



God Bless America!

Southwest Digest

A newspaper for the 21st century, representing the Black community's ideas and ideals since 1977.

May 8, 2008

VOL. XXX, No. 33

50¢

Worth More!

902 E 28th Street
Lubbock, Texas 79404
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The Black Press of America
Lighting the road
to Freedom



Community

This is a list of what is happening in Lubbock, to help complete the unfinished, community-building work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Meetings

- African American Chamber of Commerce, Lubbock meets on the 3rd Monday of each month, from 5:30-6:30pm at the Parkway Community Center, 405 MLK Blvd., 806-771-1815
- Lubbock Area Client Council meets on the 2nd Saturday, 1:00pm at the Patterson Branch Library
- Hub City Kiwanis meets every Tuesday, 7:00pm, 1708 Avenue G
- Dunbar Alumni Association meets 2nd Saturdays, 4:00 pm
- Booker T. Washington American Legion Post 808 meets every 2nd Tuesday at 7:30pm, American Legion Building in Yellowhouse Canyon
- Forgotten West Riders meets on the 1st & 3rd Mondays, 7:00 pm, Patterson Library
- East Lubbock Chapter AARP meets every 1st Thursday at 1:00 pm, Mac Simmons Community Center
- Lubbock Chapter of Black Alumni meets every 3rd Tuesday, 5:30 pm, TTU Market Alumni Center
- Dunbar/Manhattan Heights Neighborhood Association meets every 1st Thursday at 6:00 pm and every 4th Thursday at 7:00 pm at the Dunbar-Manhattan Heights Neighborhood Outreach Center at 1301 East 24th St.
- West Texas Native American Association Pot Luck Supper meets on alternating months prior to meeting, meetings held on 2nd Saturday of each month at 7:00 pm, Educational presentations and demonstrations.
- Texas Juneteenth Cultural & Historical Commission - Lubbock Affiliate meets at Patterson Branch Library every 3rd Tuesday at 7:00 pm
- West Texas Native American Association meets 2nd Saturday each month at Groves Library, 5520 19th Street, 7:30 pm.
- West Texas Chapter of 100 Black Men meets the 3rd Monday evening at 7:00 pm at the Parkway Neighborhood Center.
- The Parkway Guadalupe & Cherry-Point Neighborhood Association meets the 3rd Tuesday evening of each month at 7:30 pm at Hunt Elementary.
- Chapman Hill Neighborhood Association meets the 2nd Thursday of every month at 6:00 pm, at Iles Elementary Cafeteria.

If you have an announcement you want to appear in this paper, there are three ways to get information to us:

Southwest Digest
Community Meetings
902 East 28th Street
Lubbock, TX 79401

Fax: (806) 762-4065

email us at:
swdigest@yahoo.com
swdigest@shcglobal.net

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A.M.E. Church to hold convention in St. Louis despite calls for boycott

ST. LOUIS - The African Methodist Episcopal Church will hold its convention in St. Louis this summer, despite boycott pleas from local blacks unhappy with the city's white mayor.

More than 40,000 delegates, church leaders and other A.M.E. visitors from around the world will meet July 3-11. The U.S. church, which has roots dating back to 1787, claims two million members in three dozen countries.

Mayor Francis Slay joined a dozen A.M.E. leaders at a news conference Tuesday to announce the convention. Slay is the target of a recall effort by a group of black city residents who also have waged a campaign to have conventions boycott the city. They object to last year's dis-



Bishop J.R. Bryant



Mayor Francis Slay

missal of the city's first black fire chief, Sherman George.

Bishop John Richard Bryant, whose district includes states west of the Mississippi River, said planners already had signed contracts committing the church, and its estimated \$30 million eco-

nomic impact, to St. Louis before learning of the boycott.

Besides, "in speaking with the mayor and the council of local pastors who have worked with Mayor Slay in the past, we have no regrets," Bryant said.

AAUUC/TW Sponsors "Stop The Violence Campaign Last Sunday Afternoon



Pictured are the ladies who participated in the "Queen Mother" pageant. They are, from left to right, Lady Griffin, Second Runner-Up; 2008-2009 AAUUC Queen Sudell Cavanaugh; Lady Thompson and Lady Samuels.

The African American Unified Umbrella Corp./The Way, which is a 501(c)3 and 509(1a) Non-Profit organization, sponsored a campaign to "Stop The Violence" last Saturday afternoon, May 3, 2008, at the Church of The Blessed, 1809 34th Street.

This sponsored event was highlighted by the Stop The Violence Campaign address by Rabbi Tommy L. Parker, CEO/Spiritual Counselor of the AAUUC.

The address was delivered to provide an awareness of violence within our communities and an envision to rid the poison from its sting that defunct our young children and young adults of self-maintenances of hate crimes and racist deficiencies.

It was a powerful message to all who were in attendance.

Many were entertained by by this year's benefit program with a Mother's Day Pageant & Gospel Musical.

Also present were Vice President Will Carter, stockbroker;

AAUUC Fundraiser/Musician and Fashion Coordinator Gloria Parker, wife of Rabbi Parker; Minister Lonnie Gaffney, AAUUC Treasurer.

AAUUC Secretary Brenda Smith of Dallas was unable to attend.

Mayor David Miller phoned in his support to the campaign and was unable to attend, because of previous scheduled events.

Rabbi Parker express his appreciation for all the support given to this much needed event in Lubbock. "We will continue our effort to fight against violence in Lubbock, and elsewhere," said Rabbi Parker.

"Click It or Ticket" Enforcement Returns May 19-June 1

During the national "Click It or Ticket" enforcement mobilization May 19 through June 1, travelers in Texas will risk getting a ticket if they do not obey the state's safety belt and child safety seat laws.

In 2007, Texas safety belt use was 91.8 percent. This campaign reminds drivers to make a conscious decision to buckle up each time they are in a vehicle, whether as the driver or passenger.

Wearing a safety belt is the simplest and least expensive way to reduce deaths and serious injuries, as traffic crashes are the leading cause of death for African Americans ages 5 through 14.

