

# BATTLEFIELD NEWS

## ONE ARMY

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### Meeting at the Courthouse

#### National Day of Prayer 2011

By: Richard Dean



National Day of prayer meeting at Winder Courthouse.

About a hundred people gathered on the front lawn of the courthouse in Winder, Georgia to pray on May 5<sup>th</sup>, the National day of Prayer. Those present included Jody Hice of the Jody Hice Show; Karen Lewis of Women of Destiny; Danny Yearwood, Chairman of the Barrow Co. Commissioners; Barrow Co. Sheriff Judd Smith and several pastors in the Winder area. (Cont. on pg. 2)

### Women of Destiny

By: Donese Mercaldo



Karen Lewis, president of Women of Destiny at the National Day of Prayer Meeting at the courthouse in Winder, Ga.

Women of Destiny is a godly organization of action. Karen Lewis is its president. One of the things that Karen and Women of Destiny are dedicated to is the unification of the whole body of Christ – the bringing together of the churches. (cont pg 4)

### Emmanuel – God With Us

By: R. D. Hempton

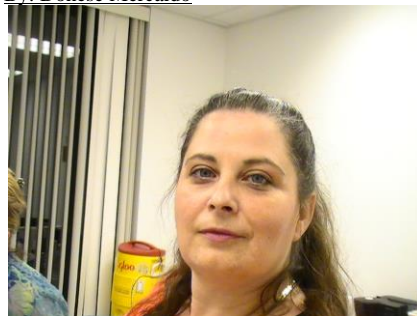


Pastor Larry Pruitt of Emmanuel Worship Center.

The pastor, Larry Pruitt, was in the pews with the rest of the congregation and not in some throne-like chair on the stage. He was standing, praising and worshiping in the uplifting, spirit-filled music of The Emmanuel Praise team. The music was excellent. It was strong enough to lift everyone up to the place where they could be in the presence of God and light enough to float all present on that cool breeze of worship. (cont. on pg. 2)

### Missy's Coffee House

By: Donese Mercaldo



Missy Iler at her coffee house on Friday 27 May

Missy's Coffee House is open once a month, on the fourth Friday. Missy opened for the first time on Friday 27 May 2011. Missy's first night was amazing – much better than anyone even hoped for.

Like all the other coffee houses of the Whole Body of Christ Alliance, Missy's opens (Cont. on pg. 3)

### Mary's Coffee House

By: Mateo Raza



Mary Bowman at her coffee house in Winder.

Something incredible happened – something so awesome that it defies description. Nothing this reporter could write would do justice to what actually happened at Mary's Coffee House on Saturday 28 May 2011.

The Spirit of God was so tangible and thick that it changed people immediately, as soon as they walked in the door. Several people commented on it independently of one another.

“If you missed this night of Mary's Coffee House, (Cont. on Pg. 4)

### Church Of Prophecy

By: Donese Mercaldo



Margaret Williams, Betty Baker, Sarah Clark, and Pat McDaniel of Winder's Church of God of Prophecy.

“There is only one church,” said Sister Pat McDaniel, preaching at **Church of God of Prophecy** in Winder. “There are no denominations in the Kingdom of God.”

The atmosphere in the church was one of an immense love of God and of living worship. (cont. on pg. 8)

## Courthouse (cont. from front pg)

“With all the turmoil in this nation,” shared Danny Yearwood, as he opened the observation of the National Day of Prayer, “We need His leadership.” Mr. Yearwood quoted Matthew 18:20.

An Honor Guard made up of the Barrow County and Winder Fire Departments helped us honor our flag and our nation.



The Honor Guard lowered the flag and raised it again at the National Day of Prayer meeting at the Winder Courthouse.

Pastor Greg Moore of Winder Wesleyan Church sang the National Anthem.

Pastor Alfred Hazel of White Oak Springs Baptist Church took the microphone next. “It’s a dangerous thing to give a preacher a microphone.” Pastor Hazel joked. “I thank God that I am an American and that I live in America.”

“This country is in the middle of insanity,” Said Pastor Jim Morris of Winder Christian Church. “It is insanity to continue to do the same things and expect different results. Is it because God is not strong enough to answer prayer? No. The Bible says the prayer of the wicked is an abomination to God. The lesser of two evils is still evil. For 38 years (Roe vs Wade – 1973) we have offered our children in the fire to Molech on the altar of abortion.”

“I am humbled, Lord, to be here,” prayed Pastor Greg Moore just before he quoted II Chronicles 7:14. “Father we cry out to you as a community – as a nation, forgive us. Forgive us. We pray for courage for those in the political realm – that you will bring them to the foot of the cross. We ask that you will protect those in our armed forces and bring them safely home. Strengthen your church, Lord. Break down the walls that divide the

body. Our hope is in you – in the whole body of Christ”

“The observance publicly of this day has been under attack,” Pastor Jody Hice of Let Freedom Ring Ministries and the syndicated radio show, The Jody Hice Show, “Americans for Freedom From Religion brought this to court in a law suit. The Judge threw it out but nothing was really settled. It may be ruled unconstitutional in years to come. We **must** keep praying **in public – out loud.**”

Anyone who listens to Jody’s radio show has heard him speak often of the “culture war.” His speech at the National Day of Prayer included this as well. “The next battle in the culture war is going to involve the fact that the shift is to criminalize the beliefs of people – not just what they say or do.” Pastor Hice prayed, “Forgive us, Lord, the church, for just sitting by passively for decades and just allowing this nation to fall into this mess.”



Karen Lewis standing with Sheriff Judd Smith (top) at the courthouse meeting of the National Day of prayer. Those present at the meeting (bottom) breaking up into individual groups to pray.

Ms. Jackie Cook of the Prayer Ministry at Winder First Baptist Church spoke: “Thank you for allowing me to share a podium with such godly men. Jackie is my name but what I am is a child of the Living God.” The statement brought cheers from those present. “Father, This nation has only been great because of you,” she prayed, “please forgive us

allowing the evil forces to come in.” Ms. Cook went on to quote II Chron 7:14.

Pastor Greg Moore sang a very moving song, “I’m proud to be an American, where, at least I know I’m free.” He reminded us that, even though our freedoms are being eroded, we are still not often jailed for praying and worshipping.

It was a little disappointing that more people were not present for the meeting but, considering it was in the middle of a work day, the turnout was not that bad. Overall, the courthouse meeting was very positive and uplifting. Sorry if you missed it.

## Emmanuel (from front page)

The Emmanuel Praise Team is led by Minister of Music Bobby Mathis on the keyboard with Ricky Allison on Guitar, B. J. Mathis on Bass, and Caleb Mathis on Drums.

Before the sermon was delivered a special ceremony took place. The Rev. Dr. B. Jamila Edmunds-McCrary (Dr. BJ) anointed Pastor Pruitt. The Pastor and Dr. BJ stood in the baptismal and a pitcher of oil was poured over Pastor Pruitt’s head. Dr. BJ prayed over the pastor as the music played softly.

The Reverend Dub Atkinson preached about a **wireless message to God.** “We are in a time when we need more of the Lord than ever before,” He began. “When we serve him a time comes when the enemy realizes that something is about to happen. According to II Corinthians 2:14, we will have the victory.

“Let the sheep line up behind the shepherd and let the Lord do his work. The Creator put in us something that wants to run to him and worship him. This is that wireless message.”

“Several people in our church have not worked for over a year-and-a-half.” Pastor Pruitt shared after the service. “Many of them now have jobs. God is working here in a mighty way. Three people were saved Sunday. We have a husband and a wife who were both diagnosed with cancer. We prayed over them and they are both still cancer free after a year. Nearly half the church is out of work and yet every bill the church has gets paid.”

When Pastor Pruitt was asked about his education, he responded with, "I was educated at the School of Harde Knox. The school colors were black and blue. Pastor Larry was self taught and began to preach at the age of 17. He has been making regular missionary trips to Haiti since February of 1979 and has helped to build schools and churches there. He has also done mission work in Honduras. He worked in evangelism between the ages of 17 and 29. He pastored three churches before Emmanuel Worship Center. Originally the church was Emmanuel Baptist Church but, "God called me and my wife June here in March of 1993," says Pastor Pruitt, "to bring it into more of a Pentecostal experience."

