

# Dill Avenue CHURCH OF CHRIST *Newsletter*

VOLUME 1 \* ISSUE 5 \* JUNE 17, 2007

## **Elders:**

Bro. Clyde W. Brown Sr.  
Bro. Joseph H. Brown  
Bro. Michael R. McCulloch  
Bro. Arthur Morris III  
Bro. Preston A. Thacker

## **Deacons:**

Bro. Nathan L. Burton  
Bro. Solomon T. Davis  
Bro. Perry R. Smith Sr.

## **Schedule of Services:**

Morning Worship 9am  
Sunday School: Immediately  
following morning worship  
Evening Worship: 6pm

## **Bible Classes:**

Monday Night: Ladies, Men, New-  
Life, Youth Classes: 7:30pm  
Tuesday Night: General Bible Study:  
7:30pm  
Saturday Discipleship Class: 10am as  
announced

## **IN THIS ISSUE**

Dates to Remember.....	2
New Members.....	2
Sick & Shut In.....	3
2007 Ladies Day.....	3
Homecoming 2007.....	4
Teen's Boundaries.....	4
Health Ministry News.....	5
Graduates/Poem.....	6

## ✧ Too Soon To Quit ✧

BRO. JOSEPH H. BROWN, RESIDENT EVANGELIST

"But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." (verse 57)

"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord." (verse 58)

There is this spirit of quitting. Some have quit worship; they are turned off by church when it used to inspire them. They once put themselves into the worship and sang to the glory of God. Now they have become spectators if they come at all.

Perhaps there is one today who has quit. You are an ex Sunday school teacher, soul winner, greeter, bus driver, Bible class student. But now you are barely holding on.

These are days of quitting, and it is a serious matter. It involves integrity. If you are a Christian, you made a promise to the Lord. If he would save your soul, you would serve him. He forgave all of your past sins and brought you into His family (Colossians 1:13). You have been accepted as

the adopted son or daughter of God.

One should have a word that is reliable, especially when given to God. Not keeping one's word with God is not only a matter of integrity, but it is dangerous (Eccl 4:4-6). It is not supposed to happen when you are born of God's Spirit.

Quitting is a sign that something is wrong. God sends His Spirit to His sons and daughters (Acts 5:32). The Holy Spirit is to abide in you and bless you to grow spiritually (1Peter 2:2), thus causing you to love more, worship God more, care more, build you up and make you stronger, so that quitting does not make sense.

It raises the question, how did you quit? How could you quit with God's Holy Spirit dwelling you? The same Spirit who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you. How then are you spiritually dead? How did you quit? Did the Holy Spirit of God quit working?

Continued on page 2

That is not possible; for it is the Holy Spirit, which causes us to grieve over our sins. A child of God will weep over his or her sins by the promptings of the Spirit and seek God's forgiveness. That is not secular knowledge; it's the work of the Holy Spirit which dwells in the Christian.

So then, if you have quit, how did you quit? If you have quit, it is too soon to quit. For you have not reached your goal. Your goal was Heaven; you are not there yet. Your goal was not a new house, a new job, or a new mate. Your goal was Heaven, so don't quit. It's too soon; you are not there yet.

You promised the Lord Jesus to make Him Lord of your life. Your word is out. You may not have much money, but you ought to have a word, and your word to God ought to mean something.

You keep God and God will keep you (Colossians 1:21-23).

We cannot fail if we follow the instructions given by Peter, "But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen." 2 Peter 3:18



## Dates to Remember

June 29-July 1 Hopewell Youth Rally (\$20 registration fee)

July 29-August 2 Area Wide Fellowship "That We May Be One"  
 Sunday - **Cawson Street**, Monday - **Arlington Road**, Tuesday - **Cameron Avenue**, Wednesday - **Edghill**, Thursday - **High Street**, Friday - **Three Chopt Road**

August 3-5 Dill Avenue Youth Rally (\$20 registration fee)

August 11 Back to School Picnic

August 26-September 1, 60th Anniversary, Arlington Road Church of Christ

## Welcome Our Newest Members!

### Baptized:

Levar Davis	February 25
Ashley Tucker	April 1
Tamara Smith	April 26
LaToya Smith	April 29
Dante Smith	April 29
Kevin Gary	June 4

### Placed Membership:

Melvin & Betty Robinson April 15

## Congratulations!

...to the Cogshells on the birth of their new baby daughter, Cyra Nichole (7 pounds, 15 ounces) born May 9.

