

January 2013 Newsletter

# 2013

#### Upcoming Events:

February 10-Monthly meeting at Union Baptist Church (3pm)

<u>February 23</u> – Shaw University Tour and Game Day

<u>April 6</u> – The Great Human Race (Sears – Northgate Mall)

<u>April 27</u> – One Day District Conference - Union Baptist (10am)

<u>July 21</u> – DCYM Youth Banquet

<u>July 22-23</u> – DCYM Citywide Youth Revival

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### 2012-2013 DCYM Officers

(Pictured from left to right: Monique Lawson, President; Xaria Townsend, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President; Myles Harris, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President; Gekierra Webster, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President; Barbara Cromartie, 4<sup>th</sup> Vice President; Kenya Harrell, Recording Secretary; and Shannon Lawson, Assistant Secretary; Not pictured - William Smallwood, Treasurer)

### A Trip to the Central Children's Home in Oxford

The trip to the Central Children's Home began at Henderson Grove Baptist Church on December 8, 2012. I joined my friends from Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church and youth members of Henderson Grove and Mt. Level to travel to Oxford, NC. We traveled to Oxford to visit and fellowship with the youth residents at the home. We presented a program that started with scripture and prayer. We engaged the youth in a game where we had to name items and television shows that started with the letters in the word "Christ." I thought the game was great, and even though my team didn't win, I enjoyed myself.

We also served pizza and ate along with the youth residents. The time passed quickly and we were able to give the youth at the home games that they could play at their leisure. The DCYM officers were asked to introduce themselves and after praying, we headed back to Durham safely.

> Submitted by: Myles Harris





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#### The Light

Presented by *Alysia Davis* at Ellison's Rest Home

Aren't these lights so pretty When we put them on the tree, Or sometimes around the window So that everyone can see. Christmas is not about presents, Or gifts with ribbon all curled -But Christmas is all about Jesus, He is the true light to the world. So when you see the lights twinkle, And the decorations are such a sweet site -

Remember the true meaning o Christmas

Jesus, the Savior, the Light.



Merry Christmas By: Gekierra Webster

May your holiday be filled with joyous laughter because Every perfect gift comes from the Father Rejoice in the presence of the

King of kings

Remembering the very first Christmas Present sent by God Yielding to the calling of the Holy Spirit

Come one and all to see the salvation of the Lord Hang on His every word as He speaks that which His Father gives to Him Run the race of endurance to the

end and you will receive a crown of life

Inspiration to do the will of the Lord

**S**acrifices of praise to God the Father of all believers

Taste the Word of God and enjoy it for it is good for the soul Magnify the name of the Lord upon whom our sins were placed Amplify your voice as you offer praises to Him

**S**tating your love for God, through the sacrifice of His son Jesus Christ.

# My Missionary

Journey

Submitted by: Angel Hart



It's been a while since I've helped the homeless, and participated in missionary activities. On Saturday, November 3, 2012 I joined youth from across the state for the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Youth Evangelism Conference in Rocky Mount, North Carolina. Three speakers made presentations at the conference. The one who stood out the most for me was Trooper Clee Atkinson, from NC Highway Patrol, who talked about youth and the law. He spoke about how the devil is taking our youth, and how we must protect the youth from devilish things. He also

defined "SWAG ": S – School; W - Well Educated; A – And; G - Gentleman, Girly, Godly.

Gentleman meaning being a man, and having RESPECT for yourselves and others. Girly meaning acting like a girl, and not acting or thinking you are a boy. Most importantly, Godly meaning that you should be/act Godly every day of the week, and everywhere you go, and not just on Sunday's when you come to church. Trooper Atkinson also talked about bullying, and being careful of what you say because words hurt too. He also stated that "Bullies love guns but are often scared of the school books." The second speaker was also great. She had created a recipe for Zucchini fries. Her recipe was selected to be served at the White House. The last speaker was Rev. Antoinette Wright of Raleigh, NC. She spoke from James 1:2-7. Her message was "Let's get ready to Rumble!"

