



VISIONS

FOUNDER'S DAY & FRANGELISM MONTH

Volume 2, Issue 11 July / August 2008

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Don't take Voting for Granted
- The Sower, the Seed & the Soil
- Meet CTK's Newest Trustee

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YOUR Right to Vote– Please Don't Take it for Granted

Community Awareness Ministry

What do the grandfather clause, literacy tests and poll taxes have in common? These were all tactics used up until 1966 to prevent African Americans from exercising their right to vote.

First, a quick history lesson:

Fifteenth Amendment – Enacted in 1870 that guaranteed the right to vote could not be infringed upon based on one's race.

Grandfather Clause - In 1870 after African Americans were given the right to vote through the 15th Amendment, some Southern states added grandfather clauses to their state Constitutions to counter this new right. Typical clauses stated that the right to vote extended only to citizens or their descendants who had the right to vote prior to 1866 or 1867. The U.S. Supreme Court declared grandfather clauses unconstitutional in 1915 and in 1939. *(Note it took two declarations by the U.S. Supreme Court for this to finally be recognized as unconstitutional)*

Literacy Tests – Used by Southern states from the late 19th century to 1965 to disenfranchise blacks; it was not uncommon for illiterate whites to pass the test while literate blacks were unable to pass. Blacks unable to pass the test were unable to register to vote.

Poll Taxes – a tax that a voter was required to pay prior to voting, were used from the late 19th century to 1966 to disenfranchise blacks in the South. Poll taxes were ruled unconstitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1966.

Bloody Sunday – March from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama on March 7, 1965 to protest voting discrimination against African Americans. Led by John Lewis and

Hosea Williams, the marchers set out for Montgomery by way of the Edmund Pettus Bridge. As they approached the bridge, they could see the Alabama state troopers and Selma police officers stationed across the bridge. Lewis and Williams were well aware that should they proceed, the procession could result in grave harm to the demonstrators. They had learned prior to the march that Governor George Wallace had given the order to stop the procession by any means necessary. Nevertheless, once on the bridge, they decided to neither stop nor turn around despite the warnings to leave the bridge.

They kept walking and as they had anticipated the troopers and officers attacked them with nightsticks, bullwhips, and used tear gas to impede their procession. Many demonstrators managed to return to the chapel unharmed, but seventy-eight returned injured.

Freedom Summer (also known as the Mississippi Summer Project) was a campaign in the United States launched in June 1964 to attempt to register to vote as many African American voters as possible in Mississippi, which up to that time had almost totally excluded black voters. The project was organized by the Council of Federated Organizations. Over 1,000, mostly young, people volunteered, most of them northern whites, many of them Jewish, interested in helping out the civil rights cause.

Voting Rights Act – On August 6, 1965, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed this act into law. The act prohibited literacy tests, but not poll taxes. *(Contrary to popular urban legend, this act does not have to re-signed every 25 years for African Americans to retain their right to vote.)*



“IT IS THE
PRIVILEGE AND
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ALL WHO ARE
CHRIST’S TO
FUNCTION AS
SOWERS.”

From the Pastor...

In Search of Good Ground

Matthew 13:1-9

In this text we see Jesus being sought by one of the largest gathering of people up to this point in His ministry. Jesus, because of the crowd was forced to teach from a boat on the blue waters of the lake. Raising His eyes, I want to imagine Jesus happening to notice a sower on the slope of a hill behind the crowd scattering his seed, with the birds flying around and behind him. This reminded Him of His own immediate situation. There He was sowing the seed of the Word of God; and in light of His disciples, the multitude, those following not for salvation but for whatever they could get from Him, thus this parable was born.

The three elements of this parable are the *sower, seed and the soils*. This parable is titled the sower, however it is really a parable about the types of soil that the seed was sown upon. The aspect of the sower is not incidental, for without the sower there would be no fruit. The Sower can lend itself to various interpretations and applications. **God...**can be seen as the sower and what a marvelous and persistent Sower He is. In the natural and spiritual realms, God works alone and is untiring in His task. He knows that although much seed falls by the wayside, ultimately a great harvest will be His when the Kingdom of this world becomes the Kingdom of Jesus Christ. **Jesus...**can be seen as the Sower as He came to sow this earth with the *truth, holiness, and joy* seeds of the Gospel. The **Holy Spirit...**can be seen as the Sower as it is He who inspires sowers of the seed and who waters the sown seed. The **Christian...**can be seen as the Sower as he follows the mandate of the Great Commission. It is the privilege and obligation of all who are Christ’s to function as Sowers. We are saved to serve and sow. The sower, no matter who he is must be judicious i.e. praying for appropriate seasons for the sowing...diligent i.e. laboring as one who must give an account for sowing... persevering i.e. sowing in and out of season...devoted i.e. entirely and sincerely to this greatest of all task.

The point of the parable is not that there is something wrong with the sower or his method. All the sower has to do is sow! The object and obligation of the sower is to sow. Nor is the point of the parable that there is something wrong with the seed. The seed sown on all four soils was the same (good) seed and it is not within the sower’s power to make seed grow. The parable makes this point clear when it says that some fell by, some fell on, some fell among and some fell into. Nothing is wrong with the basic composition of the soil...but there is everything wrong with the condition of the soil. The soil represents the human heart. The heart of the hearer is equivalent to soil receiving the sower’s seed. Just as the condition of the soils is different and determines the difference in germination and fruition; so will the hearer’s heart and its condition determine the difference in germination and fruition of the Seed of the Gospel. In spite of the hard, stony and thorny ground, there is a vast field of Good Ground! For the proof of salvation is not listening to the Word, it is not having an emotional response to the Word, or cultivating it to where it sprouts up in ones life...the Proof of Salvation is FRUIT! And good fruit, much fruit and more fruit is best achieved from Good Ground.

