



# Harvest

## Serving Well

By Rev. Jesse Brown, Jr., Pastor, Payne Chapel A.M.E. church

My [challenge] is to help us arrive at a place of doing God's work at our highest level of excellence. The Bishops of the Church have suggested that we, as a connec-tional body, should have a common focus as we serve this present age. Last year our focus

was "Living Well." In this conference series we call our attention to the focal point for today: "Serving Well."

The text of record is found in the book of James 2:17, that reads: "In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not ac-

panied by action, is dead!" (NIV).

Faith ... Hebrews 11:1, Paul declares, "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for and the conviction of things not seen." (NIV) This is what we truly believe, and what we preach.

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## 120th Desert-Mountain Annual Conference Summary

By Galvin Brown, Conference Delegate, Grant Chapel A.M.E. Church

The 120th Session of the Desert/Mountain Annual Conference was held from Wednesday, August 23rd through Sunday, August 27th at the Marriott Hotel on Louisiana Blvd. NE. The theme for the 2006-2007 conference year is "Serving Well" with scripture taken from James 2:17. The first of-ficial business session convened at 10:00 AM

Wednesday morning. Bishop John Bryant wel-come-d all to the confer-ence in his opening re-marks. The business ses-sions started with roll call of all the presiding elders, pastors and delegates of the conference. Confer-ence officers were identi-fied, and the boundaries of the conference were set.

The Officers for the Board of Examiners were

presented to the confer-ence along with those candidates desir-ing to enter the minis-try and those advancing to the next level of theological study. Nine candidates were recom-mended for admission into the 1st year of study, and seven were recommended to pass

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### SPECIAL SCRIPTURE:

*The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ.*

*1 Corinthians 12:12 (NIV)*

**Summary** (Continued from page 1)

from their 1st year of study to their 2nd year of study.

The Wednesday noon Hour of Power was a highly-anticipated event. Rev. Dr. Cecelia Williams Bryant, District Episcopal Supervisor and wife of Bishop Bryant, presented a dynamic sermon entitled "What about the Children." Business sessions continued in the afternoon with the Board of Examiners recommendations for 3 candidates to advance from their 2nd year to their 3rd year of study, two individuals to pass from their 3rd year to their 4th year of study and 6 individuals in their 4th year of study to be ordained as Itinerant Elders upon completion of all educational requirements. The conference approved all of the Board of Examiners' recommendations.

The Wednesday night worship service was well attended by the conference members. The combined Grant Chapel Chancel Choir and New Mexico Mass Choir provided the choral selections for the initial phase of the service followed by selections from the Shorter Community church choir. Rev. Joseph C. Nixon delivered a powerful sermon entitled "Planks and Pieces" for the evening.

The Thursday morning business sessions were off to a beautiful start with the praise team opening with spiritually uplifting songs followed by a both delightful and insightful training session presented by Rev. Jesse Brown on the subject of "Serving Well," the 2006-2007 conference theme. His presentation is reprinted in this Newsletter. Upon completion of the class, Bishop Bryant provided opening remarks that were fol-

lowed by pastors' annual reports. Rev. Eric Boyd delivered a spiritually uplifting noonday Hour of Power message entitled "What do you do when your brook runs dry?"

The Thursday night Ecumenical Worship service was very energetic and entertaining. The Men's Choir of Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church provided two rousing choral selections, and Rev. Dennis Dunn, Fellowship pastor, delivered the inspirational sermon on "Serving Well," the conference theme. Following the service, Bishop Bryant and the various conference pastors presented Man of the Year awards.

Our own Bro. John Pennington was honored as Grant Chapel's Man of the Year. He arranged and supervised transportation for the annual conference that involved borrowing some \$200,000 worth of automobiles from local dealerships at no cost to Grant or the conference. He also sings in the Chancel Choir, solos, and provides audio support to the church.

On Friday morning business sessions continued with another training session. The topic was "How to Raise Money for Your Local Church" sponsored by the Nehemiah Ministries and Countrywide Bank. This was an informative presentation that focused on writing effective grants and proposals to various resource organizations for obtaining funding. The second half of the training session focused on the Economic Development Fund, what it is, and its accomplishments and successes. The A.M.E. Church now owns a hotel as a result of the Economic Development Fund. Following the train-

ing session, the pastors continued making their annual reports to the conference. Periodically throughout the business sessions. Bishop Bryant provided his insight on the A.M.E Church and took the opportunity to give brief moments of instruction to the ministers and officers of the conference when applicable.

