



# THE VISITOR

Volume 12, Issue 6

September/October 2007

## Laity Sunday

### Our Mission:

"A Community of Believers who **Worship** God through **Welcoming** everyone, studying and applying God's **Word, Working** in the community and **Witnessing** to the **World**"

### Our Vision:

"Facilitating Spiritual Growth in the Church and the Community"

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**October 21, 2007**

**10:00 A.M.**

**Speaker**

**William McIntosh**

**Monica and William McIntosh**  
**General Chairpersons**

**Zan and Reginald Jones**  
**Co-Chairpersons**



Pastor Donald Smith

## STEWARDSHIP MONTH

October is Stewardship Month. Our annual stewardship campaign begins on Sunday October 7 with morning worship. I believe this will be our greatest year yet. Our goal this year is to increase the number of tithers in our church to 50%! That's right; I want to see 50% or more of our active membership tithing, giving ten percent of your income to God through His church. I know it's ambitious, but I believe through the sermons and teaching that we will get during these days, everyone who receives the revelation of God will raise the level of giving in their Time, Talent and Treasury. It all begins with asking ourselves the question, "What is the Lord calling me to give to His Kingdom work?" When we answer that question we realize how blessed we are and where our blessings come from. In Deuteronomy 8:18 the Bible says, "It is the Lord who gives you the power to get wealth." Therefore, we understand that all of our wealth comes from the Lord, and we owe it to God to step out on faith, walk in obedience to His Word and set aside our best gifts unto Him.

Each week there will be inspirational testimonies from members sharing what giving to God means and does for them. There will also be a special corporate Sunday school session on October 14, and 21 that will center on financial planning for now and the future. The culminating event of the month will be our Consecration Dinner on Sunday October 30th. We're looking for everyone coming and eating as family together as we fellowship, and celebrate what God is doing and going to do in our lives and this ministry.

I know you are asking the question, what can I do to help make this the greatest campaign ever? First, pray that we all will be on one accord with God's will for this ministry and our lives. Second, begin asking God, what would He have you to give to the work of His Kingdom? Third, share with another member the importance of participating in the campaign and becoming a tither. Fourth, fifth sixth and beyond, pray, pray and don't stop praying for a harvest of souls in our church, people who will come to know God through this ministry.

Finally, I want to thank all of you who support this ministry financially through your membership or partnership giving. It is through your generous gifts that we are able to do so much in our local community and throughout the world. Without you being faithful givers we absolutely could not do what we do. Thank you for letting God use you to touch the lives of children and adults from Toulminville to Cameroon. You are indeed a blessing. See you in worship.

Pastor Smith

## AROUND THE CHURCH

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### HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

Congratulations to Terence Lang, Jr., son of Terence & Thelma Lang and a 1997 graduate of St. Paul's Episcopal School was inducted into St. Paul's Sports Hall of Fame. An honor student, Terence excelled in football and track. He set new school records in both. The pre-game ceremony was October 12, 2007 at 6:15 p.m. at Delaney Stadium.

### Miss Freshman First Runner-Up

Congratulations to Ashleigh Brown-Grier on winning First Runner Up to Miss Freshman 2008 at Talladega College. This award came with a scholarship.

### NEWS FROM THE MATURE ADULTS

The regular meeting convened on September 19, 2007 with Theresa Nobles presiding.

Special thanks came from Madeline R. Kyser to Mature Adults and church members who helped to fill our block of rooms, plus one, for our planned cruise in the spring.

Plans for future activities, include a walking tour of the Historic Battle House, lunch at the historic Raddison Admiral Semmes and a tour of the newly renovated downtown library. The Mature Adults will be feeding the women of McKenni Place (United Methodist Inner City Mission), on the Monday prior to Thanksgiving Day.

Members of the Alabama State University Alumni group encouraged football lovers to attend the Gulf Coast Classic game on September 29 at Ladd Stadium.

The attendees enjoyed a delicious lunch of barbecue ribs and chicken, collard greens, potato salad, corn muffins and iced tea.

Don't miss our next meeting on October 17, 2007 at 12:30 p.m. in the Gordon-Bell Room.