## Sick and Shut-In

Rebecca Martin  
Our Lady of Hope Health Center  
13700 N. Gayton Road, Apt. 134  
Richmond, VA 23233  
804-360-1960

Frances Cook  
Rita's Heavenly Assisted Living  
700 W. Washington Street  
Richmond, VA 23075  
804-737-0688

Jackie Davis  
1408 Gambrel Drive  
Sandston, VA 23150  
804-737-7476

Ola Timmons  
1611 4th Avenue, Apt. 206  
Richmond, VA 23222  
804-329-1312

Frances Davis  
Manor Care Health Services  
2125 Hillard Road  
Richmond, VA 23228  
804-266-9666

Adell Crawford  
Westport Heath Care Center  
7300 Forest Avenue  
Richmond, VA 23226

### Special Prayer Request:

Clyde Patrick  
4228 Montclair Road  
Richmond VA 23223

---

## Trusting God Beyond Salvation (Baptism)

The 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Ladies' Lectureship was celebrated on March 10, 2007. The theme for the lectureship was "Trusting God Beyond Salvation (Baptism)." The keynote speaker was Sis. Linda Bailey of Emporia, Virginia. There were three mini speeches given by sisters from Dill Avenue congregation. Those speakers included: Sis. Iris Bodiford, Sis. Jascinta Emile, and Sis. Anne Miller. Sis. Bodiford encouraged us to realize the need for greater faith, by outlining the purpose, plan, and promise of a greater faith. Sis. Emile encouraged us to set our course by God's promises. She also encouraged us to brace ourselves for change, put God in the pilot seat, and use God's Word as our control tower. Sis. Anne Miller encouraged us to engage ourselves with a life filled with faith while trusting and relying on God and His promises. Sis. Linda Bailey encouraged us with the topic, "You Can Be Sure." She reminded us that in order to have trust in God, we must first believe God. She encouraged us that after baptism God made promises. Our spirits were lifted as we were reminded to trust God's Word and all of His promises. The program also included a musical introspection by two Dill Avenue sisters, Sis. Lynette Knight and Sis. Linda Smith. Their musical dialogue encouraged us to be mindful of the words of the hymns that we sing and to understand our responsibility to heed the messages.

Those in attendance exceeded 200 ladies, representing 26 Churches of Christ! The largest group in attendance was Emporia Church of Christ. The attendance also included 19 local visitors.

Our souls were truly lifted by the lessons learned as well as by those in attendance. It is always wonderful to see what happens when God has His way. Special recognition was given to Sis. Phyllis Brown for her untiring efforts and faithfulness to God's service. It was a day of rejoicing and truly a blessing to have been there!

## Homecoming 2007

What can be said? The 2007 Dill Avenue Church of Christ Homecoming was awesome! The weekend began Saturday, May 26, 2007 with the Singles' Scavenger Hunt. Later that evening, attendees were treated to great gospel singing. Next were Sunday services. This year's guest evangelist was Dr. Ben Foster of Southwestern Christian College in Terrell, Texas. His lessons were around the theme "What Is God's Viewpoint?" inspired by Isaiah 55:8-9 and Matthew 7:21. Dr. Foster's Sunday morning lesson was so powerful that it had listeners eager to return for a second helping. The Youth also had a special guest. Their Sunday school lesson was taught by Bro. Charles Brown, Youth Minister of the Northside Church of Christ in Rochester, New York. He shared life lessons with the youth and their parents, encouraging them to guard their hearts from the hip hop culture, to stay with the Lord, and to move from membership to discipleship. Attendees were also served a delightful lunch at the Marriott between morning and afternoon services and more gospel singing on Sunday evening.

The gospel meeting continued nightly from May 28 - 31. During the week, there were twenty-one members restored, five who asked for prayer, and thirty visitors. All services were recorded and are available for purchase. Oh, what a glorious time! We look forward with great anticipation to next year.

