

Servants in Action

A Christian Education Newsletter

September 2014– October 2014 Edition

A Personal Question for a Personal Journey

"What Are You Waiting For?"

Pastor L. B. West, D.R.S.



12 "A man named Ananias came to see me. He was a devout observer of the law and highly respected by all the Jews living there. 13 He

stood beside me and said, 'Brother Saul, receive your sight!' And at that very moment I was able to see him.

14 "Then he said: 'The God of our ancestors has chosen you to know his will and to see the Righteous One and to hear words from his mouth. 15 You will be his witness to all people of what you have seen and heard. 16 And now what are you waiting for? Get up, be baptized and wash your sins away, calling on his name.' Acts 22: 12-16 (NIV)

Procrastination is a human trait that is applied too often and in too many important scenarios that impact negatively people's ability to achieve their best results on behalf of themselves, their families and other people they serve.

There is an innate ability within all human beings to want to put things off for a minute of moving forward to get things done.

While some hesitation can be good, particularly when you're attempting to hear from our Maker and Creator, it's good to hold off and let Him confirm what you have heard. On the other hand, continual or sustained procrastination will keep you locked up in the dark reluctant valleys of life.

It will keep you climbing up the rough side of the mountain and it will keep you from winning the battles that have already been fought and noting the victories that have already been won.

Procrastination generally speaking is not a good thing, particularly when the stage has already been set.

Procrastination is a waste of time and all of us know that time is a precious commodity. None of us have time to waste.

Therefore the question for today is a personal question, "What are you waiting for?"

What thought, action or person has you in a holding pattern of waiting? If time is precious then why waste a minute? Why tell yourself or allow someone else to tell you to put off what you were called to do today?

How many times do you suppose the Lord has asked, "What are they waiting for?" In the scripture above Ananias comes to Saul before his conversion and gives him a message from the Lord. He told him "The God of our ancestors has chosen you to

know his will and to see the Righteous One and hear him speak. 15 For you are to be his witness, telling everyone what you have seen and heard.” (NLT)

All of us have been specifically chosen and given assignments and yet are still waiting. Ananias gave Saul a message that required action and yet he sat there as if waiting for more. Finally Ananias asked Saul, “What are you waiting for?”

For a lot of us God is asking the same question, “What are you waiting for? If we use our sanctified imaginations we can see our heavenly Father laying everything out just right, then letting us know that all was ready and as He stands there with expectation we sit, and sit and sit. Finally He is forced to ask, what are you waiting for? If we ask ourselves the same question what would be the answer? What holds us back beloved? Fear, Anxiety of the unknown and the new?

What keeps us from jumping with both feet into the next level God has prepared for us? God has prepared everything we could ever need to run this race until the end. All He asks is that we take the necessary steps and be willing to run, He will complete what He starts. So I ask again. What are you waiting

The Mercy Seat of Mount Airy Baptist Church

By Sister Margaret Sexton

The greatest attraction in the interior of the Mount Airy Baptist Church is “The Mercy Seat”, a chair occupying the center of the pulpit and larger in size than any of the other chairs. This chair rests on a solid cube.

The “Mercy Seat” was completed in January 1930 and was placed there for “The Unseen Guest”, Jesus Christ, for whom the building “A Monument to Jesus” is dedicated. This great chair is not there to be worshipped or knelt before, but certainly it is there to make worshippers aware of God’s presence in our midst.

We can proudly state that this chair is the only chair of its kind in the United States! It was carved using the most expensive wood and put together without a single nail or screw. It was made by the Penn Company, dismantled, and shipped to Washington, DC in sections and reassembled after arriving here at Mount Airy. The cost was well over one thousand dollars!! In 1930 during the depression years, this amount was astronomical. The story of this great chair swept the East Coast and many traveled to Mount Airy Baptist Church to see the marvelous chair.

Every member of Mount Airy should at some time go to the pulpit, read the metal plaque with its gold-lettered inscription on prayer, touch the beautiful wood, stand back and admire this beautiful symbol of God’s presence among us. The “Mercy Seat” should make our thoughts, our words and our actions be those that are pleasing to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

The words on the “Mercy Seat” reads as follows:

WHAT VARIOUS HINDRANCES WE
MEET COMING TO A MERCY SEAT;
YET WHO THAT KNOWS THE WORTH
OF PRAYER, BUT WISHES TO BE
OFTEN THERE.
PRAYER MAKES THE DARKENED
CLOUDS WITHDRAW;

PRAYER CLIMBS THE LADDER JACOB
SAW;
GIVES EXERCISE TO FAITH AND
LOVE;
BRINGS EVERY BLESSING FROM
ABOVE.

