



Volume I, Issue 1—April 2009

HAVE YOU HEARD?

GREETINGS CLJC CONGREGATION!!!

Jerome Bailey,
Staff Writer

The Youth Department is improving the way Youth Conferences are planned. There are two teams working in conjunction with the National Staff—Planning and Communications. The Planning team brainstorms activity ideas; while the Communications team funnels information to you—the congregation. This method is proving to be very successful.



Photo by: Sam Clark

National Youth Conference 2006!!
Apostolic Square



Bishop Omega
Pastor & General Overseer

**“Young People, help me
defend the Faith!”**

GREETINGS FROM MINISTER STRONG

1 John 5:5

Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?

Greetings and Welcome,

On behalf of the National Youth Conference Planning Committee Newsletter staff, I am pleased to welcome you to the first edition of the National Youth Conference Newsletter. This newsletter is designed and written as a tool to keep the church community informed on the planning and activities of the National Youth Conference. All members will have access to the newsletter, either in hardcopy form or via the church's website at www.tcljc.com. Also, I am delighted to say, additional issues will be published over the next several months: the key topic in the second newsletter will be activities for the 60th National Youth Conference (our Diamond Anniversary). The focus of the first issue is to remind everyone of the good time at the last Conference and to stir up the desire to attend the next Conference; and, Lord willing, the third issue will be a “look back” on the 60th National Youth Conference. The newsletter staff is hoping this publication will be a conduit for keeping the church community informed of Youth Conference news. We look forward to receiving your support and participation at the 60th National Youth Conference.

May the Grace, Peace and Love of Jesus Christ be with you all!

—Minister James A. Strong, Jr., National President

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59th Youth Conference Recap

Summer 2008, Philadelphia, PA, site of our 59th National Youth Conference. It was the third year in a row that the Conference was in Philadelphia—it was a week, that will not be soon forgotten!

Saturday, July 12: The 59th was ushered in with an amazingly entertaining Welcome Social. Districts performed various acts, some of which included the exciting cadence by the Florida district's group, Brother to Brother, and the Virginia district's group, Divine Stepping performance.

Sunday, July 13: We enjoyed another enlightening service from Bishop Omega about the different kinds of faith. Read Galatians 2:20, Galatians 5:22, Philippians 4:11, Philippians 4:19, I John 5:14, Romans 4:22, I Corinthians 12:1-31, I Timothy 6:5-7, Romans 8:28-39, and Ephesians 6:11-18 to catch up with the rest of us, and remember "No matter what you do, you have a faith you can be proud of—Maintain your faith in Jesus". A CD of this service is available.

Monday, July 14: The Young People traveled to "Seaside Beach", in New Jersey. While there, they entertained themselves by walking on the boardwalk, socializing with each other, and eating beach fare. A highlight of the day occurred just before the young people exited the bus. Lord Nate Thomas, made it clear that he was not the proper lifeguard—"Now, I want you all to know that... "Broman" cannot swim, so if you're drowning, do not call my name." Following that was laughter by everyone. However, by the Grace of God nobody drowned, and we had a wonderful time in Jesus' name.

Tuesday, July 15: We visited Fellowship Farm in Paoli, PA, where we were required to rely on each of our teammates to be successful at whatever challenge was set before us. The terrain was rough and tough; most people were dressed to impress and messed up a lot of fabulous duds. Although we complained a lot, everyone understood what was before us. At the end of the day, we were all grateful for the experience. It showed that we can band together when necessary; showing compassion for the other man's plight. We got a good dose of understanding the true meaning of teamwork, and we appreciate the unity that was forged.

Wednesday, July 16: During the day on Wednesday, the young people learned about college and careers from a panel of speakers. The saints got to discuss and exchange valuable information about scholarships and career fields of interest. After the first panel, a second panel joined to talk about the issues that young people face in the world today. The youth got to express some of their feelings on what needs to be done to help make the world a better place. Later that evening, the saints got to experience a bit of theatre in viewing a play called "The Rapture."

Thursday, July 17: "Fun-in-the-sun" was the theme on Thursday as we enjoyed a day outing on our very own Cherry Hill Estate and a "Youth Night Out" at the Jewish Community Center in New Jersey. At the Cherry Hill Estate, the saints had a great time doing all the latest dances, and a few that were a blast from the past. At the Youth Night Out, the young people enjoyed swimming, tennis, basketball, and more. The night was complete with "bonding" around a bonfire and stepping forward to thank the Lord for what was in their hearts. After singing and hugs the event concluded.

Friday, July 18: Our young people made the church proud with community service work at the L. W. Brown Community Center in Philadelphia. The people from the center were impressed by the zest and zeal that our young people had for helping them and they couldn't thank us enough. Friday night on The Square, Bishop Omega lead us in communion.

