

IF YOU ARE ABLE AND
CARE, COME TO CHURCH
WITH A CAN IN YOUR
HAND FOR CRISIS CONTROL.
S.J.D.



THE SPOTLIGHT

55 Years Of Continuous Service
for

New Bethel Baptist Church

1016 North Trade Street
WINSTON-SALEM, NORTH CAROLINA

June 1, 2008

"Continuing to Minister Because WE CARE!"



VOLUME 55, NO. 9

118th Church Anniversary To Be Observed June 8



**BENNY MURRILL
RECEIVES SERVICE TO YOUTH AWARD**

Murrill Honored By Big Brothers/Big Sisters

By Diane Piggott

Benny Murrill, Director of the Forsyth County Youth Detention Center and member of New Bethel Baptist Church, was honored on Wednesday, May 21, 2008 by the Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Forsyth County at a program at the Brigders Field House of Wake Forest University with the first "Service To Youth" Award. WXII12 News Anchor, Wanda Starke was emcee.

Murrill has worked with and for youth of Forsyth County under the umbrella of Big Brothers/Big Sisters for 20+ years. He has bowled in their annual Bowl-a-thon and has been a member of its Board of Directors. Big Brothers/Big Sisters Director, Bert Grisard presented Murrill with a plaque as the first recipient of this award. The plaque read, "1st Annual Big Brothers Big Sisters Service To Youth Award presented by Big Brothers Big Sisters Services, Inc. to Benny Murrill For His Outstanding Commitment to the Youth of Forsyth County, May 21, 2008."

He has worked at the Forsyth County Youth Detention facility as its Director for many years. He works tirelessly to steer their lives in the right direction.

At New Bethel, he works with the Laymen's League and its mentoring program.

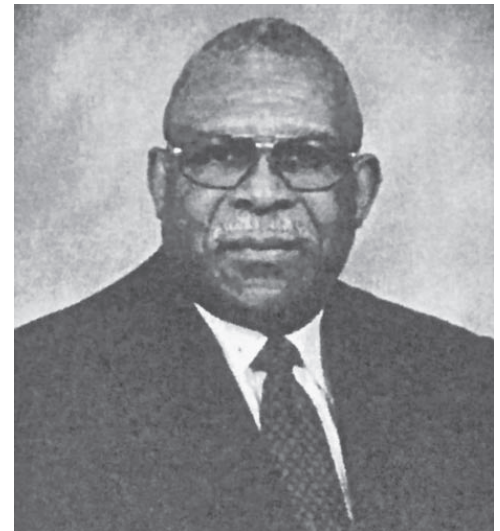
He is married to the former Patsy Sowell and they are the parents to two adult children, Stacie (R) M. McMillan and Brian. They have one grandchild.

VBS Calls Us To Be Champions

By Diane Piggott

This year's Vacation Bible School at New Bethel Baptist Church will again bring you the Urban Ministries' Vacation Bible School Publication for 2008 with the theme, "Chosen Champions for Jesus." The 5-day school will be held June 23-27, 2008 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at the church. Classes will be held for ages 2 and up. Mrs. Diane Piggott will serve as Director/Principal and Ms. Audrey Brown will serve as Assistant Principal.

The lessons focus will be taking good care of God's creation, exhibiting boldness in a stand for Jesus Christ, establishing a practice of praying, standing up for others and seeking salvation through Jesus Christ. Families are asked to come and study together as we want to strengthen the family that seems to be under attack! Mark your calendar for this exciting week of studying God's Word!



**REV. J.D. BALLARD
ANNIVERSARY SPEAKER**

Church to Celebrate 118th Anniversary

By Hattie Ingram

The New Bethel Baptist Church family will observe its 118th Anniversary on Sunday, June 8, 2008 at 11:00 a.m. The Rev. Dr. James Donald Ballard, Pastor Emeritus of United Metropolitan Missionary Baptist Church and presently Interim Pastor of First Baptist Church in Fuquay-Varina, North Carolina, will be the guest speaker. The theme for the observance is "United in Spirit and Bound in Love."

Rev. Dr. James D. Ballard is a native of High Point, North Carolina where he completed the requirements for elementary and secondary education. After completing his formal education, he served four years active duty in the United States Air Force in the continental United States and abroad.

Reverend Ballard earned the Bachelor of Arts Degree from Shaw University in Raleigh, North Carolina and a Master of Divinity Degree from Duke University Divinity School in Durham, North Carolina. He was one of the first two Black students to attend Duke University Divinity School and was among the top ten members in his class. Shaw University honored him with the Doctor of Divinity Degree.

