



# The Christian Connection™



VOLUME 5 NO. 1 March 2008

*A Quarterly Newsletter from Christian Resource Network, Inc.*

**SOARING COMMUNICATION FOR CHRIST**

## Stand Up For The Cause Of Christ!

By: Joan M. Blake



### **Easter and The Resurrection**

We are nearing the time of Easter, commemorating the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who died on the cross for our sins and rose the third day fulfilling Scripture that states, that he took our infirmities (Matt.8: 17) and by His stripes we are healed (Isaiah 53:5). We did nothing miraculous to gain God's approval. It was by grace that we are saved (Eph.2: 5). Now, we can go boldly before

the throne of God and pray in Jesus' name.

### **What Does Easter Mean To Us?**

Many of us see this time as a time to clean our closets and our homes, re-arrange things, and attend Church services to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Symbolically, we can view Easter as a time of resurrecting from our old nature, a time to reflect, initiate change, and take action.

### **We Can Live Anew Because of Christ's Death and Resurrection**

As we reflect on Jesus' sacrifice on Mount Calvary and His eventual resurrection, we can look at ourselves differently, initiate change by allowing God to mold and fashion us into the people He has called us to be. By so doing, we will "plant our feet on solid ground," "establish" our steps, "praise" God for His greatness in our lives and walk in newness of life. When we walk in newness of life, we have a new level of confidence, which enables us to forego our past and look to our future. Our old nature, filled with doubts, fears, insecurities, sadness, rebellion and un-forgiveness, cannot take root because we have replaced it with our new nature modeled after Jesus, in which peace, joy, and love reign.

We have peace in knowing that Jesus is taking care of all of our problems and that we can rest from our grief and toils. We have joy in knowing that we have salvation because of the shed blood of Christ. We have unconditional love from God, who has forgiven us of all of our sins, and is always waiting to receive us with open arms.

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## The Christian Connection

The Christian Connection is published by the Christian Resource Network Inc., a non-profit 501 (c) 3 organization whose main mission is to provide support to those who are experiencing emotional pain. Other related services include women's small group training and mentoring services.

If you would like to become a member of Christian Resource Network, Inc., make contributions, advertise in *The Christian Connection Newsletter*, or be on our email list, please contact the editor or visit our website.

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Joan M.Blake

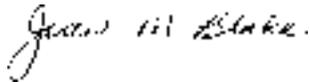
#### **Assistant Editor**

Leah M Blake

**Take The Gospel To Others**

Jesus did not intend for us to keep this peace, joy, and love for ourselves. In Matt. 11:28, He commissions His followers to take the gospel to the far corners of the world. Therefore, it's time for us to spread the peace of God, His Joy, and His love, to our homes, our jobs, our schools, our churches, our communities, and to the world. It's time to stand up for the cause of Christ!

In Christ,



Editor/Publisher

**Women's Support Group**

Are you experiencing emotional pain from the stress of life or feel mentally drained from caring for a loved one? Please email me if you are interested in being part of our bi-weekly support group. Our bi-weekly meetings will be held on the first and third Thursday of every month at a location to be announced.

Email: [JBlake@christianresourcenetwork.org](mailto:JBlake@christianresourcenetwork.org)

**Do you need prayer?**

Email

[Jblake@christianresourcenetwork.org](mailto:Jblake@christianresourcenetwork.org)

or call

617.282.6182

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**CHRISTIAN RESOURCE NETWORK**

**PRESENTS**

**A FUNDRAISING NETWORK BREAKFAST**

**PROCEEDS**

**TO PROVIDE**

**AN EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM**

**FOR YOUNG WOMEN 22-30**

**WHO EXPERIENCE**

**MENTAL CHALLENGES &**

**HOMELESSNESS**

**PLACE: EASTERN NAZARENE COLLEGE,  
MANN CENTER 2<sup>ND</sup> FLR**

**23 EAST ELM AVE, QUINCY MA 02170  
(off Hancock Street)**

**DATE: SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 2008**

**TIME: 9:00 A.M -11:30 AM**

- *We have singled out a time just for you to leave your busy schedules and to be yourself.*
- *Leave the weight of your home, your job, and your ministry. Meet and network with others.*
- *Be inspired as you listen to messages, prayer, and song.*
- *Be open to God's leading. Be an encourager! Share your testimony, pray for someone, help someone, and build partnerships. Be restored! Be rejuvenated!*

**\*DONATION: \$ 30 Seniors \$20**

**For Registration information or tickets , please call J. Blake at 617.282.6182 or email: [Jblake@christianresourcenetwork.org](mailto:Jblake@christianresourcenetwork.org)**

**\*Includes full breakfast.**

## KNEELING FOR NEW ENGLAND

The Church of the living God, under the auspices of Visionary and Senior Pastor, Rev. Gloria Nelson, hosted its sixth annual prayer breakfast, "Kneeling for New England" on February 23, 2008, at the Sheraton Braintree Hotel. As customary, the mood of the breakfast was one of celebration and excitement, praising and edifying God in worship, song, and prayer. Associate minister, Rev. Dr. Bettye Craft was the mistress of Ceremony and Associate minister, Rev. Cherie Nelson was the coordinator of the event.



