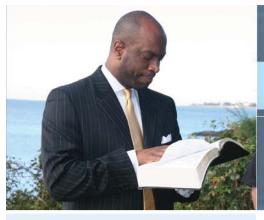
MESSAGE from the Mount

अंद्र अंद् Resurrection Day www.mtaerybaptist.org **APRIL 2012**



The Pastor's Pen

credits

Editor-in-Chief

Tonya Johnson

Director of Operations

Henry C. Smalls Jr.

Layout/Design

Victor Hayes

Photography

Henry C. Smalls Jr.

Tonya Johnson

Julian Jean-Baptiste

Sean Bunyan

Production Team

Kunle Antetona

Tonya Johnson

Henry C. Smalls Jr.

Contributors

Pastor Anthony L. Bennett

Tonya N. Johnson

Malakhi RL Eason

Linda Mosely-Johnson, RN MSN MBA

Brittany Lee

Deja Seawright

DIT Kathy Tabb-Smalls

Deacon Annette Febres

Arikeade~

Henry C. Smalls, Jr.

Gregory McBroom

Bridget Franklin

Staff Writers

Leslie Davis-Green

Eva McLeod

Doreen Cotter

Mount Aery Baptist Church

73 Frank Street

Bridgeport, CT 06604

Church Office: 203.334.2757

Website: www.mtaerybaptist.org

Namaste my Brothers and Sisters in Christ!

We are certainly honored and humbled to greet you during this Resurrection season. As we reflect on this past month's activities, we were able to celebrate the many accomplishments and contributions of women within our congregation and the larger community as well as call for the resurrection of our men during men's weekend. Let me express my gratitude to Brothers James Smith, Phil Tyner, Greg McBroom and all of the men who had anything to do with its marvelous success. Let me also thank the women of Mount Aery for their gracious presence and support of the men as we strive to resurrect ourselves by any means necessary.

During the month of March, we also celebrated the work of our Ushers Ministry; in particular, we honored Dolores "Lois" Hudson, Alice Lee, Nell Pettway, Kathy Tabb-Smalls and Vance Hudson. These are men and women who do not look for accolades but they certainly deserve them. Again, thanks to Liza Clark, Kathy Dennis and all of those who made the event memorable.

The month of March was also the commencement of our Leadership Development Academy on Tuesdays. This gathering has afforded us the opportunity to sharpen our skills as leaders and to recommit ourselves to the vision of Mount Aery. Let me thank Min. Nancy Kingwood Small, Barbara Jones, Ramona Berry and the Five Star Church team for their dedication and labor.

This first Sunday in April is special for us, not only are we celebrating Jesus' commitment to travel to Calvary, this Sunday also marks the 18th year of our partnership as Pastor and **People**. I truly believe Mount Aery, the best is yet to come.

On April 2nd, we will celebrate our renewed partnership with the University of Bridgeport through an official grand opening of our free Naturopathic Medicine clinic housed at Ashe Faith (a program of the Mount Aery Development Corporation) at 105 Frank Street. All are welcome to participate.

We look to celebrating the Resurrection of Jesus, The Christ, with all who will participate with us. Please be mindful that in addition to the celebration of Jesus from the grave, we will also sponsor again our health fair on Saturday, April 28th. Also on that day we will celebrate Pastor Thomas Williams and his family for their years of dedicated service to Mount Aery. More details will be forth coming.

Remember that we are growing in the power of *The Resurrection*.

God bless you,

Pastor Anthony L. Bennett, D. Min.

Pastor anthony Bennett

Senior Pastor



Editor's Desk

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Namaste Brothers and Sisters,

Well Mount Aery, we made it thru another winter and pretty much unscathed in regards to snow, what a blessing? We have sprung our clocks forward and have begun celebrating spring with beautiful weather. Today we are celebrating Palm Sunday as the beginning of Holy Week and we are embarking on the close of Lenten Season with the celebration of Resurrection Day next week.

In this issue we are covering some wonderful events starting with the awesome production Emerging Voices, Generation Next's 2nd Annual Ski trip which I heard was a blast, then the celebration of ushers Dolores "Lois" Hudson, Alice Lee, Nell Pettway, Kathy Tabb-Smalls and Vance Hudson at the Usher's Banquet and the start of our Leadership Training with the preaching of Pastor Jamal Nelson and last but not least the Men's Weekend.

We have had some powerful and spirit filled events over the past month and I pray that the depictions of those events published here in Message from the Mount will inspire all those who have not attended any events, for whatever reason, to try to come out to future events.

Well Mount Aery, enjoy this issue and be blessed!

God bless.

Tonya N. Johnson Editor In Chief MFTM Publication

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Men's Weekend A Matter of Principles

Birthdays Calendar

WHAT'S NEXT? Important Dates

40 Days of Prayer during the Lenten Season - Call in to the prayer line at 7:00a daily at 610-214-0000. The participant access code is 111933#. Please do not speak if you call in after 6:59 am. Please mute your phone by pressing *6. Please note that long distance charges may apply.

 $\underline{2nd\ Passport\ to\ Healthy\ Living}$ sponsored by Mount Aery Nurses Ministry and Optimus Health Care is being held on April 28th at 9 am - 2 pm.

Leadership Development Mandatory 16-week training - Classes are scheduled for 6p to 7:30p.

March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1 – 8 Weeks

Intersection of Five Star Church and 9 Types

May 22, 29, June 5, 12, 19, 26 – 6 Weeks

· Broad Based Organizing through CONECT

September 11, 18 – 2 Weeks

• Pastor's Wrap-Up

MAYA is hosting the 4th Annual Café Night on May 18th beginning at 7pm. Tickets in advance are \$7, \$10 at the door. For more information please contact Nieja Jackson.

Fellowship Fishing Trip to Hyannis, MA is being held on May 19th leaving at 9:00 am at a cost of \$105. Costs include transportation, the boat, the pole and the bait. For more information please contact Bro. David Greatheart at (203) 933-3917.

Missionary Society Ministry invites you to their Annual Prayer Breakfast on July 21st at 8:00 am with a donation of \$10.