The congregation consists of about 120 praying people. The church leaders include the church board: Gary Griffeth, Roy Langley, Leon Hardy, and Doug Shaw; the Church Secretary, Susan Griffeth, Women's Director, Cathy Kitchens and Dee Voyles; Faye Williams is a prominent minister; Bobby Mathis is the Music Minister; Donnie Lamb and Derreck Williams are the Associate Pastors; and Anthony Boggus is Youth Pastor. Worship services are Sunday morning at 1030 (actually prayer is from 1020 to about 1040), Sunday evening at 1800 (6pm), and Wednesday at 1900 (7pm).

Emmanuel Worship Center is at 366 Hwy 211 NW Winder, Ga. 30680. The church may be reached at either (678)525-4692 or (678)778-1217 or via e-mail at mlplovesGod @ bellsouth.net.

**Missy's** (from front page)



Rick Hempton performing at Missy's Coffee House. He was joined by Alwon Mayweather, the host of the event, on vocals at the altar call.

At 1900 (7pm). The first Missy's Coffee House opened its doors a little before 1900 and continued until well after 2300 (11pm). It is not a church service, but a coffee house, therefore, a person can arrive when they want and leave when they want.



The people enjoying Missy's Coffee House (above)



Joyful Spirit performed at Missy's Coffee House - Kevin Rowe, Deena King, and Grail King.



Larry Percifield, who played God and Ashley Johnson of the Living Hope Players performing at Missy's

Most people who have attended one of the coffee houses, however, would rather not miss a thing. Missy's was most definitely not something to miss. The beauty of the coffee houses is that the worship is pure - no ritual, no

traditions and no religion, just pure worship and fellowship. People get saved there that would never have set foot in a church.



Richard Edwards, a coffee house patron was absorbed in what was going on.



What looks like a brawl was actually the excellent performance of The Living Hope Players at Missy's.



Alwon Mayweather hosted Missy's. He is seen here doing that thing he does so well.



Marco Sanders giving his testimony at Missy's

A Whole Body of Christ Alliance Coffee House is a place you can bring your unsaved friends and other loved ones that will never go with you to church.

"This has really been something," shared Richard Edwards, "I am so glad I came and checked it out."

“I just didn’t want it to be over.” Theresa Page told BFN.  
 “You could feel the love.” Wanda Johnson said, “It’s not a coffee house, It’s revival.”  
 “Will there ever be another one?” Molly Knowles asked BFN.  
 More coffee houses are scheduled. Joe’s Coffee House is scheduled for 10 June 2011 and Missy’s for 24 June. It is likely that others will be scheduled for June as well. Information on the coffee houses may be obtained by contacting Joe Johnson at (706)654-2540, Missy Iler at (404)987-3033.

**Women of Destiny** (from 1<sup>st</sup> pg)

When Karen Lewis, President and Founder of Women of Destiny, was asked about the organization’s purpose, she named more than one but said, “The Lord is trying to get Christian women connected in more ways than just in a church – outside the walls of the church building. Women of Destiny is mostly for women but we want to see the uniting of the body of Christ. Women there get free of things they would never dream of telling their pastors about.”  
 Women of Destiny meets once monthly, usually on the first Saturday of the month from 1000 to 1200 at the Winder Women’s Club at 15 W. Midland Avenue behind the fire department. Thirty to 35 women usually show up.  
 “In our work with the whole body of Christ,” Karen told BFN, “we have a heart for young people. Most of us are just plain tired of religion and young people are no exception.  
 “If you ask young people why they don’t want to go to church, they invariably give one of two reasons: 1) They feel like they will be judged - too often they are right on the money about that and 2) they feel they are expected to change as soon as they walk in the door – that was not the way any of the rest of us changed and it is not what Christ expects of us either. Sanctification is a process.  
 “We would like to be able to speak to the churches about this and to have youth meetings and activities every so often.”  
 Women of Destiny began in 2003 but stopped in 2005. Last Year God spoke

to Karen and told her to “resurrect this ministry.” Therefore, Women of Destiny was resurrected in March of 2011.  
 The Reverend Karen Lewis was ordained through Gospel Ministry and is about her Father’s business daily. Women of Destiny may be contacted by calling (770)307-1860 or (678)446-7028. They may also be reached via e-mail at karenlewis77 @ yahoo.com.

**Mary’s** (from front page)

I just feel sorry for you,” one lady commented.  
 Larry Percifield, one of the regular ministers who preaches at Living Hope Christian Fellowship, hosted Mary’s Coffee House.



Larry Percifield, host of Mary’s Coffee House



Debbie Gee singing at Mary’s incredible Coffee House.



Sonta Kinney, master of “spoken word,” performing at Mary’s. Sonta brought tears to the eyes of many at the coffee house.

Mary’s Coffee House had the widest variety of Christian performers of any coffee house yet, including songs by Debbie Gee, Poetry by Neyda Hempton, singing by Joe Gee, Mime

by Alwon Mayweather, Dance ministry by Joshua Pass, Music by The Timothy Baptist Praise team, Spoken Word by Sonta Kinney, testimonies of people like Barry Wylie, who spoke of being miraculously healed of HIV, and more.



Standing room only at Mary’s Coffee House



The incredible mime of Pastor Alwon Mayweather of Temple of Glory.

# Joe's Coffee House Rides Again

By: O. (Zell) Zellinger



Joyful Spirit (back row) performed at the second Joe's Coffee House, Joe Johnson and Alwon Mayweather (front)



Joe Johnson at his 2<sup>nd</sup> coffee house and the host of the coffee house, Alwon Mayweather.

Back in the May issue you were promised a full-length article on the coffee house that started it all. Well, here it is.



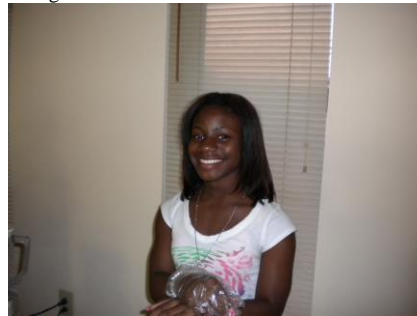
A record crowd was present at Joe's 2<sup>nd</sup> coffee house seen here enjoying the music of Joyful Spirit.

As great as the first Joe's was, extra tables and chairs had to be brought in for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Joe's Coffee house. People

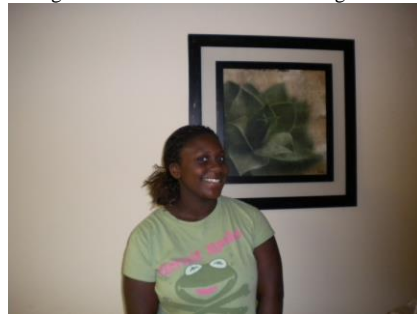
several different kinds of coffee and soft drinks to multiple types of pastries and even hot nachos.



Mary Bowman and Manicka Lewis, who was so wonderful at greeting people at the door of Mary's Coffee House that many commented on how they were changed when they first walked through the door.



Jasmyne Rodney helping to run the coffee room. Jasmyne was selected to attend the Young Leaders Conference in Washington D.C.



Zechiara Rodney helping run the coffee room- she and her dazzling smile.

Mary's Coffee House was never scheduled as a monthly event but, after its unprecedented success, there is a distinct possibility that it will become a monthly event beginning on 17 June. Look for it. Ask about it. One thing is for certain. You do not want to miss it.

"Mary's was the best." Commented Betty Manus. "They were all unbelievable but Mary's was the best."

"I really feel sorry for people who couldn't find time for Mary's Coffee House." Said Joe Gee.

"I don't remember when I have cried from joy so much." Shared Neyda Hempton.

People, Don't miss a coffee house.



Janet Rodney, Paula Halbert, Rusha Cooper, and Devin Campbell on keyboard - Timothy Baptist Praise Team.



Joshua Pass - it is so much more than dance. It is ministry. Joshua heals, prays over people and casts out devils in the midst of the dancing.



Alwon Mayweather and Rick Hempton making music together at the altar call.

Mary's Coffee House, besides having a diversity of performers, also had quite a diversity of refreshments from

from several different churches were present at Joe's, as well as some unsaved and unchurched people, who did not leave the same way, for the second monthly installment of the great coffee house that inspired other Christian coffee houses.



Sonta Kinney shared two of his "spoken word" creations with the audience at Joe's Coffee House in May. He performed a third in an unprecedented encore by the audience. They just would not let him leave the stage.



The Timothy Baptist Praise Team sang even better than at the seven-day revival. As they sang, the front of the stage became filled with people in prayer, some prayed for Christ to come into their lives.



