

# KEEPING UP WITH THE NEWS

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

<i>From the Pastor</i>	1
<i>Calendar of Events</i>	3
<i>Bloopers</i>	2
<i>Biblical Crossword Puzzle</i>	2

### Special Points Of Interest:

- A Potluck Lunch is after the 9:30AM worship service on January 12<sup>th</sup>.
- New committee and council leaders began on January 1<sup>st</sup>.
- A new pastor began his appointment at Magothy Deaf Church on January 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is January 18 – 25.



- Major Holidays:  
Jan 1 New Years Day  
Jan 20 MLK, Jr.

## Magothy Deaf Church Has A New Pastor

By Leo Yates, Jr.

January 1 not only marked the beginning of a New Year, but it also marked the first day of my new appointment at Magothy United Methodist Church of the Deaf.

I, Pastor Leo Yates, Jr., was raised a United Methodist. In fact, my past church memberships were at The Washington United Methodist Church of the Deaf and Christ United Methodist Church of the Deaf.

My parents are deaf; their names are Leo and Betty Yates, Sr. Our family lived in Bowie, Maryland for over twenty years. Furthermore, I have a twin sister; her name is Sarah Yates.

I attended Bowie High School in Bowie, MD,



(Photograph taken at MSD)

completed my bachelors degree at Strayer University in Washington, DC, as well as fulfilled the requirements for Licensed Local Pastor's School at Lake Junaluska, NC.

Currently, I am attending Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC; Wesley Seminary is where I will be working on completing the Masters of Divinity Program.

I have a wide spectrum of lay and pastoral ministry. Before coming to Magothy Deaf Church, I was the Director of Ministry for the Western North Carolina Conference United Methodist Church Deaf Ministry. (Continued on page 3)

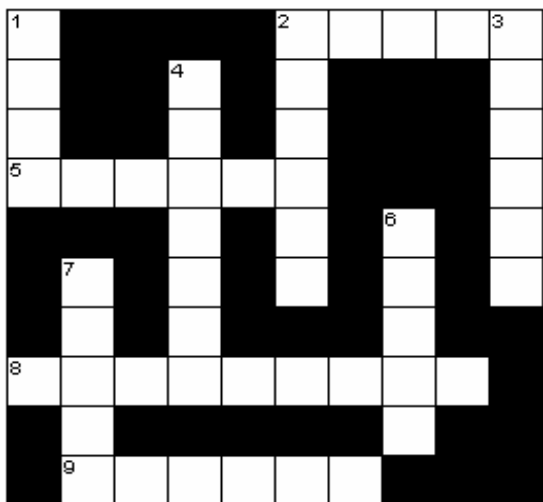
## COMPLETING 2002 WITH A SMALL BLESSING

By Leo Yates, Jr.

Finishing the year at Magothy Deaf Church was filled with one last blessing. Long time church member, Darlene Koontz, had the privilege of seeing her granddaughter, Desiree Faith Steinhice, baptized by the former pastor, Rev. Kirk Van Gilder. "This was truly a blessing seeing Desiree brought into the body of Christ," said, one member.



## General Bible Puzzle



### Across

- 2. Description of Hell in New Testament (Revelation 9:11)
- 5. Old Testament Prophet
- 8. Birth place of Jesus Christ
- 9. Old Testament Prophet

### Down

- 1. One of the four gospels
- 2. Name of God
- 3. Title of Jesus in New Testament
- 4. Most popular name of God
- 6. A witness to the resurrection of Jesus (1 Corinthians 15:7)

Provided by <http://www.jesusanswers.com>

## OOPS, DID I PRINT THAT?

The following bloopers were printed in church bulletins...Thank God not our church.

- For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.
- Thursday night - Potluck supper. Prayer and medication to follow.
- The rosebud on the alter this morning is to announce the birth of David Alan Belzer, the son of Rev. and Mrs. Julius Belzer.
- At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be "What is Hell?" Come early and listen to our choir practice.
- Scouts are saving aluminum cans, bottles, and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.
- During the absence of our pastor, we enjoyed the rare privilege of hearing a good sermon when J.F. Stubbs supplied our pulpit.
- The church is glad to have with us today as our guest minister the Rev. Shirley Green who has Mrs. Green with him. After the service we request that all remain in the sanctuary for the Hanging of the Greens.

## 2003 LEADERSHIP DAYS

January 11 & 18, February 1

### Repair the

### Breach:

### Restore God's

### Community

Baltimore-Washington conference The United Methodist Church

Leadership Days 2003 is promised to be another exciting event for United Methodists across the conference.

