

ELIZABETH BAPTIST CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

Celebrate History

Celebrate History



God, Jesus, Holy Spirit Or



Tithes and offerings are wonderful ways to show the primacy of God (God is first in our lives), and to return some of the gifts we received to support the spread of the Gospel (the fact that Jesus Christ died for our sins and to give us eternal life). Giving to the church is often a contentious and difficult topic for discussion within the body of believers in Jesus Christ. The human desire to accumulate and hold as much money as possible renders money a "mammon" or god in our lives. In addition, past frequent pleas for money and abuses of money by ministers and/or congregations have resulted in reluctant givers. With our cultural bias to hoard money and a strong skepticism towards giving to the church, how should we give financially to support God's work? The above scriptures address the topic of giving in a clear manner. Below are questions with scriptural references that should assist a believer in gaining comfort on how to appropriately give back to God. Giving will be more meaningful and effective if it is done based on Scripture and the lead of the Holy Spirit.

1. Should I give a tithe (a tenth of my earnings) and an offering (any giving above a tenth of my earnings)? Yes. See Malachi 3: 8 and Genesis 28: 20 - 22.
2. Does my salvation depend on my giving? No. See Romans 10: 9 - 10.
3. Should I give because I feel compelled to give? No. See II Corinthians 9: 7.
4. Am I cursed if I do not give a tithe based on Malachi 3: 9? No. See Galatians 3: 13 - 14.
5. Does God care about our giving? Yes. See II Corinthians 9: 7 ("God loves a cheerful giver.")
6. Does my attitude matter? Yes. God wants us to cheerfully give. See passage above.
7. Does my giving matter for me? Yes. God loves a cheerful giver (II Corinthians 9), opens the windows of heaven (Malachi 3: 10), and rebukes the devour (Malachi 3: 11). See pg. 7

March 2009

OFFICIAL CHURCH ROSTER

Richard Gibson, Senior Pastor
 Joseph Golden, Elder & Associate to the Pastor
 Lindy Winston, Pastor Emeritus
 Frank Kidd, Jr., Minister
 Calvin Moore, Minister

David Tyus, Chair of Deacons
 Judge Carter, Deacon

Charles Ellington, Deacon
 Herman Ezell, Deacon

Steve Pinkard, Deacon
 Charles Thompson, Deacon
 Michael Winston, Deacon

Stephanie Tyus, Superintendent
 Sunday School
 Dorian Kidd, Music Director

C. Lynne Phoenix, Secretary
 Carolyn Pollard, Finance Secretary

Ruth Neal and Jim Webb,
 Custodial Services

MUSIC MATTERS



BY TA'JUANNA SIMPSON BOYER

I posed three questions to Diana Reid and Elder Joe Golden, co-leaders of the Praise Team:

1. What goals do you have for the Praise Team in 2009
2. What does praise & worship mean to you?
3. What do you want/expect from the church?

"We have raised the bar on the Praise Team. Evangelism is our goal. We are close to completing the initial process to minister to Hospice patients through Hospice of the Western Reserve. Our members will receive training needed to intelligently converse with hospice patients and their families. We will minister in song once per month on a Saturday and more frequently during the holiday season. In addition we are making an effort to insure that everyone is on the same page as far as this ministry is concerned. We will have P & workshops to help us in tonality, pitch, etc."

"Praise and worship is a lifestyle based on a personal relationship with the Lord. It's not about
See next page

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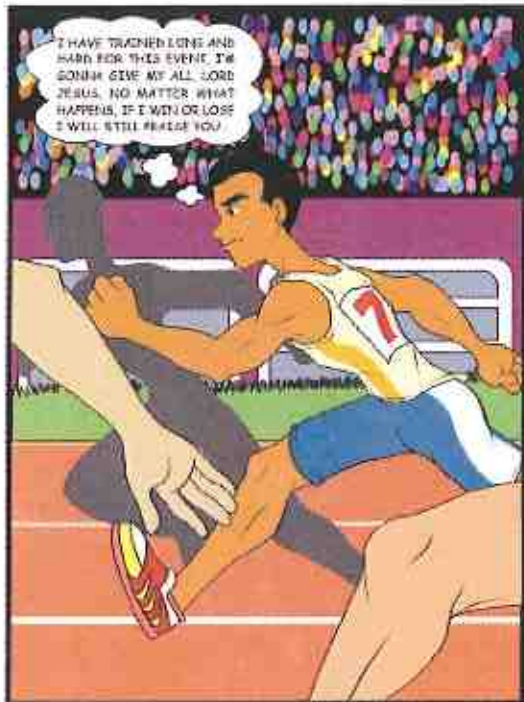
**Calling all Youth! Seeking to hire in the following places:
 Sunday School, Choir rehearsals, Mime rehearsals, Usher Board.
 Training is immediately available. The pay is excellent and the benefits
 are out of this world.**