Neyda Hempton shared some of the poetry she has published. This special poetry brought many tears.



Joe Johnson himself shared at the coffee house.

Joe's Coffee House appears to have set a coffee house movement in motion. There were three coffee houses in May.

Joe's Coffee House is scheduled for a 3<sup>rd</sup> round on Friday 10 June at 1900 (7pm) at 62 Pearl Ind. In Hoschton (every 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday), Missy's Coffee House is scheduled for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time on Friday 24 June at the same time and at the same location as Joe's. There is also a distinct possibility that Mary's Coffee House will open for the second time on Friday 17 June at 1900 at 171 W. Athens St. in Winder. Information can be obtained about any of these coffee houses as well as those coming in the future by calling Battlefield News at (404)414-0656, Joe Johnson at (706)654-2540, or Missy Iler at (404)987-3033.



Scott Bagwell of Braselton Tabernacle of Praise sang as part of the performance by the Living Hope Players.



Larry Percifield plays God with the Living Hope Players.

"I am so glad I came," said Angela Freeman, "It was exactly what I needed."

"I am so grateful that God let me see this," Commented Rick Hempton.

"The coffee house was incredible," said Debbie Gee.

"Every time a coffee house opens the doors," said Alwon Mayweather, "God just seems to turn it up a notch."

So far there have been four. You really don't want to miss one. Bring someone. They will thank you for it.



Karen Lewis of Women of Destiny at Joe's Coffee House.



Devin Campbell, Minister of Music of the Timothy Baptist Praise Team sitting down to the keyboard and Jakari Cooper on drums.



Kira and Erica hugging at the altar call. Many tears of joy were shed at that particular altar call.



Host Alwon Mayweather and Joe Gee stand together as Joe sings *The Old Man is Dead*.

Joe's Coffee House – We hope to see you on the 10<sup>th</sup> of June at 1900 (7pm).

**Note:** The opinions of those who share then in this publication do not necessarily represent those of the editors or the Whole Body of Christ Alliance. Comments or opposing views may be mailed to:

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Winder, Ga. 30680

Or e-mailed to:  
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Or  
Jstevens1055 @ live.com.

The Battlefield News may be reached by calling (770)380-6508 or (404)414-0656 and the Whole Body of Christ Alliance may be reached by calling (678)858-6111 or (404)496-3080.

**The Whole Body of Christ Alliance** is a body of believers from many churches, denominations and ministries that work toward unifying the body of Christ; not all under one pastor but as individual organ systems in a single body. As the Bible instructs us, we are to work together synergistically and not against each other, nor are we to be completely independent of one another. Neither are we to compete with one another. No organ functioning on its own will survive for very long.

**This Organization seeks talented individuals** to help in this mission. We are in need of resources, especially the most valuable resources – people. You do not need a degree. What is required is a true desire to serve Jesus Christ without dogmatic constraints and that you either are now or are willing to become absolutely sold out to Jesus (not to this alliance or to your denomination).

If you have the desire to glorify the name of Jesus and your talents are not being fully used, contact us using the information previously provided. If you wish to have an article published in the BATTLEFIELD NEWS or have a comment on anything you read in this publication, contact us. Your article may be published. Be sure to keep a copy of it since your article will not be returned to you. Nor will you receive any financial compensation for it. Most things that appear in this seventh edition of BATTLEFIELD NEWS are not copyrighted material. All ministries are encouraged to reproduce all or any part of it for God's purposes.

If the Whole Body of Christ Alliance has not contacted your church or pastor and your body of believers would be included, we will get to your church eventually, but do not wait until next year. The Lord may come for his bride before that. Contact us.

## Updates and Boobos

### Boobos

Last month BFN printed the name of a church Living Hope instead of its actual name. The name of the church is **Living Hope Christian Fellowship**. We apologize for this misprint.

### Updates

### A Call to Worship

Pastor Alicia Brown  
Sun Coffee: 1015  
Sun Worship: 1030  
Wed Bible study: 1900 (7pm)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sat Women's min: 1000  
4<sup>th</sup> Sat Men's min: 1000  
(706)9839096

### Braselton Tabernacle of Praise (BTOP)

Pastor Jon Jackson  
Sun sch: 1000  
Sun worship: 1100  
Romans Road to Recovery, the Christ-centered 12-step program: Tues 1900 (7pm)  
Wed svc: 1900 (7pm)  
3<sup>rd</sup> Wed Youth: 1900  
Prayer Night Saturday: 1900  
(678)898-7066

### Bread of Life Worship Center

Pastors Charlie and Betty Powell  
Sun Worship: 1100  
Wed on-line Bible study: 1900-2000 (7-8pm) – call (605)562-3000, access code 179-644#  
Wed at church possibly some time in July or August.

### Bush Chapel AME Zion Church

Pastor Lynn Hill  
Sun sch: 0930  
Sun worship: 1100  
Wed Intercessory Prayer: 1200  
Wed eve svc: 1900  
(706)224-0192

### Christ Outreach Worship Center

Pastor Willie Harris Jr.  
Sun Sch: 0930  
Sun worship: 1100  
Sun eve worship: 1830 (630pm)  
Wed Bible study: 1900 (7pm)  
(770)867-5910

### Covenant Blessing Christian Center

Pastor Marquis Robbins  
Sun sch: 0900-1000  
Fellowship: 1000-1030  
Sun worship: 1030  
Wed Bible study on alternate Wednesdays: 1900 (7pm)  
(678)425-0999

### Faith Baptist Church

Pastor Matthew Calvert  
Sun sch: 1000  
Sun worship: 1100  
Sun eve worship: 1800 (6pm)  
Wed svc: 1930 (730pm)  
(678)615-5772

### Kingdom Community Worship Center

Pastor Kenneth Cooper  
Sun worship: 0900  
Wed worship: 1900 (7pm)  
(678)963-5799

### Kingdom Realm Church

Pastor Russell Page  
Sun teaching: 0945  
Sun worship: 1100  
Sun eve svc (Family Night): 1800 (6pm)  
Wed svc: 1900 (7pm)  
YAP (Young Aspiring Preachers): Sat 1000  
Service times may change in the near future  
(678)858-6111

### Living Hope Christian Fellowship

Pastor Allen Stevens  
Sun sch: 1000  
Sun worship: 1100  
Wed svc: 1900 (7pm)  
YAP (Young Aspiring Preachers) Sat: 1000  
Revelation study pending  
(706)654-2931

### Love of God Mission

Pastor Linda Smith  
Sun svc: 1000, 1100, 1830 (630pm)  
Thur svc: 1930 (730pm)  
(770)867-8897

### Move of God Church

Pastor D. L. Lewis  
Sun sch: 1000  
Sun Midday svc: 1200  
Wed Bible Study: 1930 (730pm)  
Fri teaching/study: 1945 (745pm)  
(770)277-9128

### Next Level Church

Pastor Walter Cleveland  
Sun svc: 1000  
Wed Bible study: 1900 (7pm)  
(678)975-0067

### Sanctuary of Pentecost

Pastor J. Vander Etheridge  
Sun prayer: 1030  
Sun worship/word: 1100  
Tue prayer: 1900 (7pm)  
Tue worship/word: 1930  
Thur prayer: 1930  
(770)519-5398

### Sanctuary of the Holy Spirit

Pastor Philip Adair  
Sun svc: 1000  
Thur Men's prayer: 1930 (730)  
(770)962-6277

### Temple of Glory

Pastor Usia Lyons IV  
Sun sch: 1030  
Sun worship: 1130  
Sun eve svc (every 4<sup>th</sup> Sun): 1700 (5pm)  
Thur Bible study: 1915 (715pm)  
(770)709-2233

### Timothy Baptist Church West

Pastor Jesse Halbert  
Couple's Sun sch: 0900  
Sun sch: 1000  
Sun worship: 1130  
Wed Bible study: 1830 (630pm)  
Evangelizing: every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat 1030-1130  
(706)254-1389

### Victory Deliverance Center (VDC)

Pastors Michael and Brenda Smith  
Sun svc: 1145  
Tue Bible study: 1930 (730)  
(678)868-7416

## BFN Acknowledgements

Battlefield News would like to sincerely thank those who helped make this June issue a reality.