According to the 2007 National Occupant Protection Use Survey, safety belt use by African Americans is estimated to be at 75%, compared to 82.4% for the

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"A God Fearing, God Loving, God Trusting Educated Family"

From such a family comes Artemus Ward Tennon, IV, the son of Artemus Ward Tennon, III and the late Daphne Newton Tennon. He is the youngest of Mary E. Newton's grandchildren.

When the only granddaughter, Shyla E. Newton, heard her youngest cousin was going to "Walk the Stage", she said, "Hey Me Me not many 'old' grandmothers like you can boast that all eight off-springs have college degrees!"

Grandmother Newton smiled and said, "It hasn't been easy; however, with the help of God, we accomplished this." Luke 1:37: "For with God nothing shall be impossible." The first order in our lives is God; each off-spring has been baptized into the Church of Christ. (Matthew 16:8). God is good to us, and we thank Him, and praise Him always.

Artemus Ward Tennon, IV will receive his Bachelor's degree in Business Administration with concentration in Accounting and Physical Education on Saturday, May 10, 2008, from the University of Eastern New Mexico in Portales, N. M.

The eight off-springs from Mary E. Newton are: James W. Newton, B.S. (Accounting & Physical Education, Langston,



Artemus Ward Tennon, IV

Oklahoma; the late Joan E. Newton, B.S. Mathematics, Science, Bishop College; the late Daphne Newton Tennon, B.S., Mathematic, Bishop College; Karen Newton-McAfee, B.A. Music Orchestra, West Texas University; Shyla E. Newton, B.S. Biology, University of Texas at Arlington and M.S. Business Management, University of Dallas; Chris C. Walker, B.A., Business Administration, UTPB, Odessa; Derrick J. Walker, B.S. Electrical Engineering, UTEP, El Paso; and Artemus Ward Tennon, IV, B.A. Accounting, UENM, Portales, N. M.

City of Lubbock Settles With Nunez Case

The City of Lubbock has reached a settlement agreement in two civil lawsuits involving the tasing and subsequent death of Juan Nunez.

"First and foremost, the City, along with the community, regrets and mourns the loss of Juan Nunez," said Police Chief Dale Holton. "We wish the family well and hope this resolution brings them some measure of closure."

The lawsuits, one in state court and one in federal court, were settled for a total of \$49,000. The state lawsuit was heard by the 7th Court of Appeals in Amarillo, and was pending argument before the Texas Supreme Court. The federal matter was set for trial on May 5 in Federal District Court.

"We were prepared for trial and confident of a favorable outcome," said City Attorney Anita Burgess. "However, after consultation with our insurance carrier which has settlement authority under the terms of our policy, this matter was resolved."

"I, too, join Chief Holton in regrets to the family for their loss and hope for their healing," said Burgess.

The settlement agreement was signed by the parties yesterday and filed with the court today. There was no admission of liability by either party.

Councilman Klein Supports Petition Against Visitor's Center

Thanks for taking a moment to allow me to share with you a concern of mine regarding the currently proposed Visitor's Center. It is my belief that there will be a lack of return on investment for the price—currently proposed at 5.9 Million.

Furthermore, I believe that there are better means of obtaining the laudable goal of increased and extended visitation into our community, and I would suggest that we instead focus our money and attention on a world-class website and kiosks strategically



Will Hawkins

New Principal Of Brownfield High School

Will Hawkins currently serve as the principal at Brownfield high school. While my resumé covers past and present accomplishments and essential skills and experience in detail, it cannot possibly convey his undeniable belief that all students have the desire and capacity to LEARN when teachers and administrators provide current Best Practices of instructional strategies, coupled with essential time and invaluable support.

Bernard Marshall stated, "Leadership is the capacity and will to rally men and women to a

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Remember When

These Young Men Were Members of Dunbar High School Track Team. How many can you identify?

1964-65 Varsity Track

Dunbar All-Class Reunion — July 17 thru 20, 2008
All Dunbar Graduates and Former Students Are Asked To Be There!

placed throughout the community at points-of-entry into the city with perhaps a less expensive brick and mortar building more strategically placed for convenience and thus more usage.

My position is simply that I do not believe there will be an adequate return on this investment of the public's money, and for that reason I want to provide you with a link to a petition which would provide you, the citizen and taxpayer, with an opportunity to push for the re-consideration of this issue.

I believe there are better ways to spend this money, such as on the Civic Center. By enhancing our current attractions we can provide the double benefit of both improving an existing attraction for our own usage as well as for those who might attend one of these attractions from outside the community. That sort of investment can attract visitors and improve the quality of life for our

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Chatman Hills Corner

By Doris Reynolds

This writer wants to take the opportunity and salute one of our citizens, along with others who were acknowledged for her many contributions.

She is Mrs. Celestine Kyle.



Mrs. Kyle was one of the inductees into the African American Chamber of Commerce's 5th Annual Educators Hall of Fame on Friday evening, May 2, 2008, at the KoKo Palace.

Mrs. Kyle is longtime educator and community service worker. She volunteered many years in an after school hours to work with girls so they could have something prosperous and futuristic to do.

This column is glad to acknowledge her accomplishments as an educator and volunteer in the Lubbock Community. We salute you, Mrs. Celestine

Kyle for a job well done. May

FASHION TALK

by Shirley Roberson

PANEL PANTS

Panel pants are ready to make their grand entrance this season.

These pants are beautifully constructed by four panels of light weight material on the

front and back of each leg, the panels flow loosely, freely and elegantly from the waist line to the hem line.

Ladies as you move, the pants move and at times giving the appearance of being a skirt, that illusion within itself is just another way of getting attention.

A head turner for sure! Try it you will like the feel...have fun!