*And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors
 and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of
 the body of Christ:
 Ephesians 4:11-12*

All are invited to attend the annual Usher's Ministry anniversary program; Sunday,
 March 8, at 2:45pm. We will have special guests, special music and a specially
 good time in the Lord. We're planning something different. Please join us and tell a
 friend.



MISSION MOMENTS



www.ChurchWorkers.com

**ARE U MISSING CHURCH
 BECAUSE YOU DONT HAVE
 A RIDE?**

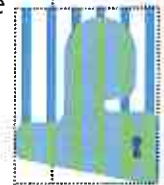
Call our church office at
 391-0433
 at 216-391-0433



Prison Ministry

*"I was in prison and you visited me."
 Matthew 25:36*

Ever wonder what you could do with your old Sunday School books? Well, we have a solution. Sis. Ora Gibson and Sis. Thelma Jones are taking these used books to the prison where they are doing ministry. The date may be old, but the Word is always fresh and new! So before you throw last quarter's books away, think of the Prison Ministry and help them to reach our brothers and sisters who are incarcerated.



Music Matters continued

singing a certain way, or certain songs. Praise is what you do out of a grateful heart to what God has done through his son, Jesus. It's your testament to others. Worship is giving God your *personal* thanks and appreciation."

We want the church to grasp these true meanings; to freely express their love for God to Him and to others, without reservation or hesitation, to participate with enthusiasm with the singing of songs during our worship experience together. God is a spirit and they that worship Him, must do so in spirit and in truth. It's not about making the congregation feel good, although it is good when we do, but the truth of the matter is that we must know Him in spirit and in truth, our worship has to be real. Otherwise it does not give God glory, and that ultimately is what we're supposed to do."



News From the Stewardship Ministry from John Woods

One of the Hardest Working Ministries of Our Church...

The Stewardship Ministry completed the task of roof repair over the Pastor's office and is currently working on replacing the gutter and light on the side of the building near the new parking lot. In addition, they have the task of repairing and replacing the awning that was blown off the front entrance during our last winter storm. On a lighter note, this ministry is sponsoring a free luncheon to feed the community, on March 21, from 12:00 noon until 2:00p.m. This is a true sign of good stewardship and a model of what the church is. Hats off to this ministry. In addition to all of the above, the Stewardship Ministry is still working to find ways to help us understand tithing and church giving; how it supports, how it affects. They will be sharing with each ministry of the church in the near future.

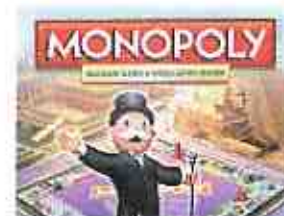


Sister 2 Sister

Come to Sunday School
8:15-8:45 am
Continental breakfast is served
Classes for all ages

Sister to Sister was on fire this month!!! We had over 25 members who attended the class. The topic was "Single, Saved and Having Sex" which was based on the book by Ty Adams which I would strongly recommend to all single males and females. This is the only book other than the Bible that kept my attention and also the first book that I can ever recall reading from cover to cover. If I were a single female this book would definitely make me think twice about having sex before marriage. The highlight of this topic was to inform females that we all sin and fall short of the glory of God. Therefore, we want to let everyone know that we all have made mistakes and fell into the temptation of sexual sin. As stated in Ephesians 5, sexual immorality has no place among God's people. Some females think they need a man to make them feel loved. We have to understand that a man may come and go but if we put all our heart, all our mind and all our soul in Jesus Christ, we cannot go wrong. He will never leave us nor forsake us. Some single moms also spoke out about the struggles of raising children by themselves and how they wish they would have done things differently. There are times we all wish we could go back and change the past. We can never go back in time so we just have to learn from our mistakes and just keep pushing forward. God gives us freewill to make our own decisions. He has laid out His plan for our life in the Bible and will allow us to decide if we want to live according to His word. Therefore, we may have to make sacrifices that will not always make us happy but will make God pleased with us. Since the topic was so dynamic we are going to continue this discussion on March 9th at 9:00.

