

The Methodist Protestant Faith

The Official Publication of the Methodist Protestant Church

Providing Holiness, Bible-Based, Christ-Centered Material.

Volume LXI/Number 5

May 2007

Happy
Mother's Day!



The Methodist Protestant Faith, the Official Publication of the Methodist Protestant Church, is published monthly at 722 Hwy 84 West, Collins, MS 39428, by the Board of Publication of the Methodist Protestant Church.

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Subscriptions: \$8.00 per year



The Methodist Protestant Church
Organized 1828

Our Motto . . .

Earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints. Jude 3

We Believe . . .

. . . That God created the Heavens and the Earth

. . . That the Bible is the inspired, infallible, and inerrant "Word of God"

. . . That Jesus Christ is the Virgin-born Son of God

. . . In the divine nature of Jesus Christ

. . . In the atoning blood of Jesus Christ for forgiveness of sins

. . . In Sanctification as a second definite work of grace

. . . That believers may know the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit

. . . In the bodily Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus Christ

. . . In the soon return of Jesus Christ in power and great glory

. . . In an actual heaven, the reward for the saints, and an actual hell, a place of eternal punishment for the wicked

. . . In the sanctity of life

. . . In holy matrimony between man and woman

President's Message -

Rev. LaDon Dawson, General Conference President



The Jesus mission statement: I came to seek and to save the lost. We live in the greatest time on the face of the earth. Look at the opportunities that abound for witnessing of the grace of God. Let's tell the world about Jesus and of His saving, sanctifying and keeping power.

This month we celebrate Mother's Day. I take this opportunity to recognize our Moms. How blest many of us have been to have had Christian mothers who spent time with God on our behalf. Moms, thank you for caring for your children. These are the same ladies who carry on the work of the WMS. Again, I thank you ladies for your hard work.

We are still in dialogue with the brethren from Oklahoma. Pray for leadership and direction as we work with them. They are seeking the face of God to be sure of His leading as they make the move that they anticipate making. I will be going to Oklahoma on May 30 - June 3 to meet with them and be in service on Sunday.

I recently returned from Dayton, Ohio where I attended the Interchurch Holiness Convention. I experienced three days of being with people that live and preach holiness. The convention was filled with singing, shouting, running, and preaching. There are those that will bless your heart and lift you up, as you fellowship with them..

Let me mention one other thing. Next month is annual conference time. We urge you to be in prayer for your conference as they meet. Pray for a special anointing of God on every meeting at every conference. We can only exist and continue to exist if we stay in the center of God's will and have His anointing on us. Pray for the leaders of each conference.

You may contact me by calling 601-587-4147, writing to 4 Divide Road, Monticello, MS 39654, email: ladondawson@bellsouth.net or calling General Conference Headquarters 601-765-0029 on Tuesdays - 9 AM-5 PM.

~~ Rev. LaDon Dawson

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GOD IS, MAN IS NOT

ACTS 13:2,3

Since the early church and throughout the history of the church, there has been an ever pervading question of authority in the ecclesiastical system. Wherever the church spread and prospered, this question has ever been before the conferences, councils, and assemblies. Who is to be the one in authority? Who is going to be the one, or several to dominate, control and rule the church? There is in every major, and minor, denomination some individual that desires to be the “top dog of the pack.” Of course, I use this term facetiously. But the concept is true, someone wants the ruling power over the denomination, the state headquarters, the district, the zone, and the local church. The question needs to be answered if the Church is to be prosperous and win against the prevailing forces of Satan in today’s society. Before the question can be answered, we need to consider the question of power in the early Church.

The Book of Acts outlines the movement of the church in the world. The book of Acts is not the acts of the Apostles, but should be correctly called, the Acts of the Holy Spirit. Jesus Christ spoke of the Comforter that would be coming, that “ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you.” This indicates that the Holy Spirit is the dominant power in the Church, not man. The believers of the New Testament were power conscious; today the church is problem conscious. If the Church doesn’t have problems to solve, it isn’t doing anything. The early Church was more committed to God, and was seeking the power of the Holy Spirit. It was not until the time of Constantine, that the Church began to desire some man to be the ruler over the Church. Later on, about 590 A.D., man began to exercise the power of a “pope”.

