

Funeral Services Held For Rev. Charles W. Ward

BY R.P. CORNWALL CHUNN
Staff Writer

An overflow crowd of mourners from around the state and nation attended funeral services at First Baptist Church on South Wilmington Street Saturday morning for a Raleigh institution—Rev. Charles W. Ward—pastor, civic and civil rights activist, humanitarian and friend of the downtrodden.

Rev. Ward, 73, minister of First Baptist for 28 years, died at his home early Thursday morning. He had been hospitalized earlier this year for cancer.

Dr. Leon C. Riddick, pastor of Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, Charlotte, delivered the eulogy for the funeral, with the Rev. Leatha Debnam, pastor of Tupper Memorial Baptist Church, presiding.

Other participants in the funeral services were Dr. O.L. Sherrill, Rev. Ralph Stephens, W.W. Hurdle, Dr.

Talbert O. Shaw, Mary Ayce Burgie, Rev. John Mendez, Dr. J.B. Humphrey, James Rochelle and the combined Senior and Ward-Ingram Gospel choirs.

A memorial/tribute service was held Friday evening with Rev. Ronald W. Swain presiding, and included remarks by Lt. Gov. Robert Jordan, III and U.S. Rep. David Price.

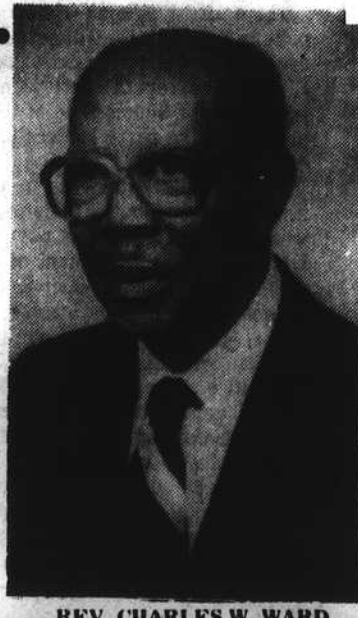
Rev. Ward, a Georgia native and graduate of Morehouse College and Howard University, was a pioneer in the areas of civil rights, the church, and many local and statewide civic and community causes.

His church positions included

pastoring West End Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, 1946-51; Rising Star Baptist Church, Walnut Cove, 1947-52; dean of mission, Forsyth County Missionary Fellowship, Winston-Salem, 1949-52; executive secretary, Georgia Missionary and Educational Convention, 1952-54; pastor of First Baptist Church, Macon, Ga., 1952-59; member of the Foreign Mission Board, National Baptist Convention, Inc.; assistant secretary, General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc., and Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention.

He served as a member of the

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REV. CHARLES W. WARD

Congress To Address Needs Of U. S. Poor With Program Of Relief Efforts

BY REP. MICKEY LELAND
Chairman, House Select Committee on Hunger
An Analysis

The 100th Congress will be remembered as the first Congress to address the needs of America's homeless. This key distinction occurs because in the 1980s there are people without shelter as never before. The two to three million homeless persons on the streets of our nation are the most visible of a poor and hungry population that numbers from 15 to 20 million, mostly children and the elderly.

In 1986 the poorest fifth (20 percent) of the nation's families received only 4.6 percent of the family income, the lowest share recorded since 1954. In the same year the wealthiest one-fifth received 43.7 percent of the family income. Until we change the structures that permit such inequities, there will be hungry and homeless people among us. The federal government has the obligation to respond to the needs of those most at risk.

To address the many human problems associated with homelessness, the Stewart B. McKinney Emergency Assistance for the Homeless Act was enacted in June 1987. The McKinney Act recognizes that the federal government has a responsibility to help people get on their feet in many ways beyond shelter. The bill provides food, primary and mental health care, housing, job training,

and education programs for adults and children, as well as emergency and transitional shelter. This legislation is similar to, but less costly than, one I introduced a year earlier, the National Homeless Persons' Survival Bill.

The initial passage of the McKinney Act was the culmination of a long campaign by advocates which included the "Grate American Sleepout" when 13 members of Congress and others experienced sleeping on the cold streets in Washington, D.C. in early March for one night. Congress is now in the process of reauthorizing the McKinney legislation for three years.