by Blondean Pinkard





The Transportation Ministry moves into 2009 asking for your prayers and support. The outreach ministry had two projects in 2008. We visited the Louis Stokes Head Start in October and December and spent time in the classrooms with the tiny tots. We collected 223 pairs of socks for *Care Alliance Clinic* and they will be given to the homeless. Both projects will continue throughout 2009. Cards have been printed up and are being passed out to all the riders and drivers of the van. These cards give pertinent

GLORY GIRLS BOOK CLUB

by Diana Reid



Not Easily Broken by T.D. Jakes

{ *Glory Girls Book Club meets every 3rd Sunday morning at 8:45am.* }

Dwayne and Clarice have just crossed the 15 year mark in their marriage and begin to realize after a near fatal car accident, how strained their relationship has become. Dwayne preoccupies himself in his business and his coaching of inner-city youths while Clarice is consumed with her realtor position and climbing the ladder of success as the company's top realtor. Outside influences always come into a marriage at the wrong time and warding them off isn't always easy, especially when one of them happens to be your mother. Come along with this Christian couple as they maneuver through the traps and roadblocks the devil has devised. They both know that only one thing can save their marriage and that is their faith in God. Will they endure? Will they rely on the one source that will help them? Readers you'll enjoy this easy read and will discover some life lessons along the way. *Not Easily Broken* gets two thumbs up.

Next month's book is *Too Little, Too Late* by Victoria Christopher Murray

Not Easily Broken is a movie currently being shown in theaters. Check you local listing for locations.

Who's Who in Elizabeth?

Meet Cori Wallace! Cori may have been dubbed, the shortest member in Elizabeth, but by no means is her love for God and Kingdom building short. Cori has a sweet, gentle spirit. She is fun-loving and loves taking time out with her godchild, De-Mario. She is big sister to Erin, who is presently away in college; her mom is Vicki Wallace and her Grandmother is Elizabeth Strawbridge. Cori is by nature a helper-quick to come to the aid of someone in need. She is currently co-chair of our Dance Ministry, *Vessels of Praise*, and she sings in our church choir. She has come a long way from Sunday School speeches and dramas and has evolved into a beautiful young woman of God. Very trendy, *the girl has some mean shoes*, but never too preoccupied to help lift another who is in need of a word from the Lord. Cori is a sensitive Christian who knows that she is still 'growing up' in the Lord. She was baptized in Elizabeth at the age of 10. Currently she works as an S.T.N.A. and as Clinical Support Staff. She enjoys going to plays and out to dinner with her friends. When she speaks of her church to others she tells them; "we are family and welcoming and our pastor is a great teacher of God." Her words of encouragement to others are "there is always going to be struggles, trials and temptations, but you have to stay focused. The enemy is always on the attack." We should expect to see many great things done in and through her by the Holy Spirit. We are blessed to have Cori in our midst.



A Church Secretary's job ain't easy...

Bulletin Bloopers

"At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice."



Ideal Weight or Happy Weight?

By [Kathleen M. Zelman, MPH](#) modified

Maybe you've been struggling -- without success -- to get down to the size you were in high school or on your wedding day. But do you really need to go that low? The truth, experts say, is that you can weigh more than your ideal weight and still be healthy (not to mention happy). If you're overweight, losing just 10% of your body weight is associated with a myriad of health benefits, including lowering blood pressure, blood cholesterol, and blood sugar, and reducing your risk for heart disease. Not only that, experts say, but this kind of weight loss is easier to attain and maintain, setting you up for success in the long run.

Your Weight "Set Point" Just as your body temperature is programmed to stay around 98.6 degrees, your body weight is naturally regulated to stay within a range of 10%-20%, says Thomas Wadden, PhD, director of the Center for Weight and Eating Disorders at University of Pennsylvania Medical School. This weight range is known as the "set point." It is not just a matter of genetics, though. Your eating and exercise habits can also help to determine your set point.

"Overeating swamps the internal regulatory system, and, as a result, the set point increases -- which is much easier to do than it is to lower it," says Wadden. The body adjusts to the higher weight and "resets" the set point to defend the new weight.

The 10% Solution to Weight Loss When you lose large amounts of weight at once, you set up an internal struggle and hormones like ghrelin spike to make you hungrier as your body tries to defend its comfortable range.

