

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



# THE SPOTLIGHT

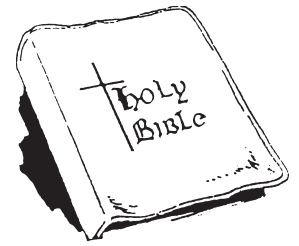
55 Years Of Continuous Service  
for

## New Bethel Baptist Church

1016 North Trade Street  
WINSTON-SALEM, NORTH CAROLINA

November 2, 2008

*"Continuing to Minister Because WE CARE!"*



VOLUME 56, NO. 2

## Effort Club To Sponsor Race Progress Promoter's Program



**MR. PERRY HAIRSTON**  
**"2008 LAYMAN OF THE YEAR"**

### Perry Hairston Receives Layman of the Year Honors

*By Hattie Ingram*

Perry Hairston was named "Layman of the Year" by the Laymen's League of New Bethel Baptist Church on Sunday, October 19, 2008 during the 49th annual Laymen's Day services.

He is a native of Walnut Cove, North Carolina where he completed London High School. He attended Forsyth Technical Community College where he excelled in machine operating skills. This advanced training landed him a position as one of the youngest machine operators at R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company. He retired from Reynolds after 35 years of service.

Hairston is a member of the Laymen's League where he helps to maintain the snack machine and enjoys his experiences with the Habitat for Humanity projects, the Samaritan Kitchen and visiting the sick and shut-in. He serves as 2nd vice-president of the Usher Board. His volunteer work includes working with students at Carver High School. He enjoys encouraging them to go to class and explaining to them the importance of completing school assignments.

When Hairston noticed that members of his family were entering the church on Laymen's Day, he was very surprised even though they had attended New Bethel on other occasions. Later, as he was named "Layman of the Year" and they all stood, he realized that they were there in support of his recognition and he was elated. The recognition was made by Trustee John Lucas who presented him with a plaque that read "In Appreciation To Perry Hairston For Your Dedicated Service To The Laymen's  
**(Continued Page 1, Column 3, Article 2)**

### Senior Ministry To Hold Kick Off Event

The Senior Ministry of New Bethel Baptist church will hold its kick off event on Saturday, November 22, 2008. In keeping with the season of Thanksgiving, all New Bethel seniors (age 65+) are invited to come together for dinner at The Golden Corral on University Parkway. The kick off program will begin at 4:00 p.m. In addition to fun and fellowship, information will be shared about the new Senior Ministry.

Seniors are asked to please sign up for the dinner beginning today (Sunday, Nov. 2) in the annex immediately after the worship service. If you plan on bringing guests, the planning committee will need to know the number. Transportation will be available. If needed, please make this known at the time of sign up.

The dinner is free for New Bethel seniors. All others must pay for their own meal. The prices are as follows: Senior buffet-\$9.49, Adult buffet-\$10.29, Drink-\$1.99.

Rev. Dianne Horton is responsible for coordinating the Senior Ministry. She is assisted by a committee that includes: Deacon and Mrs. Atkins, Mr. Rick Frazier, Mrs. Bonnie Moorman, and Mrs. Elinor Walker.

### Sunday School To Launch Food Drive

*By Hattie Ingram*

The New Bethel Baptist Church Sunday School will launch a food drive benefiting Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest North Carolina. The drive is designed to feed our neighbors. A kickoff event announcing the drive was held on Sunday, October 26, 2008 during Sunday School and again to the entire church family. Deacon James Brown, Sunday School Superintendent, presented the plan and highlighted the theme: "Feeding the multitudes—One can at a time." The scripture focus is Matthew 14:19-21. The drive is scheduled to begin November 2, 2008 and end November 23, 2008.

The goal for the drive is to encourage each member to bring 2 or more cans each Sunday and a total of 1,000 cans. To reach this goal, Sunday School members will set up a competition between the classes. All New Bethel members are asked bring cans and give monetary donations.  
**(Continued Page 3, Columns 1 & 2, Article 2)**



**MRS. OLIVIA THOMPKINS**  
**EFFORT CLUB PRESIDENT**

### The Effort Club Will Observe Its 12th Race Progress

*By Connie Smith*

On Sunday, November 9, 2008 at 4 p.m. the Effort Club will celebrate its 84th Anniversary and the 12th Annual Race Progress Promoters Program.

