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**Mount Horeb Baptist Church**  
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# THE UPDATE

NEWS & EVENTS

Vol. 26 No. 7

STAND FAST therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free,  
and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage. Galatians 5:1

July 2004

## Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

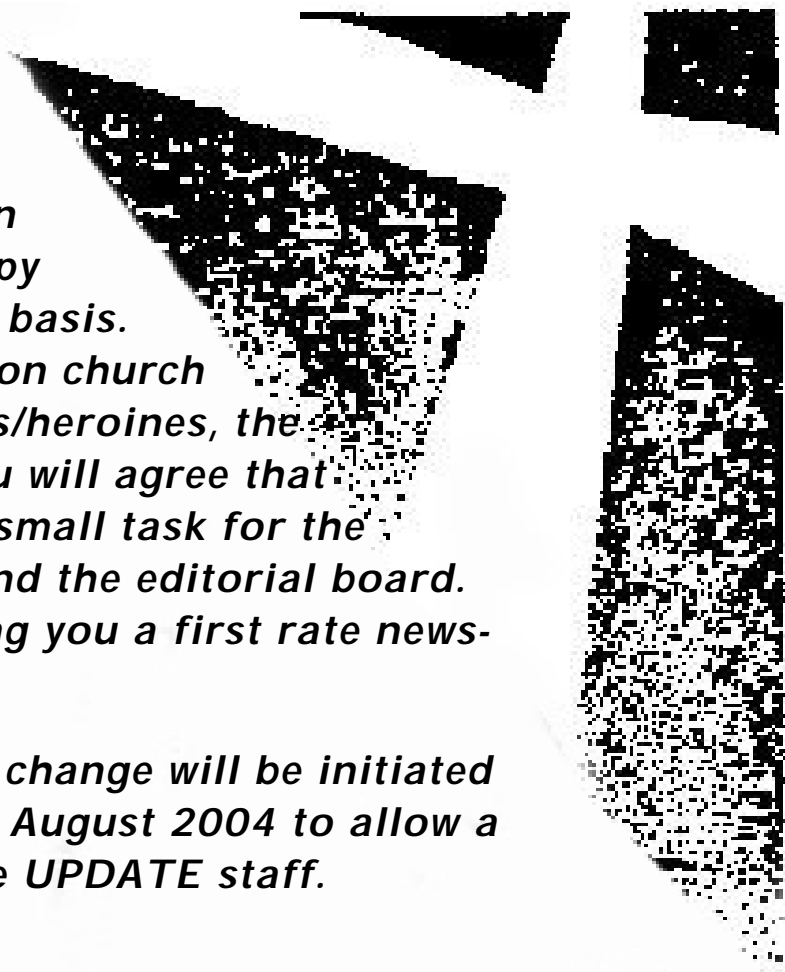
*For many years you have been accustomed to receiving a copy of the UPDATE on a monthly basis. We have placed the spotlight on church organizations, unsung heroes/heroines, the youth and the little ones. You will agree that year-round production is no small task for the reporters, production staff and the editorial board. It is our desire to always bring you a first rate news-letter.*



*Therefore, a change will be initiated beginning in August 2004 to allow a break for the UPDATE staff.*

*The UPDATE will not be published in September, 2004 and January, 2005. You will receive an August/September edition on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in July and a December/January editic on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in November.*

*Thank you for your support,  
The UPDATE Staff.*



~~FROM THE CHURCH CLERK~~

**TO OUR NEW MEMBERS:** We welcome Sister Gina L. Barbour (Christian Experience) and Brother Dorrell Carter (Restored). "May grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God and our Savior Jesus Christ." (2 Peter 1:2)

**TO OUR SICK AND SHUT-INS:** "When things go wrong as they sometimes will, when the road you're trudging seems all uphill, when care is pressing you down a bit, rest if you must, but don't quit." Pastor Cooper and your Church Family pray for your renewed strength and energy for a new day.

**TO OUR VISITORS:** Pastor Cooper and the Mount Horeb Baptist Church Parishioners extend a warm welcome to you. We are delighted and blessed to have you worshipping with us. Come back and fellowship with us as often as you like.

**FROM THE OFFICIAL BOARD:** Please be aware that the policy concerning funeral repasts for members of Mount Horeb, found in good standing, has been revised effective June 3, 2004. The number of family members has been changed from 100 to 50 for which the Church can prepare food free of charge. Additional persons can be accommodated at \$10.00 per plate to be paid by the family members in charge of arrangements. The policy concerning funeral repasts for non-members remains in effect. However, catering service must be acquired through an outside certified caterer. A list of caterers can be provided by Mount Horeb.

**ATTENTION MEMBERS:** In order to keep the church's membership records current and in order, please make the Church Clerk aware of any changes in your name, address, or telephone.

