

FIRST A.M.E. CHURCH
ATHENS, GA

IMPORTANT
DATES TO RE-
MEMBER

- SED Planning Meeting - 5/21
- SED Leadership Congress - 6/14-15
- FAME Church Anniversary - 7/19
- Connectional WMS Quadrennial - 7/21-31
- FAME Health Fair - 8/13
- Connectional Lay Biennial - 8/13-18
- SED Mid-Year Meeting - 10/13-15
- SED Deliverance Conference - 10/27-29

The FAME NEWS

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

APRIL 2011

GREETINGS FROM THE NEWSLETTER STAFF

GREETINGS FAME members and friends. Thank you to all of the compliments and words of encouragement in regards to our 1st issue. I would like to thank Sis. Gwen Johnson and Sis. Wilhelmina Bowles for volunteering as staffers and Bro. Jeffrey Lewis for his financial contribution.



HEALTH & AEROBICS MINISTRY

By Sis. Joyce Harrison

Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in good health even as thy soul prospereth.
Third John 2

With this scripture in mind, the Health and Aerobics Ministry was created under the Pastorage of Rev. George La Sure. After initial discussion with Rev. La Sure, William Johnson (retired RN), Jacqueline I. McKenzie and Jacqueline H. Mack then approached other members who were interested in serving on this committee. Once the ministry was created, the group was off to work.

Some programs initiated to date are:

- Health Moments printed in the church bulletin and read during some Sunday Morning Worship Service.
- Quarterly Blood Pressure Screenings
- Participation in RELAY FOR LIFE
- Providing pamphlets on various health issues and healthy eating habits
- Aerobics and fitness classes (Zumba! Is now being offered): These sessions, offered Monday & Thursday 6-7 p.m., usually have between 20 - 30
(continued on page 3)

A Message from our Pastor



Pastor Claude Ray James

The Foundation of our Faith
The foundation of our faith is the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It is the one act in human history that makes Christianity unique. Without this one act, Christianity would be just another faith with no real power to resurrect us spiritually or physically. Because of it we have sermons to preach - for

Paul said in ICorinthians 15:12-23: *But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith. More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God,* (continued on page 2)

Our doctrine, liturgy and historical perspective became diluted.

WHAT DO YOU THINK by Sis. Reba Williams

In a recent editorial in the Christian Recorder: "We Must Relook Where our Ministers are Trained", Rev. Dr. Calvin Sydnor, Editor, states: "It just might be time for the African Methodist Episcopal Church to take a closer look at the theological institutions our applicants for ministry choose to attend for training when studying for the Master of Divinity degree, the basic degree for ministry."

Citing differences in other denominations' traditions and

orders of worship, Dr. Sydnor contends that if a person attends a Baptist, Roman Catholic, Lutheran, Episcopal, Pentecostal, United Methodist, Presbyterian, nondenominational or interdenominational seminary, he/she will have missed out on the traditions of the A.M.E. Church, and although their preaching may be theologically sound, their basic knowledge of A.M.E. protocol would be considerably lacking. Dr. Sydnor proposes that "our doctrine, liturgy and historical

perspective become diluted when we allow A.M.E. applicants for ministry to be indoctrinated with doctrines and religious traditions that are in contradiction with our doctrines and religious traditions." He cited the case of an A.M.E. minister who allegedly "dedicated" infants instead of baptizing them.

In "Letters to the Editor", several clergy from the A.M.E. Church and other denominations have agreed with Dr. Sydnor. What do you think?

...Not for

Your sin

but for my

sin...

Golgotha by Rev. William Moore

Carried Your cross to Golgotha

Stumbling as you went
With our sins all bundled up
On Your shoulders bent

Not Your sin but for my sin
You laid down your life
Although you were innocent
You were crucified

You make men look through themselves
To see their own guilt

You draw men unto yourself
And their sins You forgive

On the cross in agony
You asked the Father to
Forgive what they've done to Me
"They know not what they do"

Early Easter Sunday morn
You rose from the grave
With all power was reborn
For all men to save.



A Message from our Pastor (continued from page 1)

for we have testified about God that he raised Christ from the dead. But he did not raise him if in fact the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost. If only for this life we

have hope in Christ, we are to be pitied more than all men. But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. But each in his own turn: Christ, the firstfruits;

then, when he comes those who belong to him.

Because of resurrection we have a gospel to preach, new songs to sing, and new souls to save. It is what makes all things new. Because of it we have a new way of life, a new life to live, and we await a new world coming. God bless you and keep you.



