference "Women Thou Art Loosed" August 31-September 2. Speaker for the August 31 session at 7 p.m. is Sister Cruceta Jeffeirs of House of Refuge, Shelby. Speaker at 7 p.m. September 1 will be Minister Marlene Jefferies of House of Refuge, Shelby. A workshop will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 2 with Minister Janet Banner of Hoppers Chapel Shelby. The worship service will be at 6 p.m. For more information call Pastor Betty Goforth at 487-9195.

Miracles of Fellowship Church, 1199 Earl Rd., Shelby, will present "Naked and Not Ashamed," a praise and testimony service, Saturday, Aug. 26 at 6 p.m. For more information call Sister Carla Ellis at 739-1261.

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church will begin a Kindermusik program September 7. The program uses unique teaching methods to help children learn about music, how to sing, and how to play instruments. A ten-week program will cost \$50. For more information call Nickie Paulson at 730-9793. Students will be grouped by age in three different classes to be held each Thursday between 4-7 p.m. Classes will be from 30 to 45 minutes.

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, 201 N. Piedmont Ave., is sponsoring a self defense class for women September 12 at 6:30 p.m. Women of all ages may attend. For reservations, call Cathy Stark at 482-6107 or Chris Lovell at 739-7866 after 6 p.m.

Women on the Move 2006 Gathering "No More Obstacles, No More Chains, We are Free to Move with God," will be presented at Rose of Sharon Ministries, 406 Suttle Street Shelby, September 15-17. On Friday September 15 at 7 pm the speaker will be Sister Cruceta Jeffeirs from the House of Refuge Shelby; Saturday, September 16 from 9-1pm there will be an Empowerment Workshop. Registration is free; and at 6 pm the speaker is Pastor Sirander Allen of Red Springs Baptist Church in Sanford, NC. On Sunday at 6 pm the speaker will be Pastor Danielle Duncan of Grace United Methodist Church in Kings Mountain. For more information contact Minister Billie Jefferies 704-739-4776

East School to begin More at 4

East Elementary School will begin a More at Four Preschool Program.

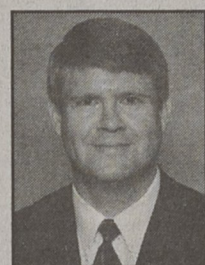
Four-year-old children in the Kings Mountain area, especially those in the East Elementary School area, may participate.

More at Four is a free preschool program for four-year-old children wanting a jump on kindergarten. The child must be four years old on or before October 16, 2006.

For more information call 476-8064.

Students, look for divine leadership

As I prepare with my family to start another school year, I am aware of the fact that my family is changing. Our sons are growing up and new steps are being taken every day. Our youngest son



Jeff Hensley Meditation

is beginning at Kings Mountain High School this year, which is hard for us to believe, but even harder to believe is the reality that our oldest son is now a college student.

When we left our son on the university campus, I found myself filled with a mixture of emotions. On the one hand, I was excited for him. College was a wonderful time for me, and I'm convinced that those formative years can help define a person's future. On the other hand, I found myself wishing that it wasn't necessary to push the bird out of the nest.

Of course, we all know that young people have to grow up, and an important part of being a parent is helping that growth to take place, which means that we sometimes have to encourage our children to do things that are difficult. The only problem is that we parents also have to

deal with the grief that comes with watching our children begin to disengage and step out into the world on their own. What a strange feeling that is! Having said all of this, I have to confess that I am also grateful for the opportunities my son has had and will have, and I am praying for him to find and fulfill God's unique plan for his life.

Kevin Vanhoozer is a theologian and musician who understands this desire to find God's unique plan for one's life. A gifted pianist, Vanhoozer longed to find some way to use his musical talent in his Christian witness without turning it into something that is gimmicky.

As a result, Kevin spent a year in France developing an evangelistic program that revolved around his playing of classical music concerts.

Using the analogy of music and the theme of "the joy of music," Vanhoozer was able to introduce to people the idea that God is the composer or conductor of our lives. Furthermore, he was able to extend the metaphor and teach people that life comes with many different qualities, and this mixture of qualities - some easy to face and some hard to face - is essential if our lives are to have the beautiful harmony that makes them enriching and wonderful.

Kevin also noted that in

music, as in life, there are occasional wrong notes, some passages that make us weep, and certain bits that are so beautiful that listening to them hurts. Clearly, Kevin Vanhoozer is onto something here, and because of God's leadership in his life he has been able to teach people about the nature of our Creator and the life we are given. This is the kind of divine leadership that I am praying will be evident in my own son's life as he makes his way through college.

Jeff Hensley is pastor of Kings Mountain Baptist Church.

'Lot of love' at Boyce Memorial

EMILY WEAVER
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Boyce Memorial ARP (Associate Reformed Presbyterian) Church on the corner of Edgemont Dr. and King St. celebrated its 150th anniversary this past March. The church was organized in 1782, with direct historical ties (or lineage) to the Church of Scotland founded by John Knox and to the Reformation of the historic Christian Church led by John Calvin in the 1500s.

Pastor of the church, Doug Petersen, has been with the congregation at Boyce Memorial for 11 years, this November. He said that there is a lot of love within the doors of their sanctuary. "Our congregation is changing. We have a lot of new people joining us and some without an ARP background," he said. "New people are warmly received here. We are an open church and very friendly."

"We firmly believe the word of God is what it is and that's our rule for faith and practice, that's the way we conduct our worship services and the way we conduct our church government, in particular. A lot of our forefathers were killed for their faith and a lot of them fled from Scotland over here," said Boyce Memorial's Minister of Music Terry Williams. He said that the

church gets its name from Dr. Ebenezer Herskin Boyce, who was the first pastor in 1782.

