



Volume 8, Issue 2

# HIGH TIMES

*A Ministry of Highview Christian Fellowship  
"Providing World-Class Ministry Deserving of an Awesome God"*

## Upcoming Events...

*Vacation Bible School  
Aug 1 - 5*

*PCIF Men's Conference  
Aug 25 - 27*

*Walk Thru the Bible  
Sep 15*



*Bishop Phillip O. Thomas*

## PRAISE COVENANT INTERDENOMINATIONAL FELLOWSHIP (PCIF)

# ANNOUNCES THE CONSECRATION OF NEW BISHOP PHILLIP O. THOMAS

On Sunday, April 10, 2005, at 4:00 p.m., Reverend Phillip O. Thomas was consecrated as Virginia State Bishop of the Praise Covenant Interdenominational Fellowship (PCIF) at PCIF's headquarters, Shiloh Baptist Church of Edgemere in Edgemere, Maryland.

The Most Reverend Heber M. Brown, Jr., Presiding Prelate served as the Chief Consecrator Concelebrant. Other pulpit dignitaries: Bishop Robert Farrow of Mt. Calvary Freewill Baptist Church, Baltimore, Maryland; Bishop Robert Ferrell, Refuge Tabernacle Christian Center, Livingston, New Jersey; and Overseer Leon J. Wilson, Rehoboth Temple of Praise, Laurel, Delaware and Bishop Robert Patton, Deliverance Church of Christ, Seat Pleasant, Maryland.

Other ecumenical visitors included Pastor Ronald Mack, Sr., Lord's House of Glory, Suitland, Maryland; Overseer Timothy Tillman, Sr., Alabaster Ministries, Inc., Baltimore, Maryland; Pastor Roi McCoughtry, Holy Nation Tabernacle, Baltimore, Maryland; Pastor M. Nathaniel Anderson, Power of Christ Full Gospel Ministries, Baltimore, Maryland; Overseer Lonnie Davis, Sr., Hope in Christ Ministries; Pastor Frederick Fisher, Living Word Christian Assembly, Landover, Maryland; and Pastor Nathan Butler, Righteous Church of God, Washington, D.C.

Bishop Thomas will be responsible for building a support network among Christian congregations that are not affiliated with a denomination throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Bishop Thomas, a native of Baltimore, Maryland, currently serves as pastor at Highview Christian Fellowship, Fairfax, Virginia. He and his wife First Lady Cynthia have three adult children.



*A letter to Bishop Thomas from Highview member, Andy Murphy...*

## A Father's Pride

When I watched you accept the designation of bishop a few weeks ago, I was as proud of you as I know your father would have been if he were there.

Not the father you don't have memories of. And not the Father of us all, who is always proud of you. But the real guy who (I see him now in his dotage) would look at what he'd missed: A son, now a man, who keeps the higher thought, even when beset by a needy flock. A man who walks his talk, even when it gets tough in his personal life. A man who truly follows the message of love of The Great Teacher, even to taking on more leadership.

A man to be proud of.

I'm proud of you.

See you Sunday. Love.....Brother Andy



*A farewell tribute to Bishop Thomas from the youth in the Highview Park Community...*



## Prayer

By Orlando Anthony

I used to think I didn't stand a chance of prayer  
All my fingers in my hair, my bedroom wall I stared  
Just stuck in despair, no thought seemed clear  
Scatterbrained and in pain, inside's scream life ain't fair  
Cause when you're up against the wall no one cares  
Limitless choices everywhere, while neighbors passed and stared  
It was you who dared to step in my lair, showed that you cared  
Wake me from nightmare

To find inner peace, when I couldn't care in the least  
It was you who told me that my life ain't the streets  
Your speech was far from weak, not harsh but not discreet  
My spirit man was famished and you preached a feast

You woke a part of me that was dormant and snoring  
The game plan was enormous, but I was up for it  
So I took that first step and accepted the Lord in  
To my temple, yo it seemed so simple  
Popped my ego like a pimple, now my spirit flies with eagles  
I'm no longer feeble

With my confession all wrong corrected  
Born again and like a kid I take each day as a lesson  
I thank you for investing in my soul's protection  
No more stressing, the Lord reveals answers to my questions  
It was truly a blessing that you delivered God's message  
You helped me give my life a new direction  
Not talking north, south, east or western  
But my destination once my body is resting

You didn't need any beat or booth to connect with the youth  
You stayed true and reached the crew by speaking the truth  
Now we know that we can make through

The hard times, Lord I thank you for letting loose your muse  
And for focusing his eyes on the most high and bringing us all to you