The noon Hour of Power service was another event that was well attended by the conference members. The afternoon business session continued with the pastors' annual reports to the conference. Two new churches were admitted to the Desert/Mountain Conference. They are Fountain of Life A.M.E. Church and Tabernacle Community A.M.E. Church. Both are in Phoenix, and both were birthed from Tanner A.M.E. Church. Bishop Bryant also announced that the A.M.E. Church contributed \$2 million towards the Katrina relief effort, including \$250,000 from the 5th District.

Bishop Bryant also noted that a Red Cross Official had stated in a public forum that he had never seen the level of support as that provided by the A.M.E. Church. The Bishop observed that the A.M.E. Church is growing and not dying.

The Conference Lay Organization hosted the Friday night worship service. The Lay Organization presented a very entertaining play entitled "Contract with the Devil" with members of the Conference Lay as the actors. This was a wonderful play that focused much attention on the choices we make in life and how we can choose to walk with God or the devil.

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# From the Pastor's Desk

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I take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to you, the members of Grant Chapel, for all of your work in hosting this year's annual conference. "No stone was left unturned" in looking after the comfort of everyone attending the Desert/Mountain Annual Conference.

I am grateful to Brother John Pennington and the Transportation

Committee; Sister Zerrie Waters and the Registration Committee; Brother Patrick Lott and the Set Up Committee; Brother Jessie Watkins and the Souvenir Journal Committee; Sister Ruthie Owens and the Vendor Committee; Sister MonTrosie Stallard and the Hospitality Committee; Brother Frank Jerabek and the Public Relations Committee; the Stewardesses and

Ushers.

Everyone in the congregation working together to give God the glory made our annual conference one of the best in the Episcopal District. May God continue to bless and keep each of you.

Rev. John D. Hill, D. Min.  
Pastor

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## *Serving Well* (Continued from page 1)

In his book, *Our Faith*, Emil Brunner states that in the time of the Reformation the battle cry was, "By faith alone." As I understand Brunner, he was shouting in a loud voice there is more. The seventeenth verse of the second chapter of James affirms Brunner's point of view. Along with faith there must be accompanying action. God wants us to contend for the faith. To do so, we must hold to the mystery of the faith with a pure conscience. "But let these also first be tested; then let them serve as deacons."

As we serve God, God has left nothing to "Chance." God has given us a perfect model servant -- God's son, Jesus, the Christ.

In Philippians 2:5-11, Paul tells the servants at the church: "Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus, who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God ... but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness."

*Serving Well* is knowing that as the Spirit speaks to us, we do not have the ability to do so without

God's help. In other words, this is a Faith Journey.

First of all, God's Word says, without FAITH we cannot please God. Without FAITH in the presence and power of God through Christ, and the Holy Spirit, we cannot serve well.

Attempting to serve satisfactorily, adequately, sufficiently, and abundantly without God is out of our physical, mental, and spiritual reach. *Serving Well* only happens when we realize our place in God's plan. That is answering our Call from God to serve.

For this present age and generation, new birth in Christ Jesus must precede *Serving Well*. God can only work through us when we surrender ourselves to the purpose and will of God. Yes, God made us, but God will not force us. It's a willing situation.

*Serving Well* can only be achieved when we realize that it is in the true God experience to rely solely upon God and God alone. To say so does not dismiss Jesus, it embraces Him.

To *Serve Well* can place the servant in tough positions, however, having surrendered to God, the

servant knows whose hand he/she is in. There should be no fear.

1st Peter 2:20b-21 teaches: "But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God. To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving an example, that you should follow in his steps."

To *Serve Well* is to realize total dependence upon the One who made us. Emil Brunner declares this is "harder than penances, prayers, and good works of pious heathens. There is nothing in the entire world more humiliating as no longer being able to trust in oneself. And, nothing is so difficult in all the world as to trust God ALONE." It is difficult for us to believe that God will do what God promised.

Perhaps this is the reason Jesus declared that the mystery of the Gospel to have been hidden from the learned and revealed to the simple.

To *Serve Well* one must be equipped for the task:

1. Prepare for serving: Manifest love for God and humankind
2. Serve with humility

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# Nexus: Religion in the Public University

By Stacy Keogh, Nexus Staff, UNM Religious Studies Department

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[This] ongoing program [is] sponsored by the UNM Religious Studies Program. *Nexus* seeks to examine the many roles of religion in the contemporary world and to build dialogue between the university and the diverse faith communities of New Mexico.

