

IF YOU ARE ABLE AND  
CARE, COME TO CHURCH  
WITH A CAN IN YOUR  
HAND FOR CRISIS CONTROL.  
S.J.D.



# THE SPOTLIGHT

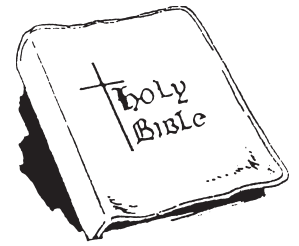
55 Years Of Continuous Service  
for

## New Bethel Baptist Church

1016 North Trade Street  
WINSTON-SALEM, NORTH CAROLINA

January 6, 2008

**"Continuing to Minister Because WE CARE!"**



VOLUME 55, NO. 4

## Annual Church Meeting

By Carolyn Crosby

The annual Church meeting was held on Thursday, December 13, 2007. The Financial/Treasurer report was presented by Deacon Thomas Thornton who provided a complete financial report accounting for all monies, investments, and account balances.

Trustee Daniel Piggott presented the report from the Audit Committee. There were no recommendations again this year from the committee. The committee found all processes to be in place and that receipts of all monies received and disbursed had been documented as requested.

The Budget Committee report was presented by Trustee Kenneth Rocker.

Deacon Douglas Joyner, Maintenance Committee Chairperson, provided an update on repairs completed at the church and parsonage and concerns with some existing equipment.

The recommendations for 2007-2008 were as follows:

1. The following persons be added to the Board of Trustees: Mr. Elwood Ford, Mrs. Eva McWillis and Mr. Eugene Thompson.
2. The following persons be added to the Board of Deacons: Mr. Thomas Atkins, Mr. Eugene Barr, Trustee Joe Bartley, Trustee James Brown, Trustee Carolyn Crosby, Trustee Wesley Curtis, Trustee Charles Hunt, and Trustee Constance Segers.
3. Trustee Daniel Piggott become Chairman of the Budget Committee and Trustee Kenneth Rocker become Vice Chairman.
4. Acceptance of Outreach Ministries Presidents and Chairmen for 2008.

All recommendations were approved.

Dr. Kendall Jones thanked the huge crowd of members for attending this year's meeting.

## The Way To A Happy New Year!

To leave the old with a burst of song.  
To recall the right and forgive the wrong;

To forget the things that bind you fast  
To the vain regrets of the year that's past;

To have the strength to let go your hold  
Of the not worthwhile of the days  
grown old;

To dare go forth with a purpose true,  
To the unknown task of the year that's  
new;

To help your brother along the road,  
To do his work and lift his load;

To add your gift to the world's good  
cheer

Is to have and to give a HAPPY NEW  
YEAR.

—Author Unknown



**NEW TRUSTEES**  
**ELWOOD FORD, EVA McWILLIS, EUGENE THOMPSON**

## Elwood Ford, Eva McWillis and Eugene Thompson Named to Trustee Board

By Hattie Ingram

Elwood Ford, Eva McWillis, and Eugene Thompson were named to the New Bethel Board of Trustees on Thursday, December 10, 2007 in a joint Board meeting with the Pastor, Deacons and Trustees. Pastor Kendall Jones recommended these appointments to the church at our annual church meeting on December 13, 2007 and they were approved.

Trustee Ford and Trustee Thompson have served New Bethel well for many years and are both members of the Laymen's League. Through the years, they have served wherever they were needed.

Ford is a native of Marietta, North Carolina and was educated in the Fairmont School System. He joined New Bethel more than thirty years ago. He is a long time member of the Usher Board, the Finance Committee and the Missionary Department. He has been the van driver for the Wednesday Visitation Team for over 15 years. Ford retired from R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company after 30 years of service.

Eva McWillis, a former member of New Bethel returned to her home church two years ago. She continues her work for the Lord as a member of the Mass Choir, Sunday School and the Missionary Department. She is a member of the Finance Committee. She is a retiree of Wachovia Bank. She is the mother of two children, Barry and Ja'Net. Ms. McWillis' everyday goal in life is to help others.

Thompson is a graduate of Anderson High School and North Carolina Central University. He has served as Sunday School teacher at New Bethel and teacher of both Monday night and Tuesday morning Bible Study Classes. He has been guest Bible Study teacher throughout the city of Winston-Salem. Eugene has been employed by the Tweeter Home Entertainment Group for more than 31 years. He has won numerous awards for outstanding sales performance. He has been married to Vanessa Thompson for 34 years.

