

MESSAGE

from the Mount

Volume 28



*Celebrating Family by
Honoring Fathers and Sons*



The Pastor's Pen

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Namaste my Brothers and Sisters in Christ!

It is with the joy of the Lord that I celebrate this month of July with you. As many within our congregation prepare for summer vacation, we mark the activities of June as we prepare for the activities of July and August.

In June, we had a powerful and anointed time at our Pre Father's Day concert featuring Deon Kipping, Kevin Levar and LaShun Pace. Each artist blessed us beyond words. We also had a wonderful Father's Day Service and Child Dedication ceremony. It was an honor and privilege to share liturgical praise dance with the men and young men of this congregation. Thank God I made it through. (Lol!) June was also the month that we, as a congregation, said a physical goodbye to Rev. Joanna V. Oliver. Although we will miss her dearly, we celebrate her life and contribution not only to the Mount Aery Church Family but also to the greater Bridgeport Community. She was indeed a soldier for the Lord on behalf of children.

We also had a powerful time with our Youth and Young Adult Retreat. Dozens of young people from Mount Aery joined with a number of youth and young adults of other congregations to engage the theme The Conversion. This year's retreat helped them focus not only on their conversion in faith but also how that conversion in faith can impact their family and their futures. I would like to thank Rev. Ina A. "Lisa" Anderson, Brother R. L. "Malakhi" Eason, coordinators and any and everyone who had anything to do with such a powerful weekend.

Finally, the month of June culminated the two-month stretch of local and state wide graduations experienced by the members and their families of our congregation. To our graduates: we celebrate your accomplishment and look forward to you using your accomplishment as a stepping stone to even greater service and achievement.

As we prepare for the activities in the month of July, we pause to thank God for our 17 year partnership of Pastor and People of Mount Aery. We have had many celebrations as well as some challenges and yet through it all God has been faithful to both Pastor and People. I wish to thank all of the leaders, officers, staff and prayer intercessors of Mount Aery who have helped to shape, nurture and protect this partnership over these 17 years. Only God knows what He has in store for the Pastor and People of the Mount Aery Baptist Church but the best is yet to come.

To celebrate our 17 year partnership, Minister Eli Wilson from Orlando, Florida and Pastor T J Thomas from Toledo, Ohio will come to encourage, inspire and challenge us to appreciate our partnership and to enhance our partnership for this community has been blessed because of the Pastor and People of Mount Aery Baptist Church. Please come and celebrate with us.

Following our 17th pastoral anniversary, the Missionary and Prayer Ministries will lead us in our Annual Prayer Breakfast on Saturday, July 16th at 8 am. We are also in preparation of our Annual Friends and Family Day Church Outing on Sunday, August 28th. We pray that every disciple will come and join in and celebrate these events with us.

God bless you,

Pastor Anthony Bennett

Pastor Anthony L. Bennett, D. Min. - Senior Pastor



Editor's Desk

God has been
good to us.

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Namaste MFTM Readers,

Lord, Thank you for all you do for us every day, by giving us health and strength to grow stronger in your word. Help us to be more like you every day. We thank you Lord. Amen.

Congratulations to all of our graduates! May the future be bright for you and your family. Safe travels to all of you heading off to college, in and out of state.

As we head into these summer months, let's keep an eye on our wingman, keep ourselves hydrated, and make the best of our time spent with family and friends during vacations and all the outings we will be attending.

The Mount is a buzz with the completion of our Pre-Father's Day concert and the Youth Retreat. As always, no one does it better than The Mount at putting together quality programs and being a professional team of powerful witnesses. Thanks to everyone who helped and supported these extraordinary events.

Note to my Brothers: This year for Father's Day, my children did not buy me a card, a tie, or a box of candy that I really didn't need anyhow. They created an electronic slide show for me, touching on different parts of my life and all the things that I do for and with them. But this one slide in particular has made a lasting impression on me. This slide is a split screen which, on one side, shows the dad leaving for work, dressed in the traditional suit and necktie, carrying a briefcase. The other half of the slide shows how the starry-eyed child sees the dad as he leaves for work—dressed in a superman outfit, including the cape and a huge "S" on his chest! Guys, just a little nugget to take on this journey with you: You may think you go unnoticed for all you do for your children, family, and friends, but rest assured that God sees you and everyone else, especially our children, see all you do. So remember, before you leave the house every day, reach back and grab your cape and place that "S" on your chest and just keep it moving.

God Bless Pastor Bennett and his family for another year of teaching and growing this ministry, making the Mount a place where everyone feels welcome and allowing us to grow as a people in the word of Jesus the Christ. Pastor is the best and he continues to bring us the best because in his eyes, we are the best. Pastor Bennett, thank you and may God bless you with many more years here doing what you do best!

God Bless. Be Well!

Henry C. Smalls, Jr. - Director of Operations

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The Dog Days of Summer or Hot Fun in the Summer Time

by Michelle Porchia

By the time this article is printed summer will be here. I know it feels like summer has already visited us a few times. Here are some things to think about as you prepare to enjoy your summer:

- We need to schedule time for ourselves. It's easy to over commit ourselves i.e., attending cookouts, pool parties, sports events, community concerts, family reunions, etc. We need to pace ourselves as we schedule events. Whereas most of these events seem like fun, they can cause stress if you feel you are constantly on the go, having to cook, clean, pack up the kids, dealing with different personalities, etc. So space events out and take time to enjoy time with yourself and your family.
- Eat healthy. It is so easy to want to eat ice cream, drink sweet tea, eat ball park and/or movie theater food (hot dogs, cracker jacks, gigantic sodas, nachos, etc.). These items are not good for you, will pack on the pounds before you know it and will also make you sluggish. Summer is the best and easiest time to eat healthy and inexpensively. Fresh fruits and vegetables are in abundance and you can go to your local community market or farmers market and get them fresh from the farmer and at a lower price than the store. (Don't over indulge on fruit. Though it is natural sugar, it is still sugar.) You can grow your own vegetables and herbs as well. You don't need a yard to do this. You can grow herbs and some vegetables in window boxes and regular planters.
- Drink Water: It is important to stay hydrated during the summer. You lose a lot of water from your body through perspiration. Sugary drinks do not quench your thirst. They actually make you crave more to drink...water is what you need. During the summer you need to drink more water than you normally drink.
- Enjoy Nature: We have such lush greenery because of the rain. Enjoy the greenery. Go to the park. Go to the beach at night and enjoy the energy from the water. Go hiking (yes, try something new and move your body.)
- Move Your Body: I know the temptation is to just sit and try to stay cool. You really need to move your body. Walk, swim, ride bikes, roller skate, hula hoop (You can do this in your living room.), sign up for a Zumba class. These are things you can do as a family or on your own. Remember to drink water.
- Plan a "Staycation": Times are tough. It doesn't mean you can't enjoy your time off. There are many free concerts and community events. This is a great time to enjoy entertainment for free and spend time with family and friends or with you. Explore new places. Expose your children, nieces, nephews, etc. to new experiences.



Michelle Porchia

Times may be tough; it doesn't mean you can't have a great summer. You can enjoy this summer for little or no money, improve your health and improve your relationships. "It's summer and the night is young. The possibilities are endless"



Bringing more humor and laughter into your life

Researched by: Deacon Frederick Neilsen

Laughter is your birthright, a natural part of life that is innate and inborn. Infants begin smiling during the first weeks of life and laugh out loud within months of being born. Even if you did not grow up in a household where laughter was a common sound, you can learn to laugh at any stage of life.

Begin by setting aside special times to seek out humor and laughter, as you might with working out, and build from there. Eventually, you'll want to incorporate humor and laughter into the fabric of your life, finding it naturally in everything you do.

Here are some ways to start:

- Smile. Smiling is the beginning of laughter. Like laughter, it's contagious. Pioneers in "laugh therapy," find it's possible to laugh without even experiencing a funny event. The same holds for smiling. When you look at someone or see something even mildly pleasing, practice smiling.
- Count your blessings. Literally make a list. The simple act of considering the good things in your life will distance you from negative thoughts that are a barrier to humor and laughter. When in a state of sadness, we have further to travel to get to humor and laughter.
- When you hear laughter, move toward it. Sometimes humor and laughter are private, a shared joke among a small group, but usually not. More often, people are very happy to share something funny because it gives them an opportunity to laugh again and feed off the humor you find in it. When you hear laughter, seek it out and ask, "What's funny?"
- Spend time with fun, playful people. These are people who laugh easily—both at themselves and at life's absurdities—and who routinely find the humor in everyday events. Their playful point of view and laughter are contagious.
- Bring humor into conversations. Ask people, "What's the funniest thing that happened to you today? This week? or In your life?" You would be surprised at the funny stories you'd hear.

Creating opportunities to laugh

- Watch a funny movie or TV show.
- Go to a comedy club.
- Read the funny pages.
- Seek out funny people.
- Share a good joke or a funny story.
- Check out your bookstore's humor section.
- Host game night with friends.
- Play with a pet.
- Go to a "laughter yoga" class.
- Goof around with children.
- Do something silly.
- Make time for fun activities (e.g. bowling, miniature golfing, karaoke or a Comedy Show (July 9th, at 8:00 PM right here at Mt. Aery Baptist Church, see the flyer on the back cover).