AT YOUR FINER DEPT. STORES... SOUTH PLAINS MALL



Shirley Roberson

Fashion tip... always wear a smile

New Light Baptist News

On Sunday May 4, 2008 service got started at new light baptist church 3013 Idalou road. Sunday School started at 9:45 with Bro David Chiles teaching the lesson titled: APPRECIATE PHILIPPIANS 2:19-22; 25-30; and 4:15-18. Question to ask: IN WHAT WAYS CAN I SHOW APPRECIATION TO OTHERS? Morning worship started at 11:00 with the devoted praise team leading the way. The senior choir sang two uplifting songs: the first one was "I AM REDEEMED", led by Sis Alvera Johnson, and the second one was "BECAUSE HE LIVES", led by Sis. June Campbell.

Rev Kenneth O. Jackson brought the message titled: "CARRY YOUR OWN CROSS", taking from Mark 2:2-5.

After the sermon, the choir sang "WHAT A FRIEND", led by Bro. Carlton Hicks.

Let's continue to pray for those

in our congregation as well as our communities who are sick and shut-in and aren't able to come out.

Let's remember our weekly service and meetings: Church School on Sunday @ 9:45 a.m.; Morning Worship @ 11:00 a.m. Tuesday @ 6:00 p.m. Senior Mission and Brotherhood meetings.

Wednesday @ 6:00 p.m. Prayer meeting and Bible Study. Saturday @ 12:15 Senior Choir Rehearsal & at 4:00 p.m. Youth and young adult rehearsal.

The Scripture for the week, "Behold How Good and how Pleasant for Brethren to dwell together in Unity. It is like the precious ointment upon the head that ran down upon the beard even Aaron beard, that went down to the skirt of his garment." Psalm 133:1-2

Do have a blessed week.



Students at South Plains College were entertained by the Esther Salazar Quartet during Cinco de Mayo festivities in the Student Center. The event was held early this year because finals begin on May 5. The event was sponsored by the Hispanic Student Organization and the Diversity Program at SPC. (SPC Photo/Wes Underwood)

Analysis: Obama nears finish line, but can Clinton rebound?

NEW YORK (CNN) — Sen. Barack Obama took a major step Tuesday toward securing the Democratic presidential nomination. He not only scored a convincing victory in North Carolina, but he also made Hillary Clinton's path to the nomination even more difficult by finishing closely behind her in Indiana.

Clinton vowed to soldier on, telling supporters at an Indiana rally that "it's full speed on to the White House."

Obama on Wednesday morning has a larger lead in pledged delegates as well as the overall popular vote. For Clinton, time for a rebound may be slipping away.

God bless you!

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Rev. Sonja J. Scott

Rev. Sonja J. Beaty

Sunday Services

Intercessory Prayer 8:30 am

Church School 9:30 am

Morning Worship 11:00 am

Wednesday Services

Bible Study

12:00 Noon and 6:00 pm

"GOD OUR FATHER, CHRIST OUR REDEEMER, MAN OUR BROTHER"

Senior Superintendent

Texas Tech University Physical Plant Utilities is seeking a Senior Superintendent. Bachelor's degree in Engineering or Engineering Technology preferred. Five years experience in managing and supervising maintenance/operations of boilers, refrigeration chillers, steam turbines and associated machinery in the production and distribution of manufactured utilities. Requires leadership/management ability, must be a capable administrator, skilled in oral and written communication. Must pass a drug screen, and background check. Valid driver's license and insurable to operate a university vehicle. Online application available at <http://jobs.texasstate.edu>. Requisition number 76043. (806) 742-3851 ext 238. Texas Tech University is an Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action/Americans with Disabilities Act Employer.

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Hours: Mon-Thurs (Closed Monday)

Soul Food Sunday Buffet
Friday Cakes & Grills (All you can eat)

Meet Pastors Johnny & Pat Perez Of The Church Of The Blessed



Pastors Johnny & Pat Perez

Meet the Pastors of the Church of the Blessed. The Church is located at 1809 34th Street. They invite those looking for a Church Home to come and visit with their congregation.

"We are happy of how God is blessing us with our many Church Ministries," says Pastor Johnny Perez. For information, call 747-9430.

The Church of the Blessed will be having Outreach at the Clovis Flea Market. Discipleship Classes are held on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p. m.

YOUR INVITATION TO A NEW BLESSING!

Pastors Johnny & Pat Perez and the family at Church of the Blessed invite you to join them for service this week

Church of the Blessed

Church of the Blessed
1809 34th
Lubbock, TX 79411
Phone (806) 747-9430

Re-elect Lubbock City Council Member Floyd Price

Working for the people of Lubbock NOT the special interests trying to buy this election!

- Current District 2 Council Member
- Retired Lubbock Police Officer
- Retired Crime Prevention Specialist
- Part-time Lubbock County Deputy Sheriff

Floyd will continue to work to

- Reduce crime throughout the District and City
- Enforce codes to keep our neighborhoods strong
- Economic development in District 2
- Securing long-term solutions to our water problems

Vote Saturday, May 10th.
Early Voting April 28- May 6th

Committee to Elect Floyd Price • Felo, James Tina Betts, Campaign Manager • Violet L. Price, Treasurer

His opponent took \$8,000 from interests who are in a lawsuit with the City!

Conzales has taken \$8,000 from Tec Parker, Parker's attorney and Parker's mother - while Parker's company is the main party in the AAC lawsuit involving millions of dollars of taxpayer money.

Tread your vote to tell these special interests that the District 2 City Council seat is NOT for sale!

* Contributions and loans filed on 2008 campaign finance report.



Church News



From the Desk of Parson D.A. Smith "Black Liberation Theology Under Fire"

A copyrighted article written in the New York Times by Michael Powell and published on May 4, 2008 caught my eye. The article was titled "A Fiery Theology Under Fire". Allow me to share Michael's thoughts with my readers as I have previously defined liberation theology in the concept of blackness.

"BLACK liberation theology was a radical movement born of competitive time.

By the mid-1960s, the horns of Jericho seemed about to sound for the traditional black church in the United States. Martin Luther King Jr. was yielding to Malcolm X. Young black preachers embraced the Nation of Islam and black intellectuals sought warmth in the secular and Marxist-tinged fire of the black power movement. As young, black and decidedly liberal theologian, James H. Cone saw his faith imperiled.

