

Pleasant News

Volume I, Issue 9

June/July/August 2010

Reminder!

June/ July/ August
2010

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June

16th New Beginnings
Sobriety Workshop 7 pm

24th Church Business
Meeting 7 pm

26th Dorney Park trip

26th Women's Fellowship
trip to Jersey Gardens

July

2nd Church office closed
for Independence Holiday

4th *SUMMER HOURS*

Sunday School 8:30 am

Church 9:45 am

19th to 23rd Vacation
Bible School 6-9 pm
nightly

23rd Youth all-nighter

August

27th-28th Family &
Friends Weekend

Church Open House &
Cookout

Letter from Our Pastor

Security in an Unstable World

Rising gasoline costs, grocery prices, and unemployment affect nearly everyone these days. People of all different walks of life are feeling the strain of our economy. In biblical times, the prophet Isaiah had a wonderful plan for dealing with the difficulties of life. He wrote, **"In repentance and rest you shall be saved, in quietness and trust is your strength"** (Isaiah 30:15).

But at a time when more work seems to be the solution to our problems, it's hard to think about resting. Can this advice really help us? Yes, it can. Rest is vital for spiritual renewal and growth. When the stress of our life tears at us, we can rest in the fact that God is God and there is no one like Him. He is infinite

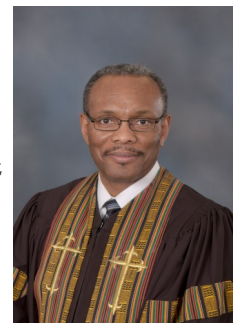
in wisdom and power. When problems arise and we cannot see clearly, the one thing that quickly restores a sense of peace is the realization that God is in control. No matter how uncertain life may appear, this truth provides a tremendous sense of strength and stability.

The psalmist writes, **"The Lord has established His throne in the heavens, and His sovereignty rules over all"** (Psalm 103:19). News of foreclosures, layoffs, and natural disasters seems to indicate the opposite—that the Lord is not aware of our plight. But Scripture tells us otherwise. He knows what it will take to accomplish His purpose. Sometimes the greatest disappointment or tragedy can be the catalyst God uses for blessing and

renewing hope—especially if the trial reveals a lack of faith on our part. While we cannot see the end of every hardship, the Lord can. And **He works all things together for good for those who love Him and are called according to His purpose** (Romans 8:28).

Yes, Isaiah's words are as true today as they were when he wrote them: **"The Everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth does not become weary or tired... He gives strength to the weary, and to him who lacks might, He increases power"** (Isaiah 40:28-29). Remember, whatever you are facing, He will not abandon you but will bring hope and restoration as you trust Him.

Grace and Peace



LEE-ning on the LORD

By: Gwen Owens

When Andrea “Aunie” Lee felt the bullet pierce her back on that cold January day more than four months ago, she knew she was paralyzed. “I immediately felt the feeling leave my body from the waist down,” the 64-year-old says. The Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church Joyful Sound member, Shekinah Praise Dancer, and faithful parishioner who rarely missed a Sunday, hasn’t been back to church since.

Lee is, yet, another victim of the growing violence on the streets of Chester, PA. The mother of two and grandmother of four was about to unload groceries from her car when the gunfire erupted on a street she’d called home for more than 30 years. “I heard pop, pop, pop, pop, and I saw a guy fall down in front of me and then I got hit,” Lee painfully recalls. She fell, face down on the ground and, despite the severity of her injuries, managed to call 9-1-1 herself.

After weeks in Crozer-Chester Medical Center and two months in a rehabilitation facility, the retired social security worker moved in with her youngest daughter, Tara, and her family in Newark, DE. Now a paraplegic with a T-9 spinal cord injury, the woman who worked out three to four times a week and thrived on her independence, must depend on others for her daily needs.

“I always said that God doesn’t give us more than we can bear,” she says, choking back tears. “Now I really have to live what I’ve preached. I always ask Him to give me strength. I say, help me, Lord Jesus, and he helps me every time,” she whispers, crying softly. “I have to call on Him more now, than I ever have and he helps me to stay faithful, no matter what.”

