



Pentecostal News

Welcome to our Canaan Land!

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- HTC's New Home
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HTC's gets a new home

By Sis. Dayan Araujo

Holiness Tabernacle Church of God in Christ recently moved into its new facility located on the corner of Occoquan Road and Old Bridge Road in Woodbridge, VA.

The church, which started in the living room of Pastor Eddie B and Vivian Pruitt 11 years ago.

"I'm excited beyond belief, yet stilled focused on the mission," said Pastor Pruitt. "I have known for years the Lord has anointed

me to serve in this community. In the past we have been challenged because of a lack of facilities - this is no longer the case.

See, BUILDING, Page 3



Pastor's Corner Another Conversion

From the office of Pastor Eddie B Pruitte

For the last several weeks the Lord has really impressed upon me to preach and emphasize the importance of the Believer seeking to be filled with the Holy Ghost. This has long been a passion of mine, but lately I can't seem to escape this theme. Being filled with the Spirit was the first / last instruction Christ gave the disciples as He ascended (see Acts 1:8). Before they did anything regarding the ministry, they were told to return to Jerusalem and tarry (wait) for the gift of the Holy Spirit. Unfortunately, too many of our Christian leaders do not stress the importance of this act of grace.

In the lesson text Jesus is speaking with Peter in the Upper Room; it is probably Thursday evening during the institution of Holy Communion. Jesus tells Peter the devil desired to sift him as wheat, but when he is

converted, strengthen the brethren. Consider this – Peter was already saved.

This is the same Peter who had been given power to cast out devils and heal sick (see Luke 9:1); the same Peter who had walked on the water; the same Peter who declared Jesus was the son of the true and living God; the same Peter who had been made a fisher of men; the same Peter who would accompany Jesus to the Garden of Gethsemane and cut off Malchus' ear. Surely we can infer that Peter was already "saved" or converted from sin. However, the Lord instructs him that there was another conversion he needed to be prevented from being sifted as wheat.

In the book of Acts chapter 19, Paul encounters 12 men who were disciples – Christians. Paul asked them had they received the Holy Ghost since they believed. They replied they had not even heard of the Holy Ghost. Upon further question-

ing Paul learned they had been converted unto John's baptism (see Mark 1:8). Paul laid hands on them and they were filled with the Holy Ghost and spake in tongues.

As we revisit Peter, after his Pentecostal experience, he emerges as the leader of the Early Church. He spoke on that Pentecost Sunday and 3,000 were saved. Later the Holy Scriptures record people were healed by his shadows. However, this supernatural power / ability to strengthen other people did not come until after he had received another conversion. My dear friends let me encourage you today, seek the Lord for another conversion! Remember, there is one initial baptism but many fillings!! Ask God today to grant you another conversion!! I bless you in the name of the Lord.

Church of God in Christ Youth Explosion '09



BUILDING, *From Page 1*

We'll be a "city set upon a hill" and souls will be drawn to us on a more grand scale as we witness for Christ."

With the new location, HTC is one step closer to fulfilling its desire to meet the needs of the local community. Several programs are planned to help bring Pastor Pruitte's goals to fruition.

"People are hurting," said Pastor Pruitte. "Not neces-

sarily because of the economy, but because of our spiritual plight. I see our church providing feeding programs, tutoring, after-school care, marital and family counseling to those in need."

Pastor Pruitte isn't the only one looking forward to the new building and all the programs that will lend assistance to the community. Sister Danielle Benjamin, a

member of the church is overjoyed.

"I thank God for this new building," said Sister Benjamin. "I know that acquiring our building has been a great desire for our pastor for some time now. This is a blessing, for it shows that God is truly pleased with us."

We'll be a "city set upon a hill" and souls will be drawn to us on a more grand scale as we

President Obama appoints Bishop Blake

By Los Angeles Sentinel News Service

On April 6 President Barack Obama announced the appointment of Bishop Charles E. Blake, Presiding Bishop of the Church of God in Christ, among nine new members of a 25-person White House Advisory Council which is part

of the White House Office of Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships. The Advisory Council is part of the White House Office of Faith Based and Neighborhood Partnerships and is composed of religious and secular leaders and scholars from different backgrounds.



