



The Mount Nebo Messenger

“A Friendly Church Serving a Faithful Christ”

A publication of Mount Nebo Missionary Baptist Church
Spring 2009

“Honoring God with a Good Heart”

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The last weekend of January 2009 was one to remember. The Mount Nebo Missionary Baptist Church family honored Pastor John A. Wicks, Jr. and First Lady Felice Wicks with appreciation services on Saturday and Sunday.

On Saturday evening, the church and family members showered Sister Wicks with love and affection. Poems were recited that had those in attendance watery-eyed and the “real” story of how the pastor first swept Sister Wicks off her feet was told. By the end of the evening, all agreed that First Lady Wicks is definitely an asset to Mount Nebo and the perfect helpmeet for the pastor.

The next day belonged to Pastor Wicks. Songs by the Mount Nebo Mass Choir such as “It’s Your Season to be Blessed”, “Enlarge My Territory”, and “God Said He Would Be with Me” got the congregation excited and ready for an electric service. After which, Brother Carlos Smith so eloquently reminded us the pastor has been dedicated to serving the church for over 8 years, which translated to 96 months, or 35,040 days, or 840,960 hours, or 50,457,600 minutes. The world-famous Westhaven Memorial Funeral Home Choir and the energetic Sweet Rock Baptist Church Choir were also present to participate in the celebration.

The climax of the service was the message delivered by Pastor Robert Landing of Sweet Rock Baptist Church. His sermon came from Jeremiah 1:4-10 and was entitled, “God’s Call Demands Our Full Attention.” He encouraged and inspired the congregation and reminded Mount Nebo to “flick your Bic and turn up your Wick”.



Rev. Robert Landing, Speaker



Pastor Wicks & Escorts



Bro. & Sis. Buckley, Rev. & Sis. Landing, Pastor & Sis. Wicks

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The Youth of Mount Nebo

We are doing great things at Mount Nebo and **AWANA** is one ministries that is committed to reaching youth.

AWANA stands for **Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed**, which comes from 2 Timothy 2:15. **AWANA** is an international evangelical nonprofit organization founded in 1950 and is headquartered in Streamwood, Illinois. Mount Nebo's first meeting took place January 7, 2009. On our opening night there were over 70 youth to sign up to participate in the program.

Our weekly meetings are held on Wednesdays from 6 P.M. until 8 P.M. The program provides Bible training for students in preschool through high school. The goal of **AWANA** is that these students would come to know, love and serve Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. It is our goal to develop a curriculum that would appeal to young people, reaching them with the gospel and training them in the Lord's work.

AWANA provides:

- A fully integrated programs for ages 2 to 18
- The best evangelism tools to reach unsaved children, youth and families
- Teaching that builds an enduring biblical faith
- Resources bringing churches and parents together to disciple the next generation
- Initial and ongoing volunteer training
- Healthy mentor and peer relationships
- Games that are designed to build character and promote team work
- Dynamic fun for children, teens and adults alike!

In addition we are blessed to be a part of a program that caters to the youth of today. The presence of peer pressure is all around our youth and it is easy to get off track. The staff as well as the instructors are dedicated in mentoring students to be a positive influence in the community, in school and at home. Since the start of the program, Mount Nebo has seen the increase of youth membership.

We give glory to God for the vision to pursue something that is spiritual, educational and rewarding.



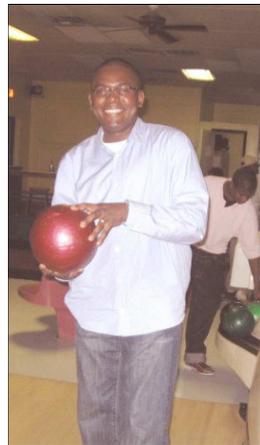
Awana in Action



Fun Night for a Fun Church

Spring sprung at Mount Nebo Baptist Church on March 13th with the Youth Department. The Youth Department sponsored its All-Night-Bowling-Gala and once again it was a raging success. The young and the young at heart participated in this awesome event. Mount Nebo checked in at 9:00 p.m. and checked out at 5:30 a.m. Despite the stormy weather, attendance was very good. In addition to bowling, everyone ate hot dogs and nachos throughout the night. There is no doubt that Mount Nebo’s young outlasted the young at heart, but their effort to keep up was hilarious to watch.