Move of God Church

Living Hope Christian Fellowship

Kingdom Realm Church

Timothy Baptist Church West

Bishop Jerry Arnold

Sister Ruby Jones, Evangelist

Alwon Mayweather

Pastor Allen Stevens

Wanda Stevens

Donese Mercado

Joe Johnson

Pastor Jesse Halbert

Mozelle Davis-Weeks

The Reverend Missy Iler

The Reverend Carolyn Edwards

Jay Elbert

Richard Edwards

The Reverend Neyda Hempton

Pastor Russell Page

Karen Lewis

Battlefield News thanks you for humbly serving Jesus and the body of Christ with your time,

your resources, your ideas, and your finances. May God bless you richly.

### **Want ads**

Wanted: Christian woman seeking position as Nanny or primary caregiver. Years of experience with children and with the elderly. References available. (770)380-6508

Wanted: volunteer to do arts and crafts type work in decoration for Daisy House. Call Dr. BJ at (407)545-9857

Wanted: Musicians, poets, singers, actors, dancers, and other talented Christian people to perform in a coffee house environment. Call Rick at (404)414-0656; Joe at (706)654-2540; Missy at (404)987-3033; or Alwon at (770)755-7522

### **Prophecy (from front page)**

“Go home full,” Sister Pat told the congregation, “You don’t need to be part time. I just want God to be glorified.”

Sister Pat spoke of having studied curses. “Jesus became a curse for us. God had to turn away from him because he became sin for us.”



Sister Pat McDaniel preaching at Church of God of Prophecy.



Betty Baker plays the music that was so uplifting.

“Christ Descended down and made an open show of the authorities there by paralyzing death. Colossians 2:15 talks about this,” Pat told the congregation. “Now we can tell Satan to get out. The church has already won.”

Even though the pastor, Louise Robinson was sick and in the hospital, the service was excellent, the music was as well and so was the fellowship. This reporter would gladly visit Church of God of Prophecy again.

## **National Day of Prayer at Emmanuel**

By: O. (Zell) Zellinger

The National Day of Prayer is always the first Thursday of May every year. On Thursday 5 May 2011 at 1930 (730pm), the National Day of Prayer was observed at Emmanuel Worship Center in Winder. The evening was arranged by The Rev. Karen Lewis, President and Founder of Women of Destiny.



Karen Lewis opening the service on the evening of the National Day of Prayer.

People from at least 13 different churches were present: Love of God Mission, Kingdom Realm Church, Emmanuel Worship Center, Victory Deliverance Center, Timothy Baptist Church West, Living Hope Christian Fellowship, Bread of Life Worship Center, Believer’s Christian Fellowship Worldwide, Move of God Church, New Covenant Worship Center, House of Deliverance, Barrow Worship Center, Jefferson Gospel Tabernacle, Winder Worship Center, and others.

Emmanuel Music Minister Bobby Mathis began on the keyboard. The music was soothing and appropriate.

The Rev. Karen Lewis opened the service and introduced collectively those who were to pray and those

people introduced themselves individually.

The Reverend Donnie Webb of Love of God Mission prayed for repentance of individual sins.

Pastor Michael Smith of Victory Deliverance Center prayed for repentance for spiritual leaders.

Dr. Lorrie Richardson-O’Neal prayed for repentance for the sins of our nation.

Pastor Howard Conine of New Covenant Worship Center prayed for communion and cited I Cor 11:29.

Debbie Kessler prayed to tear down a religious spirit. “We need to submit ourselves to one another out of reverence for Christ – at home, at church, in our town by taking the plank out of our own eye before we see the mote in our brother’s.”

Pastor Mary Bradley of House of Deliverance prayed to tear down the walls of racism and social standings.

Clint Jones prayed to tear down walls of jealousy and competition in the body of Christ. He also prayed to loose the spirit of servanthood.

Roger Williams, the evangelist prayed for our nation and cited II Chron 7:14.

Lynn Adams reminded everyone of the Lord’s Prayer and Psalm 91. She prayed for our troops a highly emotional, touching and heart-felt prayer.

Pastor Maurice Graham of Believer’s Christian Fellowship Worldwide prayed a very strong prayer for love and unity.

Dr. Kenneth O’Neal prayed for strong families.

Pastor Bobby Smith of Barrow Worship Center lifted up the board of education, the school systems, and the children and youth. For the board of education he prayed, “You placed them where they are, Lord and we lift them up and ask you to intervene on them supernaturally, miraculously. Help them to stand on your word, Lord, to stand for what is right. Protect them. Build a hedge of protection around them. Protect our schools, Lord. Please, send reinforcement angels to protect the entrances. Please keep our neighborhoods places where the innocence or our children may remain intact.”

Pastor Patsy Garrett of Jefferson Gospel Tabernacle prayed for salvation of the lost.



The Reverend Karen Lewis of Women of Destiny prayed for all the ministers. Cathy Kitchen of Emmanuel Worship Center called for everyone in the building who needed special prayer to come forward.

Finally Pastor Robert Simpson of Winder Worship Center closed in prayer.

It is important to observe the National Day of Prayer every year – to fast and pray with the rest of us who are concerned for our nation. There are very few “church things” that have even a fraction of the importance of this. We need to participate in the National Day of Prayer while we are still able, people. Since our president has been elected he has been the first president since the beginning of this special day, not only not to participate in person, but not even to send a representative, while he celebrates Ramadan with the Muslims inside the White House. Christians, wake up. This should show you how much danger we are in if we don’t get off our laurels and start acting like Christians instead of assuming somebody else will do it.

## A Call to Worship Moved

By: Donese Mercaldo

This is the story readers have been waiting for since March. The very first issue of Battlefield News featured a story on A Call to Worship. At the time it was a house church. This congregation now has a building.



A Call to Worship, the new building at 36 Apex Drive, Jefferson, Ga, 30549

The crew from BFN arrived at the church just in time for Missionary Sunday. The Music, praise and worship were loud and excited. Church Elder Boadicia Wright opened the service: “I am a survivor of breast cancer and I am praising God.” She

ited Psalm 51:1-13. There was a special emphasis on verses 10-11: “Create in me a clean heart, oh God; and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from they presence; and take not thy Holy Spirit from me.”



Sister Wright opening the service in the sanctuary



The Reverend Michael Brown preaching at A Call to Worship on Missionary Sunday.



Sister Wright in the spacious new fellowship hall at A Call to Worship.



Pastor Alicia Brown closing the service on Missionary Sunday.

The Reverend Michael Brown delivered the sermon about “the mission,” citing Matthew 28:19 and Mark 16:15. “The Lord made a way where there was no way.” Michael shared. “The central theme of Jesus’

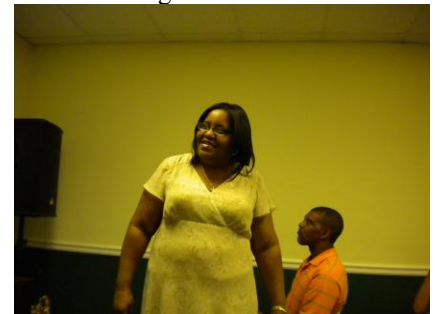
ministry was summed up in two words: Follow me.

“Just as in Matthew 4:18, we can be fishers. We can draw others if they see the love of Jesus.

“There was a commercial that told us to ‘Be like Mike.’ I say no. Be like Jesus. We are supposed to lay it down – this life – to follow him.

“Ephesians 5:25 tells husbands to love their wives as Christ loves the church and gave himself up for her. We are to follow his example. If I do this, I don’t worry about adultery. If I follow his example, I don’t worry about much at all.”

Pastor Alicia Brown followed, reminding everyone of II Corinthians 10:4 – “Our weapons are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds.”



The missionary Cheryl Sims (top) the three new people at A Call to Worship (below).

The saints at A Call to Worship go out of their way to welcome everyone.

## Heavenly Host Update

By: R. D. Hempton

A couple months ago BFN published an article on a new ministry called HEAVENLY HOST MINISTRIES. The vision was the that of Barry Wylie and Tony Burtsch and is a ministry dedicated to helping people get to where they need to go if they have no way to get there – doctor appointments and the like. They will also come to give primary caregivers

an afternoon off if they just need a break for a couple of hours.

Tony and Barry were at Mary's Coffee House. Barry Wylie announced to a packed house the details of the ministry and the miraculous healing he had received from the God of all creation. Barry was completely healed of HIV and now has a heart for those with AIDS. These are the people he really has a heart for – people that no one wants to be around, people whose families have abandoned them, whose friends will not even approach them anymore. AIDS is almost the Red Death of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.



Barry Wylie (top) and Tony Burtsch (below) founders of HEAVENLY HOST Ministries based in Winder.