Lee says the outpouring of love that she’s received since the shooting has been enormous. “I appreciate every single card, phone call, prayers and visits, the love offering from the congregation- everything means so much.”

Lee has come a very long way. She’s able to dress herself by using her hands to bend her legs and lift her feet and put them into her sneakers. She’s starting to get her flexibility back and can even cross her legs by lifting her leg and putting it where it needs to go. “We take so much for granted,” she says matter-of-factly. “When it’s taken away from us – that’s when we really appreciate what we have.”

Lee wants to get back to church but can’t until a lift is added to her daughter’s house. A ramp can’t be installed because there’s too much grading that needs to be done to the land and the cost is astronomical. As a result, she couldn’t attend her granddaughter’s college graduation in New York last month, which broke her heart. In addition, her health insurance won’t cover all of the in-home therapy she needs to strengthen her upper body. Instead of being discouraged and depressed, she’s leaning on her faith and looking to God to provide for her needs. After spending a lifetime serving others, it’s hard for Lee to be the one in need. “I was so outgoing. I didn’t want to depend on anyone, but God is teaching me to let others help me,” she confesses. “I’m learning to have patience, which has always been a problem for me.”

What’s the best news of all? Two weeks ago, Lee moved her foot slightly. “It wasn’t a lot,” she explains, “just a little, but it was something” and that’s “better than nothing.” Doctors have not ruled out the possibility that Lee may walk again one day. “God has the last say for everything,” Lee states “and, if he wants me to walk, I will. “If it doesn’t happen, it’s not the end of my life,” she says. “After all, it could be worse. I am still alive and in my right mind because I could have been shot in my head.” If walking is not in her future, “then I’ll be the oldest grandmother in a wheelchair getting around everywhere and making the best of my life.”

Lee used to walk and run on the treadmill for at least an hour at a time. She also lifted weights like Michelle Obama whose arms, she admired. With all of the upper body workouts that Lee gets now in an effort to lift herself up from the wheelchair to prevent sores and roll over in the hospital bed to reach for things on the night stand, “Who knows?” she asks with a smile, “I might end up with arms like Michelle Obama after all!”

FYI

18-year-old Corey Cooper, who allegedly fired the shot that took Andrea Lee’s freedom, is currently being held in Delaware County Prison on attempted murder charges.

If you’d like to send Andrea a card or love gift, send all correspondences to this address:

Andrea Lee
2 Chambrord Drive
Newark, DE 19702



A benefit banquet/gospel concert for Andrea will be held Saturday, July 31st at 3 pm at St. Luke’s Community Christian Church in Chester. Tickets are \$40 and can be purchased from Diane Dennis. Check Mt. Pleasant’s bulletin board for more information.

Spotlight on Ministry—It's Mime Time

By: Racquel Carr

Let them praise His name in the dance: let them sing praises unto Him with the timbrel and harp (Psalm 149:3)

Cousins Ja'Von and Teneeah Garrett started dancing at the age of six. Three years later, Ja'Von started Mime dancing. Teneeah, waited several years before picking up the talent.

In September 2006, Renita (Falas) Garrett told her nephew, Ja'Von, that she wanted to begin a Mime Ministry at Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church and asked if he would be the instructor/choreographer. At the age of 14, Ja'Von accepted the challenge and enlisted the help of Teneeah to be his co-instructor. Together, they've embraced the Mime Ministry, giving it their all. The Mime Ministry is a division of the King's Kids Ministry which includes Senior Dancers, Junior Dancers, and Steppers. What began with five children now has approximately 18, ranging in age from five to 13.

The ministry will un-

dergo a transition as Ja'Von prepares to attend Indiana University of Pennsylvania this fall to major in Business Technology Support and minor in Theater/Dance. Teneeah, who was her high school Valedictorian last year and attended Clarion State University this past school year, will transfer to Delaware State University to continue studying Business Management. She will take over leading the ministry.