WHAT'S NEXT?

Important Dates

Sisters at the Well Book Club

Next meeting will be held the second Tuesday of the month. We will gather in the Narthex at 6:30 pm

Pastor's Anniversary Renewal is being held Friday, July 8th at 6:00 pm in the Bass Hall. More information will be available in the Narthex.

Pastor's 17th Anniversary is July 10th during both worship services, Pastor TJ Thomas and Min. Eli Wilson will be our special guest. For biography information please see the next page.

Spiritual Gifts

What are Spiritual Gifts?

Spiritual Gifts are special abilities given by the Holy Spirit and distributed to every believer according to God's design and grace for the common good of the body of Christ.

Why does Mount Aery use Spiritual Gifts?

- They are for the building of the Body of Christ.
- They show us as individuals how we can make our unique contribution to the body of Christ.
- They reveal a part of God's will for our lives.
- They confirm that every believer has a place of service; gifts are given for power and purpose in our ministry.

How does the Spiritual Gifts process work? (Romans 12:4-8 NIV)

The process works by getting a basic understanding of what the gifts are and appreciating how the Lord intended for them to be used. Then by taking a series of assessments, which will help identify the gifts within you.

Classes will be offered on the following dates:

Session One

Monday, July 11, 2011 at 7 pm
Monday, August 8, 2011 at 7 pm
Monday, September 12, 2011 at 7 pm
Monday, October 10, 2011 at 7 pm
Monday, November 14, 2011 at 7 pm
Monday, December 12, 2011 at 7 pm

Session Two

Saturday, July 23, 2011 at 1:30 pm
Saturday, August 27, 2011 at 1:30 pm
Saturday, September 24, 2011 at 1:30 pm
Saturday, October 22, 2011 at 1:30 pm
Saturday, November 26, 2011 at 1:30 pm

Fellowship Ministry's Senior Cook-out is being held on July 30th at 12 pm

Inspirational Cruise is being held on August 13th, 2011 by the MABC Missionary Ministry. All are invited to a two-hour harbor cruise including an all you can eat buffet and live gospel performances. For more information please contact Sis. Dorcas White at (203)372-7199 or Sis. Audrey Barr at (203)374-1278.

Church Outing will be held on August 28th

Pastor's Engagements

September

11th at 4pm

Good News Missionary Baptist Church, Bridgeport

Join us for an evening with the Bennett's



Celebrate Dr. Bennett's 17th Pastoral Anniversary

Enjoy Dinner, Music and Entertainment with Pastor and Family

When: Friday, July 8th

Where: Mt. Aery Bass Hall

Time: 6:00pm -9:00pm

All are welcome, please R.S.V.P. in the Narthex



Pastor Talmadge J. Thomas is a third generation pastor. He acknowledged and accepted the call to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ on August 2, 1981 at the Unity Fellowship Baptist Church of Indianapolis, Indiana. He was licensed and ordained by the Unity Fellowship Church of Indianapolis, Indiana. He served as the pastor of the Antioch Baptist Church of El Dorado, Kansas 1990-1993, the Antioch Baptist Church of Wichita, Kansas from 1993-1999. Pastor Thomas was called to the Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church in December of 1999 where he serves the City of Zion, the Mount Zion Church in Toledo, Ohio. Pastor Thomas serves in several capacities: Vice President at Large of the Ohio Baptist State Convention, Board of Directors, Toledo Urban League, Board of Directors as well as the Red Cross, Board of Directors. Previous accolades include a weekly column with the Midwest Urban Magazine. Pastor Thomas has a dynamic itinerate ministry. He is an anointed preacher, teacher who possesses the uncanny ability to proclaim God's WORD with simplicity. Pastor Thomas is married to Sis. Aronda (Robertson) Thomas and they share four children, David Benjamin, Talmadge J., II, Ausha Jade and Nia Gabrielle. Pastor Thomas currently serves as the Toledo District Overseer for the Full Gospel Fellowship Baptist Church Fellowship International, Incorporated.

Celebrate Dr. Bennett's 17th Pastoral Anniversary continues



Eli Wilson, Jr., the son of a Baptist preacher and pastor, is an ordained Church Musician. Currently, he is the founder and CEO of Eli Wilson Ministries, Inc., a Church Music Educational Resource Ministry.

Eli brings to the ministry 40 years of service in the area of church music ministry. After being lead of God to leave his teaching position of ten years in the Rochester, New York Public School System, he accepted the position of full-time Minister of Music at the St. Paul Community Baptist Church in the East New York section of Brooklyn. There he supplied leadership to a music department of less than 100 people and created a ministry numbering more than 500. He also developed and managed a paid staff of 10 and a volunteer staff of 30.

In November 1993, God lead Eli to accept the position of Associate Pastor of Music at the Emmanuel Baptist Church of Brooklyn, where Rev. Anthony Trufant is pastor. For almost five years Eli assisted Pastor Trufant in the development of his vision to transform a historically traditional church into a worship center whose aim is to present the Gospel in a manner that meets the needs of God's people in the 21st century.

After leaving Emmanuel, Eli entered the arena of Church Music Consulting. He traveled across the country assisting church leaders in the development of their music ministry departments. As an extension of that ministry, Eli Wilson Ministries facilitates the Chenaniah Church Musician's Clinic every two years in Orlando, Florida. The clinic is designed to educate musicians, pastors, seminarians, choir members, College Students, and other aspiring church music leaders in the practical issues of church music development.

In December 1999 Eli accepted the position of Associate Pastor of Music and Performing Arts at the New Covenant Baptist Church of Orlando. He served in that position until December 2002.

As a composer and independent recording artist, Eli released his first solo recording (1988) entitled "Introducing Eli Wilson, Jr.: God's Word Shall Stand Forevermore". From that recording his composition "I Will Give Thanks" was re-recorded by the Zion Baptist Church Choir of Washington, DC. The title song, "God's Word Shall Stand Forevermore" has been recorded by Keith Pringle (Savoy Records) and Babbie Mason along with the Zion Choir of Rhode Island (Word Records). His composition "Acceptable To You" has been published in the United Church of Christ New Century Hymnal and The African American Heritage Hymnal. It has also been recorded by the Ben Hill United Methodist Church and the Trinity United Church of Christ Choirs.

Recently, Eli released his newest solo recording entitled "In My Quiet Time". Currently, he is traveling the country sharing this fresh proclamation of prayer, praise, challenge, and assurance.

Eli worked as vocal coach and children's choir director on the movie "The Apostle" starring academy award nominee Robert Duvall. During the movie the children perform a Bible Rap-Song co-written by Minister Wilson.

Eli has penned more than 200 compositions for SATB choir, children's choir, and male voices. He is the editor and publisher of The Chenaniah Report, a quarterly church music newsletter.

Eli is a native of New Orleans, Louisiana. He did his undergraduate work at Dillard University in the area of Vocal Music Education. His postgraduate work was done at Colgate-Rochester Divinity School and the Eastman School of Music in the areas of Christian Education and Sacred Music. In 1990 he received the Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters Degree from Virginia Seminary and College.

Eli is married to the former Brenda Marie Simmons. Together they have two sons Eli III (Tre') and LeVar Antoine (Tony).

Eli is God ordained, God inspired, and Holy Spirit lead. His mission is to do the work of Jesus Christ as he assist the church, and its musicians to strive toward its fullest potential.

Ministry Spotlight



Sunday School - Old Testament Class

by Brother Paul Mendes

The theme this quarter for the Old Testament is “Be Responsible” with the use of Warren W. Wiersbe commentary, out of 1 Kings.

Solomon was to be a man of peace and yet he began his reign by ordering three executions. “But true peace must be based on righteousness, not on sentiment. But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable” (James 3:17). The land was polluted by the innocent blood that Joab had shed, and the land could be cleansed only by the execution of the murderer. David didn’t execute Joab, even after Joab killed Absalom, because David knew that he himself had blood on his hands. David was guilty of asking Joab to shed Uriah’s innocent blood, but Solomon’s hands were clean. Solomon was indeed a man of peace and he achieved that peace by bringing about righteousness in the land.

David did more than just provide materials for Solomon to use in building the temple. Solomon’s father had also forged political alliances that would make for a peaceful environment in which to construct God’s house. One of these political alliances was with the influential king of Tyre in Phoenicia.

King Hiram of Tyre continued the friendly alliance with Israel that had started under David’s reign. In a message to Hiram, Solomon cited the divinely aided peace of his reign and insisted that it was time to launch construction of the temple. He asked Hiram to mobilize workers and cut cedars in Lebanon needed for the temple.

Hiram heartily agreed to Solomon’s request for wood and workers. He extolled Solomon’s God-given wisdom and offered to transport the wood to a designated place in exchange for food. Their peaceful transactions led to a treaty between Hiram and Solomon.

