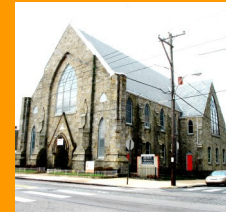




The View



from Mt. Pisgah

MAY 2011

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Holy Week	2
7 Last Words	2
Spring Re- vival	3
Pastor Jay on the Move	3
Cotillion	4
Missionary Day	5
YPD Annual Day	5
Sermon Summary	6
Church Info	8

Woman, Behold Thy Son!

As we continue to reflect during this Easter Season on the most wonderful gift of Salvation, we also take pause to honor our mothers, one and all. Mothers are truly a gift from God, the ones who gave us birth just as the Virgin Mary gave birth to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ well over 2,000 years ago.

As Jesus hung on the Cross for our sins, he let out several anguished utterances. The third such utterance, taken from John 19:26, was "Woman, behold thy Son."

Mother's Day has become a day where we seek to honor our mothers by lavishing them with gifts, bringing them flowers, or taking them to dinner. We all endeavor to do nothing but the

best for mom, to let her know just how special she is to us. As we continue in that tradition in the year 2011, and I do hope that each of you has done something



to honor your mother or your mother's memory, we must not lose sight of the most beautiful gift Jesus gave to His mother from the Cross.

"Woman, behold thy Son." With those few words, followed by His statement to one of His Disciples, "Behold thy Mother,"

Jesus pledged the care of His Mother to one of His disciples. Though it is certain that Mary looked on in despair and utter torment, I am ever so thankful for the gift she ultimately received on that day. Because Jesus died, we can now live for eternity. Because of His present to His Mother and to us all, we have the grace and mercy to be redeemed of our sins.

So on this Mother's Day 2011, with everything else you do for Mom, whether she be here with us or with her Heavenly Father, make sure that you have given your life to Jesus. No other gift will ever compare!

Rejoice Mt. Pisgah! He Is Risen!

The month of April was a glorious month for the Body of Christ as we continued through the Season of Lent, leading right up to Resurrection Sunday. We began the month with an uplifting three-day revival that reminded us to keep Pressing towards the goal. We celebrated the Mis-

sionaries and honored two of the pillars of that organization and the church. We feted the coming of the Lord on a majestic Palm Sunday. That led us into Holy Week where we were able to draw nearer to our Lord and Savior through worship and through prayer. We then cele-

brated the Resurrection of our Lord during Sunrise Service, Church School, and then again during Morning Worship Service. Finally, we capped off the month with a most glorious Cotillion that saw many of our young people participate. Yes God is truly alive and well at Mt. Pisgah!



Holy Week - April 17-24, 2011

✠ **Palm Sunday**— On Sunday, April 17, we lifted our voices and waved our palms in celebration of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem.

✠ **Holy Wednesday**— On April 20, we celebrated in service at Bethel—Lansdowne with our sister churches, St. Matthew, Ward, and Tyree.

✠ **Maundy Thursday**— On April 21, we celebrated this day which commemorates Jesus' Last Supper with His Disciples by worshipping with our sister churches at Ward A.M.E.

✠ **Good Friday**— On April 22, St. Matthew A.M.E. hosted

two services, 12:00 PM and 6:30 PM. Pastor Jay highlighted Jesus' 5th word from the Cross at both services.

✠ **Holy Saturday**— On April 23, Mt. Pisgah's Sanctuary was open for prayer. Individuals as well as families came to commune with the Lord and give thanks for the gift of Salvation.

✠ **Sunrise Service**— On Sunday morning, April 24, at 6:00 AM, we were blessed with a mighty word from Rev. Melvin Wayns as we marked the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Following the service, we were treated to

breakfast sponsored by the men of the church.

✠ **Church School**— Bro. Douglas Clark gave the Overview to commence the Church School's Annual Program. As is custom, the youth were featured and expressed in their own way what Salvation means to them.

✠ **Sunday Service**— The glorious culmination! Mt. Pisgah was full to overflowing. The Disciples of Mt. Pisgah were thrilled to welcome our many guests who came to hear the good news of the Resurrection of our Savior!

But That's Not
Where The Story
Ends!

Three Days Later,
He Rose Again!

That's Love!!!

