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RELIGION

BIBLE VERSE OF THE WEEK

We know that we live in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.
1 John 4:13 (Read all of 1 John 4) New International Version

BIBLE TRIVIA

Fill in the following "Then Abraham fell upon his face, and _____, and said in his heart, Shall a child be born unto him that is an hundred years old?" a) cried b) moaned c) laughed d) prayed **CORRECT ANSWER C) LAUGHED SEE: GENESIS 17:17**

OBITUARIES

ROYAL FUNERAL HOME

MS. LISA LINETTE GILLIAM (OCTOBER 9, 1971 - MARCH 17, 2015)

Funeral service was 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 22, 2015, at the Progressive Union Missionary Baptist Church (1919 Brandontown Road Huntsville, AL 35816) with Dr. Wayne P. Snodgrass officiating. Interment was in the Faith Memorial Park.



MRS. EVANE GAINOO (DIED MARCH 18, 2015)

Funeral service will be announced later.

MS. ELIZA JANE HAYGOOD (DIED MARCH 18, 2015)

Funeral service was 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 25, 2015, at the First Missionary Baptist Church (3509 Blue Spring Road, Huntsville, AL 35810) with Dr. Julius Scruggs officiating. Interment was in the Meadowlawn Garden of Peace.



MRS. MARY BAILEY (JANUARY 6, 1937 - MARCH 18, 2015)

Funeral service will be 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 29, 2015 at the Big Shiloh Primitive Baptist Church (164 Maple Street, Madison, Alabama 35758) with Bishop Elijah Gray, III officiating. Interment will be in the Madison Memory Gardens.

MRS. PEARLIE M. SCOTT (SEPTEMBER 4, 1920 - MARCH 19, 2015)

Funeral service will be announced later.

MRS. CHARINE P. TERRELL (DECEMBER 3, 1951 - MARCH 20, 2015)

Funeral service will be announced later.

MR. THOMAS BISSETT



(L-R): Sister Doris Nance and Sister Rhonda Grayson



Gospel recording artist Kirk Franklin

After \$65 Million Jet Flap, Kirk Franklin Questions Creflo Dollar's Character

by JESSILYN JUSTICE

It's time to get our priorities straight, says musician Kirk Franklin.

And priorities should not include a \$65 million jet when millions across the world are suffering.

"When a pastor wants people to buy him a private plane while a missionary in Somalia bathes children with sores, that's a shortage of character," Franklin writes. "When I camouflaged my 'greeds' to look like 'needs,' that's a shortage of character."

Dollar said in a video campaign for a new private jet, which has since been canceled, that he needs a new jet to further the

St. John A.M.E. Church Celebrates 130th Anniversary

by Knegleshia Smothers-Cobb, SON staff writer; SON photos: Shelly Williams

HUNTSVILLE, AL—On last Sunday, St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church, Rev. Patrick D. & Sheri Smith Clayborn, celebrated its 130th Anniversary during a special morning service.

The theme for the anniversary was "Transformed Through Time...Envisioning the Future." The service included special presentations from the St. John AME music and dance ministry. Congratulatory letters were received from Rep. Anthony Daniels, District 53, Rep. Laura Hall, Mayor Tommy Battle, and Andrew Hugine, Jr., Alabama A&M University President. In addition, the church was presented with a resolution from Dale W. Strong, Chairman of the Madison County Commission.



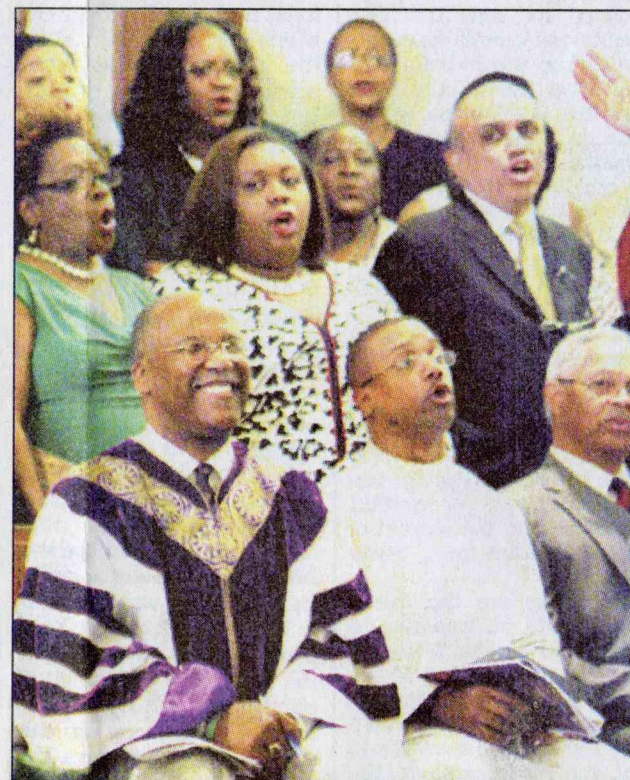
Meridianville Bottom Primitive Baptist Church "Member of the Month" Program

