



THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.org

October 26, 2010



JEAN ARMOUR THORNTON

1920 - 2010



It was said of Abel because of his faith and exemplary life-style that "*...he being dead yet speaks*" (Heb. 11:4). This could be said of the life of our brother Jean Thornton. For more than 63 years, he carried the torch of truth and righteousness, preaching for churches in Alabama, Mississippi and Tennessee. He is held in high esteem among the members of the New Albany congregation where 14 of those years were spent. During these years he served as a located preacher, elder, writer, Freed-Hardeman University Advisory Board Member and a past chairman of the board, song writer, instructor and a servant and friend to so many.

Jean A. Thornton was ushered into this world by Virgie Shannon and Christopher Columbus Thornton in Tiplersville, MS. He is survived by two daughters: Jeanita (Jim) Estes of Booneville, MS and Joyce (Ralph) Gilmore of Jackson, TN; one sister, Julia (Bobby) Milstead of Florence, AL; one brother, John L. (Peggy) Thornton of Hendersonville, TN.; nine grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren; two step-children, Ann Langford of St. Petersburg, FL and Barry Pardue of Booneville.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his first wife of 58 years, Delphia H. Thornton; and his second wife Jewell Thornton. He was very familiar with death and grief having lost an infant son and daughter, one sister and four brothers; and an infant grandson and an infant great-grandson.

Brother Thornton had a passion for the salvation of souls, but his greatest concern was for young people and for their living a promising life here and have hope in the hereafter. This no doubt explains the family's request for memorials to be sent to the J.A. Thornton Scholarship Fund at Freed-Hardeman University, 158 E. Main St., Henderson, TN 38340.

It is said that his motto was: "I'm on top of the world." He has left as some of his posterity writings as to how that could be accomplished. Though he started out as a two pound one ounce baby, he grew to become quite a man! His sincerity, devotion and personal compassion was unrivaled. He has left behind a trail of integrity and consistency through more than six decades of ministering. His mentoring and influence will remain. His mark has been etched into the lives of so many who have been a part of the New Albany congregation during the fourteen years spent on his watch. Countless numbers have been taught, baptized, married and buried by him during his colorful tenure of service to the Lord and mankind. His middle name "Armour" was rightly given for he protected himself from the cares and distractions of the world to serve God.

To his family, we extend our heartfelt sympathy and to whom we express thanks for their sharing his life with so many of us. The world, the church, the New Albany congregation and so many more have been blessed because J. A. Thornton came our way. Yes, he is now gone, but though this be the case, he shall continue to speak for generations to come. He could say what General Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson said in his dying words, "Let us now cross over the river and rest beneath the shade of the trees."

YOUTH POPULATION

by: Harold H. Crowe

Via/ The Christian Visitor/ March & April 1965

The rapid population increase in the U.S. has added a million teen-agers each year since 1955. By 1967 more than half of the citizens of the U.S. will be under 25 years of age. As the apostle Paul said, "*A door was opened unto me of the Lord*" 2 Cor. 2:12. So today a door is open to the church of the Lord in this country, and perhaps all over the world, with a great opportunity to step up our activities in this field ready for gathering into the Master's vineyard. We should be fully aware of the potential of this challenging and inviting segment of our great population—the youth of the land.

In the past the general attitude has been that the youth of today will be the church of tomorrow. This is no longer true for much of this great force is already a part of and participating in the work of the church. It is established that young men have added much to the vision and progress of the work of elders where given the opportunity. While the church needs the seasoned judgment of older men, it also needs the zeal and inspiration of the younger men.

Now is the time for the church to act, to lead the way, not just point to the way. The most effective training period is in childhood and youth. One very wise man said, "*Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it.*" The responsibility for training and teaching children and youth is to be shared by the home and the church neither to trespass the line of duty of the other. Each is distinct, but broad enough to make possible a stronger and more dedicated youth. Isaiah said, "*The father shall make known the truth to the child.*" David said, "*I will teach you the fear of the Lord.*" Paul said, "*Ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath; but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.*" These scriptures and others point out the duty of parents to teach their children like the case of Timothy of whom it was said, "*That from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.*"

The startling fact is that the church is losing, or has never gained, this vast youth population. They are neither listed in Bible classes nor church membership—just neglected. The need of the hour is calling us to **Wake Up!** Get children and teen-agers in Bible study classes and regular church services in the most critical period of their development when they are more easily taught and established in faith for the trials of life. And as parents, study the Bible with them at home. As teachers, develop and safeguard their character and souls with a thorough understanding and teaching ability of the word of God. Too, as leaders our behavior should encourage the youth to become Christians, a part of the body of Christ and work to save others.

Talents, capabilities, interest and zeal of the Christian youth should be channeled and directed into useful avenues for the glory of God for truly they **ARE** a part of the church today. Let us hasten to properly evaluate the strength of this youth.

Opportunities for training should be provided in the public as well as group exercises for our young men to get experience for better service for the Lord in the Church. These provisions are calculated to make the youth feel that they "belong to and are a vital part of the church."

