



# The Mount Nebo Messenger

“A Friendly Church Serving a Faith Christ”

A publication of Mount Nebo Missionary Baptist Church  
Winter 2009

## Seniors Visit the “Big Easy”

### INSIDE LOOK

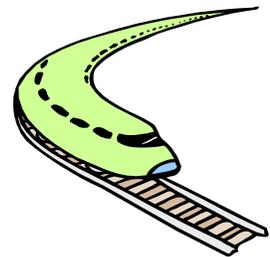
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Mount Nebo’s seniors of all ages enjoyed a taste of New Orleans, June 25, 2009, by way of Amtrak and chartered bus. After an hour’s delay at Union Station, Amtrak finally arrived to begin our three hour journey to the Crescent City.

We passed the time by viewing the picturesque landscapes of small towns on the way and sharing stories of riding the train as children, or revealing the excitement of riding the train for the first time. Upon our arrival, we were greeted by other “Nebonites” who chose the highway over the railway.

Once we boarded the bus, we enjoyed a brief tour of the city. To culminate the evening, we shared a taste of New Orleans at Deanie’s Seafood Restaurant in Metairie, LA. We feasted on fried oysters, shrimp, catfish, crabs, crawfish, etc. with all the fixings. The food was scrumptious and the portions were humungous.

Guess what we had for lunch the next day!!!



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# “Hallelujah, He Arose!”

The Mount Nebo Sunday School Department excitedly proclaimed the good news that Jesus Christ had died for our sins and had risen from the grave during its annual Resurrection Day program on Sunday, April 12, 2009. From tiny toddlers to young-at-heart adults, everyone played a role in telling the story. The program began with a grand processional by the youth of the Sunday School Department as they sang “He Arose.” Several speeches, which were recited by toddlers as young as three years old, followed the processional. Then, the elementary and middle-school aged youth portrayed the discovery of Jesus’ empty tomb in a skit entitled “Surprise.” Furthermore, Deacons Curtis Betts and Larry Grant along with Sis. Sadie Orey proved that they are young at heart as they showed off their puppeteering skills in a skit entitled “The Meaning of Easter.” A lot of great singing was featured throughout the program. For instance, Sis. Pinkie Davis blessed the audience with her renditions of “Because He Lives” and “Calvary.” Moreover, Bro. Harold Grant stirred the crowd with “The Blood Will Never lose its Power,” and highschooler Greg McClinton uplifted the crowd by singing “No One So Holy.” By the program’s end, everyone’s heart was filled with praise--the highest praise--because they knew that Jesus had died for their sins and had risen from the grave.



# Church Anniversary



Oh, what a glorious time Mount Nebo had on April 19, 2009, when we celebrated our 86<sup>th</sup> Church Anniversary! Annually, Mount Nebo sets aside this Sunday to acknowledge the goodness of God to this Church family. We reflected back on the spirit of the early members in advancing the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. The congregation knew this Sunday was special when the choir began the service with “It’s Your Season” The Choir really sang to the hearts of the members. Truly, Mount Nebo knows that it’s OUR season to be blessed.

Brother Larry Grant brought back fond memories, such as buying penny cookies, when he gave the “Historical Reflection.” Brother Grant’s remarks were guided by challenging us not to forget the old ways, but to learn from our past and prepare for the future.

The Church felt comfortable when our guest speaker, Rev. Matthew Canada, the pastor of Pilgrim Rest M. B. Church in Madison, came to the pulpit. Pastor Canada, although not a member of Mount Nebo, as a child, he was a member of the community that Mount Nebo continues to serve. Pastor Canada was able to attest to the steadfastness that Mount Nebo has displayed in Christian service. Pastor Canada presented the anniversary message of “When Jesus is in the House.” He emphasized four (4) points: <sup>1)</sup> Preaching of some Scriptures; <sup>2)</sup> Presenting of the Sick; <sup>3)</sup> Pardoning of Sins; and <sup>4)</sup> Praises of the Saints. The text came from Mark 2:1-12. Pastor Canada told the congregation that we should know and easily be able to recognize when Jesus is in the church. He challenged us to re-direct our energy from “church business” to “Christian service” in order to help save souls. He warned us that oftentimes it is so easy for church folks to get caught up in trivial matters and forget the true mission of the church. He showed us how the main characters of the scripture worked together to get their friend to Jesus. Pastor Canada said that “when the church works together, people are saved. We shouldn’t worry about who’s in charge, but focus on the great Charge [to spread the Gospel].”