Let it go

By Missy LaSandra Miller

Many times in life we want to hang onto things. We know that the Bible tells us to cast all our cares upon him; for he careth for us, 1 Peter 5:6-8. When faced with life situations you can begin to rationalize in your mind how to resolve them. God has to remind us while we are trying to resolve these

situations to "let it go". In the flesh we cannot resolve life's problems. *We can do all things through Christ which strengthens us*, according to Philippians 4:13. We must get into the habit of always having a spirit of prayer in every situation, because if not we will hinder the praise we owe God. We need freedom from what's going on in our lives to praise and worship God.

We do God and others a disservice when we are bound and not free to praise Him. Did you know that we affect the world around us? We don't want to say to God, "I'm holding onto a situation because I believe that you can't handle it."

See, **LET GO**, page 5

"We need freedom from what's going on in our lives to praise and worship God."

Pentecost Sunday – Where Belief Met Reality

My Encounter with the Promise Keeper

By Sis Danielle Benjamin



Caption describing picture or graphic.

Some things are easy to believe. I believe that when I close my eyes at night, I'll wake up again in the morning. I believe that when I open my fridge, there will be food to eat. I believe that I have a family that loves me and supports me.

But some things aren't so easy to believe. Some things require me to exercise my faith, stretching and pulling it in directions that make me uncomfortable, bending and twisting it in ways that seem unnatural and hardly worth repeating.

A recent experience placed me in the middle of these ends of faith, creating a balancing act unlike any I'd had before.

The C.O.G.I.C. 2009 Youth on a Mission trip presented me with an opportunity to serve as a youth worker on a trip to South Africa – combining my love for young people and my desire to travel to the beautiful continent. As I saw it, I needed two things to make this dream a reality: I needed to come up with more than \$4,000 to pay for all of my expenses and I needed to be fully equipped with the power of the Holy Ghost to be an effective witness.

Believing that I would have the money for the trip was easy. I can

distinctly recall God telling me not to worry about the finances because He would take care of it all. Whether that meant I would somehow pay for the trip myself or people would give me money, I couldn't say. All I knew was that I was to continue giving in tithes, offering and to others – and sometimes sacrificially – not trying to hold back or figure it out. Just trust God. And bit by bit, I saw Him fulfilling His promise.

Believing that God would fill me with His Holy Ghost before I embarked on my journey wasn't as easy. I had been waiting for the gift of His Spirit for a while, at times feeling encouraged and on the brink, at times growing discouraged and ready to give up. I knew that there were areas in my life that I needed God to search out, work on and clean up. This hide-and-seek game to illuminate my heart's intent grew tiresome, yet I knew I could only do so much on my own. But a timely Word came to me like a refreshing drink to a thirsty soul. *From this day forward, you will never be the same* was what He gave me and served as a daily reminder that God had begun a work in me that He would fully complete. Not long after, the Lord impressed upon me to begin a 50

day fast, from Resurrection Sunday to the Day of Pentecost, in anticipation of receiving His gift. Fifty days and nights were spent in a period of consecration, seeking His direction and guidance, quieting my mind so that I could be sensitive to His voice. As the day approached, however, fear and doubt invaded my thoughts.

What if the Promise didn't come? What if I didn't fast enough or pray enough or what if I made too many mistakes, committed too many sins and didn't repent soon enough? What if...? But He quieted my fears, telling me to boldly approach His throne of grace.

On May 31, 2009 I had my encounter with the Promise Keeper. Though I'd seen His evidence in my life on many occasions, on this Pentecost Sunday He showed up in, as is often the case, a most unexpected way. In one day, He heard the petitions of a young woman, unworthy of the request, but filled with a mustard seed of faith to ask anyway. Better still, He answered those petitions. And true to His Word, He gave abundantly above all that she could hope for or imagine.

Please pray with me as I journey to South Africa this summer. All expenses paid. Holy Ghost filled.

"In one day, He heard the petitions of a young woman, unworthy of the request, but filled with a mustard seed of faith to ask anyway."

Is there any bread in your house?

By Pastor Eddie B Pruitte

Bread is a very common but important item in the lives of man. Depending on the conversation / point of reference it has different meanings. To some it means a type of food. To others it is a slang word for money or currency. Still to someone else it means substance. The actual word bread is specifically mentioned more than

400 times in the Scriptures. In the first text, Jesus is telling a parable to the disciples. He describes a man whose neighbor has a late night visitor who was hungry. The neighbor doesn't have any food in his house so he knocks on the door of the man's house and requests food. The man's response isn't real neighborly; he tells his neighbor that he and his whole family are in

bed and he didn't want to be bothered. However, the neighbor is persistent and refuses to leave until finally, the man succumbs. As I read this passage the Spirit revealed a few things to me. First of all the neighbor in need knew there was bread in the man's house.