Funded by the Louisville Institute, *Nexus* presents free, public lectures on religion, ethics and spirituality in America and the world. In the last year, *Nexus* hosted events on religion and environmentalism, Islam and America, spiritual practices, religion and science, faith and globalization, and how doctors and patients understand dying. Each lecture is followed by a dialogue session with an invited group of congregation-based clergy and university-based scholars. *Nexus* does not seek to promote any specific religion or religious agenda, but provides a forum for members of all faith traditions (and the non-religious) to discuss contemporary issues with those of other religious traditions and with faculty from diverse disciplines.

Through positive publicity and event coverage from Albuquerque newspapers, *Nexus* has become a respected program in the community. One audience member commented, "I am pleased to see UNM attend to one of the many critically important debates on the place of science in society."

Opinions from audience and faculty/clergy participants have been overwhelmingly positive. Hindu Swami Prasanthananda noted that the interfaith dialogue has opened up her religious circles to other traditions in the community. Pastor David Bruskas (City on a Hill Church) has employed the knowledge acquired through *Nexus* in his sermons and in discussion with various members of his congregation. Pastor John Hill (African Methodist Episcopal Church) stated that *Nexus* is one of the programs that discuss issues pertinent to everyone in his church, encouraging him to stay updated on current affairs. Deacon Don Bruckner (Archdiocese of Santa Fe) noted "*Nexus* expands my horizons by incorporating body, mind and

spirit issues into life on and off campus."

Dr. Edward DeSantis of the University Honors program at UNM believes that as a result of *Nexus*, the Religious Studies Program has earned itself "greater notoriety on campus because it is receiving greater notoriety off campus." Rabbi Art Flicker (B'nai Israel Synagogue) found the most valuable part of the discussion was having an "excuse" for meeting people of different faiths, especially faiths which are a "minority in this country but majority elsewhere."

In May 2006, *Nexus* participants agreed that they would like to see *Nexus* continue for a second year. The next public event is scheduled for October 19, 2006 at 12:00 noon in the UNM SUB Ballroom C. Our guest lecturer will be Joel Kaminsky speaking on "Sibling Rivals: Jewish and Christian Understandings of Chosenness". You are invited! Send us your email if you wish to receive notice of this and other events.

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## Summary (Continued from page 2)

The Saturday Ordination Service was a very special spiritual event. The dynamic Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie preached the keynote sermon. The Ordination Service followed her sermon. Six candidates were ordained and served Communion after they were ordained.

The Saturday evening event was

a "Dinner Theater" sponsored by the Conference Young People's Department (YPD). This was a very energetic hip-hop play. The youth really put a lot of work into the production, and it was very entertaining.

The historic 120th Session of the Desert/Mountain Annual Conference concluded on Sunday, August 27<sup>th</sup> with the closing service.

Bishop Bryant preached powerfully.

The 121st Session of the Desert/Mountain Annual Conference will take place during the week of August 20, 2007 at the conclusion of the 2006-2007 conference year at Shorter Community A.M.E. Church in Denver Colorado.

# GUIDE TO ACHIEVEMENT: Book Gives African-American Students Tips for Success in High School and College

By Debra Dominguez-Lund, Journal Staff Writer,

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Manzano High School sophomore Simone Crum says the biggest challenge faced by her and her black peers is that they lack parental, educational and community support.

"Having someone show us they really care really helps," said Crum, whose high school reported one of the city's higher black student populations in 2005-2006 at 5.9 percent.

In the 2005-06 school year, 4 percent of the district's 94,556 students were black, according to Albuquerque Public Schools.

"If people would just encourage us, be role models and go that extra mile telling us we're 'doing a good job' every now and then I believe we'd really do better," Crum said.

That's why the 15-year-old student said she's glad the New Mexico Office of African American Affairs has published a new guidebook for parents, educators and black students.

It's called "Accelerating African American Student Achievement in New Mexico Public Schools Grades 9-12" and it's free.

It was published to help black students better prepare for high school graduation and become proficient enough to enter college, said Harold Bailey, executive director of the office.

"Although the publication is designed for African-American students and presented from a black

perspective, all students can benefit from the book," Bailey said.

The 65-page publication includes ways to improve black high school student performance by setting tasks for each grade.

For example, ninth-graders are told to sign up for the "right courses" that will prepare them for college or workplace competency, while 10th-graders are told to develop research skills and "work to control the time you spend watching TV ... and hanging out."