Missionary Society Ministry presents the <u>2nd Annual Faithful Grateful Prayer Cruise</u> on August 11th at 8:00 am to 8:00 pm at a cost of \$120 per person. For more information please contact Mount Aery's Missionary Society at (203) 334-2757

Pastor's Engagements

April

April 4th at 7:30pm	15th at 5:00pm	April 25th at 7:30pm
Cathedral of Faith Church of God	St. Paul Pentecostal COGIC	Living Water Deliverance Ministry, Inc.
2319 Fairfield Avenue, Bridgeport	338 Connecticut Avenue, Bridgeport	5 Cemetery Drive, Stratford
Holy Week Services	9th Church Anniversary	14th Pastoral Anniversary

May

May 6th at 4pm	15th at 7pm	May 27th at 4pm
Ebenezer Gospel Assembly	Calvary Baptist Church	English Chapel Cathedral of Miracles
291 Bunnell Street, Bridgeport	21 Concord Street, South Norwalk, CT 06854	285 Wilmot Avenue, Bridgeport
17th Pastoral Anniversary	Revival, Renewal and Re-Dedication	Usher's Anniversary

Acknowledgements

• The Seawright family would like to thank you for all your prayers, thoughtfulness and kind acts of kindness during our time of loss.

Recognitions

- Maurice Colbert, Central High School, Grade 11, 1 C, 2 B, 4 A. He earned Second Honors.
- Grace C. Mones is a member of The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi by election of the Chapter at Fordham University and is hereby granted all the honors and privileges pertaining to membership in the Society.

Announcements

- Generation Next Youth Ministry
 - o Generation Next Youth Ministry is asking all Members who are interested in volunteering time to the youth of Mt Aery Baptist Church please give your contact information to Malakhi Eason after church in the Narthex. You can also email your contact information or questions to mabc.generationnext@gmail.com
- <u>Business Owners</u> Mount Aery is filled with people needing products and services that someone at "The Mount" can provide. There are several active business owners amongst our church family. We would like to develop a business directory as a resource

Important Dates

to the congregations and beyond. Please pick up a form from the carousel in the Narthex. Once completed, turn into the church office. For more information, please see Vyola Parker.

- All Leaders: The Five Star book is available in the church office. The donation is \$10.
- Please be advised that the Deacons on Call for the month of April are Deacons Baldwin and Blackwell.
- Submissions of announcements and due dates:
 - o Message From The Mount
 - Send information to mftm@mtaerybaptist.org by Wednesday after the first Sunday
 - o Monitors in the Sanctuary
 - Send information to <u>media ministry@mtaerybaptist.org</u> by Wednesday before the Sunday you want the announcement

If announcements are not received by the due dates they may be omitted or placed in the next edition.

• No Pork on Church Property

o <u>For health, healing and sensitivity for those with health conditions</u>, no pork is to be brought on church premises (i.e. ministry affairs and/or catering). For further information, contact Dr. Jeanne Fuqua at 203-500-4100. Office hours are by appointment only on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4p to 8p and Saturdays, 2p to 6p.

• NO Food or Beverage in the Sanctuary

- o Please, please, please, do not bring food or beverages into the sanctuary. Parents, please feed infants and toddlers in the Wilson Hall or the Bass Hall. It is everyone's responsibility to be good stewards of the building that God has blessed us with. If you see anyone not being responsible, please get an Usher or a Deacon to handle the situation. Thank you.
- <u>Parents</u>, while you are in worship, your children should be in worship next to you, unless Youth Church is in session. Teenagers have been wandering around the church and the younger children have been playing in the Quiet Room. The Quiet Room is for parents with infants only. Please keep your children with you at all times.

Mount Aery Development Corp offers FREE Tax Help! Beginning Thursday February 2, 2012 to April 18, 2012



The Mount Aery Development Corp.

Will offer Free Income Tax Preparation for taxpayers with 2011 earned income under \$49,000, through the Volunteer Income Tax Program (VITA).

The IRS will employ the services of trained, certified tax preparers to help you file your Federal and State tax returns quickly at no cost. Professional services will include FREE E-filing and direct deposit for filing returns. The goal of the Volunteer Income Tax Site:

- o Is to promote tax understanding and awareness
- o To prepare accurate tax returns free for qualified taxpayers, and
- o Encourage Financial Education and Asset Building (FEAB)through tax incentives,
- o Free tax preparation services to tax payers earning under \$49,000 in 2011.

Start Date: February 2, 2012

Scheduled Hours: Thursdays - 6:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Sundays - 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Location: Mount Aery Baptist Church - Libation Computer Center

Persons seeking Volunteer Opportunities should contact Brenda B. Seldon, Site Coordinator

To reserve your Space Call 203-540-5624 Monday-Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. or Call 211.

OUR VISION STATEMENT

To equip the disciples of Mount Aery Baptist Church with the biblical and relational wisdom for the spiritual, educational and social work of ministry beginning in the Hollow Section of Bridgeport, then spreading throughout the Greater Bridgeport Area.

Ephesians 4:11-12 and Acts 2:44-4-7

Hospitalization & Nursing Home

Please be aware that there are strict legal and ethical guidelines regarding giving out patient information. Therefore, if you are hospitalized and desire pastoral support, you or your family member must notify the church office in advance, if possible. When you are admitted, state your denomination and place of worship.

Please address all correspondences for the above disciples to the church and the administrative office will forward all mail. Thank you for your cooperation.

Susan Holmes

Arden House Care and Rehabilitation Center, 580 Mix Avenue, Hamden, CT 06514

Deaconess Queen Boone

Bridgeport Manor, 540 Bond Street, Bridgeport, CT 06610

Grover Gardner

Gardner Heights Nursing Health Care, 172 Rest Rock Road, Shelton, CT 06484

Bernice Adams, West Barnes, Leroy Wilson

Maefair Health Care Center, Maefair Court, Trumbull, CT 06611

Deaconess Okakue Brown, Bernice Geter

St. Joseph's Manor, 6448 Main Street, Trumbull, CT 06611

Phyllis Ennis, Lillian Ragsdale

St. Vincent's Medical Center, 2800 Main Street, Bridgeport, CT 06606

Bereavement

- JoAnn Slade lost her father, Willie Penix
- Frank Spinks lost her nephew, Keenan McRay of AltaVista, Virginia
- Millie Burton lost her granddaughter, Verna Mathis
- **Dorothy Williams** lost her cousin, Janie Williamson
- Rev. Imani Jones (Colin's wife) lost her father
- Vyola Parker lost her brother-in-law in Kennesaw, Georgia
- Ellen Upchurch lost her daughter
- Waverly Ragsdale lost her mother in law Geraldine Felder
- Mattie Johnson lost her sister Maxine Johnson-Tatten

