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Office In Transition

Laodicea Pastor Leaves Church In April

BY W. MASON, JR.
Staff Writer

George C. Hawkins, the 46-year-old pastor who headed Laodicea Church since 1980, will be leaving the church in April to assume duties within the national organization of the United Church of Christ.

Hawkins will assume duties within the UCC Board for Homeland Ministries in its Division of

Evangelism and Church Development where he will be secretary for local church finance services.

"I think Laodicea is one of the great churches within our denomination. It has the spirit and visionaries who are committed to living out the gospel not only on Sunday morning but in all areas of church life in the community," he told The CAROLINIAN.

The national office Hawkins will be assigned to is in New York, but the national headquarters is in the process of moving to Cleveland, Ohio. The move began in the fall of 1989 and is expected to be completed in June 1991, he said.

In the meantime, Hawkins already has been elected to the office of secretary and is scheduled to assume

the duties on May 1.

Because the office is in transition, it will give Hawkins the opportunity to remain in Raleigh until 1991. During his time he will commute to New York and Cleveland, according to the duties of the office, he said.

Hawkins' last Sunday to preach at Laodicea is April 29, he said, adding that he handed in his resignation in

February.

During his time at Laodicea, Hawkins has been able to get the support of Girl Scouts in the community and Laodicea was one of the first churches in the area to conduct teenage pregnancy programs.

The church was also instrumental in getting day care services off the ground and was responsible for the

40-unit development near the church that is set up for the elderly and disabled.

Hawkins came to Raleigh from Alabama, where he served at First Congregational Christian Church of the United Church of Christ. He served there 10 years before coming to Raleigh.

(See GEORGE HAWKINS, P. 2)

Trooper "Within Law"

Questions Loom In Bowen Death

Community Expresses "Concern"

An FBI investigation is continuing into the shooting of a black Columbus County man by a white state trooper.

A Columbus County grand jury last week found that there was no probable cause to charge Trooper A.E. Morris in the shooting death of Sidney Bowen, 42, a former mayor of Bolton. Bowen was shot Feb. 27 in his front yard as Morris was trying to arrest him on a drunken driving charge.

Morris told investigators that the killing was in self-defense after Bowen began beating Morris with a flashlight. An 18-member jury agreed.

After the finding, Bolton residents protested, holding marches and expressing concern to local and state officials that the shooting was racially motivated.

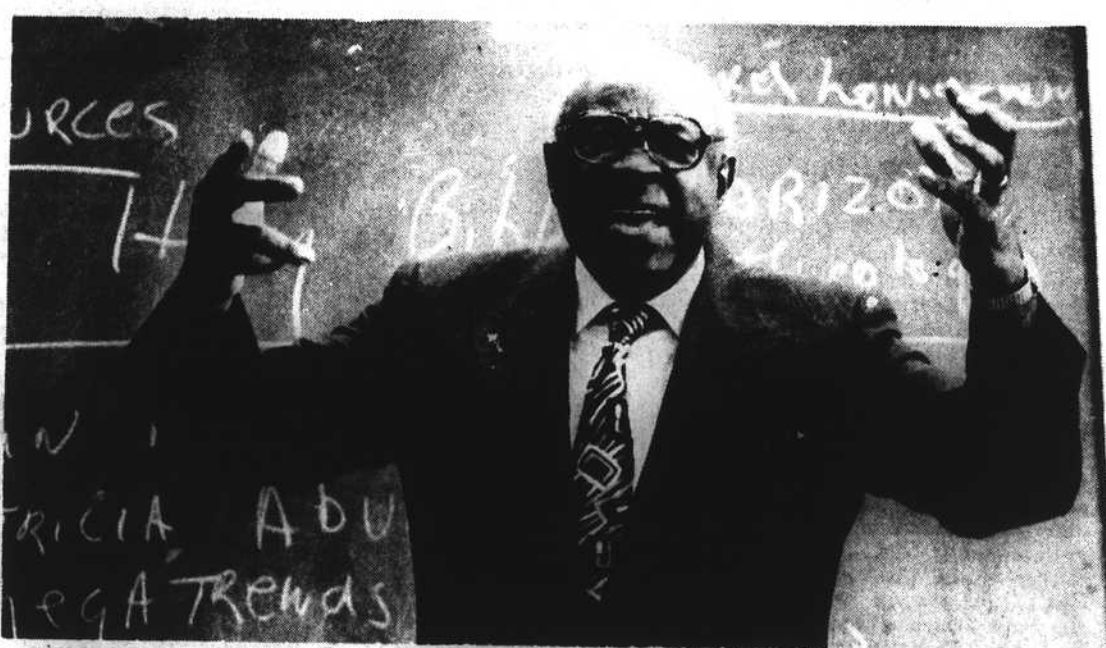
Morris was at least, however, acting within the law, although Bowen was shot at least five times in several areas of his body, including his chest, hands, cheek and head.