Hiram praised God and credited Him with putting Solomon on the throne.

Many scholars believe Hiram’s religious vocabulary was an act of political and economic expediency, not an expression of faith. Yet, even if this were so, the Lord still used Hiram to supply materials for the temple.

Is it ever appropriate to ask for a non-Christian’s help in a ministry project?

To supplement the work of Hiram’s crew, Solomon conscripted thirty thousand laborers from Israel to work one month out of three in Lebanon. Tens of thousands cut and carried stones from quarries in the hills. Craftsmen belonging to Solomon and Hiram worked to prepare the wood and stone for placement in the temple.

Solomon and Hiram traded for several years under this agreement. Out of this exchange came a treaty of peace between them. During this time the Lord made good on His promise to give Solomon wisdom.

Hiram and Solomon were at peace with each other for many years because they both decided to maintain the good will that had begun with David.

What specific thing can we do to maintain goodwill with others?

youth speak

Senior Prom 2011 *by Henry C. Smalls, Jr.*

Our 2011 High School Seniors look amazing as they celebrate their Senior Proms. We want to wish them all the best as they turn the page to this new chapter in their lives. God Bless. Be Well!



Andeanna's Prom



Taylor & Judah's Prom



Lavanda's Prom



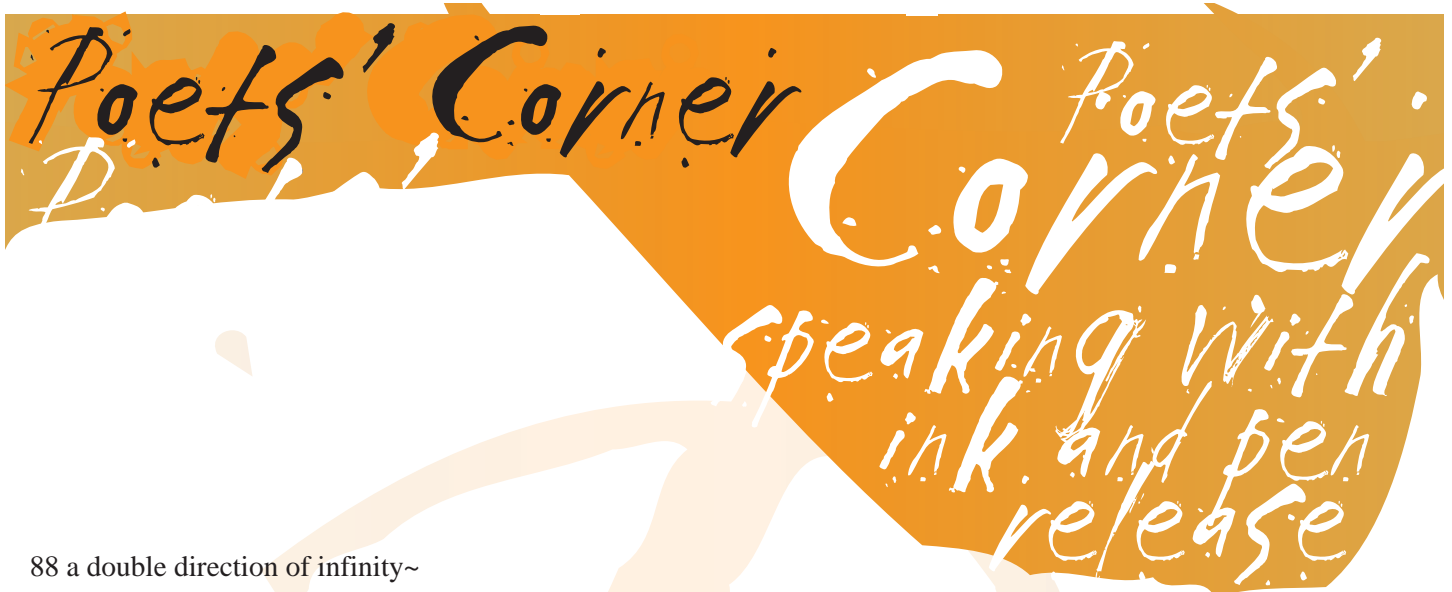
Douglas' Prom



Rohan's Prom



Judah's Prom



88 a double direction of infinity~

We are by a common thread and God consciousness is the source of prosperity.

Dreaming to be filled; replacing the empty space and scattered thought. Reaching to feel alive~

88 a double direction of infinity~

Allow self to embrace the private victory; self mastery and self discipline. Reaching to feel alive~

Every aspect of your individuality, gift, and talent was given a special thought. Trust God for every detail of your life.

The Lord is my shephard~I have everything I need (psalm23:1).

88 a double direction of infinity~

Consumed by societies definition of the supposedly undesirable physical image~

detached from a positive self image we find ourselves in a spiral affect of the

IDENTITY CRISIS~PSYCHOSOCIAL TENSIONS

The double consciousness, this sense of always looking at one's

self through the eye of others, of measuring one's soul

by the tape of a world that looks on in amused contempt

and pity. One ever feels his twoness, an American, a Negro;

two souls, two thoughts, to unreconciled striving, two warring ideals in on dark

body, whose dogged strength alone keeps it from being torn asunder.

88 a double direction of infinity~

We are by a common thread and God consciousness is the source of prosperity interwoven by purpose.

Every aspect of your individuality, gift, and talent was given a special thought. Trust God for every detail of your life.

The Lord is my shephard~I have everything I need (psalm23:1)

~Arikeade

Celebrating 88 Years of Ministry

Lest We Forget

by Rev. Alicia Tyson-Sherwood

St. Paul was in the House. The Renewal Services leading up to the 88th Church Anniversary of Mount Aery Baptist Church was nothing less than spectacular. Each vessel that delivered the Word of God either formerly or currently pastored a St. Paul church, affirming that there are no coincidences, but only God's incidences.

We experienced God's first incidence on May 11, 2011, through the inspired word of Dr. Leslie Callahan, from St. Paul's Baptist Church of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The message, titled, "Walking Call" was entirely drawn from Ephesians 4:1-10. Dr. Callahan not only got us thinking about putting one foot in front of the other, but challenged our call to walk beyond denomination, race, sex, and gender differences in order to move to the next level.

On May 18, 2011, Rev. Dr. Johnny Ray Youngblood, former Senior Pastor of St. Paul's Community Baptist Church and current Pastor of Mount Pisgah Baptist Church of Brooklyn, New York, let us know that when Jesus called on Peter to "come" and walk on the water, it was an invitation for all disciples to "come". We walked through the familiar scripture enlightened in the knowledge that when God calls our name, as he called Peter to be the Solid Rock, God is also calling us to be solid in the Word and to keep our eyes fixed on Him.

It should be noted that as our cups runneth over, the praise that took place between the last two renewal services were excellent, bar none.

On May 22, 2011, we received Pastor Richard Williams of the Victory Institutional Baptist Church, Hawthorne, California. We were challenged to go higher in the Lord, "lest we forget the wander of our daily walk of Faith". In his message penned, "Such as I have", Act 3:1-11, Pastor Williams reminded us how Peter healed the Lame Man. We truly worshipped God in Spirit and in Word, which was the Truth. The Church Renewal Service leading up to this event was clearly keeping us in step with the Word.

Wrapping up the Renewal Service, on May 25, 2011, the anointed Dr. Lance Watson of St. Paul's Baptist Church of Richmond, Virginia blessed us by re-telling the story of Noah, who was over 600 years old when he received the word that he must build the ark. "God Directed Lives" let us know that we are all called to be trailblazers and trendsetters like Noah. We all have our arks, in the desert of life, to build for God. We learned that the promise was not fulfilled for over a span of 60 years. Dr. Watson crafted this message to teach us to wait and to know that there were many instances in the bible where men and women of God were called to wait for the promise to be fulfilled.

The renewal services blessed the people of Mount Aery Baptist Church. We were challenged, inspired, encouraged, and renewed. In summary, we were challenged to remember that we are walking with God and it all starts with the first step. Our eyes are fixed on Jesus and our foundation is solid. We can wait because we know that we shall have wings like an eagle as we soar to greater heights in the Lord.

On the final Sunday in May Pastor Bennett topped off our celebration with the God directed theme of steps, by preaching, "Get to Stepping" and kicked off the month of June, with the preached Word titled "Steps to Surrender".

The Renewal continues! The 88th year of Mount Aery Baptist Church was solidified on June 12, 2011, Pentecost Sunday through the Word in Deuteronomy 31. We were again reminded how God endowed us with His Holy Spirit when Mount Aery Baptist Church began 88 years ago and how He is still empowering us with the precious gift of fellowship through renewal and celebration of another awesome year that God has kept us.



generalNEWS

My Pastor Can Sing by Sister Kim Lee



On Saturday May 21, 2011, Mount Aery hosted for the first time "My Pastor Can Sing." This benefit showcases the talents of pastors throughout the state and a freewill offering is given to the Aids Interfaith Network (AIN).

