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## The Faith Life

### Romans 1:17 (KJV)

*17 For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.*

Several years ago, General Colin Powell, the former Armed Services Chairman of the Joint-Chiefs-of-Staff, was making a public speech to a packed audience of listeners. In the midst of his speech, which happened to be on the topic of "Race Relations in America," an overzealous gay rights

advocate interrupted him by suggesting that African-Americans and Gay America should join forces and unite under one front. The heckler stated, "We should unite as one because blacks and gays are both publicly prejudiced and privately persecuted." General Powell's response was along these lines, "We have no common ground to unite on, because there is a distinct and innate difference between you and me. You must understand that being black is a state of existence, whereas being homosexual is a state of mind. With regards to the color of my skin, I had no decision in the matter, but based on your implied sexual preference, it appears you have made your choice."

Listen brothers and sisters; everyone in this life has choices which have to be individually made. Every choice we make and will make affects our lives. The choices we make affect us socially, financially and yes, even spiritually. And the Bible is a book that supports our personal responsibility for the choices and decisions we make. Listen, the choices we make are ultimately our responsibility.

Sadly, many people go around playing the blame game. We live in a culture of blame instead of personal responsibility. No one wants to take responsibility when it's so easy to blame someone else.

So this year, make the choice of faith. God does not ask men to *behave* in order to be saved, but to *believe*. It is faith in Christ that saves the sinner. But faith must go beyond one's salvation. Faith must be your choice every day for, "*The just shall live by faith.*" Life is full of struggles, difficulties and problems. Some are bigger than others. There is but one thing that will overcome them—your faith in God. Know this, we as Christians have a common enemy, Satan. He is always seeking opportunities to defeat us. We must never forget that there is a spiritual battle going on. Satan seeks to destroy us with our trials, while God seeks to develop us with them. The child of God cannot avoid trials. We can, however, face those trials through our faith toward God.

Listen; there are two ways you can live this year. The first and the most common way is living "by sight." Living by sight is based on living and responding to everything you can see. But the other far less common way is to live "by faith."

*(Continued on Page 2)*

This way is based on living your life primarily and ultimately on what you cannot see. This is the Christian way, the Bible way, which is the way that the people of God have always lived.

The story of the Rich Young Ruler (Matt 19) can be instructive to us at this point. This young man came to Jesus and asked what he must do to inherit eternal life. Jesus told him in Matt 19:16 to "...Go and sell what you have and give it to the poor." The point of the story was not the money; Jesus knew that the money was first place in his life. God is not interested in your money; He is interested in your heart. All this young man could see was money. But faith must go beyond what you can see. Your faith in God must rest on what you know.

Have a Happy New year walking by faith!

**Pastor and Lady R.E. Herring,  
Sr.**



### ***Prayer and Supplication for our Pastor***

Oh merciful Father, we come now in humble submission, asking that You hear our cry on behalf of our Pastor. Father, first and foremost, we want to thank You for bringing him, down through the years, and now, Father You have blessed him to see the first month in the year 2016.

God we pray that this year will serve as a year of Jubilee for him, wherein ALL things in his life will be renewed - his peace, health, wealth, contentment, commitment, compassion and his assurance. God, You know we could name many more, but You know what needs renewing in his life, and You know how and when he needs it.

So Father, we pray now that You let Your will be done in every aspect of his life. God we ask that You continually shower him with blessings, to the point where they are overflowing. We know that You can God, and we're just asking that You will.

Then Father as we close this prayer, we pray for his family. God lead, guide and direct them, order their steps as they continue to walk in Your word. We pray that Your Spirit continue to counsel and watch over them, never allowing them to forget Your commandments so that long life and prosperity will be theirs.

We pray this prayer in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and count it already done.

Amen and Amen.

**P Cross**



## ***NATIONAL BLOOD DONOR MONTH***

### **Resolve To Be A Blood Donor in 2016!**

***January is National Blood Donor Month, and there are several upcoming opportunities to give.***

This January, during National Blood Donor Month, the American Red Cross encourages people to roll up their sleeves to give blood to help maintain a sufficient blood supply for patients.

Since 1970, National Blood Donor Month has been observed in January to not only honor blood and platelet donors, but also to help increase donations during the winter months. Maintaining a sufficient blood supply for patients is difficult at this time of year because extreme winter weather and seasonal illnesses often impact donor turnout.

Karla Essmiller became a blood donor in college, but the importance of giving blood hit home when several family members had medical emergencies. “It only takes once sitting in a hospital, praying that your loved one will live through the day, to know how thankful you are for every single thing done to help them,” she said. “Donating blood is a simple gift that I can make that may help up to three people live another day. That makes me feel like a hero.”

The Red Cross encourages eligible donors to resolve to give blood regularly, beginning in January. Donors with all blood types are needed, especially those with types AB, O, B negative and A negative.