Registration has already passed to attend the Baltimore region event (Jan 18<sup>th</sup>), but the last day for registration for the Washington Region is January 27<sup>th</sup>.

The Washington Region Leadership Days will be on February 1<sup>st</sup>. The cost is \$25, which includes lunch. The event is 8am – 4:30pm. The Washington Region event will be held at Northwest High School in Hyattsville, MD.

For additional information contact Christine Kumar at 410-309-3427.

Below is a short listing of workshops that will be presented.

- \* *Basic Leadership Skills*
- \* *How Spiritual Gifts Can Help*
- \* *Board of Trustees In The Local Church*
- \* *John Wesley & the People Called Methodists*
- \* *Evangelism 101*
- \* *Lay Speaker Ministries – Intro*
- \* *Shalom Zone Ministry*
- \* *Effective Communication Is Key*
- \* *The Marriage Course*
- \* *Ministering With People Late Deafened*
- \* *Building Peace Step-By-Step*



**Birthdays  
&  
Anniversaries**

**January**

1<sup>st</sup> – Andy & Mary Siske  
(Anniversary)

2<sup>nd</sup> – Mary & John Hendrick  
(Anniversary)

6<sup>th</sup> – Dale Allen  
(Birthday)

9<sup>th</sup> – Darlene Koontz  
(Birthday)

11<sup>th</sup> – Dolores Robinson  
(Birthday)

25<sup>th</sup> – Ellen Heath  
(Birthday)

**OTHER DATES TO  
NOTE ON YOUR  
CALENDAR**

**JANUARY**

3<sup>rd</sup> – Dinner at Bella Napoli.

5<sup>th</sup> – Pastor Yates' first  
sermon during the 9:30am  
worship service.

12<sup>th</sup> – Guest Preacher, Ms.  
Theresa King, will be  
preaching at Christ Deaf  
Church in Baltimore.

12<sup>th</sup> – Special collection for  
soup donations for our  
Doorstep mission.

12<sup>th</sup> – Potluck lunch after  
the 9:30am worship service.

18<sup>th</sup> – UMM (hearing  
church) is hosting a special  
breakfast served from  
7:30am - 11am.

18<sup>th</sup> – UMW Leadership  
training at Community UMC,  
in Crofton.

## LATEST POLLS ON SIN

(not good)

Have you noticed how little most people know about God and His Word? Sadly, it's even true of most churchgoers. We find that most people also have personal doubts about the trustworthiness of the Bible. Over the last decade, the number of Americans who read the Bible has dropped significantly. According to pollster George Gallup, less than half can now even name the first book of the Bible, much less list the Ten Commandments. He declared the USA, "A nation of biblical illiterates."

What is the natural result of such ignorance and spiritual shallowness? SIN and problems resulting from sin! Here are some of the statistics:

**Lying** - Polls indicate that 91% of people in the U.S. lie regularly (source: , by James Patterson and Peter Kim).

**Greed** - Statistics now show that Americans visit casinos more often than they attend professional sporting events (source: Focus on the Family).

**Pornography** - 665-million pornographic videos were rented in 1996 (source: *USA Today*, 9-5-97). The number of pornography outlets now dwarfs the number of McDonald's restaurants in the USA.

**Adultery** - A *USA Today* report says that up to 50-60% of Americans admit to committing adultery. We have the highest divorce rate in the world (source: Save America).

**Fornication** - 45 million Americans are infected with the virus that causes genital herpes (source: American Social Health Association).

**Rape** - one rape every 46 seconds in America and one out of three girls are sexually molested before the age of 18 (source: National Center for Victims of Crime).

**Murder** - As terrible as the loss of life was at the World Trade Center, keep in mind that 200-thousand people were murdered during the last decade in the U.S. (source: Council on Crime in America).

As Scripture says, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge" (Hosea 4:6). Sin is abounding not only in the world, but also in far too many Christian homes. I recently examined the statistics for lying, pornography use, sexual immorality and divorce among Christians. I was horrified. It is reported that 75% of "born again" Christians lie regularly and consciously (source: Save America).

Provided by <http://www.christiananswers.net/eden/news-001.html>

### **New Pastor...**continued from page 1

I am excited about beginning my appointment at Magothy. There is so much for each of us to learn from each other. To end on a positive note, I will be appointed to Magothy for at least four years. I feel with my long-term commitment there is so much we can accomplish in doing God's work.