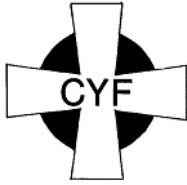


The Youth Education Department

By Sister Linda McLamb Owens



God's Plan for You

"What God has for me, it is for me"

The 2010 theme for the Youth Education Department was **God's Plan for You** (*Jeremiah 29:11*). Our goal was to make our youth aware that God wants them to prosper, have hope and plan for a future. In this fast pace world it is important that our youth know in every thing they do, they must plan to succeed, to be strong and thrive for success. Youth of today need hope to obtain and reach goals and be confident that tomorrow will come. We hope that our youth left the CYF Summer Conference knowing that God's has a plan for them and He will reveal it to them.

The CYF Convention was held on May 15, 2010. The following were elected as **CYF Convention Officers** for years 2011-2012: President - Destiny Williams (St. James), Vice President - Kamari McMillian (Juniper Grove) and Recording Secretary - Ciara Thompson (Thaddeus). **Tamara McLean** of White Oak was crowned CYF Queen for 2010. Several youth read papers on the theme, "God's Plan for You."



The CYF Summer Conference was held on June 20-25, 2010. Our conferees enjoyed a week full of activities as well as classes. CYF Summer Conference **Officers** were: President, LaShawn Culbreth, Mingle Hill. Vice President, Diamond Wynn, St. Stephens, Secretary, TaCoe Johnson, Thaddeus Chapel and Parliamentarian, Kaylah James, Bentonville

Bishop Charles J. Williams presented a workshop on Public Speaking. He shared many tips on how to become a good public speaker. **Sister Erika Harris** shared what it takes to be an entrepreneur. In her presentation she used scriptures from the Bible to illustrate *God's Plan for You*. Harnett County **Sheriff Deputy Charlie Peele** discussed how gang activity was illegal. He informed the conferees that innocently displaying gang symbols, hand gestures, and wearing clothing related to any kind of gang activity to school could get them suspended.

The CYF Summer Conference Pastor was **Minister Eric Hampton** of White Oak. The CYF Department welcomed newcomer, **Sister Sherry Cousar** as a teacher in the summer conference. Returning teaching staff included Dr. Janie Robinson, Sister Mary Wilson (Assistant Director), Sister De'borah Tart, and Sister Terrie Bethea (Activity Coordinator). Assisting Deacon Lenard Chesnutt in the boys dorm were **Deacon Freddie Strickland** and **Brother Charlie Ward**. Sister Regina Tew returned as Dean of Girls and was assisted by Sister Lou Ellen Owens who also worked with the kitchen staff. Sister Julia Davis (Cafeteria Manager), James Williams, and newcomer **Sister Jean Robinson** prepared our meals. We were truly grateful that Sister Phyllis James returned as the CYF Nurse. Not only did she take care of the sick, she assisted all staff by filling in as needed. Choir directors were former two-term CYF Convention President and CYF Graduate **Brandon Brown** of St. James and CYF Graduate **Ebony Sanders** of Juniper Grove. Deacon Glenn Lofton returned as our musician. Mr. Brown was also in charge of Talent Night and Bible Bowl. We were fortune to have CYF Graduate **Elgin Alford**, St. James to help with

Recreation. This was indeed special year for me to work with Brandon and Elgin that graduated from the program during my tenure.

The conferees toured the old Bentonville Disciple Church on June 25. *Deacon Nathaniel Lofton* was our tour guide for the old original Bentonville Church and *Mother Ella Lofton* shared some history of the old church. A scavenger hunt was used to make sure the conferees saw key artifacts in the old church. They also toured the church cemetery.



CYF Conferees standing in front of the old Bentonville Church

Oratorical first place winner was Mikalyn Tart. **Bible Bowl** winners were Second Year conferees: Treveon Hampton, Ritchel Cousar and Andrew McLamb. The conferees and staff enjoyed a **field trip** to Kings Dominion in Virginia. On our return trip *Stan Stepp*, the operator of *Chick-fil-A* in Roanoke Rapids provided an ice cream treat to the conferees. He was assisted by CYF Graduate *Michael Jimenez*.

The CYF Summer Conference ended with the graduation of five conferees for completing the four year curriculum. **LaShawn Culbreth** of Mingle Hill received the Best All-Around Conferee Award.



Rondy Wynn, LaShawn Culbreth, Kaylah James, Dominique Wynn, TaCoe Johnson

The Local Churches, CYF Friends and Assembly Auxiliaries were very generous this year. We received donations in way of money, supplies and food for the week. On behalf of the CYF Department we thank you, not just for what you gave, but for your continued support of the Youth Education Department in the Assembly.

Mark your Calendar

May 21, 2011 – CYF Convention

June 19-24, 2011 – CYF Summer Conference

<http://www.westernassemblychurches.com/youth.htm>