See, **BREAD**, page 8



The Spirit of God at Holiness Tabernacle

By **Sis. Nicole Jones**

The Spirit of God, who knows it? Who can define it? Who has seen it? Who has touched it? The Spirit of God is so unique that it can only be defined by description and we must rely specifically on the characteristics and evidences of it to express who or what He is. The Apostle Paul enlightens us best in Galatians 5:22, when he says, The spirit of God is so wholesome that if we experienced it, at once, in its entirety, It would overwhelm us. The spirit of God is so wholesome that if we experienced it, at once, in its entirety, It would overwhelm us. It is so great that It cannot be comprehended and It is so unsearchable that It cannot be attained.

God is a spirit and He knows

who He is. He is fully aware of His capabilities; He resides in unique places, and is selective as to where He allows His spirit to rest. Before the foundation of the world He took residence upon the face of the waters. He declares in Isaiah 57:15 that He lives in eternity and that His name is Holy and He dwells in the high and holy place. God is a jealous God and He is protective over what He occupies and what he has chosen. Jesus says, in John 10:28-31, I and my Father are one and when referring to His sheep, He says, "My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand." In Matthew 16:18, he says "Upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

Through circumstances and events, God has made clear that He has chosen, this house, Holiness Tabernacle Church of God in Christ, as His dwelling place and has ordained and sanctified it for His use. With this understanding, we respect and cherish his Spirit and presence among us. He knows the intentions of our heart and we come fully aware and mindful of our sacrifice and what we offer to Him. We present God our best because he gives us His best.

Our continuous prayer is that the Spirit of God would move in the place and spaces of this house, Holiness Tabernacle Church of God in Christ, that when we leave this sanctuary we would know that we have undoubtedly been in the presence of the Lord.



"The spirit of God is so wholesome that if we experienced it, at once, in its entirety, It would overwhelm us."

LET GO, From page 3

Let's not limit God with our own expectations. As humans we are limited by what we can or cannot do, but God is not flesh He has no limitations and can perform the impossible. He will answer our prayer. The results will be God's results not man's results. My prayer is that you are encouraged today to just "*Let it go*". God Bless You.





HTC MEET



Memory Lane



Great Northern District 41st annual meeting

By Sis Dayan Araujo

The Great Northern District Church of God in Christ, Virginia First Jurisdiction, held its 41st Annual District meeting the week of April 20-24.

The meetings, which were duly authorized by the church, recognize the hard working efforts of both the District Superintendent and District Missionary.

“We are not able to pay these grassroots workers,” said Bishop Ted Thomas, Senior Prelate of the 1st Jurisdiction of VA. “They work because they love Lord. And our church mandated these meetings to honor our superintendent and district missionary.”

The week long event featured dynamic speakers like Pastor Eddie B Pruitte, Assistant Superintendent of GND; Missionary Linda R. Hawkins, District Missionary and Elder Tony H. Campbell, District Superintendent.

A special message was delivered by Bishop Thomas, which focused on “When your brook is dried up!” The sermon centered on trusting God to meet all of your needs during some of the worst seasons of life.

“God is big enough to light the sun every morning,” said Bishop Thomas. “to brighten up the stars in the sky, to beautify the lilies of the valley and to take care of the sparrow. And I know He can take care of me. Whatever seems hard

for God, He can do it.”

In light of the current recession that has rocked the nation, Bishop Thomas and the rest of the speakers remarks were words of encouragement. This year’s theme, “Hold on until the break of day, your blessings coming, you shall prevail.

Genesis 32:26”, follows that same vein.

“People are suffering,” said Superintendent Campbell.

“They’ve loss their jobs in this recession, and I want them to know that if they hold on to the Lord, they’ll be taken care of.”

Bread, cont from pg 4

Secondly, it was late so the neighbor didn’t have a lot of choices.

Third, the neighbor was bold because he was seeking help for his guest. We’ll revisit this story later.