On Sunday, November 11, 2012 we had a Durham County Youth Missionary Department meeting at the Durham County Main Library in downtown Durham. The meeting was for Thanksgiving, and it included a Food Drive to restock the Food Pantry at Urban Ministries of Durham. A volunteer from Urban Ministries, Mrs. Cloria Lewis, joined us to answer questions we had about Urban Ministries. She spoke about what goes on there, and how many people and families they feed a day. The Urban Ministries serves 3 hot meals a day: breakfast, lunch, and dinner for the poor, and the homeless.

I really enjoyed my time helping meet the needs of Urban Ministries of Durham. I felt so rejuvenated, and humbled by my day of service to others. God is really pleased when we help others. We must continue to be obedient, and do His will, as Christians on our missionary journey. Even though I had not been in a long time, I know more journeys are yet to come, as I continue to serve others for Christ. Come join me on this journey!



Above: Picture of the business meeting meal.

Below: Picture of food donations.



#### I Love You Jesus

When I look at you, crucified on the cross, I come face to face with the evil of sin. When I look at you, abandoned by man, I just want to sing to you in the best way I can. I love you, Jesus I love you, so much Stay with me, don't leave me, I want to love you until the day that I die.

When I look at you, hung on the cross, I look into your face, I see my friend. When I look at you, forsaken by man, I feel sore to my bones, but forever to you in debt. I love you, Jesus I love you, so much Stay with me, don't leave me, I want to love you until the day that I die.

When I look at you, in pain on the cross, my heart miss a beat, tears run down my face. When I look at you, insulted by man, I feel your love inside me, your love with no end. I love you, Jesus I love you, so much Stay with me, don't leave me,

I want to love you until the day that I die.

Submitted by: Briana Lawrence



## Tragedy to Triumph

The story of my life all began July 18, 1998 on a cool Saturday morning around 10 A.M. I was called Baby Gyant for a few days but was eventually named Kelsey Michelle Gyant. I had a great life at first we were really active, free spirited and most of all happy. Until one day her eyes and teeth began to bother her. Slowly but surely my mom went blind in one eye. Her eye has now been replaced with a prosthetic eye. That put real restraints on us being free spirited.

Soon after my mom went into depression because she had to have her teeth pulled which made her very self-conscious. That was only the beginning. My mom was diagnosed with kidney failure when I was 6 years old. She has been consistently back and forth to the hospital from being admitted to the emergency room to appointments. Sometimes it was hard because I was too young to understand that it wasn't my fault and the thing I could do was put it in the Lord's hands.

At the age of 7 I lost a brother due to miscarriage, he would be 7 this year. I named him Michelangelo off the television show teenage mutant ninja turtles. He was not the only one lost to miscarriage. There were four before me and he made six. I am the only one to make it through. I would have had one sister and four brothers.

At the age of 8, I lost a grandma whom I was living with at the time. I used to feel guilty because I had the chance to say anything I wanted to her, because she was in a coma but could still hear her surroundings. I was too scared to say anything. I even had a phase where every day I come home and when it was time to go to sleep I'd grab a picture my grandma, the Bible, and crouch up into a ball and cry myself to sleep. Well I guess no one knew that about me. If you asked my friends they'd probably tell you that I'm always smiling, carefree, not a care in the world. None of that is true, the whole time I'm talking to someone I'm probably thinking where my mom is, is she okay, and is she in pain.

At the age of 11 my dad was diagnosed with cancer which was shocking because besides high blood pressure my dad was in perfect health. Fortunately they caught it when it was really small. So they were able to use radioactive seeds to get rid of the cancer. It has NOT returned.

This year has been the hardest of all. February 1<sup>st</sup>, my mom had and outpatient procedure to insert a graph into her arm that goes straight to her heart called a hero graph. The next morning she woke up with the chills, I wanted to call the ambulance but she said it was only her blood sugar. We went to my grandma's house and she got worse. She was cold but yet she was burning up on the outside. We took her temperature and it was 103.9. We got her up and in the car and drove to the hospital. When we got there, she was unresponsive, but alert, forgetful and clumsy. They finally got her hooked up to an IV and her fever started to come down. They still had to admit her to find out what caused her to have a fever. They found that she had an infection, but none of the medicine they gave her would work. At this point I said she would be out in two weeks but two weeks passed and nothing changed. I was so engaged in what was going on at the hospital late. One day the doctor came in my mom's room with tears in her eyes, and I just knew all hope was lost. They told us that they needed to remove the hero graph but was really risky but if they didn't do it fast enough then they may lose her before the graph was removed.