**Thank you for all you've done**

### ***They're Back! Church Bulletin Bloopers:***

***Thank God for church ladies with typewriters. These sentences actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced in church services:***



- Bertha Belch, a missionary from Africa, will be speaking tonight at Calvary Methodist. Come hear Bertha Belch all the way from Africa.
- The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.
- The sermon this morning: "Jesus Walks on the Water." The sermon tonight: "Searching for Jesus."
- Our youth basketball team is back in action Wednesday at 8 PM in the recreation hall. Come out and watch us kill Christ the King.
- Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Don't forget your husbands.
- The peacemaking meeting scheduled for today has been canceled due to a conflict.
- Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our community. Smile at someone who is hard to love. Say "Hell" to someone who doesn't care much about you.
- Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.
- Miss Charlene Mason sang "I will not pass this way again," giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.
- For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.
- Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.
- Barbara remains in the hospital and needs blood donors for more transfusions. She is also having trouble sleeping and requests tapes of Pastor Jack's sermons.



- The Rector will preach his farewell message after which the choir will sing: "Break Forth Into Joy."
- Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.
- A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.
- At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be "What Is Hell?" Come early and listen to our choir practice.
- Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.
- Scouts are saving aluminum cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.
- Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered.
- Attend and you will hear an excellent speaker and have a healthy lunch.
- The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.
- Potluck supper Sunday at 5:00 PM - prayer and medication to follow.
- The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.
- This evening at 7 PM there will be a hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.
- Ladies Bible Study will be held Thursday morning at 10 AM. All ladies are invited to lunch in the Fellowship Hall after the B. S. is done.
- The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday.
- Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 PM. Please use the back door.
- The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the Church basement Friday at 7 PM. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.
- Weight Watchers will meet at 7 PM at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use large double door at the side entrance.
- The Associate Minister unveiled the church's new tithing campaign slogan last Sunday: "I Upped My Pledge - Up Yours."

# Highview Christian Fellowship

*"Where Everybody Is  
Somebody Special"*

4100 Hunt Road  
Fairfax, VA 22032

PHONE:  
(703) 323-6367

[www.highviewcf.org](http://www.highviewcf.org)

## **I'VE GOT A TESTIMONY**

**Submitted by: Gena O'Neal**

"And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by Him." (KJV)

As I cleared my bookcase of unused books and videos with the intent of donating them to the local branch of my library, I remembered the above scripture, Colossians 3:17. I meditated on it. When I reached the library, I said a small prayer to the Lord, including citing the scripture.

I kindly declined the librarian's tax donation slip, as she pointed me in the direction of the collection bin. I was in the process of adding books to the bin, when a woman came and asked me what I had. I gladly let her examine what had yet to be deposited. She plucked a couple of books and videos and then handed me \$10.00! What had intended to be a donation in the name of the Lord, turned out to be a profit!

No only did God's blessing increase me monetarily, but spiritually, as well. So, I continued the cycle, by re-investing the earnings back into His kingdom. I thank the Lord for His blessing and I thank Him for re-enforcing this lesson: **He can take one action, one seed and turn it into a bountiful harvest.**

**Real Men Seek Intimacy!!** Plan now to attend the PCIF Annual Men's Conference, August 25-27. The theme is "Developing Intimacy with the Father", (Heb. 10:22). Hosted by the men's ministry, topics will inspire, encourage, provoke and invoke you to draw closer to the Father. There is no cost to register, but **early registration is required**. \*Nominal cost for meals. Join us on Sunday, August 28 at 11:00am and 3:00 p.m to closeout this time of celebration. To register, see Deacon Kenny Smith, visit [highviewcf.org](http://highviewcf.org) or [praisecovenant.org](http://praisecovenant.org) websites and click on conference dates, or visit the registration area in the lobbies. If you are serious about seeking deeper intimacy or igniting your passion with God, then this **IS** the conference for you!!

SEE FLYER INSERT

**Come, Take a Walk with Us** as we study the Old Testament on Saturday, September 17, 9:00am - 4:00 p.m. Anointed staff from the renowned Walk thru the Bible, will literally take us on a journey from the path of the Patriarchs to the promises to the new church. This intense, but very lively seminar will equip you to continue to study with your family or on your own. Registration is only \$25.00 per person and includes training materials and light lunch. Child care provided for children up to 12 years of age. For registration see Dietra Jones, events coordinator or visit the registration area in the lobbies. **Deadline: September 15, 2005**

**HIGHVIEW CHRISTIAN  
FELLOWSHIP**  
4100 Hunt Road  
Fairfax, VA 22032