## Children's Church Begins

By Shirley Willis

With a lot of prayer, joy and excitement, the Children's Church had its first service on Sunday, November 18, 2007 under the leadership of Reverend Azuree Johnson and Mrs. Mae Jones. The Children's Church was started to create an interactive worship service which allows children to worship Jesus in their own way. Its mission is to educate children through discipleship to come to know and love the Lord with all their hearts through interactive worship and fellowship. The Children's Church Committee oversees the progress of the Children's Church. The Committee members are: Trustee Wesley Curtis, Mrs. Susan Hunt, Mrs. Mae Jones, Reverend Azuree Johnson and Reverend Dr. Kendall D. Jones, Sr.

An average of about 20 children attend the Children's Church on the 1st, 3rd, and 4th Sundays

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**SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS**



**RETIRING DEACON MATTHEW MOORE RECEIVES AWARD FROM SUNDAY SCHOOL**

## Christmas Program Involves Many Classes

*By Diane Piggott*

The annual Christmas Program sponsored by the Sunday School Department was held on Sunday, December 16, 2007 at 9:45 a.m. with Adrian Malone serving as Master of Ceremony. Mrs. Peggy McCullough provided the music.

Following the singing of "Joy To The World," Michael Curtis offered prayer and Rashawn Couthen gave a hearty welcome and the congregation sang "Silent Night." Nicolis Lyles lead off with a recitation entitled, "Why Did He Come?" followed by Kelson Smith with "Watching and Waiting." The Youth and Beginners Class presented a dramatization, "The Most Wonderful Christmas." The skit included Mrs. Diane Piggott, Trey Curtis, Michael Curtis, Adrian Malone, Nicolis Lyles, Kamirah Coleman, Allan Jones, Kristin Feemster, Rashawn Couthen, Sharika Grooms, Ms. Audrey Brown, Perry Hairston, Adrian Malone, and Trustee Daniel Piggott.

Continuing on the program, Mrs. Kathryn Speas read a poem, "Was It Really So?"; Ashley Smith read "The Angel Story"; Rev. Alphonso Lea sang "The Lord's Prayer" and Deacon Constance Segers, representing Class Number Three read an original poem by New Bethel's own, Mr. Dennis Wilson of Class Number Six. The mother/daughter combination of Mrs. Ethel Brooks and Mrs. Peggy McCullough wowed the audience with two selections. Mrs. Mary Shuler read a selection, "Christmas Words" representing Class Number One followed by "TJ" Williams reading "The Wise Man's Story." Class Number 5 with deacon Wesley Curtis, Jr. as teacher, performed a dramatization, "Wonderful, Mighty Everlasting Prince." Other class members involved were: Rev. Alphonso Lea, Mrs. Connie Smith, Mrs. Alfreda Smith and Ms. Glenda Anderson along with Deacon Curtis. Mrs. Doris Crosby of Class Number One wrapped up the program singing "Silent Night." She was followed by the presentation of gifts by Ms. Audrey Brown and Deacon James Brown, Superintendent of the Sunday School. Students, teachers and class secretaries were presented gifts.

Dr. Kendall D. Jones, Sr., Pastor of New Bethel and Deacon James Brown had closing remarks. Retiring Superintendent, Deacon Matthew Moore was presented a lovely plaque commemorating his record-setting service as "superintendent." He also received a monetary gift in a card. An honorary Breakfast was given for Deacon Moore prior to the Christmas Program at 9 a.m. in the Multipurpose Room.

Additional members of the New Bethel Family are invited to join the Sunday school in 2008!

### HOME FOR THE... *Continued*

experience. Hopefully next semester will be better." She is still majoring in Chemistry.

**Sharee Posey:** "I'm trying to stay focused and finish! The Chapel Hill experience is great! After five semesters I'm staying with a major in Biology.

**Kristen Curtis:** "Things are good!" She is majoring in Communicative Sciences and Disorders at Hampton University. "It's been great socially, but I had to learn good time management and stay focused."

**Kendall Jones, Jr.:** The semester went well. I had to learn how to cook since I decided to return to Missouri Western University. First it was rough, but I went from fried hot dogs and jelly sandwiches to trying my hand at a pot roast, green beans or some good chicken. I'm still pursuing a degree in Criminal Justice.