The show began with a three member Youth Praise Team whose voices set the atmosphere for an evening of praise. Mistress of Ceremonies, Veronica Douglas-Givan was a breath of fresh air as she was able to take comedy, the serious issues with AIDS, and a great sense of humor then mold all of that together to create a fun filled event.

One by one each pastor dominated the stage with their presence, there were a couple of them who came equipped with backup singers or as I have dubbed them, "the pastor's pips." Some of the pastors who participated were Rev. Calvin Robinson, Jr. from First Baptist Church in Milford, CT, Minister Larry Mazon, Minister Jesse Fullard, and our very own Dr. Anthony L. Bennett. I may be biased when I say that our Pastor was undeniably the best. He walked onto the stage, grabbed the mike, waited for his cue from Minister Mark Murray, then in his best Barry White baritone voice sang one verse of "I Don't Know About Tomorrow" then walked off of the stage, and sat down.



Following the singing we were introduced to three encouraging women, Linda Wilson, Elsie Cofield and Bonnie Cofield. Linda Wilson is a woman in her sixties who has been living with HIV for over 20 years and was brave enough to tell us her story. Mrs. Elsie Cofield, founder of AIN, and her daughter Bonnie Cofield, current Director of AIN, gave us insight into how the organization was created, the nurturing that is provided for their clients, and donations and volunteers are welcome.

My Pastor Can Sing was an exhilarating and entertaining event, a great way to raise funds for a worthy cause. Thank you AIN for a great time, and next year I look forward to more people coming out to represent their Pastors.



Celebrating Family by Honoring Fathers

Pastor Bennett and Ahmad

Tonya: Hi Pastor Bennett. I just want to talk to you briefly about you and Ahmad, the father/son relationship. Ok, I'm recording us.

Pastor Bennett: You are recording? Praise the Lord.

Tonya: Due to your position at Mount Aery, being pastor of the church, I know your time is limited so do you get to spend a lot of time with Ahmad and what kinds of activities do you do when you are together?

Pastor Bennett: I think I am a maturing leader, so while demands are there I am learning how to carve time, maybe not as much time as I want but I carve time for Ahmad and the family. We do a variety of things from going to BJ's to going to movies to traveling. Ahmad: Cars!

Pastor Bennett to Ahmad: Yeah we saw Cars. What does Daddy do with you?

Pastor Bennett and Ahmad: We go to movies, we go travel then we can pick up a buddy, we go to Sesame Place.

Pastor Bennett: He is a 4 year old who has been to LA 7 times

Tonya: Wow, really?

Pastor Bennett: Yes, so we travel.

Tonya: Are you active at his school? Do you participate in activities there with him?

Pastor Bennett: When I can, Donna is probably more active but both of us have busy schedules. I just gave the commencement speech for Six to Six Magnet School & Thurgood Marshall Middle School which Chris La Belle, his principal, asked me. There have been occasions where I am able to participate in an all day or half day trip or play date during the latter part of the year. From 8:30 to about 11:30 we would have breakfast then we did gymnastics and an obstacle course so I was sore after that. That was like 2 weeks ago on June 13th.

Tonya: What is your most memorable moment so far of him growing up?

Pastor Bennett: There are so many. Just watching him grow. Watching him grow up, those are memorable moments. This particular year he has grown 3 ½ inches from September until now. I don't think I can give you just one that stands out because there are so many. When are you printing?

Tonya: Laughing...Next week

Pastor Bennett: If I think of something between now and next week I will let you know. I think just watching him grow from where I could cup him in one hand to where I can still cup him but

not in just one hand.

Tonya: This one I know is a big one but if you could teach him one lesson in life what would it be and why?

Pastor Bennett: Oh wow. It would be what I think he is already learning now in Pre-K 3 and that is when to be a good follower and when to be a leader. He has leadership skills, he is definitely a bossy person but in school, the first year he was struggling because there were older kids. The biggest thing is having him follow when he needs to follow but lead when he needs to lead.

Tonya: Ok, well that is all I have.

Pastor Bennett: That's all??

Tonya: (Laughing) I told you I would not take long. Thank you so much for taking the time to talk to me.

Pastor Bennett: Thank you.

CJ, Kumle, Tola and Jaiye Adetona

Tonya: Ok, first I want to thank you for bearing with me and my crazy schedule.

CJ: No problem, no problem.

Tonya: Due to your position at the church, being a deacon, I know your time is limited; do you get to spend a lot of time with your sons? What kind of activities do you do when you are together?

CJ: Yes I get to do a lot of things with them. They basically wake up in my hands in the morning and I put them to bed every night. Whether it is me telling them to go to bed or I send them to bed. We do a lot of things together. I am always there, all through the day I am there.

Tonya: Ok, for you guys. What do you enjoy most about the time you spend with your dad?

Tola: That we go to the store and we do a lot of things.

Kumle: I appreciate the attention that he gives us.

Tonya: Are you active at their schools? Do you participate in activities with them at the school?

CJ: Yes I am very active at their school. I pop in at any time to check on them. The teachers, everybody knows me. I just went on a trip with them last week. The sixth graders went to a museum, it was a great trip.

Tonya: I guess you go to their recitals, sports games, etc.?

CJ: Everything. I go to everything I can, school plays, anything I can make it to.

Tonya: I noticed that three of you were in the dance perfor-

by Tonya Johnson

mance on Father's Day. Did you enjoy that experience?

Kumle and Tola: Yes

Tonya: what is your most memorable moment of your sons growing up so far?

CJ: Well, their birth was very memorable. I was present at each of their births so it was a great experience. I almost fell out but I made it thru each one of them.

Tonya: Can you guys name one thing that you did with your dad that you will never forget?

Kumle: We took a trip to Niagara Falls, which was fun.

Tola: When we went to New York.

Tonya: If you could teach them one lesson in life what would that lesson be and why?

CJ: A strong faith in God. I would teach them to always have faith in God, trust in God. Two things I would actually teach them to have faith in God and not deviate from following Him. That will carry them and take them very far.

Tonya: Ok, my last question for you guys is what did you do for your dad for Father's Day?

Kumle: We went to our grandmother's house in Brooklyn and we had a big dinner to celebrate him.

Tola: I made a card for him.

Tonya: Do you keep the cards that they make for you and the gifts they make?

CJ: I do. I have a time capsule for each one of them.

Tonya: Thank you again for letting me interview you guys and I am sorry about all the confusion around setting this up.

CJ: Anytime.

Pastor Williams and Caleb

Tonya: Due to your position at the church as well as your job I know your time is limited. Do you spend a lot of time with Caleb? What kind of activities do you do when you are together?

Pastor Williams: Not as much as I would like and it's interesting because now that he is getting older he doesn't want to spend much time. When we are together we will do things like movies, we'll do yard work together, toss the ball around and sometimes he will go with me on road trips to New Jersey.

Tonya: Are you active at his school at all? Do you participate in activities with him there?

Pastor Williams: Yes. When he was younger I used to go in and read Dr. Seuss books with the children. I would go on field trips; he used to insist on me going on field trips, so that was cool, going to the zoo and all that. Now that he is older it is more being an advocate for him, if you will. Parent/Teacher visits and things like that, talking to the principal about him, etc.

Tonya: What about school recitals, sports activities, etc?

Pastor Williams: He does not have that interest in sports but he is in the band so yes we go to those concerts. He plays the drums.

Tonya: Nice. What is your most memorable moment, so far, of him growing up?

Pastor Williams: It's hard to pick one moment. I remember when my grandmother passed away he walked into our bedroom and just started talking; he has always been a very quiet kid. I was reminded of that when Dr. Jeremiah Wright was here and he talked about the babies talking to you so that was a big moment. Now it's been more of the transformation from someone I could carry like a football to somebody that is taller than his mother and catching up to me and him having his own personality and coming into his own. That is the amazing thing.

Tonya: If you could teach him one lesson in life what would that lesson be and why?

Pastor Williams: I think he is getting there and that is how important your name is and your word. I don't have to tell him to cut the grass; he's out there doing it. I don't have to tell him to take out the garbage; he's become a young man of accountability and responsibility and I think he understands the importance of his name. I told him "Your name is my name so do it and do it well, do it justice" and I think he has that.

Tonya: That's great. Thank you. I will go talk to Caleb now.

Tonya: What do you enjoy most about the time you spend with your dad?

Caleb: I just enjoy the time together.

Tonya: Of the various activities that you do with your dad what would you say is your favorite?

Caleb: Throwing the ball around.

Tonya: Can you name one thing that you have done together that you will never forget?

Caleb: Going to California and hanging out with my dad and my god-father in the Porsche.

Tonya: Thank you for your time.