In the second text, Jesus is teaching a multitude of people. The Bible indicates there are 5,000 men, excluding the women and children (imagine if we were to compare the percentages of men in today’s church to this account. There may have been as many as 20,000 women and children). Jesus asks the disciples what they should do, but the account in John says Jesus knew what they were going to say. Depending on which gospel account you read there were different responses by the disciples. Some stated there wasn’t enough money to purchase food; some said send the people back

home, etc. However Jesus stated the people would never make it back home – they would perish. He had compassion on them! Christ is informed there is a little boy who was willing to share his lunch – two fish and five pieces of bread. That was all Jesus needed. The disciples are ordered to sit and eat first; then the people are grouped for feeding as well. After Jesus blessed and broke the bread everyone was fed and there were 12 baskets of leftovers.

My dear friend (s); the world is in desperate need. When a friend or stranger comes to you with a need, what are you going to do? Do you have the Spirit of God working in your life such that you can meet that neighbor’s need? Or do you decide you don’t want to be bothered. Do you minister to peoples’ needs or do you tell them to make it the

best way that they can?

We are called by God to meet the needs of people (“...Peter do you love me? Feed my sheep”). The Lord is not going to take on human form and come down from heaven and minister to people – that is what we are called to do. We have no excuse. We cannot say what we have isn’t adequate – if we give it to Christ, He will bless it, break it and multiply it to make sure it meets the need (s). We should not take the easy way out and send people away hungry; we should not tell anyone seeking deliverance we don’t want to be bothered. We should be ready and willing to give them the spiritual bread they need. Our responsibility is to make sure there is bread in our house. Be Blessed in the Lord

Chosen

By Sis Dayan Araujo

Growing up, I was never the kid that people rushed to pick to have on their team when a game of kickball, soccer or baseball was ever suggested as being played. Actually till this day I think some of my childhood friends are still suffering from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder when I (not knowing that as the catcher, I wasn't suppose to stand directly behind the batter as they prepared to hit a pitched ball) was hit square in the mouth with a wooden baseball bat. Luckily only my upper lip and pride were busted. Recently, I learned that despite

the fickleness of some people there is someone who has chosen me, with all of my faults and inadequacies, and it wasn't because I was the last available person to pick in the line-up. Deuteronomy 14:2 says, "You have been set apart as holy to the Lord your God, and he has chosen you to be his own special treasure from all the nations of the earth." In my selfish, definitive mind, I had thought that after all those years of wandering through life in sin, that I was the one who finally chose God when in actuality, it was He who chose me, to go and produce fruit that will last. From the beginning of time God knew he wanted us

and called us to serve Him. I love Isaiah 41:10 where the Lord says that I have chosen you and I will not throw you away.

In a world where millions of people find themselves alone and searching for love, it is such a great comfort to me to know that God loves us. A thesaurus search of the word to choose, brought forth words like want, desire and prefer, and these are all words describing God's love towards us. His word is ever showing examples and declarations of His love for us and as one of His chosen it is our job to help guide more of His remnant to an unconditional love that only He can provide.



Investments

By Sis Delia Pruitte

If I were a betting woman, I'd wager that you could turn to any given news channel, or pick up any newspaper and see splashed across the headlines more depressing news about the state of the U.S. economy. "60k homes lost", or "Unemployment at its lowest in 79 years!" . . .or something along those lines. After a while, one starts to wonder if there's anything we can do to improve the situation, or should we sit and wait for things to fix themselves?

I wouldn't suggest that, saints. God gave us all the tools we need to succeed in the time of feast, as well as famine. It is our job to tap into those resources and invest. Invest what, you ask? And why would we invest at a time like this?

I think of it this way: NO INVESTMENT+ NO RISK=NO RETURN. I'm no mathemati-

cian, but this equation seems pretty simple. Every investment



involves risk. If you are unwilling to risk losing something, you will never be able to gain anything. And as people of God, we are constantly required to take risks for Christ's sake. In Matthew 6:25-34, Christ reminds us that we're not to focus our attention on the things of this world, not even our daily physical needs. If God takes care of the animals, the birds, and the trees everyday, what makes us think that we, as His children, will not be pro-

vided for? Verse 33 reminds us where our focus is supposed to be. "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God, and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you". It sounds simple, because it is simple. We've got to be willing to take the risk during these times and invest ALL we can in God. When we do this, God is sure to

keep His word and supply every single one of our needs. So don't cringe when you walk into the grocery store and see that milk has risen to \$5 a gallon, or when you pull up to the gas station and the price of gas has skyrocketed (again). Don't panic when you look at your 401k. "Seek ye first", remember? God already has that taken care of. God Bless You, Delia Pruitte