"I am only one, but I am one,
I cannot do everything
But I can do something;
What I can do I ought to do,
And what I ought to do,
By the grace of God I will do."



YOUTH NEWS

- The next JR Bible Bowl will be Saturday, November 13 at the Antioch Church of Christ
- Trunk-or-Treat will be held Wednesday night, October 27. If you would like to participate, go to the

For daily devotional & updates call NEWSLINE @ 534-0016



REMEMBER IN PRAYER

John Sanford, is to have Gall Bladder surgery this week in Alabama.

Chris Isbell, grandson of Ronnie & Linda Griggs that was critically injured

in an automobile accident is improving. He will be moved from the MED to a Jackson, TN hospital in a couple of weeks.

Betty Eaton, is in Union County Health and Rehab on Bratton Road and doing about the same.

Margaret Bailey, mother of Paige Young remains in room 183 of North MS Medical Center. She will begin radiation treatments this week.

Donna Haynes, sister of Darrell Crow is suffering with several health problems.

Continual Prayer List

Barbara Smithey, Claudette Pounders, Betty Adams, Shane Crotts, Udell Wilson, Arkie Grimmatt, Bill King, Donna Weeden, Sylvia Plunk, Terry Young

Shut-Ins

Jean Drummond, Lessie Bryant, Billy Joe Garner, Laura Mae Harris, Belle Cross, Pauline Smith, Raymond & Amy Vest

Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Sue Collins, Corrine Hall, Eunice Mabry, Faye Owen, Anna Davis & Mattie Golden

Military List:

David Wilhite-Navy-Florida Barry Wilhite-Marine-Navy -Virginia, Jimmie Stutts-Air Force-California, Tiffany Erwin- Army-Camp Rooker, AL; Aaron Raines-Army, Afghanistan; Jamie Vansandt, Alaska; Michelle Ham, Fort Leonard, Missouri,

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

October 28.....Erin Wall
October 29.....Phil Young
October 31.....Steve Todd
November 01.....Amy Vest
November 03.....Paul Ormon

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

October 27.....Jason & Amy Jennings
November 03.....Bill & Grace Lyon

SYMPATHY

We express our sympathy to the family and friends of Mellissa Childress who passed away suddenly Sunday morning. She was a teacher at West Union School .

THANK YOU

Thanks so much for your care and concern during mother's illness. She continues to improve after her surgery and will start treatments soon. Please continue to remember us in your prayers.

Paige, Phil, Phillip & Audrey Anna Young

5TH SUNDAY SERVICE

Sunday, October 31st will be an All Day Service. We will have a covered dish meal following morning worship. Our afternoon service will be at 1:15pm.

SECRET BUDDIES

All those who participate in "Secret Buddies" please check the pew in the sound room area to see if you have received a "happy".

AREA EVENTS

AREA-WIDE SINGING Oct. 29th at the West Main Youth Activities Center; 6th grade up.

Homecoming @ Fulton Church of Christ Sunday, November 7th. Richard Rogers will be the speaker

Gospel Meeting @ Gloster Street Church of Christ, November 7-10. Charles Williamson will be the speaker.

Gospel Meeting @ Ozark Church of Christ, November 7-10. Jimmy Clark will be the speaker.

Area Wide Youth Devo for November will be here at New Albany on November 14. Mike King will be the speaker.

Visit our website @ <http://www.nacoc.org>

OUR RECORD

Sunday School	113
Sunday A.M	131
Sunday P.M.	104
Wednesday	95
Contribution	\$2,881.25
Budget	\$3,305.70

TO SERVE

Scripture	Randy Wall
A.M. Prayer	Troy Robertson
Closing Prayer ..	Burrell Walton
P.M. Prayer	Randy Wall
Closing	Bill Lyon
Wed. 11/3.	Andy Clemmer
Wed. 11/3	Carl Smith
Usher & Lock	Bill Botts
Greeters	G & K Clayton

PANTRY ITEM: Canned meat

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday School	9:30
Morning Worship	10:30
Evening Worship	6:00
Wednesday Bible Study	7:00

Elders

Richard Jennings	534-6671
Troy Robertson	534-3491

Deacons

Bill Botts	316-2422
Greg Clayton	252-9762
Roger Clayton	534-5240
Andy Clemmer	816-5887
Harold Russell	534-4648
Randy Wall	316-9255

Minister

Mike King	904-705-4206
Office	534-4649

I NAILED MY SAVIOR THERE

I came unto the cross one day
That stood on Calvary.
I watched them lead my Lord away
And nail Him on the tree.
And as the darkness dimmed the view,
I chanced to catch His stare;
I bowed in shame , for then I knew
I nailed my Savior there.

The Jews cast not the only stone
That bruised and brought a tear,
Nor did the Roman stand alone
And thrust that cruel spear;
But many prints of agony
That marked Christ's face so fair
Were from the wounds imposed by me-
I nailed my Savior there.

My sin led Jesus to that cross,
For me the Savior bled.
He took my sin and bore its dross,
And died there in my stead.
Oh, wondrous love that He should show
Such grace, when I, Too, share
An equal guilt, for well I know
I nailed my Savior there

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