Heavenly Host is negotiating with AIDS of Athens. "We have a heart for people with HIV and AIDS but we will help anyone."

Tony and Barry recently returned from a trip to West Savannah where they worked with United Front Ministries. They went to pray for and visit a woman with stage IV liver cancer. She is doing much better now.

The new service area is Barrow, Jackson and Hall counties but they will go to Walton or Gwinnett if called there.

"We are in dire need of a van." Tony asked us to remind the readers.

The e-mail address is heavenlyhostministries1 @ yahoo.com.

Need a friend, a prayer partner, a break? Call (706)708-2033.

## Faith Baptist Update

By: Mateo Raza

Pastor Matt Calvert is the same fiery preacher BFN reported about a few months ago. The church, although they partake in serious worship, are very informal. They all call the pastor "Matt."



Special music performed at Faith Baptist. This trio showed everyone what very tight harmony sounded like.



Pastor Matt Calvert doing what he does at Faith Baptist Church in Winder.



Pastor Matt as he stood by the door after service

"I have a question to ask," the pastor told the congregation. "If the pastor has to be here every time the door opens, why is it that y'all think **you** don't? Be about your Father's business and out of everybody else's. Stop nosing around and start kneeling. When you are on your nose, it will bring tears to your eyes but when you are on your knees, the tears will not be from pain."

Pastor Calvert cited II Tim 1:7, "For God has not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and a sound mind."

On 28 May the church held a BBQ plate sale and a car/cycle show from 1100 to 1600 (4pm). There is always something going on at Faith Baptist Church.

## Victory Deliverance Center Pastor Appreciation

By: R. D. Hempton

"And let us not be weary in well doing; for in due season, we shall reap if we faint not." – Gal 6:9.

This was the theme of the evening on 21 May 2011.



Co-pastors Michael and Brenda Smith at Victory Deliverance Center (VDC) for Pastor Appreciation.

Pastors Smith have been on duty at VDC for 18 years. It is no wonder that they are appreciated.

People were present from Victory Deliverance Center, Christ Outreach Worship Center, Kingdom Realm, Living Hope, and Christ Temple in Monroe, Ga.



The Christ Temple Praise team at the opening of the service at VDC.

The Deacon Eddie MacHaffy of Victory Deliverance Center welcomed every one to the Pastor Appreciation night, introduced the praise and worship music done by the Praise Team at Christ Temple, and began dancing in the spirit.

The beginning music was upbeat and excited inspiring some to dance and others to shout praises to God.



Pastor Russell Page of Kingdom Realm clapping and watching Deacon MacHaffy dancing in the spirit.



The people participating in the anointed music at VDC.

After the **first** selection of music, Pastor Willie Harris of Christ Outreach blessed everyone with his words of encouragement. "I lost my mind," Pastor Harris shared. "I found out that you have to lose the mind of the world."

The music became more quiet and reverent for a time but, when it was once again more lively, Pastor Harris began dancing in the spirit on stage.



Pastor Willie Harris cuttin' a rug in the spirit.

An offering was taken up and the First Lady of Christ Temple, Paulette Moore introduced the man so many had been waiting for, Apostle and Pastor Marvin Moore of Christ Temple in Monroe, who is responsible for a movement of unity in Walton and surrounding counties not unlike the one undertaken in Barrow, Jackson and Gwinnett counties by the Whole

Body of Christ Alliance.



Youth Minister Tyran Phillips and Deacon Eddie MacHaffy discussing the service just prior to the event.



Apostle Marvin Moore at Victory Deliverance Center.

The evening was well spent by all who attended the event at Victory Deliverance Center.

## Sins That Lead to Death (continued from the May Issue)

By: Mozelle Davis-Weeks

Here we are again – me using this tiny print to get as much of this subject into the smallest amount of space and you squinting to try to read it. I apologize again but stress the fact that this subject is important enough to suffer through the inconvenience.

I began discussing this subject in April, continued it in the May issue and now it is June and I still might not finish in this issue but I will do my best.

The subject I revealed last month is PRIDE and I said that we all have it but some are more unaware of it and, thus more controlled by it than others. I showed several scriptural examples of the evil of this sin that leads to death. I said that it is power that Pride really enjoys and I left you with a question: What is it that makes a pretty girl spread misery wherever she goes by collecting admirers? Pride again (as if you needed me to tell you.)

What is it that makes a corporate or political leader go on demanding more and more? Pride again.

It is Pride that has been the cause of misery in every nation and family since the world began. Other vices may sometimes bring people together: There may be great fellowship and comradery among drunken people or prostitutes. But pride always means enmity – Pride is enmity. It is not only enmity between man and man but also between man and God.

in every way is infinitely more superior to myself. Unless I know God as that – and, therefore, know myself as nothing in comparison – I do **not** know God at all. As long as I remain proud I **cannot** know God at all. A proud person is always looking down on things and people: and, of course, as long as I am looking down, I cannot see something that is above me.

This raises a **terrible** question. How is it that people that are eaten up with Pride, believe in God and still appear to **themselves** very spiritual? They theoretically admit themselves to be nothing in the presence of God but are actually imaging all the time how he approves of them and thinks they are far better than ordinary people. That is, they pay a penny's worth of imaginary humility to him and get ten bucks worth of pride out of it toward their fellow humans.

I suppose that it was of those people Jesus was thinking when he said that some would preach about him and cast out devils in his name, only to be told at the end of the world that he never knew them. As difficult as it is to admit, especially in the presence of God's people, I cannot go on further with this until I confess that I have caught myself red-handed doing that exact thing. It makes me want to run and hide from everyone but I have been guilty of this very thing many times. In these times I have to repent **immediately** and remind myself of who and what I **really** am. I have nothing to be self-righteous about. There simply is **no** righteousness **in** me, and these times bring that out into the open like nothing else.

Any one of us can find ourselves in that same death-trap at any moment.

Fortunately, there is a test. Whenever we find that our spiritual life is making us feel that we are good – above all, that we are better than someone else – we can be sure that we are being acted upon, not by God, but by the powers of darkness. The real test of being in the presence of God is that you forget about yourself altogether or see yourself as a small dirty object. It is better to forget about yourself altogether.

You see **how** the worst of all sins can smuggle itself into the very heart of our spiritual life. You can also see **why**. The lesser sins come from the powers of darkness working on us through our animal nature but pride does not. Pride comes directly from Satan. It is purely spiritual and, consequently, is far more subtle, insidious and deadly.

For this reason pride can often be used to beat down the simpler vices. Many have overcome cowardice, lust, drunkenness, or bad tempers by learning to believe that those things are "beneath their dignity" – **that** is pride. Demonic forces get a great laugh. They are perfectly content to see me becoming chaste, brave, sober, or self-controlled provided – all the time, I am being set up in the dictatorship of pride. They are perfectly happy to see my acne healed as long as they can give me cancer in its place. Pride **is** spiritual cancer: it eats up the very **possibility** of love, or contentment, or even common sense.

On the subject of Pride, there are some possible misconceptions that need to be cleared up:

One – Pleasure in being praised is not pride. A child enjoying praise for getting an "A"; a man receiving accolades on his job or a saved soul who hears, "well done, my good and faithful servant," are pleased and they should be. You

see, the pleasure **here** is not derived from what you are but from the fact that you pleased someone that you rightly **wanted** to please.

I find myself in the danger zone when I pass from thinking, "I have pleased him. All is well," to thinking, "What a fine person I must be to have done it." The more I delight in myself and the less I delight in the praise, the worse I am becoming. When I no longer care about the praise, and delight wholly in myself, I have reached the bottom. That is why vanity, though it is the sort of pride that shows the most on the surface, is really the least evil and the most pardonable sort of pride. The vain person wants praise, applause, admiration, too much and is always angling for it – always fishing for compliments. It is a fault, but a childlike and, in an odd way, even a humble fault. It shows that the person is not yet completely content with their own admiration. They value others enough to want them to look at them.

The real darkened and diabolical pride comes when I look down on others so much that I don't **care** what they think of me.

What is it that goes through my mind when I hear someone say that they **always** speak their mind and don't care what anybody thinks?

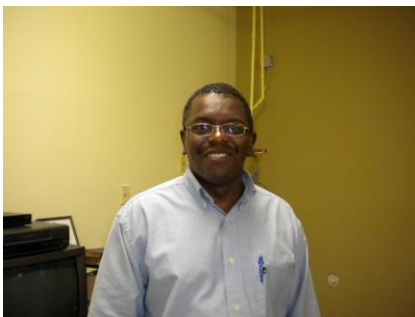
If you're interested tune in next month. Same time, same station.

