



MESSAGE

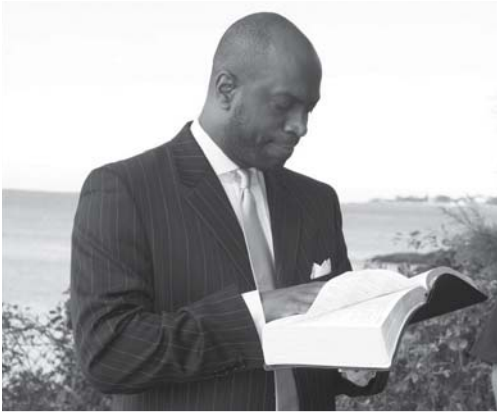
from the Mount



Volume 22



Rebuilding Our Sanctuary *Rebuilding Our Spirits*



The Pastor's Pen

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Namaste my Brothers and Sisters in Christ!

It is my honor and privilege to greet you this first Sunday in a new year. THANKS BE TO GOD! As we look back over 2010 we have had celebrations, milestones, and tremendous challenges. Many disciples of this congregation and our larger community were called from labor to reward. While we mourn their passing, we do celebrate their contributions to our families, our congregation and the broader community. And yet in the midst of the death, destruction, setbacks and disappointments, God was faithful in 2010 and is faithful in these first hours of 2011.

What better way to begin 2011 than dedicating this month to intentional churchwide prayer. Although every believer ought to pray every day, 365 days out of the year, we follow the biblical principle of intentional seasonal and focused prayer. This year's theme which will commence during our 30 days of prayer; Faith, Family and Finance: Renewing and Rebuilding. I truly believe that God is calling us to strengthen our faith, empower our families, and renew our commitment to being good financial stewards of all that God has blessed us with.

While we cannot predict all of the events we will face in 2011, as we anchor ourselves in prayer, fasting, and study. I believe God will take us to deeper dimensions of discipleship and higher heights of spiritual living.

Stay tuned for this year, for the best is yet to come.

God bless you,

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



Editor's Desk

In the presence of
Kings & Queens

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Happy New Year everyone,

As we go through life one of the most exciting and anxious days we experience is “move in day”. The day you move out of your parent’s home and into the dormitories. The day you move out of the dormitories and into your first apartment. The day you move from that apartment to the next apartment or into your house. In all of those cases the day is preceded by weeks and sometimes months of preparation, saving, packing and planning. You do all of that and more so that your move in day will be successful.

Well for the last 60 days we have been out of the Sanctuary as crews have worked feverishly to repair the roof. Everyone has been so kind and understanding as we have worshipped down stairs. Personally, it has been a great experience for me, because I was saved while having service in a Church basement. So it always reminds me that God will meet you wherever you are and whatever state you are in. It gives me a greater sense of appreciation for the wonderful facility we have here at the Mount.

As we make final preparation for our “Move-in Day and as we celebrate going back into the newly renovated sanctuary. Don’t take the moment for granted, present yourself as a living sanctuary holy and blameless unto God. Don’t take the “Move-in Day” for granted remember, “We are standing on Holy Ground and I know that there is angels all around. Just go and praise Jesus now, for we are standing in his presence on Holy ground!

Stay blessed my beloved,
Pastor Thomas A. Williams,
MFTM Editor in Chief.

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WHAT'S NEXT?

Important Dates

Pastor's Engagements

January

23rd at 6pm (no choir for this event)

St. John's Episcopal Church, 768 Fairfield Avenue, Bridgeport

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

30th at 3:30pm

Community Baptist Church, 143 Shelton Avenue, New Haven

Leadership Celebration Service

Sisters at the Well Book Club

Next meeting will be held Tuesday, January 11th. We will gather in the Narthex at 6:30 pm.

Ministry Spotlight



R.E.F.U.G.E Ministry

Rev. Velva Jean Tucker interviewed by Leslie Green

This month's ministry spotlight shines on the R.E.F.U.G.E. ministry. Our own Leslie Green caught up with Rev. Velva Jean Tucker to discuss this important ministry.

Rev. Tucker thank you so much for taking time away from your conference to share about the ministry called R.E.F.U.G.E.

Leslie Green: First could you tell our readers what R.E.F.U.G.E. stands for?

Rev. Tucker: Restoring Everlasting Faith Under God's Embrace and it is a ministry for those recovering from dependencies and co-dependencies.

Leslie Green: This ministry has been one of many ministries at Mt. Aery that to my understanding has evolved to another level. Could you tell us what makes this such a crucial and vital ministry for just a time as this?

Rev. Tucker: Pastor Bennett continues to embrace this ministry, perhaps due to the sensitive nature of the necessity to address all types of dependencies and co-dependencies, whether drugs, alcohol, people, places or things.

Leslie Green: Clearly you have a professional background in this area coupled with a calling to preach and teach the word of God, could you give us a little history?

Rev. Tucker: For some of us, our misery has become our ministry. God has called me to lead the lost to the cross by way of example. The 'been there, done that' approach is without parallel.

Leslie Green: Is R.E.F.U.G.E. open to the community?

Rev. Tucker: Yes, and people from the community are welcome and have been known to join us.

Leslie Green: Is there an age cut off or limit with R.E.F.U.G.E.?

Rev. Tucker: Not at all! R.E.F.U.G.E. is multi-generational, as are dependencies and co-dependencies.

Ministry **Spotlight** continues

Leslie Green: How often does the ministry meet?

Rev. Tucker: This ministry meets Thursday evenings from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Leslie Green: How do people come into R.E.F.U.G.E., are they brought in by a friend, do they contact you or the office?

Rev. Tucker: People come into R.E.F.U.G.E. through friends and disciples of Mt. Aery, through word of mouth and through recommendations from the Discipleship Ministry as well as from the Church Office. We open and close with a word of prayer, we share what is going on with us individually, and we read from recovery materials as well as from the Bible.

Leslie Green: Clearly R.E.F.U.G.E. is very highly sensitive in nature yet there must be some kind of testimony in this ministry. Without revealing privacy and trust within R.E.F.U.G.E., could you give us one or two testimonials perhaps encouraging someone else along the way?

