

# Journey Through Life Ministries Quarterly Newsletter

Where will the  
end of your  
journey take  
you?

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## FINANCIAL FITNESS—MIN. GEORGETTA HEAD

**“The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want”** (Psalm 23:1) is one of my favorite scriptures. As a single parent for 19 years of my life, that scripture became very real to me on many occasions when I didn’t know how I was going to buy food for my children, or where the money was coming from to put gas in my car to get to work. Are you or someone you know experiencing hard times now? Well, let me tell you about “my” Shepherd; known also in the Bible as **“The Good Shepherd.”**

The Good Shepherd takes care of His sheep, which I was, and you are too! Whenever I experienced “lack”, lack of a job, lack of money, lack of food, etc., He didn’t turn His back on me, He went to work on my behalf to make a way for the lack in my life. Our Good Shepherd wants to be known by us as our provider and protector. So, if you are going through difficult times now, don’t get discouraged, seek God and wait patiently on Him and He will never fail you – He will provide for you! *He loves to take care of His children!* To better illustrate

God’s love for His children, let’s look at the life of Joseph.

Joseph was hated by his brothers so they sold him into slavery. Joseph lost everything in a moment of betrayal. He was now experiencing lack of family, money, food, citizenship; culture – he lost all. But, Genesis 39 tells us that God was with Joseph and **prospered ALL** that he put his hands to, God even blessed Potiphar, an Egyptian because of Joseph.

Joseph may have lost his home and all that was dear to him, but He never forgot who He was in God. He trusted fully in God to take care of Him. Joseph’s ways pleased the Lord and because of that, Joseph received the promise of Proverbs 16:7 *“when a man’s ways please the Lord, He makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.”* God promoted Joseph to second in charge in Egypt, a foreign land to Joseph.

If you are experiencing lack, don’t grumble and complain! As you read Joseph’s story, notice that he didn’t complain or grumble; he did everything

with excellence as unto the Lord. As he worked as unto the Lord, God prospered all he put his hands to, even in prison God prospered him with favor with the guards. God is not a respecter of person. What God did for Joseph, He will do for you. I experienced this favor in my life on many occasions. God provided for ALL my needs and heart’s desires. I am now a grandmother and God is still providing for me.

Do you want God’s favor in your life? Then trust Him to be your provider and your source of help! Allow your ways to please God and He will destroy that enemy of lack, and as He is providing for you He will also promote you to different levels in your life. You see friends, God delights in taking care of His children – trust Him with your financial situations and you will see great changes in your life.

Remember money is only a tool so use that tool to honor God in all you do!

If you give, you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full measure, pressed down, shaken together to make room for more and running over. Whatever measure you use in giving—it will be used to measure what is given back to you.

Luke 6:38

## BIBLE FACTS ON BETHLEHEM—ELDER CHARLES HEAD

1. Did you know that Bethlehem in Hebrew (Beit Lehem) means “House of Bread.”
2. Did you know that Bethlehem is located on the West Bank, in a Palestinian-controlled area between Israel and Jordan to the north of the Dead Sea. Bethlehem is six miles south of the Old City of Jerusalem.
3. Did you know that Rachel died, and was buried in the way to Ephrath, which is Bethlehem (Genesis 35:19).
4. Did you know that Naomi and Ruth returned to Bethlehem in the beginning of barley harvest (Ruth 1:22).
5. *The Bibles says Rachel was buried near Bethlehem and also that Naomi, Ruth, and Boaz, and their grandson, Jesse, would all call Bethlehem home. But, the most important event in Bethlehem was Jesus’ birth, proclaimed by angels, shepherds and wise men.*

**Agape Fellowship  
Christian Community Ctr.  
Wilmerding, PA 15104**

**Sunday Service**  
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**Wednesday Prayer**  
12:00 noon

**Friday Service**  
Youth Night—6:00 p.m.

**Food served after every service**

Pastor Dorothy Reeves  
Phone: 412-380-4306

## WHICH ROAD WILL YOU TAKE —MIN. G. HEAD

The Bible tells us that we are pilgrims and sojourners on earth (*1 Peter 2:11*). So that means, earth is not our home and life on earth, for all of us, is a “journey” and that journey begins at birth.

Our journey will be full of choices and decision-making; and how we decide to live this life determines whether it will be one of happiness and contentment or a life of misery and dissatisfaction.

The story of the prodigal son found in Luke 15 is a good example of living a life of happiness and contentment or misery and dissatisfaction. He made a decision to leave the comfort and security of his father’s home because he thought the world had more to offer him.

