



VOLUME 2, ISSUE 7

JULY 2011

“In him and through faith in him we may approach GOD with freedom and confidence.” -Ephesians 3:12

Minister Leo Finkley

The month of July is associated with the word *Freedom*. As Christians, we have to ponder, what must we do to have a life of freedom? In the book of Hebrews, chapter four, KJV scripture is as follows: 14 Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast *our* profession. 15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as *we are*, yet without sin. 16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need. The KJV, Ephesians chapter three, verse twelve says, “In him and through faith in him we may approach GOD with freedom and confidence.”

Jesus Christ, God's Son, is the Supreme High Priest. He is able to sympathize and feel everything that we experience, no matter how painful. He is One who meets our every need and carries us through all the sufferings of this life.

In my military travels I have been to

more than 100 cities and over ten countries. The one thing that many people had in common was pain and problems. From the time we are born until the hour of death, we will deal with personal obstacles in life such as:

- Identity Crisis
- Race/Sex/Gender
- Single Life
- Single Life with Kids
- Married Life
- Divorced Life
- Widow Life
- Senior Adult

Along with those dilemmas we must also cope with other life factors such as elderly parents, relatives, parenting, the inability to have children, health crisis, finances, and the loss of loved ones while maintaining our salvation. There are two things to be noted in the scripture.

First the word “great” is used to identify Jesus Christ and set Him apart from all other High Priests. There are two distinct reasons for His greatness:

Cont'd on Page 2



Senior Pastor
David Anthony Clarke, Sr.

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809 South Davis Drive
Warner Robins, GA 31088

Ph: 478-922-5514
Fx: 478-923-6551

uniongrov1@aol.com
thegrovewr.org

MISSION STATEMENT:

To draw people to Christ, maximize our potential, and creatively meet the physical and emotional needs of the church and community.

Freedom in Christ (cont'd from page 1)

A. Jesus Christ has "passed into the heavens." He is before the very throne of God; He is in the very presence of God our creator.

B. Jesus Christ is "the Son of God." He suffered all the trials and temptations that other High Priests and men have experienced. However, He *sympathizes* with all those who come to Him as their High Priest.

Secondly, we must understand what Jesus, as our High Priest, does for us. The significance of Jesus' High Priesthood is threefold.

A. Whenever you think you are alone, you are not. To be touched by the High Priest is knowing that He sympathizes, feels, and suffers along with us. He is by our side when we...

- Become sick
- Suffer trials
- Face temptations
- Fall into sin
- Have an accident
- Feel lonely
- Lose a loved one
- Lack money
- Lack clothes
- Suffer persecution
- Face death
- Lack purpose

B. Whenever we need God to have mercy upon us because we have sinned, we have done every-

thing imaginable against God.

However, when we acknowledge that mercy comes through Jesus Christ, our High Priest, God will forgive our sins. We must come before the throne of grace and ask for mercy and God will have mercy upon us.

C. Whenever we are guilt-ridden, knowing who our High Priest is, we can now find grace to aid us in our time of need.

- No matter what obstacles we face, help is available.
- God's grace will strengthen us to walk through our trials and tribulations
- Through turbulent circumstance His grace will help us become conquerors and be victorious.
- Understand that He has walked among men and suffered the same trials.
- He knows how to walk through and conquer the trial and suffering. All we have to do is come boldly before *the throne of grace* and ask Him.

In Hebrews 4:14 (MSG Version) we are reminded that we have Jesus, the great High Priest with ready access to God. Let's not let it slip through our fingers.



“ ‘Lord, Your Word says that if I call on You, You will answer me; You will be with me in trouble, You will honor me and You will deliver me (Psalm 91:14-15). You said that through the power of Your indwelling Spirit I would be set free from this vicious cycle of temptation, sin and failure (Romans 8:2). You said if I fully commit my life to You, I'd have the strength to stand up to the devil and he would flee from me (James 4:7). You said You have given me the power to pull down all my old mental strongholds and take control of every wayward thought, imagination, and impulse (2 Corinthians 10:4-5). You said that by reading Your Word each day and meditating on it, I would become a partaker of Your divine nature, and overcome the destructive tendencies of my flesh (2 Peter 1:3-4). You said I'd be strengthened in my mind, my emotions and my will; that my self-worth would be based solely on Your love for me; and that You would do exceedingly abundantly above all I could ask or think — because You are at work in me (Ephesians 3:14-21).