Rev. Tucker: Sure! No matter what you have done, no matter where you have been and no matter who you have met along the way, God is able to restore you back to wholeness. I know this because He did it for me! Our God is an awesome God.

Leslie Green: What is the thing you want most for people to know about R.E.F.U.G.E.?

Rev. Tucker: REFUGE is a safe place where you can share your experiences with those of us who have been through similar experiences under similar circumstances. We are willing to support you in your efforts to overcome by the blood of the lamb and by the word of your testimony.

Leslie Green: Once again thank you for your time here and especially your time with R.E.F.U.G.E. May God continue to pour into you in such a special way.

Rev. Velva Jean Tucker has been serving on the Ministerial Staff at Mt. Aery since 2005, and has served as Chaplain for Leeway Nursing Home in New Haven, CT, which is the leader in AIDS care. Currently Rev. Tucker is a Drug Treatment Advocate with GBAPP in Bridgeport, CT, a member of the Nia Alliance and the Ashe HIV Faith Project of MADC.



Rev. Velva Jean Tucker



Réciproque Humaine

I heard him say “Do not faint,” do not faint, do not faint.

Do not faint, I cannot faint; I will not faint becomes my endurance~ the reciprocity of my today
and tomorrow.

The equilibrium between my Hu(man) and God~

The distance that patterns the self less destiny and correlates the levels I climb.

His intent; the decree that speaks to my productivity.

Voices of my past, present and future will cumulate like sandstones; creating a path that will
translate a vicarious message~

I heard him say “Do not faint”

I cannot and will not faint

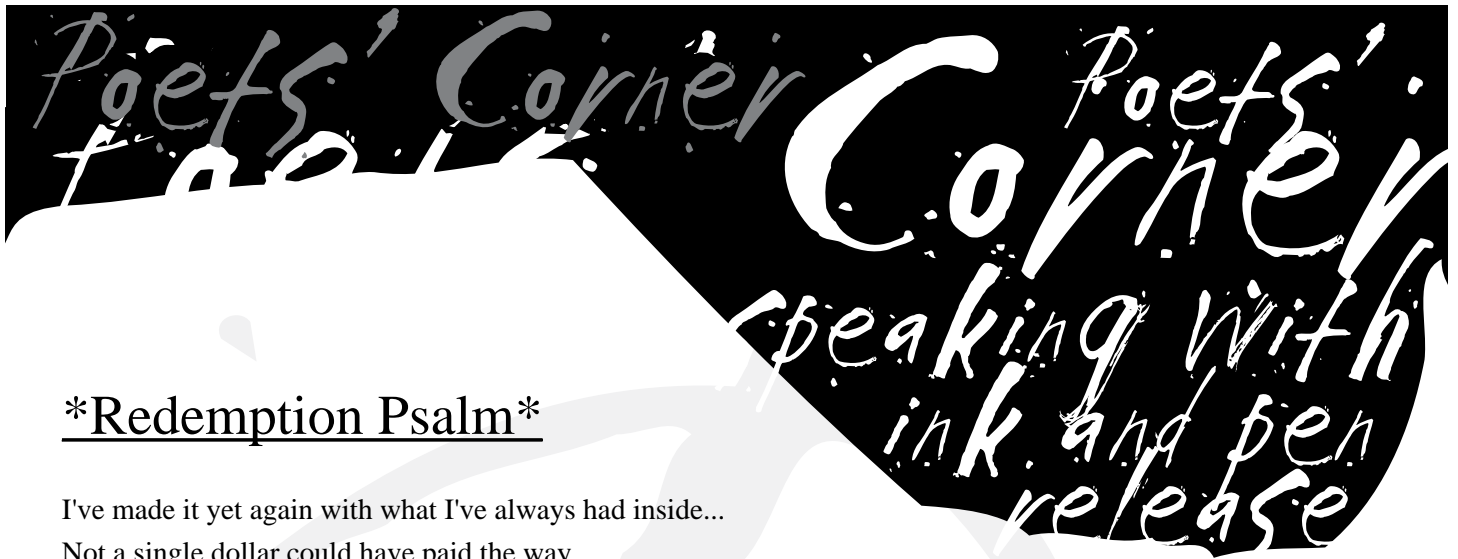
Friend~Namaste

My endurance~the reciprocity between today and tomorrow.

The equilibrium between my hu(man) and oh, my God.

My God~my merciful and benevolent God.

Arikeade~
W.O.M.B



Redemption Psalm

I've made it yet again with what I've always had inside...
Not a single dollar could have paid the way...
Not questions being asked what feels like too many times by a Therapist...
With my back to the wall, life's got me saying to self -
Yet My God when I felt the pinch...
Yet My God when I felt the bite...
Not ready to talk...yet ready to fight...
Sitting at my desk trying to hold back tears...
Photographic memory of places I don't want to go back to...
Friends not supportive, locking their doors, clutching their purses and
wallets, locking their car doors when I walk by...
Those looking from the outside in continue to characterize me...
Everybody knows some things become bigger than what they are and get blown
out of proportion...
How can I never do what they do, when they look like the man I see in the
mirror...
With my back to the wall, life's got me saying to self-
Yet My God when I feel the pinch...
Yet My God when I feel the bite...
Well for God is my rock and my fortress...
God is my All in All, who shall I fear...
So when I go through another trial, I'm thanking God not crying asking
why...
God I never told how much you mean to me, but from now on I'll always let
you know...
For my endurance & triumphs are composed to be my Redemption Psalm & God is
the composer...
This is one song stuck on repeat, this is one song that never ends...
This is one answer to the message...

by Malék Simpson

Ashe Ministry is recognized before Congress

Nancy Kingwood Interview by Shakira Simpson

On December 1st, 2010 Mount Aery member Nancy Kingwood gave a presentation before congress. Nancy is the program director of Greater Bridgeport Adolescent Pregnancy Program, Inc. (GBAPP, Inc.), coordinator of the faith based Ashe Ministry and the Nia Alliance. Our newest writer Shakira Simpson caught up with Nancy for a discussion of the Ashe Ministry and Nia Alliance.

