

UCC

Urban Life Connect

Life Church Boston Quarterly Newsletter Issue One

July 2008



WELCOME

Welcome to the first edition of the Life Church newsletter! We are delighted to present this important vehicle for sharing news and information. The newsletter is a key tool for sharing resources and reflecting the love of God. As Christians, God expects us not only to represent His Kingdom, but to expand its borders. God has never depended on men and women reaching out to Him first. God has chosen to break into human history at numerous times, most significantly in the person of Jesus of Nazareth.



In Jesus, God left His "home turf" to reach out to us and He expects His church to do the same -- touching people where they live and walking with them in the issues that affect their lives. God cares about the full reality of people's lives.

We trust that you will be inspired by the articles you read in the newsletter.

Blessings,
Pastors Rocklyn and Eva Clarke

What's Inside

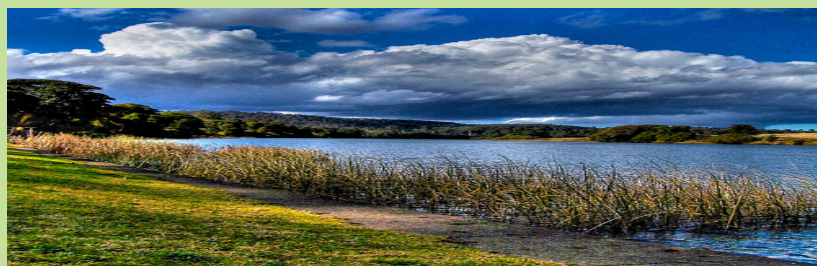
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NEW BEGINNINGS, NEW GOALS

by Monique Clarke

On the rainy Saturday morning of March 1st, our pastors and congregation met together at the Sheraton Braintree hotel for a day of retreat and fellowship. We worshipped and prayed together; we discussed our past and affirmed the present. We did some goal setting for the future; and most of all, we fellowshiped. As a cell ministry, we often-times underestimate the power that God provides in small group fellowships. Life Church Boston began as a vision that God formed in the hearts of Pastors Rocklyn and Eva Clarke as they served in Christian ministry between 1979 and 2003.

Bringing God's River of Life to You



Bridgette and Madyson Wallace

NEW BEGINNINGS, NEW GOALS

continue on page 3



The vision developed slowly and there were long seasons during which it lay dormant. The vision is now stated *to bring God's river of life to you by transforming the way church is done throughout the nation-one life group at a time*. The theme was seemingly growth. Our pastors revealed the growth goal for Life Church and how we-the congregation, play an

integral part in making this happen. As a cell ministry, the structure of life groups and Sunday morning teachings are outside the norms in today's religious realms. For six hours we discussed ways to increase our Sunday attendance through membership goals such as, Life Church 101, new-believers catechism classes and baptisms. The immediate goal was to have an

official 25 member congregation by the end of April; subsequently, every quarter doubling the core member numbers. The key to growth among Life church is our individual relationship with non-believers and having effective cell group ministries. On that rainy day, each ministry was challenged to make one small (or big), tangible, measurable goal for the coming year.

ARTIST WAY

Ashmont Hill ★★★★★



Three Words: Magical, Angelic, Worship

Ashmont Hill released their self-titled debut on May 12 into a world grieving for worship. The vocals are impressive and the sound is reminiscent of Israel & New Breed, Hillsong, Chris Tomlin...to name a few. This soulful inspirational pop melody is a good listen when you're mellowed out at your work desk or if you simply need a jolt of energy to start your day.

You could find Ashmont Hill on iTunes or in your local music store.

Kirk Franklin-Fight of My Life ★★★★★



Three Words: Dynamic, Inspiring, Hard-Hitting

This is certainly not the final round of Kirk Franklin. *Fight of My Life* has some sure head bangers that would make you want to stop whatever you're doing to *jam*. *I Am God* feat. tobyMac and *I like Me* with D.A. T.R.U.T.H have once again put Kirk on the map. You already know what this music mogul is made of, so wait no further, cop the album.

You could find Kirk Franklin Fight of My Life in all your local stores, online, and on iTunes.

TobyMac - Alive and Transported ★★★★★



Three Words: Assertive, Charismatic, Funky

If you want a live rock, funky slash soulful sound-then *Alive and Transported* should be your next buy. TobyMac is explosive with eclectic versatility. Listen to *No Ordinary Love* for a neo and funk mix. This rock soloist is no newbie to the music scene, after three years in hiatus; this is Toby's seventh album. This live album is sure to make you lose control for the glory of God.

