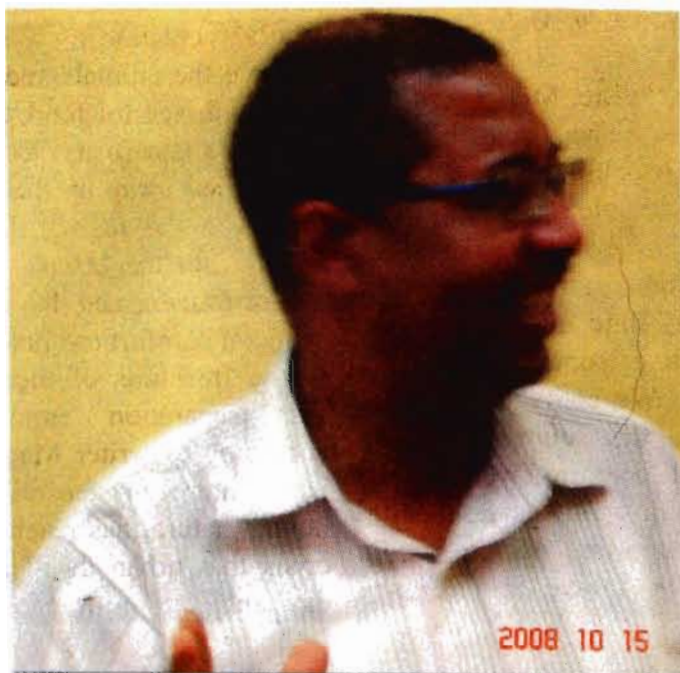


New Program Director at the Servant Leadership School



by Elizabeth M. Branner

The Festival Center is pleased to announce that Joseph Deck has joined its staff as the new Program Director of the Servant Leadership School. Joseph brings a broad range of managerial and program leadership experience to the position. Just prior to coming to the Festival Center, Joseph worked as Program Coordinator of the DC Fatherhood Initiative Program for the Perry School Community Service Center, a program that works to restore parental relationships across socio-economic lines and other perceived obstacles to wholeness. In this capacity, Joseph worked to bring adult and teen fathers back into a right relationship with their children, a process that required much patience, diplomacy, sensitivity, and the use of conflict resolution skills.

Answering the Call

Joseph also has previous work experience as Program Director for defense contractors before experiencing a call away from the business of war. His call further developed into a quest to help people who are marginalized, victimized, underestimated, impoverished, and incarcerated. The personal vision Joseph uses in his ministry is the "four P's": prayer, purpose, passion, and the power of the Holy Spirit as guide. His journey to lead the Servant Leadership School at the Festival

Center was long and thoughtful. He and Elizabeth Branner, Executive Director, met and talked many times over a period of months in order to discern a mutual direction and call. This process gave them both, and others, ample room to become acquainted, and move together toward the final decision.

An Active Churchman

Joseph Deck is a member of the ministerial staff at Reid Temple AME Church located in Glenn Dale, Maryland, led by the Rev. Dr. Lee P. Washington. There he is the Interim Minister to Men, Chairman of the Men's Council, a member of the Liturgy Script Development Team, and a New Members Orientation. He is often called upon to preach and teach at the Pastor's request. Joseph finds time to mentor members of the "Boys to Men" ministry, and conducts church services at an Assisted Living Center in Greenbelt, Maryland. Licensed to preach in 2002, Joseph demonstrates his passion for moving people from potential to power, utilizing Good's Word.

As SLS Director, Joseph brings many gifts to the larger community. He has lectured to seminarians about the history of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, and its connection to Anglicanism at Virginia Theological Seminary, and has taught a course on the "Power of Prayer to Change Your Life," at our Servant

Wellspring Affirming Its Call

Dear Sisters and Brothers of the Diaspora of The Church of the Saviour: Grace and peace to you all as the winds of change blow in and around us! Something very exciting and encouraging is happening at Wellspring these days! Though we have been affected by the same economic realities that many of you are experiencing, we have discovered new energy, indeed *new life* in the process of reclaiming our sense of who we are and to what we are being called.

As many of you know, the mission has been a hybrid of 1) **the events that we have offered** – in essence offering "The Church of the Saviour immersion" to the wider church. These events continue to be safe and fertile times of engagement that the Spirit uses to birth and support awesome, life-altering service in the name of Jesus throughout the world, and 2) **hospitality to C of S groups and other non-profits.**

With regard to the second part of our mission, we know that now, more than ever, the church and her missions need a safe place in which they can retreat and reconnect with the spirit of wholeness, abundance and creativity that is our birthright as God's beloved people. Wellspring continues to improve our facilities and seek out ways in which to deepen our sense of hospitality to you. We invite you to remember us as a place of rest and renewal for your

daytime meetings and weeks or weekends alike. We offer our thanks to those of you who have already sent in your 2009 deposits and welcome others to contact us for your weekday or weekend needs. Our calendar is filling quickly so please don't delay!

As you can imagine, our improved structures require increased financial expenditures as they age. That coupled with the state of the economy, has created a financial crunch. **On December 6 we are holding an exciting art exhibit from some local artists coupled with a silent auction at the Headquarters Building at 2025 Massachusetts Avenue. The proceeds from this evening will help us to meet our expenses as the year draws to a close. If you cannot be with us on the 6th, please know that we will gratefully receive your gifts of support!**

Finally, as we look to the future, we are amazed at the potential for learning, renewal and creativity that our 2009 calendar of events promises! We have added seasonal days of rest and prayer, a summer event on cultural addiction, and so much more! The entire 2009 slate of offerings can be accessed on our website at: www.wellspringministry.org.

Know that as the winds of change blow throughout our world and this community of scattered churches, Wellspring yearns to serve you through hospitality and transformational events, through the beauty of nature and a place for gathering and holy rest. We invite your prayers and your offerings to assist us in our mission. With deep gratitude for your presence in our lives,

Carol Fitch, Janet Hudson, Ann Moczydlowski, John Mohr and Susan Quass ~ The Wellspring Mission Group

Wellspring Conference Center is located on Dayspring Farm, owned by The Church of the Saviour. 11411 Neelsville Church Road, Germantown, MD 20876/ 301-328-3373 missionwel@aol.com

Leadership School

Graduating earlier from the Navy Cryptology School with a degree in MIS Systems, Joseph is currently completing a degree in International Business Management at Potomac College. He plans to further his studies in Divinity School. His favorite Bible verse is Jeremiah 29:11, "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." His call to preach and to teach is an expression of his ultimate calling: to bring glory to God and to serve His people.