Shakira: Thank you for taking the time to answer a few questions. Before we begin, I would like to congratulate you on receiving an award for your work with the Ashe Ministry.

For those who do not know, can you please explain what the Ashe Ministry is?

Nancy: The Ashe Faith ministry will enable at risk women of African descent to enhance their decision making skills through education, peer support and advocacy and assertive skills. The women will be challenged regularly and need a safe environment to learn, process, ask questions and receive support. Program Goals: 1) Provide HIV/AIDS and Substance Abuse Prevention in community presentations and outreach activities; 2) Provide HIV Counseling and Testing; 3) Refer clients with identified mental health and substance abuse problems to treatment; 4) Offer referrals to program participants with additional needs for wrap around services with program partners; 5) Sustain social marketing campaign; 6) Offer faith based organizations capacity building and technical assistance in ministry development at no cost.

African-American women account for a profoundly disproportionate percentage of all diagnosed AIDS cases among women. Moreover, the rate of infection continues to increase among women, especially African-American women. This suggests the need for effective gender specific, culturally relevant prevention strategies. The Ashe (ah-SHAY, also Ase) – (A word meaning the ability to make whatever one says happen. Often summarized as “so be it”, “so it is”, or “it definitely shall be so”) Program is designed to address such needs. This includes understanding the impact of culture, the intersectionality of oppression, historical trauma and the heightened sense of secrecy and shame. The Ashe Faith project is the only program in the state addressing specific prevention needs of women of African descent.

The Ashe Faith ministry has a weekly broadcast entitled NIA LIVE on WDJZ 1530am. Our broadcast is aired on Thursday at 4pm. I am proud to serve as Project Director and Visionary.

Shakira: What was your inspiration on creating the Ashe Ministry?

Nancy: The Ashe Faith ministry is one of the ministries birthed out of the Nia Alliance for Men and Women of Color. The Nia Alliance is a community social justice ministry I started 5 years ago. My inspiration for creating the Ashe Faith Ministry can be found in Luke chapter 19

verse 31 "If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it (the colt)?’ tell him, ‘The Lord needs it.’”

I believe the people of God have a responsibility, a divine directive, to speak truth to power and address social structures that continue to keep us bound and oppressed. We are indeed our brother and sister's keepers.

During our bible study with the women in the Nia Alliance this text spoke to my spirit in such a profound way, I caught the vision of the Ashe ministry. One of the principles of the Nia Alliance is to understand that we are mere servants walking in the footsteps of Christ sitting among the people. We must grasp in our spirits that we have to move beyond cheap grace and understand what costly discipleship is.

The Ashe Faith Ministry is based on the outreach leadership ministry of Jesus. This ministry model teaches us that we must move beyond the four walls of a building and exalt Christ in a very dark world. In doing this we are breaking down walls and barriers (untying the colt) and bringing souls to Christ through direct services, education and by demonstrating unconditional love. We are also assisting churches with developing more effective ministries and identifying resources for sustainability.

Shakira: How did you feel when you were informed that you would be receiving an award?

Nancy: I felt blessed and humbled as there were many other organizations and churches that applied for this funding. This grant went out to the community through a competitive bid process. Only 31 grants were awarded and we are the only grantee in the state.

Shakira: How was your trip to Washington, DC?

Nancy: I was blessed to be one of the six women chosen from across the country to brief Congress on the HIV/AIDS care and prevention needs of women of color. The briefing was held on World AIDS Day, December 1st in the Rayburn Building. I spoke about the effects and impact of policy and gaps in services. Karin Smith, another disciple of Mount Aery, and I had the opportunity to meet with congressional members and their staff to discuss some of our concerns on the local level and about the new incoming congress. The Women and HIV Congressional Briefing committee received an invitation to return and continue the dialog.

Shakira: How does one get involved with the Ashe Ministry?

Nancy: If anyone would like to get involved in The Ashe Ministry please call 203-870-0761 to schedule an appointment to meet with the staff.

Thank you so much for your time.

Angel Tree

Prison Fellowship's Angel Tree is a ministry that reaches out to the children of inmates and their families with the love of Christ. By connecting parents in prison with their children through the delivery of gifts at Christmas, you help brighten the lives of hundreds of thousands of children. Not only do these kids receive a message of love from their parents, but also the true meaning of Christmas — the Good News of Jesus Christ.

This year the Mount Aery family hosted 125 families and gave gifts to over 200 children. On behalf of our Angel Tree ministry, Deacon Luis Febres would like to thank the congregation and several other outside organizations for sponsoring children, donating time, money and gift cards to the event.

Special thanks to the following groups for their sponsorships of several children: LaJune Pollard & South West CT Agency on Aging, Andrea Barge & Sigma Gama Rho Sorority Inc., Sister Sandra Cameron & the Links Inc. (Milford chapter), D.I.T. Doreen Cotter & Allison Riddick.

Deacon Febres was also excited about the true cross-functional ministry effort throughout the church. Ministries such as Community Time, M.A.Y.A, Plug, and Jesus Corner among others came together to make it a day to remember for the families. Special thanks to all the men that came out to help set up and break down the room then deliver gifts and food to families.

In 2011 Deacon Febres wants to work throughout the year to help support these families in need. If you are interested in the Angel Tree Ministry or Prison Ministry please see Deacons Luis or Annette Febres.



Mount Aery Raises the Roof!

Shay Thomas interviewed by Henry Smalls

Henry: I appreciate you taking time to be here.

Shay: Thank you sir, I thank you for having me and I appreciate you considering what's going on and taking the time to get the details—that's a good thing.

Henry: Can you tell our MFTM readers what caused the damage to sanctuary?

Shay: It began with damage to our roof caused by the tornado we experienced this past summer. Originally, we were not aware of the damage to the roof, but once the heavy rains came days following the tornado, damage was apparent on the ceiling of the sanctuary. We contacted our insurance company and began negotiations with different companies to repair the damage.