The pair teaches the children that, through dancing, you don't perform - you minister to others. They stress to the children that it's not important that people see *them*, but that they see the God *in them*. "Mime is a way to express feelings and song through movement and facial expressions," Ja'Von explains. "No one can tell you how to

praise." Teneeah agrees, calling Mime Dancing an intense and different way to express how you feel. "You have to understand the song first, then you allow God to use you to minister", she says.

Ja'Von and Teneeah have their own mime company called JTK Handz of Praize Mime Ministry. The two of them have blessed, not only the Mt. Pleasant Family, but the surrounding community as well by taking their act on the road. Ja'Von admits he wasn't always sure God called him to dance. He received confirmation, he says, after others told him how much his dancing blessed them.

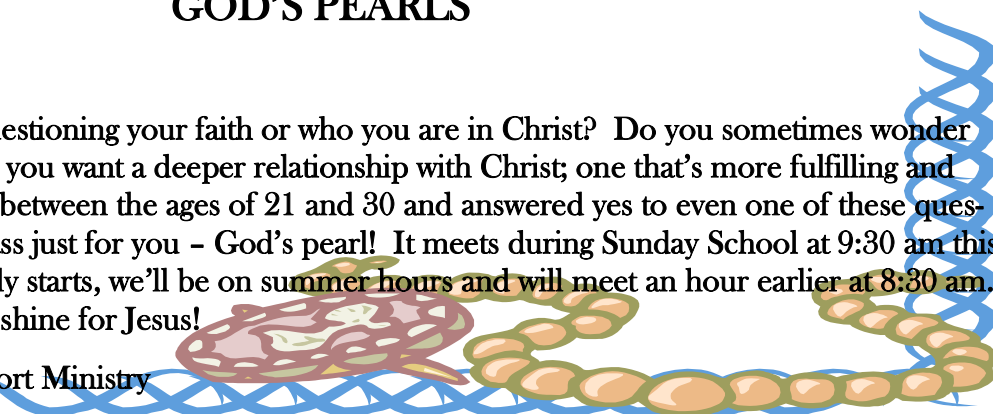
If you're interested in learning how to mime dance, consider joining the group on Wednesdays at 7:00 P.M. when practice resumes at Mt. Pleasant in September .



GOD'S PEARLS

Are you a young woman questioning your faith or who you are in Christ? Do you sometimes wonder what God has for you? Do you want a deeper relationship with Christ; one that's more fulfilling and pleasing to God? If you're between the ages of 21 and 30 and answered yes to even one of these questions, Mt. Pleasant has a class just for you - God's pearl! It meets during Sunday School at 9:30 am this month. However, once July starts, we'll be on summer hours and will meet an hour earlier at 8:30 am. Come and discover how to shine for Jesus!

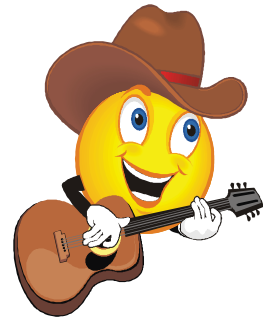
-The Young Women Support Ministry



PARDNER UP WITH GOD

Cowboys and Cowgirls from age 3 to adult are urged to attend the Saddle Ridge Ranch Vacation Bible School at Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, July 19th to the 23rd, Monday through Friday from 6pm to 9pm.

WANTED: Volunteers of all ages!! We need teachers, Arts & Crafts helpers and recreational Buckaroos.



Please contact Donna Lowrie at 919-484-1631 or Carla Laury 610-348-0090 for more information or to sign up. Both Cowgirls are waiting to answer your questions.

Sure hope y'all can do-si-do on over for some boot-stomping fun at the Saddle Ridge Ranch Vacation Bible School.

YEEHAW!!!

EARN YOUR CROWN



There's still time to join the Crown Financial Biblical Study, a 10 week course designed to teach people Godly financial principles. The goal is to help you know Christ more intimately so that you can serve Him. The class, which will meet once a week for two hours beginning August 19th, focuses on God's economy instead of man's economy. You'll look at key principles about faithfulness, following God's will, being a trustworthy steward, contentment and eternal rewards.

