

ON THE LEVEL

Volume 3, Issue 4

May 2004

How does your garden grow?

By Dorothy Clark

Summer is an excellent time to get outside in the sunshine and try your hand at gardening. The fresh air will do you good and the exercise will do you even better. This year I've decided to try my hand at a different type of garden and I invite you to join me. I believe that if we tend our gardens carefully during the summer months, by the fall, we'll have a "crop" we can really be proud of.

First we need to be careful where we plant our garden. To get the best results we should plant of garden in the light of the spirit. Like the beaming rays of the sun, the spirit will shine a light in dark corners. If we are less than honest in dealing with other peo-

ple, the spirit will reveal us. This summer, let's make surer to plant *seeds of honesty* when dealing with others. Whether at home, at work, or at church, people are so much easier to get along with when they know that you show them only one face. They know you are consistent. They know that you are honest in your dealings with them. We should plant lots and lots of these seeds.

Next we need to plant an entire row of the *seeds of thanksgiving*. We all need to express more gratitude for what we are given. Most of us take an awful lot for granted. A friend surprises you by buying you an ice cream cone. Is your first reaction to complain because it's the wrong flavor? You have been fortunate to have a career that has been progressive without



any major snags. Do you brag that it's all because of your careful planning and preparation? Maybe it wouldn't hurt to plant a double row of thanksgiving! God is merciful unto us daily. We encounter strangers who are gracious and helpful to us daily. We need to pull up the weeds of haughtiness and plant the seeds of thanksgiving. We need to pay particular attention to this section of the garden. It will make a big, big difference in our relationships with

(Continued on page 3)

Inside this issue:	
Summer jobs for teens	2
Poetry - A Tribute to Mt. Level Senior Citizens	2
Some Upcoming Events	2
Corner of Prayer	3

Dear Mt. Level,

From Adrienne Denson

Thank you so much for your prayers and support. I just finished my first year at Duke Divinity School; I can hardly believe it! I look back fondly at my field education placement here at Mt. Level Missionary Baptist Church and at my mission trip to Costa Rica.

The Costa Rica trip was incredible. It was a nice balance of work, worship, and play. While we were there, we helped to finish the roof on the

(Continued on page 3)

Adrienne



Summer jobs for teens

*The Triangle Tribune, July 14, 2002
Submitted by Ms. Teeroe Alexander*

Let's face it. At your age, money more than likely means a trip to the movies, a new outfit, some kicks or a weekend at the beach—all funded by you. No begging moms and pops for cash. You need a job for that kind of freedom, right?

Here's the trick: Leave no stone unturned. Luckily for you, we've mapped out 10 ways to find a job this summer.

1. Door knocking. Easy enough. Go to the places that interest you and fill out an application. Head to your favorite clothing or record store, restaurant or hangout spot. Try any one of the zillion small businesses around you. Do you live near an amusement park? That's a great summer job—with perks!
2. Parents. They can be annoying, we know. But most of them are pretty smart and can help steer you in the right direction. There may be a job for you at their place of work, or maybe they have a friend who could use your help as a baby or pet sitter.
3. Yourself. Are you the enterprising type? Got a great business idea? Summer is a great time to get a venture off the ground. Whether it's lawn maintenance or teaching computer skills to the elderly, this is the perfect time to explore self-employment and make money.
4. Church. Check the church bulletin board for job postings. Or head to the church office and ask your pastor.
5. School counselors. These folks are usually well-connected with youth-to-work programs such as INROADS, which focus on career development. Their job is to help students.
6. Community center. Your local community center probably has a bulletin board with job postings. If not, speak with the director of the center. He or she may need your assistance.
7. Local government. Hopefully, you live in a youth-friendly city, with the aim of keeping you busy and out of trouble. Many towns and cities have youth-to-work programs or internship opportunities for the summer.
8. Internet. You spend enough time on the Web surfing for miscellaneous purposes. Use the Internet to find a job or to even search for ideas.
9. Newspaper. Don't sleep on the old faithful classified section. The Sunday paper is your best bet.
10. Your friends. Do your buddies have jobs you might enjoy? Ask for a hook-up. See if that place is looking for any more help.

Vacation Bible School



June 7 -11

A Tribute To Our Senior Citizens (Mt. Level Baptist Church)

*By Wilma Lambert Holmes
11/21/98*

Over the years we've had a struggle
To reach the point of a late morning snuggle,
When the folks around us go out to work
A task from which we never did shirk.

However, each day is spent doing many tasks
That our families and friends don't fail to ask,
Since we are seniors and are at home
Most times they make sure we are not alone.

The grand's relatives, pets and friends
Know that on us they can depend,
We visit the sick and shut-ins
Sometimes the days seem never to end.

We have many chores that are on our list
Add to that the time spent searching
For things that are amiss,
We can't find then even to save our face
Yet, we are sure we have put them in a safe place.

We have various aches and pains
For each year that we so quickly gain,
Out comes our trusty rubs and pills
To keep the torture quiet and still.

All of this comes with each golden year
For more wisdom is now ours to share,
Because God has given each of us a talent
Which we need to share and continue to be valiant.