Henry: What needs to be done to repair the damage?

Shay: We've experienced both exterior and interior damage. Exterior damage includes part of the roof which was rolled away and some of the flashing which stops the rain from gathering in particular areas. We suffered interior damage to the walls, ceiling, and carpet. We will repair the roof, replace the drywall, paint the walls and ceiling, and replace the carpeting in the both the sanctuary and pulpit areas.

Henry: That's a huge undertaking. How long will the construction take?

Shay: The construction will begin on November 8, 2010, and we hope to complete it late December, 2010. Our goal (God's will be done) is to be back in the sanctuary by Watchnight Service.

Henry: Alright, sounds good, sounds good. We will claim that right now in the name of Jesus! While the work is being completed, is the church open for business as usual?

Shay: Yes, the church will be open for business as usual. God has blessed us with a large square footage space. We will be worshipping every Sunday, "old school style" in Bass Hall. I think it will be somewhat refreshing to be a part of an intimate setting, to have an up close and personal experience with one another.





Henry: and bring your cushions! (laughing)

Shay: That's right, bring your seat cushions with you! (laughing) These seats don't give and we don't want you guys leaving here limping! (laughing) In the meantime, all activities in the church will continue, and we will have access to all parts of the church except the sanctuary—God's work as usual!

Henry: Is there anything our MFTM readers can do to help with the process?

Shay: First and foremost, we ask that everyone be patient and embrace what we're doing in Bass Hall on Sunday's and also to give what God has put in your heart to give because there is still much work to be done. I think we sometimes take for granted what a beautiful sanctuary God has blessed us with, and we just want to keep it up to the standards that we are accustomed to. This church was built in 1982 and if my math serves me correctly, that's about 28 years old, so we just want to continue to keep it beautiful. Just expect a replenished sanctuary!

Henry: My last question here. Are there any other projects on the horizon in the near future?

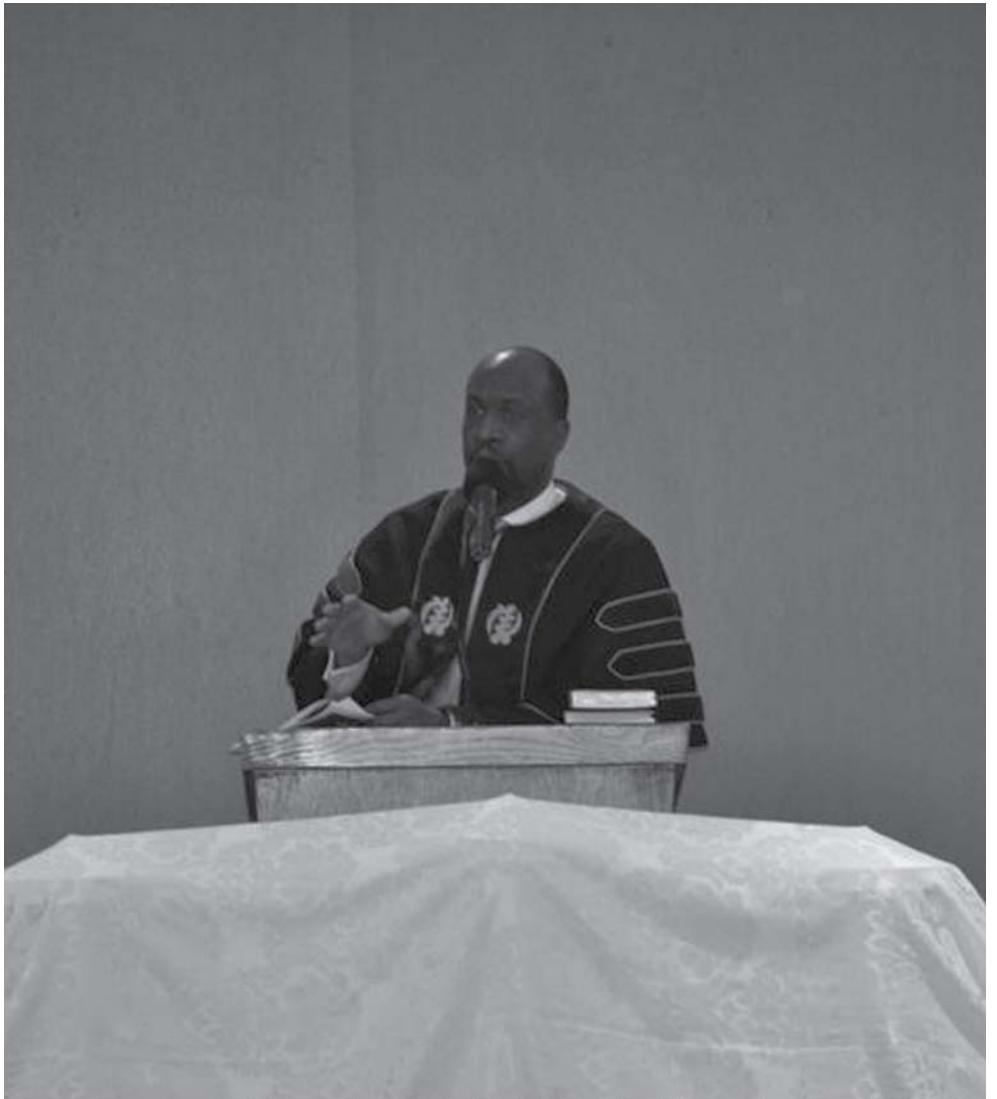
Shay: Absolutely, but, of course, this is contingent upon us having the funds to finance these projects. We have plans to renovate our properties located at 72-74 George Street and 105 Frank Street to include new flooring, etc. We also plan to re-pave our parking lot in the near future. In addition, we plan to organize the church basement and revamp the look of Wilson Hall. These are just some of the priorities set by the Trustee Ministry along with the Joint Ministries and we're on it! Amen.

Henry: Again, I appreciate your time and thank you so much for sitting down and talking to me and hopefully we can do it well.

