

From the Assistant Minister's Desk



Orpheus Heyward

Be Ready Always To Give an Answer

In the midst of persecution, Peter pens the letter, First Peter, with the intent of encouraging faithfulness in spite of the circumstances. Peter describes this persecution as a fiery trial. As the first century church was the recipient of slander and wickedness from the emperor Nero during the time of this letter, the Christians were admonished to glorify God regardless of the malicious suffering they encountered (1 Pet. 4:16). In addition to the admonishment to be faithful in the face of such tribulation, Peter also emphasized the need to be prepared to give an answer.

We are living in a time when the church is being slandered and verbally persecuted. While our persecution is not physical, it exists on an intellectual level. God is calling all Christians to the battlefield to contend for the faith (Jude 3), and stand set for the defense of the gospel (Phil. 1:17). Many of you know the churches of Christ have been the topic of discussion in the media. Several questions have been asked concerning our faith. It is time to ask ourselves a thought-provoking question. That question is, "Do you have an answer for what you believe?" Can you answer the question, "Is baptism essential to salvation?" Can you answer the question, "Is there really one true church in the bible?" Can you answer the question, "Are instruments of music unscriptural in New Testament worship?" Can you answer the question, "Should a preacher be called Reverend?" Can you answer the question, "Can a woman be a preacher or pastor of a church?" Can you answer the question, "Is denominationalism a sin?" The times call for you to have an answer to these questions. It is my personal invitation to you to join us tonight at the 6 p.m. service as we provide answers to these questions as well as several others. We are presently on part four of this sermon series. Tonight we shall deal with the question, "Is the Church of Christ a cult that believes in exclusivism?" Come and be a part of this powerful series as we dispel the false allegations concerning the Church of Christ, and give an answer for what we believe.

West End Men's Encouragement Day This Saturday

Are you "The Kind of Man God Needs?" Timothy 2:2

Come to the West End Church of Christ on Saturday May 13 from 9 a.m. to noon to find out at our Men's Encouragement Day sponsored by the Senior Citizens Committee. The scheduled speakers are Robert Wilson, Terrence Grigsby, and Orpheus Heyward. A Continental breakfast and full lunch will be provided. Please add your name to the sign up list or RSVP to Gale Gaines at 770-981-4635 or galegaines@comcast.net **today** to ensure adequate food preparation.

MINISTRY / COMMITTEE NEWS

Zone 2 Meeting Scheduled

Zone 2 will meet at the home of Cassandra and James Arnold on Saturday, May 20. They can be reached at 770-489-5514 for directions and menu items.

WEST END ACTIVITIES & INFO

New Addition! – Steve and LaQuisha White are the proud parents of a baby boy, Steven Tyson White, born Monday, April 24 at 9:40 p.m. He weighed 8.5 ozs. and is 19.5 inches long. Congratulations to Steve and Laquisha, and to Sheryl Holland, the proud grandmother.

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.

West End is planning to enter a **golf team** in the 2006 Georgia AGAPE golf fundraiser tournament. The tournament will be held May 15 for the benefit of foster and adopted children hosted by Georgia AGAPE in Atlanta. A good number of West Enders are Georgia AGAPE adoptive and foster parents. If you are interested in participating in this event and want to sign-up, please see Bill Moore.

Health and Safety Professionals Needed – The Training & Development committee is looking for any members of the congregation with skills related to health, wellness, nutrition and safety to speak and/or conduct workshops on various topics at an upcoming church Health Fair. If you are able to assist in any way, please contact Michael Wells at 404-277-3430 or Robin Knox at 678-479-9525.

Marriage Enrichment Cruise to Bermuda – Make plans today to sail away Sunday, October 15 - Friday, October 20. Enjoy five nights of exciting fun, relaxation, and rejuvenation in exotic Bermuda. For more details, pick up the flyers in the foyer or see Stella Wilson or Yonita Rowell.

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

Youth Retreat Rescheduled – Due to scheduling conflicts and facilities availability at Gordon College, an alternative location for the 2006 Youth Retreat is being researched. An update will be announced soon.

West End's **Vacation Bible School (VBS)** is scheduled for June 19-23. Information on the theme for this exciting week will be announced later. See Fred Hall, Bill Moore, or Tyrone Jackson if you are interested in being a VBS teacher.