So he took all he had including his inheritance and begin his journey into a world that he thought had so much to offer. Can you relate to that? This prodigal son thought the temporal pleasures of the world would satisfy the emptiness in his soul.

There are many people today with the same thought process, they believe the world will satisfy the emptiness in their soul, they party hard, try drugs; alcohol, try to keep up with the jones; use materialism to comfort their need, but as the prodigal son soon found out, this world can never satisfy our soul.

The prodigal son soon lost all he had to immoral living. Hard times came and he had nothing, not even enough money to buy food. When his friends found out he was broke, they turned against, and he found himself alone wondering what happened.

This young man’s story can be all of our story’s at one time or another. We make wrong choices then wonder, “what happened” or “blame” others for our wrong choices; but, there is a happy ending to this story. The prodigal son soon realized that all he needed was found in the Father’s home.

Has your decision-making put you on the wrong road and your journey on earth is on the “wide road” which leads to destruction instead of the “narrow road” which leads to life? (*Matt. 7:13-14*)

When the prodigal son realized his journey was on the “wide road” of destruction, he came to his senses. The Bible says he said, “*I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants.’*” (*Luke 15:18-19*).

The prodigal son had a repentant heart and asked his father to “forgive” him and to make him a servant in his

home. As you continue to read this story, found in Luke 15, you will read that the father not only forgave him, but had a feast in his honor to celebrate his return, the father said “*my son was once lost and is now found!*” What a wonderful statement.

Do you feel lost on the wide road of destruction? Know that Father God is waiting for you to make the choice to repent of your wrong ways and to come unto Him for forgiveness of your sins.

Father God is only a prayer away, waiting for you to call upon Him for forgiveness and to welcome you back into the family, or if you have never accepted Jesus as your Lord and Savior read page 12 of this newsletter and ask Jesus into your heart today. Make the decision to live your journey on the “narrow road” which leads to eternal life with Father God. Stop allowing satan to trick you into thinking that living according to the pleasures of this world will satisfy you, because this world’s pleasures will only bring you temporary happiness for a season.

Only what God has to offer will bring you lasting peace, joy, happiness and contentment. Try the “narrow wide” you won’t be disappointed.

*Which road will you take, the wide road or the narrow road?*



Wisdom of God Youth Workshop



Wisdom of God Youth Workshop



Wisdom of God Youth Workshop



Wisdom of God Youth Workshop



Wisdom of God Youth Workshop



*Ponder the path of thy feet, and let all thy ways be established. Proverbs 4:26*

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## **HIM SCHOLARSHIP AWARD WINNER**



**Lee Hamilton, Award Recipient Hayley Robinson-Massa,  
and Ethel Hamilton**

Congratulations to Hayley Robinson-Massa for being the first recipient of the HIM Scholarship Award. Ms. Massa was awarded a \$500 Scholarship in December 2012. This award will help Ms. Massa to further her education at I.U.P. She is currently majoring in Fashion Merchandise/Business and she plans to pursue a career as a Buyer in the Fashion Industry.

Ms. Massa was one of many participants who entered the HIM Assay contest. Ms. Massa says this scholarship means a lot to her because she earned it by her personal assay letter to HIM and it will bring her a step closer to her goal.

The outreach organization HIM (His Inspired Messages) was organized by Ethel and Lee Hamilton, October 11, 2011, because they saw a spiritual and educational need, as well as daily human needs in the community of Jeannette, PA, and the surrounding Westmoreland County area.

Because of local grants, Annual Golf Outing fundraiser, and general contributions from the public, this enabled HIM to donate turkeys to families for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

The next Annual Golf Outing, which is in memory of Ethel's grandfather, Samuel L. Hart, who attended Tuskegee Institute (now Tuskegee University) in the late 1800's and was a huge believer in education, will be held on August 23, 2013 at the Valley Green Country Club in Greensburg, PA.

HIM is a non-profit organization. All donations are tax deductible under 501 (c) (3) of the IRS code. HIM is a very transparent organization by having its books audited annually by a certified accounting firm.

## LET YOU LIGHT SHINE —ELDER CHARLES HEAD

While teaching on the “Sermon of the Mount,” Jesus said, “*Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.*” This is a very important message to the body of Christ because Jesus is saying in short: “your good works should point others to praise God.”

