

From the Assistant Minister's Desk



Orpheus Heyward

“The Faith” Once Delivered To the Saints

Frequently in the inspired text we read of a peculiar phrase called “the faith.” Often times this phrase is misunderstood and misapplied by the religious community. When the Bible mentions “the faith,” it is in reference to the Christian belief system. “The faith” is what is believed rather than the act of believing. When belief is used without the definite article, it is the act of believing. When the word faith has the definite article, it refers to the truth that is believed. The faith is a distinctive body of truth that must be obeyed, and governs the behavior of Christians in the house of God known also as the church. The scriptures provide some relevant information in regards to the faith.

The faith is to be obeyed (Acts 6:7). To obey “the faith” is synonymous with obeying the Gospel, the Christian belief system. Notice that the text does not say they were obedient to “faith,” but it says obedient to “the faith.” To obey “the faith” is to obey a specific body of truth. Furthermore, “the faith” can be preached (Gal. 1:23). If it is not preached, it cannot be obeyed. Paul after his conversion began to preach “the faith.” In addition, one can depart from “the faith” (1 Tim 4:1). Those who abandon the Christian belief system in word or practice have departed from the faith. Moreover, Christians can continue in the faith (Acts 14:22). Those of us who are Christians must remain faithful to “the faith” by continuing in the apostle’s doctrine (Acts 2:42). A comparative study of Acts 14:22 to Acts 2:42 will reveal that “the faith” and the “Apostles doctrine” are synonymous. Finally, Christians are to contend for “the faith” (Jude 3). We must be willing as children of God to meet any and all challenges to the faith in hopes of exposing error.

Let us be ever mindful of the importance of the faith. It is that body of truth, which governs the practices of all Christians. If it can not be found in “the faith,” then it is not divinely authorized. May it be when the Lord descends from the bosom of Heaven that we can echo the words of the Apostle Paul while he was in the final stages of life, “I fought a good fight, I finished my course, I have kept the faith.”

Within Thy Walls:

Pursuing Peace
in the House of God

A weekend of liberating biblical instruction on relationship abuse!

June 2-4, 2006

West End Church of Christ

See bulletin board or web site for schedule of events.

This Week!

Friday 7 p.m. | Saturday 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Sunday 8:25, 9:45 and 10:45 a.m.

The deeply personal, life-changing effects of relationship abuse touch all our lives through co-workers, neighbors, friends, family, loved ones, and personal experience. This workshop will equip every elder, deacon, preacher, teacher, single, couple, parent, and adolescent with the specific knowledge they need to help themselves and/or others.

PRESENTERS

Ron Clark, Preaching Minister of the Metro Church of Christ in Gresham, Oregon and domestic violence counselor and seminar leader.

Bettie Williams-Watson – trainer, speaker, advocate, community organizer, and counselor for over 18 years from the Holgate Street Church of Christ in Seattle, Washington.

WEST END ACTIVITIES & INFO

Congratulations to Banneker High School student and West End'er, **Amber Freeman** on being awarded the 2006 Georgia Certificate of Merit from the University of Georgia based on her being academically in the top 5% of her class. Amber was also inducted into the 2006 National Honor Society as a result of her top academic performance. Congratulations Amber!

Attention all Zone 4 ladies – Your assistance is requested in hosting a wedding shower for Francesca Cammon on Saturday June 24. Time and location to be announced. Please contact Carla Williams or Gale Gaines for more information.

Wedding Bells – Baneika Jordan invites West Enders to attend her wedding on Saturday, June 24 in Chicago IL. Members may RSVP at www.parisandbaneika.com. Baneika may also be reached at: 1942 W. 86th Ave, Apt 545, Merrillville, IN 46410.

Food Items needed for West End event – All members are asked to participate in the upcoming relationship abuse awareness event, "Within Thy Walls: Pursuing Peace in the House of God," by donating specific food and beverage items. Please sign up to assist this effort in the foyer, or see Mareba Mack-Collier. Most needed are: cans of soda, bottled water, and snack-packs of cookies and chips.

High Museum Quilts Exhibition Visit for Seniors – The Seniors Committee is planning a visit for the ladies, to the High Museum of Art to see The Quilts Exhibition on Saturday, June 10, from 10 a.m.–noon. Discounted pricing is available for groups: Adult groups \$12 each; college/senior groups \$10 each. Those who are interested please sign your name on the sign up sheet in the foyer and take a flyer for a description of this amazing exhibition. We will meet at the church building at 9 a.m. sharp, depart at 9:30 a.m., and the exhibition starts at 10 am. If you have any questions, contact Debbie Sledge at 770-498-6251.

West End Ladies' Retreat – All Ladies who are interested in attending the Ladies' Retreat August 18 and 19 at the Fieldstone Resort & Conference Center in Hiawasee, Ga., please sign the sign up sheet on the greeters table in the foyer.

The **Membership to Discipleship** group meets each Tuesday evening at 7 p.m. in the brick annex. See J.P. Collier, I. David Logan, or Dorothy Reed for more information.

YOUTH AND SINGLES

The 7-12 Grade Fellowship scheduled for today will not take place, but will be rescheduled for a later date.