Brother Kenneth Knight – The Journey Back

The Return of Ken Knight...Our Beloved "Wounded Healer"

For some time now, Brother Ken Knight's presence has been very evident in this place we affectionately call the Mount. As a Sunday worshipper, he has stood time and time again in support of our Pastor as he delivers the anointed word of God. As a participant in our Men's Ministry he has been a voice of reason in fellowship, always willing to share his salty and genuine advice. As a student he has been diligent with our MAIL curriculum, present every time Pastor Williams and our teaching staff have offered lessons. As a member of our Trustee Ministry he's made himself available for any and all things, including getting down and dirty when needed to do the most menial jobs. And perhaps his greatest contribution to this place has been manifested through his willingness to faithfully serve as the first and at times, the only male member of our Prayer Ministry, standing in the gap for those who are unwilling, unable, or simply just need an intercessor. So what happens when the intercessor, suddenly becomes the one who is in need?

One of my favorite songs is a classic by John P. Kee entitled, 'Standing in the Need of Prayer', in this song John's spirit is literally felt through the audio as he sincerely cries out, "It is Me, It's Me Oh Lord, I'm standing in the need of Prayer". This is a song that came to mind during my reflection and prayer time with the Lord after being notified my friend and brother in Christ, Ken had suffered an injury that would eventually cause him to lose a limb. My initial reaction was to pray as intensely as I could for Ken, just as he had done for so many. However, in doing so, and after visiting him after his surgery, it was revealed to me that Ken was receiving exactly what he needed from the Lord already. My thoughts were confirmed months later, as I had the pleasure of sitting with Ken for a very candid conversation about his road to discipleship at Mount Aery, his injury and recovery, as well as his prayer life.

Shay: Good afternoon my Brother. It's been a while, and it feels good to have you back in the house. Can you share briefly about how you became a disciple of Mount Aery?

Ken: Thanks Bro, good to be back. God led me here, although there were other churches in Bridgeport, I came straight to Mount Aery because I was looking for something and I was not being filled at the church where I was at. My father was dying and I needed to be close to Bridgeport. My wife wanted to be at the church in West Haven, but after visiting Mount Aery my mind was made up...I did not tell her yet (laughing). Every church I went to I followed her, but my spirit told me that I needed to be at Mount Aery. I was a member of the church for three months and involved in classes and everything. Then one day I asked Reverend Sherwood if she thought that it was time for me to join the church. She was surprised the same way I was (laughing). I started to listen to God and read the bible more which started to enhance my interpretation. Although not great in the beginning but after messing with Pastor Williams you can't help but to

understand what you are reading. Pastor Williams had the insight that I did not have but the greatest part is the wisdom and insight that I was able to attain.

Shay: I am grateful that you are here as well...not only are you a Mount Aery brother but a Trustee along with me. Most are aware of the challenges you have faced, and we are happy that you are on the road to recovery. Would you like to share the particulars of your journey?

Ken: Well...I am supposed to be in rehab but I do not refer to my condition as being in "rehab" instead I call it a "sabbatical". During the time I was injured I did not have time to think about my injury. All I did was read the Word...I had a little bible study going...I've seen a miracle happen before my eyes. I had a roommate from hell because all he wanted to do was argue...I would be reading the Bible and he wanted to argue. I told myself that it was time for me to get up out of the room but God told me to "stand still". To this day I still talk to this person...I call to check up on him...I prayed with him. Before he left Montowese (rehabilitation center) he was not sure where he was going to stay because he did not have any money. He finally agreed to pray with me, although I twisted his arm. He told me that he will pray with me although he insisted that it will not be a long prayer. We prayed and he ended up getting his room, social security, and he is doing well. I call him once every two weeks to check on him...I don't know what church he is going to but he is attending a church now. I just thank God for showing me the miracles that He can make happen.

Shay: What an awesome experience: to have a stint in rehab, transform into a holy sabbatical, filled with the studying of the Word. God has allowed you to minister to other people while you were there.... look what God has done. Father's Day is around the corner and I know that you, like most men, have struggled with having a praying father figure in your life. It is commonly known that in our church as well as others the perception of men being prayer warriors is not strong at all. Can you tell us your thoughts and how you became apart of the Prayer Ministry?

Ken: My prayer life starts with our Prayer Ministry at Mount Aery. Reverend Alicia Sherwood as well as Pastor Williams has been an inspiration to me. The Prayer Ministry has taught me to be faithful in prayer. Sometimes when we hold prayer, I will go somewhere else in the sanctuary and pray by myself. That prayer time has helped me to learn obedience. That is what I want to be...a disciple for the Lord. Currently I am struggling with a few things as to whether I should stay with the Ministry giving that I haven't been involved in the past 7 to 8 months. I owe it to the Lord and myself to give Him credit for where He has brought me from. I am looking for that "shine" and I keep telling myself that I will have the "shine" as long as I keep praying and reading.

Shay: "Shine on Ken"...I am looking at you at this present moment and I am touched, as I see the spirit and passion that God has bestowed on you. You and I

have conversed in the past about this notion of having "child-like faith" which begins with prayer and understanding? How significant is having a child-like faith to you?

Ken: Well, a child-like faith came to me as I think it was God's way of getting me ready for this sabbatical that I was going to go on. I sat up in the sanctuary one afternoon before prayer and nobody was there as it was 5:00PM and I started reading our Daily Bread which was about child-like faith and as I was reading I sat down and started praying. I asked the Lord to treat me like a little child because a little child believes everything...and that is how I am towards the Bible. I don't question my Pastor on what he does or what he says and I don't question God on what he does and what he says. Whatever my Pastor says to do I will do because I know that God is speaking through him. That day I asked God to take me by my hand and lead me like a child not knowing that I was going to experience the things that I am going through. When I asked Him I felt him grabbing my hand and that is how I knew that He was around me and to this day He still has my hand because He has to treat me like a child. He taught me how to walk and I thank Him for that...I thank Him for grabbing my outstretched hand and leading me.

Shay: Wow Ken (sigh). I thank you for openness and honesty and I know that people at Mount Aery can learn a lot from a man like you. I thank God for allowing you to continue to stand for yourself and others.

Ken: I have something else that I want to stay. I haven't had a chance to tell my testimony as I am not able to stand for longer than five minutes thus far. I want to thank my Mount Aery family for their prayers, for their thoughts, and for being there for me. I can name a lot of names in this church of people who have sat down and talked to me...at one point I had a lot of people visiting me and the nurses did not give me any problems. After awhile they knew that it was family. I thank my Mount Aery family as it was due to their prayers that I am still here.

During our conversation, Ken and I had some surreal moments, as he inspired me to continue to seek a deeper level with the Lord. The raspiness in his voice and sincerity of his speech told a story by itself which eluded to the difficulties and triumphs of his journey back to the sanctified grounds of the Mount. Now, because of my association with Ken, I am aware that he still faces many limitations and still stands in the need. His daily travel back and forth to the doctor and rehabilitation sessions takes a toll and consumes the majority of his energy. And yet as he seeks to regain his strength, his focus is not on those matters. He carries a resolve and joyfulness that leads us to believe he himself is even more spiritual because of his journey. On the eve of Father's Day, it is my prayer that Men of God will come together in prayer more often and intently. As we stand in need, we also can stand in the Gap for another brother on his way up and out of brokenness. Therefore, rendering ourselves to become as Pastor Bennett often says, "Wounded Healers."

Fellowship Fishing Trip 2011

by Brother David Greatheart

On May 21, 2011 the annual Fellowship Fishing Trip to Hyannis, Massachusetts took place. This event started out several years ago as the Father & Son Fellowship Fishing Trip. However, over time we discovered that the dynamics of our disciples has changed and the general interest in fishing covered a larger group of people. Therefore, the event was opened up to everyone and was renamed the Fellowship Fishing Trip.

In the past few years, attendees have been father and sons, husbands and wives and family members from three generations (father, son and grandmother). We also had a reunion between a father and son that was coordinated by another attendee. This year was no different attendees included brothers, grandmother and grandson and a complete family; father, mother and son! Everyone was eager to start their journey for the biggest catch of the day.

After the ride that seemed like an eternity for some of the young people on the bus, we finally arrived at our destination. After getting settled in on the boat, getting our fishing rods baited and secured a spot on the boat, Captain Walt sailed off to find the perfect spot for catching fish.

Once we reached our destination and dropped our lines, the fish started biting almost immediately and the excitement began. The fish did not disappoint us. There were a few people that were slow to get started, but by the end of the trip everyone was satisfied.

There was laughter and joking about the one that got away, the ones that were spared the frying pan and thrown back because they were too small and the Black fish that had to be thrown back because we were one day too early to keep them. As the



day came to an end everyone sat back, laughed and talked about the events of the day. As one participant said "fishing is about having a good time and having a story to tell."

Well, there's always the story about the one that got away . . . and perhaps will get caught next year! Perhaps you want to get in on the fun!

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank The Men's Fellowship, Barbara Jones, Victoria Bartelle, Henry Smalls, C.J. Adetona, Mark Murray, Deacon D. Seawright, Ed McClain, Trent Hudson, Jimmy Glover and my first mate, Carrie; for their assistance. Their help was greatly appreciated.

The following is an email that we received from one of the participants of the Fellowship Fishing Trip showing his gratitude and appreciation for the privilege of being able to attend the trip.