The Effort Club began honoring individuals who have done an outstanding job in promoting race progress in Winston-Salem in 1997. The Race Progress theme is credited to Mrs. Susie Drayton, our former first lady. The categories selected this year for awards are the following: Ministry, Medicine, Arts, Law, Business, Volunteer Activities, Human Services, Sports & Education.

There will be a panel of three judges led by our own Trustee John Lucas, who is also a community leader serving as the Deputy Fire Chief of Winston-Salem.

You are invited to come our and bring your family. This inspiring program is a local, living history lesson for our children, church and community. A reception honoring the award recipients following the program will provide an opportunity for you to meet and greet.

Mrs. Olivia Thompkins is the President of the Effort Club.

**PERRY HAIRSTON... Continued**  
League of New Bethel Baptist Church; October 19, 2008."

Congratulations to Mr. Hairston from the New Bethel Church family.

*The New Bethel Spotlight*  
Published Monthly By The Journalistic Society  
Of New Bethel Baptist Church

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Pastor Emeritus \_\_\_\_\_ Dr. Jerry Drayton  
Assistant Pastor \_\_\_\_\_ Reverend Bjorn Cooper  
Assistant Pastor \_\_\_\_\_ Reverend Christopher Graves  
Assistant Pastor \_\_\_\_\_ Reverend Gary Hairston  
Assistant Pastor \_\_\_\_\_ Reverend Dianne Horton  
Assistant Pastor \_\_\_\_\_ Reverend Azurée D. Johnson  
Assistant Pastor \_\_\_\_\_ Dr. William L. Owens  
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Editor \_\_\_\_\_ Hattie Ingram  
Co-Editors \_\_\_\_\_ Carolyn Crosby  
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*Dedicated to those who are  
Interested in New Bethel*

## Editorial Your Vote Matters

*By Hattie Ingram*

Election day always falls on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November. That is just two days from today. This day was originally chosen because it fell between the busy harvest time and the time of impassable winter roads. Legislators chose Tuesday so the citizens of our new country world would not have to travel on Sunday to vote. It's hard to imagine a group of voters so excited by democracy that they were willing to travel to polling places that were more than a day's journey away. They realized that their vote mattered.

Let us thank God on this Election Day for the great bounty stored in our pantries and freezers. Don't forget to thank Him for the ability to keep our homes warm all winter. And most of all, when you climb into your climate-controlled vehicles to drive a few short minutes to your polling place, show appreciation for the people who struggled so hard so many years ago to do what we can do so easily today.

Our Sunday School lesson for November encourages us to pray for the election in general. Our country is at a crossroads, and this election will determine much in charting the course for our country's future. We need to cast our votes for the candidates who will use their skills to benefit others. We should vote in a manner that is pleasing to God. Don't sit this election out! Be involved! Your vote really does matter!

## Pastor Jones Observes 2nd Pastoral Anniversary

*By Carol Poe*

The weekend of October 11th and 12th brought together the New Bethel Baptist Church Family as we celebrated the 2nd anniversary of our pastor, Dr. Kendall Dwayne Jones Sr. The gathering was most appropriate relative to the anniversary Theme: "Love and Faith, Strengthening the Whole Family by His Spirit."

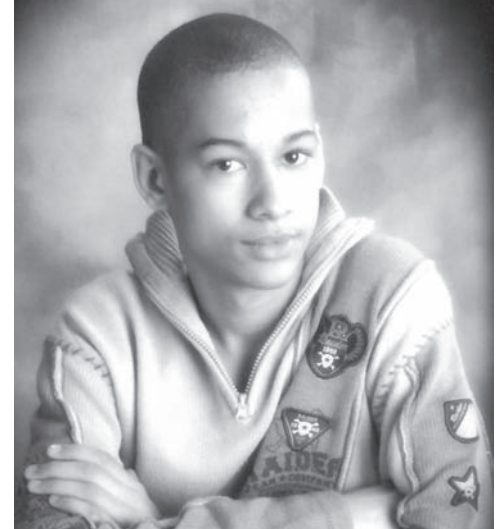
The celebration began on Saturday with a picnic at Triad Regional Park in Kernersville, North Carolina. The Park was very conducive for all ages. Many enjoyed playing bingo while most of the younger ones enjoyed playing on the carpeted gym equipment in the park.