The Lord has really blessed Mount Nebo with great youth leaders who continue to do a super job with providing exciting things for the youth. Several ministry leaders, associate ministers and our very own Pastor Wicks were in attendance. Every month the youth look forward to going to the Cotton Bowl and bowling until sunrise. Many thanks to everyone who made this event possible.



What I Learned in AWANA

- I learned that sinning is bad. – Dejon
- I now know Bible verses and most of all, I learned about Jesus. – Guidry
- I learned that the Bible tells me that everyone has sinned. – Tishina
- I learned John 17:17, “Thy word is truth.” – Shedrick
- I learned Psalms 25:4, “Show me thy ways, O Lord; teach me thy paths.” – Keimoya
- I learned that he that believeth on the Son shall have everlasting life. – Tanishia
- I learned about Jesus. – Adrian
- I learned about Romans. – Jordyn
- I learned half of the New Testament: - Nicholas

Mount Nebo’s Women are on the Move

The Mount Nebo Daughters of Destiny recently volunteered at the Ronald McDonald House in Jackson, MS.

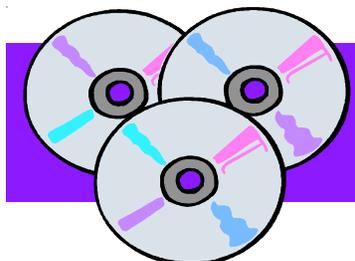
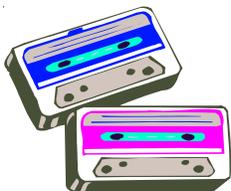
The house is for families of seriously ill or injured children. Many families travel far from home to get treatment for their children. Therefore, the Ronald McDonald House offers them a place to stay which allows them to be close to the hospital and their children.

Families can enjoy home-cooked meals, private bedrooms and playrooms for the children. The Ronald McDonald House also offers recreational activities and support services to the families.

The Daughters of Destiny provided residents with a home-cooked meal of succulent spaghetti with marinara sauce, seasoned green beans, home-made yeast rolls and salad with all the toppings. The Daughters of Destiny also prayed and fellowshiped with the residents.

Media Ministry

Have you ever left church and thought about how wonderful a sermon our pastor preached that Sunday? Have you wished that you could hear it again to really meditate on the words that were provided? Well, Mount Nebo has a Media Ministry whose mission is to provide audio presentations of the Sunday services. Presentations are provided in the form of compact disc (CD) and cassette tapes. Copies of the service are available immediately after church to our members and visitors. The greatest joy of this Ministry is providing copies of the services to the sick & shut-in, which is the main reason the ministry was started. The Media Ministry also provides services for weddings and other church programs. Our goal in the future is to start providing DVD’s which will allow members to enjoy the services again in the comforts of your home.



Couples Maintain Their Oneness With God

The Couples' Ministry held its annual Sweetheart's Banquet on Saturday, February 14, 2009. The theme for this year's event was *Maintaining Our Oneness With God*. Couples enjoyed delicious food while sharing countless laughs from several games. The featured guest speakers were Reverend Jimmy and Mrs. Cecelia Burks of Holy Ghost Baptist Church in Clinton. Their inspiring and encouraging message paralleled the supporting theme.

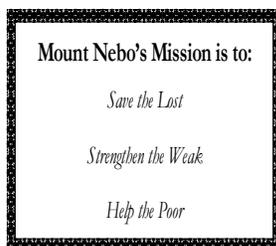
Brother Joseph Harvey relinquished his “Most Romantic Man of the Year” crown to Pastor Wicks as he became First Lady Wicks' “Prince Charming” for finding her “Cinderella” slipper (among several slippers) while blindfolded! Couples also played the Mount Nebo version of the Newlywed Game. It's fair to say that the couples knew their respective spouses very well, as the game ended in a tie score. As the evening culminated, a beautiful song serenade was rendered by Ms. Mary Milton. Lastly, the gentlemen presented their sweethearts with a sentiment of love by way of a beautiful red rose.