There are still boxes of unclaimed 2004 church envelopes in the Church Clerk's office. Please pickup your envelopes.

Sister Joan Randolph  
Church Clerk



IN MEMORIAM

On Monday, May 31, 2004, Memorial Day, Sisters Mary Gudger and Dorothy Thomas were invited to attend the annual Memorial Day Breakfast at the White House, followed by the Wreath Laying Ceremony at Arlington Cemetary.

Six family members and two escorts accompanied the Honorable Jerry D. Jennings, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, Defense POW/Missing Personnel Affairs. While at the White House, Sisters Gudger and Thomas had their pictures taken with President and Mrs. Bush and Secretary of State, Colin Powell. Lt. Col. Ava N. Webb-Sharpless and Maj. Jeff A. Bridges escorted them. They took part in these activities because their brother, Sgt. Joseph D. Gudger, died while a Prisoner of War during the Korean War Conflict in March of 1951.

Sisters Gudger and Thomas have been taking part in various activities for several years as part of the Korean & Cold War Accounting Initiatives. Their blood samples are on file to assist in the identification of Joseph's remains through DNA.

Submitted by Sister Shirley Gudger

JULY SUNDAY SCHOOL SUBJECTS

Sunday, JULY 4<sup>th</sup> - "Faithful to Teaching"

Lesson Scripture - Hebrews 5:11-6:12

Sunday, JULY 11<sup>th</sup> - "Faithful to the New Covenant"

Lesson Scripture - Hebrews 8:6-13

Sunday, JULY 18<sup>th</sup> - "Roll Call of the Faithful"

Lesson Scripture - Hebrews 11:1-13

Sunday, JULY 25<sup>th</sup> - "Faithful and Disciplined"

Lesson Scripture - Hebrews 12:1-13

All are invited to attend!

Deacon Wylie D. Powell, Superintendent

EDITORIAL



"Under construction" signs are visible year round and it seems work is never completed. We see these signs on highways, near huge holes in the ground, near existing buildings and so on. We make detours and countless times we must go out of our way to get to our destination. From time to time, we whine and frequently use an alternate route until the construction is finished.

Our bodies, too, are under construction. Some cells die and are replaced by new cells. Whether we wish it or not, the body reconstruction process happens. Nonetheless, we are not always satisfied with the end result. Come what may, we usually wish for something different. What we get is closely associated with what we envision. For a fleeting moment, we have a positive thought but it is soon replaced with "what we don't want." Is it any wonder that the outcome is not what we were hoping for?

Just as with our physical body, our spiritual being is under construction. How often do we say, "I can't do...?" With that attitude, we should not be surprised if indeed we can't.

Remember the song about "High Hopes"? It tells of an ant trying to remove a rubber tree plant. "Everyone knows an ant can't move a rubber tree plant, but he's got high hopes." We are more than conquerors and must have higher hopes than the ant. Surely we have faith the size of a mustard seed. Isn't that all we need when our only hope is in Jesus?

Sister Bernice Perry Perkins, Editor

*"It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance, by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty..."*

*John Adams, one of the founders of the new nation who considered Independence Day an important occasion for rejoicing.*

We will rejoice in thy salvation, and in the name of our God we will set up our banners: the Lord fulfil all thy petitions. Psalm 20:5

## “ADOPTION AND CHANGE”



What are some of the implications being adopted into God’s family? There are at least three: a change in identity, lifestyle and agenda.

**I. Change in identity:** An African American, in days past, expressed it like this: “I told Jesus it would be all right if He changed my name.” When we become aware of our adoption by God through Jesus Christ, we are no longer identified as lost but found (Luke 15:6, 24); as belonging not to the devil but to God; not as non-Christian but as Christian; not as just born but born again. As adopted ones, we have a new identity.

**II. Change is lifestyle:** Paul in his second letter to the Corinthians states: “If any person be in Christ, he or she is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.” He didn’t mean that we had suddenly attained perfection. Perhaps another poet has expressed it best in practical terms...

“Places I used to go;

Things I used to do;

I don’t do no more,

There’s been a great change in me.”

**III. Change in agenda:** Before adoption by the Lord, we were our own number one priority. Our wants and needs were our greatest concern. But, now that we are members of God’s family, God’s program is our program. The hungry, the sick, the imprisoned, the lonely, the distressed and the helpless and hopeless are our concern.

Adoption means we have a new identity, lifestyle and agenda. It means not only being a part of God’s family, but also a part of God, who He is and what He’s doing in individuals, the Church and society.

**Pastor Cooper**

## TIMELESS WISDOM

### Reflections



Live each day to the fullest.

Get the most from each hour, each day and age of your life.