Instructors are needed for study sessions with Singles Ministry. If you want to teach, please contact La Tanya Harris or Steve Langford to be added to our 2006 calendar.

AREA EVENTS

The **East Point CofC** is holding a Gospel Meeting beginning today through May 11. Sunday service times are 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., and 6 p.m. Weeknight services will begin at 7:30 p.m. The speaker for the week is Billy Brown of the Denham St. CofC in Riverdale, GA.

The **Bremen CofC** begins their **Spring Gospel Meeting** today through Thursday. Charles Blair of Indianapolis, IN is the guest speaker.

The **Bremen CofC** ladies invite you to join them on Saturday, May 20 at 9 a.m. for their Ladies' Day program. The guest speaker, Cindy Colley, will speak on the theme "Finding Peace in Today's World".

Registration for **Vacation Bible School Camp at Hillcrest CofC** is now underway. The camp runs June 5-9 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. with before care starting at 7:30 a.m. and after care until 6:30 p.m. For registration information, cost, and other questions call Hillcrest at 404-289-4573.

The **Bouldercrest CofC** will host a **Men's Empowerment Conference** on June 9-11 at the Westin Airport Hotel in Atlanta. The registration fee was \$100 if paid before April 30. 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 Church of Christ 404-622-4212 (church office) or 678-481-7550 (cell). All advertisements must be submitted by May 15.

PANTRY ITEM OF THE MONTH

The requested food item for the month of May is **Chunky Soup (any variety)**. Please look for the two blue barrels located at the door (inside) of the sanctuary. One barrel will be located in the educational building next to the kitchen. Today and next Sunday at all three worship services are the designated donation days

Baptisms

4/29 **Jermil Garrett**
670 West Holderness
Atlanta, GA 30310
404-438-7144 D.O.B. 10-30-84

4/29 **Donavan Graham**
670 West Holderness
Atlanta, GA 30310
678-754-4150 D.O.B. 11-15-87

4/29 **Mamie Williams**
2910 Camp Creek Pkwy.
College Park, GA 30349
404-766-7527 D.O.B. 3/3/64

4/29 **Duway Y. Willis**
3001 Roosevelt Hwy
College Park, GA 30337
404-788-7110 D.O.B. 1/14/66

4/29 **Brianna J. Worcham**
4557 Medlock Woods Dr.
Snellville, GA 30039
770-760-9271 D.O.B. 2/12/92

New Address

Robert & Anita Weems
125 North Bend Trail
Jonesboro, GA 30238
770-461-8348

Ordering Sermon Recordings

To order sermon tapes or CDs, please fill out the available prepay envelopes along with your payment and drop it in the secure drop box located on the table in the rear of the foyer. The envelopes are available next to the drop box. Please make sure to include your telephone number so you can be contacted once your order is completed. If a phone number is not available, please include your complete mailing address where the order can be mailed. Turnaround time is approximately one week. Direct any questions to Anthony Nixon or Alfanette Garvin.

REGULAR SUNDAY SERMONS

Cassettes - \$3 / Audio CDs - \$4

GOSPEL MEETINGS

Individual Tapes \$3
Complete Tape Sets - \$10
Individual CDs - \$4
Complete CD Sets - \$12

May Events/Birthday Calendar Now Available!

Don't forget to pick up your copy
from the table in the foyer.

SICK & SHUT-IN

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

Carrie Henderson Jones is in Crawford Long Hospital in Room 6119. 1258 Winsor Pkwy. Atl., GA 30319. 404-255-1210. Former West Ender, Woody Wyatt – Oakview Nursing Home, 119 Oakview St., Waverly, GA 31831. Elnora Bethel is in Piedmont Hospital. 3700 Potomac Dr., East Point, GA 30344. Opal Chase – 490 Glenn St., #C272, Atl., GA 30012. Anita Banks – 607 Charlotte Place, Atl., GA 30318. 404-799-5156. 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. Debra Harding – 2599 Chesterbrooke Dr., Lithia Springs, GA 30122. 770-577-0044. 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. Anreneka Johnson – 2025 Highpoint Trail, Atl., GA 30331. 404-344-1010.

BEREAVEMENT

Jean Gray lost her brother recently. Condolences may be sent to Sis. Gray at 4017 Kenner Dr., Atl., GA 30331. 404-699-0177.