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A Caring Church with Ministries * Changing Lives * Connecting People * Creating Friendship and Favor with God and Man

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FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Beloved Church Family:

Warmest greetings to you in Jesus' precious Name is from my heart. In this summer 2012 issue of the Care-Share Newsletter, I want to remind you that summer is always a time of renewed growth and maturity. In the 2012 spring issue of the CareShare Newsletter, "From the Pastor's Desk" focused on spiritual leadership. So it is appropriate that in the summer issue of our CareShare Newsletter we focus on the topic of spiritual followership.

SPIRITUAL FOLLOWERSHIP: A CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP

There has never been a leader without any followers. Jesus the greatest Spiritual leader had to call individual to follow Him (Mark 1:16-20); these then became His disciples. Therefore for any successful healthy spiritual as well as physical growth to occur in the church there has to be a followership of the spiritual leader who is the under-shepherd of Jesus Christ the Chief Shepherd by the congregation. In today's setting the pastor is the under-shepherd and spiritual leader of the church. It is imperative to understand that the call to followership of the spiritual leader has essential qualities. We shall examine these essential qualities in this summer's newsletter so that you, as a church member, can make a commitment to follow your pastor, the spiritual leader of the congregation as he follows Jesus our ultimate Spiritual Leader.

Followership of the spiritual leadership involves the discipleship principle that says it is more important to know where you are going than to see how fast you can get there for the race is not given to the strong or to the swift but those who endure to the end. As you can see from the ministry of Jesus Christ, an essential ingredient that pastors must utilized is the calling of individuals to follow Jesus Christ as His disciples even as they are followers of Jesus too. As we follow Jesus, we must have a clear understanding of where He wants us to go and what He wants us to do, otherwise as pilgrims here on earth the success of our journey would be severely limited. While it often easier for followers of Christ (Christians) to talk about the free grace of God we enjoy as salvation, it is also equally important to talk about the price of discipleship.



Salvation is about more than a free ticket to heaven; it is also about discipleship which is following Jesus and reflecting His character in our lives. Therefore being a follower of Jesus has its price tag. This price tag is the cost of discipleship which has to do with exchanging who we are for who God wants us to be. Now, let us further discuss the essential qualities of following Jesus or discipleship.

The call to discipleship is a call to commitment. This commitment is to follow Jesus Christ who knows where we are going; otherwise we will be lost without God in our life. Jesus said, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me" (John 14:6). Once this commitment has been made the follower needs to be disciple by the spiritual leader of the Church. It is essential that the follower be available for discipleship because the decision to follow Jesus is a commitment to be a disciple daily. How is your commitment to discipleship? Are you learning from the spiritual leader in your Church or do you think and feel you already know everything and the leader has to listen to you as you instruct him? No matter the age, educational level or position in the society, your spiritual leader deserves you respect and this is reflected in your obedience to the Word of God and him. This is because the call to follow Christ is a call to determined obedience. You must determine in your heart to be obedient to leadership. Obedience demonstrates your commitment to discipleship. If we have come to Jesus, we must walk as He walked in love, obedience and humility.

Always remember the cross of Calvary always comes before the homecoming of heaven. The cross has to do with suffering for Christ's sake. It involves dying to self and live to please Christ. Thus, the call to follow Jesus is a call to denial of self: saying no to selfishness and carnal things because self-denial is identifying with the Cross of Christ. For instance, Paul said, "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me" (Gal 2:20); and "For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin" (Rom 6:6). This implies that self-denial is applying our commitment to everyday life because spiritual growth takes place only when we die to self and Jesus rules totally in our live.

Also, the call to follow Christ means faithfulness to the end of our lives here on earth. It is following Jesus continuously on this action – packed pilgrims journey on a daily basis rather than only during special Christian events. Following Jesus comes through faithfulness in our daily walk that includes faithfulness to the Word of God as we read it, study it, meditate on it and live it; faithfulness to personal communication with God daily in prayer; faithfulness in individual and corporate worship of God with His church; faithfulness in a discipleship group - learning and growing together; faithfulness to a complete surrendered life to Christ; and faithfulness to servanthood. Ultimately, faithfulness is not about how we began our pilgrim journey, it's about how we walk every day to the end, becoming mature in Christ and fruitful as we serve Him!