‘Today I thank You for helping me to overcome this habit. In Jesus Christ's precious name I pray, Amen.’ ”

~ Reprinted from 'The Word for You Today'

UGMBC Showtime Fitness!

Contact Bro. David Salone @ 478-320-2632
 Ministry Expectations: Monthly fitness informational meetings & workout sessions
 Christians should always be concerned about their spiritual bodies, but we should not neglect our physical body!
 For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things... 1 Tim. 4:8



GET IN SHAPE

1 CORINTHIANS 9:24-27

UGMBC Equally Yoked Married Couples' Ministry

WHEN A MAN loves a woman

ephesians 5:25-28

A new Equally Yoked Sunday School class began on June 19, 2011 using the book, *His Needs/Her Needs* by Willard F. Harley, Jr. This class will last approximately 14 weeks. Each couple needs a copy of the book. Please contact Min. Tommy or Sis. Linda Gray for more information.




volleyball

Time has rolled around for co-ed volleyball. If you are interested, please contact Bro. Justin Phillips at 404-441-3730 or Deac. Alvin Myrick at 478-952-4286. Look forward to having a great time of fellowship and meeting new people to spread God's Word through sports!

CHURCH SERVICE HOURS

SUNDAY MORNING PRAYER
8:00 a.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL
9:00 a.m.

SUNDAY WORSHIP
10:15 a.m.

Learn ~ Serve ~ Give ~ Connect ~

WEDNESDAY
 Mid-day Manna Noon
 Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

U.G.M.B.C. OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday—Friday
8:00 a.m.— 4:30

Monday
Office Closed

Additional Church Hours
 Tuesday — Friday
 6:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m.

Janice Scott
 Administrative Assistant

Freedom in
Christ

The Recreation Ministry sponsored three teams during the Warner Robins Recreation Department Softball season. The three teams had a successful season and built relationships through fellowship amongst the team as well as other churches in the community. Our ministry is very thankful so we offer a very special thank you to our faithful fans that supported the teams, and to our devoted coaches for offering their time, correction, encouragement, and for leading by example.

CONGRATULATIONS! Men's Softball Team-1st Place

COACHES: Deacon Alvin Myrick, Justin Phillips and Emanuel King

TEAM MEMBERS: Larry Curtis, Antwoin Curtis, Tyson Meriwether, Greg Harden, Deandre Armstrong, Allen Tucker, Oscar Anderson, Chris Edmondson, Tavon Kendal, Alando Goode, Allen Williams, Keith Scott, Rodney Solomon, Robert Brooks, Russell Gilbert



CONGRATULATIONS! Youth Men's Softball Team-2nd Place

COACH: Min. Cornelius Thorpe

TEAM MEMBERS: Brandon Askew, Chas Casey, Omari Green, Sterling Hardin, Torion Hardin, Virgil Lewis, Deshonte Mitchell, Pat Montgomery, Rashee Ragin, Daniel Rogers, Chris Ross, Rick Sherrill, Brendan Smith, Samquez Smith, J'Colby Taylor, Scott Thompson, Allen Tucker, Trever Tucker, and Ederick Wright



CONGRATULATIONS! Women's Softball Team-3rd Place

COACHES: Theo Springle and Rose Smith

TEAM MEMBERS: Soraya Brown, Hilda Haywood, Laura Coffey, Christin Dillard, Martha Roberts, Carolyn White, Pam Robinson, Quawaina "Belle" Tucker, Tosha Bass, Mary Ann Swinney, Keiara Springle, Vicki Self, Michelle Bolden, Belinda Marquez, Jaclyn Boyd, Sarah Stuckey, Cassundra Brown, Shanekia Tucker, and LaShondria Smith



Evangelism Corner

I believe that I am officially the newest member of the Union Grove Evangelism Ministry. After completing the PLACE workshop in March, I received a Union Grove Missionary Baptist Church ministry manual from my PLACE coach. I began reading and praying to find where I might fit in.