God Bless You All,

Mozelle

## Worldwide Church

By: R. D. Hempton



Pastor Maurice Graham of Believer's Christian Fellowship Worldwide in Auburn.



About fifty people were present at Believer's Christian Fellowship Worldwide (BCFW) from several different churches.

About fifty people gathered at BELIEVER'S CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP WORLDWIDE from several different churches during the

conference called by Pastor Maurice Graham at the church in Auburn, Ga.



Praise and worship at BCFW (top) and Pastor Graham praying and laying on hands (below)

The praise and worship music was incredible and so was the word.

The youth pastor from Emmanuel Worship Center, Anthony Boggus was at the service. He explained that it was his goal to arrange for a safe place for prom night from 12mn to 0500 with live music – another option for after-prom.

The platoon-sized unit at BCFW has about 25 regular believers, all warriors for Christ.

Church leaders include Pastor Lemechel (Meeko) Allen; his wife, Dorteia (Lovie) Allen, who is the Youth Director with Delisha Graham (the pastor's daughter) the Assistant Youth Director; Peresa Graham, Pastor Graham's wife; Richard and Linda Haley who are in charge of an outreach ministry called A Hope for Tomorrow; and Rose Graham (Pastor's sister) who heads up the single mother's ministry called Vision Links.

"It is our job to evangelize Auburn," Pastor Graham, who always introduces himself as Maurice – without the title that seems so important to so many, "and we have not accomplished anywhere near what I had hoped. I just can't give us a very high grade because our community is still suffering."

Pastor Maurice Graham's vision for the whole body of Christ is in the

unity but remains very realistic – pragmatic.

"We need to pick out what each church is good at," he told BFN, "and focus on that for them – help them however we can. We have enough Christians and enough churches to handle the problems in our communities. We just aren't doing it. We'd better start coming together and figure out how to better use the resources God has given us."

Maurice's education is not in theology. He has a B. S. in Computer Science and Mathematics and has worked in the computer industry for 23 years. He has owned his own company for 12. He was called into the ministry at age 14 but saw the toll the ministry took on his uncle and resisted until he was 34.

The Church was started in 2006 in Pastor Graham's home in Auburn but moved the next month to the Community Center in Winder, then to the building where it now meets in Auburn in 2010.

Service times are Sunday morning at 1000, prayer on Wednesday at 1830 (630pm) with Bible study at 1900.

The address is 2 Autry Road, Auburn, Ga. 30011; the church may be contacted via e-mail at [believerschristian@gmail.com](mailto:believerschristian@gmail.com); or by telephone at (678)896-3894.

## Its Not the Old Harvest

By: O. (Zell) Zellinger



Pastor B. L. Arnold of New Harvest Ministries on Athens St. in Winder.

The praying at NEW HARVEST CHURCH began at 1830 and was done aloud by many. Some prayed in tongues, some prayed sitting some prayed on their knees. Many cried out to the Lord with tears. The praying was real and heart-felt.

“There are different callings in the body,” Pastor Arnold told the congregation. “The differences are in the function, not in the importance.” She cited II Tim 1:9. “We are individuals but we are still one body.” Citing ICor 1:26, she added, “consider your own calling, not someone else’s. If you are busy doing what God gave you to do, you will not have time to be concerned with someone else’s.”

“Have you ever had a drunkard tell you about Jesus?” Pastor Arnold asked. “You probably thought, ‘I wish you really knew.’ That’s what it looks like to Jesus when we are not living it and we try to witness.”

“We all started in Atlanta.” Sister Mamie Arnold told BFN. “It was called The Israelite Church then and later changed to Move of God. We were there with Bishop William and Mother Lewis.

“Pastor Arnold was an evangelist for many years before she was the pastor.”

“A young lady came to our church with pain in her legs and back from arthritis,” Dounte Williams, a minister and Youth President at New Harvest told reporters. “We prayed over her and, when she went back to the doctor her arthritis was gone.

“Pastor Arnold prayed for my wife and I and our marriage was restored.”

New Harvest has about 30 praying warriors for Christ. Leaders include Youth President Dounte Williams, his wife, Sister Sherina Williams, and Church Elder Lonnie Harrington over the men’s department.

New Harvest has a lot for young people. For instance there is a youth praise and worship team as well as a dance team.

Worship times are Sunday Prayer from 1000 to 1030, 1030 to 1130 is disciple training, Worship at 1100, Wednesday hour of prayer at 1200, prayer is at 1900-1930, and Bible study is at 1930 (730pm).

The physical address of New Harvest Church is 176A W. Athens Street, Winder, Ga. 30680. This Platoon-sized unit can be reached via e-mail at nhministries1 @ Yahoo.com or by phone at (678)963-5826.

Pastor appreciation is the second week of July - the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> .

## Understanding Faith (for a change)

By: Mozelle Davis-Weeks

Last month I spoke about how the word of God defines faith in a completely different way, with a definition that is almost entirely opposite the definition used by the world. I said that the worldly definition is, at least in part, a large part of the reason that many Christians themselves do not understand what faith actually is. I said that faith is merely believing those things God says and that faith is **not** simply believing something so strongly that that thing becomes so. I said that, according to the King James Bible, in Hebrews 11:1 “Faith is **the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.**”

I said that, contrary to what the world and many Christians believe, it is not my logic and reason that takes away my faith: On the contrary, my faith is **based** on logic and reason. It is my imagination and emotions that work against my faith.

Many people believe that faith is on the one side and that logic and reason are on the opposite side. We see this plainly by the worldly definition of faith. I cannot, however, stress strongly enough that nothing could be further from the truth.

As we have seen, it is not faith on the one side and logic and reason on the other. But instead, it is faith **and** reason on the one side and emotions and imagination on the other. This a good reason not to allow our relationship with God to be ruled by emotions. There are many times in my life when I don’t **feel** saved. The truth is that it doesn’t matter how I **feel**. What matters is what I know to be true.

Even with all these things taken into consideration, there is still a grave misunderstanding among Christians themselves about faith. This misunderstanding seems to very common and involves what I like to call the **Ping-Pong-Ball-Misconception**.

Imagine that I had a large bowl filled with ping-pong balls and on each one was written the word “faith.” I set the bowl in the middle of the floor and tell you to “just have more faith.” You could just reach into the bowl and take as much faith as you want to have. Does this sound absurd? Good! Then you see the problem. When we tell someone that they just need to “have more faith,” we are being just as absurd. We are demonstrating this misconception. We are demonstrating that we do not completely understand how faith works.

Well then, how **does** faith work? To understand this, lets begin in the book of Revelation – chapter 12, verse nine. “The great dragon was cast out, that old serpent called the devil, and Satan, **which deceiveth the whole world.**” The Bible tells us that Satan deceives the **whole** world. People, this include many, many Christians. He may have to use different tactics with Christians, but he knows how to do that. With Christians he uses things like rituals, traditions and religion. He also uses our pride against us. I John 4:4 says, “Greater is **He** that is in you than he that is in the world.” If we are not very careful our pride will run wild with scripture like this. Remember, it says “Greater is **He**,” not greater is **me**. We are not more powerful, nor are we more intelligent than the forces of darkness. We have to use the Lord’s

power to deal with them, not our own. But we had better know what we are doing when we do. We demonstrate that we have no knowledge in this area when we say things like, “Satan is coming against me,” or treat the Prince of Darkness as if he were a funny little man in a red suit with horns and a trident (its not a pitch fork), or sing infantile song like, One, two, three, the devil’s after me.” People, Satan is the **Prince** of darkness. He is **not** whole of that darkness. There is a vast hierarchy of evil spirits. Satan himself cannot be in more than one place at a time as God can. Satan himself is not even aware that most of us exist personally. We cannot take these powers on without the Lord and we’d better know what we are doing when we do. It is our pride the causes us to believe that we can deal with the powers of darkness as if they were the neighborhood rogue dog. This is another subject for another time.

In Genesis 3:16 Satan (that old serpent) used the pride of Eve and of Adam to cause them to sin in such a way as to change all of creation. It was their pride that caused them to take it upon themselves to improve themselves by eating the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. It is this same pride coupled with tradition (which most of us don’t recognize as such) that is used on Christians to fool us into believing that it is entirely up to **us** to just “have more faith.”