Finally, continue to pray for our Church members that we will walk in the victory that Christ has won for us. Be in prayers regularly one for another that our Church will continue to have a strong, healthy and well balanced growth with genuine love; passion for the kingdom of God; and compassion towards mankind as we, at Mt Traveler, ride this wave of ministering the Jesus way. Pray for the bereaved, the sick and shut-in and all the various needs of our membership, especially those going through various temptations and crisis in life. Pray for my good health and also that God through the Holy Spirit would lead me in His paths to be the kind of shepherd He desires. I love you and I am praying for you too. Remain blessed. HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY AND HAVE A WONDERFUL SUMMER!!!!

In His service,
Rev. B. C. Datiri, PhD
Pastor

PUPPETRY MINISTRY

Diane Rufus

I really thank Rev. Datiri for giving us every second Sunday to perform. This give the puppeteers more time to practice. They all work together and it pays off a job well done. Thanks to all of you. I love working with puppeteers and puppets.

We are doing a lot of skits and fewer songs for now. Easter the puppets did Bada-bing- bada- boom! Jesus is Alive! Mark 16:15. The two puppeteers were Jamal Beavers and Noro Datiri. They did great in performing.

Puppets are invited to a benefit program for Mrs. Willie Mae Cox Saturday, May 12, 2012 at 6:00 P.M. at Mt. Lovely Missionary Baptist Church.

~Jesus Lives~

I looked up towards the heaven's giving God the praise

For blessing me to be here another Easter Day.
To tell the story of my Jesus whom they crucified
Nailing him to that old rugged cross and piercing
him in his side.

Crucify him! Crucify him! The people shouted
with death in their eyes

Unaware that our Lord Jesus would surely rise.
No grave could possibly hold him in for long
For he would rise in spite of what man did was
wrong.

His resurrection would not nor could not be
denied

To his Father in Heaven our Jesus cried...
Into thy hands I commend my spirit as he gave up
the ghost...

The centurion saw what was done and glorified
Still unaware that Jesus resurrection would not be
denied.

Jesus body was wrapped in linen and laid in a
tomb

That day was the preparation and the Sabbath
drew on.

Upon the first day of the week very early in the
Morn'
They found the stone rolled away with the body of
our Lord Jesus gone.

You see Jesus came with a purpose that he had to
fulfill

He died for our sins so that you and I could live.
So much did he accomplish when he went up on
that cross

So that we can live an eternity with him and no
soul will be lost.

(C) 2012 Theresa A. Hodge

**Happy Easter,
We had a great time!**



Kendra , John & Barbara Thomas

HEALTH AND FITNESS



Sister Ocie Lockhart Jefferson

Sister Ocie Lockhart Jefferson has participated in the "Love Your Heart" Walking Challenge which is held in February at the Opelika Sportsplex Adult Activity Center for the last two years.

She was the winner of this event in 2011 where she walked over 60 miles. She was awarded a medallion and a gift card. This year 2012, she again walked a high mileage and was awarded a medallion and a healthy lunch at Earth Fare.

Sister Jefferson walks 3 miles at least 5 days a week at the Opelika Sportsplex whether is inside track (36 laps = 3 miles) or the outside track (3 laps = 3 miles). She also participates in the cardio exercise program three days a week where she does cardio exercises for 45 minutes each session. Congratulations Sister Ocie!!! Keep up the good and healthy work!!!!!!11

Submitted by Ruth Trimble

Apples of Gold

To handle yourself, use your head;
To handle others, use your heart.

Your friend has a friend, and your
friend's friend has a friend; be discreet.

People are lonely because they build
walls instead of bridges.

Be cheerful. Of all the things you wear,
your expression is the most important.

Gratitude is the memory of the heart.

It isn't the load that weights us down---
it's the way we carry it.

Richland Elementary Hoop Shoot Champion



Richland Elementary Student
"Hoop Shoot" Free Throw Program

Sponsored by

The Benevolent and Protective Order of
Elks

Jada Askew, daughter of Frank & Stephanie Askew; Granddaughter of John & Sheree Lockhart participated in the Elks "Hoop Shoot" Free Throw Program on January 6, 2012 at the Opelika Sportsplex. Jada won 1st in 10-11 girls. Jada traveled to Birmingham Southern University for the State Competition where she won 1st place in the State 10-11 year old girls area.