Story and photo submitted by: Juelene Humphrey, SON Messenger

In the continuation of their "Member of the Month Program" the Member of the Month Committee selected Sister Doris Nance for the month of February and Sister Rhonda Grayson for the month of March. Both of are longtime and dedicated members of the church and are committed to doing the work of the Lord. They serve on various committees are

always willing to do whatever is asked of them.

The "Member of the Month" receives a gift, special recognition during Sunday worship service, and a designated parking space for the month. The selections are made by the "Member of the Month" Committee: Deacon Lonnie Drake, Deacon Davie Smith and Sister Luella Smith.



(LEFT) Guest speaker Bishop James L. Davis and (CENTERED) Pastor Patrick D. Clayborn worships the Lord in song with the St. John A.M.E. Church choir.

Community Calendar

MARCH 27

The Indian Creek Primitive Baptist Church, where the Reverend Timothy M. Rainey is pastor, invites you to join us for our annual Resurrection Weekend Celebration. The festivities begin Saturday, March 27th with our Resurrection Festival & Egg Hunt, beginning at 11 a.m. The celebration continues Sunday morning April 20th with our Sunrise Service at 6 a.m. and Resurrection Program at 11 a.m. Join us as we celebrate the joy of our risen Savior.

MARCH 29

On Sunday the 29th of March at 8:00 a.m. the **POTTER'S HAND CHURCH MINISTRIES (983 Indian Creek Road) will have its Family and Friends Day program. The public is invited to attend, for a ride or additional information please call 256.721.0807

**PROGRESSIVE UNION M.B. CHURCH - -

You are invited to witness and participate in The Progressive Union M.B. Church Music and Drama Ministry's Annual Easter Production: "It Is Finished: The Battle is Over; The Victory is Won!"

Palm Sunday, March 29, 2015, 6:00 PM at The Progressive Union M.B. Church Main Sanctuary, 1917 Brandon Town Road, Huntsville, AL. Contact: wandarice@aol.com or call (256) 534-8266 for information and participation.

APRIL 2

**Oakwood University Alumni Weekend

(DIED MARCH 21, 2015)

Funeral service will be 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 28, 2015 at the St. Peter United Methodist Church (107 Stewart Street, Madison, Alabama 35758) with Pastor Danny Ray Jefferson officiating. Interment will be in the Madison Memory Gardens.



NELMS MEMORIAL FUNERAL HOME

MRS. MARGARETE LYVONNE BETTS- JULY 18, 1940 - MARCH 20, 2015

Funeral service for Mrs. Margaret Lyvonne (Bentley) Betts will be Friday, March 27, 2015 at 12:00 noon Friday, March 27, 2015 at First Missionary Baptist Church (3509 Blue Spring Road - Huntsville, AL) with Dr. Julius R. Scruggs officiating. Interment will be in Valhalla Memory Gardens. Mrs. Betts will be placed in the church one hour prior to the funeral service.



LTC (RET.) JAMES L. LORDER, JR. NOVEMBER 17, 1933 - MARCH 20, 2015

Visitation for LTC (Ret.) James L. Lord, Jr. will be Tuesday, March 24, 2015 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church (315 Winchester Road - Huntsville, AL).



Funeral service will be Saturday, March 28, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. at Marlin Missionary Baptist Church - Marlin, TX.