From: Went, Aubrey
To: Henry Smalls; David Greatheart
Sent: Mon, May 23, 2011 10:11:57 AM
Subject: RE: Fellowship Fishing Trip Checklist

Good morning Henry & David,
I want thank both of you on behalf of my brother Winston Went and I for the privilege of fishing with your men's fellowship group porgy fishing trip to Hyannis. It was the best porgy fishing trip we've been on in the 11 years we've been fishing together. We like you to contact us with any other fishing trip you will be having.

Thank you,
Aubrey.



Café Night “Abundance of Praise”

Celebrating Mount Aery Baptist Church in 88 Years of Ministry

On Friday, May 20th MAYA (Mount Aery Young Adult Ministry) held its third annual Café Night. The stage was set, and Bass Hall transformed to an atmosphere ready for celebration. In conjunction to this year's Café night, this occasion honored Mount Aery's 88th Church Anniversary. For just a \$7.00 entry fee, attendees received inspirational entertainment, light fair and an amazing CD...what a deal!

The event was hosted by MAYA's Mr. and Mrs. Shay Thomas. The evening commenced with Reverend Lisa Anderson as she led us in prayer and blessed the food. The menu included fried chicken, sweat and sour chicken, honey barbeque meatballs, cheese and crackers, strawberries and grapes, tossed salad, spring mix salad, coffee, cake, tea, and water.

The night was filled with entertainment acts that stemmed from musical guests, poets, dancers, a house band, and DJ G.I.G. Some of the acts involved our current church members: Deidre Fairfax, Lisa Wilson, Gina Levon Simpson, Malachi Eason, Reverend Anderson referred to as “Just Lisa for the Night”, Mike Anthony, Corvina Nielson, Joseph Wright, Candida Paul, Shamika Paul, Serina Green, and Shalishea Laws. We were also blessed with outside entertainment from the 3 Disciples, Millionaire Thoughts, Tim and Dionne, Ebony and Tiffani, and Connie. There were many highlights of the evening but one in particular was the rendition of beautiful songs that our senior Pastor, Anthony Bennett serenaded to his wife Sister Donna Bennett. Pastor Bennett metamorphosed into various artists such as Luther Vandross “Always and Forever”, Barry White “You're my First, My Last, My Everything”, and “You'll Never Find Another Love Like Mine” by Lou Rawls just to name a few.

Ujamaa, is Kwanzaa's fourth principal meaning cooperative economics and MAYA acted on this principal by asking local businesses to display their goods and services. The vendors during Café Night included: Basket King by Kenny King, natural products/black soap/lotions, Charmaine's Closet, Joy C. Davis, women's shoes, Parker's Pampering, Vola Parker, natural products /oils, Stella & Dot, Melanie Jackson - couture costume jewelry, Corvina Neilson, her very own CD's, Mary Kay, Nieja Jackson, skin care/makeup/fragrances. In addition, items were raffled off such as movie tickets, gas gift cards, and dinner gift cards.

The underlying goal of the night was to host an event for Christian adults and to highlight the 88 years of ministry at Mount Aery Baptist Church. We thank our forefathers for establishing and having the vision so that we can have a venue and a place of worship. We thank Mrs. Simon Woods who started the church in



her home at 36 Wallace Street in Bridgeport Connecticut. The church continued to grow and moved to various geographical locations and after 88 years has its ground at 73 Frank Street in Bridgeport, Connecticut. Our legacy stems from Reverend Wilson, Reverend Bass, Reverend Smalls, Reverend Streets, and currently building our legacy is Reverend Bennett. We honor them for being obedient to their call from God so that they may spiritually and intellectually uplift His people.

The Spirit of the Lord was amongst us this night through singing, dancing, and spoken word. Café night was a wonderful experience, a time of fellowship, praising and worship, laughter, celebrating our 88 years and so many gifts shared all at the same time. By the grace of God, this year's Café night was a true night of jubilation and exhilaration!

We invite all young adults between the ages of 21-45 to join our Ministry as we work together to fulfill God's purpose.

“Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity” (1 Timothy 4:12).

Usher's Celebrate Their 15th Anniversary

by: Tonya Johnson

On May 15th, 2011 the Ushers celebrated their 15th anniversary. From all accounts a good time was had by all and it was a beautiful celebration. I interviewed Usher Robin Rawls on her experience at the celebration and this is what she had to say...

Tonya: Hey Robin. I want to first thank you for doing this interview. I know it was short notice and I apologize for that.

Robin: No problem, I'm glad I could help.

Tonya: I have heard great things about the Usher's Anniversary Celebration, how was it?

Robin: It was a blessing. Miss Liza did a great job putting the program together.

Tonya: I understand Rev. Tyrone P. Jones IV preached a great sermon. Can you tell us what the sermon was about and how you received it?

Robin: He basically spoke on ones call to become an usher. Are those of us who are in the ministry sure that we are in the right ministry? He spoke about what an usher's duty is. He spoke about how the usher's are perceived by the members of the church family. One of the things that I took away with me is that, as an usher I must always remember that I am one of the first people someone will see when they come in to the church. I must remember that everyone who comes might not be a person who comes to church regularly. That they might not be used to a church setting or they might not be in such a great mood. With taking all of that into consideration I have to remember that it is up to me as an usher to not take their state of mind personally. I must remember that no matter how a person may greet me, I am a vessel being used by God to make that person feel welcome in his house. I must remember that the way I greet a person can determined; if they stay for service, how they perceive Mount Aery, our pastor and the Mount Aery church family. As an usher, if I might be having a rough day myself I must be careful not to let those feelings take over my spirit. I must at all times have a welcoming smile on my face and in my heart while greeting people into Gods House.

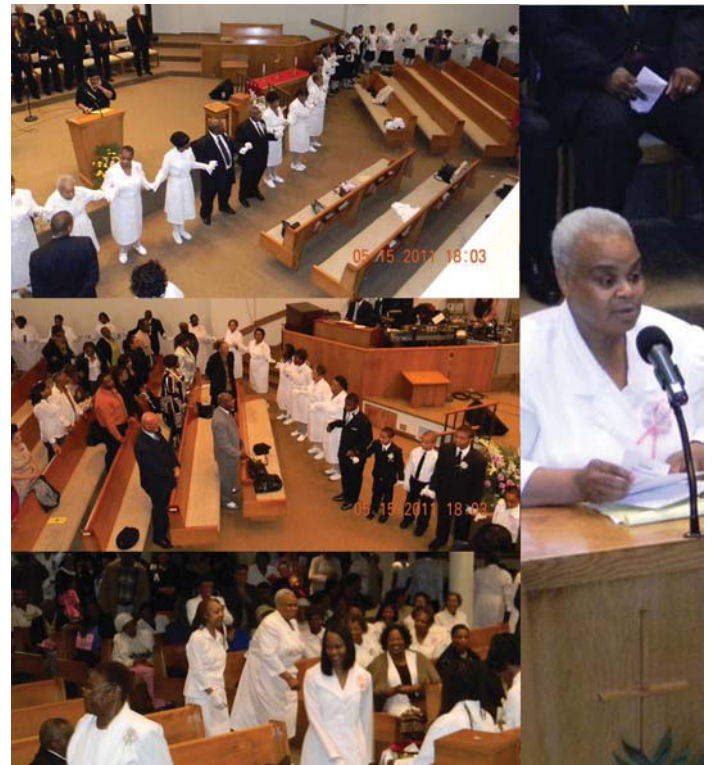
I received it very well. Sometimes the truth hurts. I take it as constructive criticism and receive it with love.

Tonya: Can you give us, for those of us who could not be there, a brief overview of the event?

Robin: Overall it was a nice evening. Messiah's men's choir sang. Min. Carol Johnson was a wonderful Mistress of Ceremony. Mount Aery Ushers acknowledged all the other Usher Ministries from the Fairfield unit who came out to celebrate with us. Miss Liza got her step on when Mount Aery's Ushers did their special march. As always the evening ended with the Fairfield Unit doing the love ring and singing "God Be With You Until We Meet Again". Then everyone was welcomed to go down stairs and have a meal prepared by Miss Liza. Yum, yum.

Tonya: Aww man, I missed the march! I like to see ushers march...laughing. Well thank you very much for your time. I'm glad that you enjoyed it and I appreciate you sharing with the rest of us.

Robin: No problem, anytime.



Afro-American Flag by: Doreen Cotter



The **Afro-American flag**, also referred to as the **UNIA flag**, **Pan-American flag** or **Black Liberation Flag** is a tri-color flag consisting of three equal horizontal bands colored red, black and green. It was originally created as the official banner of the **African Race** by the **Honorable Marcus Mosiah Garvey** and the members of the **Universal Negro Improvement Association and African Communities League (UNIA-ACL)**. The organization formally adopted the flag in article 39 of the Declaration of Rights of the Negro Peoples of the World on **August 13, 1920**, during its month-long convention held at the Madison Square Garden in New York City.