There are several examples in the Book of Acts that reveal to us that the Holy Spirit was the authority over the

early church. This was the “power-consciousness” of the early believers. Peter’s sermon on the Day of Pentecost was evident that the Holy Spirit was in control; three thousand were saved and given to the church, and the Lord added “daily” such as was saved. The story of Ananias and Saphira shows that God was in control and that He hates lying. The shadow of Peter fell upon the sick as he passed by and people were healed. Peter had nothing to do with the healing except that he was God’s man in God’s time and place. The Holy Spirit was the One healing the sick. At Paul’s conversion, it was God who brought Paul down from his ‘high-horse,’ as the old

timers used to say. In the healing of the sick at this time, I cannot visualize Peter commanding God to heal, as some TV evangelists do. When Peter raised Dorcas to life again, it wasn’t the power of Peter, but

**COMMITTED
TO GOD!**

the power of God.

In the Book of Acts, no credit or honor was given to the Apostles for the works of God.

Man has the tendency to usurp authority away from God. Adam and Eve attempted to take the power and destiny of their lives away from God. They wanted to control their lives. Eve took authority over God’s commandment and “ate of the fruit.” Adam, the macho male, tried to take the place of God. Cain took the authority of life/death. Saul took authority over God’s specific instructions. David took authority over the commandments of adultery and taking of life.

Today, Church leaders usurp God’s authority in the Church. It matters not whether it is the local Church, district, or national Church, someone is ready to take over

(Continued on page 4)

Calendar of Events

May 19	10 AM	GC Board of Christian Education General Conference Headquarters	June 20-22	MS Annual Conference MS Campground, Collins, MS
June 6-8		AL Annual Conference Springfield MP Church, Thomasville, AL	July 8-13	MS Camp Meeting and Bible School MS Campground, Collins, MS
June 13-15		LA Annual Conference MP Campground & Headquarters, Collins, MS	July 21	10 AM GC Board of Christian Education General Conference Headquarters

(Continued from page 3)

over and become the ruling authority, if possible. The Holy Spirit alone, has the authority and power of the the Church. He has the administrative authority over His Church regardless of denomination. God alone, has the right to assign missionaries, pastors, church officials, Sunday School teachers and Church leaders. God alone, has the responsibility and authority to call an evangelist for revival. Sometimes, these assignments in the Church are made based on popularity, attractiveness, and the most successful.

How can the Church know what is the mind of God in Church and conference matters? The same way that our forefathers knew the mind of Christ -- through prayer! How many prayer meetings are called before the pastor is chosen, or a delegate is elected, or

an evangelist is called, or a missionary is chosen? How much prayer time is used before the elections of the Annual or General Conference officials? Only the Holy Spirit has the right, or authority, to make appointments in the Church. The Holy Spirit is the Administrator of the Church. When people of the Church take it upon themselves to select, appoint, or elect the officers of the council or conference, the Holy Spirit becomes voted out, and man becomes the supreme authority of the Church. I think that it grieves the heart of God when there is "campaigning" by individuals to become elected, or "campaigning" to elect "my favorite" person, and the Holy Spirit is not considered. The Holy Spirit is the only One who has the right to select the leaders, pastors, missionaries, and officers of the Church.

In the 13th chapter of Acts, "The Holy Ghost said, Separate Me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them." The Spirit of God had a specific work for Paul and Barnabas, and the people knew who was spoken of by the Lord God. Can the Church of today hear what the Holy Spirit says? Yes! If people will live as close to God as the early Church did, the Spirit of God will be understood. There was one case in Acts that the laity chose 7 men for the purpose of feeding the widows/orphans. Even at this, the most spiritual men were selected. These men were not ministers and pastors as we understand today, and the job was not that of preaching the gospel. But the job was worthy of using the best men of the church to provide honest and impartial distribution

among the needy of various nationalities.

There are certain requirements in order for the Holy Spirit to choose the leaders of the Church and denomination, and to direct its path. These requirements are made specifically for believers. In other words, it is assumed that Church members are believers. The first requirement is that of total dedication to God. Dedication and commitment are required so that nothing sinful or displeasing comes between the believer and God. Dedication to God is required in order to follow the next step, and that is of complete obedience. Unless a believer is wholly given to God, he will not be wholly obedient to Him. Obedience is better than sacrifice. Obedience reflects the love a Christian has for God. The believer who does not obey God, does not love God! The Word of God is quite clear on this. The last requirement that I would mention is prayer. Prayer is vital in worship. It is vital in the personal Christian walk. It is vital in the function of the church, especially in the comprehension of God's will and the performance of that will.