You could find TobyMac Alive and Transported on iTunes and all your local stores.

CHRISTIAN MUSICIANS FELLOWSHIP

by Vivian Clarke

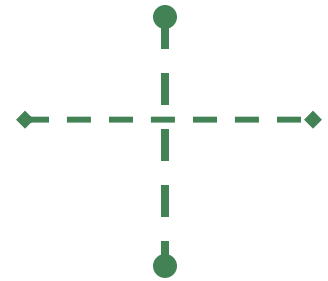
The Christian Musicians Fellowship (CMF) was started in 2005 by George and Emily Russell, who felt a burden to minister to the Christian musician. The Russells each have a wide ranging musical background. George is presently an Associate Professor at the Berkley College of Music. He has produced jazz and religious CDs. Both he and Emily were formerly the musical ac-

companists at Jubilee Church in Mattapan. The CMF was formed for current active musicians. George and Emily recognize that music is a very powerful tool to use to build up the kingdom of God. "If the music makers are strong and whole, how much more powerful would the ministry be," he says. The plan to achieve this is to provide a nurtur-

ing support system for the musician. Support systems that will encourage, educate, mentor and build him/her up. Specifically build him/her up in 5 areas: Spiritually, Physically, Financially, Career and Relationship at each fellowship meeting.



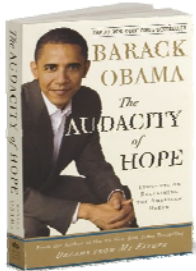
Brenda Rudzinski



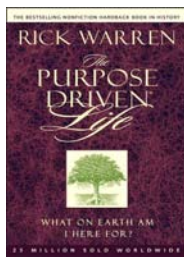
NEW BEGINNINGS, NEW GOALS

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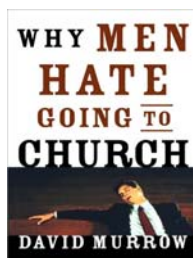
We reviewed each ministry requirements, expressed our failures, and reassured our commitment. This segment allowed people to speak freely about disappointment with the lack of volunteers in the sound booth, children's church, security, and the worship team. Fortunately, the retreat was not *all* work; in the beginning, we enjoyed an icebreaker which involved the great expectation of learning something new from one another. The singles and married couples broke off into discussion sessions and lastly, we ate. The food was wonderfully prepared and served appropriately; with a delicious desert ensemble to the tasting. The attendance was record breaking and we survived with valuable feedback. So save the date for the next Life Church retreat, Friday, August 2nd. *One of the indicators of a vital, healthy congregation is maximum participation. So until next time....Stay blessed.*



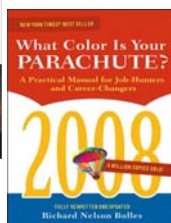
The Audacity of Hope: Thoughts on Reclaiming the American Dream
by Barack Obama



The Purpose Driven Life: What on Earth Am I Here For?
by Rick Warren



Why Men Hate Going to Church
by David Murrow



What Color Is Your Parachute?
by Richard Nelson Bolles



Get Your
Read On!



CHRISTIAN MUSICIANS FELLOWSHIP

...continued

George notes that the musicians walk away, encouraged by their time spent at the CMF meetings. They are inspired by the enjoyable musical presentation of members and guests.

On March 30, the CMF meeting started at 3 pm. Guests were treated to an ensemble of tasty food by Chef Byron Gibbs. On the menu was southern -fried chicken, rice vegetables, tossed salad, and for desert, a strawberry short cake.

The CMF theme for the month was TRUST. Pastor Rocklyn Clarke shared an insightful word on the importance of

TRUST from scripture Hebrew 11:69. Special guest, Zoe Russell, 13 (daughter), sang an original version of "Killing Me Softly". Also Brenda Rudzinski presented *Build a Levy* by Natalie Merchant, accompanied by Jeff Mitchell playing a Cajón (Peruvian drum). Guests were honored with Emily Russell's vocals on her own (bossa) arrangement of "Misty". The fellowship ended with a couple of performances involving the concept of Free-Impro, where we had to "trust" each other, musically.

The CMF met one last time on May 25th for the annual Friends and Family Picnic. There will be a summer hiatus until things start up again in the Fall. Stay Tuned!



Zoe Russell

WORSHIP WITH MIN. MICHAEL DOTTIN

by Julianna Cumberbatch

"The one song that has kept me focused and provided a spiritual retreat is called, "Draw Me Close"

by Kelly Carpenter

Whether it is singing or behind the instrument that helps bring the word of God to life in our hearts, worship is all about being at His feet.