Please Pray for Our Healing List

Deacon Brad Belcher

Maxine Boykin

Sandra Cameron

Delores Cox

Lester Dennis

Sally Gordon

Jeffrey Hill

Kenneth Knight

Eulalia Pettway

Juanita Sims

Mary Thigpen

Deaconess Anna Watkins

Cecelia Wilson

Please Pray for Our Prayer List

Clinnie Black

Isaiah Brown

Emmanuel Burton

Ruth Hasty-Dove

Harold Farrar

Lois Farrar

Deaconess Milla Green

Unice Jones

Barbara Macey

Regina Manns

Clyde McLaughlin

Carol Carter Mims

Michelle Porchia

Tanya Lazaro Young

Ministry Spotlight







Time is Now: Generation Next ~ Youth Ministry

by Malakhi RL Eason



Malakhi RL Eason

This year Mt Aery's "Generation Next" Youth Ministry has truly grown to be a youth-dependent operation. The goal of the ministry has always been to give the youth responsibility to help grow their independence as young adults in church. I can remember when I first came to the youth department. It was a task to get things together because I was the "new guy with flashy clothes". It was like pulling teeth. I learned to depend on prayer and my relationship with God to change the atmosphere. Reverend Anderson has been a huge help in my transition here at Mt Aery, stepping in as a leader, liaison, friend, and mom. She always says, "Everything is going to take time so don't give up". With her assistance, we put together a great Youth Church and Youth Retreat in the year 2011. Both had a very positive effect on the ministry, and if you weren't there, you missed out on a great time in worship and fun for the youth and adults alike.

I can now see clearly where the youth ministry is headed and where it will be in the near future. The youth are now hungry--not hungry for food that we eat by mouth, but hungry for the word of God, and it's evident in the way in which they walk, talk, and respond to worship. The drive that "Generation Next" has is going to be what starts the next movement in ministry, not only with the youth, but it will spread throughout the entire body of Christ.

This year, the Youth Retreat Committee has planned the best youth retreat that will ever hit the state of Connecticut! "I Declare War" is the theme and title of the retreat which is taken from II Timothy - 2:3-4, "You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier." Through the scripture, we will present various themes. We plan to have a skating party, dance show, live concerts, over-night stay, a play, and a community concert. This years' Youth Retreat promises to raise the bar for what's yet to come. I just feel blessed to be a part of a growing ministry with awesome direction. I envision the youth actually leading worship on Sunday in the sanctuary, sharing with the entire congregation. I know as long as we remain in prayer and continue to fast, God will reveal the perfect time for all things to come to pass.

I just want to say thank you to all the youth for helping me to become a positive role model, remaining transparent and focused on the major goals of listening, worshipping, and growing in the body of Christ, not allowing any distractions as we focus on the direction that Christ is leading us.



Tips for Allergy Sufferers

by Linda Mosely-Johnson, RN MSN MBA

Linda Mosely-Johnson, RN MSN MBA

Spring is here and so is the pollen...tips for you allergy sufferers!

More than 67 million Americans suffer from allergy symptoms. But, what are allergies?

An allergy is sensitivity to a foreign substance (called an allergen) that causes the body's immune system to overreact when defending itself.

Normally, the immune system would only react if a harmful substance, such as bacteria, attacks the body. For people with allergies, their immune system is working too hard, and it reacts even when harmless substances, such as pollen, are present. In addition, allergens can stimulate an immune response when you breathe in the allergen.

SYMPTOMS

The weather can play an important part for many allergy and hay fever sufferers. In the spring, high levels of tree and grass pollens cause symptoms. Allergy symptoms tend to be particularly high on windy days. On the other hand, rainy days can cause a drop in the pollen count.

An allergy may be confused with a common cold. Colds generally evolve, starting with a stuffy nose, throat irritation and low-grade fever, followed by sneezing and a runny nose with mucus production. Common allergy symptoms include sneezing, itchy eyes and nose. While colds usually last a week or two, allergy symptoms persist and can even get worst. Spring allergies can last six weeks or more.

DIAGNOSIS

If you've never been diagnosed with an allergy but noticed that your eyes and nose are itchy and runny during the spring months, see your doctor. The most common method doctors use to identify specific allergies is a skin test. By scratching the skin, or making an injection just underneath it, the doctor can observe your body's reaction to various allergens.

TREATMENT

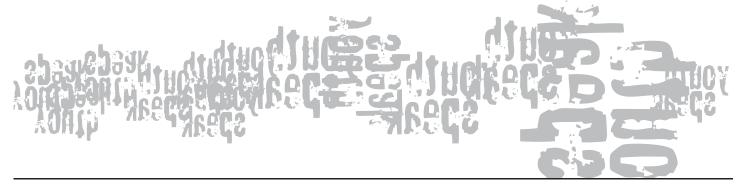
While there is still no cure for allergies (or hay fever), there are ways that you can diminish your symptoms. There are three types of treatments that can be used in combination:

- Avoidance of the allergen is essential to effective treatment of allergies. Although it is nearly impossible to completely avoid spring allergies, the weather forecast can provide valuable information about conditions that favor alerting your allergies. Being informed can lessen the suffering of your symptoms. Avoid going out during peak times. Pollen counts usually peak in the mornings. You can also use allergy devices in your home, such as air cleaners and air conditioners to help remove pollen and mold spores from the air. You also want to keep the filters on these devices clean.
- Immunotherapy (allergy shots) a series of shots that can expose you to small quantities of allergens to stimulate your immune system. The purpose of the shots is to build up your defense cells.
- Medication- some over-the-counter allergy drugs are effective for many people and include the following:
- Antihistamines to reduce sneezing, itching
- Decongestants- to clear nasal passageways
- Eye drops- to relieve itchy, watery eyes

Whatever OTC medications you decide to take, you should first consult your doctor. Try to control your symptoms and don't let your symptoms control you.



The day the youth sung was the day we knew our ministry was going to change for the better. Not only did we minister but we had fun with the song also, especially with the movements. It was overwhelming for me to see young people praise and shout the way we did. Some people think that we haven't been through enough issues or we don't know God the way they do but praise has NO age limit. Seeing my brothers and sisters in Christ shout made me also want to shout but I need a little more practice:). With the help of Malakhi, Min. Nakeya and the rest of the music ministry, they encouraged us to be at the point where we can praise and worship without being ashamed or scared of what people will say. As the song says, "He's ever shining in MY soul." We are truly a Chosen Generation.

