



HTC member becomes COGIC YAC president

By Sis Dayan Araujo

Holiness Tabernacle Church of God in Christ's very own Sis. Delia Pruitte was elected for the position of President of the Youth Advisory Council during the 2009 International Auxiliaries In Ministry (AIM) Convention.

"I was surprised that I was elected," said Sister Pruitte.

After a powerful speech there was no doubt that Sister Pruitte was the best choice for the position.

"We are the youth advisory council," she said during an impromptu campaign speech. "And as such, we need to bring the youth back into the council. If we are going to be the voice for the youth we need to have the youth in order to know what their desires are."

According to her father, Pastor Eddie B Pruitte, during an evening church service, Sister Pruitte, who had served as the council's chaplain for three years was ecstatic about the results of the election.

"She initially called to remark about the great time

she was having at the convention," recalled Pastor Pruitte. "Then later she says, 'Dad, guess what? They elected me president.' I was proud and happy for her."

Although this particular youth advisory council is transitional for a one year period due to a low number of applicants, Sister Pruitte still takes her position seriously and hopes to deliver on her campaign promise during the next several months.

"Even though I am the interim president," stated Sister Pruitte. "I have every presidential right as a full term president. Our goals this year are to appoint council members to the different commissions in the youth department and have a young person involved in every commission," she added.

In addition, Sister Pruitte wants to build leadership skills among the council members in order to produce qualified presidential



nominees in the future.

Although Sister Pruitte's appointment to this distinguished position was considered exciting news, it came as no surprise to the members of HTC located in Woodbridge, VA. The church, which dedicated itself to an extensive consecration of fasting at the beginning of 2009, has had a multitude of blessings, culminating with the purchase of their brand new building.

"God is awesome," reflected Sister Pruitte. "I'm just in awe in what he's doing in my life and HTC's life. I can't wait to see what happens next."

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- HTC member elected as COGIC YAC president
- 95th Holy Convocation
- HTC Women's Retreat
- Motes and Beams and Things

Pastor's Corner

Choose Your Weapons

By Pastor Eddie B Pruitte

The true saints of God are consistently being attacked and according to the Scriptures we are assured victory. However there is a prerequisite – we must use the right weapons.

I shared with the saints the enemy does not fight fair. He will use several tools (aka viles / methods). To name a few, lies, gossip, deceit, envy, discouragement, etc. However the Lord revealed to me why he (the enemy) uses these tools – he knows a true child of God will not. Think about it, if you have really been reborn unto Christ, if you are lied on you do not retaliate. The enemy counts on that. Real saints don't get on the telephone and spread rumors so when it happens to a Child of God it hurts, but we don't fight back in the same manner.

I would go so far as to say if you do retaliate in the same manner you are sure to loose because (1) you are used to using those tools and (2) its not God's way so He

won't allow you to win. The saints overcome by using godly weapons!!

Paul informs us that although we live in the world we do not fight as the world does, either do we use the same tactics as the world. We do not use physical weapons but we fight with and through the divine power of God (II Corinthians 10:3-4).

Remember David (before he was made king) and his battle with Goliath? After convincing King Saul he was capable of fighting the giant because of his victories over the bear and lion, the king put several layers of armor on him. David, after taking a step tells Saul he couldn't use those weapons because they hadn't been proven. Or in other words he had no experience in using them. He chose however to use the weapons he knew worked – his sling shot.

Finally note King Jehoshaphat and his battle with Moab and the Ammonites. Judah was tremendously outnumbered and there defeat seemed inevitable. God sends

a message to encourage the king that the battle was not his but the Lord's. God's directions would seem strange to most, but not to the saints. God informs Jehoshaphat to send the praise team in front of the warriors. This strategy resulted in the God sending an ambush against Judah's enemies. The opposing army turned on one another and they were annihilated. Not only did Judah win, it took them 3 days to gather the spoil.

My dear friends: the next time you are under attack be encouraged and use the tools God has given us. I suggested the five stones David gathered were: (1) Praise; (2) Prayer; (3) Fasting; (4) the Word; and (5) Worship. It might seem strange to the world, but we don't employ their methods. What God gave us to use is tried and proven. Choose your weapons and let's declare war on the devil and his plans. Greater is He that is within us than he that is in the world; we're more than conquerors, etc. Need I say more? Our victory is guaranteed because the battle is not ours but the Lord's.

Annual Calendar Tea Recap

By Sis Dayan Araujo

The ladies of Holiness Tabernacle Church of God In Christ and their guests were blessed and empowered during their annual Women's Tea, June 18.

