



GMSBC March 2010 Newsletter

2010 GMSBC Woman of the Year



Sis. Myra Johnson

Myra Johnson has been a faithful member of Greater Mt. Sinai Baptist for many years.

Myra’s commitment and dedication to God and her church is exhibited in a number of ways including her leadership and membership in the following auxiliaries and ministries:

- General Superintendent of the Sunday School Department
- Omega Leadership Team
 - Assistant Coordinator
 - Handles scheduling and training of leadership classes for church leaders
- Culinary/Kitchen Committee
 - Works with the kitchen staff on Special Days
 - Assists with meals for bereaved families
- Beautification Ministry
 - Assists with decorating the church on Special Days
- Member of the Young-At-Heart Ministry.

Myra works behind the scenes performing many other tasks, which is evidence of a true Christian. She does not seek to draw attention to herself or expect credit for what she does.

Myra follows in the footsteps of previous Sinai Women of the Year who have made sacrifices for the betterment of their church and community. Her infectious smile and quiet demeanor makes her a pleasure to be around.

A Day Hemmed In Prayer Is Less Likely To Unravel.

Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. If you do this, you will experience God's peace, which is far more wonderful than the human mind can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:6-7 NLT

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Family Life Enrichment Center Update

Completion Status

- Work is 99.5% complete.
 - Wall, Fence, & Landscaping being completed.
 - Signage and Punch List being completed.
- Scheduled Completion Date:
 - Estimated to be early March 2010.
 - 3 months ahead of schedule!!!
- Setup Order for Furniture:
 - Ordered chairs, tables, and furnishings for both lobby areas.

Next Steps

- Volunteers Needed
- Improve communication.
- Reduce expenses and Increase sacrificial giving.
- Pray



Family Life Enrichment Center

The Lenten Season

The Lenten Season refers to the forty day period from Ash Wednesday until Palm Sunday (which marks the beginning of the Passion Week of Easter).

Wednesday, February 17, 2010 marked the beginning of Lent – a season of: reflection, repentance, readiness, resolution, and renewal. These five things should occur during this time period. They are the 5 R's:

It is a time of Reflection

Lent is a time to refocus and reflect on the suffering, death and resurrection of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

It is a time of Repentance

In the Lenten season, self-examination is crucial. As we reflect on the cross, it should expose our pride, our self-sufficiency and our disobedience

It is a time of Readiness

Lent is a time to prepare candidates for baptism and confirmation. This season is intentionally set aside for examination, instruction, repentance and prayer for these candidates. Also it is a time of readiness for all members as we prepare to observe and celebrate the Passion Week.

It is a time of Resolution

One key component of Lent is to practice the spiritual discipline of fasting. It does not necessarily have to be food, but anything which clutters our lives or impedes us from being in a relationship with God... that is why it is different for different people. For some it might be TV, for others it might be shopping.

It is a time of Renewal

Lent is known as a time of spiritual renewal and growth. It is a time for people to experience and reflect on the sufferings of Jesus, in light of personal sin and unrighteousness. As we focus on Jesus, who died so that we may live, it will renew our passion and our first love.

Putting Easter in its Proper Perspective

In the minds of the world, Jesus has been obscured by painted eggs and bunnies. Attention has been shifted away from spiritual truths towards materialism (clothing, candies, hard goods such as TVs and appliances, etc.) - all with the wrong symbolism. Stores stock merchandise and market sales periods titled "Pre-Easter", "Easter", and "After Easter" (with no mention of "Resurrection Sunday") and sell goods that have nothing to do with Christ's death and resurrection. The business world takes advantage of the Christian celebration to increase sales and profits. Unfortunately, many Christians become prey to this way of thinking and naively use symbols and participate in practices that perpetuate anti-Christ traditions.

Many church bodies recognize the problem and make every effort to keep the focus of Resurrection Sunday totally on Jesus Christ and the Good News that He brought. We, as followers of Christ should not fall victim to the worldly ways of thinking and erosion of the mindset within our families of the true meaning and significance of the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Great Quotes

Let me learn—

That the way down is the way up,

That to be low is to be high,

That the broken heart is the healed heart,

That the contrite spirit is the rejoicing spirit,

That the repenting soul is the victorious soul,

That to have nothing is to possess all,

That to bear the cross is to wear the crown,

That to give is to receive,

That the valley is the place of vision.

Render Unto Caesar...

Most of us in the United States know the significance of April 15th. It's the deadline for our tax returns to be mailed into the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). It can be a glad day for those who are getting a refund or a not-so-happy day for those who have to mail an accompanying check with their return.