He began preaching the Gospel while stationed in Keesler Air Force Base in Biloxi, Mississippi. He was ordained by the Rowan Baptist Association and at the age of 24, served as pastor of First Institutional Baptist Church in Winston-Salem for six years before spearheading the merger of First Institutional (Continued Page 2, Column 3, Article 2)



**MRS. LENNETTA BARTLEY
RECEIVES SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION DEGREE**

Mrs. Lennetta Bartley Receives Master's Degree In School Administration

In 2004 the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County School System acknowledged the fact that the majority of principals in the district could retire at any time, leaving a huge gap in the pool of administrators. The system sought to identify potential school administrators. Hundreds of licensed employees, with the recommendation (Continued Page 4, Column 1, Article 2)



**CHERELLE PHELPS
EARNS BACHELOR'S DEGREE**

Phelps Achieves Her Bachelor's Degree

Cherelle L. Phelps, daughter of Ms. Barbara Hanes Phelps, received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Mass Communication with a minor in Dramatic Arts from Winston-Salem State University on Saturday, May 10, 2008. She was a Cum Laude Graduate.

She distinguished herself as President of the Drama Guild; an Anchor/Reporter for Ram News; a member of the Mass Communications Club and a member of Ram TV. She was able to enrich her studies with internships with Diverse Woman Media and WXII12 News. She participated in several performances at WSSU. She has been hired as an Associate Producer at WXII TV 12.

Cherelle plans to pursue graduate school as well as grow a digital and print media business with her sister, Chasidy.

At New Bethel she participates with the Youth Council and the Missionary Group.

She is the granddaughter of the late Mrs. Ann Hanes. She lives by the motto, "To thine own self be true."

Grooms Brings Home The Silver

By Diane Piggott

Sharika Grooms, the daughter of Trustee and Mrs. Johnny Grooms, was a member of the Career center's Team in the state competition at the North Carolina Family Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) Competition that won the "silver medal" during the state level competition at the Koury Convention Center in Greensboro. Her teammates were Keyera Tate and Denise Pinargote. Their entry was "How to do a job interview?" She and her teammates will represent North Carolina in a national competition in Orlando, Florida from July 11-18, 2008.

Sharika is a junior at North Forsyth High School. She is also active in the Future Business Leaders of America, the Crosby Scholars, the Marching Band and the Vocational Honor Society. She travels to the Career center for an Early Childhood Class that works with the Daycare Center. Her teachers there, Ms. Martha Musser and Ms. Nancy Anderson commented that she is very cooperative and dependable.

At New Bethel, she is a member of the
(Continued Page 3, Column 3, Article 2)



**CHASIDY PHELPS
RECEIVES JURIS DOCTOR DEGREE**

Phelps Receives Her Juris Doctor

Chasidy N. Phelps, daughter of Ms. Barbara Hanes Phelps and granddaughter of the late Mrs. Ann Hanes, received her Juris Doctor's Degree from North Carolina Central University's School of Law in Durham on Saturday, May 3, 2008. She entered Law School in 2005 after receiving a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mass Communication from North Carolina A&T State University in Greensboro.

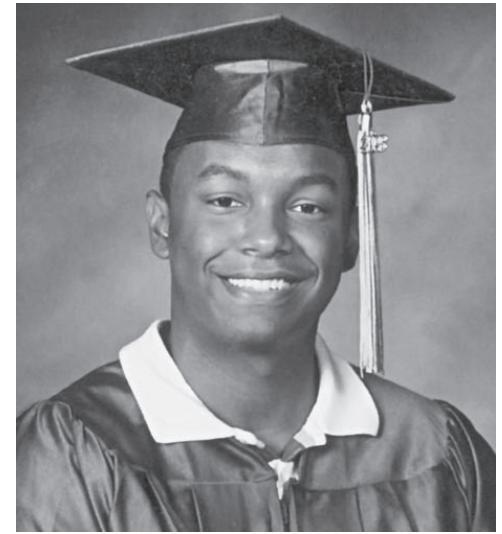
Chasidy was involved in many activities at NCCU. She was a member of the NC trial Advocacy Board, the Black Law Students' Association and participated on the Black Law Students' Association Trial Team in 2007. In 2006 she was a Mary Wright Closing Argument Competition Finalist. She received a stipend as the recipient of the 2007 NCCU School of Law Judicial Clerkship and in 2008 she received a scholarship from the NCCU Alumni Bar Association. To gain experience, she performed judicial clerkships with the Honorable Judge L. Todd Burke and a Resident Superior Court Judge for the 21st Judicial District in Forsyth County.

She is currently studying for the North Carolina Bar Exam, which she plans to take in July. She is also considering taking the Florida Bar Exam in February 2009.

Chasidy says, "I'm grateful to God for allowing me to achieve a lifelong dream. I also thank my mother who has been a living example to me that with determination any obstacle can be overcome." She plans to resume her Digital and Print Media Company, Simply C Digital with her sister, Cherelle. The company will offer personalized stationery, greeting cards and invitations.