Guest speaker, Mother Almeda Jones of Faith International Ministries in Illinois, encouraged and uplifted the spirits of each guest at the event which comprised of a brunch style buffet and variety of teas.

“You have to realize that it's the anointing that destroys the yoke,” said Mother Jones to all in attendance. Mother Jones spoke a prophetic word to First Lady Vivian Pruitte, the Missionaries, Aspiring Missionaries, and musicians.

Throng of women flooded the altar when Mother Jones made the call for the broken hearted to come forth for prayer. A sense of peace and sisterhood floated throughout the sanctuary as members and

non-members, a few or many years old, were delivered from issues.

“I am so glad that I was able to connect with Mother Jones again. I knew she would be a blessing to the women

of Holiness Tabernacle,” said Mother Pruitte, HTC's First Lady. “Mother Jones is quiet and unassuming, but she is a tower of power and strength. She is a faithful prayer warrior called to intercede for the masses.”

Mother Jones, originally from Panama, spoke to both English speaking and Spanish speaking attendees, offering the balm of the Holy Spirit to heal wounds and empower women to be all that they can



Mother Almeda Jones, Women's Tea speaker

be in service to the Lord and to the church.

The Women's Tea was just one of three events, preceded by a potluck dinner for the women of Holiness Tabernacle as they prepared for the weekend, and it concluded with Women's Day on Sunday, June 19. During the potluck, Mother Jones spoke to the ladies encouraging them to

be a support to not only the church, but to the First Lady as well, by focusing on the book of Esther.

“We need Mordecai's and Esther's in the church,” she said. “A Mordecai will be there to support you and stand by you. Whatever needs to die in us, let it die,” she declared. “So that God can raise a Mordecai that will take us to the next place.”

Motes and Beams and Things: A Lesson in Forgiveness and Perspective

By Sis Delia Pruitte

I remember it like it was yesterday...even though technically it probably a month or so ago. Anyway, Holiness Tabernacle Church of God In Christ was supposed to be having a quick word of payer before we began Sunday School but, as usual the Holy Ghost came in and for the next 30-45 minutes, we were calling on and praising God.

For some reason, I just couldn't get with the program. I was praising and clapping my hands like everyone else, but I was as they say, as dry as a chip. I didn't feel anything. I was frustrated, and I was doing what the Bible said to do in order to be blessed...so what could it be?

A still, small voice whispered in my ear, "Remove the beam from your eye." What? What was that supposed to mean? Again, "Stop pointing out the mote in your neighbor's eye, and remove the beam in yours." Well, that didn't make any sense. I mean, didn't I pray and fast? Didn't I give faithfully? There were definitely other people

in the room who were a lot worse than I, I tried to reason.

"See? That's exactly why I can't bless you." It hit me like a ton of bricks. How could God bless someone with an attitude like that? Who was I to judge someone else's salvation? How dare I even try?

I was no better than the Pharisee in the Bible who entered the temple to pray. In his prayer, he boasted of his own righteousness and thanked God that he was not like the publican. The publican next to him prayed quite a different prayer. "God, be merciful to me a sinner!" And God honored his prayer. Jesus made it plain when he said "...For everyone that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted" (Luke 18:14).

I cannot remember the last time I felt so convicted and ashamed. I immediately turned to the person standing nearest me and asked for forgiveness. They did not ask what I needed forgiveness for; they simply embraced me and said they forgave me. In-

stantly, I felt God remove the beam from my eye, and I could see clearly what He had been trying to show me. My neighbor and I rejoiced like never before, and I carry with me the lesson I learned that Sunday morning evening to this day:

When your finger is constantly pointed at the mote in someone else's eye, you are not only ignoring the beam in your own, but you are also hindering your neighbor from removing the speck in theirs.

Point your finger to yourself and ask Jesus to examine YOUR soul today.



Worrying about what others do hinders the work that needs to be done in you.

Fun and Adventure Discovered at the 4th Annual HTC Women's Retreat Ladies Enjoy a Relaxing Weekend at the Williamsburg Christian Retreat Center

By Sis. Danielle Benjamin

The ladies of Holiness Tabernacle Church of God in Christ (HTC) packed their bags, kissed their jobs, husbands and children goodbye, and headed down I-95S, around I-295S and across I-64E toward Williamsburg for their annual Women's Retreat. The three day weekend excursion, beginning Friday, August 28, was a welcomed escape from the usual hustle and bustle in the lives of these students, homemakers and professional women and proved to be quite an adventure for them.

The Williamsburg Christian Retreat Center (WCRC) played host with wooded trails and

winding gravel roads, providing cobwebs, acorn gathering squirrels and peaceful sounds of nature.