The colors were hoisted first in the **United States**, it represents all people of the **African Diaspora** regardless of land of birth. The flag became an African nationalist symbol for the worldwide liberation of people of African origin. As an emblem of Black pride, the flag became popular during the **Black Liberation movement** of the 1960s.

African Americans have proudly held on to their banner for the past 91 years, hoisting it to represent African or African American unity and pride.

The three colors represent the following:

- **Red:** the blood that unites all people of African ancestry, and shed for liberation;
- **Black:** black people whose existence as a nation, though not a nation-state, is affirmed by the existence of the flag; and
- **Green:** the abundant natural wealth of Africa;

According to **UNIA-ACL** (Universal Negro Improvement Association and African Communities League)

- **Red:** “color of the blood which men must shed for their redemption and liberty”
- **Black:** “the color of the noble and distinguished race to which we belong,” and
- **Green:** “the luxuriant vegetation of our Motherland.”

In the United States, the flag is presently widely available through flag shops or ethnic specialty stores. It is commonly seen at parades commemorating **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**, civil rights rallies, and other special events.

***Honorable Marcus Mosiah Garvey, Jr.** – *a National Hero of Jamaica (17 August 1887-10 June 1940) was a Jamaican publisher, journalist, entrepreneur, and orator who was a loyal proponent of the Black Nationalism and Pan-Africanism movements, to which end he founded the Universal Negro Improvement Association and African Communities League (UNIA-ACL). He also founded the Black Star Line, part of the Back-to-Africa movement, which promoted the return of the African Diaspora to their ancestral lands.*

GUESSWHO!!!

From the list of names that is given, select the correct name and place it beside the numbers below:

Bro. Gregory Cummings
Deacon Esau Failey
Sis. Tonya Lee
Sis. Brenda Williams
Bro. David Gearheart
Sis. Carrie Simpson Greatheart

(1) _____
(2) _____
(3) _____
(4) _____

(1)

"He gives power to the weak,
and to those who have no
might He increases strength."
(Isaiah 40:29)



(2)

"The Lord is my strength
and my shield ..."
(Psalm 28:7)



(4)

"For the Lord will be
your confidence, and
will keep your foot
from being caught."
(Proverbs 3:26)



(3)

"In the day when I cried out, you
answered me, and made me bold
with strength in my soul."
(Psalm 138:3)



Answers for June: 1) Sis. Ramona Berry; 2) Sis. Neija Jackson; 3) Sis. Michelle Wilson

MOUNT AERY BAPTIST CHURCH

FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY SENIOR COOKOUT

FOOD!!!

FUN!!!



FELLOWSHIP!!!

SAVE THE DATE!!!

MOUNT AERY BAPTIST CHURCH
73 FRANK STREET, BRIDGEPORT 06604
SATURDAY, JULY 30, 2011
12 noon - 4pm

**PLEASE PARK IN GEORGE STREET PARKING
LOTS!!!**



Doreen's Top TEN Biblical Questions

by Doreen Cotter

Old Testament:

1. In the Book of Esther, who suggested that Queen Vashti be removed from being queen?
a) Carshena b) Ahasuerus c) Memucan d) Asphenaz
2. In the Book of Samuel, how did King David live among the Philistines without getting killed?
a) They feared him b) he disguised himself c) he faked insanity
3. Who succeeded King Saul and reigned as David's rival for 2 years?
a) Abner b) Ish-bosheth c) Asahel d) Jonathan
4. Who murdered Abner, the man who convinced Israel to follow David?
a) Joab b) Asahel c) Ish-bosheth d) Recab
5. In the Book of Kings, who cried because he/they knew the harm that Hazael of Syria would do to Israel?
a) Elisha b) both c) neither d) Elijah
6. What was the name of Elisha's father?
a) Mesha b) Azubah c) Shaphat d) Zerah
7. What is the name of the Syrian captain who was cured of his leprosy?
a) Nahor b) Baasha c) Naaman d) Hezekiah

New Testament: Fill in the Blanks:-

8. For by thy _____ thou shall be justified, and by thy _____ thou shall be condemned.
a) Life b) Words c) Faith d) Heart
9. _____, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting.
a) Peter b) John c) Paul d) James
10. But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the _____ of faith and love; and for a _____, the hope of salvation.
a) Shield, armor b) Breastplate, helmet c) Bond, anchor, d) Gift, defense
11. For a _____ must be blameless, as the steward of God; not self willed, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre...
a) Deacon b) Bishop c) Teacher d) Servant

ANSWERS for May

1. c) Memucan (Esther 1:16-21)
2. c) He faked insanity (1 Samuel 21:13)
3. b) Ish-bosheth (2 Samuel 2:10)
4. a) Joab (2 Samuel 3:27)
5. a) Elisha (2 Kings 8:11)
6. c) Shaphat (1 Kings 19:19)
7. c) Naaman (2 Kings 5)
8. b) Words (Matt. 12:37)
9. d) James (James 1:1)
10. b) Breastplate, helmet (1 Thessalonians 5:8)
11. b) Bishop (Titus 1:7)

Announcements

- **Please be advised the Deacons on Call** for the month of July are Deacons Neilsen and Seawright.
- **Submissions of announcements and due dates:**
 - Message From The Mount
> Send information to mftm@mtaerybaptist.org by Wednesday after the first Sunday
 - Mid-Month Message From The Mount Update
> Send information to mftm@mtaerybaptist.org by Wednesday before the third Sunday
 - Monitors in the Sanctuary
> Send information to media_ministry@mtaerybaptist.org by the 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.

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.

Grover Gardner Sr.

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

Sadie Kinder Cole

Subacute Center of Bristol, 23 Fair Street, Bristol, CT 06010

Deaconess Okakue Brown

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

Carolyn Gray

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

Please Pray for Our Healing List

Deacon Brad Belcher

Clinnie Black

Deaconess Queen Boone

Millie Burton

Sandra Cameron

Linda Commodore

Delores Cox

George Davis

Eunice Faison

Harold Farrar

Lois Farrar

Barbara Foust

Bernice Geter

Sally Gordon

Jodi Green

Tiffani Green

Deaconess Milla Green

Evelyn Hill

Susan Holmes

Brenda Johnson

Selaja Johnson

Unice Jones

Kenneth Knight

Barbara Macey

Nanette Malone

Regina Manns

Clyde McLaughlin

Paul Mendes

Thomas Meredith

Linda Mosley

Eulalia Pettway

Monique Pugh

Lillian Ragsdale

Deacon Willie Mae

Richardson

Bonita Robinson

Sally Soares

Mary Thigpen

Felicia Whitfield

Cecilia Williams

June Williams

Cecelia Wilson

Deaconess Anna Watkins

Bereavement

- **Gerald Bohannon and family** in the loss of his daughter, Dana Bohannon.
- **Miriam Bramwell and family** in the loss of her mother.
- **William Toms** in the loss of his fiancé Lindsey White.
- **Oliver, Dennis, Bridgeforth, Ross-Black families** in the loss of Rev. Joanne Oliver.
- **Sherwood, Dumas, Tyson and Greene Family** in the loss of their cousin in Texas.

JULY 2011 Birthdays

July 1st

Adams, Kathy
Burch, Regina
Dennis, Tequesta
Gant, Kenita
Mack, Keith
Peeler, Elisha
Pettway, Nell
Pittman, Carolyn

July 2nd

Breeden, Paula
Dikko, Ann
Martin, Tywanda
McBroom, Gregory
Pirro, Delilah
Smalls, Henry
Thomas, Andrew

July 3rd

Bardliving, Andre
Blake, Michael
Blunt, Warren
Collier, Tamiko
McIntosh, Lemie
Pagan, Carlos
Smith, Dan

July 4th

Buster, Kenneth
Charles, Claretta
Cox, Linda
Gardner, Jennifer
Henley, Lawrence
Johnson, Jannine
Miller, Jasmin
Piirens, Tatiana
Pride, Felicia
Pride, Tynesha

July 5th

Bond, Albert
Cox, Anthony
LaRose, Dania
Okhiria, Felix
Rogers, Billy
Taylor, Terence

July 6th

Cook, Jerrell
Gordon, Kelly
Pearson, Sheryl
Thomas, David
Walker, Alice
Walker, Rita

July 7th

Colbert, Maurice
Fleming, Carol
Jackson, Darlene
Knight, Alice
Lincoln, Minnie
McGhee-Maxwell, Denise
Roacher, Mary
Roberson, Tiffany

Soares, Michael
Sutton, Herbert

July 8th

Johnson, Connie
Johnson, Jodi
Seabrook, Cynthia
Smith, Reginald
Staton, Nakisha

July 9th

Dennis, Shelby
Inabinett, Issac
Johnson, Brenda
Martin-Velez, Anthony
Teray, Mary
Vielot, Yeharar

July 10th

Addison, Janie
Bond, Lola
Dewitt-Smith, Gerald
Glenn, Tanya
Gorham, Natasha
Iribarren, Alexander
Jeune, Cynthia
Murphy, Lisa
Statum, Georgia
Strain, Heather