The Seven Last Words of Christ

- 1. Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do** (Luke 23:34)- *Even in crucifixion, Jesus prayed for the unworthy. How blessed we are that He did not come down from the Cross but instead, He hung there so that we might be saved from our transgressions.*
- 2. Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with me in Paradise** (Luke 23:43)- *The same promise Jesus bestowed upon a thief who hung beside Him on a cross is available to us if we only accept Him as Lord*
- 3. Woman, behold thy son!** (John 19:26)- *Even in the presence of His earthly mother, Jesus loved us enough to not come down from the Cross.*
- 4. My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken me?** (Matthew 27:46)- *In times of despair, we might be tempted to think that God has forsaken us. Be comforted that the Lord is always with you and the Holy Spirit will always be your Comforter.*
- 5. I thirst** (John 19:28)- *Jesus and Savior of our lives.*
- 6. Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit** (Luke 23:46)- *Oh what a blessing it is to die in Christ. Thank you Jesus for paying the ransom for my sins that I might have eternal life.*
- 7. It is finished** (John 19:30)- *Oh happy day when those who lived in Christ and for Christ will hear the Lord say, Well done thy good and faithful servant; come unto me and rest.*

Pressing Toward the Goal— The Revival

From March 30 - April 1, 2011, Mt. Pisgah experienced a powerfully uplifting revival. The theme was "Pressing Toward the Goal," taken from the text Philippians 3:12-14. The revival was unique in that it featured three fresh voices from a new generation of anointed preachers.

✠ **Rev. Jermaine T. Heath, Sr.**



opened the revival on Wednesday, March 30. Rev. Heath is the pastor at St. Paul Chapel Baptist Church in South Philadelphia. Rev. Heath preached on the subject, "Jesus, our High Priest." His supporting text came from Hebrews 8:1-2.

✠ **Rev. Frank Smart** was the revivalist on Thursday evening. Rev. Smart



is the pastor of St. Paul A.M.E. Church in Pilesgrove, NJ. Rev. Smart preached from the subject, "Relax...It's all Good," with supporting scripture coming from 2 Kings 19:31-32.

✠ Closing out the revival was **Rev. Paul Thomas**, pastor of A.M.E. Union Church in North Philadelphia. Rev. Thomas let us all know in a mighty way that "The Pressure Is Up." Rev. Thomas took his message from Philippians 3:12-14.

Each night of the revival opened with a fellowship dinner. Those who arrived early were able to have their fill while waiting in anticipation of what was to come.

After dinner, we moved into teaching sessions. Each night offered something different.

✠ On Wednesday, Mt. Pisgah's fired up associate minister, Rev. Donna M. Minor, ex-

pounded on the subject, "Thinking Big: Believing in God's Greater Glory."

✠ On Thursday, Mt. Pisgah's Bro. Wade Fauntleroy was the presenter

✠ On Friday, Minister Rahisha Wright spoke to us on the subject, "Power." She was followed by her husband, Minister Saleem Wright who blessed us with Praise and Worship through Spoken Word. The Wrights are from the Household of Faith.



Rev. Paul Thomas
Pastor
A.M.E. Union Church

Each night of the revival offered a variety of ways to praise the Lord. We were blessed in song, in liturgical dance, and in spoken word. We most certainly were convicted by the Word as each of the revivalists challenged us to stay the course and keep our eyes stayed on Christ as we continue *Pressing Toward the Goal*.

Pastor Jay — Preacher on the Move

Pastor Jay continues to be a blessing to other congregations of worshippers. Our pastor is a very active ambassador for Christ. Here are yet two more examples of how and where Pastor Jay is being led by the Holy Spirit to his talented gifts that are a blessing from God.

✠ On Wednesday, April 6 and Thursday, April 7, Pastor Jay preached a two-day revival at

Bethel A.M.E. Church in Pottstown, PA. The host pastor is the Rev. Vernon R. Ross, Jr. Pastor Jay traveled to Pottstown as part of Bethel's activities, services, and events held in celebration of the church's anniversary.

✠ On Sunday, April 17, Pastor Jay took part in a service at New Bethel A.M.E. Church in

Germantown. The service was entitled, "Ministers In Praise." The service featured many of the talented ministers of our denomination as they lifted their voices up to God and allowed the blessings to fall down on all in attendance. Pastor Jay rendered two heart-warming and soul-stirring selections.

The Cotillion - April 30, 2011

**Mt. Pisgah at the
17th Biennial
Cotillion**

**Debutante:
Briana Arrington**

**Escorts:
Isaac Patterson, VI
Savan Hinton**

**Rosebud:
Jada Reed**

**Pages:
Brandon Winfield
Jalen Harris**

On Saturday, April 30, 2011, at 6:00 PM, the Philadelphia Conference YPD hosted their Biennial Cotillion. The affair, a celebration of the introduction of the most beautiful debutantes into Christian Society, was held at 1st District Plaza. Of course, the debutantes are escorted by only the most worthy young Christian men.