"I really loved the location and how we were secluded," said Daelena Pruitte. "It was nice to venture out." The spacious Holly Cottage doubled as both lodging and meeting location with a full kitchen, a living room with a piano and board games, and several bedrooms to accommodate the group. Televisions and radios were few and far between on this hidden abode, but the women were excited to forego the traditional modes of entertainment for something more meaningful.

Continuing with the theme for the year, *This is for My Good* (Rom 8:28), the Mother's Board prepared various seminars all aimed at empowering the HTC women with the tools and information needed to realize that all of life's situation – with God at the helm – will truly work out for the good. Instructions for financial budgeting and saving as well as a "Church Etiquette: 101" course were designed to better equip the ladies for service both in and out of the church.

The mood for this year's retreat was very relaxed with several excursions and activities

See, **RETREAT**, Page 8

HTC looks to SHARE with local community

By Sis Dayan Araujo

Holiness Tabernacle (HTC) has expanded the work of the Missions Department to include a program designed to offer affordable food for those less fortunate.

At the head of this program is Sister Myrna Howard, HTC's Mission's Director, who says that Pastor Eddie B Pruitte, Jr. has always had the idea to be a mission-minded church.

"To reach the community," said Sis. Howard, "we need to offer all the help that we can provide them."

And that is where the SHARE Food Network comes in, distributing "high quality, affordable, nutritious food as a way to build community and strengthen families."

"We are currently starting with our church members," said Sis. Howard. "In the future, our plan is to offer this program to the local community as well."

In addition to the SHARE Food Network, the missions department is also planning its first missions night on Sunday, Sep-



Bro. Morris Rowe loads the church van with bags of affordable food from the SHARE Food Network Host site in Woodbridge.

tember 20. The event will bring together all of the churches in the Great Northern District for one common goal – to meet the needs of the hungry.

"We will use this event as an opportunity to explain the SHARE Food Network and

talk about our growing food pantry," said Sis. Howard. "We're asking people to bring one canned good which will go towards stocking the pantry."

Sis. Howard believes that this is about more than just meeting the physical needs of the local community. She believes that this program also offers an opportunity for evangelism.

"This is God's work," she said. "The church is letting the people know that we are here for them by taking the church outside of its four walls. I hope that this mission will bring Christ to the people."

An important aspect to the missions work is that everything is done with strict confidentiality. "We are here to meet people's needs," said Sis. Howard. "Not embarrass them. Everything is confidential and no one knows whether or not a person has or has not received from the program."

For more information about the SHARE Food Network, HTC members can see Sis. Howard who will be able to provide additional details.

The 1st Jurisdiction of Virginia's Holy Convocation's Lord's Day Service

By Sis. Dayan Araujo

As I sat through my first Holy Convocation my mind raced with possible leads that I could use to open my article recapping the event. I was too ecstatic to even think let alone begin mentally writing an article. I was going to hear from my Bishop, and I was excited.

Fortunately, First Lady Charletta Thomas took the hard work from off my shoulders when she momentarily donned her proverbial correspondent's hat and gave an illustrious description of the Spirit-filled services of the First Jurisdiction of Virginia's 95th Holy Convocation.

Speaking to a nearly packed house, First Lady Thomas provided a brief description from beginning to end. "The processional was historic and holy," she re-

marked. "The officials and the saints entered into the gates with praise and thanksgiving."

In awe, I listened to her recount the many accomplishments of Bishop Ted Thomas' first 25 years as prelate, overseeing 65 churches and missions. Through it all he had his wife by his side. "This prelate has a wife who has been loyal, supportive, loving and obedient...as much as possible," Lady Thomas joked. "But most importantly, Bishop has a wife that adores him."

The Holy Convocation began Sunday August 16 with a two-day shut-in. "From the moment we started to the moment we finished," said First Lady Thomas, the Holy Ghost has reigned in

this place."

Listening to First Lady Thomas recall the week wasn't the only thing to get me excited. When they began to sing the Anthem, my heart began to swell. I can't even sing, but at that moment, I wanted to be in that choir singing, "It is well with my soul!"

Later, after an introduction by Superintendent William Perry, Bishop Thomas rose to deliver the Word. "He is God and He can do anything but fail," said the Bishop following prayer.

"The Holy Ghost has reigned in this place."

See, CONVOCATION, Page 4

Youth Car Wash

Bros. Elijah Araujo and Elijah Gaither show off their car washing skills during the HTC Youth Car Wash, September 19.



Convocation, cont. from page 4

“Come expecting God to do something. If you’re sick expect a healing.