*Reprinted from the Mount Airy Newsletter, Vol. VIII –
Nov. 2, 1987* ■

Graduation Day

by Sister Jeronn Russell

A young man was getting ready to graduate from college. For many months he had admired a beautiful sports car in a dealer's showroom, and knowing his father could well afford it, he told him that was all he wanted.

As Graduation Day approached, the young man awaited signs that his father had purchased the car. Finally, on the morning of his graduation, his father called him into his private study told him how proud he was to have such a fine son, and how much he loved him. He handed him a beautifully wrapped gift box. Curious, but somewhat disappointed the young man opened the box and found a lovely, leather-bound Bible, with his name embossed in gold. Angrily, he raised his voice to his father and said, "With all your money you give me a Bible?" He stormed out of the house, leaving the Bible behind.

Many years passed and the young man was very successful in business. He had a beautiful home and wonderful family, but realized his Father was very old. He thought perhaps he should go to him. He had not seen him since that graduation day. But before he could make arrangements, he received a telegram telling him his father had passed away, and willed all of his possessions to him. He needed to come home immediately and take care of things. When he arrived at his father's house, sadness and regret filled his heart. He began

to search through his father's important documents and saw the Bible, new, just as he had left it years ago. With tears, he opened the Bible and began to turn the pages. His father had carefully underlined a verse, Matt 7:11, "And if ye, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more shall your Heavenly Father which is in Heaven, give to those who ask Him?" As he read those words, a car key dropped from the back of the Bible. It had a tag with the dealer's name, the same dealer who had the sports car he had desired.

On the tag was the date of his graduation, and the words...PAID IN FULL.

How many times do we miss God's blessings because they are not packaged as we expected? ■

NBCCE Dallas, Texas: **June 16-20, 2014**

by Sister Delores Agee

This year 42 men, women and youth traveled to the 109th session of the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education in Dallas, Texas. Those traveling by motor coach stopped over in Montgomery, Alabama and Birmingham, Alabama where we took time to visit a few Civil Rights memorials. We were commemorating the 50th year of the Civil Rights Era.

Montgomery: Dexter Ave. Baptist Church
and Civil Rights Memorial





Birmingham: Ingram Park, 16th Street
Bapt. Church, Praying Ministers



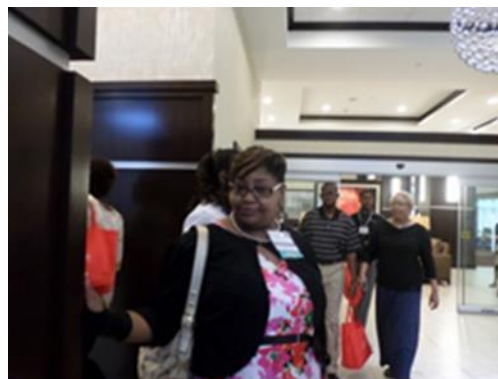
In addition to the excitement about learning more about the word of God, we supported our Pastor in the Presidential Campaign.

Our theme again this year was “Solidarity with the Savior.”

Campaign: NBC USA

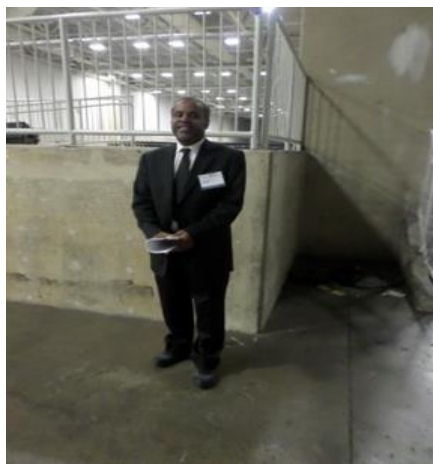


Rev. Professor Karen Taylor



We also had two graduates: Rev. Johnnie Sudds and Deacon Warren Harris.