Saturday, July 19: The young men played the 3rd Annual Flag Football game on Saturday morning at Rowan University in New Jersey. Due to previous complaints from 15 and under players, a game was designed just for that age group. The group had plenty of fun, because unlike playing with the older guys, everybody got to touch the ball. The game concluded with the Yellow team defeating the Green team 20-6. In the 16 and over game, it ended with a tie score of 18-18. The result left players moaning with "How are we just going to end in a tie"! Saturday night, several young people were honored at the Annual Awards Banquet. The recipients of the Lord Philemon Scholarship during the 59th National Youth Conference were: Ashley Brown, Carolinas; Chasity Rivers, Florida; Tanesha Ray, South Central; LaShaunda Cotton, New England; Kia Dunlap, Philadelphia; Brittany Russell, Philadelphia; Tamika Thompson, Philadelphia. The Ball portion of the evening was elegant and exciting. As did David, we danced with joy!

Sunday, July 20: The conclusion of the Conference on Sunday was enlightening as Bishop Omega preached the Word of God as written in Scripture. Read Colossians 3:1, I Timothy 2:5, Romans 1:16, Romans 8:34, Hebrews 13:7, Ephesians 1:20, I John 5:7, Acts 20:29-30, II Corinthians 10:4-5, Galatians 1:6-9, Galatians 2:1-10, II Peter 3:15-16, Galatians 2:11-21 if you missed it AND IF YOU DIDN'T! And purchase the CD so you can make sure you're caught up on your "divine calculus"- There are 3 that bare witness in Heaven, and these 3 are One.

Thank you to all who attended and participated. This National Youth Conference was the best yet and our 60th is going to be even better! Start saving up and preparing now so that you don't miss it!

WHO'S WHO ON THE NATIONAL STAFF?

Minister James A. Strong

Minister Strong is the National President of the Youth Department. He has worked with the young people for the past 14 years. Even though he has many other responsibilities, the youth is one of his top priorities. He always has the youth's best interest at heart, and is looking forward to the upcoming 60th and confident it will be our best yet!

Dame Charlotte Williams

Dame Charlotte is a National Officer in the Youth Department, working with the youth some 14 years. She is involved in a number of projects with the church; Apostle Aid, Legal Defense, Justice Pledge, etc. Given all that, she still finds time to help plan the Youth Conference. When in a quandary, the young people on the committee go running, saying, "ask Dame," most of the time she does have an answer, it might not be the one they wanted to hear, but she has an answer.

Dame Sallie Daniels

Good Ole Dame Sallie a.k.a Aunt Sallie, is a National Representative and has worked with the young people like, forever. She is responsible for printing meal tickets, orientation packages, ordering Conference T-shirts and badges. If the young people cannot find Dame Charlotte, Dame Sallie is the next person they go running to with questions.

Dame Juanita Taylor

Dame Juanita is a National Officer, managing the Public Relations team throughout the diocese, as well as overseeing the Dining group during the Youth Conference. Dame Juanita has been on the staff or 14 years. Her local church is Ironsides, Maryland, however, you might think she is from Headquarters because it seems she is always in Philadelphia.

Sister Johnnie Bligen

Sister Johnnie has also been on the staff for 14 years, is a National Officer, and keeps the departments official information accurate. She is a willing worker and lends her talent to a few projects. A unique thing about Sister Johnnie is that she is the only National staff member whose spouse works with the Youth Department too; her husband is the Local Co-President for Philadelphia.

Sister Patricia Vinson

Sister Patricia is a National Representative and a staff member for 14 years too. She is the Finance Director for NYPD and is responsible for handling financial matters regarding the Youth Conference and other departmental business. Sister Patricia knows most of Philadelphia's young people extremely well, one of her goals at the 60th Youth Conference is to get to know new young people.

Lord Nathaniel Thomas

Lord Nate, another National Officer and dedicated staff member for 14 years. He is extremely helpful with encouraging the young people to do the right thing. He is always there for us when we need him. During the Conference, you can always find Lord Nate overseeing testimony services. On a personal note, Lord Nate is the only Cowboy fan on the National Staff. In most cases, the young people are always tracking him down when the Cowboys lose a game; (which happens a lot.)

Sister Garnetta Brown

Sister Garnetta has worked with the National Staff for 14 years. She also is a National Representative and assists with the Financial aspects of the Youth Department and Conference. She also is the financial manager for Philadelphia Local. She fits right in with the young people because she is like a big sister to all of us, and she loves working with the young people. She is originally from Jacksonville, FL; however, she presently attends Headquarters.