Bailey hopes the book will help increase black college attendance rates and reduce high school dropout rates.

In 2004-2005, total student enrollment in New Mexico high schools was 98,202 -- with the black student population making up 2,342 students or 2.38 percent of the total, the book says.

According to 2004 Education Trust data, about 33 percent of black students graduating from New Mexico high schools enroll in college within four years, the book states. Black students comprise 2 percent of the enrollment in two-year colleges and 2 percent in four-year colleges in the state, the book said.

The dropout rate for black high school students was 5.5 percent in 2003-2004 or 128 of the 2,286 black students enrolled according to the state education department.

Crum said she believes many of her black peers don't succeed be-

cause they think achieving academic success is to "act white."

"It's like they don't know success is OK, so, they end up acting different in class, not answering questions in class to impress each other," Crum said. "I'm an honor student, and so are my friends, but I know some other black student groups think of us as a group of 'goody two shoes' because we study.

"But we study anyway," she said. "I think that's what other black students should do, too: Get together and support each other."

Crum plans to meet with black students at other schools to talk about the publication and its advice.

Bailey said his office has already distributed the publication to more than 70 teachers, 300 black students and 500 parents and community members statewide.

He said New Mexico Secretary of Education Veronica Garcia also requested more than 175 copies to distribute to state superintendents and administrators.

Garcia said she believes the No. 1 issue facing black students and most students of color is poverty.

She also said students of color are often subjected to low expectations as a whole.

"We need to break down those barriers and raise our expectations of them," Garcia said. "I think the book is an excellent project -- one

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# Farewell Dolly

By Rosetta Potter Grant

Rev Hill, ministerial staff, officers and members of Grant Chapel A.M.E. Church and friends; on behalf of Dorothea's family, I thank you for your kindness, encouragement and love that you extended to our sister during her membership at your church. I want you to know; that we deeply appreciate all that you have done for Dorothea and continue to do, not only for her but also for her husband LeRoy, her daughter Paula and grandchildren.

It is a blessing and a joy to know that you were here for her during those last days, when family was so far away. Thank you and God, and bless each of you.

Dorothea, being the eldest sibling -- and somewhat bossy -- was the sister we looked upon as a leader, a take-charge person in most situations.

One of my earliest memories of Dorothea took place in the small town of North Woburn, Massachusetts. Our family, the Potters was the only black family in town. And during the summers Dorothea would wake all the sisters up at 5:00 AM and lead us deep into the woods to pick blueberries. By 8:00 AM after picking several

quarts, she would round up to travel the long and tedious journey home.

Breakfast and chores done, we were off to sell our berries for 20 cents a quart. I believe some of the folks felt sorry for us colored children and so purchased our berries. It was from those hot summer days of picking berries, at the age of 8, that I had my first on the job training lessons: picking, selling, and saving. Those lessons were taught by Dorothea; an example of her take-charge attitude.

We also, learned early that Dorothea was an excellent student, an avid reader, proper in her mannerisms, soft spoken, efficient, disciplined, and a good homemaker. In short, she dotted every 'i' and crossed every 't.'

More importantly, Dorothea believed in God. She was a devoted wife and mother, and close to her immediate family, as well as the Charles Street A.M.E. Church family. She remained active and devoted until illness took hold. Dorothea was saddened by her move to Albuquerque. She had mixed feelings about leaving Massachusetts, not knowing anyone here, not knowing what to expect, and not knowing where she would worship.

But, through it all she knew to trust and depend on God: With newfound friendships she quickly adjusted, and always talked about her new church family and friends. Again, thank you.

And so, after all that has been said and done,  
I leave you with these words.

And God said, for ye shall go out  
with Joy.

And be led forth with Peace.  
The mountains and the hills shall  
break forth

Before you Singing.  
And then, God Commanded  
All the trees of the field  
To Clap their hands, and  
He whispered,

Dorothea Louise Potter Powell  
Dorothea Powell  
"Dolly"

Come go with Me.

And she answered His call.

**Editor's note:** Rosetta Potter Grant is one of Dorothea's six surviving sisters and a member of Charles Street A.M.E. Church in Boston, MA. She presented this remembrance at Dorothea's funeral service on August 19, 2006 at Grant Chapel.