---

## Teens' Boundaries, If Heaven Bound

The Dill Avenue Youth Group recently took their much anticipated trip to Newark, New Jersey to celebrate the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Northeastern Youth Conference. The theme was "Teens' Boundaries, If Heaven Bound." As always, the trip was fun as well as exciting. We had the pleasure of attending the preliminary and championship basketball games Friday. Saturday, speeches were given on the following topics: Ethical Boundaries in a Permissive World, Boundaries in Dating, Dress Code Boundaries, Boundaries in my Social Life- Entertainment and Curfew, Doctrinal Boundaries About the one Church, Boundaries on the Internet, Boundaries in Relationships, and Boundaries in Alcohol, Drugs, and Dependencies, to name a few. William Toney delivered a speech on "Boundaries in my Relationships." We also attended workshops on Boundaries on the Internet and Boundaries in Social Life. There was a Gospel Songfest that included selections by The Acapella Voices of Praise. Later that night we attended a Mr. and Mrs. Northeastern Youth Conference Pageant. William Toney also participated in the contest by sharing an original poem.

All of those events were enjoyable, but Sunday was the icing on the cake. Bro. Orpheus Heyward of Atlanta, Georgia preached a very powerful lesson in which he talked about the awesomeness of God and how He saved him (and how He saves us) from the hands of death on numerous occasions. Bro. Heyward also shared in detail the sacrifice that Christ made for us on the cross. That lesson was very powerful and was just right for everyone in attendance. The youth group departed Sunday afternoon and arrived home safely. Once again this trip was very pleasant and we're already excited about next year!

## Heathly Ministry News

### Read the signs and save a life

Do you know how to distinguish between a heart attack, stroke, and cardiac arrest? If the blood flow to the heart is blocked, a **heart attack** can occur. If the blood flow to the **carotid arteries** that feeds the brain is blocked, a **stroke** can occur. Knowing the difference is critical because every minute counts.

### Risk factors that can be changed:

- \*Hypertension
- \*Lack of exercise
- \*Diabetes
- \*Abnormal blood lipids
- \*Stress
- \*Obesity
- \*Smoking

### Risk factors that can not be changed:

- \*Age
- \*Gender
- \*Race
- \*Family history

### Heart Attack:

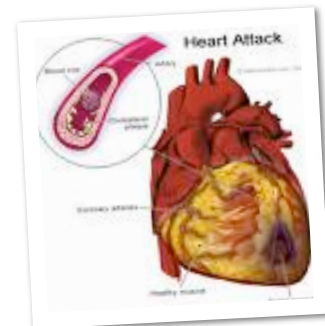
- \* Pressure or crushing pain in the chest, sometimes with sweating, nausea or vomiting.
- \* Pain extending into jaw, left arm, back, or shoulder.
- \* Tightness in chest.
- \* Shortness of breath for more than a couple of seconds.
- \* According to the Cleveland Clinic, women and diabetics may experience additional symptoms such as abdominal discomfort (feeling of indigestion) and unexplained fatigue or weakness.
- \* **Call 911 IMMEDIATELY IF THESE SYMPTOMS OCCUR.**

### Cardiac Arrest:

- \* Sudden loss of responsiveness even to gentle shaking.
- \* Abnormal breathing for several seconds.
- \* No pulse, movement, or coughing.
- \* **CALL 911 IMMEDIATELY IF THESE SYMPTOMS OCCUR.**

### Stroke:

- \* Sudden numbness or weakness of the face, arm, or leg, especially on one side of the body.
- \* Sudden confusion, trouble speaking, or understanding.
- \* Sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes.
- \* Sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance, or coordination.
- \* Sudden severe headache with no known cause.
- \* **CALL 911 IMMEDIATELY IF THESE SYMPTOMS OCCUR.**



## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2007 GRADUATES!

### High School

Daishawn Creer- Clover Hill High School- June 10, 2007- Hopes to attend the Art Institute in Charlotte, North Carolina and major in Fashion Marketing

Reginald Harris – Varina High School – June 12, 2007

### College

Pavi Lightner – Old Dominion University – May 5, 2007 – Bachelor’s Degree in Criminal Justice



### New Beginning

*Picture this!*

*A new day. A new season. A new life.*

*A child is born;*

*And so is action on my intuitions  
for doing right.*

*My disposition towards life is...*

*I was weak but now am strong  
Praises be to my Lord and Savior  
Jesus Christ.*

*I tried to rearrange my life my way;  
it all stayed the same.*

*So, I took my burdens to the Lord,  
and things began to change.*

*His mercies are everlasting  
and beyond the comprehension of my brain.*

*As day turns to night,  
and seasons come and go.  
I take comfort in knowing,  
I found Salvation for my soul.  
I'm not the person I once was,  
Lord knows I am proud of that.  
I only wish I could find some way  
To pay my Savior back.*

*-Sierra Fenner*