Instead, experts recommend that you try losing 10% the old-fashioned way -- by slowly changing eating and exercise behaviors -- then maintain this new weight for a few months before trying to lose more. Not only will your body get the signal to lower its "set point," but you'll give yourself a chance to get used to new food choices, smaller portions, and regular exercise.

How Much Should I Weigh? Most people overestimate how much weight they can realistically lose, which leads to frustration, says Blatner. To find your happy or healthy weight, Blatner suggests looking back on your weight history as an adult and identify a weight you were able to maintain naturally and fairly easily.

Instead of focusing on the numbers on the scale, Blatner suggests setting behavioral goals: "Eat breakfast every day, go for daily walks, eat more fruits and vegetables -- when you set behavior goals, they are easier to accomplish and they make you feel good." Stick with these behaviors for 3-6 months and they will become part of your life.

Tips for Weight Loss Success Here are some tips from Blatner for weight loss success:

1. Eat regular meals. People who eat regular meals consume fewer calories than those who eat irregular meals.
2. Use a plate, sit down, and enjoy your meals. Folks who do this eat 43% smaller portions than those who eat out of containers or on the run, according to Blatner.
3. Get at least 30 minutes of moderate activity each day.
4. How much and what you eat makes a big difference. Enjoy normal portions of foods that are high in fiber (fruits, veggies, whole grains) and rich in lean or low fat protein is the secret to feeling full.
5. Think positive: Focus on the benefits of a healthier lifestyle rather than the scale.

Elizabeth Baptist Church Health Ministry

Sister Theresa Gibson and Sis. Carrie Marion

Are you self-employed? Do you own your own business? Avon? Car Repairs? Jewelry? whatever your business type, share your information for inclusion in the EBC Business Handbook, coming soon. Complete the Business Information Form, located on the Usher's table in the back of the church. Turn it in to Joyce Moss, Jim Webb, or Diana Reid.



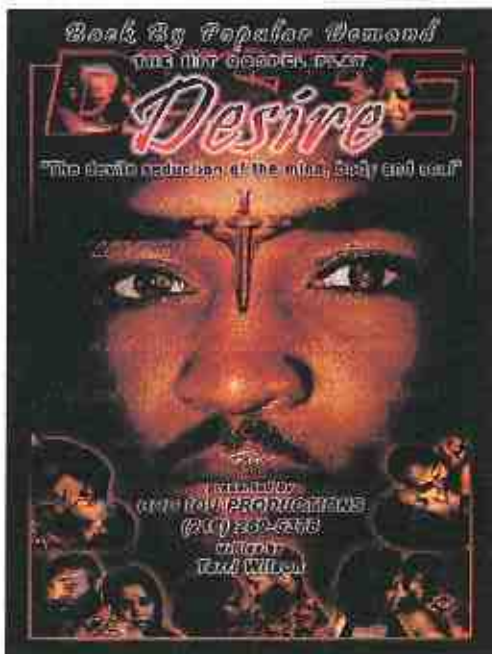
SHOULD I TITHE?

II Corinthians 9: 6 Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. 7 Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 8 And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. 9 As it is written: "He has scattered abroad his gifts to the poor; his righteousness endures forever." 10 Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. 11 You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. 12 This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. 13 Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, men will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. 14 And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you. 15 Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

Malachi 3: 6 "For I am the LORD, I do not change; Therefore you are not consumed, O sons of Jacob. 7 Yet from the days of your fathers You have gone away from My ordinances And have not kept them. Return to Me, and I will return to you," Says the LORD of hosts. "But you said, 'In what way shall we return?' 8 "Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, 'In what way have we robbed You?' In tithes and offerings. 9 You are cursed with a curse, For you have robbed Me, Even this whole nation. 10 Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, And try Me now in this," Says the LORD of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven And pour out for you such blessing That there will not be room enough to receive it. 11 "And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, So that he will not destroy the fruit of your ground, Nor shall the vine fail to bear fruit for you in the field," Says the LORD of hosts; 12 "And all nations will call you blessed, For you will be a delightful land," Says the LORD of hosts.

Galatians 3: 13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree." 14 He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit.

Join us for EBC Nite Out, Saturday, April 4, 7:00 pm at the Liberty Hill Performing Arts Center. See Diana Reid For tickets.