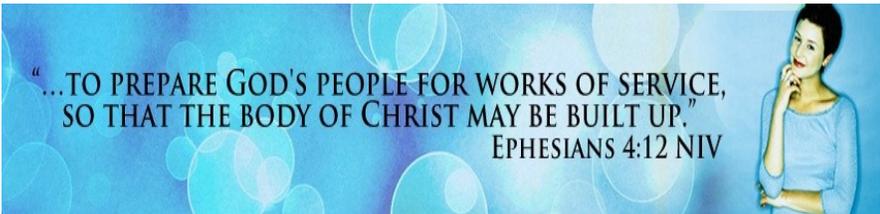
The Outreach Ministry stood out. It felt good! Then I began to think...yes, no, maybe, I don't know. The very next day I received an encouraging confirmation telephone call inviting me to the ministry. I was asked to sit in on a ministry meeting and to visit a nursing home to see if I would like it. The entire ministry team has embraced me and allowed me to grow at God's speed. Now



Sister Kim Cannon

when visiting the nursing homes, seeing the residents' faces light up reinforces my place because the love and trust that is displayed is so wonderful.

Before Union Grove, Life Changers, MasterLife and PLACE, I did not have a clue. I had experienced so much I only related to pain, sorrow, heartache and regret. Eventually, life's circumstances made me cry out and open up for God to perform a change in me. I began the process of what I call, "In...To... From." Trust IN Him, Pray TO Him and Learn FROM His word daily. Everyday I thank God for the wind, rain and the sunshine.



PLACE Promotional Day June 12th

PLACE Ministry invites YOU!

Attend the next PLACE Workshop to define your PLACE of service within the body of Christ!



When: Saturday, August 6th

Where: Vision Center

Time: 8am to 4pm

Lunch, snacks, and materials will be provided!



SPACE IS LIMITED! You MUST sign-up to attend this workshop!
Sign up in the annex, email placeatthegrove@gmail.com, or contact
Min. Leo Finkley at 478-787-1685 to register!



Ministry Highlight: Singles Ministry



Minister Everand Woodard

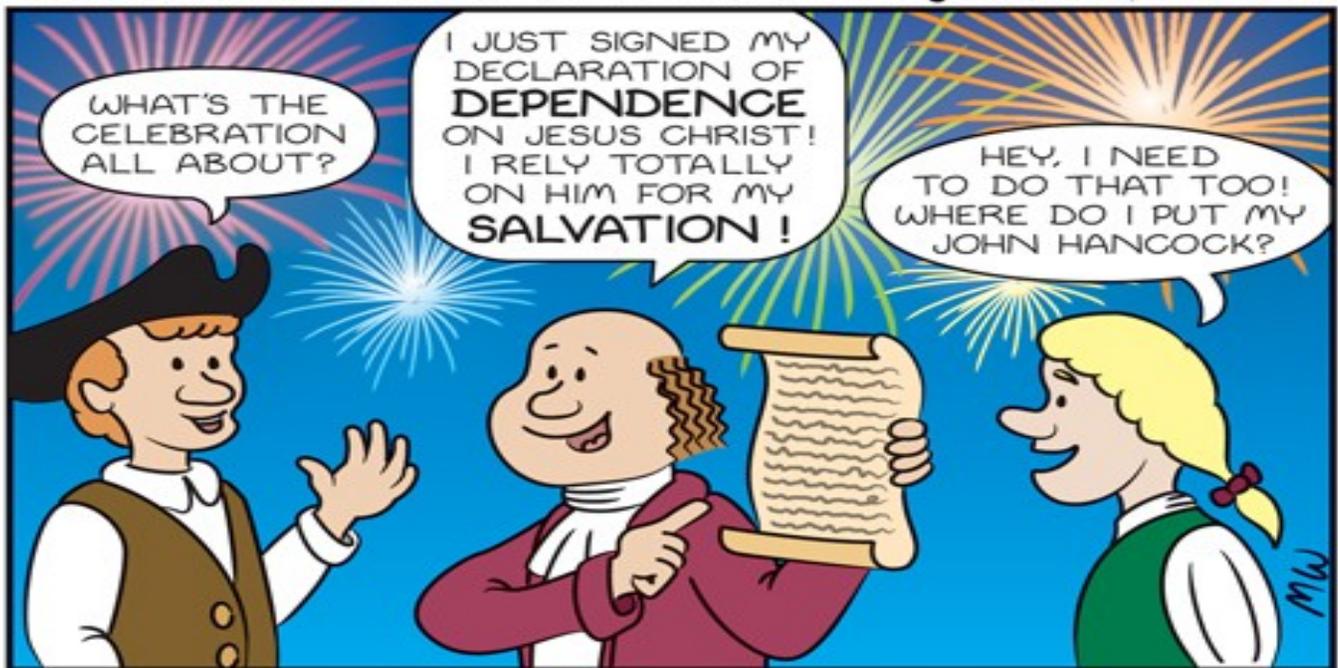
The Singles Ministry is led by Minister Everand Woodard, a faithful member of Union Grove Missionary Baptist Church for over 14 years. As the newly appointed leader, he feels that the mission of the Singles Ministry is to be an agent that God will use to further His Kingdom. Through constant fellowship and abiding in Christ, we accomplish our mission as we seek to be used to create an atmosphere that promotes growth in the Spirit.