Then you can look forward with confidence and back without regret.

Be yourself, but be your best self.

Dare to be different and to follow your own star, and don’t be afraid to be happy.

Enjoy what is beautiful.

Love with all your heart and soul.

Believe that those you love, love you.

Forget what you have done for your friends and remember what they have done for you.

Disregard what the world owes you and concentrate on what you owe the world.

When you are faced with a decision, make that decision as wisely as possible--then forget it.

The moment of absolute certainty never arrives.

Blessed is the generation in which the old listens to the young, and doubly blessed is the generation in which the young listens to the old.

ANONYMOUS

**Dorothy Dines Davenport**

## YOUTH SEMINAR 2004 (Speak Out)

On Saturday, July 24, 2004, at 9:00 a.m., the Young Peoples Council will host a Youth Seminar tailored for our High School and College Students. We will focus on everyday issues confronting our youth and the temptations (fiery darts) being tossed at them. Through a panel format, we intend to engage our youth and address these issues from a biblical perspective.

Our scriptural reference can be found in Ephesians 6:12-20.

"For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." Therefore, God tells us to "take unto you the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand." Please read the rest of the above scripture reference, as God tells us to open our mouths and speak boldly the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It is our prayer that our youth will be able to quench the fiery darts of the wicked and speak boldly the word of God.

For more information on this seminar, please contact:

Deacon Johnathan T. Beckett, Sr.  
Chairperson, Young Peoples Council

## YOUTH PRAYER BREAKFAST 2004 GOD IS GOOD!

On May 15, 2004, the Young Peoples Council held its annual Youth Prayer Breakfast. The youth truly took this opportunity to praise God through their testimonies and gifts. Upon the return of our college students, the youth were well represented. It was clear that all came out to share and give honor to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Our Master of Ceremonies, Brother J. Brandon Hicks, did an excellent job taking us through our program. We also heard from Brothers Justin Rice (scripture), Jay Gilchrist (prayer), Sister Brittany Carter (welcome) and Brother Johnathan Beckett, Jr. who blessed the food.

The breakfast, prepared by our kitchen staff and served by our young adult missionaries, was truly enjoyed by all. During the second portion of our program we were blessed by a liturgical dance by Sisters Devanee Beckett, Raichella Chapman and Tiffany Moore. These ladies were simply outstanding as they praised our Lord through dance. As always, we remembered our sick and shut-ins. Both Sister Mallori Edley and Brother Daniel Powell did an exceptional job in reading our sick list and lifting up those in need of prayer. May we continue to pray for and visit those who are sick and unable to come out and fellowship with us.

The brief word was given by Reverend Melvin Wallace. It was both inspiring and timely as we see many of our young people being lost to the streets. He admonished our young people to be strong in the Lord and continue to walk in truth and love, always recalling what the Lord has done in our lives. He further reminded us that the Lord promised to never leave us nor forsake us and He would be right there by our side. In these days, that is the kind of reassurance we all need. A special thanks to Reverend Wallace for the message he gave.

The Young Peoples Council thanks all those who participated and came out to support our young people. Thanks to Pastor and Sister Cooper for their strong commitment, leadership and support of all our young soldiers in Christ. It's important for our young people to know we love and support them as they continue their Christian journey. As always, we thank God for His love, grace and mercy. God Bless.

Deacon Johnathan T. Beckett, Sr.  
Chairperson, Young Peoples Council



## COMPUTER SUMMER CAMP

The 2003 Computer Summer Camp was held July 21-25. Approximately 25 students, ages 5-12, were in attendance. Campers were taught how to compose formal paragraphs, draw pictures, design a power point presentation, perform data analysis, design a book with desktop publishing and start a business. Educational games as well as Bible-based games were available for (free time). Instructors were Deacon Eugene Hellams and Brother Charles Janifer. Teaching assistants, Sister and Brother Elona Jones, Rychele Jones, Duane Harris and Felicia Jackson Sisters and Brother designed a newsletter for the computer camp. Deacon Hellams, the Computer Camp Coordinator, has plans for another exciting week of computer fun from July 26-30, 2004. Please watch for additional information in our church bulletin.

Submitted by Sister Linda K.T. Stroud

## “VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL”

“Jesus Helps You Power Up” is the theme for this year’s Vacation Bible School (VBS) program which begins, June 28 and ends July 9, 2004.