There are many people who feel that the devil isn't real. Desire is an intense drama about the devil's seduction of the mind, body and soul. Desire' Gibson has lived a pure and wholesome life. She has endured disappointments and heartbreak in her past but she is hopeful for love in her future. Lou enters her life and takes her on a seductive, captivating journey. Sierra, redefining the definition of best friend, has secrets of her own that may force Desire' to make a choice between their friendship and the love of her life. David the ex fiancée and friend to Desire', longs to rekindle the romance but his own secrets can prevent any chance of a future with her. Dare if you will to travel this road of happiness and heartbreak, sorrow and redemption. Come and witness Desire's journey of hell. Written and directed by Terri Wilson

CHURCH MINISTRIES MEETING TIMES

Mondays	6:30	Missionary Society
Wednesdays	6:00	All-church Bible Study
	7:30	Choir rehearsal
	7:30	Youth Choir rehearsal*
Thursdays	7:00	New Freedom ministry
	7:00	Praise Dance rehearsal*
Saturdays	9:00	Monthly Bible Study*
	12:00	Praise Team rehearsal
Sundays	8:00	Sunday worship (1st Sun.)
	8:15	Sunday School
	10:30	Sunday Worship

There is a ministry waiting for you. We need your help in kingdom building. Why not get started today?



Welcome new members to our Elizabeth family. God is so pleased that you joined this body of believers and we are simply ecstatic! Welcome once. Welcome twice. Welcome in the name of Jesus Christ!

Please remember our brothers and sisters overseas fighting for our country in your daily prayers. And don't forget our out-of-town college students. Addresses are available in the church office.



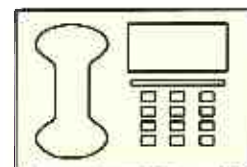
Please give us names of sisters and brothers in the service that we can either pray for and/or write to.

EBC Ministries & Leaders

<i>Deacon's Ministry</i>	<i>David Tyus</i>
<i>Stewardship Ministry</i>	<i>Dora Bolden, John Woods</i>
<i>Sunday School Superintendent</i>	<i>Stephanie Tyus</i>
<i>Transportation Ministry</i>	<i>Carolyn Lee</i>
<i>Missionary Society</i>	<i>Thelma Jones</i>
<i>Youth Choir</i>	<i>Dwayne Dixon/Tenisha Pollard</i>
<i>New Freedom Ministry</i>	<i>Elder Joe Golden</i>
<i>Praise Dancers</i>	<i>Tenisha Pollard, Cori Wallace</i>
<i>Praise Team Ministry</i>	<i>Elder Joseph Golden, Diana Reid</i>
<i>Circle of Prayer Ministry</i>	<i>Terri Hilliard, Thelma Jones</i>
<i>Ushers Ministry</i>	<i>Henry Person</i>
<i>Health Ministry</i>	<i>Theresa Gibson, Carrie Marion</i>
<i>Hospitality</i>	<i>Georgia Thompson</i>
<i>Prison Ministry</i>	<i>Retha Hemhill</i>
<i>Senior's Ministry</i>	<i>Cheryl Goode Killings</i>
<i>Culinary</i>	<i>Ora Gibson</i>
<i>Youth Ministry</i>	<i>Barbara Cowans, Faye Walker</i>
<i>Audio/ Visual</i>	<i>Sandra Anderson, Charles Ellington III,</i> <i>Theresa Gibson</i>
<i>Women's Ministry</i>	<i>Carolyn Pollard</i>
<i>Domestic Violence Ministry</i>	<i>Diana Reid, Kim Robinson</i>
<i>Drama Ministry</i>	<i>Steve Pinkard, Diana Reid,</i> <i>André Sneed, Victoria Taylor</i>



Please remember our sick and shut-ins with your calls and prayers!



Commentary From One of Our Students

February is marked as Black History Month, children and students from Head Start up to High school will learn about some of the important and notable prominent African-American leaders. While I was in grade school, every February we would have school assemblies with all grade levels to perform, do research, and inform the school on an historic black leader. As a young African-American female I am still learning more information about my culture. Growing up I figure out that Martin Luther King, Rosa Parks, George Washington Carver, Harriet Tubman were not only that made a difference in Black History.

I learned many new things while I was conducting my own research, on African American Culture and History to learn about where I came from. While conducting my research I learned that there were two parts of The Civil Rights Movement, the different parts of African American history, and the various people that had an effect on history. Being an African American female in today's world, I am apart of many different aspects of history. This past November I voted for the first time in a Presidential election, and I felt that I made history because I made a difference and voted for the person I wanted to win. One thing I hate that some and certain teachers do, they do not teach students regardless of race, color, gender, religion and ethnic background they do not take the time to teach them about African-American history. I want to encourage young children and teenagers to take the time, do some research on their own, read, internet search different people in African-American history. But first learn about African-American history to inform yourself not just because you have homework or a project for school. "In order to know where you are going, you have to know where you came from."