Shay: Oh, it will be done. Amen.

Henry: Amen.

Mount Aery Raises the Roof! continues



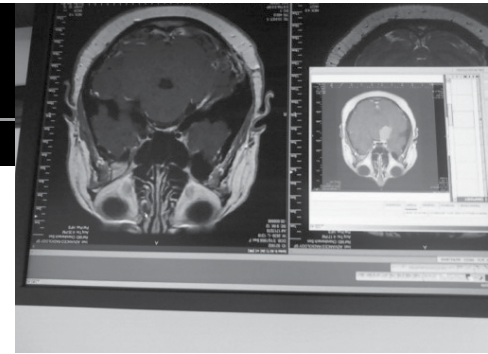
generalNEWS

Mount Aery Raises the Roof! continues



SPECIALreport

by Eva McCleod, Forward by Thomas Williams



Those of you who are faithful readers may have noticed that one of our original interviewers and writers, Sister Eva McCleod hasn't appeared in the magazine for several months. No I didn't fire her and no we didn't have a falling out. Almost a year ago, Eva called me and told me to pray for her. She asked me to pray because she had been diagnosed with a brain tumor. Stunned by the news I let the phone go silent. Fast forward to last month and Eva grabs me after service and announces that she is better and ready to come back to MFTM. I happily told her, that her first assignment is to tell her own story and share how God turned her prayer request into a praise report.

We at MFTM are so excited about this story that we made it a four part series. Please enjoy this first installment of Sister McCleod's testimony and watch it unfold over the next few months.

Life changes without our Permission Part 1

In August 2008 I went on vacation and returned on September 4th, 2008 which was a Friday. That Saturday morning I left home to run some errands and as I was driving down Black Rock Turnpike when all of a sudden I got dizzy. I said "Whoaaaaaa, what was that?" I continued to drive and didn't think any more about it. I went about my daily routine doing things I needed to get done on a Saturday, as I continued throughout the day the dizziness had subsided. I return to work on September 7th, 2008 to my normal working duties.

The next day I got up to walk my dog and I felt dizzy again. I stopped for a few seconds until the dizziness stopped. Now I am thinking something is wrong. So I spoke with a few friends of mine and was telling them my problem with the dizziness and one person stated that that happens and it is nothing really significant about it. I stated "Oh yeah". Then I decided to tell my family that I was getting dizzy and really don't know the reason why. My mother suggested that I go to the doctor and find out what the problem is.

At this point I began to worry a little bit wondering why I was getting dizzy. I waited a while before I contacted my doctor hoping that the problem would go away. Well, the problem didn't go away and I began to continue getting dizzy spells and just ignored them. So a few weeks went by and I decided to contact my

doctor. I told the receptionist the reason for the appointment was that I was getting dizzy and I am off balance a little bit. So she set me up with an appointment with my doctor.

I went to my doctor in September 2008 and he checked my ears and stated that I had something called Vertigo. I asked "What is Vertigo?" He explained that it is something that throws one's balance off and it usually has something to do with the ears. So he gave me a prescription to stop the dizziness. I took the prescription, but never had it filled. I felt as though he really needed to get to the root of the problem.

So of course the dizziness continued and I went to work everyday and church on Sunday. I continued interviewing with the MFTM and just went on with my normal routine. I decided one day that I was going back to the doctor because I really need to find out what is going on with me so in October 2008 here I go again. I thought, "oh well maybe it will stop" and it did for about three weeks. Then the spells started up again. I said "I am going to make one more appointment and tell the doctor the reason I didn't get the prescription filled is because I rather for him to get to the root of the problem and not try to blanket the problem with medication." So at this point, I called and made another appointment.

In the meantime, my parents reside in Georgia and they had a serious car accident, so that put my doctor's visit on hold for a while because I left to go to Georgia and visit with my parents after they were released from the hospital. My sister and I went to visit a few days before Thanksgiving and spent time with them while they were in recovery. On Wednesday, the night before Thanksgiving, we go out to get pedicures and manicures while my parents were at home asleep. The moment we all returned from our outing, we weren't in the house but for a few seconds when we heard a loud thump upstairs. Not thinking the worst, my sister and I yelled up to my nieces who were already upstairs to check the bedroom, my niece then runs to the bathroom after she saw that my father wasn't in his room. She pushes open the door, screaming at the top of her lungs saying that my father had fallen and he had the toothbrush in his mouth. So immediately, my sister and I ran upstairs, my mother and nieces were in an emotional state. My sister and I pulled my father off the floor and were holding him up while waiting for the

paramedics.

For some reason it seemed as if they took their time, once they arrived we were still holding him up and his eyes started to fix and set and I knew right then and there he was gone. We said "Oh boy" meaning that he had fallen again, but this time he didn't make it. He literally died in our arms. The medics worked on him and everything, but he never regained consciousness at the hospital. I was distraught and I was an emotional mess. My father was my friend. I had to return to Connecticut only to return to Georgia to conduct funeral services there.

I am still getting dizzy spells the entire time I was there but I braced myself through emotional pain. I returned home in December 2008 to return to my daily routine as usual. In the midst of my crisis I called the doctor again to return back to him for the sake of really wanting to know the reason for this problem. At this point, Dr. Bushell gave me a name of an ear, nose and throat doctor to find out why I was getting dizzy. This time I said to myself I am not going to this doctor I am going to go to the other ear, nose and throat specialist that I know and that's what I did. After Christmas I made an appointment with Dr. Levine on January 8th, 2009.

During the Holiday season, I tried to keep my spirits up but I was a mess, mess, mess. Losing a love one is something that we have no control over and the pain is so great, but God is always in the midst of our sorrow and he was certainly there for me. The New Year came in (2009) and I had a gathering at my house with friends and family. We really had a great time, but that void was always there. The dizziness appeared to be getting worst at this time. My sister said to me that she noticed it more that I kept dropping my head and she said, "Oh Jean, I can really see it now, you have to make sure you go to that doctor's appointment." I said, "yeah" almost in a daze.

Continued next month....

GUESSWHO!!!

