



## What's Happening in Junior Church?

By Brenda Payne Durrington

Our Junior Church is steadily moving forward and growing. We average at least seven children in the services for the young ones and about five in the preteen/teen sessions. We continue to encourage our Mt. Carmel family to invite all the children in their families and neighborhood to join us. We thank those who have allowed their relatives and friends to become a regular part of our worship service.

During our service in the Lower Temple the little people read scripture, recite Bible verses, say prayers, and sing a song before the message of the day. We are preparing the children to present a welcome message as well. This will help get them ready to do the welcome in "Big Church" on

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### HIGHLIGHTS

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### Summer Hours Begin Next Sunday! Don't Be Late

Beginning with Sunday Church School next Sunday, June 14, Mt. Carmel will move to its summer schedule. SCS will begin at 9 a.m., with Divine Worship Service beginning at 10 a.m. Regular hours return on Sunday, Sept. 20.



### VBS Starts June 22

Mt. Carmel will host 5 days of Vacation Bible School beginning on Monday, June 22. The sessions—themed "Go Win with Jesus"—will run from 6:30 to 8 p.m. nightly through June 26. Mt. Carmel will again partner with Community of Hope Church. All are welcome to attend. Volunteers and donations are also needed. See Deaconess Lillian Divers or Sis. Carmelita Simmons for details.



Junior Church singers offer I've Got the Joy, Joy, Joy Down in My Heart.

### Pastor Promotes Marriage, Family on Mother's Day

By Karisse A. Carmack

Promoting strong marriages and families is the best way to close the wealth gap in America, Pastor Evans said in last month's Mother's Day sermon.

"Closing the Wealth Gap" was based on Ruth 4:1-6, which tells the story of Boaz's marriage to Ruth. Citing economic experts, Pastor Evans said the wealth gap between African Americans and other races has widened. However, he continued, for those who are married the gap can be closed over time, compared to those who are unmarried.

The passages in the fourth chapter of Ruth gives several clues about our

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### Ushers Need Help Getting to Philly Convention

By Brenda Payne Durrington

Well, it is nearing time for our Ushers Ministry to attend the National United Church Ushers Association of America, Inc. (NUCUAA) Convention. This year the big event is in Philadelphia. Mt. Carmel will be well represented by members from each of our three

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### First Church Forum Held

Mt. Carmel held its first Christian Forum on June 1. The sessions, which are more informal than Business Meetings, give attendees the opportunity to raise issues and concerns from the floor.

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**MARRIAGE**, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1  
African heritage and how people of faith can put an end to economic inequality, pastor said.

In the scripture Boaz marries Ruth, who was Elimelech's widow and did not have any children, so that his deceased relative's lineage would continue. Boaz is identified in the passage as a "kinsman-redeemer." The act of a male relative stepping in as a surrogate to marry another male relative's widow is a traditional African custom, said Pastor Evans.

Boaz also carried out the proceedings at the gate in front of 10 elders, who expressed their approval of the union. This passage was an example of how marriage came before parenthood and how women should marry men who have something to offer. The pastor said he believes that Boaz telling his elders to witness his contract proved that Boaz had a plan, and he wanted to honor his contractual agreements.

"Look at the potential of these young men, make sure they have something to offer," Pastor Evans said. "Make sure they have some kind of plan and they are willing to make sacrifices."

However, the type of wealth mentioned in Ruth 4 is not the same type of "individual" wealth that is prevalent in our society, Evans said. The use of the word "redeemer" in the chapter is also a metaphor of how Christ died at Calvary to redeem mankind for its sins. We are redeemed not because of our good works but because God has a gift or a task for us, the pastor said.

To illustrate his point, Pastor Evans recalled a time when he had a prejudiced supervisor in the military who constantly criticized his performance for no justifiable reason. He sought counsel from another official, and when that official, a captain,

defended Evans, the captain was spurned by his colleagues; it led to the end of the officer's military career. Just as the captain "put his neck in the noose" for the Pastor, so did Christ sacrifice Himself for us.

"Redemption is always an investment," Dr. Evans said. "[Jesus Christ] saved us so we can serve Him."

After Ruth and Boaz got married, they had a son named Obed, who had a son named Jesse; Jesse would become the father David. Jesus's lineage can be traced back to the marriage of Ruth and Boaz.

The return on one's investment in marriage and family is not in material riches. However, prosperity will be in the family's name. Pastor Evans argues that like Ruth and Boaz, if Christians marry well and pass on good values to their offspring, somewhere down the line a relative will give them a return on their investment.