In order for the church to know the mind and will of God, subsequent effort and time must be utilized, not sparingly, but sufficiently spend in prayer.

**Through Prayer we
know the mind of
Christ**

**OBEDIENCE
TO GOD**

NOTICE!

The June issue of *The Methodist Protestant Faith* will be the Memorial Issue. Each family is encouraged to send in one memorial for your family member and/or Church member who have died in the last year. These should include surviving family, Church involvement, and important accomplishments.

In the future, the May issue of the MPF will include memorials for women, and the June issue will include memorials for men.

Please have articles to us by May 20th to be included in the June issue. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Revival! Revival! Revival!

PIERCE'S SPRINGS (MS) - We praise God for the blessings sent our way. Perhaps we do not always thank God for His benefits, nor praise Him enough for His goodness. Everything that we do should begin with prayer; whether we are praising God or petitioning Him in requests: it is through prayer. Not everyone has the privilege to write about the success of prayer. The following article is about a very successful revival brought about as a result of concerted effort of prayer.

I want to express my appreciation for everyone who responded to the pleas for combined prayer. The request was sent out by God's people at Pierce's Springs MP Church. Pastors and laypeople responded in prayer for us during the revival. I want to give a special thanks to Rev. Dr. Ronnie Morgan and Greater Vision MP Church, Brookhaven, MS, for their great support and prayer for us.

The revival started on Sunday night, April 15. Rev. Dr. Ronnie Morgan opened the revival with a wonderful message on petitioning, praise and intercessory prayer. Following the sermon, the congregation was divided into small prayer groups, with instruction to seek God to be present during the revival. The attendance for the evening was about 20 people. Two of our pastors and two pastors from the AME churches in Quitman and Forrest attended in support of the revival.

Monday night, April 16th, Rev. LaDon Dawson brought the message. This was another heart-felt sermon, entitled "Now I Lay Me Down To Sleep." Because of earnest and sincere prayer, the presence of God seemed to expand. There were about 27 in attendance for this service. The prayerful support and attendance of the pastors contributed greatly to the wonderful success that night.

On Tuesday evening, Rev. Reggie Smith brought the sermon. Once again, the sweet, sweet Spirit of God touched the hearts of believers and non-believers. There was the expression of a great desire for the church people to grow spiritually from the time of salvation, to sanctification, and ultimately to glorification. There were many spiritual lessons learned and knowledge expanded during the sermon. The attendance was down to 13, but those who needed the sermon were there to hear it. God's blessings were overwhelming, and His presence was greatly appreciated.

Wednesday evening was a special night for Pierce's Springs Church. Rev. Mark Lambert brought the sermon. Rev. Lambert captivated the audience of 20 children and 19 adults. "God is wonderful!" Six or seven of the children

opened the service with prayer requests, and then led the congregation in the Lord's prayer. What a blessing to have the children to participate in the worship service. Again, God blessed the service through the sermon from Bro. Mark.

But the greatest blessing was yet to come. There was a large percentage of the young people at the altar, five of which gave their hearts and lives to Christ. Praise God! A special thanks is given to Bro. Fleming and Bro. Pertuit for assisting the youth in prayer, also thanks are given to Dr. Calhoun for attending and supporting. As you can see, God is working through prayer.

On Thursday evening, April 19, Rev. James Roy Killingsworth brought another inspiring sermon on the 10 Commandments. He had an illustration that involved a glass of water. This captivated the attention of children and adults. It was a great illustration of the cleansing power of the blood of Christ. Again, the altar was full, and two more children accepted Jesus as their personal Savior. Prayers go up and blessings come down. The service was concluded with everyone at the altar praying for the children, church members, and the visitors, so that we may be "one" in the family of Jesus Christ.

The Friday evening service was conducted by Rev. Marc Williams bringing a message on the scripture pertaining to "the sheep and the goats." The question was asked, "Where will the church be when Jesus comes?" The presence of God was even greater, and so was the attendance - 32. Again, the altar was filled with people who had needs. But Hold On! God was still moving. Ben Smith, 13 years old, asked to be baptized. What a way to close out the revival. Praise God!