The food was delicious. The persons in charge of preparing the food appeared to have some previous experience on the grill. Trustee Jimmy Grooms, Trustee Carl Bankhead, Trustee John Lucas, Deacon Thomas Atkins, Deacon John Posey, Mr. Jerry Leach, and Mr. Perry Hairston, made sure that the burgers and Wieners were well done and the ribs were tender. Mr. and Mrs. Shannon made sure that the fish was fried to a crispy golden brown. The menu went on to consist of potato salad, slaw, corn on the cob, baked beans, and drinks. The desert table was filled with award winning dishes. A contest was held to determine the best dessert of the day. Mrs. Jackie Shannon won first place for her pound cake. Dennis Wilson won second place for his Honey Bun Cake, Mrs. Sandra Pitts won third place for her Lemon Pound Cake, and Mrs. Catherine Douthit won fourth place for her Black Walnut Pound Cake. Little Miss Escada Horton won first place in the youth dessert entry with her decorated cupcakes. Miss Sharika Grooms won second place for her cookies, and Miss Arianna Davis won third place for her decorated cupcakes.

The evening concluded with a surprise guest, a comedian who goes by the name of Pastor Clea. His comedy skit of preaching and singing had the audience laughing from the start of his performance until the finish. He was accompanied on the keyboard by our organist, Mr. Dale Hairston. The afternoon was a wonderful time to share with Dr. Jones and his family.

The celebration continued on Sunday, October 12th beginning with the 11:00 message. The speaker, Rev. Michael L. Murray, Pastor of metropolitan AME Zion Church in Kansas City, Missouri delivered the sermon. His inspirational message focused on God's Assignment for each of us referencing 2nd Corinthians Chapter 5 verses 17 through 20. Reverend Murray told the congregation he is aware of God's assignment for his life, "I know my assignment and that is to preach the word of God in and out of season." He used Dr. Kendall Jones Sr. as an example of having faith in God's assignment for his life, telling of how his faith allowed him to assemble his family and relocate from Kansas City, Missouri to New Bethel Baptist Church after receiving this calling. Following the sermon by Rev. Murray, Mr. Calvin Bell and Mrs. Rosalyn Joyner presented Dr. Jones with gifts  
**(Continued Page 2, Column 3, Article 2)**

## Youth Corner



**JAMAAL HORTON**  
**YOUTH REPORTER**

## Race Relations

*By Jamaal Ali Horton*

This Tuesday, November 4, is election day. On this day history can be made! If Senator Barack Obama is elected as President of the United States, then he will be the first African-American President. However, the reality is he will be the first bi-racial president. Obviously, this is a momentous occasion for me and many others in our nation.

Given the strained condition of race relations in our country, past and present, I find the possibility of calling Senator Obama, "Mr. President," inspiring! Obama has campaigned on the theme, "THE CHANGE WE NEED." Indeed, we do need change—change in our thinking.

Obama's candidacy for president has put the issue of race on the front burner. Blacks and Whites have criticized Obama for his skin color. Some Blacks have said that Obama is not "black enough" because he is bi-racial. Most Whites just consider him Black, without considering both sides of his heritage. This type of thinking demonstrates that the people of the United States, Black and White, have a lot of growing and learning to do when it comes to race relations.

Obama is an agent of change. I hope people will join me in looking to Obama as a beacon of hope. Obama's accomplishments are proof that if you set your mind to something, concentrate and focus, and stay determined, nothing and nobody can hold you back. That should be an inspiration not just to me, a bi-racial youth, but to everybody of every age and every race.

## PASTOR JONES... *Continued*

from the New Bethel Church Family. First Lady, Mrs. Mae Jones delighted the congregation when she expressed her gratitude with a vocal musical selection. The celebration concluded with a dinner served in the Drayton Fellowship Hall after the morning service.

Expressions of thanks to Dr. Kendall Jones Senior for his calls, visits, concerns, and visions for New Bethel throughout the year. Also, thanks to the Anniversary Committee for the dedicated planning for this celebration.