If you’re bound, expect deliverance.”

During a difficult time recently, those words rang constantly in my heart. “He is God and He can do anything but fail.” So many times I’ve stuffed God into my little own personal box, not letting Him out to do what He does best and that is be God.

Bishop Thomas encouraged the saints to stay in the word, to fast and to pray to get revelation from the Lord. He said that all we have to do is exercise what God has given for he has already blessed us.

In addition, Bishop Thomas implored the saints to seek God until they’ve received the Holy Ghost. “For the weapons we use are not carnal,” he said. “For the demons are not flesh and blood. These spirits need places to take and come in.”

In addition to having the Holy Ghost, Bishop Thomas also encouraged the saints to put on the full armor of God by surrounding ourselves with truth, protecting our hearts with righteousness, covering our feet so that we can go preach the good news and taking our shield of faith.

“If God said it, then that settles it,” declared Bishop Thomas.

Finally, he said to don your helmet of



salvation and to carry your sword, the Word of God.

My first ever Holy Convocation was all and more than I could expected. The fellowship was wonderful, but the move of the Holy Spirit on just that one day left me wondering at the presence of God throughout the entire convocation.

HTC PHOTO

Mission P



NO GALLERY

Possible!



Guide Me Lord

By Sis Rina Williams

Guide me Lord

When I can't see the light

Guide me Lord

All through the night

Guide me Lord

When I lose my way

Guide me Lord

Each and every day

Guide me Lord

When people or spirits hinder me

Guide me Lord

When the devil tries to turn me

Guide me Lord

And all the people I call friends

Guide me Lord

The people I call my enemies

I hope that you guide me

And hear my prayer

And I ask again

Guide me Lord

Everyday and everywhere

In Jesus' name

Amen!



RETREAT, cont. from page 3

for the women to enjoy. Saturday began with a powerful season of prayer as the women joined together in the twilight hours of the early morning, seeking God for His guidance and direction. Leisurely strolls across the grounds to the dining facilities sparked impromptu conversations among the women, giving opportunity for them to learn more about one another.

“I think there was more bonding this year,” remarked Mother Cassidy. “People have a tendency to talk and bond more outside of the [physical] church.” The afternoon was spent enjoying a favorite pastime – with several unconfirmed reports of some leaving the Prime Outlets mall with more bags than they could carry! Back at the center,

outrageous rounds of telephone charades, intimate moments of show and tell, and an unfortunate event involving a wayward frog made for lots of laughter and lasting memories.

As the women made their departure early Sunday morning, headed back to Woodbridge in time for worship service at HTC, they left with more than what they started out with. They left with rested bodies. They left with stronger ties to their sisters in Christ. They left with the reminder that living saved is truly the best way to enjoy life and its many pleasures. Most importantly, they left



with a rejuvenated purpose as women of God and the knowledge that no matter the circumstance, no matter the obstacle, God truly will work it out for the good.

Why Samaria?

By Sis Nicole Jones

...Ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. Acts 1:8

Often times when it comes to giving to missions abroad, we ask ourselves, why not home? Why not our neighborhood? Why not our people? But God is a God of the universe. He is the creator of the world and the father of mankind and He takes care of His creation. Jabez, in I Chronicles 4:10, requested of God that he would enlarge his coast. By that he meant, Lord, expand my possibilities and remove the limitations. Improve my outlook and allow me to see and go beyond that which is immediately accessible, to obtain all that you have for me. Such expansions are not only movements in location but are also movements of the heart. They are expansions of our godly characteristics. It is after our hearts have become touched, that we are motivated to give beyond our families and beyond our friends and beyond our neighborhoods and come to understand

that the world is hungry and that the world is thirsty and that the world needs comfort.

In the darkness of night, somebody is crying. With no hope in sight, someone is dying. With a broken heart, somebody is praying for comfort and with faint faith, somebody believes that God that will help; and God who sits above the heavens, is committed to his people on earth. His eyes penetrate through the darkness of night and His ears hear the sounds of a tear drop and He declares, to Samaria that He is not only a God who listens but He also is a God who responds. He touches the hearts of people millions of miles away, to give aid, to send a message, to the sick, to the poor and to the broken, that He cares.