So let’s explore this statement some more. First of all to let our light shine means that the saved person represents light which is the character of our Lord Jesus. When we become born again we leave behind a world of darkness and put on the armour of light. Our light should be like a candle in a dark area, as we go about our daily life there is a lot of darkness, so our candle, the light of Christ, should stay lit at all times

so it will lead others out of darkness to the light of God’s Kingdom.

Unfortunately, some of God’s children are not letting their light shine before men. Over the years these children who have dimmed their lights have been called the meanest people on earth by waiters and waitresses. They have forgotten when they go out to eat after church that they still represent God’s Kingdom. They enter restaurants with a pushy, impatient, stingy and critical attitude. While waiting for their food, they become demanding and expect the poor waitress to jump at the snap of their finger. This type of attitude doesn’t represent “a light that is shining,” instead it represents a “light that has gone dim.”

Jesus’ reason for wanting us to let our light shine as a candle is because we represent Him and His character should be in us for others to see. Also, our good works are telling others and showing them by example that we are a “peculiar people,” (1 Peter 2:9-10), which means if we don’t exceed the darkness of this world, we need new oil in our lamps from the altar of God. So I encourage you, to be the peculiar person God has called you to be and don’t hide your light or let it go dim, **LET IT SHINE FOR JESUS!**



## MINISTRY NEWS —MIN. GEORGETTA HEAD

### Aug. thru Sept. 2012:

Rev. Tracie Morelli and Rosanna Jacobsen held a six-week program the “Wisdom of God” Series for Journey Through Life’s Youth Ministry. The children learned the importance of having the “Mind of Christ”, a “heart like God,” and the “Wisdom of God.”

### Sept. 2012:

The Virtuous Women’s group completed a six-week Boundaries Class. Rev. Tracie Morelli was the instructor.

### Sept. 2012:

A Health Awareness Workshop was held at the Penn Hills Library. Speakers, Registered Nurse Gwen Talkish presented “Stroke Awareness” and Nurse Annette Crockroft from Weinstein Imaging presented “Breast Cancer Awareness.”

### Sept. 2012:

Jewelry Maker and Designer, Rose Hatadis, conducted a Jewelry Making Class for the Virtuous Teen

Group. The girls not only learned the fine art of jewelry making, each girl make their own pendant necklace to be cherished for a lifetime.

### Upcoming Events

Discipleship Training Class. Jan. 26th; 10:00 a.m. Penn Hills Library

Youth Group Meeting—Jan. 26th; 10:00—12:00 noon, Penn Hills Library

**Annual Tea Party.** Feb. 9th; 12:45—3:00 p.m.; Penn Hills Library. Woman are to bring a covered dish, and a tea cup or mug to exchange.

Discipleship Training Class. Feb. 23rd; 10:00 a.m. Penn Hills Library.

Youth Group Meeting—Feb. 23rd; 10:00—12:00 noon, Penn Hills Library

**Bible Study:** Every Tuesday Night 7:00—8:00 p.m. Call office for location.

## Stop Thief!

**A woman, returning home from church one Sunday, came face-to-face with a burglar in her house. “Acts 2:38!” she yelled. “Turn from your sin!”**