On March 24, 2012, in Valdosta, GA., Jada won 1st place in the Southeast Regional Competition 10-11 yr. girls where she advanced to the 40th National "Hoop Shoot" Finals in Springfield, Mass. on April 26-28, 2012. This competition was held at the Western New England University where 36 girls and 36 boys were competing. Jada came in 7th place in the 10-11 girls.

The "Hoop Shot (Free Throws) teaches participants many life lessons. At the top of the list are good sportsmanship and integrity. Kids who compete learn about respect, dedication, loyalty and self-esteem. Through each level of competition, kids support one another while learning from their unique strengths, and meet new friends at the same time. Most important, contestants learn the importance of hard work and how to accept defeat or win gracefully.

Jada and her parents and grandparents would like to thank each of you for your support, prayers and your encouraging words that was emailed an for her booklet she received upon her arrival in Springfield, Mass.

Man moves from baseball to hotel business

Jatavius Lockhart's slender build and pleasant voice belie his role as a former high school and college baseball catcher.

But the Auburn native's actions as a leader on the diamond helped mold him as an up-and-coming executive in the hotel business.

At just 29, he is general manager at Courtyard Marriott Decatur.

Matt Cimo, completing his 20th season as Auburn High School's baseball coach, recalled Lockhart as a starter on his 2000 and 2001 Class 6A teams.

"With his demeanor and personality, he took control of everybody," Cimo said. "He's just a winner.

His smile is contagious, and he always goes out of his way to help people. I knew he would be very successful in life."

Lockhart, who proclaims he is "a forever diehard Auburn University fan," earned a baseball scholarship at Southern University in Baton Rouge, La., on the recommendation of Joe Mason, a Boston Red Sox scout.

"I'm a people person and I wanted to go somewhere different," Lockhart said. "I had never been to Baton Rouge until I started college."

While there, the city offered two impressions that will always remain with him.

The 9/11 attacks of 2001 came shortly after his arrival and he recalled fighter jets consistently soaring over the massive chemical operations along the Mississippi River.

Two weeks after he left Southern in August 2005 with a degree in business management, Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans.

"When I visited Baton Rouge later, the city had tripled in size," he said.

His first hotel job came in Auburn, where he was night auditor at Hilton Garden Inn.

He was inspired in the business by an older brother, Derrick, who is one of the managers of Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center in Baltimore Harbor.

"I learned from just being around him and seeing how he interacts with people," Lockhart said.

Lockhart climbed through the ranks at hotels in Auburn and Dothan before starting March 1 in Decatur.

"We worked together for a couple of years," said Monica Sadhwani of Dothan, a regional sales revenue manager for a string of hotels for Larry Bloomberg and Associates. "You don't find many like him. He has an understanding of how to work with people."

Lockhart, who said some people get a first impression that he is a minister, said his faith undergirds everything he does. He served as armor bearer for Pastor Jevon Goode at Destiny Church in Dothan.

"Jatavius is one of the most committed, consistent people I know," Goode said. "He does everything with a wonderful passion."

Lockhart said before taking the position in Decatur, he previously visited in 1999 to attend the graduation of a cousin, Patricia Trimble, at Austin High School.

Presently, he lives at the hotel awaiting the arrival later this month of his wife, Naomi, and daughter, Janai, who will celebrate her third birthday May 20.

And during his brief time here, Lockhart is living up to the assessment of being a winner that his old baseball coach gave him.

Beth Gryskiewicz is in the process of relocating from Wisconsin to work as human resources manager at 3M. She is staying at Courtyard Marriott while house hunting.

"I just met Jatavius on Monday," she said. "I'm so impressed with his interpersonal skills. He's a mover and a shaker."

**Ronnie Thomas
Real people**

http://www.decaturdaily.com/stories/Man-moves-from-baseball-to-hotel-business,95279?content_source=&category_id=11&search_filter=&event_mode=&event_ts_from=&list_type=&order_by=&order_sort=&content_class=&sub_type=stories&town_id=

CONGRATULATIONS!!!!