Did you know that how we handle money impacts on our personal relationship with the Lord? Do you want to be free from the financial debt that binds you? Do you want to learn more about tithing and how to live a peaceful life, free and clear of financial worries? If so, then this class is for you!

Singles and married couples can attend. Just register for the class immediately following Sunday service on June 13th, 27th and July 11th.


Congratulations

Class of 2010



Enrique Josephs, Jr. will pursue a Mass Communications Degree at Bloomsburg University on a football scholarship



K'Yanna Washington will attend Delaware State University, majoring in Chemistry. She hopes to pursue a career in the Pharmacy field.



Ja'von Garrett will attend Indiana University of Pennsylvania on a full scholarship, pursuing a degree in Business Technology Support with a minor in Theater & Dance



Chaneé Calvin will attend Morgan State University this fall, majoring in Nursing.



Alana Parker will major in Mass Communications at Virginia State University



Chylia Calvin will attend Morgan State University this fall, majoring in Biology.

Jamie Tillery will pursue a degree in Business Management with a concentration in Hospital Management at DeVry University



Marquice Pierce graduated from William Penn High School in Delaware and looks forward to furthering his education.

Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church

Presents

Music Ministry Consecration 2010

Theme

“Get In Position”

Refocus, Reposition, Renew

Tuesday, June 8, 2010 @ 6:45pm-Pastor Willie Robinson

Tuesday, June 15, 2010 @ 6:45pm-Min. Claudia Williams

Tuesday, June 22, 2010 @ 6:45pm-Min. Rodney Roberson

****A Time of Rededication to Music Ministry****

**THE ENTIRE CHURCH CONGREGATION
IS INVITED TO ATTEND... DON'T MISS
IT!!**

A different choir will perform each night.

Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church

101 Washington Ave.

Twin Oaks, PA 19014

Min. Rodney Roberson, Director of Music

Juan Pointer

KINGS KIDS

COME OUT AND SUPPORT THE KING'S KIDS AT THEIR FINALE

SATURDAY, JUNE 12, 2010

AT WIDENER UNIVERSITY

CHESTER, PA

4 PM

PAST & PRESENT KING'S KIDS WILL PERFORM TOGETHER

IN HONOR OF

THE LATE ROTELLIA WALLER, FOUNDER

IT'S SURE TO BE A GOOD TIME IN THE LORD!



CONTACT: FREDA PRYOR ladybear19013@hotmail.com 610-800-4987

OR FALAS GARRETT Renita.Garrett@irs.gov 610-490-1773

Youth News



MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR SOME SUMMER FUN!

Saturday, June 26th Dorney Park

Friday, July 23rd All-nighter at the church

Saturday, July 24th Great Adventure

Saturday, August 28th Hershey Park

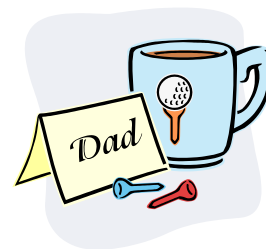
Any young person who wants to attend any of the summer field trips must do the following:

- sign up
- put down a deposit and pay the balance *before* the trip
 - return a signed permission slip.

Friends are welcome. See Brandi Holladay or Ministers Rodney Weaver and Melanie Baldwin for more information.

What did your father teach you that you'll always remember?

Maurice West: My father (Deacon Ted West) taught me how to be a God fearing man. From the time that I can remember, he had my brother and I in Church. He also taught me to always put God first and EVERYTHING else will fall into place.



Manny Singleton: My dad (Minister Mike Alvin) always told me to "go straight to the Lord when you have a need. He is the only one who can provide for you. Trust God First."



Troy Dennis (left) My father (Edward Dennis) made it very clear that hard honest work and education is the only path. He also believed that kids should listen and follow instruction on the first request and that obedience and respectful children will grow up to be productive adults. I never had to look outside of my house to find my hero. I pray that I can provide and guide my family in the same manner.



Marc Dennis (right) My Father (Edward Dennis) instilled in me the importance of family and to always plan for the future. "It's better to have it and not need it than to need it and not have it," he always said.

Happy Father's Day