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

Sis. Jacque Wright
Sis. Maxine Plummer
Sis. Francine Spinks
D.I.T Doreen Cotter
Rev. Velva Jean Tucker
Sis. Tracey Jeanbaptiste
Sis. Pearlve Sams-Allen

- (1) _____
(2) _____
(3) _____
(4) _____
(5) _____

(1)

“This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light”
(1Jn 1:5)



(2)

“I am writing you a new command; its truth is seen in him and you ... light is already shining.” (1Jn 2:8)



(5)

“And now there children, continue in him ... confident and unashamed ...”
(1Jn 2:28)



(4)

“For everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory ... even our faith.”
(1Jn 5:4)

(3)

“His command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another ...”
(1Jn 3:23)

Answers for December: (1) D.I.T Jackie Seawright; (2) Sis. Magnolia Barnes;
(3) Rev. Joann Oliver; (4) Sis. Betty Hill; (5) Sis. Michelle Adams



Doreen's Top TEN Biblical Questions

by Doreen Cotter

Son, Peter, Word, Life, Sadducees, Eternal, Washing, World, Heart, Paul, Hid, Philip, Sin, Loved, Perish, Pharisees

Fill in the blank spaces with the correct word from the above list:-

1. The Word of God is a cleansing flow for sin, a flaming sword with which to combat the enemy and a guide to the way of holiness:

"Thy _____ have I _____ in my _____, that I might not _____ against thee."

2. We are sanctified (cleansed):

"By the _____ with water through the _____."

3. _____ He told Jesus about the Greeks who wanted to see Him.

4. _____ He was one of Jesus' disciples, and the first to preach to the Jews.

5. _____ His arrest and trial gave opportunities for the Gospel to be presented to government officials in Palestine and Rome.

6. _____ and _____ two religious sects that openly attacked and tried to undermine Jesus.

7. _____ He was the first disciple to preach to the Gentile.

8. God's act of Love was giving of Himself through His son Jesus:

"For God so _____ the _____ that he gave his only _____, that whoever believes in him shall not _____ but have _____."

9. True or False:

- Love requires us to act in deed and truth; not just in word? _____
- Love beareth, believeth and hopeth most things? _____
- God rebukes and chastens those He loves? _____
- Jesus summarized the Law into two commandments? _____

10. Faith is:

- a) Seeing light when there is only darkness c) A & B
- b) Hoping in the impossible d) None of the above

TOP TEN ANSWERS:

1. "Thy Word have I Hid in my Heart that I might not Sin against thee." (Ps. 119:11)
2. "By the Washing with water through the Word." (Eph. 5:26)
3. Philip (John 12:20-22)
4. Peter (Acts 2:14-40)
5. Paul (Acts 21-28)
6. Pharisees (Matt. 12:38-39) Sadducees (Matt. 21:12)
7. Peter (Acts 10)
8. "For God so Loved the World that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not Perish but have Eternal Life."
9. True (1John 3:18)
- False (1Cor. 13:4-7)
- True (Rev. 3:19)
- True (Luke 10:27)
10. (c) A & B

Announcements

- **P.L.U.G.** (teenagers) and **Jesus Corner** (up to 12 yrs old) has begun. The children are excited. Parents/Guardians, please remember to sign your children in and out for Jesus Corner. Both classes are on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm.
- For submissions to Message From The Mount or the Update please send the information to: mftm@mtaerybaptist.org
- For submissions for the monitors please send the information to: media_ministry@mtaerybaptist.org

Recognitions

Trendon Gardner

Bridge Academy, 7th Grade, 2 – B, 3 – A

Teal Patton

Hamden High School, 11th Grade, 1 – B, 6 – A

Raquon Johnson

graduated from NCCU with a business degree with a concentration in marketing. He is also a proud member of the Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity.

Garland Patton, Jr.

finished Morehouse College in 3 ½ years. He has been accepted to Missouri School of Science and Technology. Once he completes the program, he will have his electrical engineer degree as well as successfully completed the Engineering program of Morehouse. Out of 5 students who began the program with him, he is the only one left going forward.

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.

Glover 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

Edward Cox, Jr.

New Britain Hospital for Special Care, 2150 Corbin Ave., New Britain, CT 06053

Claude Dennis

Astoria Park, 725 Park Avenue, Bridgeport, CT 06604

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

Linda Carter, Greta Railey

Bridgeport Hospital, 267 Grant Street, Bridgeport, CT 06610

Margarite Blake

Westport Health Care Center, 1 Burr Road, Westport, CT 06880

Juliet LaRosa

Milford Hospital, 300 Seaside Avenue, Milford, CT 06460

Felicia Whitfield

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

Kevin Hanks

Yale – New Haven Hospital, 20 York Street, New Haven, CT 06610

Please Pray for Our Healing List

Deacon Brad Belcher

Clinnie Black

Deaconess Queen Boone

Millie Burton

Ophelia Cameron

Sandra Cameron

Delores Cox

George Davis

Harold Farrar

Lois Farrar

Barbara Foust

Bernice Geter

Jodi Green

Deaconess Milla Green

Susan Holmes

Brenda Johnson

Selaja Johnson

Unice Jones

Kenneth Knight

Nanette Malone

Regina Manns

Clyde McLaughlin

Thomas Meredith

LaJeune Pollard

Eulalia Pettway

Monique Pugh

Lillian Ragsdale

Deacon Willie Mae

Richardson

Bonita Robinson

Sally Soares

Mary Thigpen

Deaconess Anna Watkins

Cecilia Williams

June Williams

Cecelia Wilson

Bereavement

- **Maguena Adetona and family** lost her father, Jude DesLandes, in New York
- **Kevin Lanham** lost his wife, Cynthia Lanham.
- **Candida and Eduardo Paul and Zequanda Wright and family** lost their mother and grandmother, Joyce Pace.
- **Felicia Whitfield** lost her father, John Whitfield, in Bridgeport, CT.