## Twenty In Two Group Celebrates

By Diane Piggott

In late July, Dr. Kendall D. Jones, Sr., Pastor of New Bethel Baptist Church, announced the start of an aerobics class with the challenge of losing 20 pounds in 2 months. On Sunday, October 26, Ms. Barbara Phelps, aerobics instructor announced the statistics for those who participated in the challenge.

First she recognized all who participated in the session and awarded them a certificate of participation. She told of how much fun the workout sessions provided and that it was good fellowship. Ms. Lisa Myers met the challenge and should be congratulated for losing "20 pounds in 2 months." Seven others were recognized for reporting some success and were awarded a \$10.00 Walmart giftcard along with Ms. Myers. Gift card recipients were: Lisa Myers, Pastor Jones, Eileen Baker, Diane Piggott, Audrey Brown, Michelle Ward, Cherelle Phelps and Thomas Adams. Ms. Phelps was a challenging taskmaster. She brought in Judge Todd Burke to inspire and counsel us in weight loss! She accepted nothing less than a 30-minute routine of continuous movement. She set the tone and gave what she asked of each of us!

The group has completed the two months' challenge. They are continuing to exercise and will strive for twenty pounds in a year. Others are invited to join the group. They are looking for any type of improvements in health such as, better blood pressure readings, lower cholesterol, inches, etc.

The remaining participants in the aerobics class were: Ethel Brooks, Peggy McCullough, Vickie Adams, Valjean McKinney, Jackie Shannon, Barbara Hairston, Mrs. Mae Jones, Carolyn Crosby, Connie Smith, Chasidy Phelps, Ciara Robertson, Rosa Posey, Cassandra Gullick, Elaine Brown, Rosetta and Gerald Pauling and Eva McWillis.

In the next session, the group plans to register with the national campaign of "50 Million Pounds Challenge" under the direction of Dr. Ian Smith.



**FABIAN STEMMLER**  
EXCHANGE STUDENT FROM ROTTENBURG

## Stemmler Visits America

By Diane Piggott

Fabian Stemmler, an eleventh grader from Rottenburg, Germany spent three weeks in the United States as guests of Deacon and Mrs. Wesley Curtis and their family. Fabian shadowed the Curtises' older son, Trey during the day to his classes at Reynolds High School and the Career Center. Their younger son, Michael, commented that it was like having another "big brother."

Fabian applied for the Exchange program through his school. He is the only child of Ulrieh and Regeine Stemmler. He visited from October 4 through October 24, 2008. In addition to school, Trey entertained him with activities such as basketball, golf, football, guitar playing and hero video games. He attended New Bethel with the Curtises. Michael commented, "It was okay having him around, but sometimes they did things without me!" Trey remarked, "It was a good experience and plans to visit Fabian in Germany following graduation in June.



**DANIEL PIGGOTT, JR. - WINS BEST HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER AWARD**

## Piggott Participated In National Contest

By Diane Piggott

Daniel Piggott, Jr. was in the top four candidates participating for "Best High School Teacher" Award in the National Hoodie Awards broadcast on the Steve Harvey Morning Show as part of WKZL, 105.7 every day from 6 to 10 a.m. The promotion sought out to recognize many persons for "the Best" in several categories and Piggott was a candidate for "Best High School Teacher" since he is a mathematics teacher in the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County School System at Carver High School as well as Carver's Basketball Coach.

In the contest, the contestants were to get the general public to go on-line and vote for him in an effort to reach the top four entries in this category. The nomination came in July and Piggott gathered enough votes to reach the top four! In August, a short biography of Piggott was placed on the website for the Steve Harvey Show so that the entire listening audience across the United States could read the introduction of the contestant and vote their preference to be proclaimed "Best High School Teacher" in the 2008 Hoodie Awards' Contest in Las Vegas, Nevada, September 19 and 20. Amazingly, Piggott received enough votes to be in the top four candidates and was flown to Las Vegas where it would be revealed who was the winner of the honor. His wife, Mrs. Nicole Strayhorn Piggott accompanied him to Las Vegas.

