Randolph County — Plans for a collaborative project involving two local churches came to a crashing standstill this week when a church building literally smashed into a fellowship hall building near Sophia.

A white, four-door Kia station wagon collided with the Mt. Gilead United Methodist Church fellowship hall Monday. Andy Scholar, pastor of Mt. Gilead UMC, was on the scene immediately following the wreck, which drew a stir among the church's neighbors and members.

The pastor said he wasn't entirely sure what happened that caused the incident. However, he said the condition of the driver was not immediately available Monday evening.

“I haven’t heard much of what has transpired,” Scholar said. “I heard there were a couple of people in the back parking lot area behind the main church, and the driver that crashed into the (building) got scared and took off.”

Scholar said the news came as a shock to everyone.

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Fun Run at Hopewell Elementary

BY DEBBIE HIGHTOWER

TRINITY — Some parent-teacher associations would hesitate to set a $25,000 goal to raise funds for a shelter for their school’s car drop-off area. Not the Hopewell Elementary School PTA, however, that not only met, but exceeded, that goal during a Fun Run held Feb. 1.

After a Jan. 24 pep rally designed to pump up excitement, students were ready to roll when the Fun Run was ready to take off. Due to the weekend, students could earn a rubber-band reward was a doughnut party. Over the night challenges. The classroom who brought in the most pledges Wednesday night couldn’t buy candy bars could donate.”

“Grandparents who are out of town and above-grade teacher Sharon Peeler, whose pump up excitement, students set out to run. Due to the immediate availability Monday evening.

“This is a great fundraiser,” said second-grade teacher Sharon Peeler, whose class named themselves “Peeler’s Pets.”

“Grandparents who are out of town and could be ‘bored,’ hands-on museum and formerly Sci-Works, an interactive, educational, hands-on day at Kaleideum North, for 352 sixth-graders spent a giant field trip in which all of the seasons, the Grand Tour or From Earth to the Universe.

Sixth-graders take field trip to Kaleideum North

BY DEBBIE HIGHTOWER

TRINITY — It is one thing to learn about physical forces in a classroom, but quite another to experience them while zipping around a racetrack atop a scooter.

The science department at Braxton Caven Middle School recently undertook a giant field trip in which all of the students at a day at Kaleideum North, the Scitech, ScienceWorks, an interactive, hands-on museum and science center. Students from Braxton Caven, Pisgah, Pisgah Middle, Pisgah and Spartaus teams visited the museum in three separate days, about 120 students at a time.

During their visit, students on the Seahawks team viewed one of four planetarium shows, including Carolina Skies, Show of the Seasons, The Grand Tour or From Earth to the Universe.

“It coordinated perfectly with our studies on the stars, development of planetary systems, and physical forces and motion,” said science teacher Brenda Euril. “We also had the opportunity to look at sound, which we will study in the spring.”

Students from Braxton Caven Middle School recently had an opportunity to experience physical forces in person during a two-day trip to Kaleideum North in Winston-Salem. Those enjoying the ride included, from left, Cole Smith, Aiden Palmer, Madeline Johnson, Sophia."
In preparation for their trip, sixth-graders in Earls’ class calculated how much they would weigh and what their age would be according to their birthdays on the different planets in the Terran, or Sol, solar system.

At the Kaleideum, students of Braxton Craven class teacher Christine Marsh visited activity centers that relate to biology, animal sciences and physical sciences.

“Our health works about everything — how you should brush your teeth and everything about the human body,” Marsh said. “There were a lot of STEM activities as well. In one room there were large foam blocks they could use to build whatever they imagined. In another, they were building circuits out of a modeling clay.”

Although her students have been learning about animal lift, she found a way to get students to venture into the animal area for very long after she discovered there were snakes there!

Principal Dr. David Cross, who took part in the Seahawks field trip, was surprised to learn that the human scooters, which operated in a similar fashion to a marble run, actually went much faster for riders with a lower bodyweight.

“We tried to pick planetarium shows and activities that would directly cover and reinforce the curriculum we have been covering in class,” said Cross.

“What was neat was that they had all the stations lined up and we just maneuvered throughout the day. They were highly engaged.”

A sixth-grader on the Spartans’ team, Christian Hildreth, enjoyed the museum the most. “I liked some of the physics that were there,” he said. “It was pretty interesting. My favorite activity was a red chair and you could sit in it and it would lift you up. Another of my favorite parts was a ball and you put in a machine and it would dispense air and it would lift you up. It was pretty fun, too,” added Christian, who said he would sign up for another trip if given the chance.

Staff writer Debbie pepsi