### Ping Pong Balls!!!

There is no doubt that when the apostles of Jesus received the Holy Spirit, their faith took a quantum leap. Jesus himself may even have showed them how to obtain more faith but their actions in the gospels suggest otherwise. Because of the way Jesus spoke to them about their lack of faith, many believe that they must have been able to increase their own faith. In any case, there is no specific instruction on this, however, in **any** of the gospels for us. Instructions for **us** on how to increase our faith **is** in the Bible, but it will not come by simply believing harder or just “having more faith.”

Because of some of the things that Jesus **did** say about faith, tradition has taken over and led us to believe, through our pride, that it is all on us – that it is up to **us** to just “have more faith.”

Ephesians 2:8-9 tells us that we are “saved by grace, **through faith, and this not of ourselves.** It is a gift from God; not by works lest any man should boast.” Faith is a gift from God (as well as grace). It is not **just** up to us. This is born up by I Corinthians 12:9 which also identifies faith as a gift from God.

We are all **given** an element of faith (Rom 12:3) but not all of us have the **gift** of faith (I Cor 12:9). The question now is: Is there anything we can do to have our faith increased?

The answer is an overwhelming **yes**, there is. But it is critical that we, as Christians, come to the firm foundation that we **cannot** just “have more faith,” anymore than we can just **have more muscle**. We are incapable of just believing more strongly all of a sudden. We cannot simply make the decision to have more faith and expect the decision, **itself** to cause that to happen anymore than a decision to have bigger muscles will cause us to have bigger muscles. **Ping Pong Balls!!!** If we want bigger muscles, we must take the **action** that is required to obtain bigger muscles. We have to work out. Increasing our faith, with regard to our own part in it, works much the same way.

We take the **action** that is required to have greater faith. And we must continue to take that action without relenting until we reach that point we are working for. And then we must take the action that is required to maintain that greater faith, just as we would have to work to maintain those bigger muscles. **Faith is spiritual muscle.**

If we have made a decision to strengthen – to increase the size of our spiritual muscles, then we are ready to take certain actions.

Romans 10:17 tells us, “Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God.” It is easy to misunderstand this statement. Literally, it sounds like it is based on the fact that most people in the time of the Apostle Paul could not read and had to have the word read to them. It also sounds in the literal sense that our sense of hearing comes from the word of God. Although, in those days, most people did have to have to have everything read to them, don’t forget that most of the New Testament didn’t even exist in that day. What it actually means is that faith comes from hearing the word of God **preached** and that the preaching must come from the word of God. See? Now it makes more sense.

To illustrate this, let’s look at what we already know about faith and reason being on one side and emotion and imagination being on the other. Now that we know this, we can see what goes on with Christianity.

I am not asking anyone to accept Christianity if her best reasoning tells her that the weight of the evidence is against it. That is not the point at which faith comes in. Arguments about the validity of Christianity rarely convert anyone. In fact, Jesus said in John 6:44, “No man can come to me except the Father which hath sent me draw him.”

But suppose a person’s reason decides that the weight of the evidence is **for** it. I can tell you what is going to happen to that man or woman in the next few weeks. There will come a time when there is bad news, or he is in trouble, or she is living among a group of others who do not believe, and all at once her emotions will rise up and carry out an attack on her belief. Or there may come a time when she wants a man, or wants to tell a lie, or feels very pleased with herself, or sees a chance of making a little money in some way that is not perfectly fair: some moment where it would be very convenient if Christianity were not true. And, once again her emotions will attack her belief. I am not talking about a moment where any real new reasons against Christianity come forward. Those do have to be faced and that is a completely different situation. I’m talking about moments where nothing but a mood change comes up against it.

We are beginning to come closer to the reason that faith – simply believing the truth of the Living God is a virtue. It is the ability to hold onto the things that your reason has already accepted, in spite of your changing moods, to realize that they are just moods – feelings and feelings will change, whatever view your reason takes. Most of us know this by experience.

Now that I am a Christian I do have moods where the whole thing looks very improbable. But when I was an atheist (or thought I was), I had moods where Christianity looked very probable. This rebellion of your moods against your real self is going to come regardless. That is why faith is such a necessary virtue – so that you can learn to tell your moods to take a walk.

Until you learn to do this, you will not **be** either a sound Christian **or** a sound atheist, but instead, some pitiful creature just being carried here and there by its beliefs, really dependant on the weather or its state of digestion. Therefore, we must learn to train our faith – to work out so to speak.

The first step is to realize that your feelings change. The next step is to **make sure** that, if you have once accepted Christianity, then some of its main doctrines will be deliberately held before your mind for some time every day. You must exercise it – work it out. “Faith comes by hearing.” That is why daily prayers, reading the word, going to church are such necessary parts of Christian life. We must be continually reminded of what we believe. Neither this belief nor any other will automatically remain fully alive in our minds. It must be fed – worked out. The better we come to know the Lord - the more closely we follow him, the more our faith will grow. It is vital that we eat his word like we are starving. It is vital that we pray daily always remembering to listen when we pray. It’s supposed to be a conversation, not a dissertation to an audience of one. If we love someone, we will spend time with them. If we do not and we say that we love them, we are lying. It is vital that we seek his throne of grace on a daily basis. It is vital that we expose ourselves to sound preaching and be in the company of other Christians as often as possible.

If you examined a hundred people who had lost their faith, I wonder how many of them would actually have been reasoned out of it by honest debate. After all, most who lose their faith simply drift away.

God Bless You All,

Mozelle

## Dear God

By: O. (Zell) Zellinger & Neyda Hempton

When I read this letter, it touched me. It also convicted me. When I see things like this, I have to share them.

Dear God,

You are the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. You are holy, oh my Lord. You are the King of kings and the Lord of lords. You have reached me deep inside and I’ll live for you, Jesus, the rest of my life. I’m passing through a world that’s lost, where they’ve forgotten their first love. As I look around me, I see your power displayed, the sun, the moon, the stars that light the darkness. I don’t understand how people don’t see the beauty you’ve created – the grass that tickles my feet, the trees that allow me to breath, the flowers with such sweet scent. The breeze that plays with my hair feels like your gentle touch. You speak so gently to my soul, and guide

me through my daily walk. I take each day as if it were my last. For yesterday is dead and gone, and tomorrow is a mystery and not promised to me. I praise you, sweet Jesus, as you hold my future in your hands.

Thank you, Lord, thank you,  
Neyda

## Pastor’s Wives

By: Dones Mercaldo

A new organization is forming within the Whole Body of Christ Alliance. It is an organization of action made up of women of action – mostly pastors, wives of pastors and other ministers of God. As yet the organization has no name.

**All pastor’s wives are requested to attend** a meeting for women of action not women of inaction, women who want to accomplish something for God, not women who just want to talk about it. These women hold a monthly meeting. It will be open to pastor’s wives beginning on 6 August 2011 at 1700 (5pm) at **Temple of Glory** located at 36 Piedmont Drive in Winder.

If there are any questions, please call Tajuana Lyons at (770)709-2244.

We will fellowship and share ideas in a support system for pastor’s wives. We will make things happen. Come join us and praise the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

## Why Are We All to Be United?

By: O. (Zell) Zellinger

Churches, even churches within a denomination, are isolated. We are all at war with the powers of darkness. It is war, people. Start taking it seriously or die. The church has been sitting on its pew playing church for decades. What have we really accomplished? Precious little. Yes, we witness to people, we lead people to Christ. That is what we are supposed to do. This is done in most churches by a select minority. Is this all God expects of us? I think not. For decades the body of Christ has stayed divided – powerless.

We allowed prayer and the very mention of Christ to be thrown out of our schools and every other public place the godless wanted to throw it out of. We allow a godless school system to teach our precious children the lies of the false religion of Darwinism. For 38 years, as Pastor Jim Morris said at the National Day of prayer, we have sacrificed our children to Molech on the altar of abortion because we allow it. We are attacked on a regular basis by every atheist or otherwise godless organization, legislator or author from the homosexual lobbyists and pressure groups to the American Civil Liberties Union.

Why are these things happening to this once godly nation? Is it because God has abandoned us? Is it because he is too weak to do any thing about it?

Not on your life.

People, these things are happening because the church is still sitting on its pew allowing it to happen. It is because, while highly organized enemies of Jesus Christ and his church are united against us, we are sitting there **playing church!** No one church is going to take back any city or town and no one denomination is going to take back this country from the godless that we have given it to through our inaction and division.