The experience was quite enlightening! Piggott discovered family in Washington, D.C. that he had never met who called to connect with the family and informed him that they would meet him in Las Vegas! As he went around school, his students told him that they had heard his announcement on the radio. As he went around the city, the general public asked if he were the Piggott on the radio or was it his father. Former students and former classmates reconnected with him as they heard the name broadcast in their listening area across the United States.



## SUNDAY SCHOOL TO LAUNCH FOOD DRIVE... Continued

A list of most needed items was given to members on Sunday, October 26, 2008. The items should be placed in boxes in high traffic places in the church. Boxes will be labeled with a class number or church. A graph will be displayed beside the cans indicating the number of cans turned in by each class. The class collecting the most cans will be treated to a family style buffet at their own decorated table during a Sunday School breakfast preceding the Christmas program in December.



**MR. NIGEL ALSTON**  
**LAYMEN'S DAY BREAKFAST SPEAKER**

## Laymen's Breakfast

By John Lucas

Nigel Alston was the keynote speaker for the 49th annual New Bethel Laymen's Day Breakfast on Saturday, October 18, 2008 at 8:30 a.m. in the Drayton Fellowship Hall and Multipurpose Room of the church.

Nigel, in keeping with his unparalleled and uncanny ability to speak with passion and conviction on most any subject matter, did not disappoint those in attendance for our Laymen's breakfast. There were approximately 80 to 85 to witness and hear a powerful message from a wonderful motivational speaker in Mr. Alston.

Nigel, opened with a simple question asking the group, "Have you ever cried?" "Have you ever seen Jesus before?" He also reminded all of us that it was important to remember what you are here to do.

Nigel said, "I now find myself doing the things that my Grandfather did,—teaching Sunday school, preparing lessons and wondering why folk aren't prepared when they come to Sunday school class." "When you find Jesus," he said, "You change!" Nigel reminded us that "sometimes you have to cry." "It doesn't have to be anything wrong, you just need to cry."

At this point in his message, he asked the group to take the 3X5 index cards provided and write "What time is it for me in my life?" Nigel's message centered on two scriptures, the first being Daniel 5:5—"The Handwriting on the Wall." He then asked us, "What is the message of your life? People look at you and your life. Will your life message reflect that what you believe?"

He closed by asking us to take the 3X5 cards and fold them approximately four times and place them in our pockets with the message being "What time is it for me in my life." The second passage was from 2nd Chronicles 7:14—"Turn away from evil, humble yourself, turn from the way you used to be."

Pastor Jones closed by thanking Nigel for such a wonderful and inspiring message and congratulated the men of New Bethel for a wonderful Laymen's Breakfast and told them how wonderful it was for men to work together in church.

## Michelle Obama's Walk of Faith

By Lennetta Bartley, October 24, 2008

January 20, 2009. Her husband has just been sworn in to assume the highest position of the free world, the Presidency of the United States. (Continued Page 4, Column 2, Article 2)

## Jones Cautions Laymen Of Their Birthright

By Diane Piggott

Dr. Kendall D. Jones, Sr., Pastor of New Bethel Baptist Church, delivered a special message directed to the Laymen of the church on the Annual Laymen's Day, Sunday, October 19, 2008 at 11 a.m. He chose for a subject, "Your Birthright" with his text found in Genesis 25:33-34. Mr. Benny Murrill was Worship Leader.

Pastor Jones first highlighted the significance of the first born, that is, he was to receive twice as much of the estate and would determine what the family did. He then, congratulated the laymen for their 49 years of service and admonished them, to "don't forget your birthright. This is a sacred position of privilege. You cannot hold the position of laymen and live like a hellion." He recounted the story of Jacob and Esau where their mother was told that two nations shall come from your womb. Jacob desired the birthright and Esau sold his birthright for a pot of stew. Jones warned, "Testing will come to all of us. Men, if you claim to be, be what you are! A man is here to protect and provide for his family! We've got to stand up and reclaim our neighborhoods and be fathers to the fatherless. You've got to be an example in your home! Live like it! You cannot tell somebody what you are not living."

Perry Hairston was named "Layman of the Year" and is highlighted in a separate article in this edition.