APRIL BIRTHDAYS



Sis. Patricia Clifton	4/3
Sis. Brittney Thompson	4/3
Sis. Tim-meya Telford	4/4
Sis. Jessica Garris Miller	4/5
Bro. Ivery Clifton	4/6
Bro. Marvin Hunter	4/14
Sis. Raquel Stokes	4/27
Sis. Kelli Clifton	4/28

*Happy Birth-
day to you,
Happy Birthday to you.
Happy Birthday
God bless you...
Happy Birthday to you!!*



Twelve Signs of Spiritual Awakening

1. An increased tendency to let things happen rather than make them happen.
2. Frequent attacks of smiling.
3. Feelings of being connected with others and nature.
4. Frequent overwhelming episodes of appreciation.
5. A tendency to think and act spontaneously rather than from fears based on past experience.

(continued on page 4)

HEALTH & AEROBICS MINISTRY (continued from page 1)

participants per class. The participants are not only from First A.M.E. but from throughout the community and the numbers are growing each week.

- Annual Health Fair— the 2010 Health Fair served over 250 plus people. Each year, the number increases. Its continued success would not be possible without the help of GOD, the First A.M.E. mem-

bership, Bell South Pioneers, Health Professionals, Community Service providers, and other volunteers. The next Health Fair is scheduled for Saturday, August 13, 2011 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Thanks again to everyone who have supported this service to the community and to those who will continue to do so whether it be with you time or finances. With your prayers, this ministry will continue

to grow and carry out God's mission of helping others.



Simeriya Kwa'maine Andrews, FAME'S 2011 YPD Princess

Simeriya is a seven year old second grader at Barrow Elementary School. She is a member of First A.M.E. and actively sings in the Youth for Christ Choir. Simeriya glows with the Sunbeams in the Young People's and Children's Division. She is the beautiful daughter of Ms. Lekeshia Andrews and has a brother, Tylin.

Simeriya participates in gymnastics and twirling and is a year round cheerleader who cheers at football games in the fall and soccer games in the summer. She does very well in school and likes to read, sing and play with her Wii. Her favorite colors are pink and blue. She enjoys skating and traveling with the YPD. In the future Simeriya would like to attend college and become a doctor.

Isn't she lovely?



THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

*When the power of Love
Overcomes the love of power
Then the world will know Peace*



First A.M.E. Church
Reverend Claude Ray James
Senior Pastor

FAME Prayer List

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Sis. Elise Wilson | Sis. Dora Taylor |
| Sis. Arabella Murray | Sis. Charlie A. Moody |
| Bro. Chris Johnson | Sis. Mildred Shaw |
| Rev. Sarah Billups | P.E. Ella M. Samuels |
| Bro. John Wade | Bro. Farris Lee |

The FAME NEWS

First African Methodist Episcopal Church
 521 North Hull Street
 P.O. Box 413
 Athens, GA 30613
 Phone: 706-548-1454
 E-mail: FAME521@hotmail.com

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

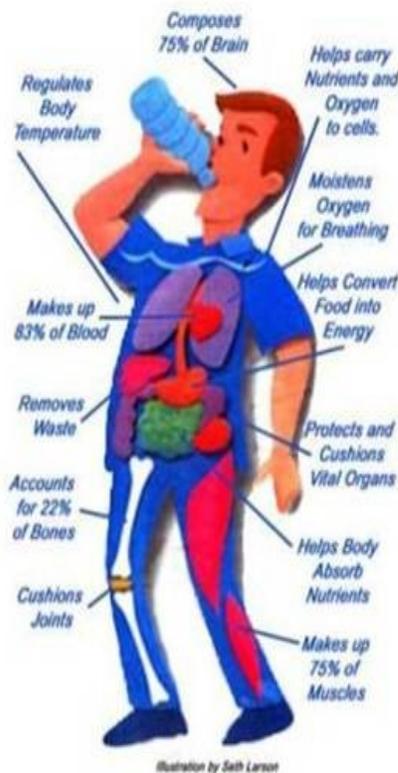
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|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Bro. Calvin R. Powell (Watch Care) | |
| Sis. Raky Washington (Watch Care) | |
| Sis. McQueena Bonds | Sis. Rose Johnson |
| Sis. Fredricka Davis | Sis. Taliya Seray Nash |
| Bro. Tyrek Davis | Bro. Frederick S. Page |
| Sis. Olivia Davis | Sis. Denise R. Page |
| Sis. Nykoa Elder | |



WHEN TO DRINK WATER

Drinking water at certain times maximizes its effectiveness on the body

- 2 glasses of water after waking up helps activate internal organs
- 1 glass of water 30 minutes before a meal helps digestion
- 1 glass of water before taking a bath helps lower blood pressure
- 1 glass of water before going to bed avoids stroke or heart attack



TWELVE SIGNS OF SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

(continued from page 3)

6. An unmistakable ability to enjoy each moment.
7. A loss of ability to worry.
8. A loss of interest in conflict.
9. A loss of interest in interpreting the actions of others.
10. A loss of interest in judging others.
11. A loss of interest in judging self.
12. Gaining the ability to love without expecting anything in return.

**Do not be overcome by evil,
 but overcome evil with good.
 Romans 12:21**