**Serving Well** (Continued from page 3)

3. Serve faithfully and willingly
4. Serve actively

SCRIPTURES:

Matthew 20:28, 24:45-47, 25:14

Luke 17:10

Romans 12:1-21

Titus 3:4-8

John 3:1-21

1 Peter 1:13-23

**Editor's note:** Rev. Brown made this presentation at Annual Conference and facilitated the discussion of what "Serving Well" means.

**Alumnae/i Update** (Continued from page 9)

him while I was in Albuquerque, so if you talk with him, would you tell him I asked about him.

Thanks!

Please give my love to all my Grant Chapel family. I miss everyone. Take care of yourselves!  
Love you, Priscilla

**Editor's note:** Her email address is priscilla.bottom@sbcglobal.net. She'd love to hear from us.

# Fifth District Economic Development Fund: 2006 EDF Factoid

By Harold Whitfield, CEO

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The Economic Development Fund of the Fifth District A.M.E. Church (EDF) works to strengthen our A.M.E. churches, congregations and their surrounding communities through a comprehensive wealth-creation strategy that will provide economic independence, security and stability for our church community.

The **EDF goal for Founder's Day 2007 is \$540,000.00**. The **direct local impact** of achieving our \$540,000.00 goal is that **each congregation** will be **reimbursed** their **TOTAL AMOUNT** paid into the District Budget. Across the District, that amount totals \$220,000.00. **What would your local Church do with those funds?**

- Scholarship applications are coming in at record numbers! Once again, the full \$60,000 budget for scholarships will be invested in our A.M.E. youth, many of whom represent the future leaders of our Church and communities. Please continue to encourage students and their families to "share their stories" in District Meetings.
- Chester Thompson, EDF consultant, has been named Executive Director of the Kansas City Black Economic Union, the oldest Black Development Agency in America. Congratulations!

- Festus Gardens, you'll remember was completed in 2004, through a partnership named the Festus Gardens LLP, which has **generated \$ 400,000 for EDF services**. An early buy-out of a 40 yr.-\$ 1,490,368 promissory note was recently purchased by the co-developer for \$300,000. This transaction was a real blessing for EDF. We are always looking for deals like this one!

- Hotel Progress Update — EDF has successfully obtained a \$2 million SBA-504 Small Business Loan, with a stipulation re: construction of a highway ramp for better access to the hotel from the west. This loan combined with the additional \$4.4 million secured at Premier Bank solidifies our construction and long-term financing for the 2.6 acre site. Also, Wingate Hotels recently merged with the **Wyndham Hotel Chain**, which offers our Hotel a stronger reservation system from which to draw guests and further strengthens our \$1 million land investment.

- **EDF is regrettably being forced to suspend all future loan-making activities until significant amounts of the \$467,000, in delinquent loans made to our churches, are repaid.** Many loans are long overdue, with no effort to establish a

reasonable payment plan presented by the Churches. We encourage Church Leaders to do whatever is needed to honor their commitment. This repayment will enable us to activate a long-term EDF goal of providing grants for needed church-related deferred maintenance, repairs and other similar Church-specific requests—all needed to strengthen our Church ministries within communities throughout the Fifth District.

- Everyone can participate in EDF — the "People's Trust Fund" — by selecting one of the following contribution schedules:

- \$0.10 a day = \$36.00 annually
- \$1.00 a week = \$52.00 annually
- \$100.00 annually
- \$500.00 annually
- \$1,000.00 annually

**Remember, everyone needs to join the Team to create the "Critical Mass" needed to touch off a Church-led EXPLOSION in the FIFTH DISTRICT. Don't let "small thinking" about "what's in it for me" or whether the "Church across town is participating at the same level" keep us from our collective goal of EMPOWERMENT!**

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*NEXUS (Continued from page 4)*

*Editor's note:* This article is reprinted with the author's permission. As you may have noted above, Pastor Hill participates in

this program. Indeed, it is mentioned in *Pastor's Corner* on the Grant Chapel Website, [www.grantameabq.org](http://www.grantameabq.org). The email address for this program is relig-

[ion@unm.edu](mailto:ion@unm.edu), and the Website is [www.unm.edu/~religion](http://www.unm.edu/~religion). Use *Nexus* as the subject of your email.