JANUARY 2011 Birthdays

January 1st

Antoine, David
Cato, Cindy
Feliciano, Pablo
Hill, Moya
Lusanga, Kelly
Minott, Quillian
Parks, William
Smith, Joanne
Smith, Neil
Sunsrae, Dennis
Walden, Jean
Wilson, Barbara

January 2nd

Barry, LaAustralia
Blatch, Cicely
Charles, Devonne
Gardner, Braxton
Grant, Minnie
Holliday, Jade
Lewis, Adriane
Maldonado, Ivelisse
Muller, Adrian
Robinson-Vennable, Josie
Vicente', Annie
Wallace, John

January 3rd

Addison, Sharhonda
Fields, Zoretha
Hill, Reva
Johnson, Lovicia
Mercado, ToniAnn
Pettway, Tawanda
Williams, Brenda

January 4th

Badjoin, Tanta
Evans, Duanecia
Figueroa, Priscilla
Gardner, Alan
Gardner, Eva
Shepard, Robin
Spencer, Marissa
Turner, Vera

January 5th

Correa, Yaratzed
Gaskin, Doris
Geter, LaWanda
Hall, Robert L.
Holbrook, Margaret

Holmes, Frederick
McNeil, Deidre
Salmon, Tyrena
Singleton, Sadie
Stanley, DeNisha
Taylor, Rochelle
Thigpen, Keysha
Tyson, Shirley
Weeden, Terry
Wells, Deidre
Williams, Alexia

January 6th

Baldie, Sanjay
Boyer, Reine
Gamble, Lisa
Sams-Allen, Pearlye
Stephenson, Tyreese

January 7th

Blank, Brandon
Carter, Linda
Darby, Alonzo
Dennis, Alesia
Glenn, Justin
Sherwood, Amelia
Stanford, Michelle
Teasley, Elizabeth
Thompson, James
Velez, Maritza

Whidbee, Mary
Williams, Joseph

January 8th

George, Nicole
Mughwai, Vincent
Thompson, Alicia

January 9th

Cheney, Karen
Courtney, Damu
Dennis, Wilton
Glenn, James
Gnat, Debra
Harvin, Joylette
Meyers, Joyce
Oden, Zadie
Spaulding, Rakeen
Vaz, Zoe

January 10th

Johnson, Vanessa
White, William

January 11th

Byam, Lorraine
Cooper, Jacqueline
Dailey, Janice
Edmonds Rogers, Yasmeen
Marshall, Richard
Mayes, Arneta
Pettway, Willie
Pompey, Anthony

January 12th

Anderson, Heather
Brown, Raeshawna
Brown, Rashea
Craig, Elaine
Gamble, Sharniece
Porter, Shanea
Spencer, Olive
Wilborn, Ricky

January 13th

Black, Martin
Brayboy, Samantha
Earley, Rematha
Gordon, Janelle
Hill, Takeenia
Maxwell, Eugene
Vining, Sandra

January 14th

Brown, Tyhishia
Daniels, Laura
Davis-Joyner, William
Dudley, Doreen
Hill, Theresa
Jones, DaJuan
Joyner-Davis, William
McCullough, Lander
Parker, Vyola
Satchwell, Garfield

January 15th

Blackwell, Dikembe
Bowens, Rodnae
Burnett, Celeste
Cobb, Deric
Coplton, Joseph
Cummings, Dyane
Davis, Melvin
Green, Hubert
JeanBaptiste, Tracey
Johnson, Deborah

January 16th

Cherry, Karen
Hanks, Shante'
King, Rasheda
Lee, Nashon
Morton, Betty
Riley, Anthony
Thomas-Allen, Josephine
Whittington, Dakota
Williams, Thomas

January 17th

Burch, Andre
Costa, Walter
Gary, Daryl
Muse, LaVonne
Peterson, Deloris
Walker, Glenn

January 18th

Gilbert, Margarite
Karol, Anthony
Martha, Sanders
Mosby, Rohan
Williams, Kyle

January 19th

Mack, Karen
Mills, Rickman
Moss, LaRosa
Peeler, Talisha
Roebuck, Tressa
Savariali, Tricia
Smith, Linda
Smith, Pamela
Vining, Dawn

January 20th

Collins, Denice
Drakeford, Luther
Mae
Hicks, Gwendlynn
Holbrook, Sharon
Holliday, Javis
Layne, Eleanor
Layne, Yasmin
Myers, Demetrius
Newport, Rose
Ragsdale, Lillian
Riley, Frances
Tabb, Kathy
Coote, Daiquan

Jones, Latifah

January 22nd

Cantella, Marie
Douglas-Givan, Veronica
McNeill, Samantha
Monk, Davonnah
Rockingham-Kearse, Patricia

January 23rd

Butler, Ashley
Day, Georgia
Fleming, Schelita
Hunter, Akymia
McIntyre, Kyla
Robert, Calvin
Schoolfield, Gloria
Tartaglia, John

January 24th

Booth, Katora
Brown, Katherine
Bruce, Betty
Bryant, Mary
Charles, Sonia
Gregory, Franklin
Kearse, Jocelyn
Marshall, Kerry

January 25th

Daymon, Tameka
Goodwin, Marquis
Hudson, John
Irby, Crystal
Kinder, Debra
Lebron, Lebron
Newsom, David
Newton, Pamela
Simpson, Ella
Thompson, Alphonso
Torres, Gloria

January 26th

Allen, Ada
Cauthen Jr., George
Coltrane, Michelle
Cox, Jason
Ellis, Shanika
Jones, Leola
Mincey, Ulysses
Oliver, Robert
Williams, Truila

January 27th

Brooks, Elisa
Geter, Ronald

Jackson, Primus
Johnson-Mack, Mechele
Kenion, Scott
Lanham-Dennis, Gloria

Lewis, June
Mebane, Vera
Scott, Lyvonna
Sims, Juanita
Tucker, Brittany

January 28th

Collington, Price
Hunter-Craig, Robin
Johnson, Tina Marie
Mayes, Nathan
Nixon, Clara
Richardson, Kelcey
Spillane-Dixon, Juanita

