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Dr. D.R. Williams, Pastor

SHALOM

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Holy Convocation Spotlight: Mother Idella Taylor Hall

This past August Mother Idella Taylor Hall was honored at the Central Florida Jurisdiction #1 Church of God in Christ 55th Annual Holy Convocation. Mother Hall was given the Living Legend Award for her faithful service in the Gainesville District. She has served Williams Temple faithfully as president of the Y.P.W.W. and president of the Sunshine Band. She has received several recognitions which included an ward on November 16, 1988 for 25 years of service to the Sunshine Band at the national Convocation in Memphis,

Tennessee. Mother Hall also served as an usher and a role model to many young women striving to grow stronger in the Lord. She is a proud mother of two sons and a number of grandchildren. She is dedicated and still remains an active member of the hospitality ministry.



Special Tribute: Pastor Joe Lee Williams

Pastor Joe Lee Williams has been a Powerful instrument in the Gainesville District for a number of years. In August of this year, Pastor D.R. Williams and the members of the Williams Temple family took time to share on a special tribute to this pioneer in the faith. Pastor Joe Lee, who has been overseeing Old Town Church of God in Christ for the past 17 years found out this year he has cancer. The news came at a particularly difficult time for the pastor. About 40 people attended the ceremony at the D.R. Williams Fellowship Hall and many share their thoughts and memories. Brother

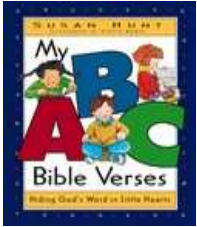
Gordon reminisce times of playing ball and praying with the man he called a "praying man". Many reflected on the pastor's influence in their lives and his firmness. The event was made even more special by a selection from Brother Manley entitled "through it all".

The evening touched the Elder in a special way. In his remarks, he noted the tough battle that he currently face with cancer, stating "it's a battle, but I'm glad, the battle is not mine".

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Vacation Bible School: God's Big Backyard

By sister Vicki Young



Topic: Service
Serving Friends
Serving family (baby Moses in the bulrushes and Miriam)
Serving Neighbors (Good Samaritan)
Serving Community (Zaccheus in the Sycamore Tree)
Serving Jesus (Peter and John the lame man heals)

The backyard theme was reflected in the decorations of the sanctuary and classrooms: Illustrations of trees, playground equipment, flowers and gardening tools, fencing, backyard critters, two large "dogs" and a doghouse

On Monday, one of the dogs escaped the fenced backyard and reward posters were placed throughout the neighborhood (the church). This also became a scavenger hunt with clues given each night to lead to its safe return. Thanks to Cedric Waldon for finding the dog.

The week was filled with fun and fellowship. Praise leaders opened and closed each night with praises to God that were heard beyond our "backyard".

Teachers presented the lessons using a variety of games and activities. Missionary Eason led her class in serving our military troops abroad by sending cards and letters of support. There were classes for all ages, including adult men and women. This Vacation Bible School was a family affair.

The elder also remarked on the year when he accepted Christ in 1979, saying, "God has a plan for you." On Thursday, at the end of the activities, we went door-to-door to personally invite the surrounding neighborhood to join this celebration of serving Jesus by serving others. On Friday, the food, fun and fellowship continued with a block party. Pastor Williams concluded Vacation Bible School '08 with a review and admonition to SERVE.

Major thanks to all of the volunteers who helped make VBS '08 a success....



Give me 5! For Stroke

By Sister Caroline Eason

When we hear the word "stroke", we know that it time to call 911. But, just what is a stroke? And what are some of the signs and symptoms that we should look for? Also, what about a TIA? What does that have to do with a stroke? And what causes strokes?

First of all, a stroke occurs when blood to the brain becomes blocked or ruptures causing brain cells to be deprived of oxygen and blood.

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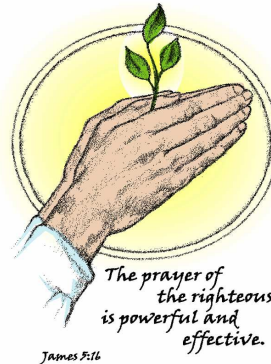
Tribute,

cont'd from page 1

way of getting through in the most unexpected ways.”

Elder Joe Lee Williams was born on May 3, 1950, the ninth of fifteen children. Upon graduation from Mebane High School in 1968, he attended Tampa Technology Institution and Webster College. In 1980, he was called to the ministry and in 1981 he was ordained by Bishop C.D. Kinsey.

Elder Williams is married to Lillie Mae Flagg and has eight children. Elder Williams has worked as the pastor of Old Town Church of God in Christ for the past 17 years.



Prison Baptism

On Friday, October 24, Sister Hazel Angel of Mercy Ministries baptized nine men at Cross City Correctional Institution. Sister Hazel, who visits both the work camp and the main unit at Cross City, was able to combine the two camps for the first time. Eight men originally signed up to be baptized. However, during the baptism, a man jumped out of his seat and asked to borrow the wet clothes of one of the baptized inmate, saying, “I can’t take it, it’s time I surrender”. He too was baptized.

Sister Hazel says baptisms are special to her because she’s doing what God requires. Through her many years in the prison ministry, Sister Hazel has baptized a number of inmates including many who were facing the death penalty.

As director of Home and Foreign Missions for Williams Temple, Sister Hazel runs a number of programs under the Angel of Mercy umbrella. She says she is dedicated to this great work in humanities until death.

This is Sister Hazel’s 15th year in the prison ministry. She visits a number of institutions, including The Gainesville’s Correctional Institution.