The evening is a culmination of months of preparation during which the young people engage in workshops that help to equip them to be ambassadors for Christ in these troubling times. There are also hours of dance preparation that help to knit the young people together while also readying them

for the elegance in movement that was on display on April 30.

Mt. Pisgah was well-represented at this year's Cotillion. Our Rosebud was Miss Jada Reed. She was joined by Pages Brandon Winfield and Jalen Harris. Rosebuds and Pages are debutantes and escorts in training. The 10-11 year-olds displayed grace and class beyond their years. We are clearly in for a treat in a few short years when it becomes their turn on the big stage.

Mt. Pisgah's Escorts, Savan Hinton and Isaac N. Patterson, VI, were every bit the handsome Christian princes to Mt. Pisgah's lone Debutante Briana Arrington's beautiful Christian princess. These three certainly did Mt. Pisgah proud, from their stately proces-

sional, to the at times majestic, at times fun-loving Debutante-Escort dance. Then, there was the high-energy dance by the Escorts in tribute to the Debutantes. They also showed their sense of social responsibility by participating in a service project wherein they gathered items to be donated to those who are less fortunate.

Bro. Keith Arrington, Sr., besides being a most proud dad, also represented Mt. Pisgah as the coordinator for the Escorts.



Florida Grant WMS Annual Day— April 10, 2011

During Sunday Morning Service on April 10, 2011, The Florida Grant Women's Missionary Society celebrated their Annual Day. The members of the Society always look elegant in their white.

As always, there were several visiting missionaries who came to help celebrate the day, many amongst the congregation and a couple who assisted in the worship service.

Missionary Day was also blessed through the singing of the Chancel Choir and the Excel-siorette Choir. All in at-

tendance were inspired by the liturgical dance of the Angels of Praise.

Our own Pastor Jay, Rev. Jay B. Broadnax, brought the Word for the morning, preaching from the subject, "Mission Focused." He challenged us to stay the course and to not let the things within us or around us dissuade us from accomplishing what God has called us to accomplish.

There was a solemn moment during the service as The Society remembered two of their members who have gone

on to receive their reward. Sis. L. Lynn Rochester, Florida Grant President blessed us with a stirring selection of "Does He Care" in memoriam of Sis. Gail Harris and Sis. Gladys Grant.

The Missionary Society also paid tribute to two Life Members of the Women's Missionary Society. Sis. A. Sarah Johnson and Sis. Pauline Andrews were blessed with flowers, cards, letters, and a beautiful certificate for each.

YPD Annual Day— Sunday, April 10, 2011

During the afternoon of Sunday, April 10, the YPD celebrated their Annual Day. The YPD is under the guidance of its dedicated director, Sis. Leslie Anderson. Sis. Briana Arrington is the YPD president.

The young people of

the YPD put on a very creative program designed to give us a history lesson on the A.M.E. Church. The young people got into character as they told of the lives of Richard and Sarah Allen. We were enlightened as to just what does it mean to be African

- Methodist - Episcopal!

The YPDers showed their talents in many ways. They acted, did readings, and even played instruments. Our young people truly are Growing, Glowing, and Going for Christ!

Sermon Summary - April 1, 2011

Sermon By:

† Rev. Jay B.
Broadnax

Sermon Topic:

† “Know What’s
Below”

Scriptural Reference:

† Psalm 139

There’s a network of organizations that one should know when attempting any sort of improvement project, a network that governs “digging safely.” The network can be accessed by making one phone call and is designed to keep the homeowner informed lest he/she go digging haphazardly and ruptures a gas line or damages a sewage pipe. The slogan for the program that promotes the network is, “Know What’s Below.”

Knowing what’s below also concerns us spiritually. Many of us have desires to do personal repairs and expansions. We want to get rid of old habits and do things differently. Too often, we make changes only to revert back to the same behaviors. Others of us want to expand, to build on what we are already doing. Often, as soon as we try, something caves in on us or blows up in our faces, leaving us worse off than when we started.

The problem is that we start digging and expanding without first going to the one who knows what is lying just beneath the surface. There are things within us that we must deal with before we can begin to lay any kind of foundation for change, repair, or expansion. There might be certain sinkholes in the form

of a character flaw, a lack of confidence, or a lack of discipline that causes what we are trying to do to cave in on us. Similarly, we might rupture a pipeline that would cause a volatile substance to blow up in our faces. This refers to things like repressed anger or persistent cravings. You must make the call and ask God to show you where it is safe to dig.

Some people simply don’t think to make the call while others don’t call because they are afraid of what they might find. We want God to just make the miracle happen and allow us to keep the stuff in our lives undisturbed under the surface. Yet, we must remember the purpose of the Lenten Season, to spend that time digging beneath the surface and doing a self-inventory. God wants to expand us but we have to first know what is under the surface.