July 11th

Jones, Gary
Kerr, Jason
Manns, Vanessa
Moore, Larry
Ragsdale, Jim Ned
Strong, Annie
Tucker, Samantha

July 12th

Adams, Barbara
Earley, Maurice
Grisby, Sophia
Kennerly, Blaine

July 13th

Bradshaw, Michelle
Dyer, Mildred
Griffin, Minuette
Johnson, Linda
Jones, Tavarrea
King, Tyrone
Pettway, Kayla
Pettway, Kye
Roberts, Alpha

July 14th

Adetona, Adetola
Barr Williams, Nicole
Bennett, Johnette
Geter-McClain, Terri
Hardy, Joe
King, Kenneth
Lobban, Ida
Lowe, Dorothy

Parker, Ernest
Ragin, Erica
Roselle, Ruthe
Stone, Ronald

July 15th

Alexander, Phillip
Austin, Michelle
Cohen, Crystal
Kinston, Beryl
McLeod, Eva
Randolph, Dorletha
Sheffield, Javante
Williamson, Shaqirah

July 16th

Foster, Lucy
Johnson, Ronald
Liggins, Jason
Miller, Connie
Sayles, Gregory
Williams, Devora

July 17th

Arroyo, Andrea
Blackwell, Kim
Clarke, Vernal
Ess, Clarence
Hamilton, Leie
Lewis, John
Mercer, Vera
Pettway, A.C.

July 18th

Bradley, Lovelle
Grayson, Larry
Jennings, Pamela
Johnson, Joseph
Phelmetta, Robin
Sims, William
Taliaferro, Albert
Winston, Wayne

July 19th

Cummings, Gregory
Darby, Alonzo
Hill, Lillian
Lee, Octavia
McClain, Tierra
Ruiz, Linda
Santos, Melissa

July 20th

Anderson, Angela
Credle, Jimmy
Freeman, Arthur
Hamilton, Tiffany
Jones, Rufus
Thomas, Tamara

July 21st

Alston-Carr, Pia
Foster, Eartha
Hill, Jovon
Small, Michele

July 22nd

Cuttino-Muniz, Kiara
Donald, Shakia
Farrar, Lois
Finney, Janaya
Gomes, Constance
Johnson, Glen
Miley, Krishna
Paulk, Shaunda
Roseboro, Valerie
Rucker, Shanika
Young, Robert

July 23rd

Bendolph, Courtney
Eison, Vivan
Grant, Lauren
Sanders, A.J.
Stewart, Kimone
Williams, Tahila

July 24th

Anderson, Jesse
Foster, Richard
Mazon, Nicki
McLaughlin, Clyde
Oliver, George
Pettway, Eulalia

July 25th

Blackwell, Antionette
Blackwell, Ronald
Gatison, Malcolm
Gilbert, Melvin
Marini, Tracey
Taylor, Walter
Thomas, Deanna
Upchurch, Lisa
Williamson, Simone

July 26th

Best, Kelley
Blackwell, Mako
Brown, LaTasha
Brown, Peggy
Geyer, Elani
Jefferson, Emma
Milton, Kellie
Mosely, Claudine
Pettway, Donna
Reid, Rachel

July 27th

Dobson, Tyheem
Ennis, Barrington
Miller, David
Nunn, Aja
Phillips, Cassandra
Scales, Genise
Scott, Kim
Williams, Jeffrey
Zenquis, Jessica

July 28th

Giles, Larry

Morris, Willie Mae
Young, Catherine

July 29th

Christie, Linda
Dailey, Rykem
Johnson, Tonya
Jones, Charlie
Jones, George
Pounce-Carr, Jacqueline

July 30th

Bethea, Angel
Bultron, Miranda
Dunn, Robbi
Geyer, Edward
Jean-Gilles, Toya
Miller, Laura
Rose-White, July

July 31st

Gamble, Desmond
Hodges, Sean
Miller, Lillie
Sherrod, Hans
Tabscott, Keith
Toms, William

July 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 7:45 AM Worship Celebration 9:45 AM Olmecs Store 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Celebration 1:00 PM Olmecs Store	4 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 6:00 PM Fellowship Ministry 6:30 PM SAW Gathering 7:00 PM Spiritual Gifts	5 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 5:00 PM Prayer Ministry 6:00 PM Praise Dance Rehearsal 6:30 PM Martial Arts CT 6:30 PM SAW Facilitators 7:00 PM Academy of Ministry 7:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal	6 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 12:00 PM Daytime Bible Study 6:30 PM Jesus Corner 6:45 PM Bible Study	7 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 6:00 PM Exercise Class 6:00 PM Praise Dance Rehearsal 6:30 PM Annual Church Outing 6:30 PM REFUGE	8 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 6:00 PM Pastor's Anniversary Celebration 6:00 PM Comedy Show	9 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 8:30 AM Men's Ministry 1:15 PM Praise Dance Rehearsal 6:00 PM Comedy Show
10 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 7:45 AM Pastor's 17th Anniversary Worship Celebration 9:45 AM Olmecs Store 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Pastor's 17th Anniversary Worship Celebration 11:00 AM Youth Church 1:00 PM Olmecs Store	11 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 6:00 PM Fellowship Ministry 6:30 PM SAW Gathering 7:00 PM Spiritual Gifts	12 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 5:00 PM Prayer Ministry 6:30 PM Martial Arts CT 6:30 PM SAW Facilitators 6:30 PM Trustees Ministry Meeting 7:00 PM Academy of Ministry 7:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal	13 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 12:00 PM Daytime Bible Study 6:30 PM Jesus Corner 6:30 PM P.L.U.G. 6:45 PM Bible Study	14 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 6:00 PM Exercise Class 6:30 PM Annual Church Outing 6:30 PM Deacons Ministry Meeting	15 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 5:00 PM Annual Prayer Breakfast set-up 6:00 PM Comedy Show	16 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 8:00 AM Annual Prayer Breakfast 8:30 AM Men's Ministry 12:30 PM Interpreters 5:00 PM Fairfield Ushers Fashion Show
17 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 7:45 AM Worship Celebration 9:45 AM Olmecs Store 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Celebration 1:00 AM Youth Church 1:00 PM Olmecs Store	18 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 6:00 PM Fellowship Ministry 6:30 PM SAW Gathering 7:00 PM Spiritual Gifts	19 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 5:00 PM Prayer Ministry 6:00 PM CSC Core Team 6:30 PM MAAFA Auditions 6:30 PM SAW Facilitators 7:00 PM Academy of Ministry 7:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal	20 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 12:00 PM Daytime Bible Study 6:30 PM Jesus Corner 6:30 PM P.L.U.G.	21 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 6:00 PM Exercise Class 6:30 PM Annual Church Outing 6:30 PM REFUGE	22 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 6:00 PM Pastor's Anniversary Celebration 6:00 PM Comedy Show	23 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 8:30 AM Men's Ministry 9:00 AM New Disciples Orientation 10:00 AM Scholarship Ministry 1:30 PM Spiritual Gifts
24 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 7:45 AM Worship Celebration 9:45 AM Olmecs Store 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Celebration 1:00 AM Youth Church 1:00 PM Olmecs Store	25 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 6:00 PM Fellowship Ministry 6:30 PM SAW Gathering 7:00 PM Spiritual Gifts	26 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 5:00 PM Prayer Ministry 6:00 PM MAAFA Production Team 6:30 PM Martial Arts CT 6:30 PM SAW Facilitators 7:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal	27 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 12:00 PM Daytime Bible Study 6:30 PM Jesus Corner 6:30 PM P.L.U.G. 6:45 PM Bible Study	28 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 6:00 PM Exercise Class 6:30 PM Annual Church Outing 6:30 PM M.A. Y.A. 6:30 PM REFUGE	29 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 6:00 PM Pastor's Anniversary Celebration 6:00 PM Comedy Show	30 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 8:30 AM Men's Ministry 12:00 PM Fellowship Senior Outing 2:00 PM MAAFA Cast/Crew Meeting
31 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 7:45 AM Worship Celebration 9:45 AM Olmecs Store 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Celebration 1:00 PM Olmecs Store 3:00 PM CCE Worship Service	1 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 6:00 PM Fellowship Ministry 6:30 PM SAW Gathering 7:00 PM Spiritual Gifts	2 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 8:30 AM Men's Ministry Meeting 10:00 AM Ministers Meeting 12:30 PM Interpreters 1:00 PM Pastor Felecia Brown/Robert 1:30 PM Spiritual Gifts 2:30 PM Pastor Felecia Brown/Robert Reception	3 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 8:30 AM Men's Ministry 1:15 PM Praise Dance Rehearsal 6:00 PM Comedy Show	4 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 6:00 PM Exercise Class 6:30 PM Annual Church Outing 6:30 PM REFUGE	5 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 6:00 PM Pastor's Anniversary Celebration 6:00 PM Comedy Show	6 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 8:30 AM Men's Ministry 12:30 PM Interpreters 5:00 PM Fairfield Ushers Fashion Show

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

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