"Christianity was seen as the white man's religion," he said. "I wanted to say: 'No! The Christian Gospel is not the white man's religion. It is a religion of liberation, a religion that says God created all people to be free.' But I realized that for black people to be free, they must first love their blackness."

Dr. Cone, a founding father of black liberation theology, allowed himself a chuckle. "You might say we took our Christianity from Martin and our emphasis on blackness from Malcolm," he said.

Black liberation theology was, in a sense, a brilliant flanking maneuver. For a black audience, its theology spoke to the centrality of the slave and segregation experience, arguing that God has a special place in his heart for the black oppressed. These theologians held that liberation should come on earth rather than in the hereafter, and demanded that black pastors speak as prophetic militants, critiquing the nation's white-run social structures.

Black liberation theology "gives special privilege to the oppressed," said Gary Dorrien, a professor of social ethics at Union Theological Seminary in New York. "God is seen as a partisan, liberating force who gives special privilege to the poor."

The Rev. Jeremiah A. Wright Jr. of Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago, Senator Barack Obama's former minister, is one of the foremost adherents of this theology. A man of capacious learning and ego, Mr.

Wright stands condemned of late as a incendiary radical for his views that the American government may have created AIDS and that the Sept. 11 terror attacks were payback for the sins of American foreign policy.

But many black theologians (even those who take strong exception to Mr. Wright's views and argue that black liberation theology is a politicized artifact of an earlier era) defend him and say that the news media and Obama's foes have caricatured him and misunderstood the intentionally provocative role of a liberationist pastor. "Deep down in all of us is that Malcolm X who cries out in such strong language," said Dr. Cone, who is a professor of systematic theology at Union Theological Seminary.

Bishop Harry Jackson, a Pentecostal who presides over a 3,000-member church in suburban Washington, D.C. stands at the far pole from Mr. Wright. He defines himself as ultraconservative on matters of theology and politics and allies himself with conservative Republicans. He preaches a Prosperity Gospel, which holds that God wants black Americans to experience material success.

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We Thank God for Jesus

Written by Evangelist Billy "B.J." Morrison, III - Your brother in Christ Jesus always.

Proverb 22:6 - Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

Lord, I use to think you gave me the meanest mother and father in the world. I wanted to have the freedom of rights, like other boys and girls.

Proverb 29:17 - Correct your son, and he shall give the rest. Yes, he shall give delight unto your soul.

But I thank God, I didn't have to go through it alone. There were 6 other kids. They had to live with the same mean Mother and Father as I did!!!

*** Every Mother and Father Should Mean Business!!! ***

Proverb 1:7-8 - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction. My son, here are the instruction of your Father, and forsake not the laws of your Mother.

We went to Church every Sunday. Couldn't say we don't want to go. We didn't have my way rights. That was just a No, No!!!

O. P. Apocryphal

Ecclesiasticus XXX, 8-10, a horse not broken becomes headstrong, and a child left to himself will be willful. Cocker (Pamper) your child, and he shall make you afraid. Play with him and he will bring you to heaviness. Laugh not with him. Lest you have sorrow with him, and lest he gnash your teeth in the end. Give him no liberty in his youth, and wink not at his follies.

Our parents knew our business, where we were, and where we were going. They knew the parents of our friends. They were all knowing.

Proverb 1:10-11 - My son, if sinners entice you, consent you not. If they say, come with us. Let's for blood. Let us lurk. (Ambush) privily for the innocent without cause.

Lord, when we got whippings with belts, switches, and worse with extension cords. Now Mother could whip, but when Daddy whipped, we called on You, Lord!!!

Proverb 26:3 - A whip for the horse, a bridle for the ass, and a rod for the fool's back.

*** Back In The Day, There

Were No Child Abuse. It Was Called Training Or Our Parents Would Have Stayed In The Jails!!! ***

We had to be in bed by nine, and up in the morning before the sun rose, and had to feed the chickens, hogs, and cows. Then off to the fields with the spiders and the flies!!!

We had to work: boys washing dishes, making beds, and learn to cook. Our Parents broke all the children's right laws which were in the book!!!

Proverb 23:13 - Withhold not correction from the child. For if you beat him with the rod, he shall not die.

(Our Parents wanted to help us. They knew this is a working man's land, and if you don't know how to work, you should have gotten your training at home. That lie - the White Man won't give me a job, because I'm Black is a lie!!!

Lord blessed my oldest sister, Mattie, is a home owner and a rent lady. My brother Lonzy worked on the same job for 30 years. My sister, Bobbie Dean, is a cosmetologist and a barber.

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St. Matthew's Baptist Church News

Again, our church services at the St. Matthew Baptist Church, 2020 East 14th Street, were well attended last Sunday morning, May 3, 2008, where the proud pastor Rev. Edward Canady.

If you are looking for a church home, then please come and visit on any Sunday morning.

Church services got under-

way with Sunday School, beginning at 10:15 a. m. on last Sunday morning. Pastor Canady was in charge as our Superintendent. Sister Luella Harris is still in rehab. Let us keep her in our prayers.

The subject of the morning lesson was "First Things First." The scripture was Haggai 1:1-4, 7-10, 12-15. The main thought was Haggai 1:8.

The lesson was taught by Sister Annie Onasanga. What a wonderful job she did teaching God's word. Pastor Canady reviewed the morning lesson.

The morning devotion got underway at 11:15 a. m. with Deacon Edward Williams and Sister Ethel Williams presided.

The spirit of the Lord was again very high with a continua-

tion of prayer by Sister Annie Stanley.

The St. Matthew Baptist Church Choir sang out of their hearts and souls last Sunday morning. What a blessing it is to have these God gifted souls singing at St. Matthew Baptist Church.

Pastor Canady delivered a dynamic sermon. His subject was "Witnessing For Christ." His scripture text was Acts 1:8. It was another wonderful and inspiring message.

The St. Matthew Baptist Church Choir & Brotherhood will sponsor a 'Fish Fry' Saturday, May 10, 2008, beginning at 11:00 a. m. until the price is only \$7.00 per dinner. Delivery available. call 744-7154. You will be glad you did so.

