

CROSS STREET JOURNAL

“A Church Where Everybody Is Somebody And Christ Is Lord Of All”

Sunday Church School – 8:30 a.m. Worship Service – 10:00 a.m. Wednesday 12:00 noon — 1:00 p.m.

MAR/APR 2010 Volume 16, Issue 01



Rev. Dr. Barbara Headley,
Middletown, CT
See page 3 for Bio



**UNITY DAY
SUNDAY MARCH 21, 2010
10:00 A.M.**

Guest Preachers

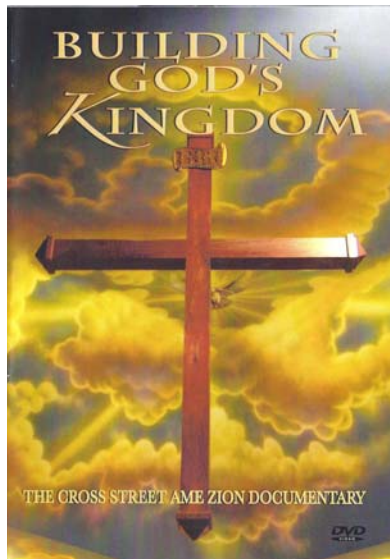


Rev. Dr. Clarence Hardy III,
Asst. Prof. Yale Divinity School
See page 3 for Bio

THE CELEBRATION OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE

Dr. Carter G. Woodson, the father of African American History inaugurated the first NEGRO HISTORY WEEK in 1926. Of course Negroes had been "making history" before 1926. Dr. Woodson was instrumental in getting the history of the Negro People recognized professionally and politically by the American society as a whole.

(History on page 3)



“Building God’s Kingdom”
Documentary DVD can be purchased for \$20.00 which includes a bonus DVD
“Praise! The Cross Street Church Choirs”

Contact the church office at
860-433-9527
for more information

TOP 10 REASONS TO START WALKING

By Wendy Bumgardner¹, About.com
Created: June 21, 2007
About.com Health's Disease and Condition content is reviewed by our Medical Review Board²

Walking for 30 to 60 minutes each day is one of the best things you can do for your body, mind, and spirit.

1. Walkers Live Longer⁵
The Honolulu Heart Study of 8000 men found that walking just two

(Walking on page 6)

CROSS STREET JOURNAL

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WWW.CROSSSTREETAMEZION.ORG

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From the Desk of Pastor Harvill

Running with the Vision

Write the vision make it plain on tablets, that he may run who reads it (Habakkuk 2:2).

For 17 years God has blessed us to lead the Cross Street A.M.E. Zion Church into a growing, positive and progressive congregation witnessing the good news to people of all walks of life. With the faithful and loving support of the pastoral staff, administrative staff, officers, leaders and a loyal congregation we have continued to grow spiritual, numerical and financially.

This has been a year of transitioning the church through change, challenges and continuous growth. The Lord continues to bless the church in these economic times. We give thanks for the favor that has been shown to our church family with new jobs, promotions, increases and stability. The Lord has promise never to leave us or forsake us. There is no secret what God can do what He has done for others He is able to do for us. God is able.....

We have the capacity with the help of the Lord to provide even greater service in the community and fulfill the Church's vision and its mandate. We will continue to streamline and improve the operations of the church that will help the ministries to continue to serve with excellence.

God blessed us to meet all of our financial needs in 2009. We are prayerful as we seek ways to liquidate the \$3.5 million dollar debt for the magnificent place of prayer, worship and praise. The Lord continues to bless His house with lives changed and transformed for the Kingdom Of God. The presence of the Lord is here!

Cross Street had another blessed year with the addition of 129 new members and \$740,308.41 in tithes and offerings. To God be the glory for the things He has done. The best is yet to come!

Let us continue to work together in the Unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace.

Partners in the Faith,

Pastor Moses L. Harvill

GUEST PREACHERS FOR UNITY DAY

MORNING SERVICE SPECIAL GUEST PREACHER

REV. DR. BARBARA HEADLEY, MIDDLETOWN, CT

Dr. Barbara E. Headley is a sought after preacher, teacher, consultant and conference speaker. She has a B.S. degree from Ithaca College, a Master of Divinity degree from Union Theological Seminary in New York City, and a Doctor of Ministry degree with distinction from Hartford Seminary in Congregational Studies.