In the text, we see that David tried to cover up some of the mess in his life. Yet, when confronted by the prophet Nathan, David discovered that nothing could be hidden from God. By God’s

grace, despite David’s flaws, God never left David. David then was not afraid to let God fix him so that David could fulfill his promise to establish a monarchy that would give rise to the One who would reign forever!

Before we try to do anything in our lives, we need to call on Him to reveal to us what’s below. God has greatness in store for you that will go unfulfilled lest you get under the surface and deal with the things that are binding you. Jesus came to guide, to empower, to convict, and to correct. Jesus paid the ultimate price to allow the Holy Spirit to come into our lives and fix whatever is wrong.

Many of us choose to stay in our places of comfort and complacency rather than to allow the Holy Spirit to enter those locked rooms in our lives. God can take your character flaws and turn them into positive traits. God will make you ready to move to the next level in your life. There is nothing that God cannot fix. Whatever is below the surface is covered by the blood. Jesus paid it all. You need not fear knowing what’s below!

Sermon Summary - April 10, 2011

Sermon By:

† Rev. Jay B.
Broadnax

Sermon Topic:

† “Mission
Focused”

Scriptural Reference:

† Luke 9:51-56

Your mission as a disciple of Christ might at times cause anguish and strife. Yet, the one who called you to the mission has placed a weapon within you that has wonder-working power. Countless people throughout the Bible and throughout history have called on this power, the power of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit keeps, guides, and corrects us, and allows us to do whatever it is that God has called us to do.

Your mission will require you to stay focused and not allow yourself to get wrapped up in side issues. The text highlights the importance of focusing on the mission at hand. We find Jesus and His disciples at a transitional point in Jesus’ ministry. It was nearing the time when Jesus was to be “taken up.” Hence, Jesus set His face towards Jerusalem. Indeed, Jesus was clear about His mission of salvation.

Jesus’ mission came in five components: Incarnation – He came in human form; Exemplification – He explained and exemplified the Kingdom; Crucifixion – He suffered and died to purchase our Salvation;

Resurrection – He conquered death, Hell, and the grave and rose with all power in His Hand; and Ascension – He opened the door to the reunion with the Father and He sent the Holy Spirit to get us there.

Jesus turned toward Jerusalem and toward His destiny because He knew that was why He had come. Jesus showed us that our mission might take us through difficult areas. Certainly, Jesus encountered resistance on His way to accomplishing His mission. We likewise have to be ready and fully expect that we will run into resistance. Just by being on God’s side, we become a target for the enemy. Satan does not want us nor the Church to get to Jerusalem.

Sometimes, those difficult areas are found within us. God endeavors to mine out those things that would hinder us from our mission. There are attitudes, resentment, and pain that we don’t want to face. God wants us to go through those areas in our lives; He wants us to go through Samaria so that

we can get to Jerusalem.

Difficult areas can at times be around us. Folks will attempt to discredit you and place resistance in your path. Yet, with Jesus on your side, no one can hinder you. Be mindful that even those who are seemingly with you might not have your mission in mind. The Disciples allowed personal feelings to cloud their judgment and lead them to work to shake Jesus from His appointed mission of salvation. In our human condition, we at times allow personal biases and opinions to keep us from sticking to the mission to which God has called us. Know that even well-meaning folks do not always fully understand what it is that God has called you to do.

At times, you have to be prepared to just move on. Your labor might seem to be in vain but do not worry about whether or not the people see it. God sees it and He knows your sacrifice. You are on a mission and you cannot afford to get caught up with folks who do not want to move. Move on through resistance, negativity, sickness, and pain. Don’t let things keep you stuck. Stay Mission Focused!

Sermon Summary - April 17, 2011

The Black Church, in general, is not a monolithic entity but a church that represents various theological and social perspectives, and styles of worship. Our culture of worship and witness has gone through many changes in the way we praise and worship. It has gone from formal and reserved to expressive and unrestricted.

In our early years, arising from slavery, we realized that Jesus was our liberator who was sent to set the captives free. Remembering our African traditions, we began to worship freely, no longer bound or shackled. Richard Allen said "my dungeon shook and my chains fell off." We were no longer afraid to give God praise and thank Him for our salvation, no matter where.

There was something on the inside that just would not let us "shut up."

Was this how the disciples felt when they saw Jesus entering Jerusalem? They were no longer bound by the Greeks and Romans but were then free to acknowledge the Son of David, as foretold by Isaiah and Zechariah who said when you see Him, rise up and shout aloud, open up your mouth and receive Him.