As we have mentioned, if you are looking for a Church Home, come and visit on any Sunday morning. You will be glad you did! God is able!

Outreach Prayer Breakfast

Saturday, May 3, 2008
9:00 AM

Speaker: Sister Earnestine Frazier
THEME: JOY - "Weeping My Endureth for a Night, But JOY Cometh in the Morning"

Topic: The JOY of the Lord is my Strength

Selected Scriptures: Psalm 30: 1-5

Songs: While I'm on My Mission, This Little Light of Mine and We are Blessed

In my study of the books of Psalms and Philipians, these books focus on the pursuit of JOY. But before we can pursue JOY we must have some kind of an understanding what this JOY is.

MY QUESTIONS TO YOU ARE

WHERE IS YOUR JOY and HAVE YOU LOST YOUR JOY?

I'm talking about that unspeakable JOY - the one that the world did not give to me - and you know what - the world cannot take it away!

What is Joy?

JOY is God-given gladness that is not at the mercy of circumstantial happiness. It rests on the abiding sense that we are forgiven and befriended by God, come what may in this world of trouble.

JOY is the true and real sign of the presence of God. JOY is the by-product of a very rich and deep faith, a faith that brings you to the point of TRUST. And trust, of course, is the love answer. It's the only thing we have to give to God that he hasn't given to us. All our gifts, skills, and talents are from God. But our TRUST that is ours to give or not to give.

JOY is that deep feeling of contentment and happiness inside. Things may be bad in your life, but true JOY is the assurance that God is in control of your life, and

that He is good and He is good all the time. To have JOY, you need FAITH.

JOY is more than happiness, just as HAPPINESS is more than pleasure. PLEASURE is in the body. Happiness is in the mind and feelings. JOY is deep in the heart, the spirit, the center of oneself.

JOY is an essential part of a life of victory. You see, JOY is what gives you the strength to hold steady when the circumstances get rough.

JOY is one of the most powerful spiritual forces in the world. You can't live a life of FAITH without being strong in the LORD - and when God wants to make you strong, JOY is what He uses to do the job!

JOY is a very real force, and the devil doesn't have "anything" that can stand up against it. Just as FEAR has to yield to faith, Discouragement has to yield to JOY.

Since JOY is one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit, you already have it residing within you. But you must develop it, confess it, and live by it if you want to enjoy its power.

"Characteristics of Christian Joy" - Philipians 1:3-11

1. WE SHARE A COMMON HOPE.

2. IT IS AN INCREASING JOY

3. The Christians JOY

4. The avenue of prayer to God is also a JOY that belongs exclusively to Christians.

CHRISTIAN JOY IN THESE DIFFICULT TIMES

"Count it all joy, my brethren, when you meet various trials, for you know that

the testing of your faith produces steadfastness."

We should "rejoice" how often! Always, even when we're suffering, even when we're persecuted, alienated, ostracized, all

kinds of evil is spoken against us, even when we're mistreated and misunderstood and misrepresented and we are to respond by rejoicing.

The JOY of the LORD is My Strength

Sister Dorothy Hood, president; Sister Christene Burleson, vice president; and Sister Elnora Jones, teacher. Continue next week.

Manhattan Heights Church Of Christ
Call 806-763-0582
Minister
Tyrone N. Du Bose
1702 E. 26th St., the corner of E. 26th and
Martin Luther King Jr Blvd

Sunday:
Bible Class-9:00am
Bible Class-10:15 am
Evening Worship-7:00pm
Worship:
Bible Class Devotion-7:00pm

God's Plan for Saving Man
All have sinned - Romans 3:23
Jesus Christ died for our sins - 2 Cor. 5:21; Acts 2:36
We must do God's will and obey him to enter heaven - Matt. 7:21; Heb. 5:9
How do we obey him?
Hear the gospel - Romans 10:17
Believe Jesus Christ is the son of God - Mark 16:16
Repent of your sins - Luke 13:3
Confess - Romans 10:10
Be baptized for the forgiveness of your sins - Acts 2:38
Be faithful until death - Rev. 2:10

For transportation call Charles Curtis at 535-7158
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"Let Us Work For You!"

Obsequies

Evangelist Carla Eloise Simmons

Evangelist Carla Eloise Simmons, 77, passed away Wednesday, April 23, 2008, at Heritage Oaks Nursing Home.

She was born Jan. 23, 1931 in Dumas, Ark. In her lifetime, Evangelist Simmons traveled across the country spreading the good news about Jesus. She held several positions in the church, including Church Mother, Sunday School Teacher and District Missionary. Evangelist Simmons was a member of the Sister Sister Breakfast Group, in which she held the office of Chaplin.

She leaves to mourn her passing, four brothers, Rev. Albert Madden, Jr., Deacon C. D. (Rose) Madden, Rev. Joseph Madden and Raymond Madden; four sisters, Tennie White, Sude (Ray) Seed, Deloris Ann (Lewis) Tucker, and



Pastor Callie (Gusic) Lacy; a host of nieces, great-nieces, nephews, great-nephews, cousins, and friends.

Service were held Saturday, May 3, 2008 at 11 a.m. at Hope Deliverance COGIC.

Burial was held at Peaceful Garden Cemetery in Woodrow under the direction of Griffin Mortuary & Funeral Home of Lubbock.

Edna Wynn

Funeral services were held last Thursday, May 1, 2008, for Edna Wynn at the St. John Baptist Church with Rev. Solomon Fields, pastor, officiating.

Burial was held in the City of Lubbock Cemetery under the direction of Ossie Curry Funeral Home of Lubbock.

Ms. Wynn died Saturday, April 26, 2008.

She was 92 years of age.



L. C. Burleson, 77, of Tahoka, entered his eternal rest on Thursday, May 1, 2008. He was born Aug. 8, 1930 in Calvert, Texas, to Mr. and Mrs. Jive Burleson. He grew up in Marlin, Texas, and moved to Tahoka at the age of sixteen.