MR. BOBBY J. READUS MAY 5, 1962 - MARCH 20, 2015

Funeral service for Mr. Bobby J. Readus will be at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 28, 2015 at Briar Fork C. P. Church (2105 Winchester Road - Huntsville, AL) with Dr. Theodis Acklin officiating. Interment will be in the Briggs Cemetery. Visitation will be held on Friday, March 27, 2015 from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at Nelms Funeral.

spread of the gospel.

Financing of the jet would have required hundreds from Dollar's supporters.

"If all of our existing partners were to sow \$300 each, from all over the world, we'd be able to acquire this jet in a very, very short period of time," said Rick Hayes, project manager.

But for Franklin, it goes beyond the asking of money, and into the heart. It's not about laws, but rather about how to integrate morality into our choices.

"I agree you cannot legislate morality in our culture, but you cannot avoid holding people accountable," Franklin writes. "You can't let people slide by just because they are charismatic and can 'kill' a room. We don't have a shortage of greatness, we have a shortage of character."



The guest speaker for the occasion was Bishop James L. Davis. Bishop Davis currently serves as the servant prelate of the 9th Episcopal District which encompasses the entire state of Alabama.

The African Methodist Episcopal Church was the first major religious institution for African Americans. The church was founded by Bishop Richard Allen in 1787 in Philadelphia. Today, the church is comprised of millions of members and 20 Episcopal Districts in North and South America, England, France, Africa and India.

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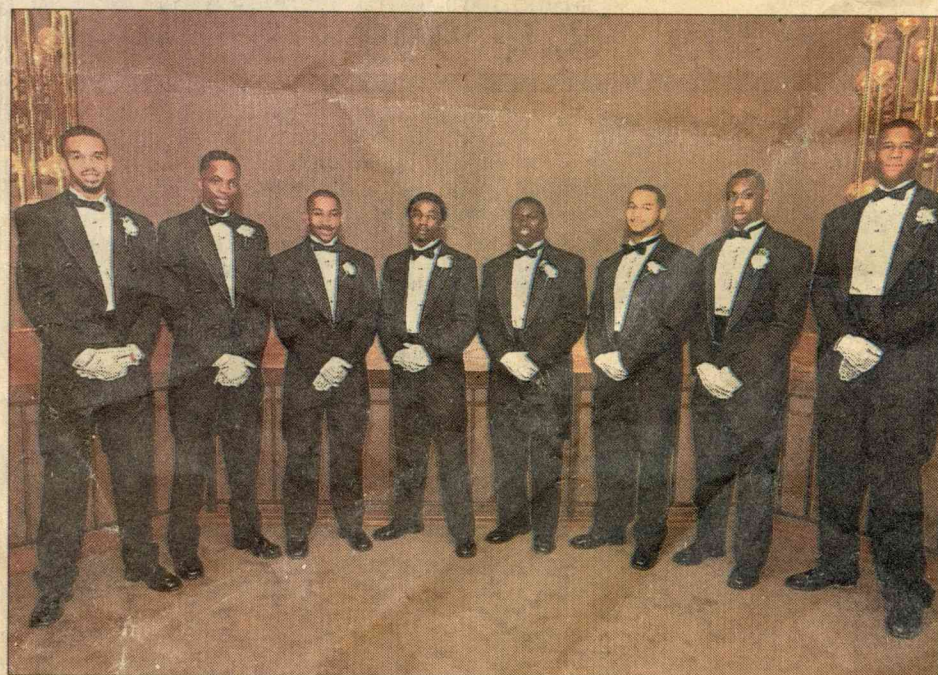
Amy Mayfield may be reached at 256-532-4305. To submit an event for coverage, email Amy Mayfield at amy.mayfield@htimes.com.



David Hughes, Galik Horton, Julian Newsome, Michael Parker, Ricardo Love, Xavier Fuzzell, Donell Robinson, Jarrod Ross and Paul Thompson



Tavaris Battles, Jonathan Rice, Leon Greene, Xavier Jones, Jason McClain, Matthew Vincent, Quinton Lane, Darreon Kennamer and Chester Rogers



Michael Greer, Mycah Robinson, Dion Hose, Ty Williams, Timothy Kelly, Brian Garner, Josh Hartley and Demonte Moore

26 MEN PRESENTED AT BEAUTILLION BALL

By Amy Mayfield

amy.mayfield@hntimes.com

The Von Braun Center's North Hall was the location of a truly elegant evening for the annual Beautillion Ball on Nov. 19. The 29th annual ball was presented by the Fun-Set Social and Charity Club, an organization that was founded in 1966 as a social club. Over the years, the social aspect has remained but now the club strives to give back to the community and to support young black men through cultural activities and educational seminars that focus on spiritual, educational, social and economic growth.