The vision of the ministry is to see Christ manifest in its members and serve whole-heartedly as God desires. We want to promote an environment that provokes the Holy Spirit to work through us and encourage others to strive for a deeper fellowship and communion with Christ.

Currently the ministry has a weekly bible study that confronts the essential element of trust and how to apply it to our everyday lives. We fellowship monthly to share how God is moving in our lives and discuss issues pertaining to singles and what God says in His word what our response should be according to the Holy Spirit. The ministry's schedule is itinerant, we are free to allow the Lord dictate when, where, and what He would have us to do.

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DECLARATION OF DEPENDENCE A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



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www.joyfultoons.com

My salvation and my honor depend on God;
he is my mighty rock, my refuge.

— PSALM 62:7 NIV

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Ahh...Freedom!

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery. (Galatians 5:1)

We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired even of life. Indeed, in our hearts we felt the sentence of death. But this happened that we might not rely on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead. He has delivered us from such a deadly peril, and He will deliver us. On Him we have set our hope that He will continue to deliver us. (2 Corinthians 1:10)

In my anguish I cried to the LORD, and He answered by setting me free. (Psalm 118:5)

The LORD lives! Praise be to my Rock! Exalted be God, the Rock, my Savior! He is the God who avenges me. . . who sets me free from my enemies. (2 Samuel 22:47-49)

Jesus said, "You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." (John 8:31-32)

Even to your old age and gray hairs I am He, I am He who will sustain you. I have made you and I will carry you; I will sustain you and I will rescue you. (Isaiah 46:4)

For He will deliver the needy who cry out, the afflicted who have no one to help. He will take pity on the weak and the needy and save the needy from death. He will rescue them from oppression and violence, for precious is their blood in His sight. (Psalm 72:12-14)

But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you wholeheartedly obeyed the form of teaching to which you were entrusted. You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness. (Romans 6:17-18)

Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you will honor me. (Psalm 50:15)

Be sure of this: the wicked will not go unpunished, but those who are righteous will go free. (Proverbs 11:21)

But now He has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in His sight, without blemish and free from accusation. (Colossians 1:22)

For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance-- now that He has died as a ransom to set them free. (Hebrews 9:15)

The Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears, say, "Come!" Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life. (Revelation 22:17)

Set me free from my prison, that I may praise your name. (Psalm 142:7)

He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets the prisoners free, the LORD gives sight to the blind, the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down, the LORD loves the righteous. (Psalm 146:7-8)

If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. (John 8:36)