**SHARIKA GROOMS
STATE COMPETITION WINNER**



**JAMON CARSON
HEADED TO A&T**

Jamon Carson Is Aggie-Bound

Jamon Carson, Chairman of the NBBC Youth Council, will graduate from Carver High School on June 7, 2008 at the LVJM Coliseum. An active member of New Bethel since he was 4 years old, Jamon has also served on the Youth Usher Board, and currently serves with the Young Adult Ushers.

Jamon says, "I am really excited about attending North Carolina A&T State University. It was the school that my aunt and uncle attended, as well as, a few of my cousins. It will be hard leaving home, but I'll be right over there in Greensboro. My family has supported me so much that it's a little scary knowing I will be on my own, but I am ready for the challenge. I just keep remembering the scripture my grandmother has been reciting to me, especially lately, Philippians 4:13—I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

Recently Jamon was pictured in the WTimes Newspaper, the Winston-Salem Chronicle, and the Winston-Salem Journal for receiving scholarships to attend college. The WS Chapter of the NAACP selected Jamon to win the \$1,000.00 Benjamin Ruffin Community Service Scholarship for his volunteer service to the Salvation Army Boys club and his service to the Samaritan Soup Kitchen through New Bethel Baptist Church. Additionally, he was selected as one of the top ten students out of 1300 applicants, to receive a \$5,000.00 scholarship from the Alltel Words of Wisdom Essay Contest. He was flown to Little Rock, Arkansas, accompanied by his grandmother, Barbara Carson, and his aunt, Tina Carson-Wilkins, where he received his award from world-renowned author and poet, Dr. Maya Angelou. "It was an honor to meet her, but I was more excited about taking my first ride in a commercial airplane. I plan to study Electronics Technology at NC A&T, so I can learn how to develop the kind of technology that goes into airplanes and computers," says Jamon.

Both he and his family ask for the prayers and well-wishes of New Bethel as he embarks on this new journey.

GROOMS BRINGS... *Continued*

Youth Sunday School Department, the Youth Missionaries, Youth Editor for *The Spotlight*, the Youth Choir and the Youth Council. She also volunteers in The Children's Church.

Her future plans are to attend Fayetteville State University to major in Elementary Education with a minor in Spanish. She loves to work with children and wants to become an Elementary school teacher.

Sharika would appreciate the support of the New Bethel Family to help with expenses to travel to Orlando.

Women's Weekend Ministers To The Mind, Body and Spirit

By Diane Piggott

Minister Velma McCloud brought the culminating message in a Women's Weekend as part of the 61st annual Women's Day Observance at New Bethel Baptist Church at 11 a.m. on Sunday, May 25, 2008. Mrs. Tina Carson-Wilkins was Worship Leader.

Minister McCloud selected Romans 12:1-2 as her text to emphasize "The duties of a Christian." She explained that this epistle is called "the Constitution of Christianity." The text stressed three things that we must do: 1) Present our bodies to God; 2) Be not conformed to this world; and 3) Be transformed with the renewing of our minds. She also put the spotlight on us she directed our attention to Galatians 5:19 reminding us "they which do those things will not inherit the kingdom of God."

The Women's Day Chorus gave a stirring rendition of "I Pray We'll All Be Ready" with Ms. Cordelia Cooper on solo as the invitational hymn.

The selection of the 2008 Woman of the Year took a slight turn this year. Mrs. Susan Hunt, Co-Chair of the Women's Day Committee asked every woman to stand in preparation of honoring the 2008 Woman of the Year. She then declared, "The 2008 Woman of the Year is each of you and all of you!" She saluted all women for all that they do! Each woman received a lovely gift bag at the conclusion of the service.

On Friday, May 23, First Lady of Piney Grove Missionary Baptist Church, Attorney Renita Thompkins Linville, treated the women to a message entitled, "You Are a Designer Original." She told of how God created us and how we were wonderfully made; admonished us to love our sisters and brothers and husbands; urged us to transform our minds to the will of God; and finally, told us that God would restore our lives. Following her message, the mostly female audience enjoyed a show of fashions—Mother/daughter combinations modeled first, a fantastic display of "crowns" or hats followed and the final segment featured "high fashion."

On Saturday, May 24, the women were invited out to a relaxing day. The Drayton Multipurpose Room was transformed into stations to minister to the female body and wholesome snacks were served.

MRS. LENNETTA... *Continued*

of their principals, applied to be one of only twenty cohort members. The process was extremely competitive. The school district, solidifying their commitment to the cohort would pay all expenses, including tuition and books. The selected participants would enroll at North Carolina A&T State University in the fall of 2005. Mr. Sterling Garris, her former principal at then Atkins Middle School, encouraged Mrs. Lennetta Bartley to apply. After a great deal of prayer and soul searching she decided to follow through with his request.