The Beautillion Ball is the culmination of a season of seminars, follies and family events that recognize and honor young men who are high school juniors or seniors.

Stunning decor in black, white and silver adorned the tables and spaces of the North Hall as guests dined on a bountiful breakfast buffet. Entertainment for the evening was provided by pianist Kim Jones accompanied by soloists Shawnie Ingram and Ryan Patrick Parker. A highlight of the night was dancing to music from Phil Lee and the Dependable Music Group.

David Person announced the presentation of the beaux. Following the presentation, the beaux and their belles took to the dance floor and performed a dance choreographed by Cynthia Quintella. The second dance was a touching scene between the beaux and their mothers.

Following is a list of the 2011 beaux, their parents, school and escorts:

Tavaris DeAngelo Battle, son of Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Staten, senior at J.O. Johnson High School, escorted by Sierra Jackson;

Galik Burks-Horton, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Horton, junior at Lee High School, escorted by Kathy Ogbu;

Xavier Fuzzell, son of Mrs. Tomekia Fuzzell, senior at Sparkman High School, escorted by Bayleigh Hicks;

Brian Edward Garner, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fitzgerald Garner, senior at Sparkman High School, escorted by Makayla Ray;

Leon Antonio Greene Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Leon Greene Sr., senior at Bob Jones High School, escorted by Taylor Hammons;

Michael Wayne Greer Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Greer Sr., senior at Lee High School, escorted by Brianna Bradford;

Patrick Joshua Hartley, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Moore-Hartley, senior at Buckhorn High School, escorted by Morghan Crutcher;

Dion Miguel Hose II, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dion Hose, senior at Lee High School, escorted by Genae McLaurin;

David Demarcus Hughes, son of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Hughes, senior at Bob Jones High School, escorted by Autumn Poindexter;

Xavier Marquez Jones, son of Mr. and Mrs. Emile Jones, senior at Huntsville High School, escorted by Ashley Robinson;

Timothy Ron Kelly Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Kelly Sr., junior at East Limestone High School, escorted by Marquee Moore;

Darreon Terrell Kenamer Jr., son of Mr. Darreon Kenamer Sr. and Mrs. Monique Malbreaux, senior at Lee High School, escorted by Dominique Plainbull;

Quinton Terrell Lane, son of Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Lane, senior at Sparkman High School, escorted by Alycia Moore;

Ricardo Miguel Love, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Randy Love, senior at J.O. Johnson High School, escorted by Cortney Earl;

Jason Marquez McClain, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carlton McClain, senior at Hazel Green High School, escorted by Taylor Scruggs;

Demonté Jamal Moore, son of Mrs. Terry Miller, senior at Buckhorn High School, escorted by De'Sha Gragg;

Julian Je'Richo Newsome, son of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Newsome, junior at Bob Jones High School, escorted by Makayla Graham;



Gwen Foster, Eleanor Burks, Beulah Toney, Arinzie Steele, Edna Sheridan and Carla Lanier



Glenda Ward, Ethel Scruggs, Martha Smith, Lillie Vincent, Betty Lanier, Charles Etta Smith, Joyce Kimber and Haley Bone

Michael Parker, son of Mr. Marcus Readus and Mrs. Yvette Parker, junior at Freedom Academy, escorted by Daraechell Ford;

Jonathan Mark Rice, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Rice, senior at Columbia High School, escorted by

Bernita Hayes;

Donell Robinson III, son of Mr. and Mrs. Donnell Jones Jr., senior at Lee High School, escorted by Aigner Brown;

Mycah Jeraye Robinson, son of Mr. Mycah Raye and Mrs. Deanna

Photos by John Perry /
Special to The Times

Robinson, junior Buckhorn High School, escorted by Carma Cross;
Chester Samuel Rogers III, son of Mr. and Mrs. Chester J. Rogers, senior at Lee High School, escorted by Brooklyn Wherry;

Jarrod Alexander Ross, son of Mr. and Mrs. Larry Green and Mr. Barry Ross, junior at Westminster Christian Academy, escorted by Mayah Robinson;

Paul Edward Thompson II, son of Mrs. Rhonda Childress-Thompson, senior at Sparkman High School, escorted by Gabrielle Jones;

Matthew Stewart Vincent, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Vincent, senior at Hazel Green High School, escorted by DayZha Sales;

Reginal Tyewun Williams, son of Mr. Corey Steger and Mrs. Tunhunn Malone, senior at Lee High School, escorted by Brihanna James.