January 29th

Williams, Carol
Bradley, Michelle
Cannon, Jaydah
Colter, Daniel
Day, Briana
Earley, Oscar
Ellis, Crystal
Humphrey, Romonie
Irby, Willie James
Jones, Shaquanna
Maxwell, Shanice
Perry, Paula
Sheppard, Kimberly
Simpson, Gina LeVon
Singleton, Edward
Wells, Celestina
Williams, Deborah

January 30th

Barnes, P. Magnolia
Bloodworth, Lucius
Brooks, Sharon

Cary, Fred
Stokes, Pamela
Williams, Patrick
Young, Lineo

January 31st

Bartelle, Victoria
Carter, Patricia
Crear, Ruby
Jordan, Bernice
Riddick, Kim
Thaxton, Eunice

January 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 7:45 AM Worship Celebration 9:45 AM Olmec Store – OPEN 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Celebration 1:00 PM Olmec Store – OPEN	3 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 9:00 PM Energy Auditing Class	4 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 6:30 PM Martial Arts CT Class 7:00 PM Academy of Ministry 7:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal	5 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 12:00 PM Daytime Bible Study 6:45 PM Bible Study	6 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 9:00 AM Chosen Generation Rehearsal	7 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 6:30 PM Emerging Voices	1 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 9:00 AM Church Office Closed
9 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 7:45 AM Worship Celebration 9:45 AM Olmec Store – OPEN 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Celebration 1:00 PM Youth Church 1:00 PM Olmec Store – OPEN	10 6:00 AM Daily Prayer	11 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 6:00 PM Trustee Ministry Meeting 6:30 PM Martial Arts CT Class 7:00 PM Academy of Ministry 7:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal	12 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 12:00 PM Daytime Bible Study 6:45 PM Bible Study	13 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 10:00 AM Clothing Ministry - Drop Off 6:00 PM Exercise Class 6:30 PM Deacons Ministry Mtg. 6:30 PM REFUGE 7:00 PM Joint Ministry Meeting 7:00 PM Music Ministry	14 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 7:30 PM Friday Night Wordship	15 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 9:00 AM New Disciples Orientation 10:00 AM Budget & Finance Meeting 10:00 AM Male Chorus Rehearsal 11:00 AM Mass Choir Rehearsal 2:00 PM Scholarship - College Prep 4:00 PM Emerging Voices
16 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 7:45 AM Worship Celebration 9:45 AM Olmec Store – OPEN 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Celebration 1:00 PM Youth Church 1:00 PM Olmec Store – OPEN	17 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 8:00 PM Exercise Class	18 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 6:00 PM CSC Core Team 6:30 PM Martial Arts CT Class 7:00 PM Academy of Ministry 7:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal	19 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 12:00 PM Daytime Bible Study 6:45 PM Bible Study	20 6:00 AM Daily Prayer	21 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 6:30 PM Emerging Voices	22 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 10:00 AM Scholarship Ministry 11:00 PM Chosen Generation Rehearsal 12:15 PM Children Choir Rehearsal 2:00 PM Emerging Voices
23 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 7:45 AM Worship Celebration 9:45 AM Olmec Store – OPEN 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Celebration 1:00 PM Olmec Store – OPEN	24 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 6:30 PM Emerging Voices	25 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 6:30 PM Emerging Voices 6:30 PM Martial Arts CT Class 7:00 PM Academy of Ministry 7:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal	26 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 12:00 PM Daytime Bible Study 6:45 PM Bible Study	27 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 6:30 PM Emerging Voices 7:00 PM Joint Ministry Meeting	28 6:00 AM Daily Prayer	29 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 11:00 AM Leadership Institute 2:00 PM Emerging Voices
30 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 7:45 AM Worship Celebration/ Installation of New Leaders 9:45 AM Olmec Store – OPEN 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Celebration/ Installation of New Leaders 1:00 PM Olmec Store – OPEN	31 6:00 AM Daily Prayer 6:30 PM Emerging Voices					

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

JANUARY 2011 - 30 DAYS OF PRAYER

“Faith, Family and Finance: Renewing and Rebuilding”

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2 Hebrews 11:1-3 Foundation of Our Faith	3 Hebrews 11:4 We give in Faith	4 Hebrews 11:5-6 Faith that Pleases God	5 Hebrews 11:7-12 Faith that Trusts God in the Unknown	6 Hebrews 11:13-15 Living by Faith even when Evidence of the Promise is Not Clear	7 Hebrews 11:16-31 Faith that Trusts God with What You Want Most.	8 Hebrews 11:32-39 Faith that Endures Struggle and Stress
9 Romans 8:1-6 No Condemnation in the Family of God in Christ	10 Romans 8:7-11 Foundation for Family Connection	11 Romans 8:12-17 Family Responsibility	12 Romans 8:18-27 Family Struggles—Part 1	13 Romans 8:18-27 Family Struggles—Part 2	14 Romans 8:28-34 Family triumph	15 Romans 8:35-39 Nothing Separates Us from God's Love
16 II Corinthians 8:1-4 Poverty and Prosperity	17 II Corinthians 8:5-7 How to Give Generously	18 II Corinthians 8:8-15 Not Equal Giving, Equal Sacrifice	19 II Corinthians 8:16-24 The Gratitude of Giving	20 II Corinthians 9:6-9 The Heart to Give	21 II Corinthians 9:10-12 Giving that Blesses the Giver	22 II Corinthians 9:13-15 The Fruit of Generous Giving
23 I Chronicles 28 Accepting What You Can and Can't Do	24 I Chronicles 29:1-2 Preparing the Next Generation to Serve	25 I Chronicles 29:3-5 Make a Personal Investment in God's Temple	26 I Chronicles 29:6-9 Family Giving	27 I Chronicles 29:10-13 Prayer for God's Provision	28 I Chronicles 29:14-19 Worship and Giving	29 I Chronicles 29:20 The Overflow of Our Worship and Giving
30 I Chronicles 29:21-25 The Transition of New Leadership	31 I Chronicles 29:26-30 Letting Go of Our Past					