

For Immediate Release

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FIRST ANNUAL ST. PAUL VILLAGE 5K WALK/RUN **Supporting a multi-use, multi-generational development** **To be built in the historic Rogers Road Community**

Brief Version: CHAPEL HILL, N.C. (January 30, 2013) The First Annual St. Paul AME 5K Walk/Run will be held at McDougle Middle School in Chapel Hill, NC on March 2, 2013. Registration is \$25/individual and \$45 family. Every paid entrant will receive a free T-shirt.

The event features electronic timing by Cardinal Track Services, an awards ceremony with prizes for each age group, and a family-friendly atmosphere. The after-race fun includes kid-approved games, food available for purchase, and a performance by the National and World Champion Bouncing Bulldogs Jump Rope Team. Proceeds will primarily benefit St. Paul Village, a multi-use and multi-generational development that will provide amenities and resources to the Chapel Hill-Carrboro community as well as fulfill the church's need for expanded worship and fellowship spaces. As a tithing church, St. Paul will donate 10% of the net proceeds to two worthy local causes: Inter-Faith Council and Habitat for Humanity. Learn more at stpaulamechapelhill.org or by calling 919-967-3961.

Detailed Article: CHAPEL HILL, N.C. (January 30, 2013) The highly anticipated culmination of old meets new will soon begin as St. Paul Village, a multi-generational affordable housing (and so much more!) development marches toward groundbreaking in the historic Rogers Road Community. Members of St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church, pastored by Reverend Thomas Nixon and assisted by dozens of area sponsors, are staging their First Annual 5K Walk/Run to raise money for and awareness of this true community resource. The event will be held at McDougle Middle School in Chapel Hill, NC on March 2, 2013. Registration is \$25/individual and \$45 family. Every paid entrant will receive a free T-shirt.

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St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church

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Touted as a “transforming development” when its rezoning and special-use permit was approved by the Chapel Hill Town Council, St. Paul Village will include a new worship sanctuary; a fellowship hall with convention-center type facilities available for public rental; mixed-use senior and affordable housing; childcare, youth, and senior centers; recreational facilities; a wellness center; a health clinic; a historical museum; and a memorial garden.

In 2007, St. Paul AME Church purchased 20.4 acres with dreams of creating a mixed-use community to provide amenities and resources in the Chapel Hill-Carrboro surrounds as well as fulfill the church's need for expanded worship and fellowship space. By balancing spiritual and physical health as well as providing educational and housing opportunities, St. Paul Village will help bring babies through senior citizens together while supporting and promoting the stability of the Rogers Road neighborhood – socially, economically, and culturally. Reverend Nixon, the visionary behind the dream, is responsible for infusing sustainable strategies and ideas into the planning, development, and financial support of this project.

Organizer Anissa McLendon sees the 5K Walk/Run as more than just a fundraiser for St. Paul Village, but as the beginning of a new Community tradition. “As far as we are aware,” she relates, “This is the first major 5K produced by a faith community in Chapel Hill-Carrboro.”

Several local elected officials have publically pledged to join the competitive runners, casual walkers, individuals, families, and media who will be participating. Businesses, churches, non-profits, families, clubs, civic groups, etc. are invited to register and form teams. Press kits and passes will be available to the media at sign-in. To register or learn more about St Paul Village and the 5K Walk/Run, please visit www.stpaulamechapelhill.org or call 919-932-5321.

About St. Paul AME Church

Nearly 150 years ago, in 1864 African Americans founded St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. The first service was held under a grapevine at the corner of Franklin Street and Merritt Mill Road by the Rev. Green Cordal. The historic church building, erected in 1892, still stands today at that same spot. St. Paul was officially inducted into the AME Church system in 1870,

Pastor since 2004, the Reverend Thomas Nixon has worked diligently to maintain the integrity of the Church’s structure and philosophy as established by the founding fathers. St. Paul continues to foster an attitude of worship free of barriers – such as race and cultural differences – and serves as a beacon of hope, progress, spiritual revival, and religious freedom that inspires and supports community. ####

Pictures follow and are available as Jpegs.

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