Minister Dottin, tell our readers a little bit about you.

I am an itinerant speaker, worship leader, songwriter, and keyboardist. I enjoy facilitating congregational worship and helping people touch the heart of God. I am a member of Abundant Life Church in Cambridge, MA. Rev. Larry Ward is my pastor.

What is Michael Dottin Ministries? *MDM offers teaching and training that focuses on worship and the ministry of music. Our vision is to see God's presence and power unleashed through corporate worship worldwide. We host an annual Worship and Music Ministry Conference called, See His Glory. This is an all-day event that includes*

praise, worship, biblical teaching and breakout sessions. It also allows people to get to know each other and share experiences.

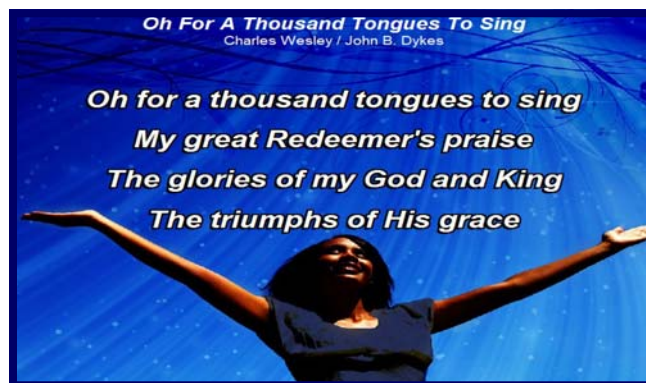
"The trumpeters and singers joined in unison, as with one voice, to give praise and thanks to the LORD. Accompanied by trumpets, cymbals and other instruments, they raised their voices in praise to the LORD and sang:

"He is good; his love endures forever." Then the temple of the LORD was filled with a cloud, and the priests could not perform their service because of the cloud, for the glory of the LORD filled the temple of God."

2 Chronicles 5:13 and 14

"This scripture is my favorite because it speaks to the type of ministry God has called me to."

-Michael Dottin





...continued **WORSHIP WITH MIN. MICHAEL DOTTIN**

This sounds really good. Besides music, what other ways can worship be expressed?

Worship is much broader than just vocal and musical expression - more than what we do in our Sunday morning services. Romans 12:1 states, "I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God - this is your spiritual act of worship." Paul tells us in essence that the way we live should reflect the holiness of God.

As far as worship is concerned, which artist would you say is making strides to reach people musically?

I would say Israel Houghton. Israel is making strides to communicate the heart of God to believers and non-believers all over the world. He is truly a minister of music, and you see it reflected at his concerts. My wife and I attended a concert he did in Boston several years ago, and the Lord used him to transform that night into an evening of praise and worship that truly glorified the Lord Jesus and manifested the presence of God. I believe this is what authentic ministry is all about!

Confessions of a Servant (part one)

by Barbara Verneus

I'm from the city where rest is not an option
But a death call
Fall, between the choices of dealing or scheming just to hustle
for your next meal
And even steal
From your own blood
Are the scenario's that flood my mind
As I approach The Most High
El-Shaddai
To utter my deepest musical rhythmical verbal expressions
within my confessions
I ask am I prepared
Do I fall align with what the word demands of a servant
Will I be able to speak to this city of dry bones
Through a microphone
As my voice tone

Is exemplified
Through the speakers of your stereo
Will what I speak create static within the airwaves
Causing folks to get saved
When the spirit touches their cardio
Bringing repentance to their souls
Making their knees to bend low
As tongues confess
That yes!
Jesus is Lord
And Savior of all creation
Or will I fail on the mission
By putting I before God
Blinded by the facade
That I am self-savior
Maker of my outcomes
So before you put the vinyl on the spinner and let the beat drop
Before you put the vinyl on the spinner and let the beat drop



OFF the DOME

WORSHIP WITH MIN. MICHAEL DOTTIN

...continued

What is the benefit of worship?

When we worship, we are intentionally drawing close to the Lord and allowing him to touch our hearts, minds and bodies. This helps us shift from our self-centeredness to beholding His glory. He literally unleashes His extravagant grace upon us because He knows what we need!

...though it was music and lights and loud—I love loud music; there was a spirit of worship...