Congratulations!



Next year the Congress will be held in Detroit, Michigan, June 22-26, 2015. Details on cost for hotel and ground transportation will be available soon. If you plan to attend, deposits can be made at any time. Please see Deloris Agee if you are available to assist with planning and coordinating. ■

Trinity Dances to *“Every Praise”*



NBCCE Dallas – “Puppetry”

by Sister Deloris Agee

This is the second year that I registered for this exciting class. Developing a puppet ministry can enhance our creative arts ministry and draw not only youth but also impact the lives of adults, seniors and those who are shut-in. We are currently working toward having the Central Baptist Church, puppet ministry come and share with us. This is a spiritual teaching tool that is also entertaining.

If you think that you might be interested in helping to develop this ministry please contact Deloris Agee.■

Ladies of Vision & Empowerment: One Day Women’s Retreat

by Dr. Phyllis J. Mayo

The Women’s Ministry under the leadership of Deaconess Gwen West enjoyed another spiritually enriching day of worship, fellowship and growth on Saturday, September 27, 2014. Over 70 women converged on the Turf Valley Resort and Conference Center eager to experience the movings and teachings of the Holy Spirit, and I don’t think anyone left disappointed. The theme for the day “Walking in Authority... The Journey Continues” reminded us that as daughters of the most high God we have the authority and the responsibility to walk.

We were led in praise and worship by forward and accomplish greater things. several of our gifted sisters who ushered in the Spirit of the Lord and set the tone for the day- love, respect, comradery and reverence. Icebreakers and games were also interspersed throughout the day; and these activities added levity and opportunities for ladies to form teams and to compete for gifts and prizes.

The highlights of the day were the messages and encouragement shared by four powerful, anointed women of God who unselfishly allowed God to use them. Minister A. Kawanna Fogle pointed out that even though we may be “running on a broken heel” we can endure the journey; we may have false starts, hurdles to cross, falls and trips, but we can make it. Minister Fogle stressed we have options. Evangelist Gwen Warren shared that on any journey there can be enjoyment and we have to look for it. Our faith and hope allow us to have a song at midnight; even when things look dark. Rev. Connie Gore reminded us that as long as we know who we are, whose we are and what we can do through God’s anointing and power, we can definitely walk in authority. Finally, Rev. Miranda Williams reinforced all that had been shared by the other women and emphasized that God expects us to walk in His authority and in order to do so we may have to sometimes issue eviction papers to things and people that may be in our lives, but may be hindering our progress. We have been given the authority and we have to walk in it.

Our day ended with a “blessed hands and feet anointing service”; all who wanted to be anointed to use their hands and feet to do God’s work were anointed and prayed for and with and encouraged to continue “Walking in Authority... The Journey Continues”.

Praises went up, blessings came down, testimonies were shared, and God definitely get the glory! ■



SUBMITTING NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

by Newsletter Ministry



To submit something for the Newsletter, you need to...

Submit your articles on a disk, thumb drive or CD in Microsoft Word format and leave in the **Newsletter Box** in the Church Office. Articles may also be e-mailed to newsletter@mountairybaptist.org. We prefer that articles be typed and limited to 220 words or ½ page due to space. **We will no longer accept hand written articles.**

Articles Due: Monday, November 30, 2014
Next Issue: Sunday, December 7, 2014

The Newsletter Ministry reserves the right to edit all submissions. ■

MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT: CHURCH SCHOOL

by Sister Sandra McCreary

The Church School’s purpose is to educate children and adults of all ages through the teaching of God’s word. God’s word tells in Hoses 4:6 that “My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge”.

As a Ministry our mission is to serve the Lord Jesus Christ by teaching the truths of

His word and preparing all for life here on earth and in heaven so that all will be nurtured and grow in Christian faith through the teaching of God's word in order that all may grow, connect, serve and go. The Church school is a great tool for fulfilling the Great Commission as stated in Matthew 28:19-20. We are commanded to "GO" near and far to make disciples. It is not an option, but a command to all who call Jesus Christ their Lord. We may all not be evangelist, but God has equipped us with the gifts that we all can use to fulfill the Great Commission.