"You may not see it in your day," said the pastor, but "you must make appropriate sacrifices now." †



## Celebrate 'Everybody's Birthday,' June 20

Enjoy food, gifts, games, ice cream and cake on "Everybody's Birthday," Saturday, June 20 in the Marsh Fellowship Hall from noon to 3 p.m. The event is sponsored by the Ushers Ministry and will help send Mt. Carmel's young ushers to the National Convention. †

## BIBLICAL FATHERS WORD FIND

UNAHSHONORZEHAGODS  
ZEREPSJOLOELIAKIMO  
ZMAENRAMSOLOMENIAL  
IHZEKCAHJIHEZHETO  
AEAEIOOKIOUSACHHTM  
HZEDREBZETDHAKIAHO  
HELI ZUEOKHIEAAHHA  
JZEVEEBKAAIAABCHNE  
UHEAZEKBIMALHRHEZA  
DEZDUHIBAZETAHAZB  
AAEKIAZHEBKIAHSMII  
HEZEKIAHSAEEAAHTJJ  
ADAOLADSDDALSMITOA  
ISDARLOLSADNOMLASH  
NAASEBKSMNDALLSAIS  
OALSESAOSIAZLLASAD  
CSSDALNSAMANASSEHA  
EESOMESEOMESMOOSET  
JEHOSHAPHATDANBRIV  
HPESOJORAMJORMOSES

ABIHUD	JESSE
ABIJAH	JORAM
ABRAHAM	JOSEPH
ACHIM	JOSIAH
AHAZ	JOTHAM
AMMINADAB	JUDAH
AMON	MANASSEH
ASA	MATTHAN
AZOR	MOSES
BOAZ	NAHSHON
DAVID	OBED
ELEAZAR	PEREZ
ELIAKIM	RAM
ELIUD	REHOBOAM
GOD	SALMON
HEZEKIAH	SHEALTIEL
HEZRON	SOLOMON
ISAAC	UZZIAH
JACOB	ZADOK
JECONIAH	ZERUBBABEL
JEHOSHAPHAT	

## USHERS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

usher boards. We will travel by car, bus and train. Some will leave home as early as July 24; others will not leave until July 27. This is the 90th Annual Convention. The convention runs July 27-31. Most of us will stay in the convention host hotel, the Philadelphia Marriott Downtown. This will make it easier for us to participate and be on time for all of the scheduled activities and classes right in the hotel.

Our Ushers Ministry has very active, dedicated and responsible young people. They serve diligently throughout the year and work in many capacities to serve God and our church family. We are asking for your monetary support to send these doorkeepers to the NUCUAA Convention. The church family has always rallied and contributed whenever we have requested money. We truly appreciate those acts of kindness. So, we come again to ask you to please give your donations to President Veronica Miles or Supervisors Patricia Andrew and Earlene Green-Groom. Actually any usher will accept your money.

On Saturday, June 20, we hope everybody will participate in "Everybody's Birthday." This special day will also help to raise money for the trip to Philadelphia. Let's all join in to make this year's NUCUAA Convention extraordinary for Mt. Carmel's Ushers' Ministry by sponsoring all of our youth who want to go. †

### **Graduates, Promotees To Be Recognized June 28**

Mt. Carmel will celebrate Graduate Recognition Day on Sunday, June 28 during the 10 a.m. service. Graduates and promoted students (or their parents) should fill out the form in the bulletin and return it to the office as soon as possible.



### **Fish Fry Sponsored by Pastor's Aid Club**

The Pastor's Aid Club will host a fish fry on Friday, June 19 from noon to 7 p.m. Fried fish and fried chicken will be featured on the menu, along with potato salad, cole slaw and green beans. Deaconess Margaret Smith and Deacon Freddie Allen will be on kitchen duty, so plan ahead. Donation is \$8 for a complete dinner that includes choice of fish or chicken, two sides, bread and drink. Sandwiches and cake slices will also be available. Cash only. No checks or credit cards can be accepted. All are invited and Mt. Carmelites are asked to pre-order so that we don't sell out too soon. Use the form in your bulletin. †

### **FORUM, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

Some members also wrote their concerns on forms that were collected in a box in the church lobby.

Pastor Evans moderated the first forum, which ran nearly 3 hours. About 60 people attended. Topics included: the probable relocation of Cornerstone Academy, ways Mt. Carmel can improve as a landlord, possible upgrades for the kitchen, ways we can add members, how we can better embrace people with developmental disabilities.