# What is Discipline? By Frank Jerabek

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Discipline is respecting yourself and your abilities.	Discipline is understanding the choices you have made in life either explicitly or implicitly and moving forward from where you are.	Discipline is meeting legitimate external deadlines.
Discipline is remaining focused on your goals and minimizing distractions.	Discipline is trusting your instincts and choosing reasonable goals.	Discipline is negotiating changes when needed and avoiding unilateral action.
Discipline is confronting challenge.	Discipline is accepting those things you cannot change, changing the things you can change and recognizing the difference between	Discipline is loving yourself even when you don't think you're worthy.
Discipline is accommodating your healthy interests and abilities.		Discipline is maintaining your faith during times of both adversity AND success.
Discipline is asking for and accepting feedback.		
Discipline is balancing your effort.		
Discipline is being reasonable with		

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## *Guide to Achievement* (Continued from page 5)

that should help us close the academic achievement gap for African-American students in New Mexico. And it's a critical resource for educators to help them meet the specific needs of African-American children."

### How to get it

The guidebook, "Accelerating African American Student Achievement in New Mexico Public Schools Grades 9-12," can be downloaded at [www.state.nm.us/hsd/oaaa](http://www.state.nm.us/hsd/oaaa) under the student guide link. Free copies are available at the New Mexico Office of African American Affairs, 1015 Tijeras NW.

### Tips for parents and mentors

- Know how your child is performing in each school subject.
- Know how your child's school is doing overall compared to New Mexico academic standards and whether it is meeting "Adequate Yearly Progress" or AYP.

- Obtain information about your child's school performance with specific groups of students, including African-American students.
  - Know that if you ask, the school must have regular meetings with you to discuss your concerns about your child's education.
  - Transfer your child to a higher-performing school or get tutoring to raise the academic achievement of your child at "no cost to you."
  - Show that you think homework is important and that your child has set aside enough time for homework.
  - Look for warning signs in the homework that might indicate your child is not being academically challenged, like finishing homework very quickly or having no homework at all.
- Source: "Accelerating African American Student Achievement in New Mexico Public Schools Grades 9-12."

### Enrollment

Percentage of African-American students at Albuquerque high schools, 2005-2006 school year:

- Albuquerque -- 5.7 percent
  - Cibola -- 4.6 percent
  - Del Norte -- 6.3 percent
  - Eldorado -- 2.4 percent
  - Highland -- 8.8 percent
  - La Cueva -- 2.3 percent
  - Manzano -- 5.9 percent
  - Rio Grande -- 1.4 percent
  - Sandia -- 3.5 percent
  - Valley -- 1.8 percent
  - West Mesa -- 3.7 percent
- Source: APS

# Organization/Auxiliary News

## WMS Update

By Rena Paris-Bendaw, President, Edith C. English Women's Missionary Society

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Returning from Annual Conference the Mighty Missionaries came back ready to work on our new Conference Year.

Members worked dedicatedly in hosting our Annual Conference. Many served as members of the registration desk, special hostesses, substitute van drivers and administrative assistants. We thank you and give God the glory for the great things He has done.

Sisters MonTrosie Stallard and I were honored with other members of the Conference at a special re-

ception for Life Members and Cleo B. Love Members. The latter are sisters who have served as Missionaries more than 25 years. Sister Mary F. King-Jackson was inducted as a Cleo B. Love member at conference.

I was also elected Lead Delegate of the Desert Mountain Conference to Quadrennial Missionary Meeting in July 2007 in Philadelphia, PA.

The following members were re-elected to Conference positions: Sister Geleta Smith as Conference

Worship Director, MonTrosie Stallard as Area chairperson, Faye Jasper as Area YPD Director and I as Conference Treasurer.

Our Missionaries will have their 4th Annual WMS retreat on October 7, 2006 in the lovely home of Sister Marsha Hardeman. We will work on our calendar of events and activities for the conference year.

Please pray for the members of the Edith C. English Missionary Society as we continue to fulfill Missions by God's Word, God's Way and God's Will.

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## Alumnae/Alumni Update

Sunday, September 24, 2006

Frank,

I pray you, Pat and family are well. I'm fine. The weather is getting cooler but so far no rain. I gather Albuquerque is having cooler temperatures and some rain also. I miss this time of year in New Mexico. My dad was a dairyman and we always attended the State Fair. I have many, many happy memories there.