In His Service,

Pastor John W. McVicker, Sr.



Visions

Founder’s Day & Frangelism Month

People Profile: Kenneth Dallas



In August, CTK inducted its newest Trustee. Kenneth “Kenny” Dallas, a route delivery driver for Hinckley Springs Water received his keys to the CTK City. “My ultimate dream was to be a Deacon of a church. I wanted to be ‘Deacon Dallas’. But I realized that I liked being behind the scenes because I don’t need someone to know that I am contributing. I

like being responsible for that smile when you enter the church and things are working smoothly.”

A devoted husband and father of two, Kenny also teaches Sunday School for ages 6-8 and is an informal mentor to children in the neighborhood. “Some folks want to be seen but don’t want to do the work. The praise and rewards are from God. That’s what keeps you going.”

When asked why he chose the Trustee Ministry, Dallas chuckled, “I didn’t choose anything, the Lord chose me. I just listened and obeyed. The Ministry chose me. We are often asked how we want to serve the church. Usually those services end up choosing you.”

Kenny spoke with pride of his fellow Trustees, “Not everyone can be a Trustee. It’s like the Marines...the few and the proud. It takes a special kind of discipline. You need to be on 1 accord. You can’t point a finger or blame people; we

are all responsible. Whatever happens, it has to be done. I think that’s our strength and why we are so tight; because it doesn’t matter how long it takes or how many of us show up, the work has to be done.”

“We solve problems quick, almost like the secret service. You know things are being handled but you don’t know who’s handling everything. We keep the church safe, so that everyone can enjoy the service and fellowship.”

We asked Dallas why the Trustee Ministry is important to CTK. “In my opinion, we are an extension of our spiritual leader. In order for him to lead, he needs members to do their job, so he can do his. It’s like an engine, if 1 part doesn’t work, the engine doesn’t run, so everyone has to do their part. People assume we don’t do anything except collect money and open doors. But we do all the dirty work. Whether it’s removing snow from the parking lot, setting up for children’s church or adding chairs in the sanctuary, we are responsible.”

You can see Kenny (and his shiny new keys), during both worship services every Sunday. Dallas left these parting words when asked are there any upcoming Trustee events, “There will be a Part 2: Old School vs. New School Basketball Game before the holidays...make sure you’re on the right side!”

YOUR Right to Vote– Please Don’t Take it for Granted (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

You do the math. As late as the year 1966 (42 years ago, which really isn’t all that long ago) there were deceptive tactics still being blatantly used to disenfranchise African American voters.

Sound familiar? Different century, different tactics, same goal – disenfranchise and disillusion African American voters. In the 21st Century there are: negative campaigns designed to confuse and turn you off from the democratic process; race-baiting ads intended to invoke fear; legislation introduced over and over in Wisconsin requiring identification from everyone to vote (to date passage has been unsuccessful); calls to end election day registration at the polls (Wisconsin is a handful of states that still allow voters to register at the polls on election day); and laws in some states prohibiting ex-offenders (for certain felony crimes) from ever voting, even after they’ve served their time in prison.

So, if you’re considering opting out this election year, please remember the courageous people who came before you that were jailed, beaten and died so that we can have the right to vote today. Don’t let anyone tell you that your vote doesn’t count. On the contrary, it counts more than you’ll ever know.

The Community Awareness Ministry meets on the 4th Saturday of every month, at 11:30AM. For more information, contact the Community Awareness Ministry at communityawareness@ctkbc.org or 414-586-4290, x1006

References:

http://froamhistory.about.com/od/bloodysunday/a/bloody_sunday_2.htm

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Freedom_Summer



VISIONS

Christ The King Baptist Church
7750 N. 60th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53223

Phone: 414-371-5000

Our Mission:

Christ The King Baptist Church exists to advance the Kingdom of God through spirit filled worship, dynamic preaching, and biblically sound teaching of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to provide services that minister to your physical, mental, and spiritual needs. One Shepherd, One Vision - a church that cares about You!

Schedule of Services

Sweet Hour of Prayer: Sun., 7:30AM

Worship Services: Sun., 8:30AM, 11:00AM, *6:00PM (*4th Sun. only)

Communion: 1st Sun. of each month

Baptism: 2nd & 4th Sun. of each month

Hour of Prayer: Wed., 5:30-6:30PM

Visit us on the web at www.ctkbc.org

Welcome New Members!!!

Lashona Boyd	Mitchell Buford
Brian Campbell	Christina Collins
Rayana Echols	Lisa C. Gray
Lisa Gray	George Hinton
Veronica James	Tana Jeter
Tia Jeter	Megan Lawson
Lawrence Lewis	Yolanda Lyons
Margaret Mallory	Isaiah Mann
Freda Mitchell	Corey Nash
Tinina Noel	Quiana Perry
Gabrielle Rabon-Ricks	Cheron Rayford
Yaritza Rosa	Ramond Ross
Jaron Simpson	Denisha Tate
Edet Udoeyop	Jessie Udoeyop
Salena Vasquez	Karla Wade
Ciana Wedgeworth	Regina Wilkinson
Carlos Williams	Terri Woods-Pace

Calendar of Events

August

3rd	Communion
10th	Baptism/Malawi Sunday
18th-20th	Summer Revival
24th	Baptism
	4th Sunday Evening Worship Service
25th	Youth "Real Talk" Chat Session
31st	Baby Dedication

September

7th	Communion
14th	Baptism/Malawi Sunday
17th	Family Life Ministry Classes Begin
27th	Pressing Toward the Mark Walk/Run
28th	Baptism

Blood pressure screening occurs every Sunday