He worked various jobs until he formed a business partnership and operated a gas station and mechanic shop. His entrepreneurial ventures also included a small grocery store, cafe, and car dealership.

He united with Pleasant Grove Baptist Church under the leadership of Rev. L. E. Brown. Years later, he was baptized by Rev. H. L. Brawley on April 9, 1989. He continued to be a great supporter of the Church.

He leaves to celebrate and cherish his memory, his wife of 56 years, Henrietta; two children, Gloria Moore and Michael Burleson; 11 grandchildren, Myra Moore, Gwen Huntie, Michael D. Burleson, Bruce Burleson, Brandy Fears, Sandy Burleson, Adrian Williams, Dustin Burleson, Reggie Moore, Jr., and Rocky Moore; 37 great-grandchildren; one brother, A. J. Council; a host of other relatives and friends.

Service were held Monday, May 5, 2008 at 2 p.m. at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Tahoka.

Burial was held at Nevels Cemetery, Tahoka, under the direction of Griffin Mortuary & Funeral Home of Lubbock.

Commencement Friday ends SPC 50th Anniversary celebration

LEVELLAND - South Plains College will host its 50th Anniversary Commencement Ceremony at 10 a.m. Friday (May 9) in the Texan Dome.

There are 1,083 candidates for graduation for the class of 2008.

The Honorable David A. Swinford, Texas Representative, District 87, Dumas, will deliver the keynote address. Swinford, a 2008 Distinguished Alumnus, attended SPC from 1959-61 and received an associate of arts degree in agriculture.

He transferred to Texas Tech University where he received a bachelor of sciences degree in agriculture education. Swinford was elected from District 88 in 1990 and re-elected from District 87 in 1992 after being paired in redistricting. He became chairman of Government Reform in 2003 at the request of House Speaker Tom Craddick.



Elijah Franklin

Rosetta, N. J. - Funeral services were held for the brother-in-law of Mr. Annie Britt, Elijah

Franklin, were held Wednesday, April 30, 2008 at the Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church, with Rev. Milton A. Byrd, pastor.

He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Mary Franklin; two sons, Kelvin Franklin and Eljah D. (Yonda) Franklin; two daughters, Anita (Charles) Turner and Felicia (Ron) Turner; two brothers, Deacon Enoch (Mildred) Franklin and Nathaniel (Linda) Franklin; four sisters: Mae Williams, Irene Pitts, Lorine (Bobby) Clanton, and Margaret Franklin; and three sisters-in-laws: Annie Britt, Mildred (Gayle) Justice

and Elizabeth (Herman) Lutz grandchildren: Sharenda Anderson, Charles Farmer, Delyah and Terecia Turner; two great-grandchildren, Sharell and Shakyia Anderson, and an aunt, Malonie Ross; a host of nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

Edna Raye Walker

Funeral services were held yesterday, Wednesday morning, May 7, 2008, for a longtime resident, Mrs. Edna Raye Walker, at the Mt. Vernon United Methodist Church.

Interment was held at the City



of Lubbock Cemetery under the direction of Ossie Curry Funeral Home.

Mrs. Walker passed away here Friday, May 2, 2008.

More next week on funeral.

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Editorials • Comments • Opinions

THIS IN THAT

by T.J. Patterson

DISTRICT TWO, WE'RE NOT VOTING! THIS IN THAT after checking with the City Secretary **BECKY GARZA** on Wednesday morning that through Early Voting on Monday evening May 5, 2008 there were only **772 VOTES CASTED** in the Mayor & City Council election.

The totals for Tuesday last day of early voting were not available. In the last City Election there were **1,491 VOTES CASTED**. Now that a low number as there are over **15,000 REGISTERED VOTERS** in District Two. Now there needs to be something done about our voting participa-

tion. Hopefully during the election on Saturday **MAY 10, 2008** between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. and cast your precious vote for the Mayor and City Councilman, District Two.

PENNY HASTINGS THE BARBER SAYS: "VOTE! VOTE! VOTE! SATURDAY!!"

New Principal Of Brownfield High School

Continued from Page 1

common purpose and the character which inspires confidence." He hopes to continue to invigorate, inspire, and infuse a love of teaching that may lie concealed or complacent in so many teachers...creating Merchants of Hope. And in impacting teachers, students become beneficiaries to a world presented to them that is limitless. This is my calling.

He is a strong research-driven instructional leader who knows he is a leader amongst a sea of leaders and thus know I function best as a facilitator, one who can be a catalyst for change or the maintainer of excellence. I know how to balance a minimum degree of

beneficial criticism with a healthy abundance of praise. Hawkins offers a commitment to team building, promote multicultural awareness, and the ability to create an effective staff development plan that engages in continued professional development.

"The essence of leadership is not giving things or even providing visions.

It is offering oneself and one's spirit." - Lee Bolman & Terence Deal

Hawkins grew up in poverty, so as an assistant principal, He merged the knowledge of being a Certified Trainer of Ruby Payne's Understanding of Poverty, and Jim Fay's Love & Logic Approach to Schoolwide Discipline to create a discipline ideology that is structured and teaches the logical flow of consequences based on choice. It is

reflective of the idea that both dignity and respect must be maintained for both teachers and students. He viewed this blending as a critical component in my quest to impact teachers to reach more kids.

Through effective internal and external school communication, a rock solid commitment to student-centered learning, and a maintained partnership with parents and community members, Hawkins hopes to contribute proven techniques that will affect campus goals within my district.

He has been married to Tiffany Hawkins for nine years. They have a 7 year-old daughter, Rachel, and nearly a 3 month old son, Sinclair.

The Southwest Digest, along with many others, welcomes Will Hawkins to West Texas. May God bless all you do!

Think About It!

"What Politicians Say"

by Eddie P. Richardson

Politicians say what they say and do what they do based on electability, based on sound bites, based on polls. Preachers say what they say because they're pastors. They have a different person to whom they're accountable. As I said, whether he gets elected or not, I'm still going to have to be answerable to God Nov. 5 and Jan. 21.