The blessings of God have not stopped. The attendance on Sunday morning has caused a restart of the Sunday School, with ten people in attendance. Church attendance has increased from 6 to 14.

A special thanks is due to our church members for their support, refreshments and hospitality. We are grateful to the ones who provided special music and singing. Thanks are given to other local churches who supported, attended, and prayed for this revival. But most of all, we thank God for His love and blessings: 7 saved, 1 baptized. Praise God forever!

~ Bro. Tony Lambert, Pastor

A Layman's Point Of View -

Larry Davis, General Conference Laymen's President

Spring

Cleaning

Spring is here! According to the calendar, it's spring. It is time to open up the house and let the sunshine in, grab a few dozen trash bags, go through all the closets and throw away everything that has cluttered up the house.

As I begin to put together this month's article, I decided that this spring would be a good time for us to ponder the thought of spring cleaning and see if there is a need to clear the junk out of our head first. With only a few months into the New Year, I realize that I have a lot going through this mind of mine. Do you as well? Thankfully, God reminds us immediately that He is more than willing to help.

Recently at work, I got on the elevator with a woman who had a medical boot on her leg. Thinking that she's probably been asked a thousand times what happened, I instead asked, "Is it easy to walk in that thing?"

I fully expected her to start complaining about how painful and difficult it was to walk with this contraption strapped to her leg. However, she looked up at me and said matter-of-factly, "No, it's quite easy. I've had this on for about a year." Then, she explained to me how she's had surgery on that foot many times, and it didn't really bother her.

I know it sounds superficial but the first thought I had as I walked away was, "A whole year not being able to walk on your right foot." That couldn't be any fun at all. I truly felt sorry for her. Yet, while it made me sad, she seemed perfectly fine with it.

Walking down to my office, the situation started unraveling in my head. Here I was with the imaginary world on my shoulders, yet I was walking on both feet to a job that I enjoy.

I started to pray, "God, I have so much to be thankful for, I should be skipping to work every day. But how do I do this? Where do I begin?"

As I turned the key to my office door, I heard that still small voice say, "You can start with every moment."

I had to pause and laugh at myself. Of course! The journey of a thousand miles begins with one step, as does any big spring-cleaning job. If I could take every moment and enjoy it to its fullest, letting tomorrow take care of itself, in no time I would look back on a life of laughter and love.

So, I sat down at my desk, started to read my daily devotion, and let a smile creep across my face as I began to work. A good day that God created had started for me in a different light.

I can't say that I completely understand how or why my life can sometimes get so cluttered, but at least I know how to clean it up. And it may never be finished, but as God continues to perfect the work He started, I can at least enjoy the process.

I challenge everyone to not let the clutter creep into your minds. If we allow this to happen we soon will be very un-kept, just like our closet at home. If I don't continue to place things in the right place and order, my mind becomes untidy and useless.

So it is with our spiritual life. We want to be useful for the kingdom. We must be neatly groomed and in order and all in the right place, so that our lives for Christ will be at full capability.

Personal Note: Thank you, to the many who have commented on my articles. I appreciate knowing you do read them and are receiving a blessing from them. That is the reason I write them. The Lord and I prepare them as an opportunity to share the gospel with you from a 'laymen's perspective'.

Respectfully Submitted and Totally Committed,

Larry Davis

Youth

- Why should I say “I can’t” when the Bible says I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength (Philippians 4:13)?
- Why should I lack when God supplies all my needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:19)?
- Why should I fear when God has not given me a spirit of fear, but of power, love and sound mind (2 Timothy 1:7)?
- Why should I be weak when the Lord is the strength of my life (Psalm 27:1; Daniel 11:32)?
- Why should I feel like a failure when I am a conqueror in all things through Christ (Romans 8:37)?
- Why should I allow Satan supremacy over my life when He that is in me is greater than he that is in the world (1 John 4:4)?
- Why should I lack wisdom when God gives wisdom to me generously when I ask for it (1 Corinthians 1:30; James 1:5)?
- Why should I accept defeat when the Bible says that God always leads me in triumph (2 Corinthians 2:14)?
- Why should I be depressed when I have God’s loving kindness, compassion, and faithfulness to give me hope (Lamentations 3:21-23)?
- Why should I worry when I can cast all my care on God who cares for me (1 Peter 5:7)?
- Why should I be in bondage when the truth has set me free (John 8:32)?
- Why should I feel condemned when there is no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus (Romans 8:1)?
- Why should I feel alone when Jesus is with me always, even to the end of the world (Matthew 28:20; Hebrews 13:5)?
- Why should I be discontented when I can be content in all my circumstances (Philippians 4:11)?
- Why should I feel worthless when Christ values me (1 Corinthians 4:5)?
- Why should I have a persecution complex, knowing that nobody can be against me when God is for me (Romans 8:31)?
- Why should I let the pressures of life bother me when Jesus has overcome the world and its tribulations (John 16:33)?