Youth Retreat – West End's Annual Youth Retreat will be held at North Georgia College and State University in Dahlonega, GA (approx 66 miles north of West End). The dates will be Thursday, July 27 through Sunday, July 30 and is for ages 7-18. Those under age 7 will need an accompanying adult age 21 or over. The price is \$75 per person and includes transportation, meals, lodging, and all activities.

Attention West End Teens and Parents of Teens - If you are dating, or are a parent of a teen actively dating, West End's upcoming Relationship Abuse Recognition Seminar - Within Thy Walls - includes a Teen Session on Saturday, June 3 at 2:30 p.m. It includes what every teenager needs to know about how abuse is different from love and romance, what the signs of abuse are, and what to do you see it or experience it. Be in attendance yourself and invite and facilitate the attendance of your peers in school and in the neighborhood. Contact David Bishop or Charles Collier with any questions.

Youth Retreat Sponsors Needed - Many families appreciate the generosity of West Enders providing full or partial sponsorships for our youth retreat participants. You can provide a general use sponsorship by writing a check payable to West End for up to \$75 or more, or provide for a specific youth you wish to sponsor. Write "Retreat Sponsorship" or the youth name(s) in the memo and give to David Bishop, Lisa Bishop or Denise West.

Get Youth Retreat Ready - Start planning now for what you want to do regarding the Fashion Show and Talent Show for this year's Youth Retreat. If you are a poet, piano player, actor or have some other performing artform to exhibit, see Yonita Rowell or David Bishop. Once our Youth Retreat theme is determined have your talent directed towards the theme.

Retreat Waiting List - We are at capacity for the Youth Retreat. There is a Waiting List sign up sheet located in the foyer. Please sign this list to fill in any spots that become available. Spots will become available as we get closer to the actual date.

Retreat Chaperones Needed - Male chaperones are needed to sign up for the Youth Retreat. Weekday time off from work will require Thursday July 27 and Friday July 28. See David Bishop if you have any questions.

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Youth Retreat Update – West End's Annual Youth Retreat will be held at North Georgia College and State University in Dahlonega, GA (approx 66 miles north of West End). The dates will be Thursday, July 27 through Sunday, July 30 and is for ages 7-18. Those under age 7 will need an accompanying adult age 21 or over. The price is \$75 per person and includes transportation, meals, lodging, and all activities. Sign up continues today on the list in the foyer. A waiting list will be put in place starting this Wednesday because we will reach capacity at the present rate of those signing up.

West End youth are invited to a **Youth Gospel Meeting at Bouldercrest CofC** set for June 11-14. The speaker for the week is Chris Turner of Southside CofC in Durham, NC. There will be a special program on Sunday afternoon (June 11) at 2 p.m. consisting of an afternoon worship service followed by a Youth Chorus Songfest.

■ AREA EVENTS ■

The **Bouldercrest CofC** will host a **Men's Empowerment Conference** on June 9-11 at the Westin Airport Hotel in Atlanta. Call for current registration fee. Hotel accommodations are available for an inclusive price. You may also support this event by purchasing a souvenir ad page in the conference booklet. For further details please contact Wyndel Harris at Bouldercrest CofC 404-622-4212 (church office) or 678-481-7550 (cell).

Simpson St. CofC invites all to their **Vacation Bible School** beginning on Sunday, June 4 through Wednesday, June 7. The speaker for Sunday services and the adults classes will be Leroy Butler of the Woodlawn Forrest CofC in Valdosta, GA. The theme for the adults class is "The Holy Spirit." Service times on Sunday are 9 a.m., 10:15 a.m. and 6 p.m. Weekday classes for adults and children begin at 7 p.m.

Baptism
5/22, **Natasha Hartry**
2272-F Dunwoody Crossing
San Diego, CA 92127

50th Wedding Anniversary
Brother Wesley and Sister Barbara Brown
will celebrate their 50th Anniversary on May 31.
Congratulations!

SICK & SHUT-IN

To be included or to have someone included or removed from this listing contact Gayron Johnson at the church office.

Ellen Hart Smith has been transferred to another facility. 6208 Newberry Lane, Riverdale, GA 30296. 770-907-0167. Christine Colley is now at home. 435 Joseph E. Lowery, Blvd., Atl., GA 30310. 404-755-8856. Carrie Henderson Jones is now at home. 1258 Winsor Pkwy. Atl., GA 30319. 404-255-1210. Elnora Bethel is home recuperating. 3700 Potomac Dr., East Point, GA 30344. Opal Chase – 490 Glenn St., #C272, Atl., GA 30012. Daneka Vickers, daughter of Mack and Sandra Freeman. Willie Mae Morrow – 3060 Continental Colony Pkwy., Apt. 502, Atl., GA 30330. 404-344-9990. Elizabeth Perkins – 1392 Maywood Rd., NW, # 31, Atl., GA 30331. 404-691-0268. Alicia Green – 2426 Corner Shoals Dr., Decatur, GA 30034. 404-212-7889. Annie McArthur – 751 Fairburn Rd., SW #2212, Atl., GA, 30331. 404-699-2939. Ollie Burton – 2426 Corner Shoals Rd., Decatur, GA 30034. 404-212-7889. Annie Glaze c/o Wesley Woods Nursing Home, 1825 Clifton Rd., Apt. #517, Atl., GA 30329. 404-486-1191. Anrenea Johnson – 2025 Highpoint Trail, Atl., GA 30331. 404-344-1010.