The Director of Youth and Family Ministry Brad Anderson, was in charge of the youth summer camps at Bonclarken, the denomination's conference center, in Flat Rock, NC. A lot of week-end and week-long conferences are held at Bonclarken for adults and children in ARP churches across the United States and Canada.

"When our general senate meets, we'll have well over 200 churches join there," Petersen said. Dozens of their church members joined their distant religious families for camps and conferences, this summer. A music and drama camp was held at the end of June and a music conference was held in July. The conference brought in talented music directors and conductors from all over to work with different choirs. Camp Bonclarken was held during July and lightened the summer for many young ones, praising God in the sun.

"We have a pre-school that operates during the school session, Monday through Friday from 9 am to 12 noon," Williams said. "We have four-year-olds that meet Monday, Wednesday and Friday and the three-year-olds come on Tuesday and Thursday."

Boyce Memorial has a fellowship supper on Wednesday nights, followed by Bible Study, prayer service and adult choir. "I'm responsible for all of the music activities and programs and things of that nature. I'm also responsible for senior adults, lay ministry training and development," he said.

The church participates with St. Matthew's Lutheran, Resurrection Lutheran, Central United Methodist and First Presbyterian in their Vacation Bible School program, combining students and teachers and rotating locations. Classes and lessons were held during the evenings between Sunday, July 23rd, and Thursday, July 27th.

Over the past few years they have sent young missionaries from the church to areas along the Appalachian Mountains, for what is called the Appalachia Mission Trip. During the summer, youths and adults from the church bring vacation bible school-type programs to the mountain communities. Mission trips are sponsored by their denomination headquarters in Greenville, SC. "Last year we had some youth that spent some time in Wales," Williams said. "They did some bible teaching, fellowship games, that sort of thing. They were part of a larger group and had their

own areas that they went into with different responsibilities." Anderson and his wife accompanied three kids last year, Petersen said.

"Our church also supports missionaries in several countries, specifically Russia, Pakistan and Mexico," he said.

They have a special Thanksgiving service on Thanksgiving morning. "We have a very short worship service at 7:30, followed by a breakfast that the men prepare. We have a lot of our former folks that come back because they're visiting their families and stuff like that. It's a special time," Williams said.

During the Thanksgiving holiday, the congregation collects canned goods for the Crisis Ministry, combining efforts and pooling resources with other local churches, to help the community. The church also conducts a candle-lit communion Christmas Eve service at 7 pm, where they read scripture, sing carols, form a circle within the church while lighting candles and singing "Silent Night" a capella. The choir and members of the church have gone caroling to certain places in the community, like White Oak Manor. They provide support to Relay for Life, having a lot of parishioners that have battled cancer.

Sunday sermons are recorded for members of the church who may not be able

to come, due to illness or other conditions. Communion service is held the first Sunday of every month.

The church recognizes the congregation's graduating high school seniors with a supper, gifts and praising words. "Then during the worship service they march in, in their caps and gowns and sit together and they're recognized by our pastor and they're presented with a gift during the service," Williams said. "Then at the end of the service, they march out together. It's recognized as a very important milestone in their life."

According to their website, they accept "the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms as its doctrinal statement and holds to the inerrancy and infallibility of the Bible, the sovereignty of God, the virgin birth, deity and lordship of Jesus Christ, salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, and the other fundamental doctrines of the historic Christian faith." Their Sunday School starts at 8:45 am, fellowship at 9:30 am, morning worship at 10 am and the youth meet at Director of Youth and Family Ministry Brad Anderson's house at 6:45 pm each Sunday.

For more information, visit the church's website at www.boycememorial.org or call (704) 739-4917.

St. Matthew's Lutheran to offer Kindermusik program

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St. Matthew's Lutheran Church at 201 N. Piedmont Avenue in Kings Mountain, will be offering Kindermusik, labeled the "World's #1 young childhood development program for 19 years," beginning Thursday, September 7. Classes, separated by age groups, will be held every Thursday at the church and will be instructed by Thai Gay, a licensed teacher from Lincolnton. The Village class, for newborns to 18-month-olds, will be held at 4 pm. Our Time and Imagine That, for ages 1 to 4, will be held at 4:45 pm and Young Child, ages 5 to 7-year-olds, will be held at 5:30 pm and at 6:30 pm. All children, including those with special needs, from the Bessemer City and Kings Mountain regions must sign up by September 7th to participate. The ten week program costs \$50 per child and must be paid at or before the first day of class. "There will be a discount for members of St. Matthew's," said the pastor's wife Jinger Jeffcoat.

"Music and movement from a very early age helps to open up brain develop-

ment in any child, installing a love of music and helping them to be better learners in school," said owner of Grace Studios of Lincoln County and Kindermusik official Sharon Atkinson. "Research has proven that a child who stays in Kindermusik from birth to around age 7 will perform an average of 43 percent better in school."

Atkinson was recognized by the president of Kindermusik, International, located in Greensboro, for her work at A Place to Grow day care in Lincolnton. While there, she started working with 39 special needs children, ranging in physical abilities. Within a few short weeks she noticed a transformation in the children and in one young man

especially, Stevie, a five-year-old, suffering from cerebral palsy spent the first couple of weeks in class on his mother's lap, not participating. But shortly after those first few weeks, Atkinson said it was "miraculous." "He started walking in our class. He started singing and he started doing all of the things that his therapists had been working with him on, and he just accomplished it," she said. Now at the age of 13, he goes around to different churches praising the Lord through song and speech, with a little bit of confidence from the program. Atkinson's work at A Place to Grow, made company owners see what their curricula can do for special needs. See Kindermusik, 8A

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