Mount Nebo members left fueled and encouraged to have another spirit-filled year pressing



# Men of Mount Nebo “Preparing for the Challenge”

The men of Mount Nebo have made it a top priority to show everyone that God-fearing men still exist in the Metro Jackson area. The activities for this year’s Men’s Day commenced with the annual Saturday cookout on July 18<sup>th</sup> at the home of Deacon Curtis Betts. Members of Mount Nebo were blessed by the attendance of ministers of neighboring churches, out-of-town deacons visiting family, and members of the local Sigma Beta high school fraternity. Of course, all enjoyed the good food prepared by the great cooks, but the football game featuring the high school students and Mount Nebo members was one of the highlights.

On Sunday afternoon, the church was treated to not only one great male choir, but two. The West Jackson Male Choir was joined this year by the spirit-filled, red blazer wearing male choir from New Mount Galilee. All in attendance were blessed by the singing from these two magnificent choirs and were equally touched by the words of the newly re-elected mayor of Jackson, Harvey Johnson. Mayor Johnson reminded the congregation that the time had come for men to stop pretending and start being real men. His words did not fall on deaf ears, as the men of Mount Nebo used Men’s Day 2009 to recharge. They have continued to answer the call to improve the community and lead the lost to Christ.



# Introducing

[www.MountNeboChurch.org](http://www.MountNeboChurch.org)...

[www.MountNeboChurch.org](http://www.MountNeboChurch.org) is the new church web site. This site provides access to information about the church for the world to see. It contains several pages with information about past events, and up & coming events.



The church history page has a summary of the history of the church and its previous pastors. The pastor's page provides the visitor with an introduction to our pastor. The ministry page lists the church ministries and leaders. The events page provides a list of both yearly and weekly church activities. Visitors can view information about Worship opportunities such as day and time of services. The contact page provides information including church phone number and driving directions. The photo gallery page contains pictures from previous church events such as Octoberfest and the Sweetheart Banquet.

The site will continue to grow with new pages and features. Please visit <http://www.MountNeboChurch.org> or Google 'Mount Nebo Church Jackson MS'

## National Baptists Vote to Stay the Course

Founded in 1886, the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. is the nation's oldest and largest African American religious convention with an estimated membership of 7.5 million. At the convention's 129<sup>th</sup> session on Thursday September 10<sup>th</sup> in Memphis, TN, delegates elected Dr. Julius Scruggs of Huntsville, AL as its new president, and our very own state president, Dr. Jerry Young of Jackson as its new vice-president at-large. Dr. Scruggs had previously served as vice-president at-large and Dr. Young had previously served as 2<sup>nd</sup> vice-president under the leadership of Dr. William Shaw of Philadelphia, PA.

Many National Baptists credit Dr. Shaw and his cabinet for setting the national convention on the right course and accomplishing much during his two terms in office. Dr. Shaw and his cabinet often touted his V. I. S. A. motto (*Vision, Integrity, Structure, and Accountability*), and they made tremendous strides toward insuring that the convention lived up to it.

Now that Dr. Shaw has reached his term limit, two of his top vice-presidents, Dr. Scruggs and Dr. Young, have been chosen to pick up the mantle and carry on. Mount Nebo was well represented at the convention by Sis. Rosie Adams, Sis. Artherine Buckley, Bro. Freddie Davis, Bro. Frank Miller, and Pastor John A. Wicks, Jr. Each financially active church in the national convention had three voting delegates. Dr. Scruggs and Dr. Young defeated presidential candidate, Dr. Henry Lyons, and vice-presidential candidate Dr. R. B. Holmes both of Florida by garnering 82% of the vote (*4,086 to 924*). Certainly we congratulate Dr. Scruggs and Dr. Young and we must keep them in our prayers during this challenging time for our country, our churches, and our people.

### Weekly Services

#### **Sunday**

Women's Mission Meeting -- 8:00 a.m. (*4<sup>th</sup> Sunday*)  
Sunday School -- 9:15 a.m.  
Worship Services -- 10:45 a.m.

#### **Monday**

Laymen Meeting -- 6:00 p.m.

#### **Wednesday**

Prayer Meeting -- 5:30 p.m.  
AWANA -- 6:00 p.m.  
Bible Study -- 6:00 p.m.  
Couples' Ministry -- 7:00 p.m.

## “Christian Women Meeting the Challenges of a Changing World”

The Women’s Mission Ministry observed its Annual Women’s Day activities on Saturday, August 29<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup> respectively. The celebration commenced with a spirit-filled praise service during the Annual Women’s Day Prayer Luncheon at 11:00 a.m., Saturday, August 29<sup>th</sup> at Ryan’s Restaurant in Pearl, MS. At this time the women petition our Lord through Prayers of Intercession (Daughters of Destiny), Dedication (Women of Faith), Praise (Women of Agape) and Thanksgiving (Women of Wisdom) Ministries. The praise service was followed by a delicious luncheon and fellowship among the women.

On Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at 10:45 a.m., the celebration continued with the Annual Women’s Day Program. The renowned Women of Faith and Service Choir once again provided harmonious praises to our heavenly Father. Those beautiful ladies with their melodious voices, warmth and contagious spirits have become a much anticipated facet of every Women’s Day Observance since September 2001. Also encouraging the audience, with her inspiring musical renditions was our guest soloist, Sister Priscilla Edwards, a member of the China Grove Baptist Church.

Featured as guest speaker this year was the renowned president of the Jackson District Woman’s Auxiliary and vice president of the Jackson-Hinds Chapter of the JSU National Alumni Association, Incorporated, Sister Vera Watson. Her very touching and soul-searching message was drawn from our theme “*Christian Women Meeting the Challenge of a Changing World*,” Phillipians 2:12-18.

This year’s observance had a very, very special feature dubbed as “*Salutation and Recognition of our Pioneers*.” This highly touching segment of the program recognized a total of 35 ladies posthumously and a total of 13 active pioneers. An exquisite glass plaque was presented to each pioneer commemorating years of dedicated service. The group included two of our oldest



# Revive Us Again!!

The second week in October marks the start of our annual Fall Revival. We kicked off the week on October 10, 2009 with our annual NeboFest 5K walk/run. The course was followed by a wellness fair which included free health screenings for eyesight, diabetes and cholesterol. Despite the rainy weather, many people participated...taking the first steps to living healthier lives.

The health & wellness fair was followed by our annual NeboFest. This neighborhood festival gives Mount Nebo an opportunity to share the love of Christ with the West Jackson community in a fun and friendly atmosphere. The day was filled with games, food and lots of entertainment! The children enjoyed space jumps, basketball and train rides, while the adults enjoyed board games, live music and a cake walk. Over 250 attended this year's event.



Our week culminated with our annual Fall Revival on October 12-14, 2009. Our guest speaker was Reverend Marcus Cathey, Pastor of West Point Church in Hattiesburg, MS. Reverend Cathey gave us an awesome Word to help uplift our spirits and revive us again!



# Mount Nebo Ministry Outreach

## Serving as a Gateway to Christ

On Sunday, November 8, 2009 members of Mount Nebo's Mission and Laymen ministry volunteered at Gateway Rescue Mission in Jackson, MS. Gateway Rescue Mission offers a variety of programs including church services, meals, shelter, and counseling to the Jackson area homeless. Gateway also has a clothing thrift store, family assistance program and the "New Life" drug/alcohol recovery program.

It was a humbling experience for us to share "soup and salvation" with the homeless. Our visit served as a reminder of how good it is to serve a God that loves us all and has no respect of person. It was also a blessing to pray and fellowship with the young men living at Gateway as a part of the "New Life" program. It lifted our spirits to know these men had accepted Christ and were now committed to living a drug-free, Christian life.



*Pictured from left to right:*

*Front row: Karen Miller, James McClinton, Sandra West, and Cochanta Robinson*

*Back row: Tiffany Cline, Barbara Warner, Kimberly Myers, and Tonia Buchanan  
(not pictured Angela Harris).*

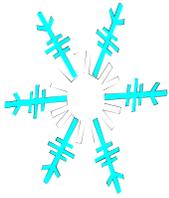
## Mount Nebo Offers a Harvest of Praise in Song

The sanctuary of Mount Nebo Missionary Baptist Church was overflowing with people and praise as the Music Ministry celebrated its Annual Fall Musical. The theme for the event was “We Offer a Harvest of Praise in Song.” Our very own Dr. Priscilla Slade served as the Mistress of Ceremonies. This spirit-filled musical celebration featured the Mount Nebo Baptist Church Mass Choir, The Jackson State University Interfaith Choir, Jim Hill High School Choir, Greater Fairview Baptist Church Adult Choir, Anderson United Methodist Church Choir, Jackson Revival Center Church Choir, and Sister Katrina Bryant.

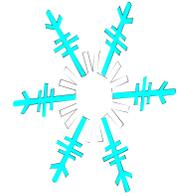
Mount Nebo has been blessed to have a dynamic music ministry staff of ten individuals, who Sunday after Sunday, with the aid of our choirs and the leadership of Rev. Marshall Magee, minister to our souls through song. For this reason, they were honored during the Annual Fall Musical for their dedicated services to Mount Nebo.

A special thanks goes out to everyone who participated to make this event highly successful.





## Dinner and a Show



There's nothing wrong with laughing. There's nothing wrong with having fun. And there's definitely nothing wrong with enjoying great tasting food. On December 4<sup>th</sup>, the Mount Nebo Couples' Ministry proved once again that Christian couples can have a good time. On this particular Friday night, babysitters were employed and the BlackBerry and iPhone devices were put on silent mode. For this was a time for husbands and wives to concentrate on his/her lovely/handsome spouse.