"He had to distance himself because he's a politician. From

what the media was saying I had said, which was anti-American. He said I didn't offer any words of hope. How would he know? He never heard the rest of the sermon. You never heard it. I offered words of hope. I offered reconciliation. I offered restoration in that sermon, but nobody heard the sermon. They just heard this little sound bite of a sermon."

On whether he should apologize for shouting in a sermon "God damn America" for its treatment of minorities:

"God doesn't bless everything. God condemns some things. And dem, D-E-M, is where we get the word damn. God damns some practices and there's no excuse for the things that the government, not the American people, have done. That doesn't make me not like America or unpatriotic."

On people who say he's unpatriotic:

"I feel that those citizens who say that have never heard my sermons, nor do they know me. They are unfair accusations taken from sound bites and that which is looped over and over on certain channels. I served six years in the military. Does that make me patri-

otic? How many years did Cheney serve?"

From a speech during the NAACP's annual Fight for Freedom Fund Dinner on Sunday in Detroit:

"I'm not here for political reasons. I am not a politician. I know that fact will surprise many of you because many in the corporate-owned media have made it seem as if I have announced that I'm running for the Oval Office. I am not running for the Oval Office. I've been running for Jesus a long, long time, and I'm not tired yet."

"In the past, we were taught to see others who are different as being deficient. We establish arbitrary norm and then determine that anybody not like us was abnormal. But a change is coming, because we no longer see others who are different as being deficient. We just see them as different."

"I come from a religious tradition where we shout in the sanctuary and march on the picket line. I come from a religious tradition where we give God the glory and the devil the blues. The black religious tradition is different. We do it a different way."

From an interview that aired Friday on PBS' "Bill Moyers' Journal":

On the sermon he gave after Sept. 11 saying "America's chickens are coming home to roost" after the U.S. dropped atomic bombs on Japan and "supported state terrorism against the Palestinians and black South Africans":

"The persons who have heard the entire sermon understand the communication perfectly. What is not the failure to communicate is when something is taken like a sound bite for a political purpose and put constantly over and over again, looped in the face of the public. That's not a failure to communicate. Those who are doing that are communicating exactly what they want to do, which is to paint me as some sort of fanatic."

Reactions to the 2008 Draft



Bryant Williams

The National Football League held its traditional draft on Saturday, April 26 2008 in New York City's Radio City Music Hall. By 3:00 pm (Eastern Standard Time), NFL fans who couldn't make the trip to New York gathered around their televisions, radios, computers (internet) or anything else that would inform them about their favorite team's draft selection. Another tradition along with draft day is the surprise picks made or not made by the teams; and this year was no different.

One of these surprises was the number one overall draft pick made by the Miami Dolphins; choosing and signing Offensive Lineman, Jake Long from Michigan to a five year deal for \$57.5 million. "I don't think it was a smart decision to make," said Anson Porter, a student of Morehouse College. "I'm not trying to say that Long is not good, but Miami should have used that pick on another position." An additional surprise pick was Arkansas running back Darren McFadden who was the fourth overall pick made by the Oakland Raiders. Arguably one of the most talented players in the draft, McFadden was expected to go number one by many. A local Oakland Raiders fan, Jeff Ward said, "I'm excited that they (Oakland) picked McFadden. He will be a huge play threat and also compliment (quarterback) JaMarcus Russell."

Rumors of McFadden possibly getting picked up by the

Dallas Cowboys had some Dallas fans on the edge of their seat draft day. "I was really hoping for that deal to go through. (Dallas picking McFadden) but I wasn't going to hold my breath," stated James Curry, a contractor and hug Cowboys fan. "Dallas still made a smart decision by getting the other back from Arkansas, Felix Jones, who is used to being the number two back in a two back system."

Whether fans liked or disliked the conclusion made by the different team's selections in this year's draft, it will all boil down to these selected players talent in the professional arena. Those players that succeed will be labeled as a great draft pick, and for those who don't, will get the opposite reaction from fans and media alike

In Cinque

by Renetta Howard



Howard

May is a busy springtime month. Cinco de Mayo, the fifth of May is a very important holiday to Mexicans and Mexican Americans. This date commemorates the 1862 victory in which the Mexicans achieved in battle against the French whom had come to occupy and rule Mexico. This took place while the United States, Mexico's neighbor, was involved in a Civil War, so the French had no fears. When the French were unable to supply the rebels with munitions, the United States were able to supply the Mexicans and help them to expel the French. This holiday has a Spanish name, but it was a victory

for both Mexico and the United States (VIVA! Cinco de Mayo). You can find a little bit of advertisement about this holiday if you happen to live in a neighborhood or city with a large Hispanic population. Otherwise, there is no push to sell items to make the day merry.

At the other end of the spectrum, there is Memorial Day, which took the place of the Decoration and or Confederate Day for remembering our family and friends and those who served our country and lost their lives. In some communities, this meant that the day was set aside to clean up grave sites. Because these days were celebrated at different times in the various states, one day for everyone was settled on and called Memorial Day as a national holiday. Many celebrate it as a day to kick back and have some early spring fun in the backyard and on the grill. Consequently, there is much advertisement for items needed to cook out, relax in the yard and make merry and for necessities for

weekend trips. There is not very much about purchasing flowers for memorial sites.

Flower sale gets its largest boost of the year during May for Mother's Day. Commercials for Mother's day range from a box of candy to exotic fragrances and expensive jewelry as well as expensive flowers. Many mothers deserve all of the accolades they can consume. We should praise our mothers and let them know that they are appreciated and loved. For most Americans, saying something negative about one's mother can be the groundwork for fistcuffs. No matter how underserving a mother is, her children still tend to praise her on special days like Mother's Day. Let us all get 'in cinque' and show our mothers that we care on May 11.

Businesses have made Mother's Day commercial, but we can still make it a day of love, understanding, tolerance and care.