As our young people look to us for guidance in life
In a world that is filled with toil and strife,
We must continue our journey without a frown
For each of us to finally get our crown.

The N.C. State Highway Patrol

will be at Mt Level on May 26 to conduct their Bike Safety Rodeo for the children and a sobriety analysis for teens and adults. Each child completing the bike rodeo will receive a certificate. The sobriety analysis is actual hands on experience of what it would be like to drive under the influence by using special goggles and driving a golf cart. Other issues such as child car seat safety, seatbelt safety can be discussed also. **Come out and enjoy the fun and meet the Troopers!**



(Continued from page 1)
others.

Finally, one more section to plant; we absolutely must plant *seeds of praise*. The seeds are very small so you'll need to be liberal in sowing them. I am confident that you will see great results in only a few months. Was a co-worker especially helpful to you today? Praise them for their corporative spirit. Did your wife make an especially good meatloaf for dinner? Praise her for her culinary skills and for the love that she puts in her cooking. Have you noticed that the flowers and trees are especially lush this spring? Praise God for the beauty of his creation. Remember the storm we had a few days ago; with the thunder and lightning? Praise God for his majesty and his power! Were you able to get up this morning after a night of rest? Praise God for another day! But you get the idea. Can you imagine the difference it would make in your life if you planted these seeds? And if we all worked at cultivating these seeds can you just imagine??

The summer months are here and it's time to get started working on the garden. How does your garden grow?



(Continued from page 1)
fellowship hall for the youth of the church, and we painted the pastor's house inside and out. His house will soon become a counseling center for the community.

We also got a chance to play; we went horseback riding, to the beach, to a waterfall, and to the hot springs!

While we went to minister our Costa Rican brothers and sisters, we actually ended up ministering and worshipping with them. I praise God for the opportunity to go to Costa Rica, and I thank you again for all your love and support. May God continue to bless and keep you.

Adrienne Denson

The light of God surrounds us;

The love of God enfolds us;

The power of God protects us;

The presence of God watches over us.

Wherever we are, God is.

And all is well.



Corner of Prayer

Pray for those who are ill.

- Sis. Viola Crowder, Treyburn Nursing Home
- Sis. Janie Evans, 416 Mimosa Drive
- Sis. Kathleen Gildon, Treyburn Nursing Hm.
- Sis. Essie Hall, Carver Living Center
- Sis. Iris Hall, 125A E. Cornwallis Road
- Sis. Rochelle Joyner, 714 Justice St.
- Sis Bessie Lipscomb, Magnolia Gardens
- Sis. Roumanie Lipscomb, 4308 Denfield St.
- Sis. Alma Mickens, John Umstead Hosp.
- Sis. Lydia Timberlake, 3040 Forrester St.
- Sis Joyce Whitted, 302 Todd Street
- Sis. Mary Yancey, Durham Village
- Bro. Mark Daye, 719 Rippling Stream
- Bro. Robert Proctor, LaSalle Nursing Home

316 Hebron Road
Durham, North Carolina 27704

Phone: 919-477-3893
Fax: 919-620-9229
Email: www.mtlevebaptist.org

The Nursery is open every Sunday. Parents are asked to bring children ages 12 months to 5 years old to the nursery during the church's greeting period. Parents of younger children are welcome to accompany them to the nursery.

Baby Dedication If you are interested in having your baby dedicated to the service for the Lord, please call Margaret Morrison at 383-0783 to schedule a date and time.

Mt. Level Sick and Distress Committee would like for members to contact the church when they are sick, have outpatient surgery, or will be hospitalized. This committee, under the leadership of Sis. Lillian Downey, desires to respond and show the church's concern.

Mount Level's Weekly Schedule

Each Sunday	9:30 a.m. Church School
	10:45 a.m. Morning Worship Service
1st Sunday (only)	10:30 a.m. Baptism / Communion
2nd Sunday	8:00 a.m. Worship Service / Breakfast
	10:45 a.m. Children's Church—Grades 1-6
4th Sunday	8:00 a.m. Worship Service / Breakfast
Wednesday	12:00 p.m. Noonday Prayer
	7:00 p.m. Prayer Service
	7:30 p.m. Bible Study

Membership Profile Questionnaire & Change of Address Forms: All members are asked to complete these forms and return them to the church office ASAP. Forms are on the table in the vestibule.

The URL for Mt. Level's website is www.mtlevebaptist.org. Book mark the site for easy access, and pass the new URL on to a friend.

The Funeral Committee would like to have every opportunity to minister to the bereaved members, family and friends of Mt. Level. We are asking that you allow us to acknowledge and give our support when you have lost a family member. In order for us to do this, we are asking that you call the Church Secretary and give all the pertinent information. If you will be traveling out of town, please give the necessary information so that we can be sure to make contact.

Newsletter Deadline Date

The deadline date for articles, announcements, etc. to be published in an upcoming issue will be the last day of the previous month. The newsletter will be distributed the week of the third Sunday. Thank you.

Newsletter Staff: Janice McIntyre, Editor; Dorothy Clark, Staff; Deborah Eaton, Staff

Mount Level Missionary Baptist Church
316 Hebron Road
Durham, North Carolina 27704