Dr. Headley served as Assistant Dean and Director of Degree programs at Hartford Seminary, where she served as a Trustee and adjunct instructor. She served as Dean of Studies of Akosua Visions Global Ministries, an interdenominational ministry to Christian women of African ancestry and was a contributing author to the book Wise Women Bearing Gifts.

FOLLOWING MORNING SERVICE SPECIAL GUEST PREACHER FOR THE LUNCHEON PROGRAM

REV. DR. CLARENCE HARDY III,, ASST. PROF. YALE, DIVINITY SCHOOL

Professor Hardy is the author of *James Baldwin's God: Sex, Hope and Crisis in Black Holiness Culture*. He has written articles that have appeared in *The Journal of Religion*, *Church History*, and *The American Quarterly* and consider various aspects of black religious culture in the twentieth century. Professor Hardy is especially interested in the

Dr. Headley served for eleven years as the Senior Pastor of Faith Congregational Church in Hartford, CT. She has served for eleven years as a Deputy Chaplain of the Connecticut State Senate. In 2005 Dr. Headley was appointed by Governor Jodi Rell to the Citizens Council of the Connecticut State Office of Ethics.

Rev. Headley has lectured and preached at Yale Divinity School, Harvard Divinity School, Drew Theological Seminary, New York Theological Seminary, Connecticut College, Wesleyan University and Andover School of Theology.

Dr. Headley, an ordained American Baptist minister, is a church and faith-based organization consultant in the areas of leadership development, transitional management and women's spirituality and empowerment. She serves as a community conflict management trainer and organizational diversity instructor.

evolution of black religious rhetoric in the United States during the interwar and postwar periods. He is currently working on two books that consider how black descriptions of the divine have evolved in the modern period. He has taught American religious history and culture for several years at Rollins College in Winter Park, Florida and at Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire. He is currently Asst. Professor Yale Divinity School, and is also the husband of Rev. Dawn Mays-Hardy and they are the parents of LaRae Mays-Hardy.

(History from page 1)

In the beginning the stance of those persons interested in African American History was pretty devoted to exclaiming that African Americans were the "first" people to discover a particular phenomenon, invent a startling instrument, or establish a new record for speed, distance, perseverance or some other feat that had previously been held either by white people or African Americans by law and/or custom were excluded from the arena of competition. These endeavors required a voluminous amount of documentary and archival research, training, education, and discipline that for the most part, many African Americans taught themselves or learned on the job while holding

another job at the same time.

The records uncovered by these heralded and unheralded scholars proclaimed in loud voice: THERE IS GREATNESS IN FIRSTNESS AND WE ARE A GREAT PEOPLE AND A HISTORICAL PEOPLE WITH A BIG "H".

The legacies of African American People like all peoples are rich varied and complex. Many of our legacies are those a with a small "I". They are unrecorded and only remembered by a us as a r family maybe and a small group of friends. For the most part we keep them hidden, either we regard them as too precious to be shared or we don't think anyone would or should

be interested in them. We must consider sharing these stories. Our private stories are also social stories and they are a part of a larger story which is THE AFRICAN AMERICAN STORY.

We carry these stories inside us and they are the vessels of our history and vessels come in all shapes and sizes and colors; they are part of our memories and history, they are the stories of our childhood, the stories we listened to as children when the grown - ups thought we were in bed; they are the tales, songs, jokes, sermons, gossip, nonsense, and riddles these linguistic forms the life and texture of a community. They are our story and

(History on page 5)

“But the fruit of the Spirit is LOVE, JOY, PEACE, LONG-SUFFERING, GENTLENESS, GOODNESS, FAITH, MEEKNESS, TEMPERANCE: against such there is no law.” (Galatians 5:22,23)

THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT: TEMPERANCE

TEMPERANCE: Possessing power, strong, having mastery or possession of; self-control. TEMPERANCE controls when self is out of control. Steady, balance. TEMPERANCE enables the saint of God to praise Him in discipline or testing, trials and the battles of life.

In the Book of Nehemiah, the walls of Jerusalem were broken down and "a city, in ancient days, without walls, had lost its sense of identity and all its defenses. It was prey to every kind of enemy, natural, as well as human". (The Fruit of the Spirit; John w. Sanderson). A life that lacks self-control is similar to a city with broken down walls because it lacks defense

and every conceivable evil seeks to enter in. An uncontrolled body and an uncontrolled spirit is at risk for destruction and spiritual decay.