Sister Mari-Lynet Knight

Sister Mari is the youngest person on the staff. She has been part of the National Staff for 5 years. She lives in Connecticut and recently graduated from UNC Charlotte. She works extremely hard in overseeing the Youth Conference Planning Committee.

WHO COMMUNICATES THE CONFERENCE?

Brother Lemuel Rogers

Lem is from the Philadelphia district and assists Dame Juanita with overseeing the Communications Team. Brother Rogers also works with Philadelphia Local Youth Department.

Sister Simone Bligen

Simone is close with many saints at church, especially her peers. She is the type of person that takes what she is doing very seriously, she is reliable and efficient. On the Communications Team, she produces Conference flyers and occasionally reads announcements.

Brother Jerome (Romie) Bailey

Jerome is our in-house journalist, producing this newsletter. Romie is similar to one of the sons in Jesus' analogy where there were two sons, whose father asked them to do a task. One son said yes, and did not do it. The other complained, but got it done. Whatever Romie is asked to do, he may complain, but you can count on him to get it done.

Sister Lateefah Thompson

Lateefah is well known at Headquarters, but attends the Washington D.C. church. Lateefah is a skilled flutist, and brings that same level of precision to the Communications Team. She always seems to have a bright idea for youth events.

Sister LaShawn Eley

LaShawn is another Washington, D.C. favorite; she brings excitement and energy to the Communications table continually coming up with innovative ways of "getting the news out".

WHO PLANS THE CONFERENCE?

Brother Omega Shelton

Omega is from the Philadelphia district, and knows most of the young people around the diocese. Omega relates well with his peers and felt he had ideas that would help make Youth Conference 2008 challenging, yet enjoyable; his input was greatly appreciated, earning him a spot on the Planning Committee team. He assisted with the planning of Teambuilding day at last year's Conference.

Brother Cedrick (CJ) Posey

CJ is from the MD/DC/DE District, but travels to Headquarters quite often. He has stated that "sometimes I wish we lived in Philly, only because of church". CJ is a studious young man who loves the church and wants the Youth Department to thrive, he lends his growing talent to the Planning team.

Sister Amber Posey

Amber is from the MD/DC/DE District as well, she is another conscientious youth helping to make Youth Conferences every young person's favorite time of the year.

Sister LaShaunda Cotton

LaShaunda's local church is Newark, NJ. She has been a committee member for the past three years; with the responsibility of co-managing the overall Planning Committee aspects with Sister Mari. She felt last year's Conference was one of the best ever. On the committee, Sister Cotton is responsible for—among other things—sending out emails regarding upcoming conference calls.

Brother Emmanuel McKinney

Emmanuel is from the South Central District, namely Memphis, TN. This is his first year serving on the committee, but he is grateful for the opportunity and is carrying his weight on the team.

Sister Monique Williams

Monique is from the Western States and you wouldn't know she is so far away; she makes all committee conference calls and is an active member on the team.

WHO PLANS THE CONFERENCE (CONTINUED)

Sister Chowanda Goddard

Sister Chowanda is from the Carolinas District. She is the wife of Williston's Youth Department President. On the committee she brings fresh ideas to the planning table.

Sister Bonitia Jones

Bonitia Jones is from Atlanta Georgia. As a committee member she always brings an exciting attitude and is ready to work.

Sister Katrina Mosbey

Sister Katrina is from the South Central district. Last year was her third year on the committee. She is extremely dedicated and willing to do what is asked of her.

Brother Tavares Calvin

Tavares is from the Florida District and is enjoying his stint on the Planning Committee. Tavares is a group galvanizer and everyone looks forward to his input.

Sister Mari-Lynet Knight

Mari is the Planning Committee Coordinator for Youth Conferences. Planning the Conference is a passion of Mari's and she works extremely hard in putting all the pieces together to make a perfect plan.

Scripture Pertaining to the Conference

**“NOW FAITH IS THE SUBSTANCE OF THINGS HOPE
FOR, THE EVIDENCE OF THINGS NOT SEEN”
(HEBREWS 11:1)**

**LETS HAVE FAITH THAT THE 60th WILL BE THE BEST
YOUTH CONFERENCE YET!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

GREETINGS FROM YOUTH CONFERENCE COORDINATORS

Peace Everyone:

We hope and pray that after you read through our first official Youth Conference newsletter, you are looking forward to our next edition.

Brother Jerome Bailey, our featured writer has created, designed, and developed a newsletter that will be used to communicate the latest news concerning upcoming Youth Conferences.

The 59th Youth Conference has come and gone, the 60th is on its way—GET READY. GET READY NOW!!!! RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY

We look forward to seeing you, July 15th in Chicago, IL.

60th National Youth Conference



DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

JULY 15-JULY 19

JOIN US!

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