—Copied

☺ CHILDREN’S CORNER ☺

Starts With The Letter YorZ (All scripture is from KJV)

Find answers in: Hebrews 13:8; Titus 3:13; Revelation 20:2; Romans 6:13; 1 Peter 5:5; Genesis 30:20; Deuteronomy 2:20; Genesis 29:24; Matthew 4:21; Ecclesiastes 12:1; Zechariah 1:1; Numbers 21:12; Matthew 2:9; Revelation 3:19; Ezra 5:2; Genesis 36:2; 2 Corinthians 6:14; Exodus 2:21; Job 2:11

1. Satan will be bound a thousand _____.
2. _____ was the father of the disciples, James and John.
3. “Jesus Christ the same _____, and to day, and for ever.”
4. _____ was the head of the tribe of Judah and helped to build the house of God at Jerusalem.
5. The wise men followed the star to the place where the _____ child was.
6. “Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy _____.”
7. “As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be _____ therefore, and repent.”
8. The tenth son of Jacob: _____
9. _____ was the father of John the Baptist.
10. The Ammonite name for the giants: _____
11. “Likewise, _____, submit yourselves unto the elder.”
12. Elijah lived in _____ during the latter part of the drought.
13. One of the twelve minor prophets. _____.
14. _____ was a lawyer, and a preacher of the gospel.
15. “Be ye not unequally _____ together with unbelievers:”
16. A brook or valley running into the Dead Sea. _____
17. _____ was the father of Anah, Esau’s mother-in-law.
18. “Neither _____ members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but _____ unto God,”
19. Laban gave _____ to his daughter Leah for an handmaid.
20. _____ was the wife of Moses and mother of Gershom and Eliezer.
21. One of Job’s three friends: _____.

The Tale of Two Boys

Rev. Newton Pertuit

The following is a fictional story inspired by a true event. The names used are of two of my uncles both deceased.

Early one morning at Touro hospital in New Orleans, two babies are born. One we will call Roland, the other we will call Earl.

Roland's Mother is surrounded by his daddy and other family and friends from their church.

Earl's Mother is alone, his daddy is in a bar celebrating Earl's birth.

Roland is brought to church to be dedicated to God.

Earl is not.

Roland is in church every Sunday.

Earl's Mother said he can only go to a Pentecostal church, even though she does not attend a church.

Roland is surrounded by family and friends that care for him.

Earl has no friends or family to care for him.

Roland is put in the church nursery when the family is in church, so he can get to know other kids.

Earl has no chance to meet other kid.

Roland goes to kindergarten and knows how to get along with other kids because of his being in church.

Earl goes to kindergarten and can't get along with other kids because he has had no experience with other kids.

Roland can read some because he has been taught by his parents.

Earl cannot read; no one took the time to teach him.

Roland has no trouble in school.

Earl is always in trouble in school, he is a poor student.

Roland's Mother and Father tell him that he should always behave in school and church.

Earl's Mother said no one can correct my boy, and he can do what ever he wants to do.

Roland attends church and takes part in all church activities.

Earl lives down the block from Roland's church, but does not go, and never gets invited because he is a bad kid.

Roland is saved.

Earl is not.

Roland meets a girl at church and they start dating.

Earl meets a girl at school and they start dating.

Roland is taught to respect people.

Earl is taught to look out for number one.

Roland and his girlfriend get engaged.

Earl's girlfriend gets pregnant and she has an abortion.

Roland and his girlfriend get married in the church.

Earl and his girlfriend move in together.

Roland has many friends because he has been taught to respect others.

Earl has few friends.

