

'They set the standard for the rest of us'

Obituaries

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Mt. Zion honors senior members

By Elizabeth Stewart

"They set the standard for the rest of us," said Dr. Clinton Feemster of the 13 senior members of Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church who have marked a milestone in life and service and honored recently at the church's Golden Jubilee birthday celebration.

All 80 years and older, the honored group of 12 women and one male, received "crowns" and accolades by speakers and friends and enjoyed fellowship and food in a crowd of more than 250 in the church's Family Life Center Nov. 1.

Senior Deacon Otis Cole, 84, his wife, Margie, 84, and Senior Pastor Feemster, who presided at the event, reminisced this week about the celebration and about some of

the many changes of historical significance that have occurred during the the life time of those honored - their years totaling a whopping 1,040 if you tally each at only 80 years.

Honored and presented crowns for special recognition were Hazel Brown, Isabelle Brown, Eva Burris, Eloise Jackson, Lucille McSwain, Sarah Morgan, Pearl Pressley, Martha Taylor, Catherine Wade, Virginia Wiggins, Symantha Williams and Otis and Margie Cole. The late Mae Sue Orr and the late Annie Lee Mitchem died prior to the celebration and their long service to the church and community was recognized. Mayor Rick Murphy presented a proclamation from the City of Kings Mountain and congratulatory remarks were also made by city councilman Rev. Howard Shipp and Monty Thornburg, Director of the Patrick Senior Center.

Rev. M. Lamont Littlejohn, pas-

tor of Calvary Baptist Church of Shelby and guest speaker for the event, talked also about change in Kings Mountain where he grew up, attended Mount Zion Baptist Church and began his ministry with Feemster.

Senior Deacon Cole's inspirational testimony of the importance of faith and how his faith had sustained him during very difficult times culminated what the pastor called "a tremendous event."

The Coles, who have been married 62 years, raised 10 children and their family includes 13 grandchildren, 30 great-grandchildren and one great-great grandchild. Their home on Mitchell Street is the perfect spot for family get-togethers.

"I was raised right here on Cansler Street," said Margie Cole, lifelong member of Mount Zion Church. She spoke with pride about the building of the new church in the early 1970s and its growth

under the 22 year leadership of Feemster. As a small child Mrs. Cole said she went to church with her Grandpa who was a deacon in the church. Family and church are priorities for the Coles, they said this week as they reflected on a busy life together and a busy life in God's House.

Leon Taylor and Guynetha Warren made presentations to the honorees. Also participating were Geraldine Dye, Katherine Pendergrass, and Margaret Smith. Dr. William L. Sims read scripture and prayer was offered by Rev. Raymond Gardin Jr. The Mount Zion Adult Choir presented special music and Bobby Burson played a musical prelude at the 3 p.m. opening of the celebration.

The history committee, which began working on the program for the event months ago, includes Leon Taylor, Geraldine Dye, Guynetha Warren, Pearl Pressly and Margaret Smith.

his family from Minneapolis, MN, to Kings Mountain, NC in 1959, working for the Lithium Corporation in Bessemer City. He remained there until 1975 when he and Wilma moved to Missouri. Ken retired in 1985 and he returned to Perham, MN.

His philosophies of 'never meeting a stranger' and 'seeing the best in everyone' he met were ones he carried with him wherever he went and made him many lifelong friends. These gifts allowed him to succeed where others failed.

Although Ken had the opportunity for only a limited education, as far as many were concerned he had a Doctorate of Philosophy in Life. One of Ken's goals was to never stop learning. With that philosophy, coupled with a keen curiosity, he accomplished a great deal during his 86 years and he enjoyed his life.

After retirement, Ken spent many happy hours fishing on Big Pine and Wolf Lake with family and close friends, as well as consulting with former work colleagues in order to stay in touch with friends and do the work he loved.

Ken relished the traveling that he was privileged to do; from Japan to China to Costa Rica. But he especially enjoyed the traveling that he did with his beloved wife, Wilma, throughout the United States; from the bayous of Louisiana and the shores of Galveston, TX, to the hills of Missouri and the coastline and desert of California.

Ken and Wilma were life partners who shared a love of travel by spending many happy hours on the road visiting friends and family as well as traveling to Honolulu, HI, to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary.

Ken is survived by his wife of 63 years, Wilma; son, Kenneth (Karen) Bunkowski, Jr., Salt Lake City, UT; and daughter, Diana Valentine, Minneapolis, MN; four grandchildren, Lisa (David) Caudill, Seattle, WA; Karen Grizzell, Cincinnati, OH; Matthew Bunkowski, Mauritius; and Emma Katherine Valentine, Minneapolis, MN; two great grandchildren and two great great grandchildren.

Preceding Ken in death are his parents, William and Emma Katherine and brother, Ferdinand.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School in Perham, MN.

Schoeneberger Funeral Home, Perham, MN, is in charge of the arrangements. (218) 346-5175. Online tributes may be posted online at <http://www.schoenebergerfuneralhome.com>.

Parenting author gives tips at church

By Emily Weaver

Popular parenting author John Rosemond gave an informal lecture on the dilemmas of child rearing in America today along with tips to fix the problems recently at Central United Methodist Church.

Several parents, some with pads and pens at the ready, were in attendance of the program provided by Friends of the Mauney Memorial Library.