According to State Highway Patrol regulations, when a subject is coming at a Highway Patrol officer with intent to harm, the officer is allowed to shoot until the suspect stops coming, said Graham Wilson, director of public affairs with the department's Crime Control and Public Safety Office.

The regulations also state that Highway Patrol officers are not allowed to shoot warning shots and that the only time they are to remove their guns from their holsters is with the intent of firing it or having it inspected by a superior officer.

Questions blacks are asking concern whether the trooper fired in self-defense after the attempted arrest of

(See TROOPER, P. 2)



MEETING THE CHALLENGE—Dr. David Shannon, professor of Old Testament Interdenominational Theological Center, Atlanta, Ga., was one of the speakers during the 17th annual pastor's conference at Shaw Divinity School.

The theme for the conference was "The Church and Social Issues in the Decade of the 90s: Challenge for Pastoral and Lay Leadership." (Photo by Talib Sabir-Calloway)

Head Start Celebrates 25 Years Of Helping Children Get "Ahead"

Twenty-five years ago, President Lyndon B. Johnson, as part of his "War on Poverty Program," signed the bill that would provide funds to begin a program of preschool learning centers for underprivileged children. This program was titled Head Start, a name which expressed what the program hoped to do: give underprivileged children a head start in learning.

Since that day, the Head Start program has grown and expanded to a point where it serves the 50 states as well as Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, the Pacific Territories, and is part of a governmental American Indian program and Migrant Program.

Head Start is unique because, although it is not a solution to the poverty problems this nation faces, it offers an alternative to many people, parents as well as children, other than staying in the welfare system.

Today, Head Start is one of the social welfare programs that President Bush is supporting. He has proposed that Congress add \$500 million to the program's national budget.

"Head Start has been called the most successful social program since Social Security. The program has

consistently demonstrated success in preparing disadvantaged preschool children for school and for life. President Bush, Sen. Sanford, as well as many other national and state leaders have recognized the tremendous savings to society by providing children with a positive preschool experience. As a result, they have recommended full funding for Head

Start. This would mean that every eligible child would have an opportunity to attend Head Start," commented Betsy T. Thigpen, president of the North Carolina Head Start Association.

"Head Start is not just a child-oriented program," stated Patricia B. Locklear, Lumbee Regional

(See HEAD START, P. 2)

Judge Resigns, Forfeits License To Avoid Prosecution For Drugs

W. Terry Sherrill, a rising star in Charlotte's legal community who resigned from the bench amid drug charges, said his one regret was having to give up his law license.

Sherrill, who at 35 had been a judge for seven years, was arrested March 10 when a police officer on routine patrol smelled a strong odor of marijuana coming from his pickup truck.

Inside the truck, police found a marijuana cigarette, a small bag of white powder and drug paraphernalia.

The arrest of the promising young judge has shocked and saddened the legal community in a state where it

may be the first incident of its kind. Mecklenburg County Superior Court Judge Sherrill was relieved of his court duties pending the outcome of the charges but will continue to receive his \$71,000-a-year salary, Supreme Court Chief Justice Jim Exum said.

Dallas Cameron, assistant director of the Administrative Office of the Courts, said he cannot recall another North Carolina judge ever being charged with drug violations.

State Rep. Dan Blue, D-Wake, a former chairman of the Black Legislative Caucus, said, "To have won a statewide election, to be so

young, indicates the level of potential."

Sherrill was appointed to a District Court judgeship when he was just 28. In 1986, he ran in one of two contested Superior Court judgeships and defeated his Republican opponent by nearly 48,000 votes.

"In his campaign for that judgeship, he didn't lack any enthusiasm for it," said state Rep. H.M. Michaux, D-Durham, the Black Legislative Caucus chairman. "Everywhere I went, Terry was there or had been there. He knew how to make contacts and the people to talk to. Politically, he could have gone anywhere he wanted to go."

A Morehead scholar at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Sherrill was arrested after police passed what they called a "smoke-filled" 1987 silver-blue Toyota pickup truck on a residential street.

Officers said they found Sherrill alone in the truck and could smell a strong scent of burning marijuana as they approached. The truck was searched, and officers said they found a marijuana cigarette, a pipe that contained what they said is cocaine residue and a plastic bag with a small amount of white powder.