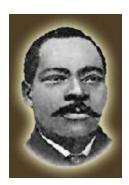


Black History Moment: Granville T. Woods

by Tonya N. Johnson

The magnitude of an inventors work can often be defined by the esteem in which he is held by fellow inventors. If this is the case, then Granville Woods was certainly a respected inventor as he was often referred to as the "Black Thomas Edison."

Granville Woods was born on April 23, 1856 in Columbus, Ohio. He spent his early years attending school until the age of 10 at which point he began working in a machine shop repairing railroad equipment and machinery. Intrigued by the electricity that powered the machinery, Woods studied other machine workers as they attended to different pieces of equipment and paid other workers to sit down and explain electrical concepts to him. Over the next few years, Woods moved around the country working on railroads and in steel rolling mills. This experience helped to prepare him for a formal education studying engineering (surprisingly, it is unknown exactly where he attended school but it is believed it was an eastern college.)



After two years of studying, Woods obtained a job as an engineer on a British steamship called the Ironsides. Two years later he obtained employment with D & S Railroads, driving a steam locomotive. Unfortunately, despite his high aptitude and valuable education and expertise, Woods was denied opportunities and promotions because of the color of his skin. Out of frustration and a desire to promote his

abilities, Woods, along with his brother Lyates, formed the Woods Railway Telegraph Company in 1884. The company manufactured and sold telephone, telegraph and electrical equipment. One of the early inventions from the company was an improved steam boiler furnace and this was followed up by an improved telephone transmitter which had superior clarity of sound and could provide for longer range of distance for transmission.

In 1885, Woods patented an apparatus which was a combination of a telephone and a telegraph. The device, which he called "telegraphony," would allow a telegraph station to send voice and telegraph messages over a single wire. The device was so successful that he later sold it to the American Bell Telephone Company. In 1987, Woods developed his most important invention to date - a device he called Synchronous Multiplex Railway Telegraph. A variation of the "induction telegraph," it allowed for messages to be sent from moving trains and railway stations. By allowing dispatchers to know the location of each train, it provided for greater safety and a decrease in railway accidents.

Granville Woods often had difficulties in enjoying his success as other inventors made claims to his devices. Thomas Edison made one of these claims, stating that he had first created a similar telegraph and that he was entitled to the patent for the device. Woods was twice successful in defending himself, proving that there were no other devices upon which he could have depended or relied upon to make his device. After the second defeat, Edison decided that it would be better to work with Granville Woods than against him and thus offered him a position with the Edison Company.

In 1892, Woods used his knowledge of electrical systems in creating a method of supplying electricity to a train without any exposed wires or secondary batteries. Approximately every 12 feet, electricity would be passed to the train as it passed over an iron block. He first demonstrated the device as an amusement apparatus at the Coney Island amusement park and while it amused patrons, it would be a novel approach towards making safer travel for trains.



Many of Woods inventions attempted to increase efficiency and safety railroad cars, Woods developed the concept of a third rail which would allow a train to receive more electricity while also encountering less friction. This concept is still used on subway train platforms in major cities in the United States.

Over the course of his life time Granville Woods would obtain more than 50 patents for inventions including an automatic brake and an egg incubator and for improvements to other inventions such as safety circuits, telegraph, telephone, and phonograph. When he died on January 30, 1910 in New York City he had become an admired and well respected inventor, having sold a number of his devices to such giants as Westinghouse, General Electric and American Engineering - more importantly the world knew him as the Black Thomas Edison.

Related Resources: www.blackinventor.com



There Was One! by G. Marshall McBroom

What if I never sinned?

What if I never gave in to selfish emotions?

What if my birth was conceived through Immaculate Conception and incurred none of the possible self-satisfying emotions or feelings that can happen between a man and a woman?

What if my entire life was given in mind, body and spirit to the devotion of helping others?

What if I never over indulged, never lied, never cheated, never became jealous, envious, hate filled or any of the numerous self-destructive emotions?

We now know how destructive these emotions can be to the human body. We also know how damming these negative emotions and actions can be to the human soul of any man or woman.

If all these "What ifs" were true, would I be able to realize my true power as a child of God? Would my thoughts soar far beyond this mortal world, such that I would not be bound by self-interest, selfish thought, self-loathing, or any such self centered state of being?

Could I tap into the part of my being that is God like?

Could I love without expectation of anything in return?

Could I give without seeking reciprocity? Could I forgive without remorse?

Could I return to the state of man similar to his condition in the Garden of Eden?

Could there be such a man?

And if that man died what would happen to his soul?

And what would that mean to us?

What are the metaphysical ramifications of such a death?

Yes there could, and yes there was such a man, his name was Jesus of Nazareth.

To answer these questions we must go back a few thousand years to dissect God's plan. From our present day vantage point

we have new insight, which will help us to understand God's divine plan.

In the life of Jesus Christ, God was able to shape a man without sin, without self-destructive faults, without bad habits that destroy the body, the mind or the spirit.

It is purely conjecture, but this lifestyle may also partly explain why Jesus' body did not see decay while in the tomb.

It is also true that the resurrection of Jesus is a central tenet of Christian Faith Theology and part of the Nicene Creed, and that Christians view the resurrection of Jesus as part of the plan of salvation and redemption.

The Book of Revelation quotes Jesus as saying to one who saw him after the resurrection. "Do not be afraid, I am the first and the last, I am the living one; I was dead (Greek: egonomen nekros), and behold I am alive forever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.

Peter states, for Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the spirit.

Simply put for man death came because of what a man did. Rising from the dead also comes because of what a man did.

Because of Adam, all people die. So because of Christ all will be made alive.

In North Africa, Saint Augustine strongly argued that given that Christ has risen, there is resurrection of the dead. Moreover he argued that the death and resurrection of Jesus was for the salvation of man, stating. "To achieve each resurrection of ours, the savior paid with his single life, and he pre-enacted and presented his one and only one by way of sacrament and by way of model."

The words spoken to Thomas by Jesus also instruct our behavior. Jesus said to Thomas who initially did not believe until Jesus instructed him to touch his wounds.

"Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed".

Theological Significance:

In Christian theology the resurrection of Jesus is a foundation of Christian faith.

Christians through faith in the working of God are spiritually resurrected with Jesus, and are redeemed so that they may walk in a new way of life.