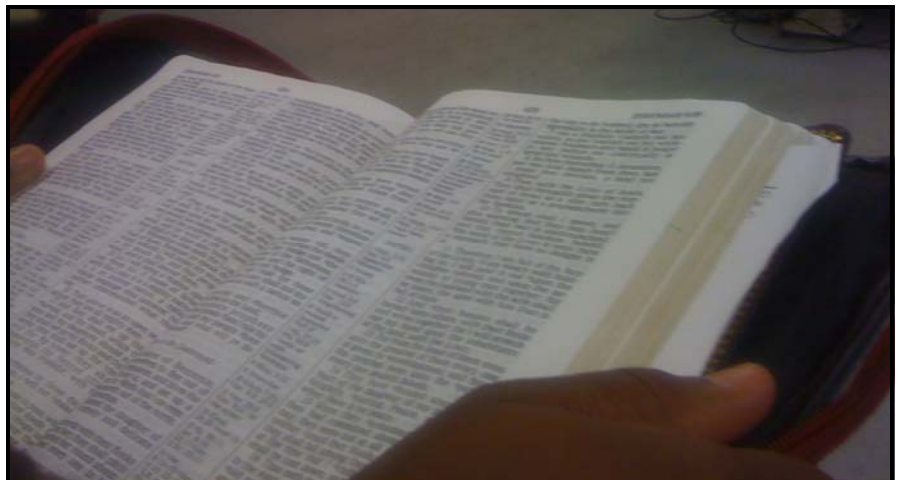
God uses people to help people and often times He chooses to work through anonymity. In Matthew 5:16, Jesus said, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." Sometimes we don't

know who we are helping or to whom we are being a light. In many instances, God receives his best and most due recognition when we are not aware of whom we are helping. When God allows us to be notified, that he has used us to help others, it is a means of encouragement for us to continue to fulfill his purpose.

If we only helped the people in our homes and in our neighborhoods, then who would help Samaria? God is not only good to people in our land but is also good to people in dry and dark lands. As our creator, wherever He places us, He takes care of us. He is a loving, caring and compassionate God and when we give to Samaria, we share with others our testimony that God is Sovereign; we share our confidence that God Will Provide. We share our assurance that God will not forsake His people and we share awareness, that even when we feel alone God is with us.

That's why we give to Samaria.

*Do you
have any
bread?*



ART by Ashley Blair



HTC Announcements

Announcements

- ♥ The Youth Department is selling Entertainment 2010 Coupon books for \$30. Please support the Youth today.
- ♥ Please see Sis. Howard to place your orders in for the October SHARE menu by October 11.
- ♥ If you are an auxiliary don't forget to turn in your reports on the assigned nights of Pastor's anniversary. For more details, see Bro. McCown.
- ♥ HTC will host a Prayer and Fasting Revival, September 29— October 2. Members are asked to fast each day, beginning on the 29th from the moment they wake up until 4 p.m. On October 2, members will end their fast together at the church.

HTC Prayer List

Armed Forces & Families	Pastor Geno Thomas
Mother Minnie Ray	Sgt. Anntoinette Pierce
The Eddings Family	Sis. Wayna Cream
Ms. Williams-Wilson & Family	Pastor Frank Smith



September—October Birthdays

September

Sis. Nicole Jones	Sep 12
Sis. Yolinda McCown	Sep 15
Sis. Shaina Wormely	Sep 16
Bro. Brian Blair	Sep 27



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October

Sis Delia Pruitte	Oct 10
Sis. Maurine Goodwin	Oct 17
Bro. Christian Araujo	Oct 23
Sis. Gabrielle Blair	Oct 26
Mo. Freda Benjamin	Oct 27



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Feel free to email Sis. Dayan Araujo with information, articles, testimonials, etc by the 15th of each month to morshedaraujo@aol.com

We're on the Web!

holinesstabernaclecogic.org

Holiness Tabernacle Church of God in Christ (HTC) is located in Woodbridge, VA a suburb of Washington, D.C., in eastern Prince William County. HTC is a chartered branch of 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 salvation of mankind.

Our mission is to preach the gospel and to 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

Missions Dept Event	Sept. 20
GND Union Meeting	Sept. 27
Revival	Sept. 29-Oct 2

State Choir Workshop	Oct. 2-3
Pastor's Anniversary	Oct. 4, 11 & 23
Men's Fellowship	Oct. 12
Women's Fellowship	Oct. 14
Adult Choir Rehearsal	Oct. 16
Hallowed Ones Day	Oct. 31

HTC Services

Sunday	Sunday School	9:15 a.m.
Sunday	Morning Worship	11:00 A.M.
1st Sunday	Holy Communion	6:00 P.M.
3rd Sunday	Evangelistic Service	6:00 P.M.
Tues.—Thurs.	Early Morning Prayer	5:30 P.M.
Tuesday	Prayer and Bible Band	7:30 P.M.
Thursday	Pastoral Instruction	7:30 P.M.
Friday	Noonday Prayer	12:00 P.M.