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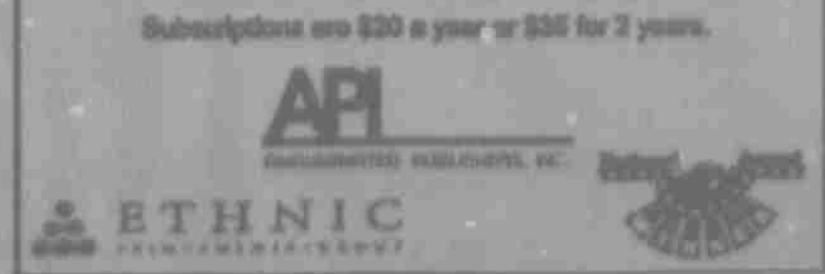
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According to Oprah Winfrey's introduction page on the world-wide-web, the Oprah Winfrey Show is the highest-rated talk show in television history, seen by 15-20 million viewers each day in the U.S. in 205 television markets, and in 132 countries. In fact, it has been the number one talk show for 12 consecutive seasons. Since its beginning in 1986 it has received 32 Emmy awards.

In 1996, Oprah began Oprah's Book Club designed to get America reading again. Each of the books selected has become an instant bestseller averaging sales of over 1 million copies each.

In 1997, Oprah was named Newsweek's "Most Important Person" in books and media, T.V. Guide's "Television Performer of the Year," the People's Choice Award for "Favorite Television Performer," and in 1996, Time Magazine recognized Oprah as one of America's "25 Most Influential People."

Tragically, America is almost obsessed with celebrity idol worship. Recent Gallup polls demonstrated how true this is when it

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Tragically, America is almost

obsessed with celebrity idol worship. Recent Gallup polls demonstrated how true this is when it asked Americans to list and rank the most influential women in recorded history. Oprah Winfrey ranks fourth! There is a common recognizable refrain that "When Oprah speaks, people listen."

However, the primary issue here is not that Americans tend to look to media celebrities as role models, although these people lead probably some of the least ideal lives to emulate. The issue before us is the steady stream of messages and advice that Oprah and her favorite guests communicate to the millions of people who are starved for meaning and purpose in life.

Clearly, Oprah Winfrey has been converted into the New Age Movement. And one of the biggest deceptions is that she apparently doesn't know it. Many of her favorite guests are major New Age proponents and authors, and Oprah contributes to the enormous popularity and sales of their books.

Thank God For Jesus

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baby brother, J.R., is blessed to have his own dealership. My sister, Dessie May, is also a cosmetologist and designs greeting cards. Lula Beatrice is blessed to be an Airline Stewardess for United Air Lines, and a rent lady. Yes, you know me, B.J., the Cowboy Preacher, who is just a nobody, trying to tell everybody, about somebody, who's body died on the cross so he could save everybody!!!

Proverb 31:28a - Her children shall rise up, and call her blessed!!!

Visitor's Center Petition

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residents.

If you believe that there is a better way please join me in signing this petition. The bottom-line though is that whether you support or oppose the current proposal for a Visitor's Center this city belongs to you, the people, and you should have the opportunity to decide this issue.

Again, thank you for your time and below is the link to the on-line petition, which though not legally binding states a sense of the community with all the political importance of an official petition. You may also find more information at my website www.todd

Click It, Ticket It

Continued from Page 1

general population. Each year, approximately 1,300 African American lives could be saved and 25,000 injuries could be prevented if all buckled up.

Safety belt use is the single most effective way to protect against injury and death in traffic crashes. In 2005, safety belts prevented 15,700 total fatalities! Choosing not to wear a safety belt may cost you a citation during this intensified enforcement period, but it's better than paying with your life. Be a positive influence on friends, co-workers, and loved ones-use a safety belt every time you get into a vehicle, whether to drive across the state or only a few miles. Click It or Ticket.

If you would like to get more involved in traffic safety community outreach, please call Karen Peoples, Texas Department of Transportation, 806-748-4478 or visit the NHTSA website at www.nhtsa.gov.

Obama

Continued from Page 2

The finish line is 2,024 delegates. With North Carolina and Indiana in the rearview mirror, six contests and 217 pledged delegates remain.

In addition to wooing the dwindling pool of voters remaining in this nomination battle, Clinton and Obama are actively pursuing the roughly 280 uncommitted superdelegates, aides said.

These party insiders and elected officials -- who are granted special voting privileges at the national convention -- eventually will determine the next Democratic nominee.

Pressure is on Clinton to find a way somehow to halt what

Covenant Hospital

Receives Award

Covenant Medical Center received Honorable Mention for the American Alliance of Healthcare Providers' 2007-2008 Hospital of Choice Award.

The award recognizes America's most customer-friendly hospitals.

The American Alliance of Healthcare Providers designed the Hospital of Choice Awards to recognize those hospitals that go beyond their walls in pursuit of excellence and quality care -- hospitals that have developed a collaborative relationship with physicians and healthcare organizations in the community, as well as managed care organizations and other payors.

Brownfield Regional Medical Center, an affiliated hospital with Covenant Health System, also received honorable mention recognition

increasingly looks like an unstoppable Obama march to the nomination -- and keep the superdelegates from rushing to his

Parson Smith

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without guilt.

Most black liberation theologians revile this philosophy. Still Mr. Jackson would not deny the powerful currents of liberation theology; even his congregants put their toes in those waters from time to time.

"Most black church members want to see their ministers involved in defending the race and improving civil rights," Mr. Jackson said. "The anger and bitterness that bleeds through in Reverend Wright's comments are something that many blacks can sympathize with, even if they don't want to hear it in the pulpit." Black liberation theology may have taken modern flower in the 1960, but its roots (no less than those of more conservative black theologies) extend deep into America's historical cellar its legacy of slavery.

In that context, the revolutionary message of the Bible seems inescapable, most notably in the story of the Exodus. "If you read that God told the pharaoh to release the slaves, you'd have to be pretty dense not to see the connection," said James A. Noel, a professor at the San Francisco Theological Seminary.

Slave master kept a wary rein on worship. Fearful blacks might find inspiration in the Bible's insurrectionary content. Black worshippers sought refuge in ravines and woods, building the "invisible church" that became the modern black church in all of its manifestations. To be continued

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