**Rev. Gloria Nelson**

This year, the focus was on the youth with some of the proceeds of the breakfast going to establish a scholarship fund for at-risk youth. Rev. Nelson, during our telephone interview on Wednesday February 27, 2008, at 12:30p.m, explained the reason for the change. "God prompted me to address the issue of violence that is taking place in city streets, in schools, in suburbia, and around the world." She explained that the youth breakfast purposed to provide: "an outreach to youth, to educate, create awareness," and consensus among the body of Christ regarding "where our young people are heading spiritually, educationally, and economically." Additionally, it gave the body of Christ an "understanding of the seriousness of gang violence and the need to find methods to address, intervene, and stop the violence in city streets."

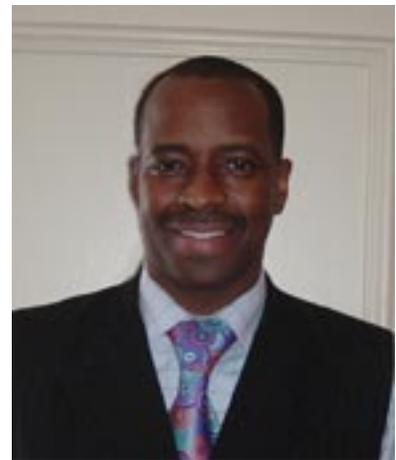
**"The question to ask ourselves," explained Rev. Nelson is, "What will Jesus do?"**

The breakfast began with praise and worship by Teen Challenge of Brockton. Minister Cynthia Harden blessed us in song. Andrea Baptiste, Founder of Lotus Foundation and Rev. Mathew Gibson, Director of Nexus Boston, led youth workshops.

Morning Star Baptist Church and Church of the Living God Christian Youth Fellowships provided a theatrical performance where youth replayed and relived the emotional pain, including abuse, they had experienced in their childhood. They expressed the loneliness they felt from not being allowed to tell a parent or family member about the abuse, that resulted in fear, anger, and self-hate that seemingly walked with them throughout their lives. These feelings further lead to a vicious cycle of violence where young people are continually hurting themselves and others, tearing whole communities apart, bringing pain to families: mothers, fathers, grandparents, brothers, sisters, cousins, friends, and others. The make shift coffin they presented was symbolic of the pain, grief, and sadness they bore when a family member or friend fell victim to violence.

Rev. Herold and Rev. Rose Auborg, Rev. Dr. Nerissa Clark, Rev. Ronald Cooper, Rev. Deanna Danglad, and Evangelist Princess Cadero led participants in prayers of intercession; and Rev. Roland Cooper's focus was on a call to repentance. Associate Minister, Ann Johnston, read a Scripture passage taken from the book of Isaiah 65: 19-24.

The keynote speaker for the event was none other than Rev. William E Dickerson II, of Greater Love Tabernacle Church, Boston, MA. Pastor Dickerson has been an ardent vessel for peace in the city, mediating between the police and street gangs and being a listening ear to those who are incarcerated.



**Rev. William E Dickerson II**

Rev. Dickerson began his message by stating that, **“Youth should not be viewed as the leaders of tomorrow, but as the leaders of today.”**

He prayed that God would:

- Touch the young people
- Deliver sons and daughters from the hand of the enemy
- Strengthen, anoint, and empower fathers, mothers, and youth to live a holy life for God said: ‘Be holy as I am holy’ (1 Peter 1:16)
- Cover the children with the blood of Jesus
- Restore marriages
- Give parents the ability to set parameters and boundaries for their children
- Deliver fathers from drug dens
- Deliver women from physical and emotional abuse
- Deliver families from the cycle of one-parent homes

He rebuked “violence,” “rage,” and prayed for “peace” and “righteousness” to prevail in the city, and for youth to be “clothed in love and humility.” He called for repentance, citing the divorce rate among Christians, and stating that the enemy was making a “mockery of God.”

He called for the Church to pray as never before and challenged the Church to take the anointing of prayer to city streets and not focus on being “sanctimonious as if it they never sinned.” He continued by stating that, “Prayer would tear down principalities and powers” of darkness and violence that hover over our cities. He suggested that parents sit down with their children, teach them the word of God, and encourage them to turn to Christ.