The Church School Ministry strives to lead people to faith in Christ that we all may grow as the body of Christ. We want to bring people to Faith in Christ. "The Lord is not slack in His promise, as some men count slackness: but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance". (2 Peter 3:9) We also strive to help people to grow in grace and knowledge of Him. God's word states, "But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be glory both now and for ever. Amen. (2 Peter 3:18) We want and need to get to know God better. Lastly, we strive to inspire all to have a Love for the Lord and to help all to see how the Lord's word applies to our lives. We need to make the fullness of God's word a reality in every believer's life.

Here at Mount Airy we have a church School where we have dedicated committed teachers who come ready and willing to teach each Sunday. Teachers who set aside time to do the work of the Lord and come equipped to teach that which God has imparted to them. God's word states that we should, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth". We need to realize that God will examine what kind of workers we have been for Him, and we should build our lives on His word

and build His word into our lives. How do we do this? Well one way is by attending church school. We have classes to meet the need of the youngest to the oldest. So I encourage all to come out, so that we may all study and grow together. We must all come out so that we can do "Greater and More Wonderful Works". ☑

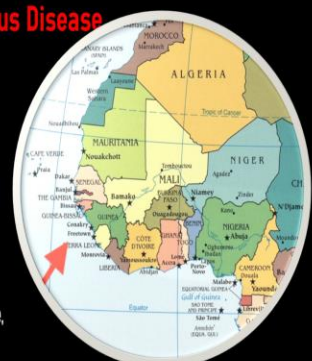
What Do You Know About the Ebola Virus??

by Health Ministry

EBOLA Virus Disease

What is the Ebola Virus?
It is a virus that has its origins by the Ebola River. it was believed to be carried by fruit bats.


Currently it has infected over 8,000 people in West Africa, hitting hardest these three countries, Guinea, Sierra Leone, and Liberia.



<http://www.esagroup.co.uk/2012/07/west-africa-printed-attach-to-contact.html>

What are the Symptoms?

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF INFECTION



How is it transmitted?
Ebola is transmitted through direct contact with the blood or bodily fluids of an infected individual showing symptoms or through exposure to objects that have been contaminated.
It has not been found to be transmitted through the air, water, or food.

How Can It Be Prevented?
To try to prevent Ebola, engage in thorough acts of hygiene. For example, wash your hands thoroughly and carefully with soap and water.
Do not handle items that may have come in contact with an infected person's blood or body fluids (such as clothes, bedding, needles, and medical equipment).

How Can Ebola Be Treated?
For treatment information, see the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at:
CDC at www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/
Presented at the Mount Airy Baptist Church, 1100 North Capitol Street, NW on October 12, 2014
Source of written information taken from the CDC and World Health Organization
*Fever picture taken from www.MOMwritess.com/what-we-need-to-know-about-ebola

Recipe: Marmalade Meatballs

by Newsletter Ministry

Place 2 lbs. frozen meatballs into the insert of a slow cooker. In a bowl, stir in 1-16oz. bottle of Kraft Catalina Salad Dressing, 1 cup orange marmalade, 3 tablespoons Worcestershire Sauce, and ½ teaspoon red pepper flakes. Pour mixture over and stir to coat.

Cook on high setting for 2 to 3 hours.■

DIRECTIONS TO OUR FATHER'S HOUSE.

Make a Right onto Believeth Blvd.

Keep straight and go through the Green Light, which is Jesus Christ. There, you must turn onto the Bridge of Faith, which is over troubled water. When you get off the bridge, make a Right turn and Keep Straight.

You are on the King's Highway -
Heaven-bound.

Keep going for three miles: One for the Father, One for the Son, and One for the Holy Ghost.

Then exit off onto Grace Blvd.

From there, make a Right turn on Gospel Lane.

Keep straight and then make another Right on Prayer Road.

As you go on your way, Yield not to the traffic on Temptation Ave.

Also, avoid SIN STREET because it is a DEAD END.

Pass up Envy Drive, and Hate Avenue.

Also, pass Hypocrisy Street, Gossiping Lane, and Backbiting Blvd. However, you have to go down Long-suffering Lane, Persecution Blvd. and Trials and Tribulations Ave.

But that's all right, because
VICTORY Street is straight ahead!
AMEN!!!! ■



**Peace and Blessings
from God the Father
and Our Lord Jesus
Christ!**