Roland get's a good job because he got a good education.

Earl is working two low paying jobs just to get by.

Roland does not drink, smoke, or do drugs.

Earl does.

Roland loves his wife and is faithful to her.

Earl is not faithful to his girlfriend.

Roland and his wife have a baby, and all the family and friends are with them at the hospital.

Earl's girlfriend has a baby alone, Earl is at the bar celebrating.

Roland and his wife take their baby to church to be dedicated .

Earl and his girlfriend breakup.

Roland and his wife buy a house.

Earl moves in with another girlfriend.

Roland and his wife have another baby.

Earl and his new girlfriend have a baby.

Roland gets a promotion at work .

Earl gets fired.

Roland and his family attend church at every chance.

Earl lives down the block from the church, but does not get invited because he is a bad person.

Roland and his wife have another baby.

Earl is in jail for drunk driving.

Roland and his wife get a new house.

Earl gets out of jail, his girlfriend has left town.

Roland and his wife bring the new baby to church to be dedicated.

Earl gets another low paying job.

Roland gets elected church leader.

Earl parks his car at work takes a gun and shoots himself in the head.

~ THE END

The Missionary Record

Mrs. Dianne Reid, Woman Executive Secretary, Editor

TRUE NOBILITY

We may fool others, but we can't fool God; He looks on the heart. Are we living truly noble Christian lives while on this earth? On one of Paul's missionary journeys, the Scriptures point out that the Christians in Berea were more noble than those in Thessalonica. The Bereans had a spiritual readiness of mind and heart toward the Word of God and so should we.

What we value most in the here and now speaks volumes. Material things are temporary and have no true value – but should be dedicated to God and used for His purposes. When one looks through rose colored glasses – everything looks pink. Are we looking at life through spiritual eyes and with eternity clearly in view? Happiness, in the usual sense of the word, is based on circumstances or *happenings*, but joy actually comes from deep within, all because of the grace of God in our lives. Yes, “the joy of the Lord is our strength.”

Luxuries and pleasures do not make for real happiness. Often we find that “pleasures are like poppies spread, you seize the flower, the bloom is shed.” Sometimes we think happiness can be found in the pursuit of thrills, but only the things that are eternally and fundamentally right create lasting “pleasure”. That which is wrong limits and ultimately destroys. Pleasure seeking in itself, without regard to the spiritual, causes havoc. It is an illusive, vicious cycle which never achieves real satisfaction. Those who live selfishly will find that the repetition of stimuli finally ceases to give pleasure, and boredom and positive pain occurs. Let us seek

the real and lasting joys of life.

Why are we here on the Earth? Is it to be comfortable, indulging ourselves – intoxicated with “things” – or to become more like Jesus and glorify our Father which is in Heaven? Is God more concerned with us being holy or feeling warm and fuzzy all the time? Christians may and should experience joy, regardless of circumstances. It should not be a *mechanical or forced* “praise God anyway” attitude, but real heartfelt praise – citing God's marvelous attributes and giving of thanks for His manifold blessings. We should praise him in His holy splendor and for His enduring love and mercy.

The *don'ts* and *musts* of Christianity which surround us from birth are not intended to restrict life, but to enlarge it. Life is to be lived, as widely and deeply as possible. The greater values must always be put before the less important values, keeping proper perspective, proper priorities and proper balance in life.

A good reputation . . . a clear conscience . . . appreciation of nature . . . a peaceful heart . . . the knowledge of being a blessing to others . . . a trained and well-filled mind . . . satisfaction from duty well done . . . faith in the outcome of right . . . contentment . . . well-adjusted social relationships . . . loving unity in the Church – all these make for true happiness which is based on a right and vital relationship with the Lord. ***“God reads the soul . . . and only they are lovely seen whose lives on earth have noble been.”***

(Based in part on an article by Rev. F. E. Sellers, December 1988)

God
Looks
On
Our
Heart!

WMS PRAYER CALENDAR

MAY - More Christian Homes; Christian Women; Revivals; Evangelists; Secretaries of Young People's Work;

JMS Circles; Christian Boys Clubs; National Day of Prayer; High School and College Graduates - **Proverbs 22:6**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS: Secretary of Young People's Work: Promote organization of JMS Circles. Encourage participation in JMS Reading Course. Stress Christian morality and Christian ethics. Youth revivals and camps and state-wide mission rally. Secretary of Spiritual Life: Promote National Day of Prayer the first Thursday in May.