At the close of his message, Rev. Dickerson called the young people, as well as parents and others, to come to the front of the podium to join him in repeating the following prayer:

*Dear God,*

*I come to you and ask you to forgive me.*

*I believe Jesus died but rose for me.*

*Today, I accept Jesus as my Lord and Savior.*

*I repent of my sins.*

*I want to live for you in Jesus’ name, Amen.*

**Rev. William E Dickerson is the Senior Pastor of Greater Love Tabernacle Church located at 101 Nightingale Street, Dorchester, MA. The church’s phone number is (617) 740-9480.**

**Rev. Gloria Nelson is the Senior Pastor of The Church of The Living God who hosted the event. The Church is located at 227 East Main Street, Avon MA 02322. The church’s phone number is (508) 587-4004.**

**Summary by Joan M. Blake (Editor).**

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*I will rejoice in Jerusalem,*

*And joy in My people;*

*The voice of weeping shall no*

*Longer be heard in her,*

*Nor the voice of crying.*

*Nor shall an infant from*

*There live but a few days,*

*Nor an old man who has not*

*Fulfilled his days;*

*For the child shall die one*

*Hundred years old,*

*But the sinner being one*

*Hundred years old shall*

*Be accursed.*

(Continued on page 6)

(Isaiah 65: 19-24 From page 5)

*They shall build houses and*

*Inhabit them;*

*They shall plant vineyards*

*And eat their fruit.*

*They shall not build and*

*Another inhabit;*

*They shall not plant and*

*Another eat;*

*For as the days of a tree,*

*So shall be the days of My*

*People.*

*And My elect shall long enjoy*

*The work of their hands.*

*They shall not labor in vain,*

*Nor bring forth children for*

*Trouble;*

*For they shall be the*

*Descendants of the blessed of*

*The LORD,*

*And their offspring with them*

*It shall come to pass*

*That before they call, I will*

*Answer;*

*And while they are still*

*Speaking, I will hear. (Isaiah 65: 19-24*

*NKJV)*

## **DIRECTIONS TO EASTERN NAZARENE COLLEGE**

**23 East Elm Ave, Quincy Massachusetts**

**Tel 617.745.3000**

From the North:

Take interstate 93 South through Boston and on to the South East expressway, which is interstate 93. Take, Exit 12 marked 3A Neponset, Quincy. Follow the exit road as it circles under the expressway and bears right up over the Neponset River. The roadway will then curve to the left under the sign Squantum and Wollaston Beach. and will take you on to Quincy Shore drive. Wollaston beach will be on your left. Take a left on to Elm Hill Ave, which is a narrow side street with a park on both sides. Look for the administration building at 23 East Elm Ave.

From the West:

Follow Mass turnpike through the turnpike extension and on to I93 S and SE expressway. Take Exit 12 marked 3A Neponset, Quincy. Follow the exit road as it circles under the expressway and bears right up over the Neponset River. The roadway will then curve to the left under the sign Squantum and Wollaston Beach. and will take you on to Quincy Shore drive. Wollaston beach will be on your left. Turn right on to East Elm Ave. The main administration building will be on your right.

From the South:

Take route 93 N to exit 8 furnace Brook and exit to the right. Follow to the 5<sup>th</sup> set of lights to Hancock Street. Take about half of a mile to Elm Ave and turn right bear right to Elm Ave. Bear right on Elm Ave. Go to the end of Elm Ave to East Elm Ave. The main administration will be on your right at 23 East Elm Ave.

From Boston By subway: Take an outward Braintree train on the red line to the Wollaston stop. Exit the station to the left and walk to the stop sign on the first street which is Greenwood Ave. Turn right to Greenwood and walk one block to Beele Street. Turn left on Beele Street and walk three small blocks to Hancock Street. Turn right on to Hancock Street and go two blocks. At the traffic light turn left on to Elm Ave. Follow to the end where it splits in to East and West Elm Ave. Bear right on to East Elm Ave and you will see the main entrance to the college. It will take approximately 15 minutes to walk to the college from the subway.

*Christian Resource Network, Inc.*

**FUNDRAISING NETWORK BREAKFAST**

**REGISTRATION FORM**

**April 12, 2008**

Time: 9:00AM—11:30AM

**EASTERN NAZARENE COLLEGE (Mann CTR)**

**23 EAST ELM AVE, QUINCY MA 02170**

**\*Donation: \$30.00 Seniors \$20**

**Full Name:**

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**Street Address:**

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**Your E-mail Address:**

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**Telephone Home/Cell**

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**Registration: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Please make check or money order payable to:**

**Contribution: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Christian Resource Network, Inc.**

**Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Box 190971/Boston, MA 02119**

**I will like to obtain transportation information.**

**For more information or for tickets, please call us at Tel 617.282.6182 or Email:  
Jblake@christianresourcenetwork.org**

**Visit the website: [www.christianresourcenetwork.org](http://www.christianresourcenetwork.org)**

**\*Includes full breakfast.**

## Women's Monthly Breakfast Series

Come and be a part of an educational and fun discussion group! We will grow in Christ as we embrace who we are as women and understand our purpose.

**Email:** [Jblake@christianresourcenetwork.org](mailto:Jblake@christianresourcenetwork.org)

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**Christian Resource Network, Inc.**  
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Boston, MA 02119

Place  
Stamp  
Here