How to cultivate the fruit of Temperance (Consider the athlete's self-discipline code):

1. Aim- run to win
2. Follow training rules - deny self of things that will hinder your winning.
3. Constant, sustained effort - have a well-defined goal: an intelligent manner of life and continue pressing toward the goal.
4. Remember, "You are not your own. You are brought with a price" (I Corinthians 6:19,20)
5. Remember to call every faculty into obedience to Christ, to the glory of God.

6. Allow the Holy Spirit's leading in reminding you of who you are, who God is, where you came from, and where you are headed.

How to Recognize Temperance

Look for persons who:

- * have control over their bodies and do not indulge in harmful activities
- * have control over their spiritual life.
- * do not exhibit pride in less than godly goals
- * are not defenseless, but is fully dressed in the armor of God
- * is not angry, envious or covetous
- * shows spiritual growth and maturity
- * has a passion to be Christ like.

ADDITIONAL SCRIPTURES:

Philippians 3:18, 19; Proverbs 16:32; Proverbs 25:28; Luke 15:11-13; 1 Corinthians

The fruit of the Spirit abides in us and it is up to us to cultivate it so that we may experience the blessing and the fullness of the Spirit. God is the husbandman..."He prunes, nurtures, waters and protects His own. The indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit will energize and control every faculty of our nature when our will joins the will of God. Then the "beauty of the Lord will be upon us" (Psalm 90:17) and "we shall bring forth fruit unto God" (Romans 7:4)."

A BISCUIT FROM ME TO YOU

When I was a kid, my mom liked to make breakfast food for dinner every now and then. And I remember one night in particular when she had made breakfast after a long, hard day at work.

On that evening so long ago, my mom placed a plate of eggs, sausage and extremely burned biscuits in front of my dad. I remember waiting to see if anyone noticed! Yet all my dad did was reach for his biscuit, smile at my mom and ask me how my day was at school. I don't remember what I told him that night, but I do remember watching him smear butter and jelly on that biscuit and eat every bite!

When I got up from the table that evening, I remember hearing my mom apologize to my dad for burning the biscuits. And I'll never

forget what he said: "Honey, I love burned biscuits."

Later that night, I went to kiss Dad good night and I asked him if he really liked his biscuits burned. He wrapped me in his arms and said, "Your Mom put in a hard day at work today and she's real tired. And besides, a little burnt biscuit never hurt anyone!"

Life is full of imperfect things and imperfect people. I'm not the best at hardly anything, and I forget birthdays and anniversaries just like everyone else. But what I've learned over the years is that learning to accept each others faults and choosing to celebrate each others differences is one of the most important keys to creating a healthy, growing, and lasting relationship.

And that's my prayer for you today.

That you will learn to take the good, the bad, and the ugly parts of your life and lay them at the feet of God. Because in the end, He's the only One who will be able to give you a relationship where a burnt biscuit isn't a deal-breaker!

We could extend this to any relationship. In fact, understanding is the base of any relationship, be it a husband-wife or parent-child or friendship!

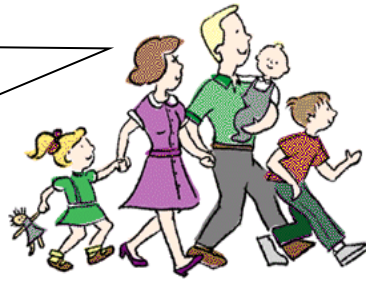
"Don't put the key to your happiness in someone else's pocket - keep it in your own."

God Bless You..... Now, and Always....So Please pass me a biscuit, and yes, the burnt one will do just fine.!..!! And PLEASE pass this along to someone who has enriched your life... I just did!

Church School is a Family Affair,
Come and Grow with US,

Sunday Church School begins: 8:30 a. m.

For Transportation Needs Please call
the Church 860-344-9527



Sunday Church School meets from 8:30 a.m. **sharp** to 9:45 a.m. each Sunday.
We have classes for all ages – from age 3 to 103. New Members Class meets at the same time
Light breakfast is served each Sunday and a hot breakfast on 5th Sunday

Sunday Church School Quarterly Re-
view

Spring Quarter- March, April, May
2010

TEACHING ON COMMUNITY:

Unit I: Community with a Mission -

Unit II: Teachings of Jesus -

Unit III: Teachings of the Church

Soon we will begin the Spring Quarter studies. The Theme is Community. Several lessons are found in the Old Testament, while the other lessons come from the New Testament Gospels and Epistles.

No one is an island. Each of us belongs to some type of community. These social units are different in size and function. They include family, the workplace, on line “virtual Communities” and a body of believers that worship God together, called the Church.