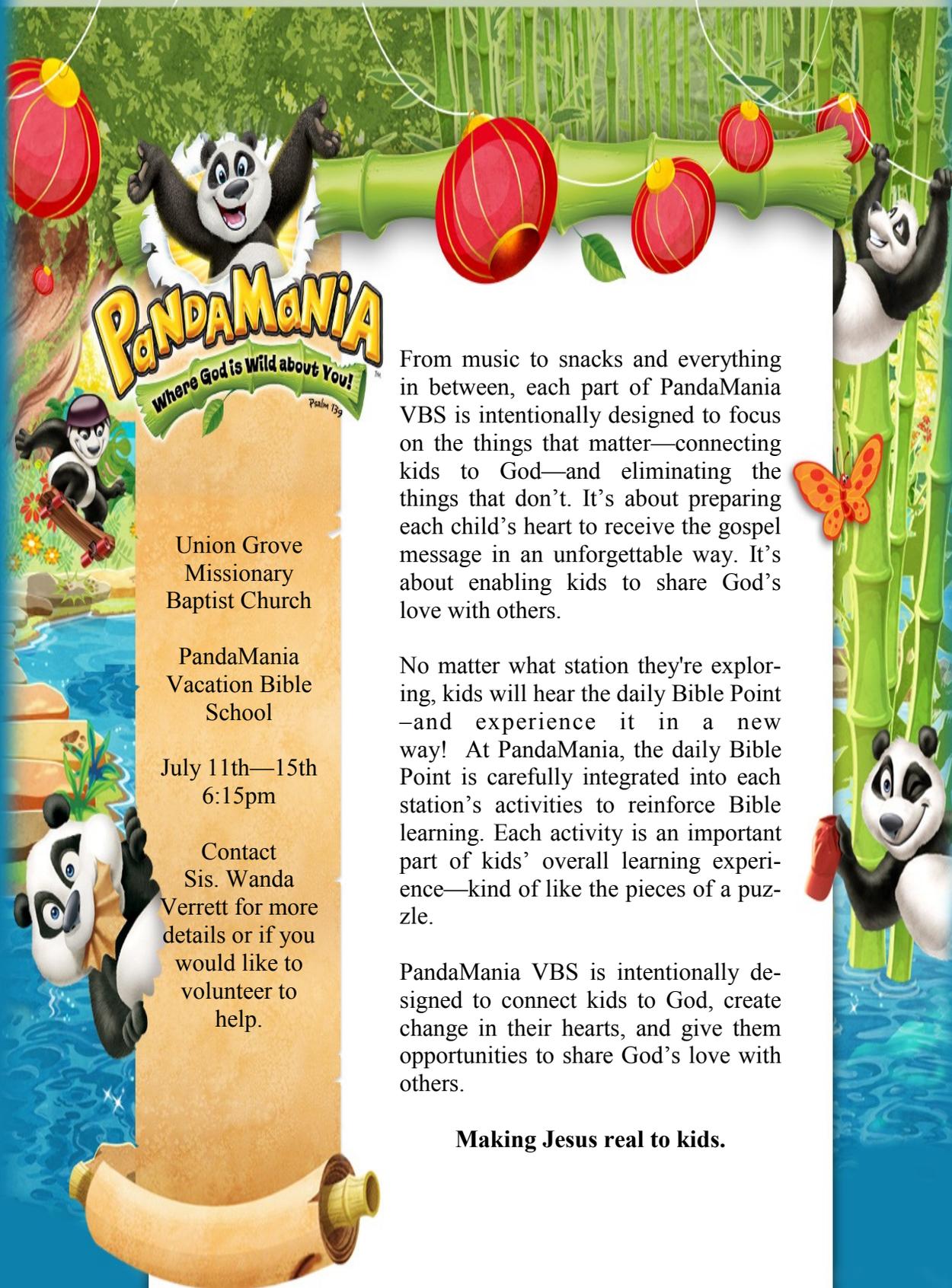
For He will deliver the needy who cry out, the afflicted who have no one to help. (Psalm 72:12)

But you, O Sovereign LORD, deal well with me for your name's sake; out of the goodness of your love, deliver me. For I am poor and needy and my heart is wounded within me. (Psalm 109:21-22)

"Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you," declares the LORD. (Jeremiah 1:8)

The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To Him be glory for ever and ever. Amen. (2 Timothy 4:18)

Vacation Bible School: July 11th - 15th



Union Grove
Missionary
Baptist Church

PandaMania
Vacation Bible
School

July 11th—15th
6:15pm

Contact
Sis. Wanda
Verrett for more
details or if you
would like to
volunteer to
help.