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The changes you will see in the next few issues are made in an effort to improve the overall design and user-friendliness of the newsletter. Please forward any questions or comments to Pamela Moore at [thevisitor@bellsouth.net](mailto:thevisitor@bellsouth.net). Moved? Changed your e-mail address? Prefer to receive an electronic copy of The Visitor rather than a paper copy? Please send updates to Barbara Vaughan at [churchoffice@twsumc.org](mailto:churchoffice@twsumc.org)

**Upcoming newsletter deadlines**  
**Special Holiday Edition** October 28, 2007

#### **The Visitor Staff**

Pamela R. Moore, Editor  
Juanita S. Richardson, Layout Editor  
Zella D. Jackson, Asst. Layout Editor  
Barbara Vaughan, Circulation  
Emma L. Reed, Reporter  
Edwena L. Seals, Proofreader  
Gladys McCants, Production Staff

### THE CLIQUE

E. L. Seals

A few persons were seen together and one was overheard to say, "I did not see you in the picture display—you must not be in the Clique." Immediately, it seemed evident to me, a need to define "Clique." The dictionary referred to, gave this definition: A narrow exclusive circle or group of persons, especially held together by a presumed identity of interest, views or purposes. This definition gives us permission to feel good about the term and its usage in our setting. It also gives us the delight in recognizing it as a viable, alive organizational segment. As a member of the structured United Methodist Church, each active member could/should elect to become a member with an exclusive group (ministry), where their interests, abilities, spiritual gifts, and energies can be exercised. If you recognized you are not a member of an existing clique (ministry) it may also be true, you are not contributing adequately or wisely. We all have abilities but often we bury them and lose many early opportunities to serve.

Perhaps you can elect to pursue enrollment in an existing clique (ministry) or seek to form a new clique. In accepting the proper clique to pursue or form anew, recognize that some of the cliques (ministries) are not glamorous, seldom are selected for honors; many are even dirty jobs. If you are convinced God has called you to this selected ministry, approach it daily, through prayer to seek the divine order for your life and your stewardship service. You may want to seek some time with the Pastor or a mentor in the church that you have found is trustworthy and serving. Spend some time seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit to enable you to choose and serve. Study the Bible to be wise, believe the Bible to be safe, and practice it to be Holy.

### A BIBLICAL DILEMMA

Emma Love Reed

Can you imagine studying the Bible at the very beginning and at the ending, together. This writer is studying Genesis, the first book in the Bible, on Sundays and the last book of the Bible, Revelation, in Bible study, on Wednesdays.



Interestingly, we have gone from the void, or nothing, in Genesis to visions and mystery, in Revelation. God took nothing and created the world in which we live, in six days. The world that God created was done in six days. A creature that God created on the seventh day, John, is now having unique visions.

Through Revelation, we have digested that an angel was the messenger to John's visions; John's occupation is writing. In John's visions we have been exposed to the number seven. There have been seven churches, seven seals, seven trumpets, seven plagues and seven scenes. We have seen the number seven in Genesis. God created the heaven and the earth and a day of rest in seven days. God was lonely and he created you and me, SO THAT WE COULD BE CARETAKERS OF HIS BEAUTIFUL WORLD.

Following creation in Genesis, we move through the Bible to Revelation where we discern the things that could happen to us, if we don't repent from our evil ways. Our choices are clear and exact choices. We can choose the tree of life, or the gates of hell. As you have moved through these few words, the writer hopes that you can see the dilemma that exists between the books of Genesis and Revelation.

## AROUND THE CHURCH

### GOD AND YOUR MONEY

What money? That's a good question. The sad reality is that many American families spend more money than they make. That should be a shocking fact for Christians. Why? Because Christians are supposed to be good stewards of all that we have: our time, talent, intelligence, energy and possessions, including money. Let's consider money from the Christian standpoint:

1. It is not sinful to earn all the legitimate money one can garner. In itself, money is not evil. It is the love of money we must resist.
2. It is important to save as much as one can — at least 10 percent.
3. It is vital to make a budget and stick to it.
4. God owns the world and gives us the responsibility to take care of it. It takes money to care for home and property.
5. We should strive to give at least 10 percent to God's work, which includes the church.
6. One reliable fact about stewardship: There is no way we can out-give our loving God. Ever!

### THE BEAUTY OF STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship has to do with how we manage our time, talent, resources — basically our entire lives. It's a beautiful concept when properly understood. Here are the basics of good stewardship:

- God is the source of all creation, including our lives. God is the primary owner of all that exists.
- We are blessed by being given the task of managing well all that we have influence over: our lives, our abilities, our minds and bodies, our time, our part of the earth, our finances, our children, our church buildings, our automobiles, etc.

Although we can make decisions regarding each of the above, ultimately we are responsible to God. Sooner or later, we must give an account of our management of God's creation and of God's gifts.