What have these things happened?

They have happened because we sit back on our laurels and assume the next Christian is going to do something about it. We really don't have time.

Why have these things happened?

They have happened because, rather than waking up to the fact that we are all supposed to be allies in **a very real war**, we are fault-finding, and criticizing the church across town because, "they don't have sound doctrine." Well, neither do some of the people in your church but you participate in bake sales with **them**. Do you avoid lost people because "they don't have sound doctrine?" I sure hope not. If your doctrine is really all that sound then, don't you think you should be sharing it?

**People, we are at war!**

**Wake up!!!!**

Our enemies are much more powerful than our differences.

If you are that concern.ed with your differences in doctrine, you need to read Romans Chapter 14 again.

Ephesians 6:10-12 puts this war in perspective – Finally, brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of his might. Put on the full armor of God that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood but against principalities, authorities, against powers, against the rulers of this dark world and against spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly realms.

Allow me to break this down a little. The authority structure that Paul uses here is in descending order.

Against principalities (Greek, Archai) Daniel 10:13, 20 unveil the identity of the archai as high level princes, now in the service of Satan, set over nations, governments, world religions, bureaucracies, presidential administrations and the like.

Authorities (Greek, Exousia). This carries the connotations of both supernatural **and** natural government. There are people in power who are controlled and manipulated by demonic forces. I will give examples momentarily.

Powers (Greek, Dunamis). There are demonic lieutenants and sergeants that carry out the orders of those demonic princes and commanders. They presumably work within countries and cultures to influence certain aspects of life.

Spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly realms (Greek, Kosmokratoris). These are the evil spirits that commonly afflict people.

Our enemies are highly intelligent, highly organized (unlike us), powerful and numerous. They are not more powerful than God but they are certainly more powerful than we are **in the flesh**. That is why we need the full armor of God and each other.

Lets take a look at **some** of the worldly powers controlled by the forces of darkness. **These powers are coming against all of us.**

There are atheists, deists, antitheists, cults, Satanists and false religions, and godless liberals (progressives), such as the liberals that are in control of much of the mainstream media. There are hundreds of organizations and power fronts that want God's people

destroyed or, at the very least, silenced. Here are just a few:

The ACLU, Americans United for the Separation of Church and State, Americans for Freedom from Religion, the American Atheist Society, the American Communist Part, the American Socialist Party (now branched into sub-organizations already in power in Congress), Planned Parenthood, the Gay/Straight Alliance, the North American Man/Boy Love Association, radical feminist and homosexual organizations, lobbyists and pressure groups, godless judges and politicians, Humanists, anti-Christians, antisemitists, atheist authors and atheist college professors.

This is a very short list. There are so many more. **Our enemies are much more powerful than our differences.**

No one in my church interprets scripture exactly like I do. No two churches emphasize the same parts of scripture, not even within the same denomination. We know from scripture that division in the body of Christ is something the Lord hates.

I can work with somebody that believes that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, that he suffered and died 2000 years ago and that God raised him from the dead. I cannot work with people that teach that we are to kill those who believe differently than we do, or that their religion or denomination is the only one the Lord approves of, or that their church alone has the truth.

**Our enemies are much more powerful than our differences.**

Every church that is actually in Christ is on the front lines. We are fighting the same enemy, and whether or not we believe exactly the same thing or not, our enemies are coming against all of us. We are on the same front lines. Yet this platoon has no idea what the platoon beside them is doing. Why is that?

People we had better start taking this war seriously we are being beaten in battle after battle. We have all – pastors included (in fact, **especially** pastors) got to get out of the **business-as-usual** mindset (that is not working), out of the **its-all-about-our-church** mentality (that is not working) and get into the **kingdom** mentality.

When was the last time you visited another church and supported **their** ministry? Most pastors and churches want other churches to come to **their** special program but very few are willing to go to a special program at **another** church. Pastors, the kingdom of God is **not all about you**. Churches, the kingdom of God is **not all about your church**. You are part of the body, not the whole body. You are an organ system. You are not the organism.

What are the pieces of the full armor of God? Are any of them to protect our backs? No. Why not? Because we are supposed to have each others backs.

We are on the front lines but we are not advancing nearly enough on our own. In fact, in many places, we have lost a lot of ground. In some places we are not even able to protect the integrity of our perimeter. This has to stop. Now!!

Why do we still have this division in the body of Christ?

Because we too often are fighting each other instead of the enemy and we fight too often **in the flesh** instead of in the spirit.

Why are we losing so much?

Because we are isolated. We are not working together as we are supposed to.

One consequence of being isolated is that we are easy targets. We are not communicating with each other or we are communicating very poorly. In a war, which is exactly what we are in, one of the most important things to accomplish is to disrupt the enemy's communication. They don't have to do that to us. We are doing it to ourselves.

Another consequence of isolation is that we run the risk of our programs, our outreach (for those churches that have any) and even our worship becoming inbred, ethnocentric, chauvinistic, perverted, and even cultish – a phenomenon I call the Jim-Jones-kool-aid syndrome. If you've ever been in a church where this has happened, its easy to recognize. The pastor and the people in the church begin acting like everyone outside that church is wrong, even evil. They distrust anything outside their church. If this is how your church is, get out now. This is the first big sign.

Eventually, that church will begin to believe that it is the only church which has the truth.

I have spent enough time and space talking about what is wrong. The question now is: What can we do?

First, if you are in Barrow, Jackson or Gwinnett Counties, contact the Whole Body of Christ Alliance. All the information you need is in this paper.

If you are reading this outside this area, start an alliance of the churches. If you don't know how, contact us. We will help you.

Second, if you are already a part of the WBCA, get yourself out of the Its-all-about-our-church mentality and get into the Kingdom of God mentality. As stated earlier (to quote Pastor Jesse Halbert of Timothy Baptist West), no one church is going to take back Winder, or Braselton, or Hoschton, Auburn, Bethlehem or any other place by itself. It takes all of us – together.

How do you develop this mentality?

Try to keep asking yourself, "What can I do to make the unity in the body of Christ better, tighter, more effective?"

Instead of waiting for a representative of the WBCA to call you, call one of them. The information is in the Battlefield News.

Before you plan a church activity, find out what is already going on with the other churches of the WBCA.

Plan your events far enough ahead to allow the WBCA to announce them to all the churches. Your turnout will be better. You could even make flyers about your event to be distributed in the Battlefield News. It is free.

If you know the WBCA has something planned (it will always involve all the churches), then stop planning your activities opposite them. We can do this, folks. We can make it work. If the churches in these three counties get in one accord we will be a force that **must** be reckoned with.

Another area where we are competing with one another is in our worship times. 80% of the church services are Sunday and Wednesday, Sunday and Wednesday. What's wrong with the other days of the week? Very few churches have a midweek service that is not on Wednesday. Sanctuary of Pentecost has theirs Tuesday and Thursday, Temple of Glory on Thursday, Victory Deliverance Center

has it in Tuesday, Braselton Tabernacle of Praise has something almost every night of the week, Move of God has it on Friday, Love of God Mission on Thursday. Almost everyone else has it on Wednesday. There's nothing wrong with Wednesday but, if we work together a little more closely we could stagger them better so that people from church A can also go to Church B and C.

Folks we can do this. God will work through us if we just become willing to stop trying to do business as usual. Business as usual is not working.

Put some real prayer time into this unity thing. Actually get on your face and seek the Lord about it. There are pastors who have come up with some incredible ideas but, for some of them, we are still not getting the participation necessary to implement them.

I have heard so many preachers on the radio and in churches talk about unity in the body of Christ but, folks, talk is cheap. We all need action –action from everybody. I've heard pastors pray that God would "remove the barriers that divide us." Well, how about doing something to remove the barriers that **you** can remove.

I once heard someone say that, no matter how strong our faith is, we cannot lock our selves in the closet and expect God to just slide a hotdog under the door for us to eat. We must pray and, then take the action that we can take. Do not assume someone else will do it because they probably will not, since they are assuming that you will do it.

We all know that unity in the body is one thing that God wants from us. Lets **all** try to get there together. No one is going to do it for you when you can do it yourself.

I realize that this article is strongly worded. But it is time for strong words, just as it is time for strong action.

If I have offended anyone, that was not my intention. My intention was to wake us all up before something cataclysmic like Roe vs Wade slaps us awake.

If I made you angry, then get off your pew and write to me and tell me about it.

Thanks  
Zell