The Beautillion Ball committee was headed up by Mary Ann Townsend, club president. Assisting her were Carla Lanier, Edna Sheridan, Haley Bone and Beulah Toney, program; Gwen Foster, Carmeleita Winburn and Eleanor Burks, educational seminars; Betty Lanier, Martha Smith, Haley Bone, Joyce Kimber and Glenda Fowler, scholarship; Ruby Barnes and Glenda Ward, publicity; Edna Sheridan, Haley Bone and Glenda Ward, parent-son brunch; Eleanor Burks, Carmeleita Winburn, Barbara Mitchell, Gwen Foster and Ruby Barnes, souvenir book; Mary Ann Townsend, Carla Lanier and Arinzie Steele, get acquainted tea; Carmeleita Winburn, Eleanor Burks, Barbara Mitchell, Gwen Foster and Ruby Barnes, invitations/seating committee; Lillie Vincent, Glenda Ward, Barbara Mitchell, Charles Etta Smith, Ruby Barnes and Ethel Scruggs, training; Ruby Barnes, Barbara Mitchell and Charles Etta Smith, marshalls.

GREATER ST. JOHN'S DOOR TO OPEN

FATHER'S DAY

The New Pastor



REV. H. L. McCALL

The Rev. Homer L. McCall, new pastor of Greater St. John A.M.E. Church, Huntsville, Alabama is a native of Montgomery, Alabama.

He is the son of the late Mr. Edward C. McCall and Mrs. Bertha R. McCall.

He accelerated to college from the 10th grade of the Alabama State University Laboratory High School, Montgomery, in 1957 upon passing the Cooperative Intercollegiate Examination. He received his B.A. degree from Morehouse College, Atlanta, Ga. in 1963, with

a major in English, and minor in French.

Rev. McCall then went on to attend Yale University Divinity School, New Haven, Conn., from 1962-1964.

He received a Merrill European Study-Travel Scholarship while a student at Morehouse and studied at the Sorbonne (University of Paris) in France, during academic year 1960-61, and received a diploma in French Civilization from

that institution. He also studied at Oxford University in England during the summer of 1961 and received a Certificate of Completion from there.

He taught two years, 1969-71, at Daniel Payne College, Birmingham, Ala. in the Theology and Humanities Departments. He has also pastored St. Paul A.M.E. Church, Montgomery, Ala., and the Warrior Circuit of the North Alabama Conference.

Rev. McCall is married to the former Mable Jones.

Bible Thought

"Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as some is, but exhorting one another and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching."

The Late Pastor



REV. S. S. HEREFORD

Perhaps one of the saddest notes that has struck African Methodism in recent years was the sudden passing of Rev. Samuel S. Hereford, pastor of St. John A. M. E. Church, Huntsville, Alabama.

The impressive funeral service was held Thursday afternoon, April 15 at two o'clock p.m. at the St. John A. M. E. Church, Huntsville, Alabama, Rev. W. R. Pogue, Presiding Elder of the South Birmingham-Huntsville District, presiding.

Long before the hour of the funeral, people from all over the state and from all walks of life crowded into the church and streets to give respect and take the last look at the fallen prophet of God.