When we properly use the talents, resources and property that God allows us to manage, we find great joy. Think of planting a garden which soon overflows with colorful flowers, wonderful vegetables and flavorful herbs, etc. God gave us the plot of ground, God gave us the seed, God gave us the wisdom and strength to bring forth such beauty, such good things to see or eat, or smell. Yet we did the work, with God's help, to make it a reality. Like Adam we tilled it and kept it. But God gave the increase. God's provisions and our labor brought the garden to its fulfillment.

Good stewardship enables us to do something positive and wonderful with the money God has allowed us to have. What feels better than knowing one has managed money well? Our bank account, our checkbook and our portfolio tell the story. When money is handled well, we have enough for ourselves and are still able to give to God's work. That is the beauty of stewardship.

### THE REWARDS OF GENEROSITY

When St. Paul was concerned about the welfare of poor Christians in Jerusalem, he appealed to other churches to help them. The Corinthian church promised a "bountiful gift" which was very pleasing to Paul.



In a letter to the Corinthians, he said, "You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity ..." (2 Corinthians 9:11, nrsv).

How could the apostle make such a claim and with considerable assurance? No doubt it was because he knew that giving always enriches the giver. "I give," said an older church member, "not because of the needs of the church but because of what giving to the church does for me."

St. Paul believed that it was like gardening or farming. The grower sows a small number of seeds into the ground, but the payback is the bountiful harvest which comes later. "Give," said Jesus, "and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap" (Luke 6:38, nrsv). In short, no one can out give God.

Source: [www.Newsletter-Newsletter.com](http://www.Newsletter-Newsletter.com)

## AROUND THE CHURCH

### My Boat is So Small: Creating a Safe Harbor of Hope and Health Care for All Children

Rosalind Pettaway

When children are baptized in the church of God we promise to love, nurture, and bring them up in the teachings of the Lord. We also promise to ensure that every child has a healthy and moral start in life. This includes a successful passage to adulthood with caring families and communities. As part of their Christian family and community, we should be active in filling their small boats with all that is needed to keep them safe, healthy, and hoping for a bright future.

This year's theme for the 16<sup>th</sup> National Observance of Children's Sabbath is **"Creating a Safe Harbor of Hope and Health Care for All Children."** Here at TWSUMC we are active in bringing the Children's Sabbath message to the church and the community. There are more than 9 million children who do not have health care insurance or who are under insured. Most of these children live in families with two working parents. The numbers are increasing everyday.

The bill H. R. 1688 will supply the needed funds for coverage for these children and their families. You have been supportive in the campaign to pass this bill by writing letters to your elected officials, e-mailing them, and sending in postcards. Many of our ministries have given your time and monetary gifts to bring awareness to the families and the community. We still have work to do.

On November 9, 2007, we will have our annual sleepover for the children and youth. During this time, everyone is invited to join us in several informative seminars. November 11, 2007, we will have a prayer/breakfast. The Children's Sabbath worship service will be held on November 11, 2007 at 10:00 AM. Please come out and support the children in this annual event.

**Just for KIDS**

# THE POWER TO GIVE

In the New Testament, Jesus emphasizes the importance of giving and doing for others. In the Old Testament, Proverbs 3:27 (NIV) tells us what not to do.

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Cross out ALL of the following letters to reveal Proverbs 3:27.

..... **B J K Q X Z** .....

Write the remaining letters (in order) on the spaces below.

B W J I T J H Q H O B L Z D G B O O K  
 D K F Q R O M T B H J O B S Q E W H O  
 X B D B E K Q S E Z X R Z V J E Z X I B  
 T W K H Q E N I K Q T I Z S I Z N B Y  
 J X J O Z U X R P Q O K W J J E B B R T  
 O A Q C Z T

"DO NOT \_\_\_\_\_

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PROVERBS 3:27, NIV

Answer: "Do not withhold good from those who deserve it, when it is in your power to act."