The death and resurrection of Jesus are the most important events in Christian theology. They form the point in scripture where Jesus gives his ultimate demonstration that he has power over life and death, thus he has the ability to give people eternal life.

Paul taught that the resurrection is seen as heralding a new era. Paul also explained the importance of the resurrection of Jesus as the cause and basis of hope of Christians to share a similar experience in 1 Corinthians 15:20-22.

As the cross stands at the center of Paul's theology so does the resurrection; unless the one died the death of all, the all would have little to celebrate in the resurrection of the one.

Paul taught that just as Christians share in Jesus' death in baptism, so they will share in his resurrection.

Noteworthy Quotes about the Resurrection:

Here is a letter written to a local advice column along with the response:

"Dear Eutychus: Our preacher said, on Easter, that Jesus just swooned on the cross and that the disciples nursed Him back to health. What do you think? Sincerely, Bewildered

Dear Bewildered: Beat your preacher with a cat-of-nine-tails with 39 heavy strokes, nail him to a cross; hang him in the sun for 6 hours; run a spear through his heart; embalm him; put him in an airless tomb for 36 hours and see what happens. Sincerely, Eutychus"

The resurrection of Jesus Christ is the greatest and most exciting triumph of all time. Many sports teams win on the last play of the game. But Jesus' victory was more dramatic. He did not win in the "last second"

- Jesus won the victory three days after the game was over

I know men; and I tell you that Jesus Christ is no mere man. Between Him and every other person in the world there is no possible term of comparison. Alexander, Caesar, Charlemagne, and I have founded empires. But on what did we rest the creations of our genius? Upon force! Jesus Christ founded His Empire upon love; and at this hour millions of men would die for Him. – French Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte

Jesus is the God whom we can approach without pride and before whom we can humble ourselves without despair. – Blaise Pascal

As a child I received instruction both in the Bible and in the Talmud. I am a Jew, but I am enthralled by the luminous figure of the Nazarene....No one can read the Gospels without feeling the actual presence of Jesus. His personality pulsates in every word. No myth is filled with such life. – Albert Einstein

A man who was completely innocent, offered himself as a sacrifice for the good of others, including his enemies, and became the ransom of the world. It was a perfect act. – Mahatma Gandhi

Jesus of Nazareth, without money and arms, conquered more millions than Alexander the Great, Caesar, Mohammed, and Napoleon; without science and learning, he shed more light on things human and divine than all philosophers and scholars combined; without the eloquence of school, he spoke such words of life as were never spoken before or since, and produced effects which lie beyond the reach of orator or poet; without writing a single line, he set more pens in motion, and furnished themes for more sermons, orations, discussions, learned volumes, works of art, and songs of praise than the whole army of great men of ancient and modern times. – Philip Schaff

Resources:

- 1. Resurrection of Jesus Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia.
- 2012 Great Commission Churches Designed by Cramer Dev. Powered by Markup Factory CMS
- Quotes on the Resurrection 7 Historical Jesus Compassion in Politics: Christian Social Entrepreneurship, Education Innovation & Base of the Pyramid/BOP Solutions

generalNEWS

Generation Next's 2nd Annual Ski Trip:

What a Great Time!! by Deja Seawright













On February 20, 2012, President's Day, approximately 50 or more adults, teens, and children of Mount Aery Baptist Church, attended the second annual Ski trip to Mohawk Mountain in Cornwall, CT. This was my firsthand experience of hitting the slopes, literally. The ride was about an hour there and back. During the ride we saw wonderful scenery of horses and cows and



Deja Seawright

farms. When we arrived, we went to the lodge and geared up for our lessons. I came to realize that the snow was artificial, but the experience was just as real. You could ski, snowboard or stay in the lodge. I chose to ski, and reported to my beginner class to learn the basics; how to turn and speed up when on the slopes. We had to go downstairs to receive our ski or snowboarding boots and ski's and exited through a door that led us straight to our lessons. Lessons lasted for an hour for the teens and two hour lessons for kids. Although I fell once I felt ready for the challenge of hitting the slopes and the ski lift. The ski lift was terrifying at first, but the most difficult part, as expected, was hitting the slopes. Going down the hill, I felt the wind thrashing against my face and tears rolling down my cheeks. I skied for a couple hours then went to the ski lounge because I had worked up quite an appetite. After I finished eating I went outside again and raced against fellow Mount Aery friends down the slopes. Before I knew it we had to change out of our gear and return our skis and snowboards and reload onto the bus. On the bus ride home, we talked and bonded and hoped that there could be a third annual ski trip, and who knows I might even snowboard!







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The 5th Annual Carter G. Woodson Awards Luncheon: A.A.H.A. Honors a "Major Man" of God

by DIT Kathy Tabb-Smalls

The Discovery Museum of Bridgeport, CT hosted The 5th Annual Carter G. Woodson Awards Luncheon presented by the African-American Historical Association of Fairfield County (A.A.H.A.) on Saturday, February 25, 2012, and the Angel of this house, **Dr. Anthony L. Bennett, D.Min.**, was one of the distinguished honorees, along with Rev. Kevin D. Ginyard, Walter Luckett, Scott A. Hughes, and Michael Askew.

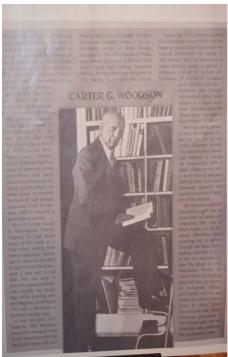
"In short, the AAHA of Fairfield County is dedicated to the ideal of celebrating, commemorating and empowering people of color throughout the world, with a special focus upon the rich cultural contributions of people of color in the American Northeast (with a particular emphasis upon the genealogical, sociological and ideological timelines of men and women of color in the State of Connecticut – the only state in America extolled as the "Constitution State" – since the 17th Century)."

The event included a delicious buffet lunch catered by Whisso Caterers. Afterwards our very own Shante Hanks, on behalf of the office of Congressman Jim Himes, presented the award recipients with a special citation acknowledging their diligent work in the community.

Mt. Aery, this again, is a reminder that we are blessed to be lead by a "Major Man" of God who is recognized in the Bridgeport community and beyond. Let us continue to cover him in prayer, support his vision, and undergird him in all areas of his life.