Our primary scripture will be Acts 20:32, “And now brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.” We will study how new testament saints whose acts, by the grace of God, not only empowered their lives but also impacted the lives of others with whom they came in contact. We will further discover how the application of the following five life-changing power points may empower our lives as well:

### LOVE ONE ANOTHER

The Good Samaritan - John 15:12, 13

### ACCEPT ONE ANOTHER

The Woman at The Well - Romans 15:7

### SERVE ONE ANOTHER

Jesus Washes Disciples' Feet - Galatians 5:13

### COMFORT ONE ANOTHER

The Raising of Lazarus - 2 Corinthians 1:3, 4

### FORGIVE ONE ANOTHER

The Unforgiving Servant - Colossians 3:12-14

Registration is open to all from age 2 (potty trained) to adults, and will continue until Friday, July 2, 2004. VBS will assemble daily at 9:00 a.m. in the music room, Mount Horeb Annex, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor.

Lunch is provided to all participants. There is no charge for VBS, however, a free-will offering will be collected daily for our outreach mission project. We look forward to seeing you.

Sister Barbara Cook, Director, VBS

## MAN OF THE YEAR



On Sunday, June 6, 2004, Deacon George L. Thomas was honored as "Man of the Year" during the Annual Men's Day celebrations, jointly sponsored by the Laymen's League and the Mass Male Choir. A beautiful black-stained, piano-finish "recognition plaque" with an antique silver frame was presented to Deacon Thomas by Pastor Cooper at the 10:30 a.m. worship service, in recognition of exemplary services rendered to the church that extended "far above and

beyond the call of duty." The plaque contains the inscription, "In Recognition and Appreciation of your Exemplary Services to the Church and Unselfish Dedication to Administering to the Needs of Your Fellow Man."

Deacon Thomas has been a member of Mount Horeb Baptist Church for eight years, serving two of those years as a Deacon. He sings bass with the Chancel Choir of which he has been a member for seven years. He is generally known and greatly admired by many within our Church Family for his generosity, graciousness, integrity and an unfailing sense of devotion to duty. His areas of interest and involvement in church matters are boundless and the energies and time expended by him in a myriad of church matters are incalculable. Deacon Thomas is a Computer Consultant for the church and with his extraordinary knowledge of contemporary electronic communication and data information systems, provides indispensable services to the church in these areas of expertise. He finds no hour of the morning too early, nor any hour of the evening too late to respond to concerns of the church and his fellow man when and where needed. In this regard, Deacon Thomas has faithfully provided editorial services and technological assistance to the Editorial Board of the UPDATE Newsletter for more than four years. The monthly Newsletter is not only available to members of the Church Family through normal distribution channels, but is also accessible to the general public via the world-wide-web. Because of the aforementioned attributes and unique services provided by Deacon Thomas, members of the Board unequivocally and unanimously concur in the Award and concurrently add their voices to the chorus of kudos and congratulations justifiably accorded him.

Upon presentation of the Man of The Year Award to Deacon Thomas, a near capacity filled sanctuary of members of the Church Family and accompanying friends rose from their seats with a resounding ovation in appreciation of his outstanding services to the church and for the honors bestowed upon him. Joining in the celebratory event was an entourage of the following family members: wife, Deaconess Dequilla Thomas; son, George Thomas, III; daughter, Tiffany Thomas; granddaughter, Jadacia Imani Thomas; mother, Dinah Thomas; and sisters, Denise Anderson and Delbra Rivers. If ever there was a day when a family were to feel a sense of pride and joy for a loved one --- this must have been the day.

We pray that God will continue to bless Deacon Thomas and his family with health and happiness as they continue to work in the army of Our Lord and Savior through service to the Mount Horeb Church Family and devotion to the needs of their fellow man.

Brother Horace Williams, Assistant Editor

## "FELLOW"ship

For more than a month, I had the pleasure of comradely and fellowship with my brothers in Christ while preparing for the 2004 Men's Day Celebration held on Saturday, June 5 and Sunday, June 6, 2004. For the month long rehearsal period, Dr. William Morris, our Director, put us through our paces with multiple practices to assure that each man was fully prepared. His only request was that each man in attendance not only prepare himself but also to be prepared to help the man seated next to him who may have missed previous rehearsals. The response was excellent both in numbers and commitment, as anyone in attendance on Saturday and Sunday will attest.

After years of lining up in school, as scouts, for athletic teams, in the military and for services at church, one of the last thing that grown men should find challenging would be lining up for the processional to enter the choir loft on Saturday. However, this proved to be the most daunting task. Nevertheless, having participated in the Men's Day celebrations for many years, remarkable vocal progression could be seen and heard in these men during the celebration. Even more remarkable, was the positive interaction of young and old, students and retirees, different churches and auxiliaries each encouraging and supporting each other in celebration, fully realizing their individual importance to the choir and their collective importance to the church. It was FUN. The men appeared to have had more fun bringing the program to you than you had in attending it. Thank you for all your love and support.

Submitted by Brother Terence Morris



**Men of Faith**

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### PRAYER CONCERN FOR JULY

We ask God for strength to give of ourselves to others.

