

**WELCOME to the  
FEBRUARY  
edition of the  
Mt. Vernon Baptist Church  
Newsletter.**

**We want everyone to know how  
God is working in our midst.  
We pray daily for God's  
blessings on all we do and say.**

**Every Sunday**

9:00 am Prayer Time

9:45 am Sunday School

11:00 am Worship

12:00 pm Fellowship Time

**Every Wednesday**

7:00 pm Prayer and Praise

**FEBRUARY Activities**

14~ Communion Sunday

14~ Deacons Meeting at  
12:30 PM in the Library

22~ Church Board Meeting  
at 7:00 PM in the Library

**MARCH Activities**

6~ Meeting with top Pastoral  
Candidate and his family

7~ Presentation of Pastoral  
Candidate and Vote

**FEBRUARY Birthdays**

Jessenia LaFerrera: 2<sup>nd</sup>

Elwood Beavers: 9<sup>th</sup>

Alma Beavers: 15<sup>th</sup>

David Downey: 21<sup>st</sup>

**For Ministerial Care:**

Diane Kaus

Home: 703.978.9747

Cell: 703.732.3251

Rev. Dan Cruz

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**Mt Vernon Baptist  
FEBRUARY 2010  
CHURCH  
NEWSLETTER**

Family:

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

The month of January has been full of anxiety and fear for us as we witnessed the destruction caused by earthquakes in Haiti. Minor aftershocks are still being felt through some regions in Haiti. To this date, 150,000 Haitians have been buried, while there are at least another 600,000 homeless in the city of Port-au-Prince alone.

We thank God for the many organizations taking part in the relief efforts. The United Nations, the United States, and a host of non-profit organizations, such as World Vision, Red Cross, and many religious organizations, have reached out to meet the needs of the people of Haiti.

Mount Vernon is always willing to assist as needed. We thank God for the spirit of compassionate giving we share in this branch of Zion. So far, we have collected \$1,350.00 in donations, as well as food, personal hygiene, and first aid items, which will be distributed through the Virginia Baptist Mission Board, the DC Baptist Convention, and the American Red Cross in the near future.

Our church had the privilege to conduct a joint service with the National Capital Bible Church on the Sunday after the earthquake. Pastor Dan Inghram reminded us that, in spite of whatever happens in our lives, outside help is appreciated and needed, but the support that is most overlooked and undermined is that of a spiritual nature.

God, the Creator of the universe, truly wants the world to know Him. God wants us to rely on Him and experience His strength, love, holiness, compassion, and help. Jesus says to all who are willing, "Come to Me all who are heavy burdened." God tells us that He can be "our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in times of trouble." This is the message we are to share with the world around us.

No matter what we are facing in our own lives, whether sickness or distress, we must not lose hope. There is a path to true peace, which will enable us to deal with our anxiety and fears when disaster strikes.

Ironically, the solution may not come from changing a particular situation we are facing. Rather, it may come from beginning or strengthening our personal relationship with the God, who created us. God is well aware of what disasters we are facing right now. Our relationship with Him is the ultimate answer to many of our problems.

May the God of love and peace be with you. Remember to keep praying for those in Haiti, for our church, and for yourselves.

In Him,

Rev Dan Cruz  
Acting Pastor

## **PRAYER LIST - UPDATE**

- Alice Kaus
- Alma Beavers
- Arbutus Hollifield
- Beavers Family
- Brownie Crouch
- Christine Morgan
- Clive Hemphill
- Davis Family
- Debbie Langston
- Diane Webster
- Gene Prince
- Gualbert Gutierrez
- Iris Garland
- Janice Rector
- Jesse Parker
- Jim and Karen Masse
- John Pope
- Kestie Hammond
- Monica Mensah
- Nancy Nelson
- O'Roark Family
- Stowe Shockey
- Stella Phillips
- Timothy Marsh
- Victor Sarkodie and his children
- Virginia Kunz
- Wayne Mudd
- Wayne Webster
- Wesley Moreno

*“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength’...*

*‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’*

*There is no commandment greater than these.”*

*- Mark 12:30-31*

There is no better way to show the love of Christ than to care for the sick, homebound, and bed ridden. Listening and acknowledging the needs of those who cannot do for themselves, and then aiding them in any way you can is how we can show our neighbors the love of Christ. When these neighbors who are in need now are those that have shown the same love to us (the church) in the past, it becomes our duty as Christians to see that they are treated with the deserving honor as Disciples of Christ.

During our continuing transition from one pastor to another, a particular woman of God has stepped up to take on the task of visiting the sick and shut in members of Mount Vernon Baptist Church. She cares for these members greatly and her dedication to maintaining consistent contact is only proof that God has called her to assist with this responsibility.

Diane Kaus has seen us through three passings of our dearly beloved since taking on this great task in August of 2009: Frances Sipes, Mary “Bobbie” Davis, and John O’Roark. She continues to visit and care for Kestie Hammond, Brownie Crouch, Nancy Nelson, and Judy and Carol O’Roark. Diane ensures that they have all they need from groceries during snow storms to just that friendly face stopping by or a phone call to say hello.

Through all the visits, phone calls, and updates to the church, she’s also been caring for her parents who are beginning to need more of her attention. Diane is a beautiful example of how we can obey God by honoring our father and mother, loving our neighbor as ourselves, and putting faith and trust in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Let us acknowledge her dedication and thank God for her and all the saints we have surrounding us doing the work of the Lord. We are blessed to have many within our church.

May God bless you all!

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