Future forums may be held when progress can be reported on the issues raised at the first session. †

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the fourth Sunday. So far, one of our young ones, Ylan Isaac, read scripture upstairs and another, Dyson Coley, did the presentation of tithes and offerings. Both young men did an excellent job. On that same Sunday, the Junior Church Children's Choir sang *I've Got the Joy, Joy, Joy Down in My Heart*. Our goal is to have our little ones represented in the service every fourth Sunday. Some have already done a great job as doorkeepers. Mt. Carmel family, keep our young people in your hearts and prayers. They are our future. †

### **SCS Remembers Its Own**

*I love the Lord, because he hath heard my voice and my supplications. Because he hath inclined his ear unto me, therefore will I call upon him as long as I live. The sorrows of death compassed me, and the pains of hell sat hold upon me: I found trouble and sorrow. Then called I upon the name of the Lord; O Lord, I beseech thee, deliver my soul. Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; yea our God is merciful.—Psalm 116:1-5 (KJV)*

Members of the Sunday School who made their transition since last year this time:

- Deacon Bernard Brown, class #7
- Sis. Fannie E. Randolph, former class #4
- Sis. Valerie Hemby, class #1
- Sis. Cecile E. Newton, class #1
- Deaconess Annie M. Johnson, former class #4
- Sis. Ruth Robinson, former class #4

### **SOLUTION TO MAY'S SPRING FLOWERS**

#### **UNSCRAMBLE:**

1. ZINNIA, 2. ORCHID, 3. HYACINTH, 4. CHERRY BLOSSOM, 5. BIRDS OF PARADISE, 6. ANEMONE, 7. AMARYLLIS, 8. DAHLIA, 9. HEATHER, 10. FREESIA, 11. PEONY, 12. TULIP, 13. LILY OF THE NILE, 14. SWEET PEA, 15. BEGONIA, 16. CALLA LILY, 17. DAFFODILS, 18. SNOWDROP, 19. PRIMROSE, 20. MAGNOLIA.



## BE HEALTHWISE

"ONE AND THE SAME SPIRIT GIVES FAITH TO ONE PERSON, WHILE TO ANOTHER PERSON HE GIVES THE POWER TO HEAL."—1 CORINTHIANS 9:10

### Season of Ticks

## Don't Let Them Take a Bite Out of Your Summer

With the blossoming of spring, it's time to lace up your hiking boots and head to the great outdoors. But first, take note. Every year thousands of adults, children and pets across the country are exposed to Lyme disease and other diseases carried by ticks. Simple precautions can help you avoid getting sick from these blood-feeding creatures.

In 1975, 51 people came down with a mysterious arthritis-like ailment in Lyme, Connecticut. NIH researchers discovered that the disease was caused by small, coiled bacteria called *Borrelia burgdorferi*, or simply Bb. The bacteria spread to humans from the bite of a tiny deer tick. The tick can be as small as a pinhead.

Lyme disease is now the most common tick-borne disease in the United States, with over 27,000 cases reported in 2007. Most were in the Northeast and Midwest, but people in all 50 states are at risk. Ticks can also transmit other diseases, including Rocky Mountain spotted fever, ehrlichiosis and anaplasmosis. Peak tick season is in June, July and August.

A deer tick can live on a variety of warm-blooded animals. Immature ticks favor small mammals, while adults tend to feed on white-tailed deer. The small mammals that ticks feed on can act as reservoirs for Bb, harboring it in their bloodstream. After a tick takes a blood meal from



an infected animal, or host, the bacteria remain in the tick's gut throughout its life. The tick can then infect any new creature it feeds upon, including humans. However, transmission of Bb to a new host requires 24 to 48 hours.

That's why it's important to carefully check your body and clothing for ticks after being outdoors in woody and grassy areas. If you see a tick, you can lessen the chance of infection by removing it from your body early, even if it's already begun to feed.

A bull's-eye shaped rash at the site of the tick bite is the most reliable early symptom of Lyme disease. It appears 3 to 32 days after a tick bite in 70-80% of cases. The rash has a dark spot in the center where the bite was, with a lighter color ring around the spot.

Other early symptoms of Lyme disease resemble those of the flu. Warning signs include fatigue,

headache, joint stiffness, stiff or painful muscles, fever and swollen joints. If the disease progresses, symptoms such as irregular heartbeat, heart palpitations or neurological abnormalities can develop. In its most advanced stages, Lyme disease can be debilitating.

"Early treatment is the most effective way to clear the infection from the body," says Dr. Joseph Breen of NIH's National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. The key is to consult a health care provider as soon as you recognize any symptoms.

"Scientists are currently working to understand how Bb interacts with its host," says Breen. "In addition, work is underway to develop more effective diagnostic tools and vaccines."

Gardening, camping, hiking and just playing outdoors are all great spring and summertime activities. But make tick prevention a part of your routine.—*NIH News in Health*



Material for **The Mount Carmel Light** should be sent by email to [garnettink@aol.com](mailto:garnettink@aol.com) or placed in the church office by the deadline—the last Sunday of each month.

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