Zoyanna Frazier



The Huston-Tillotson University
President, Faculty, and Graduating Class
Announce that
Zoyanna Frazier
Is a candidate for the degree of
Bachelor of Art in Business
Administration
In
Business Management
At the Commencement Convocation
Saturday, the fifth day of May
Two-thousand and twelve
At eight thirty in the morning
The Huston-Tillotson Athletic Field
900 Chicon Street
Austin, Texas 78702

Rytavis O'Neal Veasley



George Washington University
President, Faculty, and Graduating Class
Announce that
Rytavis O'Neal Veasley
Is a candidate for the degree of
Master of Science
In
Systems Engineering
At the Commencement Convocation
Sunday, the Twentieth day of May
Two thousand and twelve
At Nine thirty in the morning
The National Mall
900 Ohio South West
Washington District Of Columbia, 20024

Jessica Janay Moss



Charity Hodge



Charity Hodge is pleased to announce
her graduation from
Lafayette High School,
Wednesday, May 23, 2012 at 7:00 PM
Lafayette High School
Bulldog Stadium
In case of inclement weather:
Lafayette High School
Bulldog Gymnasium

Tyra Pitts



Tyrese Pitts



Bonnie's Kids Child Care...2012
Preschool Graduation May 5th. They
exceed in knowing their ABC's and
Numbers: counting in 2, 5, 10, 20,
Shapes, Colors, Math, Days of the week,
and Months of the year. The twins know
how to spell there first and last name,
Pledge of Allegiance & songs: Grand 'Ol
Flag, You are My Sunshine, My Life,
and I'm a Graduate!!!!!!

Tyra Pitts @ Tyre Pitts

STATE TRACK AND FIELD RESULTS



The Opelika girls' and boys' track and field
teams finished in the top 10 in the 6A state
championship. The girls finished 6th over
all with top individual scorers being Anissa
Lewis, Emma Garner and Jakayla hand.
With 4X100 relay team finishing 4th this
team included Kala Spinks, Anissa Lewis,
Britney Johnson, Jakayla Hand and
Breonna Lockhart. Anissa Lewis the
defending 100-meter dash champion did it
again making her a two time back-to-back
state champion in the 100-meter dash.
Congratulations Anissa. She also finished
3rd in the 200-meter dash. Emma Garner
finished 2nd in the 800-meter run and
4th in the 1600-meter run. Jakayla hand
finished 3rd in the triple jump and 4th in
the long jump. The boys' team finished 9th
with the top scorers on the team being Tony
Philpot, Cortez Vaughn and Cordaryl
Whitehead. Tony Philpot finished 2nd in
both the shot put and the discus putting up
great numbers in both with a personal best
coming in the shot put, Cortez finished
6th in the 110 hurdles and Cordaryl finished
4th in the 3200-meter run. Great job team
and GO DAWGS!!!!!!

Jimmy Johnson
Visual Arts
Boys' Track and field
Go DAWGS!!!!!!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

May
 Pastor Datiri 1
 Gloria Morgan 2
 Rodneshia Darden 5
 Tieanna Harris 9
 Michael Foster Sr. 9
 Michael Foster Jr. 10
 Kimberly Johns 12
 Yeipyeng Datiri 20
 Toretta Hughley 26
 Calvin Pennyamon 26

June
 Marcia Jeter 5
 Rytavius Veasley 7
 Joseph Lockhart 16
 Sarah Maddox 19
 Debrena Burney 22
 Christine Heard 24
 Mary R. Lockhart 29

July
 Recola Lockhart 3
 Whitney Jackson 3
 Gloria Dowdell 5
 Timothy Lockhart 11
 Kennoris Pennyamon 17
 John C. Trimble Sr. 20
 Demarcus Pennyamon 22
 Barbara Allen 23
 Angelo Trimble 25
 Gwendolyn Wilson 28

August
 Felicia Foster 1
 Sylvia Bozeman 1
 Korrie Maddox 4
 Ninrat Datiri 4
 Robert Bozeman 5
 Eva Patterson 10
 Mary L. Jackson 10
 Sheree Lockhart 12
 LaShundra Lockhart 12
 Rodney Williams 20
 Mary E. Trimble 24

VBS 2012

Theme: Growing Up In God

Luke 2:40 “And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom and the grace of God was upon him.”

