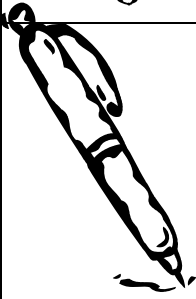


# The Village Voice

VOL XII NO. V

May 2008

## From the Pastor....



"On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from

within him." By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified." John 7: 37-39

Dear Church Family,

Sunday May 11<sup>th</sup> is Pentecost Sunday, which marks the last sequence of events or 'fruits' of Jesus' salvation until His second coming. Dying on the cross and rising from the tomb of death mark the payment for our sins; Pentecost is the giving of his Spirit, the last down payment. Paul speaks of this as the guarantee

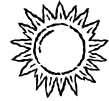
of our inheritance in which we are sealed for the final day of Salvation. Ultimately, it is Jesus taking up residence within us; our body becomes the new temple of God. So the Christian confesses, "Christ within me, the hope of Glory!"

As the above Scripture indicates, the wonder of receiving God's Spirit is also something to experience. From within us a river begins to flow. A settled peace, tranquility, and comfort begin to shape our lives, eventually chasing away the once dominant themes of anxiety, fear, and discouragement. We become like a tree planted by a river with our roots always in contact with life sustaining moisture. Did not Jesus say he would grant us life, and life more abundantly! Let us offer ourselves fully to Jesus Christ; by his love and grace to us, our cups will overflow.

Much love to all in Christ,

Pastor Richard

### Cazenovia Village Baptist Church



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### We are Praying for:

Mary El-Amir, Ellen Clarke, Carol Bentley, Janice Dell, Elizabeth Mansfield, Marcia Parker, and Rosemary Strohl. Please remember these, and others who come to your mind, in your prayers throughout the weeks ahead.

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## You are cordially invited...

To Cazenovia Village Baptist Church's semi-annual Congregational meeting.

Directly following our morning Worship service on May 18 (around 12 PM?) we invite everyone to join us for a pulled pork lunch.

If you can bring something please see Sylvia or Ruby, but whether you bring something or not we hope you will come!

And...

Release times final program "The Celebration"



If you have any questions regarding the newsletter or would like any items included in next months issue please email Grace at [gracejevans@yahoo.com](mailto:gracejevans@yahoo.com).

# Cheerful Notes

from Warren Ottey



One of the anthems our Chancel Choir loves to sing is the one entitled, "This Is My Word," by Pepper Choplin. The anthem begins by quoting God's Word, as found in the wonderful chapter of Isaiah 55: verses 10 and 11: *As the rain and the snow fall from heaven, and do not return to it without water-*

*ing the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth! It will not return to me empty, but it will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it. – NIV*

Our choir has often been reminded of God's promise that His Word, when spoken or sung, never returns void by the comments of many worshippers in our church over the years about how particular anthems or solos have been moving or encouraging, even motivating, in ways that could only have come from God.

The Master's Touch Chorale has also heard many of these comments over our fifteen years of ministry in song. Those comments have escalated since the release of our latest CD, "Sometimes I Hear God's Music," which features seventeen of our Christ-centered anthems and songs (some of which our CVBC Chancel Choir also sings) which are based on God's Word. As we met on September 9, 2007, for our final recording session for this album, we prayed fervently together that the Holy Spirit would go along with every plastic CD disk and reach the hearts of every listener for God's purposes! He has certainly answered that prayer! But on that September evening we were not aware that He also had another purpose in mind for that last recording session.

We had a little time left over after we had finished recording the songs for the album, so we recorded ahead four or five of our other songs that, God willing, will be part of a future Master's Touch album. One of those songs had originally been sent to me near the end of the year 2006, by lyricist J. Paul Williams in an envelope with some other music that Paul knew I would not see from the publishers I usually patronize. The song, with words by J. Paul set to music by Craig Courtney, is an anthem of majestic praise titled, "None Like You." I was deeply moved the first time I played through it, and I knew that the Lord wanted us to sing it in our church and in our Master's Touch concerts. Since no commercial recorded accompaniment CD was available for the piece, I quickly recorded one with God's help. Master's Touch Chorale has sung the piece at virtually every concert since February of 2007, and our CVBC Chancel Choir has sung it three times, including April 27<sup>th</sup> of this year. With the limited time the Master's Touch had at the end of that recording session, we only

sang the piece once; but when our sound man, Don Wehrich, and I listened to the recording a few days later, we were amazed that we wouldn't have to do anything at all to the piece. It was blessed and beautiful in just one take!

"None Like You" in itself can inspire tears of joy and awe; but when one hears or sings it after reading the following dedicatory words by the composer of its music, it becomes spiritual dynamite!

*On June 1, 1999, the touring choir of Ouachita Baptist University, directed by Dr. Charles Fuller and accompanied by his wife, Cindy, was returning on American Airlines Flight 1420 from a two-week tour in the former East Germany. Due to a severe thunderstorm the plane was unable to stop upon landing in Little Rock, Arkansas. Eleven people died as a result of the ensuing fire and from other injuries caused by the crash. Among those killed were Rachael, the 14-year-old daughter of the Fullers, who sustained massive burns, and baritone James Harrison, who landed unharmed, but was eventually overcome by smoke because he stayed on the plane to help other passengers exit.*

*There are countless times in our lives when our faith is tested, but perhaps none more profoundly than in times of tragedy. In the midst of great loss we discover the depth and breadth of God's sustaining love and mercy. This anthem is written not only in memory of Rachael and James, but also as an expression of God's faithfulness. – Craig Courtney*

For some time after hearing our recording of "None Like You" I had an ever-present urge that I should e-mail an mp3 file of it to Paul Williams. I finally was able to do that this past April 14<sup>th</sup>, hoping that Paul would like what we did with his piece. The next day I received the following unexpected reply:

*I forwarded your recording to Charlie Fuller, parent of Rachel who was killed in the crash.*

*Here's his response:*

*You know I didn't ever cry until I played the Singers performing it. They really were good, weren't they?*

*– CF*

*You never know who will be touched by the Master's Touch Chorale. – Paul*

Now it was I who was crying tears of joy and gratitude that God had used us and our mere four minutes of singing to bless and give release to one of His choice servants who had lost so much. I pray that you, too, will be blessed by this song and this account. I pray also that as you honor, read, and share God's Word, you will know in your heart that it will never, ever, return empty!

## Monthly Volunteer Schedule

### CHILDREN'S CHURCH

- 4- Roxy Spano  
11- Sylvia Hopkins  
18- John Dickerson  
25- Pastor Dickinson

### WORSHIP LEADER

- 4th- Glynn Cook  
11th- John Dickerson  
18th-  
28th- Jamie Evans

### USHERS

- 4th- Roxana Spano & Marilyn Fais  
11th- Lucy Higgins & Sam Evans  
18th- Miriam Dickinson & Arlene Balanske  
28th- Miriam Dickinson & Marian York

## Celebrate!

- 1st- National Day of Prayer
- 5th- Hoagie Day
- 7th- International Tuba day
- 9th- Lost Sock Memorial Day
- 19th- Frog Jumping Jubilee
- 26th- Memorial Day



# Church Calendar

Every Sunday: Join us for our Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.

Every Tuesday: A Bible Study at 11 a.m. at the Carriagehouse Apartments

Every Thursday: Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 p.m.

Every Friday: Secretary Office Hours, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Wednesdays May 7, 14, and 28: Please join us for a Bible Study at the Church, 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday May 21: All Boards Meet at 7:00 p.m.

*Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go. Joshua 1:9*



## MISSION BOARD



Two members from the mission board were present for the board meetings, Wednesday, April 16, 2008; Janet Lamb and Charlie Pace. A general discussion meeting was held with all board members.

Our board has sent three more bundles of coupons out to service people. Janet thought it a good idea to review what the coupon giving is all about; as this idea was presented by Grace Witmer several years back, and has been being carried out ever since. Service personnel can use coupons even though their time limit may have expired. We believe that it is a three to six month expiration on them. They can redeem them at the commissary where they shop. Coupons should be for general products, not private store coupons. Some popular items would be shaving cream, toiletries of various types, children's care and diaper coupons, cereals, soups (nations brands), and cleaning products, etc. You have been generous with your clipping, and we appreciate your effort.

Charlie is sending out monthly gifts and donations. As I checked with Cheryl, Sunday, you have generously donated \$195.00 for the America for Christ offering. Praise God and thank you.

We have another ongoing ministry to CAZ-CARES. In contacting them, their needs would be canned fruit. They said there are only pears on hand. They need some other varieties. They also could use boxes of cereal, jello, and puddings.

Respectfully submitted, Lucy Higgins for Ann Berlew

## MAY BOARD MEETING

Due to limited attendance at the April meeting, all Boards met together as one. The Pastor opened in prayer and a discussion ensued about the semi-annual meeting on May 18. We determined that (1) announcements would be made from the pulpit on May 4 and May 11, (2) it would be added to the calendar in the May newsletter, and (3) financial information would be available for review on May 11. The Executive Committee will determine the full agenda, but we will at least discuss the financials, and the church by-laws. Under the current by-law structure, 35 members are required to run the church. While this structure may have worked well for the church when the congregation was larger, it is not practical in today's environment. The question becomes, how should the by-laws and the leadership structure be modified to be more effective? This will be a topic of discussion at the meeting.

Additional discussions followed on the topic of the web site (need for high-speed internet, purchase or template and plan to transition the current site), a new tri-fold in process by John Dickerson, Chamber of Commerce membership (we will renew), and the plan to "go digital" in recording the services. New sound equipment has been purchased using the Stearns memorial fund and appropriate recognition will be given to that fund.

Finally, we discussed the fact that Foster Evans's debate team will be going to the national competition in Montgomery Alabama in June. They will drive to the competition leaving Saturday and returning the following Sunday. We thought our church family might like to help support as last year. Jamie Evans will provide details in the next few weeks.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cheryl Baldwin, Secretary  
Board of Trustees

## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

3— Paul Rathbun

Dorris Skinner

8— Glynn Cook

14— Lloyd Jones

Kay Rosenberg

Carol Stauffer



*Birthdays are good for you. Statistics show that the people who have the most live the longest.*

~ Larry Lorenzoni



15— Foster Evans

17— Bill Brady

20— Nikki Palmer

25— Grace Evans

27— Ruth Thurston

*If you read history you will find that the Christians who did most for the present world were precisely those who thought most of the next. It is since Christians have largely ceased to think of the other world that they have become so ineffective in this.*



*If we discover a desire within us that nothing in this world can satisfy, also we should begin to wonder if perhaps we were created for another world.*

~C.S. Lewis