**The burglar froze, and the woman called the police, who came to the home immediately.**

**As the burglar was being handcuffed, the woman told the officer that she had stopped him by citing a Bible verse.**

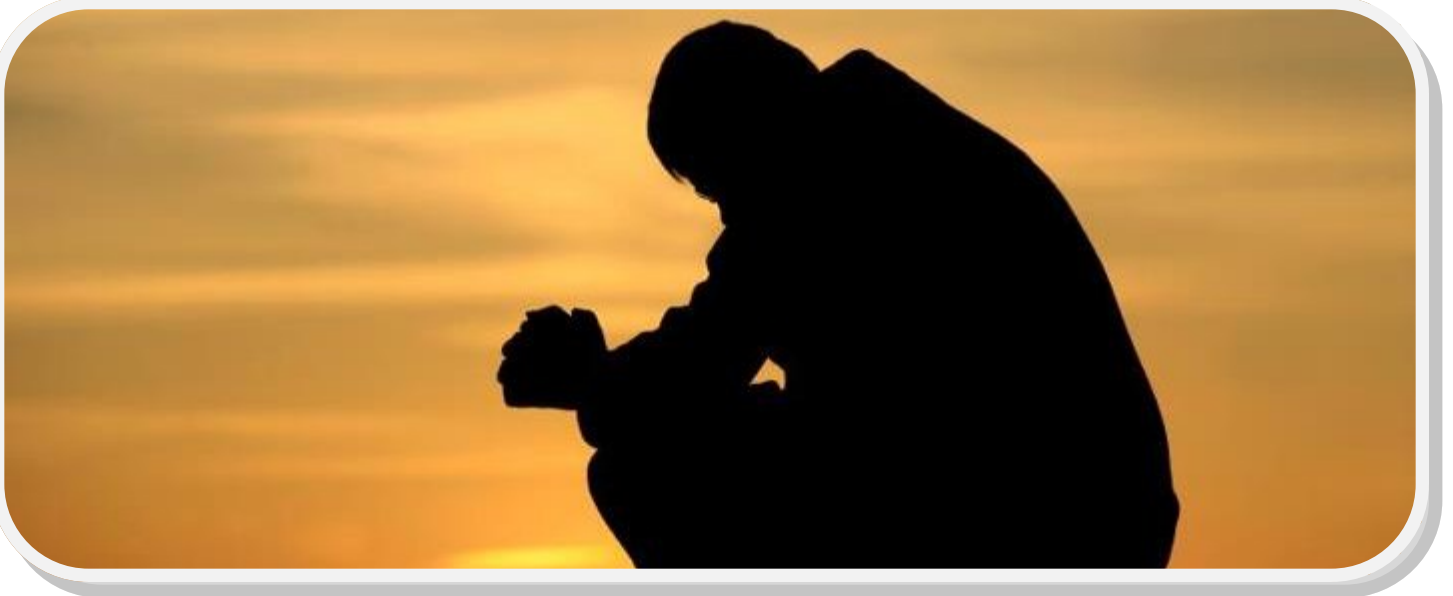
**“A Bible verse!” protested the burglar. “Heck no! She told me she and an ax and two .38s!”**

**From the Book:**

**“Laughter Was Created for Days Like This”**



## *ACTUAL LETTER FROM AN INMATE*



Dear Reader,

"When I was your age ... " are five words that I detested hearing more than any other words when I was your age. My grandfather would often begin a reprimand with these words, and the result was always the same: First, I would tell myself, "Here it comes, more unsolicited advice from someone who thinks he knows what I'm going through."

No. I'm not going to tell you that "when I was your age", for one, we never carried guns, or "when I was your age" we always settled our differences in a civilized fashion. What I will tell you is that, when I was your age I didn't know how to solve problems or resolve personal conflicts in a healthy manner and, as a result, I destroyed many years of my life.

As you travel through life you, will discover, if you haven't already, that each day life presents new problems and conflicts and we all need skills to deal successfully with them. You can begin to own your problem solving and conflict resolution skills right now. First, understand that we sometimes need help from others and we must come to recognize the people in our lives who would gladly lend a listening ear or sound advice. Secondly, we must recognize that when we have conflicts with others, we cannot always get them to see our point of view, or to apologize for offending us, or even to forgive us when we ask them for forgiveness. When this happens the wisest thing to do is give the other person time; walk away from the immediate environment so that tempers can settle and reason can return. Listen, it's no cliché to say it takes a better person to walk away from confrontation. When you know you can't reason with your adversary, when you know that his or her PRIDE is in the mix, walk away, for you could be saving your own life in the process and you may be teaching a lesson by example.

Sincerely yours,

P.M.

*"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9)*

**IN MEMORY OF Ms. CORA BRADFORD (1910–2012)—BY ELDER CHARLES S. HEAD**



This article is in memory of a dear friend and soldier of the Cross of Christ, Ms. Cora Bradford. Ms. Cora has gone on to be with the Lord recently and we would like to take this time to honor her.

For the past 3 years, I had many great memories from the times I spent with her during our weekly visits in the nursing home. Ms. Cora was truly a person in love with the Lord. She spoke of Him as her boyfriend and she would talk to Him early in the morning and late at night. Many times our conversation would take us back to the Old South—Alabama, where she was born and lived for many years. Ms. Cora had many testimonies to share, but my favorite is her testimony of her asking Jesus into her heart as a little child. She says her conversion was so precious that she had to tell everyone.

She later joined her family church and sang in the choir. She remembers that when she would sing her favorite song “Amazing Grace,” she would feel the presence of God dwelling within her which would make her weep because of her love for Jesus.

Oh, and I mustn’t forget her story about being “Papa’s” girl. At the young age of 100 she shared these precious moments as if they were yesterday. Her father worked for the railroad and spent many days from home, but always had special money sent to his favorite girl.

Ms. Cora always made it known to everyone that Jesus was number one in her life. She was not ashamed to spread the good news to all the nurses and anyone throughout the nursing home residence.