"I have a job because parenting in America has become very stressful...especially for women," he said. Most of the women he has asked have agreed that it is easier to run a moderately sized corporation than to be a mother today.

"You cannot raise children in two entirely different ways and arrive at the same outcome," he said, adding that the ways of parenting have changed since the 50s and 60s, when he grew up.

Rosemond said that when he went to first grade there were 50 students in his class led by one teacher who had no discipline problems. Today, he said, there is one teacher and one teacher assistant to handle half as many kids and they struggle with their students.

He traced the reason for these issues back to parenting. "Fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom," he said, adding that fear of women should be the same for children.

His mother never yelled at him or spanked him, and yet, he said, she still held his attention. "I was intimidated by my mother's presence. Moms today are intimidated by their children," he said.

The emancipation age of children, Rosemond said, has increased to 27 because kids are becoming accustomed to the good life. They are used to having everything provided for them and when they grow up, he added, they tend to look to the government to provide them with the entitlements they received at home.

He said that one of the big problems experienced with today's youth is that many of them will not pay attention to women and because they are not paying attention, parents often revert to screaming and other dramatic measures. "Children have not changed, what's changed is the point of view we bring to child rearing," he added.

Kids come to either one of two conclusions. Conclusion one, he said, is the child will realize that he's the child and that he is supposed to pay attention to his mother. Conclusion two, he said, is the child will realize that it is the mother's job to pay attention to and cater to him, therefore affecting the rest of his relationships in life. When a child comes to the second conclusion, Rosemond said, that's when "attention deficit" kicks in.

He argued that A.D.D. is not a chemical imbalance, a blood flow problem, or even genetic, those are just excuses. "It's your responsibility to get your children to pay attention to you...except no excuses," he said. "Today's children have learned, through no fault of theirs and through no fault of their parents, that parents are supposed to pay attention to kids."

Richness in life is making your own way in life, he said. "Today's kids are



being denied the richness of their childhood."

He found an old photo that showed him, as a three-year-old kid, washing the floors. It is important for children to have chores, Rosemond said. But "it's not just doing chores, it's putting a child in a responsible roll in the family."

The old parenting style of chores, discipline, setting boundaries, defining authority figures and teaching manners worked, he said. "We tried to fix something that wasn't broken."

Instead of being a parent, a lot of today's moms want to be friends with their children. But, Rosemond said, that type of child rearing is "faulted from the get-go."

Children, who grow up expecting to be handed more or treated more favorably, will "hurt the American economy," he added. Rosemond said that he spoke with a textile mill that was moving overseas and the owner said the reason they are doing so is that be-

cause kids are coming out of college today, wanting to see what employers can offer them instead of the other way around. But in China, the mill owner can hire workers for half the pay and twice the work ethic, which led to Rosemond's next point on self-esteem.

"Those who exalt themselves shall be humbled and the humbled will be exalted," he said, quoting scripture. "The opposite of self esteem is humility and modesty...Research has shown that people who have high self esteem tend to have low regard for others."

Children need to be trained proper values and manners to make America a better place and the training begins at home, according to Rosemond.

"Today it's all about getting that bumper sticker," he quipped, about being a proud parent of an honor roll student. But he asked women if they would ever sport a bumper sticker that

touted their husbands' accomplishments, like "My husband earns six figures; does yours?"

Rosemond used several humorous stories to illustrate his points. After about an hour of defining the problems faced in parenting today, he listed a few solutions.

He said there are specific growth seasons that should be kept in mind when parenting. The first season usually lasts from birth to age two and parents should be servants during this time, he said, paying a lot of attention to their babies. But, he urged, somewhere between the second and third birthday the mother should step forward and claim authority over the child. The "Season of Discipling" lasts from 3-13 and during this time mothers should take on a leadership role, telling their children what to do, not begging them to do something. The last season, for ages 13 and up, is the "Season of Mentoring," which, he said, completes the child's readiness for emancipation.

Rosemond urged parents to remember three things:

-Stop doing things for your child; teach them once and let them do it

-Build a boundary between yourself and your child; limit your child's access to you. He said that no boundaries leads to no respect.

-Be sure to make time with your parenting aid and let the child see that you have a relationship with your mate and not just with them. He said that a strong relationship between mother and father sets the foundation in a child's life.

Christmas music Dec. 1

"Lookin' Up" will present a special program of Christmas music, including "Cool Shades of Christmas," and non-seasonal favorites at Boyce Memorial ARP Church Monday, Dec. 1, at 7 p.m. in the church fellowship hall. The group is comprised of Bill Bush

on drums; April Herndon, flute; Evan Sealey, bass guitar; and Terry Williams, piano.

The public is invited and no admission is charged but those attending are encouraged to take canned food items to be given to the Kings Mountain Crisis

Ministry to stock their shelves during the Christmas season.

"Lookin' Up" will also perform at ARP Manor in Gastonia on Thursday, Dec. 4, at 7 p.m. and present selections from this program during the Habitat for Humanity program at Boyce Memorial ARP Church Dec. 6.

"Lookin' Up" was formed out of an idea to encourage music appreciation to foster fellowship within the King Mountain community and support area ministries. Families have an opportunity to exit the acceleration of activities, enjoy music and show support of the less fortunate this holiday season.

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