Speakers: Rev. & Sis. Jimmy Burse



Why the blindfolds?



Weekly Services

Sunday

Women's Mission Meeting - 8:00 a.m. (4th 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.
Youth Meeting - 6:00 p.m.
Bible Study - 6:00 p.m.
Sunday School Teachers Board - 7:00 p.m.
Couples' Ministry - 7:00 p.m. (after 1st Sunday)

The Pastor's Point

Bro. John A. Wicks, Jr., Pastor

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Although we wear new outfits on this day and although children hunt for colored eggs on this day and although we have big family dinners on this day, that is not what this day is really about. This day is really about victory. As we celebrate once again the glorious resurrection of our redeemer, let us remember that His victory is our victory.

Although we are in the midst of life's many battles, including international wars, national recessions, family issues and personal struggles, we as believers must remember that our battles are already won! Paul said it best in **I Corinthians 15:55-57: “O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”**

The spring of the year is a time of new life. Likewise the empty tomb of Jesus has guaranteed all believers a new and everlasting life. Have you accepted Him in your heart, acknowledged Him in your life, adored Him in your talk and affirmed Him in your walk? If not, the Easter season would be the perfect season to start. You won't make a more important decision in this journey called life.

Congratulations again to our Publicity ministry for another job well-done in this edition of The Messenger. This past quarter was filled with many blessings from God to our church. Most notably, my personal privilege and personal record of baptizing 12 young people on February 8th was *“Something to Shout About.” “God is Up to Something”* here at Mount Nebo! As always, let us continue to:

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

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

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

Yours in Christ,

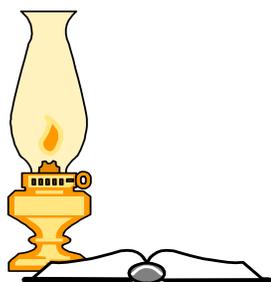
John A. Wicks, Jr.

Calendar of Events

Mount Nebo Welcomes New Members

Baptism

DeAndria Barnes
Derrion Barnes
Jarquira Culley
Jordyn Davis
Alexis Gates
Delicia Lewis
Raven Orey
DeJa Turner
Tania Vaughn
Brittany White
Demario Wilson



April

19th Church Anniversary
 25th Youth Mentoring
 30th Ministry Leaders' Meeting

May

3rd District Deaconess Hat Show
 10th Mother's Day
 16th Youth Fun Day
 17th Annual Youth Day
 29th-31st Couples' Trip

June

14th-17th Youth Trip
 21st Father's Day
 22nd-26th National Congress

Christian Experience

Reginald Landing
Wayne McDaniels
Antoine Seals
Deveon Slaughter
Timothy Spencer
Devonte Wright

Watch Care

Lisa Anderson
Priscilla Slade

Bible Trivia

1. The number of plagues of Egypt:
A-2; B-1; C-20; D-10
2. On which day were oxen created?
A-6; B-3; C-5; D-2
3. This woman was David's great-grandmother. . .
A-Michal; B-Abigail ; C-Ruth; D-Leah
4. This woman won a beauty contest. . .
A-Delilah; B-Rachel; C-The queen of Sheba; D-Esther
5. This woman and her husband were tent makers. . .
A-Jezebel; B-Mary Magdalene; C-Delilah; D-Priscilla

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

Bible Trivia Answers

1. In order to give light to the world, on the fourth day God created how many great lights? 2
2. God called the dry ground _____; and the gathering together of the waters he called _____. land/seas (NIV)
3. Man was created on what day? 6
4. Birds were created on the same day as: Sea creatures
5. This woman conspired with her husband to lie to the Holy Spirit. . . Sapphira