The Mass Choir rendered several soul-stirring selections that enhanced the spiritual atmosphere of the service. The opening selection "Just A Little Talk With Jesus" followed by "Order My Steps," "Walk With Me Lord" and "Thank You Lord For Your Grace" set a tone ideal for worship.

The Laymen League, who are sponsors of Laymen's Day made a generous presentation. Deacon James Brown presented the pastor with a check for \$400.00 designated for Habitat for Humanity.

Deacon Charles Hunt is president of the Laymen's League.

## MICHELLE OBAMA... Continued

He has just become the first African American President. Immediately, all eyes focus on this magnificent family. Their graceful silhouettes strolling the much anticipated Pennsylvania Ave. A regal man destined at birth to take his rightful place in history. Two beautiful young girls, excited about their promise to finally receive the puppy promised them by their parents.

Then there is Michelle. She is resilient and optimistic, privately thinking of how significant this moment is. Clad in tailored clothing that has been carefully chosen to accentuate her height, frame and rich sepia skin tone. Suddenly, she too takes her rightful place in history. The first snow of the season helps to harbinging in her long awaited arrival. It's as if nature itself applauds. She smiles, exhales freeing the white warmth from her mouth that floats into the air to become no more. She reaches down to grab the hand of one daughter who needs help adjusting her hat. Helping her, she pays careful attention to arrange her curls peeking from the brim.

She looks to the left and glances at her husband. His face outlined by the huge crowd of people flanking the sidelines. Secret service men, sprinkled in, prepared to protect his life if necessary. She notices his gray hair, the black suit and leather clad hands waving. The cold air drying a single tear that streams down his right cheek bone. She whispers a prayer for Jesus to continue to strengthen and protect him. She asks His Father to help (Continued Page 4, Column 3, Article 2)



**MRS. OPHELIA ROBERSON**  
**PASSES AFTER PERIOD OF ILLNESS**

## Mrs. Ophelia Hilton Roberson Passes

By Barbara Ford

Mrs. Ophelia Hilton Roberson's journey began in Clarendon County, Manning, South Carolina to the late Evelyn Dukes Hilton and Johnny Hilton.

On Saturday, October 18th, 2008, Ophelia "Sister" Hilton Roberson left her earthly home to meet with her Lord and Savior. A beautiful, sweet lovely life came to the end of her journey.

Ophelia, affectionately known as "Sister" attended the public schools of Clarendon County, Manning, South Carolina. There she began her entrepreneur interest and she was always learning how to do something different to enhance her life.

At an early age, she accepted Christ as her personal savior and joined Ebenezer Baptist Church of Manning, South Carolina.

After moving to Winston-Salem, North Carolina she continued her love of sharing God's Word by joining New Bethel Baptist Church where she remained an active and dedicated member throughout her journey. She was a member of the Flower Club, the Effort Club, and Elizabeth Missionary Group.

Here in Winston-Salem she also met and married Willie "Son" Roberson, the love of her life. Mr. Roberson was a renowned businessman and the two of them shared a love for entrepreneurship. They were Bail Bondsmen and owners of a general store. She also was involved in Real Estate that provided services for several families. Ophelia was a tireless worker who greeted everyone with a great smile and charming personality.

Ophelia was preceded in death by two sisters, Ella Shuler and Lila Starks; and, four brothers Harry, Pickney, Moise, and James Hilton.

Left to cherish fond memories are her loving daughter, Carolyn Hanyesworth, Detroit, Michigan; two stepdaughters, Kanzenner Wilks and Annette (Guary) Connelly of the city; three nieces, Thelma James, Gracie Hanyesworth, Manning, South Carolina; Mary (Isaiah) Briggs, Columbia, SC; dedicated friends, Simmie Love, Romaine (Charles) Eaton and Jonathan Wilson of the city; two grandchildren, Shawn Ragin and Leshia Hanyesworth of Detroit, Michigan; five step-grandchildren and a host of other nieces, nephews, cousins, relatives and dear friends.

Dr. Kendall D. Jones gave the Eulogy and Russell Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

## MICHELLE OBAMA... Continued

her be the steady pillar of hope, strength and love for this man that she will now share with the world. This time she grabs the hands of her children, stands taller and continues the stride, destination 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. Nature delivers a standing ovation as the snow fall increases.