In the Old Testament, Jonah, a prophet of God is commissioned to go to a community that was under condemnation and in dire need of repentance. Jonah learned the hard way that God’s love extends to all types of peo-

ple and communities. Size is not an issue, nor is the culture or spiritual condition of the community important in the eyes of God. The story of Ruth involved a tiny group called a family. After losing her husband and sons in a foreign land, Naomi, Ruth’s mother-in-law’s determination to preserve her tiny family (community of two) earned them a place in history and in the bloodline of Jesus.

In the New Testament lessons Jesus and His disciples made up an unusual community that impacted the entire world. His death and resurrection enlarged this group to include peoples of all lands, languages and ages. The community was and continues to be known as Christians. Because this was such a unique community, attention was drawn to its workings and preservation. It was a Christ centered community that had a mission: “to go and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit:...” (Matthew 28:19)

This community was formed in Jerusalem and anointed by the Holy Spirit for the service of the Lord. They were united in the common effort to

reach every creature for Christ. The inner workings were directed by love and forgiveness. They were accepted and rejected, and while the threat of false teachers infiltrating their community was an ongoing problem, they continued to grow in grace and the knowledge of God’s word. Within this chosen community, the strong encouraged and strengthened the weak, disciples and witnesses were raised up and under the guidance of the Holy Spirit they traveled throughout the world, establishing churches, communities that spread the Gospel of Christ. They survived attacks from within and without, while the bond of love, the rule of peace and word of Christ sustained their efforts.

Today we continue the Great Commission. We must remain united in the faith and determined to defend our community’s mission. We are not individual islands, existing in our own little worlds; we are the living body of Christ called out for His service according to His will. No one is an island, no one stands. It takes all of us to fulfill the Great Commission and to preserve and expand this community of faith.

(History from page 3)

this story is just as important as THE BIG STORY. So it is incumbent upon us to pass these stories along to the next generation. These stories are the warp and woof the thread and color of the social fabric of our community.

They provide us with strength, courage, patience, staying power and laughter. It is important that we tell the whole story as we know it and not gloss over the parts that expose our faults and frailties, anger and cruelties, meanness and jealousies, pettiness and stinginess the foolishness and silliness. These are part of our story too as well as the greatness, kindness, love and graciousness that is blended into the story.

By Dr. Jerome H. Long

(Walking from page 1)

miles a day cut the risk of death almost in half. The walkers' risk of death was especially lower from cancer. Other studies have had similar findings - if you keep walking, you improve your chances of a longer and healthier life.

2. Walking Helps Prevent Weight Gain⁷

If you add just 2000 more steps a day to your regular activities, you may never gain another pound. So says research by Dr. James O. Hill of the Center for Human Nutrition at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. To lose weight, add in more steps.

3. You Can Walk Off Weight⁹

Exercise such as walking is an important part of any weight loss program. You must still watch how much you eat in order to lose weight. But walking helps you build healthy lean muscle, lose inches of fat, and pump up your metabolism. Of long-term successful weight losers, almost all maintain a program of walking or other exercise.

4. Walking Reduces Risk of Cancer¹¹

Study after study has shown that walking and exercise reduces your risk of breast cancer and colon cancer.

Walking is also good for those undergoing cancer treatment, improving their chances of recovery and survival.

5. Walking Reduces Risk of Heart Disease and Stroke¹³

Heart disease and stroke are among the top killers of both men and women.

You can cut your risk of both in half by walking for 30-60 minutes a day.

Get your blood moving!

6. Walking Reduces Diabetes Risk¹⁵

Get out and walk for 30 minutes a day as your minimum daily requirement for health and to prevent Type 2 diabetes. A study by the Graduate School of Public Health, University of Pittsburgh, discovered that walking for 30 minutes a day cut diabetes risks for overweight as well as non-overweight men and women. Walking also helps maintain blood sugar balance for those with diabetes.

7. Walking Boosts Your Brain Power¹⁷

A study of people over 60 funded by the National Council on Aging, published in the July 29, 1999 issue of Nature, found that walking 45 minutes a day at 16-minute mile pace increased the thinking skills of those over 60.

The participants started at 15 minutes of walking and built up their time and speed. The result was that the same people were mentally sharper after taking up this walking program.

8. Walking Improves Mood and Relieves Stress¹⁹

Walking and other exercise leads to the release of the body's natural happy drugs - endorphins. Most people notice

an improvement in mood. A Nov. 9, 1999 study published in the Annals of Behavioral Medicine showed that university students who walked and did other easy to moderate exercise regularly had lower stress levels than couch potatoes or those who exercised strenuously.