You can read more about Michael Dottin and his ministries at www.michaeldottin.com

August 2008
Upcoming Events



JULY 2008

**Life Church
Summer Retreat**

Friday, August 2, 2008
Location TBA
Registration begins July 6

Peace Hip Hop Festival

Saturday, August 2, 2008
12n - 6pm
City Hall Plaza
Boston, MA 02201
Free Admissions

Boston Job Fair

Thursday, August 7, 2008
11am - 2pm
Radisson Hotel Boston
200 Stuart Street
Boston, MA

Mayor's Movie Night

Monday, August 18, 2008
DreamWorks *Flushed Away*
Valley Gates at Franklin Park
Free Admissions

Children's Festival

Tuesday, August 19, 2008
1030am - 1pm
for more information call
617.635.4505

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 UniverSoul Circus Columbus Parking Lot Northeastern Univ.	3	4 Cape Verdean Festival City Hall Plaza 2 - 4pm Free Admis- sions	5
6 Registration for Summer Retreat	7	8 Folk Artist and Activist Odetta performs in Franklin Park 6pm	9	10	11	12
13	14 New England Sand Sculpting Festival at Revere Beach	15	16	17	18 3rd Annual Boston Young Contemporaries Exhibition 10am—6pm 808 Commonwealth Ave	19
20 Gospel Festival City Hall Plaza Free Admissions	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29 Roxbury Film Festival www.actroxbury.org	30	31		

Life Church Members and Visitors

2007



Photographer Rico Harris



New Testament Books Word Search Game

M P H I L I P P I A N S S I R
 C A C T S N A I S E H P E O P
 O N T E D U J B Y H T O M I T
 L O T T M E A W S E M A J A H
 O M W J H W C V O P N H X P E
 S E S E G E K U L S E L A H S
 S L W S O K W J S C O T T E S
 I I E U D M D N O O P M E W A
 A H R S X G A B Q H W N M R L
 N P B O M I O K U T N O H C O
 S E E W T P R A C W T P O D N
 Z H H A U A Q M O Q S I E M I
 B W L Q M R U Z X U R W T B A
 A A L N O I T A L E V E R U N
 G I Y C O R I N T H I A N S S

◇ **Matthew** ◇ **Colossians**
 ◇ **Mark** ◇ **Thessalonians**
 ◇ **Luke** ◇ **Timothy**
 ◇ **John** ◇ **Titus**
 ◇ **Acts** ◇ **Philemon**
 ◇ **Romans** ◇ **Hebrews**
 ◇ **Corinthians** ◇ **James**
 ◇ **Galatians** ◇ **Peter**
 ◇ **Ephesians** ◇ **Jude**
 ◇ **Philippians** ◇ **Revelation**

SUDOKU!

	3	4			6			7
		7	8	1			6	
1	8	6	3		2	4	5	
		9	6	8				2
6								4
7				9	5	6		
	9	2	5		7	1	4	8
	7			3	8	9		
8			2			3	7	

Instructions:

Sudoku requires no calculation or arithmetic skills. It is essentially a game of placing numbers in squares, using very simple rules of logic and deduction. It can be played by children and adults and the rules are simple to learn. The objective of the game is to fill all the blank squares in a game with the correct numbers. There are three very simple constraints to follow. In a 9 by 9 square Sudoku game:

- Every row of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order
- Every column of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order
- Every 3 by 3 subsection of the 9 by 9 square must include all digits 1 through 9.

The great thing about Sudoku is that every step makes the next step easier by narrowing possibilities.



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Life Church

Bringing God's river of life to you

God wants to bless you! Will you let him?
Visit us and learn about his plan to help you:

- Discover your purpose, your gifts, and your talents
- Stop bad habits and "drama", and overcome past failures and rejection
- Develop genuine, lasting friendships
- Find the right job, keep it, and discover the career that's right for you
- Live the "single life" successfully and, when the time is right, find the right spouse
- Build a successful marriage
- Become an excellent parent and raise successful children
- Build wealth for your family
- Live a life of peace in a dangerous world
- Transform your community and your nation

**At Life Church we don't "do church" the same way everyone else does.
We want to change the way you "do church" from now on!**

Office Mailing Address:

4 Allston St
Dorchester, Ma 02124-2205

Sunday Worship Service:

10:00 a.m.
Lilla G. Frederick
Pilot Middle School
270 Columbia Road,
Dorchester, MA 02121
617- 541-(LIFE) (617-541-5433)

www.lifechurchboston.org



*If you are interested in being a part of the News Ministry, please contact
Monique at news-team@lifechurchboston.org
or by phone (617) 541- LIFE*