Key Verse: Luke 2:52
 “And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and Man.”

Purpose: Growing up in God to change lives and have friendship with God and others by:

- Caring for others; Being passionate and compassionate
- Serving others: Being obedient and faithful

VBS 2012

What: VBS 2012
 Where: Mt. Traveler Missionary Baptist Church
 When Saturday, May 19, 2012
 Time: 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Get ready for a fun-filled day with God’s word, music, craft, games, and food for everyone of all ages.
 Come and join us as we all learn how to “Grow up In God”

VBS Director
 Mary Webb

WEDDINGS

Khadija Berthe-Jacobs
 &
 Rev. Richard D. Jacobs



April 7, 2012

Tavika Preston-Johnson
 &
 Jimmy L. Johnson II



March 26, 2012

EBENEZER DISTRICT CALENDAR

May- 14-17 Southeast District State Convention-Greater Peace Baptist Church, Opelika, AL
 Rev. Clifford Jones, Pastor
 26 - Annual Laywomen and Deacon Wives Banquet 6:00 p.m.

June 9 - 2nd Sat. Board Meeting 9:00 AM
 9- Annual Minister's Program 6:30 PM

11-15 Alabama State Baptist Women Convention (Selma, AL) Selma University
 18-22 - National Baptist Congress of Christian Education, St. Louis, Mo

July 7 - 2nd Sat. Board Meeting 9:00 AM
 15 -Pre-Congress Musical Ebenezer District Center 6:00 p.m.

17-19 Congress of Christian Education -Host Church: New Popular Spring Baptist Church,
 Rev. Lindsey Tolbert, Pastor

20-22 Southwest Walter Cade Jr. Workshop, Hot Springs, AR
 23-27 - Alabama State Congress of Christian Education, Selma University, Selma, AL
 29 -5th Sunday Meeting

2:00 PM
 Sermon-Rev. Willie F. Smith, Pastor of Beulah No. 1 Baptist Church, Notasulga, Al.
 Host Church: Beulah No. 2

August 11- 2nd Sat. Board Meeting 9:00 AM

To Mother On Mother's Day

For all the things you've been to me,
 My guardian and my guide;
 For truths you have so gently taught
 And all the tears you've dried;
 For faith and understanding
 When I faltered on my way,
 I owe you more thanks, Mother,
 Than words can ever say

So on this day that's set aside
 Especially for you,
 I send a wish for happiness
 In everything you do.
 May each hour bring you pleasure
 Every day of every year---
 For all the things you've been to me,
 I love you, Mother dear.
 ---Author unknown

Laywomen

I am asking every lady in the church that is interested in being laywomen please get with me. We really need to get the laywomen back in action. I think it was explained that every lady in the church is a laywoman except the pastor’s wife. I thank every lady that I ask for help when we were trying to do something for Sis. Datiri.

*Thanks again
 Diane P Rufus*

Music Notes

"Praise the name of the Lord. Praise him, you who serve the Lord, you who serve in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God. Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good, celebrate his lovely name with music."

Greetings from the Adult and Mass Choirs This quarter, the choirs were blessed to have a brother join our choirs. We would like to extend a **"Big Welcome"** to Brother Terry Melton, who sings and baritone as well as solo parts in the Male, Adult, and Mass Choirs.

Special thanks, to the Mass choir for traveling with Pastor Datiri to Cornerstone Baptist Church on Sunday, April 22, in celebration of Reverend and Sister James Brown's Pastoral Appreciation. Some of the choir members had commitments at another church; however, Deacon Angelo Trimble reported very positive comments, stating that Pastor Datiri and the Mass Choir were outstanding and Mt. Traveler was represented well in attendance.

We are happy to see Sister Barbara Allen, pianist, return to our fellowship following a brief illness. Welcome back!!!!

The word of God is so powerful
Only God can turn a mess into a message,
A test into a testimony,
A trial into a triumph,
A victim into a victory.