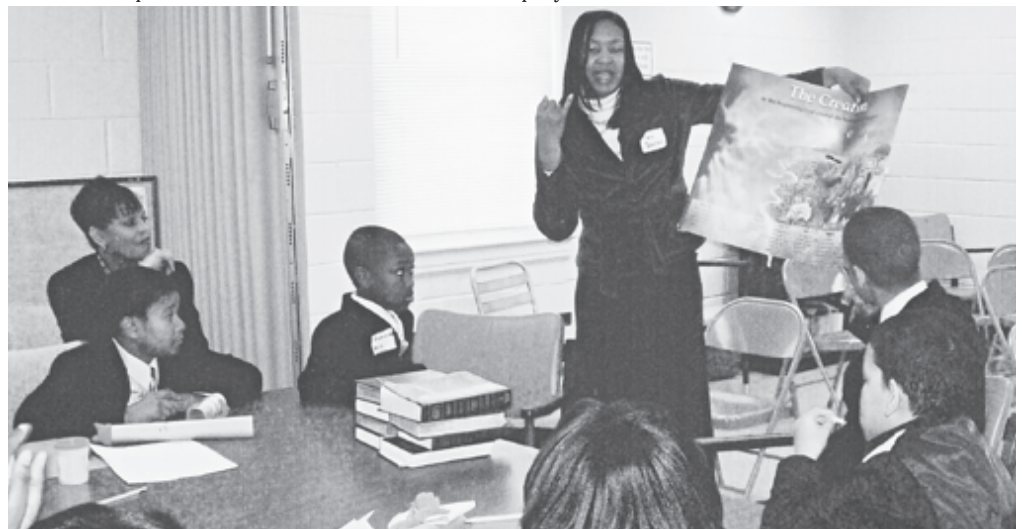
**Sierra Williamson:** "The time flew by," says this seven semester student at NC A&T State University. This psychology major says, "I've enjoyed every minute of school, in fact, I don't want it to be over! I'm making plans for a May 2008 graduation."

The students are looking forward to relaxing and spending time with family during the holidays!

### CHILDREN'S CHURCH BEGINS... *Continued*

from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The Children's Church is blessed with many volunteers who support and assist with the various activities. The volunteers include: Ms. Ruby O. Cain, Ms. Debbie Frazier, Mr. Ronnell Chris Harriston, Mr. Myran Hairston, Mrs. Dollye K. Mack, Mrs. Mittie Glymph, Ms. Irie Thomas, Ms. Cherelle Phelps, Mrs. Bonnie Moorman, Mrs. Maya Davis, Mrs. Carol Poe, Mrs. Peggie McCullough, and Ms. Candice Hunt. Also assisting with the success of the Children's Church are the Youth Teacher Volunteers. They are: Mr. Trey Curtis, Miss Jasmine Moss, Mr. Adrian Malone, Mr. Kris Feemster, Miss Sharika Grooms, Miss Nzinga Hawkins, Miss Kira Nicole Penn, Mr. Chris Harper, Miss Ashley Smith, and Mr. Allan Jones.

We are proud of our Children's Church and pray for its continued success.



**CHILDREN'S CHURCH PARTICIPANTS**

## New Members Fellowship Luncheon

By Diane Piggott

The forty-eight new members of New Bethel Baptist Church from September 2006 to November 2007 were invited to attend a Fellowship Luncheon on Saturday, December 8, 2007 at 1 p.m. in the Drayton Fellowship Hall and Multipurpose Room of the Church. Mrs. Lucille McCormick served as Mistress of Ceremony for the event.

Others appearing on the program were: Judy and James Connor, scripture, Rev. Louis S. Werts, prayer; Dr. William Owens, greetings; Monte Odom, musical selections; Rev. Alphonso Lea, Words of Inspiration; Wanda Davis, a poem "I Am A Soldier"; and Dr. Kendall D. Jones, Sr., informational dialogue. Odom's renditions of "Take My Hand" and "Tomorrow" were heart-warming selections.

Thirty-two of the new members attended the affair with ten members from the Missionary Department. A delicious meal consisted of baked spaghetti, cheesy breadsticks, tossed salad, assorted cakes, and soft drinks.

## Remembering The Perfect Gift

By Brenda Redd

As is typical during the Christmas season, many organizations, families and friends across the country gather to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Our church is no different in this regard. For we too gathered in joyous expectation, and we worshipped in song and in scripture proclaiming the "Good News" of God's greatest gift Jesus the Christ during the 11:00 a.m. worship service on Sunday, December 23, 2007.

As members and visitors entered the beautifully decorated and spirit-filled sanctuary, it was immediately apparent that we were about to experience one of the most beautiful programs planned anywhere.

As the congregation participated in responsive readings from the Holy Scriptures of Isaiah 9:6-7, 11:1-3 led by Rev. Azuree Johnson accompanying music filled the sanctuary by our Minister of Music Mr. Chris Farabee and his mini orchestra followed by Trustee Wesley Curtis' reading from Micah 5:2. The Communion Singers led by director Kenneth Rocker sang their rendition of "Silent Night" and Ms. Audrey Brown and Ms. Lynda Feemster led our talented choir as they tenaciously sang the songs of the season. The musical production was simply astounding.