This is the time of year for harvest festivals here. Last Saturday, my sister, mom and I went to the Walnut Festival in Walnut Creek. My sister rode in the parade, and my mom and I were privileged to sit in the grandstand with Walnut Creek's mayor and the King Walnut. Ha! The parade kicked off the week-long festival, and this year's theme was "Carnivale" so the parade participants threw strands of

beads and candy to the on-lookers. We came home with several necklaces. That weekend there was also an almond festival in neighboring Oakley, a Delta Blues festival in Antioch, and the Greek Festival in Pittsburg, CA. Next year I hope to be better prepared to see more of them. My sister, Joan, has been made the editor of the Home and Garden section of the *Contra Costa Times*, a newspaper she has worked at for 18 years. She has two weekly columns she does as well. We are very proud of her.

I wanted to update you on Ellen. The day before she was to move to Holmesdale, PA, she was hospitalized with congestive heart failure in the Lancaster Heart Hospital. They released her on Saturday morning (September 9th--Ellen's 74th birthday), and her niece was waiting to take her to Holmesdale.

Anyway, when Jenny (the niece) got her to Holmesdale, she had to be hospitalized again. She spent over a week in Wayne County Hospital, but this week was released to Jenny's care. I spoke with her tonight and she is doing better. She will have her own phone installed this week and will call me with the number, give me her address, etc., which I will pass on to you. She and Moe seem to be doing better in the care of family. Although Moe now has two house cats to contend with. Ha! Moe was very happy to see his "mom" and I know Ellen is pleased to be out of the hospital.

I spoke to Margaret Carson today and had talked to Mary Lou Button yesterday. Neither of them knew how Clarence Walker was doing. Do you? I missed seeing

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# Bible Quiz by Frank Jerabek

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1. In what language was the Old Testament originally written?
  - a. Aramaic
  - b. English
  - c. Greek
  - d. Hebrew
  - e. Latin
2. In what language was the New Testament originally written?
  - a. Aramaic
  - b. English
  - c. Greek
  - d. Hebrew
  - e. Latin
3. In what language did Jesus speak?
  - a. Aramaic
  - b. English
  - c. Greek
  - d. Hebrew
  - e. Latin
4. What religion did Jesus practice?
  - a. Buddhism
  - b. Christianity
  - c. Islam
  - d. Judaism
5. Which of the gospel writers is credited with writing the book of Acts?
  - a. Matthew
  - b. Mark
  - c. Luke
  - d. John
6. Which of the gospel writers is credited with writing the book of Revelation?
  - a. Matthew
  - b. Mark
  - c. Luke
  - d. John
7. Which of the gospel writers were part of the original group of Jesus' twelve disciples?
  - a. Matthew
  - b. Mark
  - c. Luke
  - d. John
8. To whom is the first gospel attributed?
  - a. Matthew
  - b. Mark
  - c. Luke
  - d. John
9. In what decade of the first century is it generally acknowledged that it was written?
  - a. 4<sup>th</sup>
  - b. 5<sup>th</sup>
  - c. 6<sup>th</sup>
  - d. 7<sup>th</sup>
10. To whom is the last gospel attributed?
  - a. Matthew
  - b. Mark
  - c. Luke
  - d. John
11. In what decade of the first century is it generally acknowledged that was it written?
  - a. 7<sup>th</sup>
  - b. 8<sup>th</sup>
  - c. 9<sup>th</sup>
  - d. 10<sup>th</sup>
12. In what decade of the first century was Jesus killed?
  - a. 4<sup>th</sup>
  - b. 5<sup>th</sup>
  - c. 6<sup>th</sup>
  - d. 7<sup>th</sup>
13. In what decade of the first century is it generally acknowledged that Paul was killed?
  - a. 4<sup>th</sup>
  - b. 5<sup>th</sup>
  - c. 6<sup>th</sup>
  - d. 7<sup>th</sup>
14. How do Biblical scholars generally characterize the followers of John the Baptist?
  - a. Baptists
  - b. Christians
  - c. Gentiles
  - d. Jews
  - e. Methodists
15. What does the word Christ mean?
  - a. Lord
  - b. Messiah
  - c. Pastor
  - d. Rabbi
16. What is the source language for the name Christ?
  - a. Aramaic
  - b. English
  - c. Greek
  - d. Hebrew
  - e. Latin
17. Which gospel comes closest to recording the actual words that Jesus spoke?
  - a. Matthew
  - b. Mark
  - c. Luke
  - d. John
  - e. Sayings Gospel Q
18. Which three Gospels are referred to as the Synoptic Gospels?
  - a. Matthew
  - b. Mark
  - c. Luke
  - d. John
19. What does "synoptic" mean?
  - a. Detailed
  - b. Eclectic
  - c. Random
  - d. Summary
20. Which Gospel has been characterized as the Bible's most profound book?
  - a. Matthew
  - b. Mark
  - c. Luke
  - d. John

Answers to follow in the next edition.