The next Monday they removed the graph. She seemed totally different from when she had the graph in. She was hospitalized for 48 days and besides appointments, she hasn't visited the emergency room or been admitted since. She lost a lot of leg strength but slowly regained it, she went from wheelchair to walker, to cane, to doing it all by herself.

Also since then she has gotten a new graph in her leg in perfect condition and got to swim with me for the first time since I was 6.

No matter how many struggles or how many painful events I may face, I know the Lord didn't bring me this far to leave me.



Kelsey Gyant

Submitted by:

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### Next Newsletter Deadline:

<u>March 24</u> – for April Newsletter

Specify "DCYM News" in the subject field.

#### Editor's Contact Information:

**Myles Harris** 

E-mail: mylesharris@earthlink.net

We're pressing forward with missions-in-action! Feel free to submit an article or come on out and join us.

## **Union Baptist Mission Weekend**

On Saturday, September 29, 2012, Union Missionary Baptist Church held its second Mission and Evangelism Weekend. The theme for the event was "Accepting God's Challenge". The weekend was a repeat of last year's occasion when almost every organization in the church sent representatives to serve at various facilities or service organizations throughout Durham. The Union Baptist Senior Missionaries involved youth as well as adults in a strategically planned mission blitz in the surrounding community. The event culminated on Sunday, with a reception for 23 men of Union who gave outstanding in mission work. Some of the honorees have served for over 60 years.

Youth from Union Baptist's Youth Missionaries participated at Ronald McDonald House here in Durham, as well as Carolina House Assisted Living Center. Wherever youth participated, they brought that vitality and energy to the atmosphere that only young folks can bring. At each facility they were received well and were a blessing to those they served. Some people aren't aware of the basic mission of Ronald McDonald House. Ronald McDonald House is a residence for families with critically ill children. It allows the family to stay together in an environment that fosters "hope, comfort, and empathy". The facility alleviates some of the "immense emotional, physical, and financial challenges". The youth from Union made desserts for the families, right there on the premises. The tasty treats were enjoyed by the families and extended an act of love that will not be forgotten. Adults from the Senior Missionary Department worked along with the youth to guide and direct as necessary.

About fifteen youth from Union also participated at Carolina House Assisted Living facility by fellowshipping with the residents there. The youth were accompanied by representatives of the Youth Missionary Supervisors. The young people led "ice breaker" activities that engaged the elderly residents on a very warm and human level, as they shared experiences from their lives. The interaction between those who have seen so much of life, and those who are just beginning to explore life was definitely Spirit-led. After the game activities closed, the youth were partnered with residents in singing of songs that gave glory to God. This event will be long remembered by both groups, regardless of their chronological age. In the Spirit of God there is neither young nor old. All believers are CHILDREN of God.



Submitted by: Mr. Ronald Jackson

At the Sunday reception in honor of those men who gave dedicated missionary service, the youth served dinner to the honorees and attended to the needs of their guests. Again, the collaboration between youth and adult missionary workers erased the usual secular "generation gap" that causes so much disunity in the world. Jesus must make the difference. We truly thank the Lord Jesus the Christ for being the factor that can bring so many youth, young adults, and senior adults together in the fellowship of God. We all plan to make next year's weekend even greater. To God Be The Glory!

#### Teen Creed

Don't let your parents down; they brought you up. Be humble enough to obey; you may give orders someday. Choose companions with care; you become what they are. Guard your thoughts; what you think you, you are. Choose only a date that would make a good mate. Be master of your habits, or they will master you. Don't be a show off when you drive, drive with safety and arrive. Don't let the crowd pressure you; stand for something or you'll fall for anything.