MYANMAR

9TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORT, 2007

1. Mission Trip: I and two pastors, Van Lal Eng and Siang Ban Mang left Yangon on March 21 to visit the local churches in the Northwestern part of Myanmar. The pastors in the local churches joined the mission trip. We were very much encouraged to have sweet fellowship with each local church.
2. The 9th Annual Conference: Venue: Minhla local church, Kalay Township, Sagaing Division, Northwestern part of Myanmar, March 29 to April 01, 2007
Theme: "But by My Spirit" (Zech 4:6).
3. Commitment of Minhla Local Church: I really appreciated the local church's commitment to the Lord. They tried their best to host the Annual Conference. They pitched a booth (90ft x 54ft) to organize worship services during the Conference. The youth went to the jungle, and cut thatch for the roof and walls. They collected firewood, and sold it to raise funds for the Conference. Minhla local church leaders instructed every house of the church to accumulate 'a handful Rice' more than usual (a handful rice means that before rice is cooked a handful of rice is picked and set apart for the Lord in another container. And every Sunday morning it is collected and sold. The responsibility of collecting and selling of the handful of rice is taken by the MPWF). By these means of fund raising Minhla church could kill 2 big pigs to host the delegates and the worshipers who came from far distances.
4. Conference MPYF Formed: Before this Conference the Methodist Protestant Youth Fellowship was formed only at the local level. But this year it is formed at the Conference level, and the leaders are as follows.
President: Peter Lal Din Thar, B.Sc., Yangon
Secretary: Mr Lal Ram Mawi, Minhla
(The term Conference is used to indicate General Conference or national level.)
5. Baptism: After prayer meeting on Sunday morning, April 1, a baptism ceremony was held at a fish pond of brother Ral Lian Tawn. Six new converts (One boy and 5 girls) were baptized. With regards to baptism, our common practice is sprinkling. But some denominations criticize us by saying that only immersion is the right and meaningful mode of baptism. This criticism has made our people confused and frustrated. In order to avoid these problems, this time I baptized by immersion. The baptized are as follows : (with father's name)

1. Biak Cin (m) 24 Duh Cung

2. Biak Za Mawi (f) 16 Bawi Pum
3. Thang Nei Sui (f) 18
4. Thian Lem Ting (f) 16 Tuan Mawi
5. Sui Len Kim (f) 17 Tluang Tin Sang
6. Khaw Nei Mawi (f) 18 Hin Kap

We greatly rejoice in the Lord for we know that there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over 99 righteous persons who do not need to repent (Luke 15:7).

6. Ordination Ceremony: At the Sunday morning service, April 1, two ministers, Van Lal Eng of Yangon and Cung Lian Thang of Khampat were ordained.
7. Conference Officers: The Conference Officers for the term 2007-2010 are as follows.
President: Mang Herh, Yangon
Vice-President: Rev. Van Lal Eng, Yangon
Secretary: Rev. Ngaih Lian Lawm, Tahan
Asst. Secy: Rev. Zung Luai, Khampat
8. The 10th Annual Conference will be held in Khampat, 2008. The date is not yet confirmed. The Conference Officers are entrusted to determine the date.
We give thanks to God that the Holy Spirit was moving in the midst of the congregation, and we were so happy to have sweet fellowship with the Lord. We were also very much encouraged to hear the word of God as well as choirs, group songs, action songs and solos in every worship service (9 services).

On the morning of April 2, we bade farewell to one another, and are looking forward to meeting again in Khampat next year.

Sincerely yours, Mang Herh



NOTICE:

You may send donations for Myanmar to:
Board of Missions
General Conference
Byron Carlisle, Treasurer
31 Cammack Drive
Grove Hill, AL 36451

Please pray for Mang Herh and this group of people as they serve God and win souls for God's Kingdom.

Church News

Spring Youth Retreat



The Spring Youth Retreat was held on March 31 at the Roosevelt State Park, near Morton, MS. This event was sponsored by the MS Council of Religious Education.