Interspersed readings from the Gospel and an accompanying solo telling the story of God's Greatest Gift highlighted a day of Proclamation (Luke 2:1-7), Adoration (Luke 2:15-16), Recognition (Luke 2:25-35, 36-8 and Galatians 4:4), response (Luke 2:17-20) and Praise (Luke 1:67-69).

Blessings abound from above as our choir members from the youngest to the matured lifted their gifts of song. Adding to the beauty of the program were performances by our Praise Dancers as well as a special guest appearance by Madam Mary Lee Haney who delivered two beautiful solos.

Masterful performances, a celebration of the Gospel, and plenty of wonderful Christmas music lifted unto you, our Heavenly Father for sending Jesus Christ your son. Amen.



LAYMEN'S LEAGUE ASSISTS HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

## Laymen Join Hands With Habitat

By Diane Piggott

The Laymen's League of New Bethel Baptist Church joined hands with Habitat for Humanity in helping to build a home off Trade Street for a resident of Forsyth County on Saturday, December 8, 2007. Deacon Charles Hunt is president of the Laymen.

The Laymen began their day on Saturday, December 8 with a breakfast at the Golden Corral on University Parkway. Nearly fifty men came together to enjoy a delicious breakfast and strengthen the bonds that bind them. Then some of the skilled and muscular laymen traveled to the Trade Street location to assist the Habitat network. The Laymen hammered, did landscaping and whatever chores they were needed to perform.

## Linville Exclaims, "Jesus Is Calling Us To Mission!"

By Diane Piggott

Renita Thompkins Linville, First Lady of Piney Grove Baptist Church brought a message of "outreach" at the 110th Anniversary of the Missionary Department of New Bethel Baptist Church on Sunday, December 9, 2007 when she selected as her subject, "Get On Your Mark, Get Ready, Get Set, Now Go!" Rev. Alphonso Lea served as worship leader.

She recognized family, friends and church family members before she began her message. She recognized that we are in "a season of Thanksgiving" and stated that "giving needs to be year-round. Crime and violence seems to take lives daily! If ever there is a time that we need God, it's NOW!" She stressed that "we must bear the marks of Christ! Those marks are LOVE, FAITH and PEACE. In 2008 you are going to be given an opportunity to serve. You've got to press towards the "mark"!"

Fully invigorated and truly the "Renita" that grew up in New Bethel, she shouted, "Be ready for the assignment—feed the hungry, visit the prison; be ready to give! Proverbs 23:9 tells us to give your time, talents and treasures to God. He has a plan for your life." She continued, "You've got to go and make new disciples. Go in the name of Jesus; don't try to go on your own strength. We must go! So get on your mark, get ready, get set and GO!"

The Youth Choir furnished soul-stirring music that enhanced the tone of the service.

## Deaths and Funerals Of Relatives Of New Bethel Baptist Church

By Barbara Ford

### Robin Vanessa Moore

Sister Robin Vanessa Moore passed Tuesday, December 4, 2007. She was funeralized on **(Continued Page 4, Column 3, Article 2)**

## DEATHS/FUNERALS... Continued

December 8, 2007 with Bishop O.D. LeGrant giving the eulogy.

Sister Moore was the cousin of Valjean McKinney, a faithful member of New Bethel Baptist Church.

### Mrs. Doris Robinson Gillespie

Mrs. Doris Robinson Gillespie departed this life on Thursday, December 6, 2007 at Thomasville Medical Center. Her funeral was held on December 12, 2007 at Brown New Calvary Baptist Church with Apostle Donald Hunter officiating.

Mrs. Gillespie was the sister of William Robinson, Jr., a member of New Bethel Baptist.

### Mr. Eric Fitzgerald Toland

Mr. Eric Fitzgerald Toland, of New Berry, South Carolina passed on December 7, 2007, and was funeralized on December 13, 2007 with Rev. Wadell Gault officiating.

He was the Nephew of Mrs. Alena Sligh, a loyal member of New Bethel Baptist Church.

### Miss Sycenia Denee Wilson

Miss Sycenia Denee Wilson departed this life unexpectedly on December 6, 2007 at Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center. She was funeralized on December 11, 2007 at Russell Funeral Home Chapel. Reverend James Rowdy gave the eulogy.

Miss Wilson was the cousin of Mrs. Dessie Wilson, Linda Feemster and Brenda Thomas, all loyal members of New Bethel Baptist Church.

### Mrs. Lois Beatrice Mack Lovelace

Mrs. Lois Beatrice Mack Lovelace passed on Sunday, December 16, 2007 and was funeralized on Thursday, December 20, 2007 in the chapel at Hooper Funeral Home.

Mrs. Lovelace is survived by her husband, Clarence Lovelace, a brother James (Dollye) Mack, both faithful members at New Bethel and many other relatives and friends.