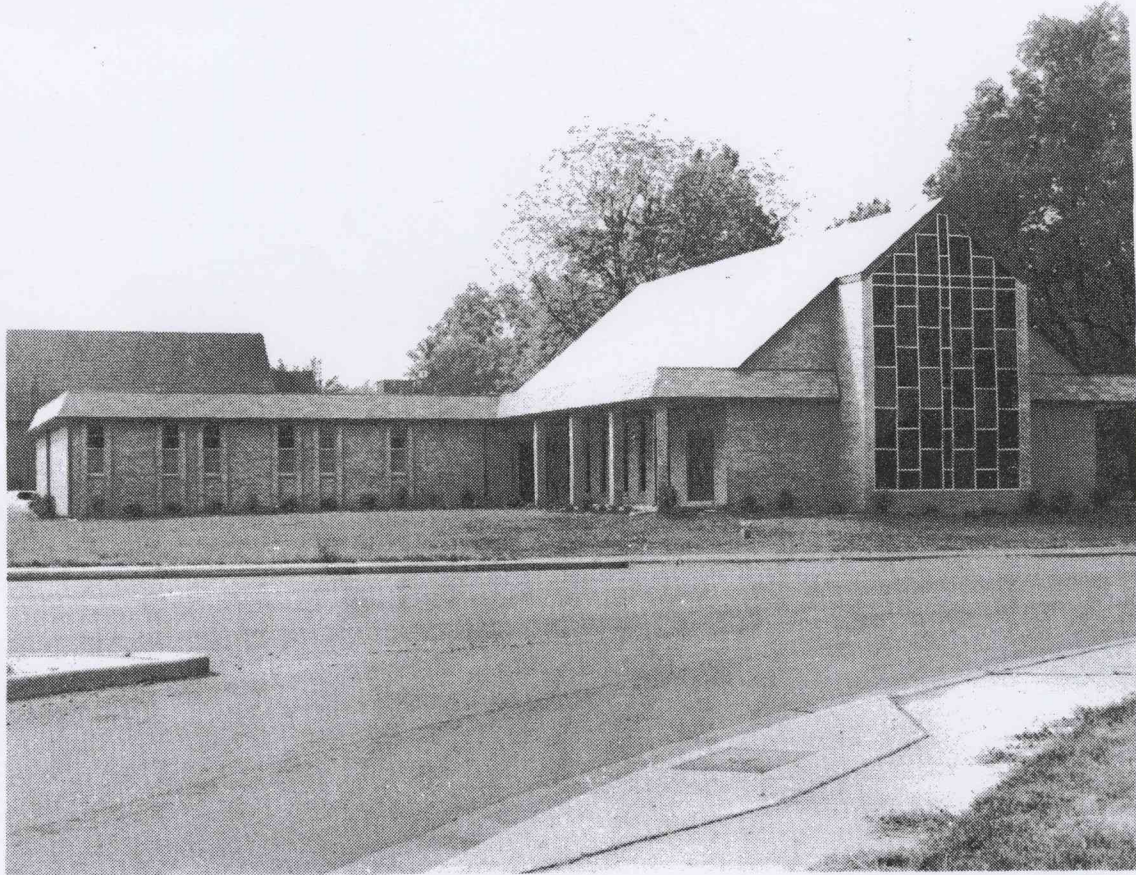
The funeral service was most impressive, for one could feel the impact, and view the magnitude of the eternal impression this young man made upon the Rocket City and its surrounding communities. He had made an outstanding contribution in the Inter-Denominational Ministers' Alliance; the Y.M.C.A., Boy Scouts, N.A.A.C.P., the Masons, and many other social, civic, and fraternal agencies.

Standing as a living monument to his leadership and administrative ability is the beautiful newly-completed St. John's. This new structure has all the modern facilities that will make a church relevant, and help us spread her spiritual wings. This new plant cost over \$175,000.

It was his ambition to worship in the new sanctuary Easter Sunday, but God gave him a seat in the midst of the company of the Four and Twenty Elders.

Rev. Hereford was one of our most able and aggressive young men. He was quiet, personable, and dignified. He never sought the laurels of the general church. Yet he was easily one of the most competent secretaries in the Church. He gained this title by acquiring the necessary skills to do the job. He was a devoted husband and father, having reared and educated three daughters and two sons. The family did the unusual by requesting that all floral offerings be made to the Building Fund of St. John A. M. E. Church.

(Continued on Page 7)



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE PASTOR,

OFFICERS, & MEMBERS OF THE GREATER ST. JOHN'S A.M.E.