Sherrill's arrest appeared to be happenstance; police were not investigating him.

"We had never heard anything at all derogatory about him," said Cmdr. Bruce Treadway, chief of investigations. "He was 35 years old and already a Superior Court judge. He had everything going for him."

Sherrill has no prior record, and police said he was cooperative when arrested. Sherrill is free on his own recognizance until a hearing set for April 2 in Mecklenburg Superior Court.

He is charged with possession of cocaine, which is a felony, misdemeanor possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia—the pipe—also a misdemeanor.

In the early 1970s, Sherrill was a

(See JUDGE SHERRILL, P. 2)



MOTIALEPULA CHABAKU Anti-Apartheid Activist Gives Powerful Speech

Rev. Motialepula Chabaku, a United Methodist minister serving three churches in Catawba County, delivered the keynote speech for the National Women's History Month program at North Carolina State University this week.

Rev. Chabaku is from South Africa, and has traveled extensively in the United States speaking, preaching, and teaching. She is also a member of the African National Congress, the National Council of Women, the Women's International League of Peace and Freedom and a founder of the Black Women's Federation of South Africa.

Pat Caple, actress and director with the Black Repertory Theatre, delivered the "Sojourner Truth Soliloquy" during the program, whose theme was "Courageous Voices Echoing In Our Lives—Past, Present, Future."

The program, held in Stewart Theatre, included presentation of the Panhellenic Outstanding Women's Awards with Melea Lemon Bryan,

(See REV. CHABAKU, P. 2)

Capt. Williams Faces Charges In Hit-And-Run

Capt. Rufus D. Williams with the Raleigh Police Department may lose his job following a hit-and-run accident last weekend after which Williams was charged with failure to reduce speed and carrying an open container of whiskey.

A police officer convicted of a felony charge is likely to permanently lose his certification, said D. Scott Perry, deputy director of the Criminal Justice Standards Division with the department.

The collision happened Friday near Williams' home at 614 Rock Quarry Road. Williams' car rammed into the rear of a car that had stopped on Rock Quarry Road to turn left onto Cumberland Street, according to police.

The car moved forward 125 feet after being hit, stopping in front of Williams' house. Three people in the car were injured.

Williams left his car and walked to his house, leaving his car in the traffic lane, police said. He did not speak to any of the injured passengers but told a passerby from a distance that he was all right, police said. Williams did not talk with an investigating officer until about 20 minutes following the accident.

Williams, who is in charge of the police department's Internal Affairs Unit, was stripped of his badge and gun and has been assigned to administrative duty until the matter is resolved in court, police chief Frederick K. Henderson said.

A court date has been set for

"Soldiers" In Drug War Planning Marches For Impact & Awareness

From CAROLINIAN Staff Reports
Rev. Frank Summerfield of the Word of God Fellowship continues his crusade against drugs and alcohol and is issuing a "call to battle."

Dr. Summerfield, Word of God Fellowship and friends will stage a march in "drug-ridden inner-city Raleigh" at 1 p.m. March 24, to promote civic awareness about the drug problem.

"Maybe you missed the last provoking march," Summerfield said. "The battle of overcoming the drug war rages on. This march promises to make a big impact in drawing support from all city officials, who have been contacted in writing and by phone, and all civic-minded citizens," he said.

About three months ago, Dr. Summerfield, who is former superintendent of recreation for the City of Raleigh, former associate professor at Campbell University, current adjunct associate professor at Shaw University, along with other ministers and members of several congregations, staged a march on the state capitol with police escort. The event heightened community awareness. He will don his ec-

clesiastical robes for the march on March 24.

The march will start on the corner of Oakwood Avenue and Tarboro Road right in front of the St. Augustine's College sign and campus entrance. It will proceed east down Oakwood Avenue, passing the borders of the college campus all the way to Will Street, where drug traffic is prevalent.

From there, the march will turn left onto Hill Street and proceed past Washington Terrace Shopping Center to Booker Street, then turn right onto Booker and proceed down to Washington Terrace Apartments, stopping at Fisher Street and turning around to head back up to Hill Street, Oakwood Avenue and left onto Oakwood for a return to the St. Augustine's entrance.

"Red, yellow, black, and white from all areas of life should do their part in helping overcome the drug war," Rev. Summerfield said. "We see our actions as hand-to-hand combat and it will take all of us working together calling as much attention as possible to this drug war that all may get involved to the best of their own personal ability. We are confident

that as we call attention to this war, we will see the results of a world set



DR. FRANK SUMMERFIELD free from drugs and establish good moral living principles for all mankind.