Although Ms. Cora has gone home to be with the Lord, she will be missed very much by me as well as others whose lives she touched. I personally thank the Lord for allowing me to meet Ms. Cora and her adopting me as her spiritual son. Our visits were so special together, reading God’s Word and praying together.

Ms. Cora was blessed because she knew who she belonged to and where her destiny was. Now she has finished her journey and is with the Lord, but her testimony will live on. II Timothy 4:7-8 describes her now—*“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.”*



Health Awareness Workshop



Health Awareness Workshop



Health Awareness Workshop



***Have patience with all things, but chiefly have patience with yourself. Do not lose courage in considering your own imperfections, but instantly set about remedying them - every day began the task anew.***

***-Francis de Sales***

**STIRRING OF THE GIFTS — ELDER CHARLES S. HEAD**

God has given each person on this earth talents and abilities. Some may have more than others, but we all have them. It's up to each individual to give their abilities back to God to be used for His glory.

Many of us have not given God the honor He is due in allowing our gifts to come forward. Why is this happening? Some of us make excuses by comparing self with others, thinking he/she may not be as talented as another person, but that's not an excuse because we are only responsible for the gift that God has given us as an individual.

One problem is, some of us are just plain old spectators on the sideline of God's Army. For instance, in the church, we are supposed to be soldiers in God's Army, but instead some of us are not allowing God to stir up our gift so we avoid getting involved in activities that will bring out our abilities. So what do we do? We depend on other soldiers in God's Army to win the whole battle and also win others over to God's Army while we sit as spectators. Then, when a soldier is wounded in battle, we criticize or judge them instead of locking arms around them and helping them to God's safety haven. Another problem is when we see a soldier in need of oil for healing we instead pour in poison with our mouth that causes them serious wounds. This is not the way our gifts are to be used;

they are to be used to edify and build up others and help them in time of need.

All of us need to examine ourselves to see what gift God has given us and allow our gift to blossom into building God's Army. God needs many in His all-volunteer army in order to accomplish His Kingdom business.

It's not too late, all we have to do is report for duty and talk to our Commander and Chief (GOD), ask Him what is the order He has assigned you. When you ask Him with a sincere heart, He will show you where your gift fits into His Army.

Let's get off the sideline as a spectator and become a participant of action in God's Kingdom. Don't allow excuses to keep you on the bench of complacency, get excited about what's going on in God's Army. We have an urgency, the King is coming, don't be ashamed on the day you meet King Jesus face to face knowing you have not used your God given abilities for Kingdom work, because then you will have to bow in sorrow!

Our gifts are to be used for God's glory and not to be set on the shelf and collect dust or rust and lose value. Start today, allow your gifts and talents serve their purpose for the Kingdom of God.



Jewelry Making Workshop



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*"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of first fruits of his creatures." (James 1:17-18)*





My soul clings to the dust;  
Revive me according to Your word.  
I have declared my ways, and You answered me;  
Teach me Your statutes.  
Make me understand the way of Your precepts;  
So shall I meditate on Your wonderful works.  
My soul melts from heaviness;  
Strengthen me according to Your word.  
Remove from me the way of lying,  
And grant me Your law graciously.  
I have chosen the way of truth;  
Your judgments I have laid *before me*.  
I cling to Your testimonies;  
O LORD, do not put me to shame!  
I will run the course of Your commandments,  
For You shall enlarge my heart.

### OBTAINING HOPE—MELISSA PEARCE

What is hope? Webster defines hope as to trust, reliance and/or desire with expectation of fulfillment. Our hope is generated from what and who we believe in. How many times do we place emphasis in our own abilities or expectations in others and yet the desired fulfillment is never reached?

God's desire is for us to have a "believing hope" in Him. In order to trust someone, we have to believe in the character of the person and/or the actions that support their nature. *Numbers 23:19 "God is not a man, that He should lie, nor a son of man, that He should change his mind. Does He speak and then not act? Does He promise and not fulfill?"* God wants us to have an expectation in Him so He can continue to reveal Himself to each of us personally.

Romans 15:13 states "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." As we continue to

place our trust, reliance and expectations in God, He in turn fills our hearts with an overflow of hope that is accompanied by His joy and peace as we place our trust in Him. We must realize that our hope is not conjured up by anything we can do, but only by placing our expectation in God and Him alone.