9. Walking Can Prevent Erectile Dysfunction²¹

What better reason for men to take a brisk two mile walk each day - a reduced risk of impotence from mid-life onward.

10. It's Easy to Get Started Walking²³

All you need is a pair of comfortable shoes and to get yourself out the door or onto the treadmill. You can reap the benefits of walking from doing several shorter walks or one longer walk during the day. To get you on the right foot, this easy tutorial shows you how to walk with good posture and how to increase your walking time each day. More: [How to Start Walking²⁴](#)

This About.com page has been optimized for print. To view this page in its original form, please visit: <http://walking.about.com/od/beginners/tp/startwalking.htm>

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THE PROMISE OF CHRIST

The 14th chapter of John's gospel contains this promise our Lord gave his disciples: "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate (sometimes translated Comforter), to be with you forever" (John 14:15-16, NRSV).

Jesus added: "I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live" (John 14:18-19).

What a wonderful promise! Jesus knew he would be dying. He knew the disciples would see his resurrected body. But even after Jesus ascended into heaven, the disciples wouldn't be alone. The Holy Spirit would come to comfort and embolden them.

MARCH

01) Joshua 7-9	08) Judges 5-8	16) 1 Samuel 8-10	24) 2 Samuel 5-8
02) Joshua 10-12	09) Judges 9-12	17) 1 Samuel 11-13	25) 2 Samuel 9-12
03) Joshua 13-15	10) Judges 13-15	18) 1 Samuel 14-16	26) 2 Samuel 13-15
04) Joshua 16-18	11) Judges 16-18	19) 1 Samuel 17-20	27) 2 Samuel 16-18
05) Joshua 19-21	12) Judges 19-21	20) 1 Samuel 21-24	28) 2 Samuel 19-21
06) Joshua 22-24	13) Ruth 1-4	21) 1 Samuel 25-28	29) Samuel 22-24
07) Judges 1-4	14) 1 Samuel 1-3	22) 1 Samuel 22-24	30) 1 Kings 1-4
	15) 1 Samuel 4-7	23) 2 Samuel 1-4	31) 1 Kings 5-7

APRIL

1 1 Kings 8-10	8 2 Kings 7-10	16 1 Chronicles 7-9	24 2 Chronicles 4-6
2 1 Kings 11-13	9 2 Kings 11-14	17 1 Chronicles 10-13	25 2 Chronicles 7-9
3 1 Kings 14-16	10 2 Kings 15-17	18 1 Chronicles 14-16	26 2 Chronicles 10-13
4 1 Kings 17-19	11 2 Kings 18-20	19 1 Chronicles 17-19	27 2 Chronicles 14-16
5 1 Kings 20-22	12 2 Kings 21-22	20 1 Chronicles 20-23	28 2 Chronicles 17-19
6 2 Kings 1-3	13 2 Kings 23-25	21 1 Chronicles 24-26	29 2 Chronicles 20-22
7 2 Kings 4-6	14 1 Chronicles 1-3	22 1 Chronicles 27-28	30 2 Chronicles 23-25
	15 1 Chronicles 4-6	23 2 Chronicles 1-3	

MAY

1. 2 Chronicles 26-29	8. Nehemiah 4-6	16. Job 8-10	24. Job 35-37
2. 2 Chronicles 30-32	9. Nehemiah 7-9	17. Job 11-13	25. Job 38-42
3. 2 Chronicles 33-36	10. Nehemiah 10-13	18. Job 14-17	26. Psalms 1-4
4. Ezra 1-4	11. Esther 1-3	19. Job 18-20	27. Psalms 5-8
5. Ezra 5-7	12. Esther 4-7	20. Job 21-24	28. Psalms 9-12
6. Ezra 8-10	13. Esther 8-10	21. Job 25-27	29. Psalms 13-15
7. Nehemiah 1-3	14. Job 1-4	22. Job 28-31	30. Psalms 16-18
	15. Job 5-7	23. Job 32-34	31. Psalms 19-21

LENT

Lent is the period of time to reflect on the events that led Jesus to Calvary. Its begins with Ash Wednesday and covers a period of forty days (excluding Sundays) culminating with Holy Week (including Passion/Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday). Lent is a time of fasting, sacrifice, and preparation.

