

HIGH TIMES

SEPTEMBER 2007



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A MATCHING GIFT WAS A GIFT FROM GOD TESTIMONY BY CAROLYN JUNE

Luke 6:38, "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.

This passage could never be truer than what I experienced in the fall of 2006.

In January 2006, the ministry launched a Capital Campaign to pay off the mortgage in five years. Bishop Thomas proposed that if 150 fully employed adults pledged \$10,000 over a five-year period, we would be able to retire the \$1.5 million mortgage and get on with the real work that God has destined for this ministry.

Although I have never participated in a Capital Campaign before, I signed up immediately because I wanted to be obedient, I love the Lord and the ministry, and believe in the vision that God has given Bishop Thomas. I figured over the five-year period I could pay the \$10,000 pledge and would have at least done my part.

In the fall of 2006, my employer announced its annual Employee Giving Campaign which was not unusual because they do it every year. However, what made the campaign unique in 2006, was in order to raise \$1,000,000 and increase employee participation, they offered to match any gift, for any amount pledged to a nonprofit organization **dollar-for-dollar!**

After further investigation, I learned that my church would qualify as a faith-based organization eligible to receive the matching amount. All I needed was the tax identification number. To my amazement, my employer allowed Highview Christian Fellowship to be eligible to receive the match for every dollar I pledged, no questions asked. This matching contribution would allow me to pay off my pledge balance by the end of calendar year 2007! I believe that God honored my desire to pay my pledge early by providing me a catalyst by which to accomplish this task.

Most employers have Matching Gift programs that will "match" their employees' contributions.

So, I advise you to check with your Human Resources Department or Personnel Office to see if they offer a similar program because the matching gift campaign is an easy way to double – even triple – the value of your contribution. (Most campaigns are held the last quarter of the year).

You may even be able to get



some of your co-workers to sign up and give to the ministry because many don't specify an organization to receive their pledge, and it is tax deductible.

Remember, once you make a concerted effort to give systematically to the Lord, He will honor your efforts. **Isaiah 1:19 says, "If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land."**

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LATER THIS YEAR:

- Fall Revival - Oct 10-12, 2007
- 10/10 Pastor Leon Jackson, Walnut Grove Baptist Church, Warrenton, VA
- 10/11 Pastor Wayne Wyatt, Loudoun Bible Church, Ashburn, VA
- 10/12 Pastor Benjamin Long, Rehoboth Light of the World Church, Balt, MD
- Highview Celebrates 10th Pastoral Anniversary, October 14, 2007 (see insert)
- Annual Women's Retreat, Nov 2-4, 2007

WHO GETS THE TITHE

My tithe is a tenth of all I possess; if I love my Lord, I should not give less.

I say I love you Lord, but is it true....when I would rob my tithe from you?

My bills I find I cannot meet, I guess that's because I am such a cheat.

I would not steal from my friend true, But, Lord, I would rather steal from You.

I'd like to tithe, but don't you see, Lord, I don't have that much faith in thee.

The Bible says abundant blessing we will see, if we would give our tithe to thee.

I see myself as just a fraud, because I have been robbing thee, my God.

Help me Lord that I might not be, daily stealing from Thy treasury.

Help me, my Lord, Thy will to seek,

That I might lay in store the first of the week,

My tithes and offerings that I will be....a faithful servant to thee!

AFRICAN AMERICAN REACHING AFRICAN MINISTERS ASSOCIATION (AARAMA)

EMPOWERMENT CONFERENCE 2007

This year's conference focused on a new component entitled "Economic Empowerment." AARAMA became the first to educate a selected community in the geographic region of Nakura Kenya to preserve food via the Jar Canning process. It was an exciting challenged and well received by the people in Nakura.