## CARE AND CONCERN



### September & October Birthdays

Kierra Boyd	Ms. Ashleigh Baty
Mrs. Joyce H. Brown	Mr. Harrison Black
Mrs. Lucretia Brown	Ms. Winifred Blackledge
Mrs. Guthrie H. Childs	Mr. Charles E. Blackston
Mr. Frank Joseph Dees	Mr. Derrick A. Bryant
Brian Dixon	Ms. Darcy Brown
Mr. Sylvester Dunning	Ms. Marshea T. Chapman
Mr. Cornelius Ezell	Mrs. Sidetta Davison
Ms. Maris C. Fells	Ms. Bedelia Dunning
Atty. Madison Gordon, III	Mr. Thaddeus Foley, III
Mrs. Carla M. Hathorn	Mrs. Louise Glasper
Ms. Angela Hawthorne	Mrs. Yolanda B. Henson
Mr. Curtis Horton, Sr.	Mr. Arthur Jackson
Mrs. Glendora B. Jamison	Mrs. Delores Jackson
Mr. Alphonse Johnson	Atty. Phillip Leslie, Sr.
Mrs. Madeline I. Kiser	Mr. Joe B. Martin
Mr. James E. Kennedy	Mrs. Gladys L. McCants
Ms. Tasha M. Lang	Mr. Jonathan McCreary
Mrs. Thelma M. Lang	Mrs. Ruth Stutts Moseley
Mrs. Shanthalitta S. Maiben	Mrs. Felecia S. Nichols
Mr. Franklin McMillion, Jr.	Mr. Earl T. Odom, Jr.
Rev. Franklin S. McMillion, Sr.	Shamanique Padgett
Mr. Eugene Moseley, Jr.	Walter A. Patton
Mr. Michael Nichols	Ms. Sharol Pettaway
Mr. Denzell Pettaway	George E. Preston, IV
Mrs. Bernice Pettway	Mr. Melvin Roberson
Anthony Pettway	Derrick F. Scott, Jr.
Mrs. Bernice Pettway	Mr. Stanley Scott
Daimen Pettway	Mrs. Ella B. Seltzer
Mr. Marcus Riley	Rev. Jacqueline Slaughter
Derrick Rogers	Erin Matthews
Mr. Anthony Saucier	Mr. Lenard Taplin
Mr. James Seals, IV	Mrs. Barbara Vaughan
Moya Shelwood	Kayla Williams
Nicholas G. Sims	
Mrs. Alma L. Smith	
Mr. Mauryce Thomas, Sr.	
Rev. Hazel V. Timmons	
Mr. Memphis Vaughan, Jr.	
Mr. Smith A. Washington, Sr.	
Mrs. Lois S. Watson	
Mrs. Earnestine G. Woody	



### Sick and Shut-in

Mr. Alphonse Yates	Mr. McDonald Moore, Sr.
Mr. Charles Blackston	Mrs. Eleanor Johnson
Mr. John Irons	Mr. James Watson

### Prayer List

Ms. Oliva Ward – Granddaughter of  
Mrs. Ernestine Ward

Mrs. Earnestine G. Woody

Messrs. Richard & Legrand Byrd –  
Brothers of Mrs. Angelite B. W. Foster

Mrs. Theresa Frost – Grandmother of  
Ms. Wanda Seals & Mrs. Alveritta Padgett

Eric C. Blackmon – Grandson of  
Mr. Herman Blackmon

Mr. James Watson

Ms. Cassandra Brown's Aunts

Mrs. Evelyn Rushton

Mrs. Chante B. Davis & Phallon Emanuel –  
Daughter and Granddaughter of  
Mrs. Dorothy Booker

Mrs. Geneva Coakley – Mother of  
Mrs. Barbara J. Carroll

Mr. Maurice Ash

Rev. Dorothy Dawkins

Mr. Howard Nobles

Mrs. Lucy Smith

Mrs. Joyce B. Martin

Ms. Melody McLeod

Mr. & Mrs. Wilder & Eunice Everett

Mr. Johnny Culpepper – Brother of  
Mrs. Clastine Diamond

Mrs. Miriam C. Myles

Mrs. Sarah L. McCreary

Mrs. Mary Bush

Mrs. Alma L. Smith

Rev. Hazel V. Timmons

Mr. Mauryce Thomas, Sr.

Mr. Kevin S. Vaughan

Miss Alma Ross

Mrs. Josephine Scott

Mrs. Lola M. Yates

## CHURCH DIRECTORY

<b>SUNDAYS</b>	
Church School	8:45 a.m.
Morning Worship	10:00 a.m.
<b>MONDAYS</b>	
Gentle Spirits Rehearsal	6:00 p.m.
<b>TUESDAYS</b>	
Pastor's Bible Study	6:30 p.m.
<b>WEDNESDAYS</b>	
One Hour of Power Bible Study	11:00 a.m.
Women's Support Bible Study	5:30 p.m.
Men's Bible Study	6:30 p.m.
<b>THURSDAYS</b>	
Boy Scouts	6:00 p.m.
Combined Choir Rehearsal	6:00 p.m.
Intercessory Prayer Ministry	6:30 p.m.
<b>SATURDAYS</b>	
Intercessory Prayer Ministry	6:30 a.m.
Gentle Spirits Rehearsal	11:00 a.m.

“THE CHURCH IN THE HEART OF THE CITY WITH THE CITY AT HEART”



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