On May 10th, 2008, Mrs. Bartley received her Master's Degree in School Administration from North Carolina A&T State University, where she also earned a Master's degree in Technology Education in 1999. She earned a B.A. degree in Sociology from Winston-Salem State University
(Continued Page 4, Column 2, Article 2)



**MRS. DORIS P. GRAY
PASSES AFTER LENGTHY ILLNESS**

Mrs. Doris P. Gray Passes After Extended Illness

Mrs. Doris P. Gray passed away on Tuesday, May 20, 2008. She was born on June 6, 1935 to the late Deacon Walter and Mrs. Icie Parham in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

Mrs. Gray was the youngest of seven children. Four brothers: William, Walter, Chauncey and Clarence Parham and a sister, Berdie Parham Mickles preceded her in death.

Doris was a 1953 graduate of Atkins High School and also a graduate of Russell's Business College. She was a dedicated member of New Bethel Baptist Church where, in addition to being a Gold Star Member, she was active in the Journalistic and Esther Missionary Societies and organized the Tuesday morning Bible Study Class.

Mrs. Gray was employed with RJ Reynolds Tobacco Company where she was team Manager of the More/Ebony Fashion Fair Program of the Sports Marketing Division.

She was also preceded in death by her husband, Walter S. Gray. She is survived by her daughter, Pamela G. Harper (Arnold); a grandson she affectionately called "Her Angel Boy," Christopher Gray Harper; one brother, James W. Parham (Pearl); a nephew, James B. Parham (Loretta); special nieces, Vickie Adams (Thomas) and Brenda Mauney and a host of other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were held on May 23, 2008 at New Bethel with Dr. Kendall D. Jones, Sr. officiating. Burial followed at Evergreen Cemetery.

Clark S. Brown and Sons Funeral Home were in charge of services and arrangements.

MRS. LENNETTA... *Continued*

in 1986. She is the curriculum coordinator at Simon G. Atkins High School. Mrs. Bartley gives God all the glory for how He has blessed her. Here at New Bethel she serves in several auxiliaries. Her husband is Deacon Joe Bartley; her daughters are Chante and Jaleesa; her grandson is Jolen Thompson. Her mother is the late Kennetta H. Thompson.

CHURCH TO... *Continued*

Music will be rendered by the Mass Choir. Gold Star and Silver Star members will be recognized during the program. Mementos will be sent to all sick and shut-in members. Dinner will be served following the service.



**MRS. MATTIE SPENCER JOHNSON HILL
PASSES AFTER ILLNESS**

Mrs. Mattie Spencer Johnson Hill Passes

Mrs. Mattie Spencer Johnson Hill departed this life on April 27, 2008 at the Brian center of Winston-Salem, N.C.

She was the offspring of the late Mary Guy Spencer and John Spencer. She attended the local public school and was a life long resident of Winston-Salem, N.C. She joined New Bethel at a tender age and faithfully served in many capacities, prior to the onset of her infirmities.

"Mudda" as she was affectionately called was an exemplary homemaker, who gave abundantly to family and community. She was a devoted wife, a proud and giving mother, a supportive grandmother, and a loving sister. As a pillar of strength to all who knew her, we thank God for her impacting presence in our lives.

To cherish her memories and a life well lived, she leaves loving sons, James F. (Barbara) Johnson of Reidsville, Hildred (Marojene) Hill and George W. (Ann) Hill Jr. of Winston-Salem, a multitude of grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and other relatives and treasured friends.

Mrs. Hill was funeralized on May 1st, 2008 with Dr. Kendall D. Jones Sr. officiating and Johnson & Sons in charge of arrangements.

Deaths and Funerals Of Relatives

Dr. Dorothy J. Alston

Dr. Dorothy J. Alston of Greensboro, North Carolina passes in that city on April 24, 2008. Funeral services were held on May 1, 2008 at Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church with Dr. Norman W. Handy officiating. Burial services followed in the Avent Family Cemetery in Castalia, North Carolina.

Dr. Alston is survived by cousins, Mr. and Mrs. David Thompkins, active members of New Bethel Baptist Church and other relatives and friends.

Mr. J. C. Sowell

Mr. J. C. Sowell of Charlotte passed on Wednesday, May 14, 2008. A graveside service with full military rites was conducted on Monday, May 19 at the Beatties Ford Memorial Gardens. Mr. Sowell was the grandfather of Mrs. Patsy (Benny) Murrill and great-grandfather of Mrs. Stacie (R) McMillan and Brian Murrill.