Color: Purple (violet or lilac) is the color used to denote royalty, praying, fasting, and penitence. It represents a symbol of the majesty of Christ, and Jesus’ humanity, suffering, and fasting.

A guideline given by some money managers is as follows: Give 1/10 (tithe of your income to God). Put 1/10 in savings. Put 1/10 in an emergency account until three months of pay is set aside. Live on the remaining 7/10 with freedom to work towards giving as much as possible to God’s work.

Name of God	Meaning	Application
ELOHIM	The All-Powerful One Creator	God is the all-powerful creator of the universe. God knows all, creates all, and is everywhere at all times. The plural of “EL”.
EL OLAM	The Eternal God The Everlasting God	He is the Beginning and the End, the One who works His purposes throughout the ages. He gives strength to the weary.
EL ROI	The God Who Sees Me	There are no circumstances in our lives that escape His fatherly awareness and care. God knows us and our troubles.
EL SHADDAI	The All Sufficient One, The God of The Mountains, God Almighty	God is the all-sufficient source of all of our blessings God is all-powerful. Our problems are not too big for God to handle.

SPIRITUAL WARFARE -

HOW SHOULD WE PRAY?

Lord, I pray that You will bind, rebuke and cast away from my presence, Satan and any and all evil spirits,

That You will provide a complete and impregnable shield of protection to surround me and to keep me safe.

I ask that You will place upon me each and every piece of Your armor, now and throughout this day and night.

I pray that You will put the Belt of Truth upon me, that You would help me to be a person of integrity, that You would keep deceitfulness and lies from my heart, my mind and from my lips.

I pray that You will fasten the Breastplate of Righteousness upon me, and that the holiness and righteousness of Christ would guide and protect my heart, that I might be evermore like You

I pray that You will shod my feet with the Sandals of Peace, that Your peace which surpasses all understanding would guard my heart and mind in Christ,

And that I will be an approved workman who is not ashamed of the gospel, who is quick to give an account for the hope that lies within me, who contends earnestly for the faith that You have delivered up for me in Christ

I pray that You will arm me now with the Shield of Faith, the gift of faith.

Grant me faith that does not waver, faith that does not doubt, help me to be strong in you and in the strength of Your might,

And help me to extinguish all of the flaming missiles that the evil one will throw my way. I pray that You will put on the Helmet of Salvation upon me, that the saving work of Christ will be the meditation of my mind, and that You will help me to be transformed by the renewing of my mind,

And that I will take every thought captive to the lordship and the obedience of Christ who is my all and all.

I pray that You will arm me with the Sword of Your Spirit which is Your Word,

Grant me a hunger and a thirsting for You word, that I will know Your Word, that I will meditate on Your Word, and that I will be a faithful doer and not hearer only of Your Word.

Lead me not this day into temptation, for You know where I am vulnerable and where I am weak,

Deliver me from evil and from the evil one,

And surround me with all the angels I will need to minister to me and to render service unto me as one who will inherit salvation.

In Christ's magnificent and glorious name I pray...

RADAR PRAYING

I was once told how radar works. The electronic unit used sends out radio waves. When the waves hit something, they bounce back and are displayed on a screen. That's similar to a helpful way I commune with God.

When I've spent some quiet time in his presence, I let my mind slowly start moving in a circle. I never know what will appear on my mind's "screen." Whatever comes up, I consider that I

should give it attention.

Today, for example, the war in Afghanistan came up first. I prayed that hostility would cease, that children could go safely to school and that the government might respond to people's needs.

I moved on to other "pictures." My friend in Texas whose wife just died. Members of Congress who need God's guidance. Missionaries in hostile places. The unemployed, the homeless, the starving, the sick.

Such praying takes time. Sometimes your mind strays or "gets stuck." Allow God to direct your thoughts. When a "picture" comes up and feels God-directed, pray about the matter.

One more thing: Don't be surprised at the results. God may well indicate what your role could be in providing answers.

—Charles Ferrell

RUN THE RACE

"The Christian life is a race along a course that is set out before us," said William Barclay. Hebrews 12:1 encourages Christians to run our particular race with perseverance.

Interestingly, the Greek word for race is agon, which means aching or agony. Like marathon runners, we may be tempted to give up long before the finish line.

But the Hebrews passage also offers hope for how we can continue on: "[look] to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame Consider him who endured such hostility against himself from sinners, so that you may not grow weary or lose heart" (Hebrews 12:2-3, NRSV).

Do You Know Him?