In Luke 20, we find Jesus teaching the people in the temple. He often spoke in parables, stories that used real-life situations that helped the listener to understand. In this passage, spies sat among the congregation, listening only to find some way to use His own words against Him. As they heard Him speak, the question was asked, "*Is it lawful for us to give tribute unto Caesar, or no?*" Jesus, being who He is, had already discerned the motive behind the question and asked them to pull out a coin. He asked whose image was on the coin. They answered and said, "*Caesar's*". He then spoke, "*Render therefore unto Caesar the things which be Caesar's, and unto God the things which be God's.*" By now, we have gotten used to the idea of giving Caesar (*which represents the government*) what is his. Paying taxes is not a foreign concept at all and we have accepted it as a part of living in this country. Well, what about God? Are we honestly giving Him those things that are due unto Him? You may even have to wonder about what those things are. If I may take the liberty, may I suggest a few that should be rendered unto God?

1. Your body. How you live your life is a direct reflection of your love for God. A walk with Christ constrains you to do and not to do certain things. I Corinthians 6:19-20 asks and answers, "What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."

2. Your time, talents and treasures. Are you a good manager of these? Are you willing to share your skillset(s) with our church whether you get paid or not? Do you serve on a ministry without public title or recognition? Are you willing to commit when it's not convenient? Are you a consistent tither (even during personal financial 'crunches')? In a nutshell, do it all as unto the Lord. He not only is the discerner of motives, but also a rewarder of them who diligently seek Him (Hebrews 11:6). Please know that as you help meet the needs of our church, you lessen the burdens.

3. Your thought life. It is a proven fact that thoughts determine actions and actions speak to who you are. In this I refer not to being judgmental of one another. We must realize however, that fruit hangs on the outside of a tree, therefore making it visible for everyone to see. Check your attitude as you serve the Body of Christ. Be mindful of your ways as you minister to a world yet to meet Jesus. Philippians 4:8 clearly tells us, "Finally brethren, whatsoever things are true, honest, just, pure, lovely and of a good report, think on these things." Look for the positives in every situation and don't dwell on the negatives. When that church member doesn't speak to you, pray for them **before** telling everybody about it. Consider that the person may be experiencing a personal issue that caused a distraction. Jesus, who was the brunt of countless personal attacks, remained focused and fulfilled His earthly mission. Every action begins with a thought.

4. Your respect for God's House. GMSBC is the brick and mortar that holds your sanctuary. It is where you come to receive the preached Word of God. Throughout the Bible, the temple was a place of reverence and respect. It was a place of worship unto God and was taken seriously. What are you saying to God when you don't choose to take care of His house? Can you love God but not revere His house? I don't think so. If we can worship and fellowship together, we can all take part in the upkeep of the 'temple'.

These four things are not by any means an exhaustive list. In your time of personal study and meditation, ask God to show you ways to express your gratitude to Him. "Jesus paid it all...all to Him I owe" should be a cry for all *Believers*. Let us give Him what's owed!

Upcoming Activities and Events

March 14th	Note Choir of Sinai 68 th Anniversary	3:00pm
March 20th	Dancing Under the Stars Program	6:00pm
April 4th	Easter Program—Youth Department	12:00pm
April 11th	Celestials Concert	4:00pm



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“Becoming A Full-Time Caring Church That Searches For The Lost”

Website: gmsbc.org
Currently Under Construction

About Greater Mt. Sinai Baptist Church

Worship Services: 8:00am and 11:00am
Youth Church Service - Every 3rd Sunday - 11:00am
Sunday School: 9:30am – 10:30am
Youth Meeting – Monday – 7:00pm
Weekly Prayer Meeting – Wednesday – 7:45pm
Weekly Bible Study – Thursday – 7:00pm

Rev. George Cook, Jr., Pastor

THE VESSEL

A vessel tarnished, broken, useless,
Was thrown on the trash heap one night.
And was found by the Master Potter,
Searching through the 'rejects of life.'

When He found this dirty old vessel,
He looked at it closely, and saw
It contained an inherent beauty,
In spite of it's obvious flaw.

He carried it back to His workshop,
His trained eye could already see,
An object of beauty and honour,
That it was intended to be.

He repaired and cleaned the old vessel.
Polished to it's natural shine
Became once more a thing of beauty,
Was truly, 'one of a kind.'

My life was that broken old vessel,
Battered, ruined, thrown away.
I lay there, no hope of recovery,
Till the Master found me that day.

He loved me, He cleansed me, redeemed me;
Adopted me as His own.
Gave to my life a brand new meaning,
Brought peace, where once there was none.

by Gertrude Jefferies

Haitian Relief Donations



We have collected **\$3,428.99** to give for Haitian relief aid through the American Red Cross. Thank you for your generous support of this cause.

Continue to pray for the families who have suffered in Haiti in the earthquake. Pray for the children who are frightened and confused. Pray for the relief workers who are struggling to bring aid to the victims.



“News From The Mount” Press Deadline

Let us know what is going on with your ministry and we will share it with our church family. The deadline for articles, events, photos for the next **“News From The Mount”** is Friday, April 16, 2010. Please include your name and phone number on your submissions in case there are questions. “News From The Mount” editors reserve the right to edit all submissions to the newsletter for brevity, grammar, clarity and consistency as space will allow. The preferred submission method is by email to: gmsbc.newsletter@gmail.com.