Submitted by Ruth Trimble

PRAISE DANCERS

The Praise dancers are doing very well. We have grown a lot now we have seven people including Torrence Ballard (Coordinator), Crystal Driver (Assistant Coordinator), Kitz Reid, Torretta Huguley, TeAnna Harris, Kiyasha Reid, and Tyra Pitts.

We will forever dance for the Lord.

Torrence Ballard, Coordinator

Michael Foster Jr. Advantage Chiropractor Clinic Soccer Team



Kiyandra Reid Looney Tunes Soccer Team



Kiyasha Reid S.O.L. Soccer Team



Kiyasha Reid Monarchs Basketball Team



All games are sponsored by
Opelika Parks and Recreation
For the
Reid Sisters

Nylah Ann Preston Shining Stars Dance Group



Make Your Move Dance Company
Nylah takes ballet, tap, and jazz.

ZA'KOBÉ LEE COLLINS has joined two Sports Arena Football leagues and the Opelika Youth Track Team.

He helped lead the Bengals to their very first win in 3 years at the Columbus Civic Center in Columbus, Ga on April 24, 2012.

He also did his 1st track meet on April 14, 2012. He came in First place in the 100, First place in the 200 and First place in the Throwing of the baseball.

SPECIAL CONGRATULATIONS

We, the parents of Za'Kobe Collins, Charles and Torrence Ballard along with his church family, would like to let him know how proud of him we are. Continue to keep God first and the rest will come together.

The Parents and Grandparents of Torretta Le'Shumbria Huguley would like to let her know how proud we are of her on all of her accomplishments including her good season with the Opelika Track and Field team.

She received a metal for coming in second place in the Javelin Throw.
We Love you and Keep up the good work.

Charles and Torrence Ballard
Terry and Mae Doris Melton

EVANGELISM & OUTREACH MINISTRY



The Evangelism & Outreach Ministry is striving to reach out to our community and their needs. Last March we were able to partner with the Way2Serve Ministries to accomplish yard work for a local family in the Camphill area. On this rainy day, the Lord reigned as 30+ Christians joined hands to renovate flower beds, trim trees, cut grass and remove yard debris from the family's yard. The pictures tell the Before and After Story!



As the year continues, more opportunities will come in which you each will be able to get involved and participate in ministering to others.



We have also seen great increase in the Prison Ministry. Deacons J. Allen and A. Lockhart have faithfully ministered to the men as has Sis B. Allen to the Women.

We ask that you continue to pray for our church and community that needs may be met by us. Thank you each for your participation in any way with the Evangelism and Outreach Ministry.

TODAY'S TEENAGERS HAVE ISSUES—When the MAYOR and his COUNCIL have to pass a LAW to make our young men put on a BELT and pull up their PANTS.

Today's teenager have issues – When the SCHOOL BOARD, PRINCIPALS and TEACHERS have to tell our daughters their dresses are too SHORT, pants too TIGHT, tops too REVEALING.

Today's teenagers have issues –When I see them in PUBLIC with their P.J.'S on. Parents we have a LEAKING problem!!! Our responsibility is leaking through our fingers into the MAYOR'S OFFICE, PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE, and PASTOR'S OFFICE.

When PRAYER was taken out of SCHOOLS, Big Issue!!! I can give you a Bigger Issue when PRAYER is taken out of the HOME. Deuteronomy 11:19 Give us the responsibility to teach our children about JESUS!!!

A big issue... Every Sunday Morning all over the world parents are asking their children Are you going to church today? Not going to church on Sunday was not an OPTION in my house.

As PARENTS have we drop the BALL???

Mt. Traveler Missionary Ministry

The Mt. Traveler Missionary Ministry's 2012 project is to purchase a new refrigerator for our Fellowship Hall. The Missionary Ministry would like to thank the men and women of the church in advance for their support.

Annie Lockhart Chairperson

Custodian Ministry Eva W. Patterson

My responsibilities: of cleaning the Church are:

- Perform floor care tasks, such as sweeping, mopping, and vacuuming as needed
- Collect and dispose of trash as needed
- Sanitize and/or clean rooms and furniture in the Church
- I have been cleaning the church for a lot of years and I love to clean.