Food assistance for all poor people was included in the McKinney bill. Specifically, it expanded Food Stamp benefits by not counting direct payments for shelter (to welfare hotels) as family income, and by providing for food stamp outreach to the homeless. Complementing this major legislation, the Temporary Emergency Food Assistance Program was also reauthorized. It makes government surplus food available through state commodity distribution systems to all low-income people.

Legislation to alleviate hunger is an effort to improve the coverage of federal food assistance. This is particularly key to the Food Stamp Program which was designed to supplement

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Assurances Sought As

Bush Pressed By Blacks

Two Hour Session Positive

BY CHESTER A. HIGGINS, SR.
NNPA News Editor

Shut out from having any dialogue with the Reagan White House for the seven years of his administration, black civil rights, civic and community leaders gathered eagerly last week at the home of Vice President George Bush and for two solid hours expressed not so much black pent-up grievances, although much of that surfaced as well, but sought assurances that relations in a Bush administration would be much improved.

The black leaders came at invitation of the vice president who is also the almost assured Republican presidential nominee, who said he wanted to "reach out and do as well as we can." NNPA Executive Director Steve G. Davis, who was among the some 35 black leaders invited, said, "The overall impression is that this was an occasion for many of the leaders to press the concerns of their constituents to the vice president who could be the next president; for the vice president to hear these concerns and to present some of his view which he hoped they might find acceptable in some way."

Davis said Bush was aware that blacks are concerned over the

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HELPING HANDS—Marvin Pittman, principal of Wake Forest-Rolesville Middle School, works with a student as part of the Helping Hands project. The project matches underachieving, black youths with adult mentors in the system. The mentors spend time with selected sixth graders, serving as positive role models and helping students make the most of their educational opportunities.

Lydia Emergency Home, Other Shelters Funded

North Carolina's homeless came one step closer to shelter today last week when Gov. Jim Martin announced Emergency Shelter Grants Program awards for 20 local governments, including Lydia Emergency Home, the Ark and Agape Place.

The awards, totaling \$208,460, will be used to assist local governments in meeting the needs of homeless persons. The award for Lydia Emergency Home is \$6,948 and for Agape Place and the Ark, \$8,949 each.

The Department of Natural Resources and Community Development, through the Division of Community Assistance, will administer the awards. Official notification took place in the form of a letter from Gov. Martin to each local government's mayor or commission chairperson. Actual funds will be available to local governments shortly thereafter.

The ESGP is a result of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Act of 1987. North Carolina was allocated \$123,000 (plus \$85,460 in unused funds returned from the previous program). DCA received applications totaling \$150,000 in requested funds. Applications were reviewed and ranked on a minimum eligibility basis. Thirty eligible applications received maximum funding on a pro-rata formula based on the amount originally requested.

Eligible activities for grant use in-

clude operation of emergency shelters for the homeless, payment of rent, maintenance costs, utilities, insurance and purchase of furnishings and appliances.

As a condition of award, each local government is required to spend the ESGP funds within 180 days, and must demonstrate local matching

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Jesse Jackson, State Allies Extol "Reasonable Expectations"

BY JOHN FLEISHER
Associated Press Writer
An Analysis

GREENSBORO (AP)—Jesse Jackson's campaign for the Democratic presidential nomination appears to have fallen short, but he and his North Carolina supporters are determined not to be treated as losers.

For months, "What does Jesse want?" has been a burning question in national politics. As the black civil rights activist won more caucuses, primaries and delegates than expected, but not enough to become a front-runner, speculation arose over what he would demand of the Democratic establishment for giving the party's nominee his blessing.

Jackson did not answer that question directly during a visit to North Carolina but dropped some hints and introduced a phrase likely to be a familiar refrain in the year's political lexicon: "reasonable expectations."

Nearly a quarter-century ago, when he was preparing to graduate from North Carolina A&T State University, blacks could not reasonably expect to be president or governor, Jackson said. They were preoccupied with winning the right to vote.

But now, blacks—and other racial minorities and women—have loftier goals. As the Democratic party's most loyal constituency, they expect party leaders and elected officials to help them attain positions of power through the ballot box and appointments.

"Just talk about reasonable expectations," Jackson told his supporters. "Nothing way out, nothing different, no amendments to the Constitution, no special breaks. We just want a reasonable return on our investment... We cannot allow our expectations to remain low."