Today, as people who recognize Jesus, we can no longer "shut up." It's not always the devil that wants us to be quiet and reserved; it's often church folk. Remember, our worship is not for us or those naysayers, our worship is for God and He alone decides our actions.

We cannot "shut up" because it is irresponsible. God created everything: man, animal and plants. To us He gave a voice and a job to do. That job is to praise Him. Another reason not to "shut up" is because it is unhealthy with respect to our witness. There are those in bondage that need to hear from God and we are His instruments. We cannot "shut up" because we must praise Him for the good and bad times, our praise must be released.

When we reflect and think about the stuff that God has kept us from, sickness, death and destruction, we come to realize the reasons "WHY WE JUST CAN'T SHUT UP." We should be too busy glorifying and worshipping Him with our praise.

Sermon By:

✠ **Rev. Jay B. Broadnax**

Sermon Topic:

✠ **"Why We Just Can't Shut Up"**

Scriptural Reference:

✠ **Luke 19:28-41**

Sermon Summary - April 24, 2011

Resurrection Sunday is the High Holy Day of the Christian Calendar. On this day, we examine what the empty tomb means to us. Simply stated, it means that Jesus got up. First, He died to pay the penalty for our sins. Second, He left our sins on the cross. Finally, He rose again and walked out of the grave. This is the key to our Christian faith.

Jesus came in human form, being both human and divine. As an adult, He began to show that divine nature. Showing to some that He came to save us and to satisfy the death penalty debt.

Jesus was brutally killed on the cross by those He came to save. But, on the third day, He arose. And through Him, we now have victory over the grave.

But, let's examine the symbol of the cross. What's the importance of the horizontal and vertical beams of the cross? On the way to Golgotha, Simon carried the vertical beam which represents Jesus ascending from the Earth to Heaven, from the bottom to the top, from destruction to resurrection, but

Jesus carried the horizontal beam which represents our ability to move across barriers. The Cross enables us to break those barriers that cause division, separating us from each other, God, and the rewards He has in store for us.

God gave us resurrection power to break those barriers. INWARD barriers limit our growth and our ability to move forward. Barriers such as bias that keep us from getting close to people that can bless us, fear, that won't allow us to trust God, shame that keeps us trapped in the past, and unforgiveness that won't let us forget and forgive. OUTWARD barriers, those things that seem beyond our control, habits, circumstances, financial resources and our associations. But God gave us resurrection power by clearing a path for us to pass safely through, keeping those haters from our path and holding back the night. Don't let those outward barriers hold you back for the Bible says, "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." (Jer. 29:11) God's plan for our lives does

not change, even when it appears we are surrounded by the enemy. UPWARD barriers, those things that we thought were dead; dreams that we have given up on, relationships that we thought were dead, careers that we had forgotten about. God removes those barriers and allows us to soar.

God can set the atmosphere for us to rise above those dark clouds. He can lift us above those that seek to hold us back so we can rise freely. God can lift us above those dead things in our lives.

They tried to hold Jesus down but He said...drive the nails in my hands, I'll rise--laugh at me where you stand, I'll rise. Say it isn't me, mock My name, bury me but I'll rise. There's no power on Earth that can tie me down or keep me in the ground.

On this Resurrection Sunday, you have the power to rise above and break barriers through our RISEN SAVIOR, JESUS CHRIST.

Sermon By:

✠ **Rev. Jay B. Broadnax**

Sermon Topic:

✠ **"Breaking Barriers with Resurrection Power"**

Scriptural Reference:

✠ **Ephesians 1:15-20 & Acts 10:34-43**

Mount Pisgah African Methodist Episcopal Church
428 N. 41st Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104-2236

Church Office Phone: 215.386.6181
Church Office Fax: 215.386.3341
Ministerial Associates: 215.386.1606

The Lord Jesus Christ, Savior and Lord of the Church
The Right Reverend Richard F. Norris, Sr. Presiding Bishop
The Reverend Charles H. Lett, Jr. Presiding Elder
The Reverend Jay B. Broadnax, Pastor

The Reverend Phyllis A. Harris, Associate Minister
The Reverend Donna M. Minor, Associate Minister
The Reverend Isaac N. Patterson, IV, Associate Minister

P.U.S.H. (Pray Until Something Happens):
2nd Sunday @ 8:30 - 9:30 AM
Church School: Sunday @ 9:30 AM
Worship Service: Sunday @ 10:45 AM
Hour of Power Bible Study Wednesday @ 12:00 PM
Prayer Meeting & Bible Study: Wednesday @ 6:00 PM