This year's team consisted of the following members:



Dr. Almeta Stokes



Reverend Nina Brown-Hill



Lady Sherry Butler



Minister Shonda Gladden



Minister Dormetria Robinson



Mika Marion



Pastor Nate Butler



Minister Elaine Edge



Minister Yolanda Bethea



Bishop Phil Thomas



Nia Jones



Evangelist Marcia Stokes



Gary Barnfield



Dr. Ben Jones



THE MARK OF EXCELLENCE PRESCHOOL

Where children are loved, lives are enriched, and God is glorified

A TRIBUTE TO OLGA LLOYDE

We want to take this opportunity to give accolades to one who has not only been a superb educator, but has touched the lives of those who enrolled in the Mark of Excellence Preschool.

In August 2004, Olga Lloyd (Ms. Olga to her students) accepted the position to serve as the preschool's first executive director. We knew only at the time that she was a beautiful, young Christian woman who loves the Lord and who took teaching seriously.

Ms. Olga set about building a solid foundation for a first-class Christian preschool that would exemplify her excellent teaching and mentoring skills, and through her child-oriented methods, create an environment --"where children are loved and God is glorified". Many who embraced her motto would come to teach, volunteer or lend some service or assistance. Even her son, Amiri, spent many hours at the school helping his mother with the children.

Each morning, she would greet the children with "Good morning beautiful children".

And it was apparent by their response that they loved the special attention.

She saw the goodness in each one and drew it out. If they were loud and precocious, she calmed them down. If they were shy and withdrawn, she would build their self-esteem.

She reinforced good manners and citizenship. And each parent was grateful for the impact she had on their child's behavior.

Kevin, a 3 year old Chinese student, was the first to sign up at the preschool. He was extremely shy and could not speak English. By the time he graduated this year, he spoke fluent English and became a role model for the other children. He even played a piano recital at the graduation.

Like any typical preschool, it was not always evident if you were around during school hours and witnessed the

chaos of little ones playing in the kid's play lot, crying for a toy or book, or singing and running around. But on graduation day it was very apparent that they had learned discipline and good manners, and life lessons that would follow them long after they left Ms. Olga's care. Whether they stayed six months or three years, it was obvious that their lives were touched. Even when children were ready to go to the next grade, a few would return to attend another year because Ms. Olga's influence was so positive to the child's learning.

And now, believing that her job is done, Ms. Olga has decided to return to the Maryland school system, but we know that her heart will always remain with the lives she helped to shape and mold.

The commercial that says, "if you can read, thank a teacher" must have had Ms. Olga in mind because the children will be thanking Ms. Olga for her love and devotion to them for years to come.

Each morning,
she would
greet the
children with
"Good morning
beautiful
children."



Mark of Excellence Preschool
4100 Hunt Road
Fairfax VA 22032
703) 323-0165 Phone
(703) 323-6369 Fax

Located in the Little Run School District

Mark of Excellence is a ministry of [Highview Christian Fellowship](#) and is co-located with the church.

We are on the web:

www.highviewcf.org

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FELLOWSHIP

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PROVIDING WORLD - CLASS MINISTRY DESERVING OF AN AWESOME GOD

It is a command of God that all true believers become involved in the work of the ministry and evangelism. Therefore:

OUR MISSION IS:

- † TO GLORIFY GOD
- † TO EQUIP SAINTS
- † TO MAINTAIN HOLINESS
- † TO EVANGELIZE

It is important that every believer makes a conscious decision to follow Christ in loving obedience.

Highview Christian Fellowship
Women's Retreat

"STAYING CONNECTED"

November 2 – 4, 2007

SPECIAL GUEST: REVEREND STEPHANIE JENNINGS, GALILEE BAPTIST CHURCH

Courtyard Dulles Town Center

45500 Majestic Drive

Dulles, Virginia 20166

Registration Fee: \$20.00

For Hotel Reservations Call: 671-434-6400 by Oct 12 \$79+tax/nightly

Contact Lady Cindy Thomas @ CinthiaLyn@aol.com or call 703-323-6367 for further retreat information.