What constitutes a "reasonable return" he didn't say. But he said North Carolina had not measured up.

Law On Custody Favors Welfare Of The Children

BY VILMA SUAREZ
Special To The CAROLINIAN

For many years, there was a presumption that all other things being equal, the mother was not just the best, but the natural parent, to have custody of children when a marriage dissolves.

The truth is, the law favors neither the mother nor father, and neither should judges. The law requires the court to decide on the basis of the welfare or best interest of the child. In making these difficult decisions, the courts consider such factors as the child's preference, the health of the parents, the stability of each parent's home and the closeness of each parent to the child.

In some instances the courts will rule that joint custody is in the best interest of the child. Of course, parents may make their own agreements regarding the custody of children; these agreements are not equivalent to a court order unless approved and sanctioned by a court. Only a court order regarding custody can be enforced by the local police, if necessary, and can be respected and enforced by other states.

What Are Procedures In Custody Cases?

An attorney assists the person trying to obtain custody by filing a civil suit in court. Frequently, the suit for custody is part of the suit for divorce between the parents. The court hears

evidence from both parents and in many instances testimony of the child is considered. Sometimes testimony from an expert such as a child psychologist or psychiatrist will be given in court. While a custody suit is being decided, the court may enter an Order of Temporary Custody. This is important in those instances when one of the parents has threatened to remove or "snatch" the child.

Is Custody Ever Permanent? No. Agreements between the parents as well as court orders are always subject to change when circumstances affecting the child's welfare and best interest are substantially changed. However, the courts recognize that children need a stable environment and therefore are reluctant to change custody unless it is clearly necessary.

What Are Visitation Rights? The parent who does not have custody is usually entitled to visit the child and to have the child visit with him or her. The amount of time for such visitations depends largely upon the child's age and practical limitations such as how far apart the parents live.

As in the case of custody rights, visitation rights may be determined by the agreement of the parties or by court order. If the parent with custody refuses to allow visitation, it may be obtained by filing a petition

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Alabama NAACP Prexy Faces U.S. Extortion Rap

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP)—State NAACP President Thomas Reed was charged with extortion for allegedly charging \$10,000 to use his influence as a legislator to obtain the early release from prison of a convicted murderer.

A federal complaint filed by the FBI charges that between May 1, 1986 and Sept. 30, 1986, Reed used his official position as a state legislator to obtain \$10,000 from Bobby Gene Chesser of Columbus, Ga. Chesser is the uncle of Anthony Dennis Chesser, a convicted murderer in the Atlanta prison system.

The FBI's investigation of Reed surfaced last week, with Reed complaining that the FBI probe was in retaliation for his efforts to remove the Confederate battle flag from the

Alabama Capitol dome. The FBI has denied any connection between the Rebel flag episode and the extortion case against Reed.

"The \$10,000 was Reed's charge to use his influence with the state parole board and the Alabama Department of Corrections to secure an early parole and work-release for inmate Anthony Dennis Chesser," said U.S. Attorney Jim Wilson at a news conference to announce Reed's arrest.

Reed, a Tuskegee businessman who in 1970 became one of the first two blacks elected to the Alabama Legislature this century, was in custody Wednesday at the federal courthouse in Montgomery. He later waived a preliminary hearing and was released on \$10,000 bond.

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BLACK INSTITUTE—Officials of the National Black Child Development Institute's Raleigh affiliate gathered to hear a speech by Wake County School Superintendent Bob Bridges (third from right) in which he pointed out black male youth are the most at-risk in terms of dropout and short and long-term suspensions. President-elect David Foy (next to Bridges) said there needs to be a major public policy change in all of the societal institutions that would impact in a more positive way the lives of all male and black children. Also pictured from left are Debroah Taylor, Milton Forte, Foy, Bridges, Barbara Baylor (vice-president) and Suprena Jones. (Photo by Talib Sabir-Calloway)



JACKSON DELEGATE—A hardworking Jackson supporter finally gets to cast his convention vote as Brad Thompson named a Jackson delegate, from the 4th congressional district, to the National Democratic Convention. Thompson was only one of 2 black delegates given to Jackson from the 4th district. (Photo by Talib Sabir-Calloway)