From music to snacks and everything in between, each part of PandaMania VBS is intentionally designed to focus on the things that matter—connecting kids to God—and eliminating the things that don't. It's about preparing each child's heart to receive the gospel message in an unforgettable way. It's about enabling kids to share God's love with others.

No matter what station they're exploring, kids will hear the daily Bible Point—and experience it in a new way! At PandaMania, the daily Bible Point is carefully integrated into each station's activities to reinforce Bible learning. Each activity is an important part of kids' overall learning experience—kind of like the pieces of a puzzle.

PandaMania VBS is intentionally designed to connect kids to God, create change in their hearts, and give them opportunities to share God's love with others.

Making Jesus real to kids.

Men's Ministry: Fish Fry Re-Cap

The men of Union Grove came together in the newly renovated Vision Center for a Men's Fellowship and Fish Fry on Saturday, June 4th, 2011.

Pastor Clarke opened the gathering with prayer and encouraging words for the forty-six men in attendance. Minister Keith Perkins serves as the "WORD" Master for the evening.

The fish was prepared by Fry Masters: Deacon Ed Jarvis, Deacon Alvin Myrick, Deacon Donald Woodard, and Brother Vincent Booker. Numerous side dishes, sodas, and deserts added the final touches for the meal. The men listened, talked, discussed, and took notes as we addressed issues uniquely common to men. Among the numerous topics discussed were: Our relationship with God, our church, and how to be more influential and impactful in our church - especially with young males, in the community, being accountable (in both directions), and how to be a better brother to each other.

There was also a time for entertainment provided by Brother Chad Jackson as Music Mas-

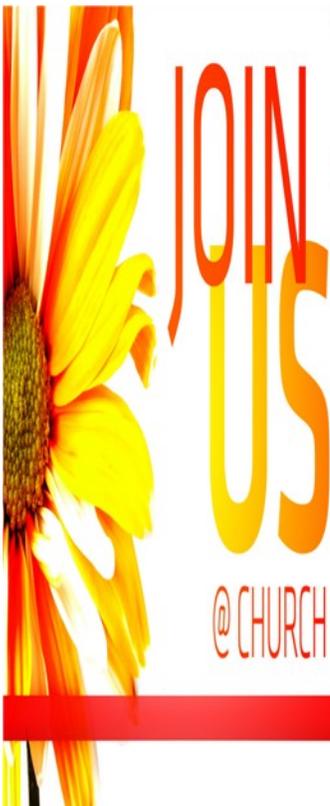
ter. A good and clean vibe kept our spirits lifted while Brother Rodney Solomon, the Game Master had a wide variety of activities that ensured everyone would be engaged. As usual, when men get together, competition warmed up quickly. The men started a tournament of games consisting of Chess, Bid Wiz, Dominos, Ping Pong, and Checkers.

Before the evening ended, winners were declared in the following categories:

- Chess: FLOG (for the love of the game)
- Bid Wiz: Bro. Oscar Anderson and Min. Arie Freeman
- Dominos: Min. Everand Woodard
- Ping Pong: Bro. Eugene Swinney
- Checkers: FLOG

We want to thank everyone who assisted with the renovation of the Vision Center, and the Fish Fry. We are looking forward to our next time together!

Brother Eugene Swinney
Men's Ministry Team



Homecoming Service

August 7
10:15 a.m.