Give Me 5! For Stroke

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These brain cells are unable to function without the vital oxygen and nutrients they require to work properly. Remember "time lost is brain lost". That is why medical care must begin immediately.

Let us then consider some of the signs of a stroke. To increase awareness of stroke signs and symptoms, the American Heart Association and the American Stroke Association have launched a joint campaign entitled " Give Me 5! For Stroke.

The 5 signs are:

- a) WALK- Is the person's balance off? Are they able to stand straight or do they slump to one side? Are they dragging their feet on the side they are leaning toward? Have they lost strength on one side of their body?
- b) Talk-Is their speech slurred or their face droopy? Are they having trouble speaking? Do they sound like they have something in their mouth? Does one side of their mouth droop down? When you ask them a question-do their words make sense?
- c) Reach-Is one side weak or numb? Ask the person to squeeze your hand or finger. Is one hand weaker than the other? Can they feel you touch them on their arm? Ask them if their feeling is the same on each side
- d) See-Is their vision all or partly lost? Ask the person if their vision is clear or blurry? Can they see everything in their field of vision? Does the person see double?
- e) Feel- is their headache severe with no known cause? Does light bother or hurt their eyes? Does a sound or noise make the headache worst?

If you see even just one of these symptoms, even if it goes away, do not wait, call 9-11. The person may be having a stroke.

One of the main causes of a stroke is uncontrolled high blood pressure. Know your blood pressure and have it checked at least once a year. If it is 140/90

or above consistently, it is high. You should talk to your doctor about how to control it. Diabetes also increases your risk of a stroke because it can cause diseases such as Atrial Fibrillation.

Transient Ischemic attacks (TIA), also known as "mini strokes" produces stroke-like symptoms but have no lasting effects. Medical treatment should start immediately because TIA's can produce a major stroke. Recently the Gainesville District Nursing Guild sponsored a workshop on stress. One of the main points discussed by the facilitator, Stephanie Pollard was the fact that stress can affect your blood pressure and diabetes. From that workshop, it was revealed that stress can be present even when we are not aware of it. Stressors in our lives take a negative effect on the whole body, which doubles the risk of having a stroke. My prayer is that we all work on getting distressed so we do not put ourselves in danger. Stroke is the no. 3 cause of death and serious long term disability in America (American Stroke Association).

I remembered when missionary Willie Mae Barnes struck by a stroke almost 4 years ago. The doctors said she would not make it. But God said differently! She tells her testimony every time about how God let her live. But she will also tell you to get yourself checked and take care of your health. So remember, if you see or experience any of these signs or symptoms listed above, do not wait because it is a 9-1-1 emergency.

Global Initiative: Project Haiti

This year, the church is expanding our global initiative. Currently, Williams temple is supporting a newly created project in Mapou Village, La Gonave Haiti. This project is under the supervision of Benis and Dominique Guerrier. The focus is to build a community Center in the village of Mapou that will assist in spreading the gospel and help educate Haitian children. Benis and Dominique hopes to help the citizens of Mapou Village become self-sufficient through the teaching of Jesus Christ, outreach and training programs. The two hopes to improve

community leadership and the social structure necessary for creating a self-sustaining population in the village.

The building of the community center will provide a place to interact, worship the Lord, learn, and attend events.

About Haiti

Haiti, officially the Republic of Haiti is a Creole- and French-speaking Caribbean nation. Along with the Dominican Republic, it occupies the island of Hispaniola, in the Greater Antillean archipelago. The total area of Haiti is 27,750 square kilometers and its capital is Port-au-Prince.

Haiti's regional and historical position is unique for several reasons. It is the only predominantly Francophone nation in the Caribbean, and one of only two in North America (along with Canada) which designate French as an official language. It is the first post-colonial independent black-led nation in the world, and the only nation whose independence was gained as part of a successful slave rebellion.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Haiti>





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New Members Corner

Williams Temple welcomes Brother Roger Ellsworth. Brother Ellsworth was born and raised in the North. He received Jesus Christ as his personal savior at the age of 16 and later became an evangelist in the late 80's. Brother Ellsworth worked in his own ministry, spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ for three years. He is currently going into the prison ministry.

Bible Trivia

- 1) What was the name of Ruth's first husband? *Reverend of Ruth Perich, Esq. Newsletter*
- 2) What did Naomi tell her two daughters-in-law after the death of her husband and sons (their husbands)?
 - a) "Go to him first thing in the morning"
 - b) "Wash and anoint yourself"
 - c) "Sing to him"
 - d) "Put on your best garment"
 - e) "Uncover his feet"
 - f) "Tell him you will be his wife"
- 3) Ruth stayed with her mother-in-law, Naomi, and returned with her to Naomi's homeland. What is her homeland?
- 4) How did Ruth and Boaz meet?
- 5) Which of the following was NOT one of the ways that Boaz showed favor toward Ruth?
 - a) had his servants bring her new garments
 - b) commanded the young men not to touch her
 - c) gave her bread and parched grain to eat
 - d) told the reapers to purposely let grain fall so that she could get it
- 6) Which of the following was part of Naomi's instructions to Ruth, regarding going to Boaz?
 - a) Chosen by God to be a mother of kings
 - b) Better than having seven sons
 - c) The most honorable woman in Bethlehem
 - d) Truly a light among women
- 7) What did Boaz give Ruth to take back to Naomi?
- 8) Before Boaz married Ruth, what did he do?
- 9) When Ruth gave birth o her son, Obed, Naomi was then reminded by her friends that God had not forgotten her. They also told her that Ruth was:

