

## DID YOU KNOW . . .

**Black Music Month** takes place in June based on a decree by President Jimmy Carter, on June 7, 1979. For the past 28 years, presidents have announced to Americans that we should celebrate Black Music Month. For each year of his term, President Barack Obama has announced the observance under the new title, **African-American Music Appreciation Month**.

**The Presidential Proclamation** states in part: The legacy of African-American composers, singers, songwriters, and musicians is an indelible piece of our Nation's culture. Generations of African Americans have carried forward the musical traditions of their forebears, blending old styles with innovative rhythms and sounds. They have enriched American music and captured the diversity of our Nation. During African-American Music Appreciation Month, we honor this rich heritage.

This legacy tells a story of ingenuity and faith. Amidst the injustice of slavery, African Americans lifted their voices to the heavens through spirituals. This religious music united African Americans and helped sustain them through one of the darkest periods in our Nation's history. Years later, spirituals contributed to the advent of a new form of music: gospel. Both styles incorporated elements of African music and were rooted in faith . . .

(Continued below.)

### STAFF

Sister Barbara Hilliard, Editor  
Sister Olivia Thomas, Associate Editor  
Sister Arva Fuller, Writer  
Brother Charles Holmes, Writer

The *Mt. Helm Voyager* newsletter will be available to our members on the first Sunday of each month. Members are encouraged to visit [www.mthelm.org](http://www.mthelm.org) to access a downloadable pdf on the Monday following the first Sunday of each month.

Articles, photographs and notices of special events may be submitted to Sister Barbara Hilliard. We thank you for your support.

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[www.mthelm.org](http://www.mthelm.org)

## On the Horizon: June Events

- 3 COMMUNION SUNDAY
- 4-8 Vacation Bible School — 6:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m.
- 6, 13, 20, 27  
6:30 p.m.—7:00 p.m. Intercessory Prayer (Sanctuary)  
7:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m. Bible Study (Sanctuary)
- 9 Youth Bowling Outing  
(See Sis. Barnessa Cook and Arva Fuller and Bro. Terrence Mosley for information.)
- 10 Youth Sunday  
Sister Donna Johnson, Speaker
- 11 Brotherhood Bible Class Meeting — 6:30 p.m.
- 13 W.W. Colley Missionary Society Meeting — 10:00 a.m.
- 14 Flag Day
- 17 Father's Day Observance
- 20 First Day of Summer
- 21 Trustee Board Meeting—6:30 p.m.
- 26 Ollie Love Luncheon (TBA)
- 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays: Children and Youth Services — 11:00 a.m.

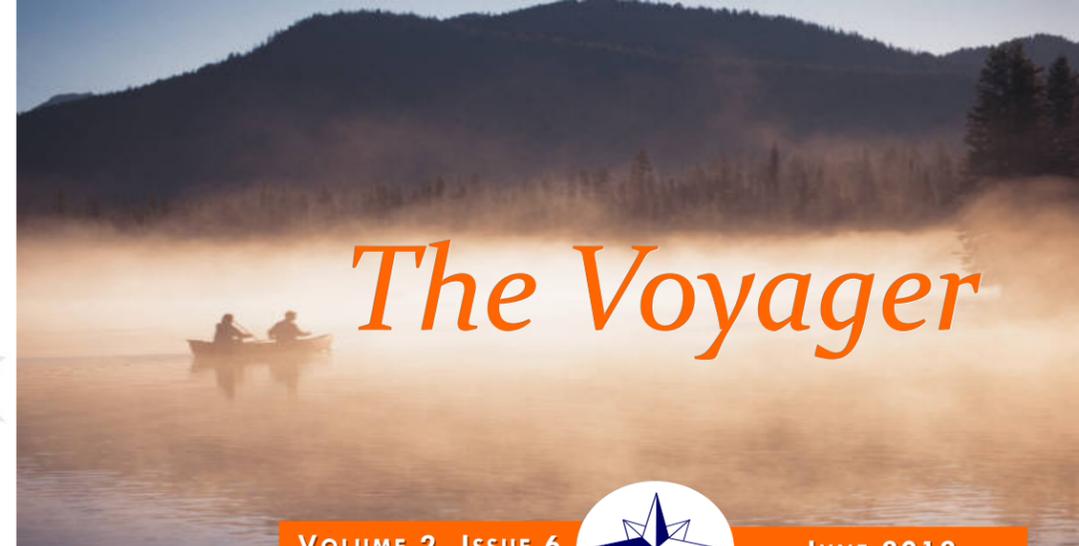
Each Saturday: Choirs practice at 9:30 a.m.

**Black Music Month** (Continued from above.)

. . . In addition, African-American composers have thrived in traditional genres such as musical theater, opera, classical symphony, and choral music, providing their unique imprint and creatively growing these forms of music. I call upon public officials, educators, and all the people of the United States to observe this month with appropriate activities and programs that raise awareness and foster appreciation of music which is composed, arranged, and performed by African Americans.

**Ways to learn more:**

- ◆ Apple is celebrating with a series of intimate live shows at Apple Stores across the country. Browse store locations to see who's playing in your area. To hear this amazing and diverse group of artists, visit [Black Music Month Live on iTunes](http://BlackMusicMonthLive.on.itunes).
- ◆ Visit [www.blackmusicamerica.org](http://www.blackmusicamerica.org). Black Music America is dedicated to promoting, preserving and recognizing Black music, artists and industry. The site is designed to be an information resource for consumers of Black music arts.
- ◆ For a timeline of African-American music in America, visit: [www.indiana.edu/~u594/time.html](http://www.indiana.edu/~u594/time.html).



# The Voyager

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JUNE 2012

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## The Greatest Gift



Father's Day is celebrated in many countries worldwide.

Although the origins, activities, and actual day of observance differ widely, they all share the common thread of honoring fathers for their role as parents.

Paul instructed fathers to be a positive part of their children's development rather than a source of anger and discouragement. He wrote, "Fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord" (Eph. 6:4). "Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged" (Col. 3:21). Both of these verses are embedded in passages about loving and honoring each other in family relationships.

The role of a father changes as children grow, but it doesn't end. Praise and encouragement are welcomed whether a child is 4 or 40. Prayer is always powerful. And it's never too soon to mend a broken relationship with a son or daughter.

Fathers, now is a good time to tell your children how much you appreciate and love them.

**The greatest gift a father can give to his children is himself.**

Reprinted from *Our Daily Bread*, June 15, 2009.

## Vacation Bible School Starts June 4

By Sister Arva Fuller

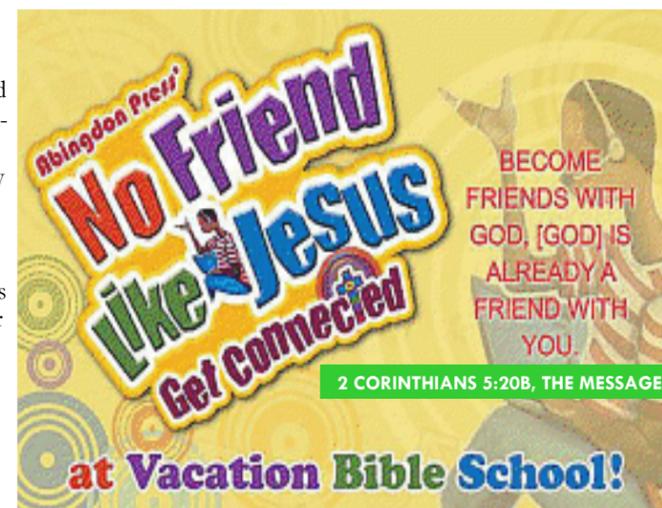
From the African talking drum to the smartphone, black people have liked to stay connected. Even when slavery separated persons of the same language to different plantations, Africans in America communicated through the airwaves by drum until it was outlawed (1830-32). In the twenty-first century, African-Americans take their laptops, tablets, and smartphones wherever they can find a signal. Young and old of every background are staying connected by Facebook, Twitter, and other social media allowing for friends and contacts near and far.

Through Jesus, God created a social network that connects from creation to eternity, Jesus

makes all connection possible!!! So, Mt. Helm we invite you to get connected, because there is **No Friend Like Jesus!** The twenty-first century is high tech. African-Americans use this technology at a higher rate and the back story is so cool. Henry Thomas Sampson was the first African American to earn a doctorate in Nuclear Physics, and co-invented the gamma-electric cell. This technology safely changes radiation into electricity and led to the invention of the cell phone. It makes possible downloads, texting, and anything else you want to do by mobile phone.

Starting **Monday, June 4**, our VBS will challenge you to become friends with God, and know that we are created to be in a relationship with God and all creation. God is our source of self-esteem and self-worth. And because we are created in the image of God, we can **3G**: Look Good, Do Good, and Be Good. That is because we are wonderfully and fearfully made. Each of us is **GGC**: God's Glorious Child!!

Vashawn Mitchell introduced us to the song, **"Nobody Greater"** in 2010. The lyrics tell how he looked all over, high and low, and found nobody greater than Jesus. In today's world, we are able to connect with friends all over the world by clicking or swiping a finger. However, no matter where or how we look, or for how long, we find that there is no friend like Jesus, nobody greater. This is because God has continually extended the hand of friendship to us. From the provision of a beautiful world, creating us in the image of God, to redemption from the power of sin through Jesus Christ. God desires connection with us. God made us for connection and community when we accept the free gift of grace, we'll find no better friend than Jesus.



LAUNCH OUT INTO THE DEEP



## A Meditation for Fathers

By Erich Bridges, a global correspondent for the International Mission Board and a blogger for the Baptist Press.

*"A good father is one of the most unsung, un-praised, unnoticed, and yet one of the most valuable assets in our society," — Billy Graham*

A good father takes care of business. He provides food, shelter and physical and emotional security for his family. But that's just the beginning. Within the context of marriage, he loves his wife and the mother of his children -- and he makes sure that he regularly expresses that love in front of the children.

A good father loves his children unconditionally. If he's at home, he hugs them -- every day. He says the words "I love you" -- every day, several times if possible. That's not touchy-feely; it's what your children need, even when they become obnoxious teens and pretend they don't. Read 1 Corinthians 13 to see what God's love looks like in action.

A good father teaches his children right from wrong. He disciplines them firmly but not abusively. "Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord," the Apostle Paul counsels in Ephesians 6:4. Your temporary, God-given authority over your children doesn't give you the right to dominate or manipulate them.

A good father leads and encourages his children. He is available 24/7, regardless of the hour or circumstance, regardless of how far his "child" has advanced into adulthood. He spends time. He pays attention. He listens to his children, and he expects his children to listen to him. He offers constructive criticism, sometimes strongly worded, but never in the form of condemnation. He issues orders, but is open to appeal.

Most of all, a good father models what it is to be a man, a husband, a father and a child of God. "My father didn't tell me how to live," recalled one thankful son. "He lived -- and let me watch him do it."

After messing up, my Dad used to say, half-seriously, "Don't do as I do; do as I say." Sorry, but that won't work. If you claim to follow Christ, follow Him. Worship Him. Serve Him. Serve His church. Do the things He said to do in this life in plain sight of your children -- not for show but because you mean it.

Do your kids see you loving your neighbor? Do they see you making friends with hurting sinners and loving them into the Kingdom of God? Do they see you praying for the nations and taking action to get the Gospel to the lost of the world? Do they see you shedding a tear for the things that break the heart of God? If you don't, odds are they won't.

A good father frequently fails to live up to these standards. But he doesn't give up. He asks for forgiveness from God and his family and presses ahead with the help of the Holy Spirit.

## BOOK FOR THE MONTH

### Why Christians Get Sick By George H. Malkmus

Reviewed by Bro. Charles Holmes

Last year when some of us were asked to present meditations, I chose a selection from a book suggested by Dr. White (MD) who advocates the holistic approach including spiritual approach to healing. The book is titled, *Why Christians Get Sick* by George H. Malkmus. The author, who at one time had colon cancer, had also watched his mother die from cancer. He

wondered "was his sickness caused by sin in his own life" or was this the will of God?

The author noted that a Christian teacher suffers a stroke, a Christian publisher has a heart attack, a founder of a Christian college suffers from senility, and lastly, a Christian missionary dies from cancer. To cite a few chapters for the answers to the above questions: "Biblical Reasons," "Traditional Reasons," "Drugs and the Medical Profession," and "God's Natural Law for Death". Each of the chapters is introduced with quotes from the Bible and several biblical quotes are within each

chapter. For example, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge." (Hosea 4:6) In the chapter "Drugs and the Medical Profession", he cites, "And a certain woman, which had an issue of blood twelve years, and had suffered many things of many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was nothing bettered but grew worse". (Mark 5: 25-26)

The reader should discover this is a very interesting and enlightening book which provides a spiritual perspective on a perplexing topic.



## We Salute Sis. Naomi Fields Sams

### MEMBER PROFILE:



Sis. Naomi Fields Sams and her grandson, George III.

*The aim and final end of all music should be none other than the glory of God and the refreshment of the soul. --Bach*

Dedicated to serving Mount Helm Baptist Church. Musically talented. Strategic. Professional in her teaching each song. Willing to practice until the music is "RIGHT". Strives for perfection. Wants the music to be pleasing to God. Strong-willed. Very thoughtful. Supportive. These are only a few of the words/expressions that define Sister Naomi Sams, Mount Helm's Minister of Music, whom we proudly salute for her many years of outstanding service to Mount Helm Baptist Church.

Educated at Jackson State University, Sister Sams worked for a number of years in the Jackson Public Schools and for a short time as choir director at Jackson State University. Her students and co-workers respected and revered her for her musical ability and her ability to teach students of all ability levels and bring out the best in them. Since becoming the Minister of Music at Mount Helm, she has continued teaching and instilling in choir members the need to "do your best. Don't come in here short-stepping. You are doing this for the glory and honor of the Lord, not for Naomi Sams." Indeed she continues to infuse her teaching skills into her working with members of the choirs and the church congregants.

The honoree's philosophy of life and music is perhaps best epitomized in the quotes that follow:

*Music speaks what cannot be expressed, soothes the mind and gives it rest, heals the heart and makes it whole, flows from heaven to the soul. --Anonymous*

*Music is God's gift to man, the only art of Heaven given to earth, the only art of earth we take to heaven.--Walter S. Landor*

*Music is a moral law. It gives soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, and charm and gaiety to life and to everything. --Plato*

To you, SISTER NAOMI F. SAMS, we say THANKS. Thanks for your dedication and contributions to Mount Helm. We thank God for blessing us with your presence.



## JUNE Birthday Greetings

Sis. Jessie Machiel Lewis	05
Bro. Kenneth Mosley	06
Bro. James Shelby	07
Sis. Angela Smith	07
Bro. Luther Griffin, Sr.	11
Sis. Alma Lomax Cousin	16
Sis. Carla Hammond Harvey	21
Bro. Morris Hammond, III	21
Bro. Jason Polk	21
Bro. Leroy Kelly	22
Bro. Cedric Cook	22
Evangelist Rosie Ward	25
Sis. Olivia Lamply Buckley	28



## Sick & Shut-In Members

Sis. Magnolia Brown  
Forest Hill Nursing Home  
601-373-6297

Sis. Mattie Rundles  
710 Watson Street  
601-354-8948

Sis. Bernice Warden  
1120 N. Lamar Street  
601-354-2450



## Special Prayer Requests

Military personnel and their families

- Bro. Emmanuel Bailey
- Bro. Joseph Bowman and family
- Sis. Anita Hall
- Sis. Phyllis Hammond
- Bro. Carey Holmes (U.S. Air Force)
- Sis. Geraldine Kelly
- Sis. Ethel Lawson
- Bro. Mario Lewis (U.S. Army)
- Bro. Willie Peale
- Bro. James Shelby

President Barack Obama  
"Prayer for those in authority over us"  
(2 Chronicles 1:10-11)

### FELLOWSHIP NOTE:

Please pray for all the sick among us. All who request prayer are lifted during Intercessory Prayer on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.