Pastor Paul Dunbar
Guest Speaker

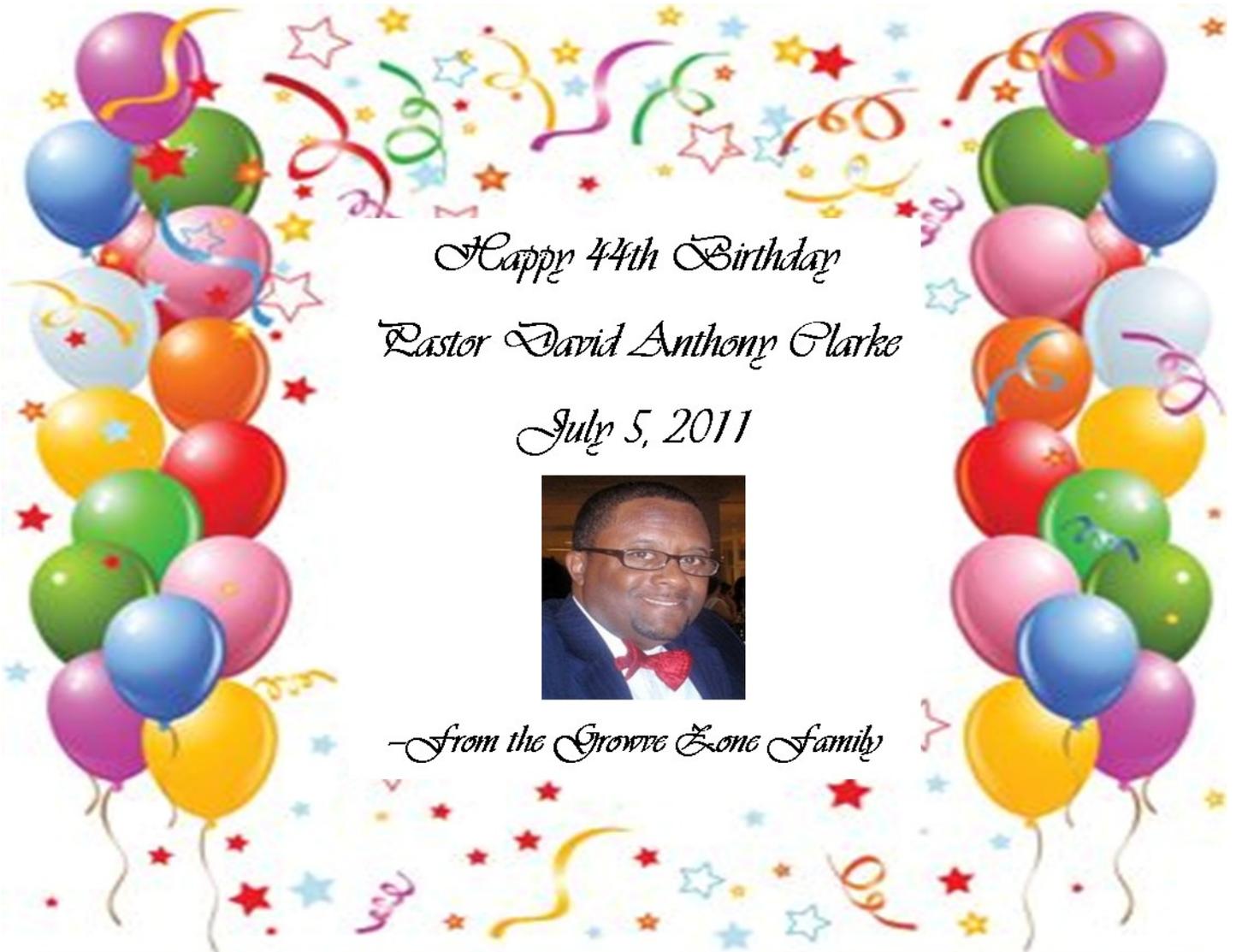
Dinner will be served
at the Vision Center



Annual Fall Revival

August 17-19
7:00 p.m. nightly

Pastor Kenneth Doe
Speaker



Happy 44th Birthday

Pastor David Anthony Clarke

July 5, 2011



From the Growve Lane Family



Ministry Workers

Training
August 6
9:00 a.m.
Sanctuary

All persons serving in a
ministry is asked to be
present.

Information

~ Ministerial Staff ~

Senior Pastor David A. Clarke, Sr.
 Associate Pastor Lee McCants
 Minister Milo Bradley, Jr.
 Minister Connie Dinkins
 Minister John Dukes
 Minister Leo Finkley
 Minister James Ford
 Minister Arie Freeman
 Minister Charles Frye
 Minister James Gaines
 Minister Tommy Gray
 Minister Rushia Jackson
 Minister Keith Perkins
 Minister Rashee Ragin
 Minister Antonia Simmons
 Minister Mary Ann Swinney
 Minister Cornelius Thorpe
 Minister Everand Woodard