The festivities began with dinner and fellowship at Char Restaurant. While the entrees were being prepared, many couples shared stories about how to child-proof houses, how to persuade a child to take a nap, and how husbands should not ignore the mistakes made by public figures. The latter conversation was extremely interesting. After delicious meals were consumed, the entourage journeyed to the Belhaven New Stage Theatre for the Charles Dickens' classic, "A Christmas Carol." The play proved to be a wonderful treat and captured the group's undivided attention from beginning to end. As the play ended with "snow" falling on the performers during the play's final scene, the couples were greeted by real snowflakes as they exited the theatre. There couldn't have been a more perfect ending to the evening, even if it had been written by Charles Dickens himself.



# The Pastor's Point

## Bro. John A. Wicks, Jr., Pastor

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. During this celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ, let us remember all the details of that powerful story found in the gospels. Remember Mary's conversation with the angel. Remember Joseph's dilemma after learning that his fiancé was expecting. Remember King Herod's decree, the shepherds, the wise men, the inn, and the manger.

As you know, **Luke 2:7** tells us that Baby Jesus was born and laid in a manger because there was no room for Him and His earthly parents in the inn. As we recall and reflect upon this story, let us not repeat the actions of the innkeepers. In our lives, let us be sure to make room for Jesus. Let us make room for Jesus in our daily routines. Make room for prayer several times a day. Make room for bible reading each day. Make room for Bible Study on Wednesday night. Make room for participation in at least one ministry in the church (*i.e., laymen, women's mission, daughters of destiny, choir, ushers, Sunday School, etc.*). It's great to come and worship on Sunday, but every church member also needs to be active in some ministry in the church. The more active you are, the more blessed you are. If you make room for Jesus every day, you'll also have to make room for the rewards He'll send your way!

**Luke 2:11, 13 and 14:** *"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord...And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the Heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace, good will toward men."*

Have a blessed holiday season and remember to:

Keep the **faith** and keep the **focus**.

Keep **worshipping** and keep **working**.

Keep **praying** and keep **pressing** on.

Yours in Christ,

*John A. Wicks, Jr.*

## Bible Trivia

1. **The number books in the Bible:**  
A – 66; B – 72; C – 29; D – 34
2. **How much of God’s creation was man given rule over?**  
A – Everything on dry land  
B – Everything in the water  
C – Beasts and creeping things  
D – All the earth
3. **This woman hung a red rope from her window. . .**  
A – Eve; B – Rahab; C – Tamar; D – Ruth
4. **This woman laughed at God’s promise concerning her child.**  
A – Sarah; B – Jezebel; C – Athaliah; D – Sapphira
5. **This woman had bad eyesight. . .**  
A – Leah; B – Rachel; C – Sarah; D – Hagar

*Answers will be provided in the next edition of the Messenger.*

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## Bible Trivia Answers

1. **The number of plagues of Egypt:** 10
2. **On which day were oxen created** 5
3. **This woman was David’s great-grandmother. . .** Ruth
4. **This woman won a beauty contest. . .** Esther
5. **This woman and her husband were tent makers. . .** Priscilla

# Awana Clubs™



# Mount Nebo Welcomes New Members

## Baptism

*Jhanya Armstrong*  
*Jarrold Gilmore*  
*Gregory Hunter*  
*Nicolas Jones*  
*Drew Walker*  
*DeKayla Williams*  
*Max Williams*  
*JaKobbie Wilson*

## Christian Experience

*Peggy J. Bell*  
*Jerry Bolden*  
*Cecilia Cole*  
*Isaiab Coleman*  
*Lillian Coleman*  
*Quanesha Crawford*  
*Tiffany Darden*  
*Rebecca Davis*  
*Alexis Epps*  
*Carmella Forsythe*  
*Jeremiah Forsythe*  
*Jonathan Forsythe*  
*Leta A. Forsythe*  
*Taylor Forsythe*  
*Melinda Gibson*  
*Kenneth Hilliard*  
*Shameka Johnson*  
*Brenda Jones*  
*Bennie Ray Kirk*  
*Mary McDougal*

## Christian Experience

*Janet Perry*  
*Antonio Smith*  
*Dorothy Taylor*  
*Samuel West*  
*Jamarion Wright*  
*Treneasia Wright*

## Rededication

*Eric Brown*  
*Curvin Jones*  
*Anita Orey*

## *Calendar of Events*

### *January*

24<sup>th</sup> Pastor's Anniversary  
18<sup>th</sup> M. L. King, Jr. Day

### *February*

13<sup>th</sup> Valentine's Day  
Sweetheart Banquet  
16<sup>th</sup> Jackson District  
Congress  
27<sup>th</sup> Jessica Davis'  
Wedding  
28<sup>th</sup> Mission Meeting  
Black History  
Program

### *April*

4<sup>th</sup> Easter  
18<sup>th</sup> Church Anniversary

### Mount Nebo's Mission is to:

*Save the Lost*

*Strengthen the Weak*

*Help the Poor*