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Resources: www.aahact.org











generalNEWS

Emerging Voices: A Thought Provoking Performance

by Deacon Annette Febres

Emerging voices 2012 was a series of three short vignettes that brought to life critical time periods for African Americans within America's History, as written and directed by Rev. Ina Alisa Anderson. This year's stories were contemporary and yet historical. For the first time a portion of the production was shared outside of Mount Aery. Our youth expressed their opinions on events that affect their lives and how "education reform", on their behalf, has helped or hindered their outlook on what the future might hold for them.

In this production we were reminded of our greatness and who we are as a community of people. James Brown's song "Say It Loud, I'm Black and I'm Proud" filled the sanctuary setting the stage for our young people to be reminiscent of why we are black and proud. Doing a roll call of people who have paved the way for us....Harriet Tubman, Fredrick Douglass, Nat Turner, Sojourn Truth, Mary McLeod Bethune, Madam C.J. Walker, WEB DeBois and the list goes on and on. We come from greatness and have greatness in each of us.

The brothers shared through a segment entitled "Man Talk" which was portrayed as a radio talk show from Black men to Black men on the issues they still undergo as men and how to be empowered within their communities. Deacon C.J. Adetona led the discussion with Deacons Brad Belcher, Luis Febres and Terrance Vermont. We are looking forward to more "Man Talk" in the days to come.

Our Sisters shared through "The Women's Expression of Black Pain." The sisters shared the thoughts, feelings and issues that Black women try to uphold in the midst of myths. Wearing masks to disguise what they were really feeling in the midst of their Black pain.

Throughout the production the soundtrack back drop was flavored by sounds of the sixties and seventies; an era when music was filled with hope and promise. Songs like Living Just Enough for the City – Stevie Wonder; Say It Loud, I'm Black and I'm Proud – James Brown; Super Fly – Curtis Mayfield; Oh How I wish It would Rain – Temptations; I Told Jesus – Roberta Flack; Keep your Head to the Sky – Earth, Wind and Fire to name a few. All had a social consciousness as well as a political consciousness. As one of our senior saints, Eartha Foster stated, "it is unfortunate that more seniors are not here tonight to relive the music of our day, when music was music with a positive and strong message".

This production was thought provoking, informative and well received.



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Leadership Training - Friday Event:Recasting the Vision Much Prayer = Much Power

by Arikeade~

On the evening of Friday March 9, 2012 the Mount Aery leadership gathered to affirm a call to action of "Recasting the Vision." This charge can be expressed by the very quote taken from The 5 Star Church (Toler.S., Nelson, S.) "The 5 star reveals how you can pursue Christian excellence and uphold the Lord's command to honor one another above yourselves" (Romans 12:10). Implementing the tools, tips, and inspiration needed to move forward as Servant leaders of progression and significant measure is the layout expected to guide this timeless endeavor. Mount Aery leaders will participate in a mandatory 16 week training beginning March 13, 2012 to develop the re-construction of Mount Aery Leadership. This is the season of transformation and transition and greater things are in store for the Mount Aery family to the hollow section of Bridgeport and beyond. God is moving in the process of change and as Minister Nancy Kingwood-Small eloquently stated, "We must know what we are striving to do as leaders in development; in the process of *Recasting the Vision*."

This was a charge set before Mount Aery leadership and we were embraced by the sweet spirit of the Lord. The essence of worship took over like a delicate cloth of Glory; we began to sing. With hands lifted in total praise, willing spirits looked to the hills while singing "Lord I Love You." A realm of word was given that re-sounded the thought "Help I'm A Weak Strong Man." What a delight it was to acknowledge the weight and truth of the fellow brother man; as a woman and wife even I had to repent. This was a word for the men and something for us sisters to consider. Pastor Jamal Nelson illustrates the word of God with intense passion and conviction (Reading Judges 16:21). Pastor Jamal Nelson magnified God's word with a promise to the faithful, "The war is intensive because I am pulling the intensity out of you. War pulls out the warrior in you and you feel like you're in a fight for your life, PUSH! Some of the greatest victories as a man will come when you're willing to die to self." Pastor Jamal Nelson words of profound reflection and injection of biblical resolution was after the heart of a man.

The evening was concluded with the illustration of the significant struggle of a butterfly before fleeing its cocoon. Just like a butterfly the Mount Aery family comes in a variety of sizes. Butterflies average life span is maximum 40 days, and butterflies undergo a series of physical transformations known as metamorphosis (change). The eggs can hatch in a few days, or within months or even years, depending on whether or not conditions are right.

The butterfly has long been a Christian symbol of resurrection, for it disappears into a cocoon and appears dead, but emerges later far more beautiful and powerful than before.

So will it be with the resurrection of the dead. The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable; it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. (1 Corinthians 15:42-44)



Our Lenten Fast to God for 2012 is encouraged as a congregational effort to commit ourselves to studying the word of God, becoming disciplined financial stewards and tithers, and engaging in a deeper level of prayer in partnership for greater ministry. Join the 40 days of Lenten Prayer daily from 7:00 am to 7:10 am from 2/22/12-4/8/12. The conference call prayer agenda is located in the Narthex Carousel and designed under the leadership of Reverend Alicia Tyson-Sherwood.

Spiritual fasting is not just about giving up food or other items, but is about feeding the spirit through our obedience to God. My prayer brothers and sisters is that you will be inspired with an understanding of the act of fasting. It will help you grow closer to God as you pray and focus; emerging later far more beautiful and powerful than before. Mount Aery, the best is yet to come!

Peace, Love, & Light ~



Bro. Powell



Rev. Nelson

generalNEWS ______

Usher's Banquet: Honoring the Doorkeepers

by Henry C. Smalls, Jr.

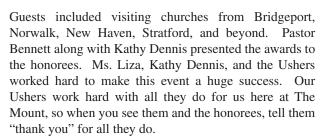






Saturday, March 10, 2012, the Ushers honored a few of their own at a great banquet, thanking the honorees for all they do for the Usher Ministry, Mt. Aery, and the community at large. The Honorees were Dolores "Lois" Hudson, Alice Lee, Nell Pettway, Kathy Tabb-Smalls, and Vance Hudson. "Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere; I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked" Psalms 84:10 NIV. This was such a fitting scripture that accompanied the beautiful Program/Patron booklet created by Deacon Annette Febres.