~ In Training ~

Sister Dannie Dukes
 Sister Mary Lenoir
 Sister LaTonya Phillips

~ Deacons ~

A-C	Deacon Jerome Stephens	929-1476
D-F	Deacon Slater Thorpe	218-8736
G-I	Deacon Donald Woodard	987-9865
	Deacon Louis Laney	329-0957
J-K	Deacon Robert Simmons, Sr.	
	Deacon Robert Simmons, Jr.	953-4290
L-N	Deacon T.C. Caldwell	293-8428
O-Sm	Deacon Monroe Clark	953-2044
Sn-V	Deacon Edward Jarvis	923-5139
W-Z	Deacon Nathaniel Davis	923-7713
	Deacon Alvin Myrick	788-5696

~ Where to Serve ~

Business Stewardship Ministry – Trustees, Finance Committee, Personnel Committee, Security, Wedding Coordinator— Contact Bro. Anthony Steedley/335-7838

Outreach Ministry – Evangelism, Missions, Prison Ministry, Recreation Ministry

Worship Ministry – Ministerial Staff, Music Ministry, Ushers/Greeters Ministry, Surrendered Dance Ministry, In Door Reporter, Genuine Praise Step Team, 4-Him, 4-Him2—Contact Sis. Africa Porter/923-6770

Teaching Ministry – Sunday School, Bible Study, New Members Orientation, Training Ministry—Contact Sis. Wanda Verrett/328-1483

Spiritual Enrichment Ministry – Deacons Ministry, Deaconess Ministry, Men's Ministry, Women's Ministry, Single's Ministry, Married Couples Ministry, Golden Achievers Ministry, Glory Girls Book Club, Nurse's Guild Ministry, Grief Support, Serenity/Addiction—Contact Dea. Donald Woodard/987-9865

Operational Support Ministry – Media Ministry, Computer Support Ministry, Floral Ministry, Public Relations, Bus Ministry, Food Service, Funeral Coordinator, Newsletter Ministry— Contact Bro. Abraham Scott/213-2263

Youth Ministry – Children's Church, Nursery Ministry, Puppet Ministry, Scholarship Ministry—Contact Min. Rashee Ragin/322-1208

All announcements can be submitted by fax to U.G.M.B.C. at 478-923-6551. Direct all emails to union-grov1@aol.com or complete a bulletin request form, and place it in the Administrative Assistant box no later than Wednesday at 5pm.

To schedule funerals at the church, please contact Sis. Wanda Verrett at 478-328-1483

G.T.A.H. STAFF



G.T.A.H. Staff (left to right): Tilya Bird, Jairee Williams, Shirley Jackson, Ashley Whitehead, and Carolyn Jackson

The Newsletter Ministry would like to thank everyone who contributed to the June issue. Your support and assistance have truly been a blessing to the ministry.

Thank You!

G.T.A.H. Newsletter—Great Things are Happening is on Facebook! Go to our page and click LIKE. We pray that you will be blessed through our printed words as we spread the knowledge of Christ and encourage spiritual living.

Join the Newsletter Ministry!
G.T.A.H. Newsletter is looking for dedicated brothers & sisters of the Union Grove family to spread the Great Things that are Happening at the *Growve* Zone. We are currently looking for writers. No prior experience is needed, just a heart for sharing the knowledge of Christ.

Contact Sis. Jairee Williams or email us at gtahnewsletter@gmail.com

The G.T.A.H. Newsletter will be published on the 4th Sunday of each month. If you would like to see your ministry or event featured in the G.T.A.H., contact any member from the Newsletter Ministry or email us at GTAHNewsletter@gmail.com by the 4th Friday of every month or place them in the Newsletter/G.T.A.H. box in the copy room.

Note:

Please limit all articles solely for the great things that are happening at Union Grove when emailing your submissions. Articles should be no more than 500 words in length, with Times New Roman Font, Size 12 single-spaced. While all submissions are welcome, the G.T.A.H. Staff has the right to make any necessary revisions and make the decision to exclude the article if it does not meet the above criteria or fit the theme of the newsletter.

G.T.A.H. Mission Statement

To aid others in spreading the knowledge of Christ and encouraging spiritual living through printed words