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## Brain Teaser

You are given a pile of 500 pennies lying on a table. The pennies are disguised such that you cannot tell if they are lying heads or tails up. You are told that

200 of the pennies are lying heads up (therefore, 300 are lying tails up).

The problem is to create two piles of pennies such that there are the same num-

ber of pennies in both piles with their heads up.

Solution to follow in the next edition.

# Announcements & Notices

We want to recognize and acknowledge significant events in the lives of our church family!

**Home Goings:** Our sister Dorothea Powell went to her eternal rest on Aug. 8, 2006 after battling cancer. She served diligently and lovingly in many capacities including as steward, usher and Stewardship and Finance Commission member. We will miss her. See her family's tribute to her on page 8.

**Altar Railing Dedication:** On Sunday, September 24, 2006, Pastor Hill and Rev. Dompheh dedicated the new altar railing that was donated by the Houston extended family. Christina Houston, the family's matriarch who has been home-bound, was present with her daughters Dana, Louella and Christina and some of her grandchildren, great-grandchildren and a great-great-grandchild. We thank God for their generosity and pray for their health and well-being.

**Harvest Rally:** The Harvest Rally fund-raising project begins on Octo-

ber 1 and concludes on November 19. Ken Carson is chairperson. The assessments are \$50- for adults and \$10- for youth (through high school age).

**Grant Chapel Planning Meeting:** Grant Chapel's planning meeting will be held on Saturday, October 21, 2006, from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the Madonna Retreat and Conference Center, 4040 St. Joseph's Place, NW (831-8196). Each church organization will have the opportunity to share planned events and budgets for the 2006-2007 conference year. A Continental Breakfast will be served

**UNM connection:** We welcome Janelle McLean, LaRisa Simpson and Aleem Harris. Janelle is a junior majoring in chemistry. Her extra-curricula activities include pre-pharmacy society and the Agora Center where she counsels students in crisis. Her home is in Denver, CO, where she is a member of Shorter A.M.E. Church. LaRisa is a senior majoring in Health Education and Radiology. Bishop Bryant

commended her to us at Annual Conference. Her home is in Alamogordo, NM. Aleem is a senior majoring in communications. He is Lobo back (safety) on the football team. His home is in San Bernardino, CA.

**"Outstanding Youth in Philanthropy" Awards Luncheon:** This luncheon will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 14, 2006, at the Embassy Suites Hotel beginning at 11:30 AM. Contact Robin Brule at 224-4685.

**2006 Sistah Summit Retreat** will be held in Santa Fe on Nov. 2-5, 2006. Information at [www.sistahsummit.com](http://www.sistahsummit.com) and 800-203-8219. Patricia Jerabek attended last year.

**Editor's notes:** The Newsletter is published on the first Sunday of even-numbered months. The deadline for articles, announcements and notices is two weeks prior to publication.

## GRANT CHAPEL NEWSLETTER STAFF

The Newsletter is published by Grant Chapel A.M.E. Church in Albuquerque, NM. The views expressed are not necessarily those of the Pastor, editor or the church family. We strive for participation.

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## Events Calendar

October	October 2006	& Federal offices
1 Harvest Rally kickoff	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	14 Outstanding Youth in Philanthropy awards luncheon
6 ShareColorado deadline	8 9 10 11 12 13 14	15 Sunday School Christmas Play Rehearsal
7 WMS Retreat	15 16 17 18 19 20 21	18 ShareColorado distribution
8 Newsletter distribution	22 23 24 25 26 27 28	19 Harvest Rally deadline
21 Grant Chapel Planning Meeting	29 30 31	19 Sr. Usher Board Bake Sale
21 ShareColorado distribution	November 2006	20 Newsletter deadline
27-30 5th District Planning Meeting, St. Louis Airport Hilton Hotel (Code: AME)	1 2 3 4	23 Thanksgiving
November	5 6 7 8 9 10 11	December
2-5 Sistah Summit Retreat, Santa Fe	12 13 14 15 16 17 18	1 ShareColorado deadline
3 ShareColorado deadline	19 20 21 22 23 24 25	2 WMS Prayer Breakfast & Love Feast
4 WMS Prayer Breakfast & Love Feast	26 27 28 29 30	3 Newsletter distribution
7 <b>Election Day</b> for Local, State		