Rev. Ina Lisa Anderson was the Mistress of Ceremony and she provided humor when she spoke of how "if you attend Mt. Aery, one thing you will find is, you can sit anywhere, but don't you dare think about sitting in the last pew in the back of the church—there are three people who will always have a guaranteed seat in Mt. Aery: The Pastor, the Choir (in the choir loft), and the Ushers! (in the last pew in the back of church)." A good time was had by all with good food provided by D.B. Catering, and plenty of laughter provided by Rev. Anderson and Pastor Bennett.

















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Men's Weekend: Come Forth Larazus

by Gregory McBroom

The weekend of March 16th, 17th, & 18th 2012 was a resounding success for the men and young men who participated in Mt Aery's Men's Weekend program.

That same sentiment was vehemently expressed by countless members of the congregation who were able to witness, participate and enjoy the culmination of the weekend at Sunday's church services at 7:45 am and 11:00 am.

Although there were several adjustments, which had to be made on the spot, the overall outcome was well received and gave the Mt Aery Men the opportunity to show their appreciation to the pastor, the church staff, and the congregation.

I must also emphasize that this was in no way a one-way experience in that the pastor, the church staff and the congregation showed their appreciation to the Men of Mt Aery through celebration of song and praise.

I will not seek to chronicle the events of the weekend; the photographs speak volumes and exhibit more than words can ever say. I will however say that each man gave of himself unselfishly and wholeheartedly without need or desire for reward or gratitude. I truly believe that the men of Mt Aery were all standouts and each one served to reach someone in a special and unique way.

As we stated many times over the weekend, the events of Friday, Saturday and Sunday were meant to be a catalyst for the much needed resurrection of men at Mt Aery and the community at large. We intend to and are planning to initiate follow-up events and programs to keep men motivated and engaged.

Lazarus come forth, you have been called by name.







generalNEWS

Men's Weekend: Come Forth Larazus continues































A Matter of Principles by Bridget Franklin





NGUZO

SABA

The third day of Kwanzaa celebrates
Ujima – Collective Work and Responsibility

Investing collectively in our family's and community's well-being, and working in mutual beneficial way to create the best conditions and possibilities of life for everyone

Collective work and responsibility is a powerful force in the construction of family and community, and in healthy development of children. This principle instructs that we are all responsible for the welfare and success of each other. All adults, for example, are responsible for the welfare of the community and for the nurturing and development of children. Similarly, all adults are responsible and accountable for the success and failure of neighborhood schools and the safety of the community. Neighborhood safety is most definitively grounded in a network of caring adults who monitor the behavior and skills acquisition, i.e., education of children in the neighborhood. Hence, as indicated above, collective work and responsibility is a powerful and transformative value, which if observed by critical mass of neighborhood residents, would have the effect of raising our neighborhoods to a level capable of producing persons of moral, academic, and professional excellence.

APRIL2012Birthdays

April 1st

Cruz-Junes, Zenaida Hovanec, Tyisha Jackson, Willie Johnson, Debra Riddick, Lillian

April 2nd

Deshields, Lawrence Gary-Jackson, Arnethia Junes, Jerry Smith, James A. Stackhouse, Michael White, Jean Williams, Tanisha Woods, Marie

April 3rd

Adams, Virginia Johnson, Raquon Santiago, Matilda Smith, Lola Stewart, Rachel Tyson, Dyllan

April 4th

Glover, David Jones, Virginia Jones-Mendenhall, Lisa King, Dwain Moreland, Roxanne Riley, Melvin Salmon, Verona Simmons, Linda Starling, Janeen Turkvan, Alessandria Underwood, Raymond

April 5th

Black, Lawanda Boyd, Thomas Dixon, Shaun Edwards, Gina Graham, Lakisha Hardison, Freeman Mosley, Isaac Nolen, Lisa Oliver, Wilton Thomas, Carole Torres, Trevis

April 6th

Alers, Dawn Dowell, Christopher Griffin, Annie Guiles, Evon Johnson, Amos McGhee, Carol McGhee-Maxwell, Carol B. Mercer, Lyndon Offet, Reginald Taylor, Jack Turner, Dale

April 7th

Hall, Mildred Jackson, Robert Lanham, Robin Morrow, Kawana Newson, Ruth Taylor, Justin Walton, Latasia

April 8th

Fields, Madiline Harrell, Gilda Johnson, Wesley Jones, Quinton Robinson, Danalyn Sharpe, Audrey Thomas, Osborne

April 9th

Domond, Erica Eady, Marlene Lesperance, Soledad Riddick, Vonte Williams, DuQuaye

April 10th

Bond-Maxwell, Chandra Douthit, Charles McKenzie, Roger Richburg, Dale Rochester, Ann Marie Sargent-Dunbar, Dontre' Simpson, Malek

April 11th

Failey, Esau Jones, Matt Lazaro, Marguerite Lynch, Louise McDowell, Michael Piper, Shalepia Sims, Vaughn

April 12th

Brown, Charles Davis, Jovan Elliott, Tyronda Johnson, Glenwood Pratt, Edward Sloan, Pamela

April 13th Gibbs, Minery

Gibbs, Minerva Hill, Andrea Lopez, Carole Walden, Terry

April 14th

Cauthen, Lucille Davis, Veronica Freeman, James Haggans, Leroy Kendricks, Opel Lazarus, Diane Lazarus, Diane Timmons, Jessie

April 15th

Bailey, Beryl Digman, Bonnie Jenkins, Robert Jones, Loretta Reeder, Nathaniel Thomas, Lizzie

April 16th

Baldwin, Betty Johnson, Jenetta

April 17th

Blank, Beverly Bryan, Volney Cameron, Paul Grant, Curtis Johnson, Madonna Osuna Lofton, Sonia Timmons, Karyn Trofort, Naomie Wilson, Liisha

April 18th

Alcino, Rishon Anderson, Robert Barr, Audra Cathey, Reginald Cooper, Corbin Fleming, Glenn Gee, James Gist, Rodney Lowe, Margie Santos, Demetria Stewart, Harry

April 19th

Cole, Herman Farrar, Kenneth Fogle, Henry Hanna, Alice Harper, Deshawn Walker, Chelsea Wiggins, Evelyn

April 20th

Adetona, Maguena Cox, Dolores Dotson, Felicia Gibbs, Cecil Hudson, Laura Jackson, Melanie Leger, Rony McArthur, Shirley Pettway, Cloretta Williams, Rhoda

April 21st

Adetona, Cornelius Barrett-Gordon, Michelle Bradley, Trina Scott, Howard Thompson-Bennett, Donna