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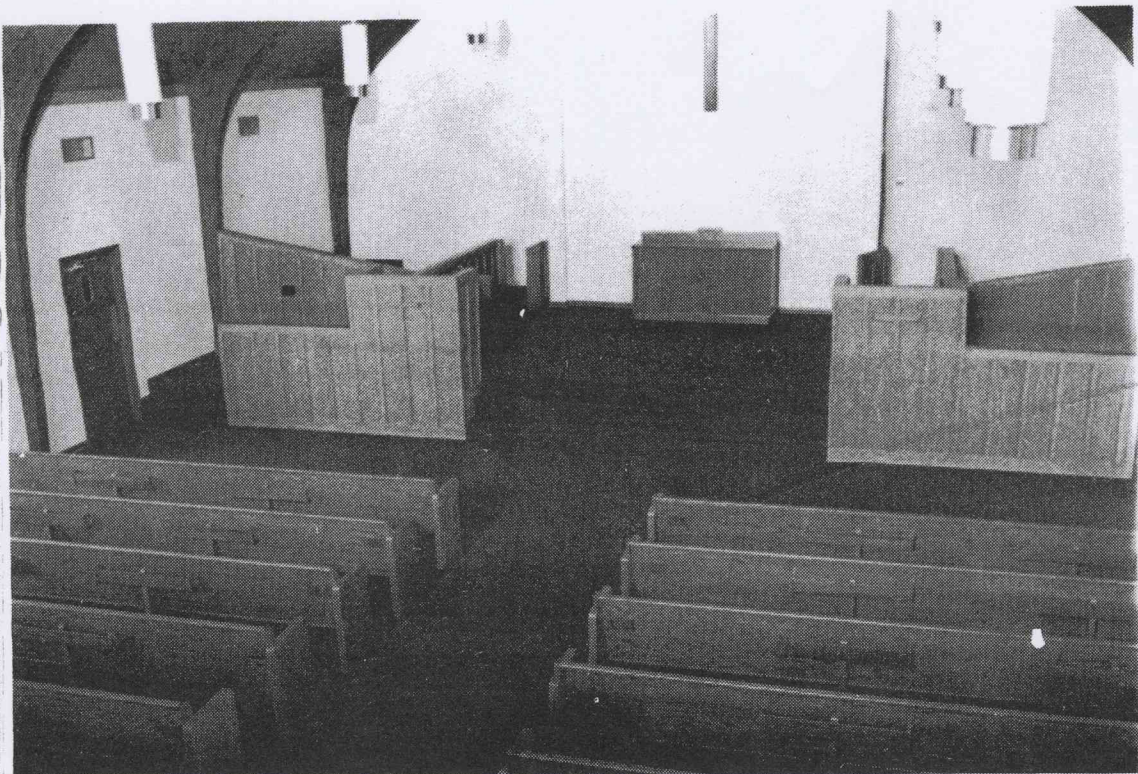
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THE WEEKLY NEWS

Greater St. John A.M.E. Church



THE MEMBERSHIP OF ST. JOHN will go into their beautiful church building at the corner of Church and Arms Street Sunday, June 20. This beautiful edifice shown here and on Page 5 was designed by H. Paul Tuggle and Associates of 202 Zephyr Circle, Huntsville, Alabama. It is modern in every respect and has facilities for every department of the church.



THE SANCTUARY

**LEEDS SEATING COMPANY WISHES TO CONGRATULATE
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The Late Pastor

(Continued from Page 5)

As he lay in repose in the oak casket, many of us felt that his sudden passing was a tragedy, until Bishop Hubert N. Robinson, Presiding Bishop of Alabama, and one among the greatest preachers in this generation, lifted our hearts and minds out of the valley of defeat as he told how Jesus triumphed victoriously over death. For death is not the end. He reminded us that we live on through the lives we touch, inspire, and encourage. He reminded us that S. S. Hereford would live on through the lives he has touched, as he witnessed for God through the various agencies.

The beautiful spring day seems to have been a symbol of his life. May God bless his family. May God bless the fine and loyal members of St. John, who saw that everything was carried out in a dignified manner. Farewell, old faithful scribe and devoted friend.

"When I go down to the grave, I can say, like many others, 'I have finished my day's work,' but I cannot say, 'I have finished my life'; my day's work will begin again the next morning. The tomb is not a blind alley, it is a thoroughfare. It closes on the twilight, it opens on the dawn."

--Victor Hugo--