How well do you know the God of the Bible? It's an important question, because the better we know God the better we will know ourselves. We will also experience great joy and grow spiritually.

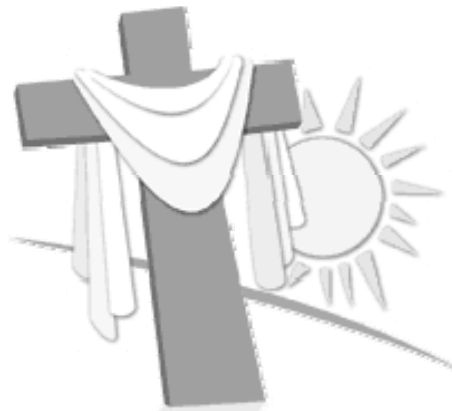
To see God's holiness is to see our own sinfulness. To see His goodness is to know the wonder of His grace and the depth of His love for us. To see His majesty is to give Him the honor and praise of which he is worthy.

Do you know God? Do you know Him better than you did a year ago? If you're a believer in Christ, your answer should be yes. The way to know God better is through His Word. As you read and study the Bible with a desire to obey Him, you will grow.

If you don't know God, the first step is to establish a right relationship with Him. You do that by turning in faith to Jesus Christ as your Savior.

The facts are clear. All of us are sinners (Romans 3:23). Our sin keeps us from a right relationship with God, and we are powerless to do anything about it (Ephesians 2:8-9). Salvation is a gift that comes to us through Christ. He came to earth to die on the cross and pay the penalty for our sins. Now our responsibility is to trust in Him. *As many as received Him, to them he gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name. – John 1:12*

Receive the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior today. If you do, you will have taken the first and most important step in knowing God.



“...the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.”
Isaiah 53:6b

God love you

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. John 3:16

All are Sinners

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23

God's remedy for sin

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23

But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name. John 1:12

For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scripture. 1 Corinthians 15:3-4

All may be saved now

Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with me. Revelation 3:20

For “whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.” Romans 10:13

My decision to receive Christ as my Saviour: Confessing to God that I am a sinner, and believing that the Lord Jesus Christ died for my sins on the cross and was raised for my justification, I do now receive and confess Him as my personal Saviour.

Assurance as a believer

For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. Romans 10:9

“Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life. John 5:24

These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God. 1 John 5:13

But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name. John 20:31

ALLELUIA, HE IS RISEN, ALLELUIA, HE IS RISEN!



MALACHI WOULD HAVE LOVED

AUNT JANE

Everyone in church calls her Aunt Jane. She's a sweet, thoughtful woman with a strong faith. One day she called the church and told the pastor, "I would like for you to tell the record keeper that I want my pledge to go up \$1.70 a month."

"I'll be glad to do that," the pastor answered, "but I'm curious as to why you're increasing your pledge by \$1.70."

Aunt Jane replied, "I'm increasing it because my monthly social security check just went up \$17.00 a month." The prophet Malachi would have loved Aunt Jane. It was he who, speaking for God, instructed God's people to "bring the full tithe into the storehouse ..." (Malachi 3:10). The promise to the people was that God would open the windows of heaven "and pour down for you an overflowing blessing."

THE GIFT OF THE TITHE

An Ohio minister preached a sermon on the joy of tithing. Years after he retired, a package arrived at his home. He opened it to find two pictures of wooden angels carved on the ends of two pews in the chancel of the church where he preached that sermon. There was also a note enclosed, which said:

Please consider the photos as a gift in return. Before you left our church, you gave a sermon on tithing. This gave me the courage to start. At the time I was out of work. I started by tithing my unemployment check. Not

long after starting to tithe, I got a job and have been employed ever since. So thanks again for giving me the gift of the tithe.

Happy Easter,
Don

YOU'LL NEVER MISS A TITHE

The faithful church treasurer resigned because there was never enough income to cover expenses. Another member - the owner of the local grain elevator - volunteered to take the position. He had one stipulation - for a period of one year, the church would require no report from him.

The board members were puzzled at this strange request, but knowing him to be an honest man who processed most of their grain, they granted it. At the end of the year, the new treasurer gave a glowing report. The church's indebtedness on the building had been paid in full! The pastor's salary had been increased by 15 percent! There were no outstanding bills! In fact, he showed a cash balance of nearly \$7,000!

The shocked, but delighted, congregation asked for an explanation. 'Most of you bring your grain to my elevator,' the treasurer replied. 'When I paid you, I simply withheld 10 percent on your behalf and gave it to the church in your name. You never missed it. Do you see now what we could do for the Lord if we were to willingly return the first tenth to God, who really owns it?'