April 22nd

Edwards, Janay Ferguson, Shelby Green, Jodi Wesley, Daniels Wilson, Louella Yancey, Annette

April 23rd

Caple, Lori Gause, James Gipson, Ramon Johnson, James Morey, David Porchia, Brianna

April 24th

Edwards, Derrick Freeman, James C. Jordan, Ashirah Norris, Lester Ann Thomas, Loretta

April 25th

Azeez, Jay Bradley, Barbara Day-Johnson, Edna Dias, Dorothy Green, Gracie Jean-Baptiste, Eddyne

April 26th

Barton, Matthew Boyd, Rhonda Coles, Keya Jones, Rosie Logan, Christine Tomlin, Lula Winding, Roosevelt

April 27th

Allen, Wilton
Antoine, Susan
Hall-Gibbons, Tre
McAllister, Jakea
Squire, Victor
Thomas-Washington,
Shahidah
Tyson, Cindy

April 28th

Alexandre, Huguette Baldwin, Eugene DeValda, LaVada Etienne, Patrick Heath, TaShawn James, Mecca Jones, Annie Swilling, Steven

April 29th

Craig, Traci Jennings, Kathy Maignan, Cynthia

April 30th

Ayers-Paulin, Stacey Freeman, William Hill, Evelyn Honorat-Joseph, Marjorie Hough, Louise Irby, Tonya Pugh, Monique Wright, Willie Mae Young, Gary

April 2012

Saturday	8:30 AM Men's Ministry Meeting 12:30 PM Interpreters 12:30 PM Mass Choir Rehearsal 1:00 PM Missionary Ministry Meeting 1:30 PM Couples Ministry Meeting 3:00 PM Praise Dance Rehearsal - Maguena	74 8:30 AM Men's Ministry Meeting 12:30 PM Male Chorus Rehearsal 13:15 PM Youth Ministry - Project Right Here 3:00 PM Baby Shower (Freeman)	8:30 AM Men's Ministry Meeting 9:00 AM New Disciples Ministry 12:30 PM Chosen Generation Reheasal 12:30 PM Interpreters	8.30 AM Men's Ministry Meeting 8.30 AM Men's Ministry Meeting 9.00 AM Health Fair 12.30 PM Mass Choir Rehearsal 3.300 PM Baptism Perparation Class 6.00 PM Pastor Williams & Family Farewell Dimer		
Friday	Good Friday	13	20	27		
Thursday	6:30 PM Praise Dance Rehearsal 6:30 PM REFUGE 7:30 PM Mass Choir Rehearsal	6:30 PM Deacons Ministry 6:30 PM REFUGE 7:00 PM Senior Ushers Meeting 7:30 PM Male Chorus Rehearsal	19 6:30 PM REFUGE 7:30 PM Chosen Generation Rehearsal	26 6:00 PM Baptism Preparation Class 6:30 PM REPUGE 7:30 PM SAW Book Club		
Wednesday	4 12:00 PM Daytime Bible Study	1200 PM Daytime Bible Study 5:30 PM Payer Ministry 6:30 PM Jeaus Comer 6:30 PM PLU/G 6:45 PM Bible Study	12:00 PM Daytime Bible Study 5:30 PM Partyer Ministry 6:30 PM Jesus Comer 6:30 PM PLLUG 6:45 PM Bible Study	1250 PM Daytime Bible Study 5:30 PM Payer Ministry 6:30 PM Jeast Coner 6:30 PM PLU/G 6:45 PM Bible Study		
Tuesday	3.7:30 PM Praise Team Rehearsal	6:00 PM Leadership Develop 6:00 PM Leadership Develop 7:30 PM Martial Arts CT 7:30 PM Praise Team Rehearsal 7:30 PM Trustees Ministry	47 6:00 PM Leadership Develop Mandatory Training 7:30 PM AIDS Ministry Meeting 7:30 PM MA.A.Y.A. Ministry Meeting 7:30 PM Martial Arts CT 7:30 PM Praise Team Rehearsal	54 6:00 PM Leadership Develop 7:30 PM Martial Arts CT 7:30 PM Praise Team Rehearsal		
Monday	2	6:30 PM Fellowship Ministry Meeting 6:30 PM Spiritual Gifts	16	23	30	
Sunday	7-45 AM Worship Celebration 9-45 AM Worship Celebration 9-45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Celebration 1:00 PM Olinec Store 1:00 PM Tax Preparation	7:45 AM Resurrection Worship Czelbardion 9:45 AM Olmce Bookstore 9:45 AM Olmce Bookstore 19:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Resurrection Worship Celebration Celebration 10:00 PM Olmce Store 1:00 PM Olmce Store 1:00 PM Tax Preparation	15 7.45 AM Worship Celebration 9.45 AM Olmee Bookstore 9.45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Celebration 11:00 AM Youth Church 1:00 PM Olmee Store 1:00 PM Tax Preparation	7-45 AM Worship Celebration 9-45 AM Onnee Bookstone 9-45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Celebration 1:00 PM Olmee Store	7-45 AM Worship Celebration 9-45 AM Worship Celebration 9-45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Celebration 11:00 PM Olmee Store 1:00 PM Tax Preparation	
From The Mount - vol.37 April 2012						

^{**} Church Calendar is subject to change daily. Please be certain to read all media from the church to keep you updated. **

Fellowship Fishing Trip to Hyannis, MA





Saturday, May 19, 2012

9:00 A.M. (Bus will depart from Mt. Aery) Time:

\$50 non-refundable deposit by March 27th; final pymt May 8th Cost: \$105.00 (Price incl. trans, boat, rod and bait)

For info contact: Bro. David Greatheart (203) 933-3917 Church Office (203) 334-2757

Porgies Black Fish

Sea Bass

Mt. Aery Baptist Church Men's Fellowship 73 Frank St. Bridgeport, CT



REACH Bridgeport 2020

Invites community members to participate in

Advocacy Training

Working to get better food in your neighborhood

Thursday, April 19th 2012

RALPHOLA TAYLOR COMMUNITY CENTER

5:30 to 8:00 PM

Dinner provided so please rsvp by April 12th.

Learn how to get things done to make the East End of Bridgeport a better place!

Presented by: Marilyn Moore, Witness Project CT & REACH 2020

Space limited sign up now at rgoodwp@aol.com or Call us at 203-367-4432.