Approximately 85-90 people attended the recent Spring Youth Retreat. Several MS Churches were represented, as well as a large group from Alabama. The Retreat Theme was "RETURN OF THE KING". Three Wesley College students were on the program: Marshall Drisler, Michael Anuba, and Jeff Grimes. We appreciate their willingness to come and be a part of this Gospel endeavor. The park was a beautiful setting and the weather was very mild. After the program we enjoyed lunch which included grilled hot dogs and hamburgers. Thanks to some men who pitched in and did the cooking. A softball game was enjoyed by several and apparently they wanted to keep playing. We thank the Lord for His blessings concerning this Retreat and pray for good spiritual results for time and eternity.

Some of Divide's Youth Group



MISSISSIPPI Camp Meeting & Bible School July 8-13, 2007

Dr. Roy Lauter, Revival Speaker



Dr. Lauter is a teacher, preacher, and missionary. He now spends his time preaching in camp meetings, revivals, and missions conferences across the country and around the world. Roy is the Chairman of the Board of World Gospel Mission.

Special Ministry Team:
New Life
Kentucky Mountain
Bible College



Chris & Beth Garcia
Children's Evangelists



Chris and Beth travel together working with youth and children at church camps across the south, to prepare young people for their place in the church. Chris is currently Director of Missions at Wesley College as well as Youth pastor for Riverside Independent Methodist Church.

- Director Rev. Marc Williams
- Dean Dianne Reid
- Prayer Coordinator Rev. John Gerald
- Master of Ceremonies Rev. LaDon Dawson
- Music Director Rev. Reggie Smith

Theme:

WANTED: Kingdom Builders

Classes for PreSchool - Adult

For more information, please call Dianne Reid at 601-587-2749.

Church News

NEELY MP (MS) - is growing. On April 15, 2007, we had 6 people join the church. They are: Jim and Glynda Powell, Rosa Gerald, Jeremy Smith, Destinie Smith, and Mrs. Susie Smith. The church welcomed them with open arms.

Paula Hillman.

MONTICELLO, MS - This spring has been filled with activity and ministry. Some of our church members attended the "Spiritual Formation" Seminar at Collins, MS the first weekend of March. We were represented at the Southwest WMS Zone Meeting at Divide, the WMS Convention, MS WMS Branch, and the Annual General Conference Board Meetings. The WMS has Ladies Visitations, Ladies Fellowship Luncheons, and regular meetings.

Rev. Charles Winters, veteran missionary to Bolivia with World Gospel Mission, conducted Hispanic services weekly for migrant workers here, assisted by a team of members from the church. Various churches in the community helped with food.

A good group of young people, under the direction of Kenny Southerland, attended the Spring Youth Retreat at Roosevelt State Park in Morton, MS. A youth Mission work trip is scheduled for May 20-28 in Belize, Central America. They have had several fundraisers for this endeavor.

During the Easter Season, we had our Children's program, Easter Worship Service, and Communion. The Easter Egg Hunt and fellowship was well attended, and everyone

seemed to enjoy our traditional get-together. On March 18th, we joined our sister Churches: Divide and Forest Grove, to watch the movie "Facing the Giants". Our Pastor, Bro. Roger Smith, directed a Community Choir for Easter. The Choir was in Concert at Tilton United Methodist, Topeka Baptist, and Monticello Methodist Protestant Churches. Choir members were from these three Churches plus Forest Grove, Divide and Brookhaven Methodist Protestant Churches.

May is our month to minister at the Lawrence County Nursing Center on Sunday mornings. Also, revival services are scheduled for May 13-16, with Dr. Sam Bruce, former President of Wesley College in Florence, MS. Vacation Bible School is set for June 11-15 each evening. Everyone is invited to join the Pastor and Church Family for these revival services and VBS.

Monticello MP Church will celebrate its 60th Anniversary on June 10, beginning at 6:30 PM. Please join us!

Dianne Reid

WEDDING - Kay Pugh Harris and Tony Elvis Lambert invite you to share in celebration of their union as husband and wife on Saturday, June 9, 2007 at 10AM in the Tabernacle at the Methodist Protestant Campground, Collins, MS. T.J. and Dot Pugh, J.B. Harris, and E.W. and Charlene Lambert invite you to join with them in asking God's blessing upon this holy union.

The Methodist Protestant Faith
P.O. Box 2454
Collins, MS 39428

Email: mpfeditor@bellsouth.net

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