-Cumberland Baptist Church
Cumberland, North Carolina

TAUGHT TO TITHE

When the outstanding football player, Barry Sanders, signed to play for the Detroit Lions, he was given an immediate bonus of \$2.1 million.

What do you suppose he did immediately afterward? Well, he sat down and wrote out a check to a little Baptist Church in Wichita, Kansas. The talented running back explained that he had been taught in childhood to give 10 percent of whatever money that came to him to the Lord. No questions asked. No protest at all. After all, doesn't everything come from the Lord? Isn't tithing a way to acknowledge that fact? Such was Barry Sanders' reasoning.

A TEST FOR CHURCH PEOPLE

The Worship test: Am I faithful in attending the worship services of my church?

The Weather test: Am I a "fair weather" Christian?

Does the same kind of weather keep me from going to church that would not keep me from going to work?

The Work test: Am I willing to work for my church?

Can my church count on me to do what I'm able to do and what I have a talent for doing?

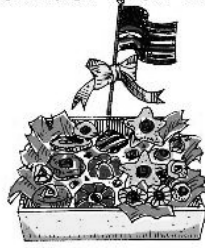
Am I too busy doing other things?

The Wallet test: Am I a regular in my contributions or my tithe to my church?

Am I giving to God's work "as God has prospered me?"

— St. James United Methodist Church
Sarasota, FL

Remember Our Military



and their families
with Prayers, Cards, & Letters

CRISES/EMERGENCY: CELL PHONE 860-680-8833.

Cross Street Recovery Ministry the “**Hope Line**”
is in operation 24 hours per day.
Please call (860) 680-8833. if you, a friend and/or a family
member are in need of counseling and/or are in crisis,
PLEASE dial the “Hope Line”.
All information will be confidential.

CROSS STREET MINISTRY OF RECOVERY

*We can't but through God, all things are possible. How
might we pull on God's strength to help each other
recover?*

**Let the spirit of God work for you in a
Mighty, Mighty Way**

For more information contact:
Church office 860-344-9527.or Rev. Gregory Winborne:
Days: 860-529-2571 Ext 2962

MANY PEOPLE

READ: Acts 18:1-11

I have many people in this city" (Acts 18:10).

New York City. Easter Sunday, 7:30 am. I was the only
customer at Jimmy's Diner in East Harlem when a man
entered and approached my table. He said, "Good morning,
and God bless you," left a gospel tract, and quickly walked
out. I smiled, appreciating his witness and realizing that
God has His people everywhere. That night I attended
church with our daughter Debbie, joining an enthusiastic
congregation of 300 people, most in their twenties and
thirties. Their infectious love for Christ and others was a
bright light in a city that is often considered spiritually dark.

In the first, century, Paul visited the Greek city of Corinth,
which was known for its immorality and corruption. When
he faced opposition for presenting Jesus as Messiah, the
Lord spoke to Paul in a vision: "Do not be afraid, but speak,
and do not keep silent; for I am with you; and no one will

attack you to hurt you; for I have many people in this
city" (Acts 18:9-10).

No matter where we go, the Lord's people are there. The
risen Christ is powerfully present in and through all who
know Him. The Lord has His people where you are today.
Look for them. Join them.

Christ is risen indeed! David Mceasland

*When Christians join in blessed fellowship
Commemorating Jesus' resurrection,
They sense a common bond of unity
Their mutual faith in Him the true connection.* Hess

God has His people where you are today:

Ministries, Grand Rapids, Michigan,
Reprinted by Permission

Doxology

**Now unto Him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the
presence of His glory with exceeding joy. To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and
majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen. Jude 24-25**



Running with the Vision

Then the Lord answered me and said: Write the vision and make it plain on tablets, that he may run who reads it. Habakkuk 2:2

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The Cross Street Journal is published Bi-monthly. If you have an article or information for current and future publications the deadline for this information is the Monday after the 2nd Sunday of each Month. **You may submit your information in the following ways:** Print it, type it, place on disk (IBM format) and leave it in the Cross Street office Or, E-mail Ken Simmons (Ken46@snet.net), call him (860-632-1919), give it to him or Verna Boyce **Praise God!!!**



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Mrs. Iris M. Battle, Missionary Supervisor

The Right Reverend George E. Battle Jr., Bishop

Place label here

**If you were to die today, do you know
where you will spend eternity ???**