



## ABUNDANT HOPE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

For Immediate Release

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### **ABUNDANT HOPE CHRISTIAN CHURCH CELEBRATES FIVE YEARS OF WORSHIP IN THE TRIANGLE** – *First African-American Greensboro Mayor Yvonne Johnson to Keynote at Black Tie Anniversary Gala.*

**Durham, NC** (June 10, 2008) - Celebrating five years of HOPE, praise and service to the Triangle community, Abundant Hope Christian Church, led by Pastor Mark Anthony Middleton, will hold their annual anniversary events from June 16–22, 2008. With 'HOPE' continuing to be the driving force behind this young, but quickly growing Durham-based church's mission, the anniversary celebration will focus on -- **H**eralding the Gospel, **O**utreach in the Community, **P**olitical Participation, and **E**conomic Empowerment.

"We have so many great reasons to celebrate this year," states Pastor Middleton. "Over the last five years, hundreds have come to Christ through AHCC and rededicated their lives professing Jesus as Lord. AHCC has donated tens of thousands of dollars in benevolence and spent countless hours in community service. We have celebrated births and marriages and shared our losses as well. Together, we turned a gymnasium into a sanctuary and are now blessed with owning one of the largest pieces of land to be used for religious purposes in the city of Durham."



AHCC's main anniversary event will be a **Black Tie Heritage Gala to be held on Friday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at 6:30pm** -- The event will feature keynote speaker Greensboro, NC Mayor Yvonne Johnson. The first African-American Mayor of Greensboro, Johnson is a 65 year old mother of four and grandmother of seven who was born and raised in Greensboro during segregation. There, Johnson marched in many civil rights movements and later became a member of the Greensboro City Council. Johnson spent 24 years as Executive Director of One Step Further, Inc., a private, non-profit United Way agency that recommends sentencing options for adults and juveniles, and provides mediation services, and life skills/conflict resolution classes. In addition, Johnson served as a board member of the Bennett College Board of Trustees, where she is also an alumna.

AHCC's black tie gala, which will also feature dining and entertainment, will be held at the Durham Hilton Hotel, 3800 Hillsborough Rd, Durham, NC 27705. Tickets are still available for \$55 through the AHCC church office. Parties interested in attending this or other AHCC anniversary events should call AHCC at 919-806-1610 or e-mail abundant.hope1@verizon.net.

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For more information about Abundant Hope Christian Church, please visit [www.abundanthopecc.org](http://www.abundanthopecc.org).