Hope is what gives the soul, body and spirit, life and God is the Author of life. He longs not only to reveal His character of who He is to you, but also desires to give you life in the fullest. If we are to obtain our hope from God, then why do we so quickly lose our hope when we are faced with adversity? I believe we will find the answer in the following scripture. Psalm 55:22 states "Cast your cares on the LORD and he will sustain you; he will never let the righteous fall." Too often, what sucks the life and hope out of us is when we try to carry life's burdens by our own strength.

To cast your cares on the LORD means that you are placing your faith and hope in Him to handle the situation that you are facing. You also recognize who He is. He is the Almighty One, the Sufficient One, and the One who can handle every situation that we face. He is the One who will sustain you. Sustaining realizes that our hope not only comes from Him but also is in Him and not in our own abilities, gifts, talents, or strengths. He is the One who is going to be our Source. He will be the One to move us from point A to point B.

In conclusion, we see the promise of God's faithfulness when we place our hope in Him. He will never let the righteous fall. God's people, who seek Him, trust Him and who put their hope in Him will never be put to shame. The promise of His faithfulness is to handle the situation that is at hand in our lives for our good and His glory. Trust Him, He won't fail you!

"Though wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established. By knowledge the rooms are filled with all precious and pleasant riches." (Proverbs 24:3-4)

*SHOE BOXES FOR SENIORS CHRISTMAS — MIN. GEORGETTA HEAD*



The staff at Journey Through Life Ministries' want to extend a very special thanks to all that participated in the "Shoe Boxes" for Seniors' Program this Christmas Season.

We visited two personal care homes: *Grainger Assisted Living, Davis Personal Care Home*; and the 4th Floor at *Senaca Nursing Home*.

It was a very emotional time watching as the Seniors expressed their appreciation of everyone's generosity toward them. It was a blessing to watch some rip open their gift, while others saved their gift to open on Christmas day.



As the Seniors sat listening to the *Christmas Story* on the birth of Jesus Christ it became very moving and inspirational as some began crying and praising God for the gift of His only Son. We concluded our visit by singing Christmas Carols and a couple Old Time Classical Hymns.



The Senior's asked us to express their sincere thank you to everyone who cared enough to make their day so special. For most of the Senior's, this was their only gift, so thank you for your generosity and may God bless each of you for giving out of the abundance of your heart.



*"So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7*

**WOMEN'S AND YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY — MIN. GEORGETTA HEAD**

*Journey Through Life Ministries  
Annual Christmas Party.*

The Women and Youth Ministry's had a great time celebrating the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ at the Annual Christmas Party held at the Penn Hills Library.

Minister Ethel Hamilton lead the group in Praise and Worship music followed by the reading of the Christmas Story.

The Women had a great time sharing with the youth and assisting them in making a Christmas Wreath as a take home gift.

We also played games and distributed prizes to the winners.



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Elder Charles Head, President  
Minister Georgetta Head, Vice President

Journey Through Life Ministries' Newsletter is a quarterly publication promoting spiritual awareness and growth in the communities.

All articles written and edited by:  
Elder Charles S. Head  
Minister Georgetta Head

Please submit all comments and church calendar events to: [journeylife@verizon.net](mailto:journeylife@verizon.net)

Journey Through Life Ministries accepts articles provided they are related to spiritual awareness and growth. All articles will be edited for content & validity.

Please note that Journey Through Life Ministries does not publish political or opinion pieces.

***What Must I Do to Be Saved?***

"Jesus said unto him, "I am the way, the truth and the life, no man comes to the Father but by Me." (John 14:16)

All you need to do is pray the "sinner's prayer below!!

Dear Jesus, I come to you today as a lost sinner. I am asking that you save my soul and cleanse me from all sin. I know that I need help and that I can't save myself.

I believe that you are the Son of God. Forgive me for my sins and all wrong doings I have done to others and help me to forgive those who have hurt me. I believe that you died on the Cross for my sins and the sins of the world. I accept You, Jesus, into my heart as my Lord and Savior.

I confess with my mouth the Lord Jesus, as my Savior and believe in my heart that God has raised Him from the dead and You are now seated in Heaven.

You have said in your Word which cannot lie, "for whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved (Romans 10:13)." "I have called upon your name exactly as you have said, and I believe that right now, I am saved.

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\*If you have sincerely prayed these words, which have been written out for you, and believed in your heart on the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior, you are at this moment saved, and your name is written down in the Lamb's Book of Life. Congratulations!

You are a "new creature in Christ and a child of God!"

Now share the "good news"

by telling someone else about your salvation.

*Journey Through Life Ministries, Inc.*

P.O. Box 17968  
Pittsburgh, PA 15235

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