"If you are unwilling to risk losing something, you will never be able to gain anything. "



HTC's Annual Women's Tea

July 18, 2009

Guest Speaker:

Mother Almeda Jones
Faith International Church
Ofallou, Illinois

Moderator

Mrs Helen Satterfield
Save A Life Ministries, COGIC

The U in Jesus

Submitted by Sis Melissa Nibblett

Before U were thought of or time had begun, God stuck U in the name of His Son.
And each time U pray, you'll see it's true, You can't spell out JesUs and not include U.
You're a pretty big part of His wonderful name, For U, He was born; that's why He came.

And His great love for U is the reason He died.
It even takes U to spell crUcified.

Isn't it thrilling and splendidly grand He rose from the dead, with U in His plan?
The stones split away, the gold trUmpet blew, And this word resUrrection is spelled
with a U.

When JesUs left earth at His upward ascension, He felt there was one thing He just
had to mention.

"Go into the world and tell them it's true That I love them all - Just like I love U."

So many great people are spelled with a U, Don't they have a right to know JesUs too?

It all depends now on what U will do,
He'd like them to know,
But it all starts with U.

When JesUs died on the cross he was thinking of U!



Birth Announcement



Brother Eryn McCown

Born: April 28, 2009

Time: 11:46 p.m.

Weight: 7 pounds, 14 ounces

Height: 20 1/4 inches long

*"Behold, children
are a gift of the
Lord."*

~ Isaiah 127:3

May—August Birthdays

May

Jamal Rowe	May 7
Eryck McCown	May 16
Elijah Araujo	May 16

June

Morris Rowe	June 3
Delesia Hammond	June 4
Ella Kidd	June 5
Mother Pruitte	June 8
Earnest Howard	June 26

July

Myrna Howard	July 13
Crystal McCown	July 13
Jeffrey Howard	July 18
LaSandra Miller	July 20
Ariante De La Cruz	July 23
Michael Benjamin	July 28
Pastor Pruitte	July 30
Deloris Pruitte	July 30

August

Elijah Gaither	August 13
Ashley Parker	August 16



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We're on the web
www.holinesstabernaclecogic.org

Holiness Tabernacle Church of God in Christ (HTC) is located in Woodbridge, Virginia a suburb of Washington DC, in eastern Prince William County. HTC is a chartered branch of the Church of God in Christ, Inc. The Church of God in Christ is a Church of the Lord Jesus Christ in which the word of God is preached, ordinances are administered and the doctrine of sanctification or holiness is emphasized, as being essential to the salvation of mankind.

Our mission is to preach the gospel and spread the message of holiness such that men's lives will be changed and become living tabernacles; that God may have a place to dwell.

HTC Upcoming Events

<i>International AIM Conference</i>	<i>June 22– 3 July</i>
<i>State Women's Convention</i>	<i>July 8 –12</i>
<i>HTC's Annual Church Picnic</i>	<i>July 11</i>
<i>Women's Depart Annual Weekend</i>	<i>July 17-19</i>
<i>HTC's Annual Women's Tea</i>	<i>July 18</i>

HTC Services

Sunday:	<i>Sunday School</i>	<i>9:15 AM</i>
Sunday:	<i>Morning Worship</i>	<i>11:00 AM</i>
1st Sunday:	<i>Holy Communion</i>	<i>6:00 PM</i>
3rd Sunday:	<i>Evangelistic Service</i>	<i>6:00 PM</i>
Tuesday:	<i>Early Morning Prayer</i>	<i>5:30 AM</i>
Tuesday:	<i>Prayer & Bible Band</i>	<i>7:30 PM</i>
Wednesday:	<i>Early Morning Prayer</i>	<i>5:30 AM</i>
Thursday:	<i>Early Morning Prayer</i>	<i>5:30 AM</i>
Thursday:	<i>Pastoral Instruction</i>	<i>7:30 PM</i>
Friday:	<i>Noonday Prayer</i>	<i>12:00 PM</i>