Shanette Buford is currently attending Tri-C Metro Campus, she is the Associate Editor of the school newspaper The Mosaic, and is a member of the Honors Program.

She is a double major in Journalism and Public Relations with a minor in Black Studies, and plans to return to Cleveland State University Fall 2009.

Little Known Black History Fact

Irene Reid 1930-2008—A jazz vocalist whose style was heavily laced with ele-

ments of gospel and the blues, never achieved as much success as contemporaries like Dinah Washington and Esther Phillips who took a similar approach. But she worked steadily, and she finished her life on a high note with a surprising career resurgence. Born in Savannah, Ga., on Sept. 23, 1930, Ms. Reid began singing in a church choir. Her voice easily stood over everyone else. She left her home and moved to New York in 1947 to pursue a singing career. After winning the Apollo Theater's amateur contest several times, she spent two years with the Dick Vance band at the Savoy Ballroom in Harlem before going out on her own.

She joined the infamous Count Basie band in 1961 and stayed for a year, then formed her own small group, Irene Reid and Company, and recorded two big-band albums for Verve, one of the leading jazz labels of the period. But probably her most prominent job in the post-Basie years was on Broadway, where she briefly joined the cast of "The Wiz" as the wicked witch Evillene, the role originated by Mabel King.

In 1997, after two decades spent largely under the show-business radar, Ms. Reid began recording for the small Savant label with the organist Charles Earland. Her album "Million Dollar Secret" was the first of six she released as a leader in her last years — more than she had in her entire career up to that time. She also worked frequently at Smoke, the Lenox Lounge and other New York nightclubs until a few years ago, when health problems forced her to stop performing. We salute the life and legacy of another great African-American. Her husband, James Reid Sr., preceded her in death, her legacy continues in her five children, Michael and Bernard Redfield and James, Gregory and Gwendolyn Reid.



*The New/Co-Laborers Ministry**by Tajuanna Simpson-Boyer*

The New/Co-Laborers Ministry has started out the new year with a great outlook on our mission to reach out to our new members and present members of the congregation! . Over the past few months there has been a distribution of folders for the Foundations Course on behalf of Christian Education, we the New /Co-Laborers are happy to help with this wonderful opportunity for the entire congregation to receive this blessing. This class is provided to the congregation on Sunday Mornings and Saturdays Our goal is to reach everyone with a personalized folder, but if for some reason you have not received yours please inform your Core Class instructor or see: Sis Paris Nelson, Sis Carrie Marion, Sis TaJuanna Simpson-Boyer, or Sis Michelle Bolden immediately so that we can prepare one for you. These folders are being offered to Adults Only at this time! We are so excited about the responses from the members who have already started their class. The pastor is now offering some Saturdays for those who would like to complete all of the Foundation Core Classes on a day other than Sunday mornings, also there will be a Combined class offered for those persons who would like to complete the entire Core class all in one day, instead of one class at a time. *Core classes will be offered each Sunday on a rotating basis throughout the year beginning the first Sunday in February.*

Foundation/Core Course Schedule

God-February 1,2009
 Jesus-February 8,2009
 Holy Spirit-February 15,2009
 Salvation-February 22,2009
 Stewardship-March 1,2009
 Bible- March 8,2009
 Ministry- March 15,2009
 God- March 22,2009
 Jesus-March 29,2009

Combined Classes (Saturdays)

February 21-God, Jesus, Holy Spirit and Salvation
 8:00a.m.-12:00
 February 28-Stewardship, Bible and Ministry
 9:00a.m. -12:00
 April 18- God ,Jesus, Holy spirit, and salvation
 8:00a.m.-12:00

Rotation Classes

September 12-God, Jesus, Holy Spirit, & salvation
 8:00a.m.-12:00
 September 19-Stewardship, Bible, and Ministry
 9a.m.-12:00
 December 5- God, Jesus ,Holy Spirit, and Sal-
 vation 8:00a.m.-12:00

*Biblical Truth Class**(not a core class)*

Holiness-February 1,2009
 Repentance- February 8,2009
 Conflict Resolution- February 15,
 2009
 Death- February 22, 2009
 The Rapture-March 1, 2009
 Tithing- March 8, 2009
 Grace & Mercy- March 15, 2009