To make an appointment to donate blood, download the free Red Cross Blood Donor App from app stores, visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

***Author Unknown, shared by J. Scott III***





## 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Church History

Mt. Bethel is rich in "Family History", and this is what has made our church foundation strong. During these 150 years, families have come and gone but those that stayed planted their seeds, and those seeds now have borne rich fruit. God has poured His "Love, Gentleness, Forbearance, Kindness, Faithfulness, Self-Control, Joy and Peace" in all our hearts.

This year our church will be celebrating a historical milestone that very few are able to achieve. We are documenting this history for future generations to see by creating a "Historical Photo Album" which list our history up to this year. Every person played a vital role in the success of our church. Therefore, each auxiliary, department and member will be listed to show the heart of our church.

Church families come in many forms, we bond with others that are not our biological blood lines, but often feel a strong connection. We raise our children to know Christ Jesus, and we teach them to have their own relationship with Him. As we move through this life we continue to renew our relationship with the Lord, because of the strong foundation we learned from our forefathers and loved ones.

*M Taylor*

### SUNDAY SCHOOL FOCUS

January 2016

**SACRED GIFTS AND HOLY  
GATHERINGS**

**UNIT II: Sharing Our Joys and Sorrows**

**January 3<sup>rd</sup> A Bride Worth Waiting For  
Gen. 29:15-30**

**January 10<sup>th</sup> The Most Beautiful Bride  
Song of Sol. 6:4-12**

**January 17<sup>th</sup> An Unfaithful Bride  
Hos. 1:1-11**

**January 24<sup>th</sup> A Wedding in Cana  
John 2:1-12**

**January 31<sup>st</sup> Death and Resurrection  
John 11:38-44**



### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Blanket Drive - The Music and Arts Ministry** is hosting its Annual Blanket Drive. Please be a blessing to others by donating blankets and skull caps to the homeless. The donation bins are located in the church vestibule.

The date to submit a final count for the **150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary banquet** is quickly approaching. If you would like to attend the banquet or participate in any of the other events, please submit your completed order form to Sister Gloria Roberts, Sister Mattie Taylor or any member of the Banquet Committee by 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday, January 10, 2016.

**Pajama Party** - It's been an excellent year for the **Youth Ministry**. We are excited and ready for new thing in 2016. The youth will bring in the New Year with a Pajama Party, which will begin New Year's eve at 9 pm. The children will start the night out with fun, games, food and fellowship, and will end their evening at 12 midnight on their knees praising God.

*A Thomas and T Robinson*

## **POSITIVE MESSAGE**

### **Nuggets For Thought**

Have you ever cried until there was nothing left in your tear ducts? Cried until your eyes were swollen, your head was hurting and your heart was aching. Maybe you were crying over your marriage, your child, your health, your finances or your past. No matter what people said to you the tears continued to run down your face. I know how it feels to wonder if and when things will get better.

From the natural eye you cannot see changes taking place. Cry No More! (***Psalm 126:5 - They that sow in tears shall reap in joy***) The matter you are crying over can and will change. God has not forgotten about you. I do not care what the devil is speaking in your ears God has not failed you. He has not left you in the storm alone. Yes it may appear as if God is not saying anything but His assumed silence does not mean He is not working on your behalf. Do you realize God works from the inside out? If He does not change your spirit first your flesh will ruin everything.

Think back to your lowest point in life. That time when everything and everyone seemed to be against you. Think about the negative bank balance, the lies and rumors, the hell on your job, and the dilemma within your friendships or relationships. Think about the nights you walked the floor worrying about how. Think about the days you wondered if life was still worth living. Think about it all. Who brought you out? Who carried you through? Who held your hand and guided your steps? Cry No More! The same God who did it before is the same God who can do it again. (***Psalm 40:1 - I waited patiently for the LORD; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry***)



D Bell

### **Helpful Home Remedies:**

#### **1) Honey, Please Pass the Pollen:**

Bee pollen and locally made honey have long been touted as allergy preventives. By eating them before allergy season hits, you ingest minute amounts of the plants, grasses and trees that may be the cause of your allergies. This stimulates your immune system and may increase your resistance to pollen, thereby lessening the severity of your allergies when the season is in full swing. A typical dose is 1 teaspoon of honey per day.

**Caution:** Never give honey to children under 1 year of age.

#### **2) A Nutty Sipper:**

1/4 Tsp. of ground Nutmeg; 1/4 Tsp. of Lemon Juice & 1 cup of Water. If you've got a bad case of constipation or hemorrhoids (which can be just as bad, if not worse), don't just sit there and take it. Go absolutely nuts with it instead. Not with the discomfort, but with nutmeg, a time-honored Ayurvedic remedy for curbing constipation and healing hemorrhoids.

**Mixture:** - Add the nutmeg to a glass of warm water that has the lemon juice already mixed in. Lemon water is an astringent that will help tone blood vessels. Drink it twice daily to help your lower half heal and flow more freely.

D Gosine

# MUSIC AND ARTS MINISTRIES

## 2015 CHRIST-MAS CONCERT / JESUS IS THE REASON FOR THE SEASON

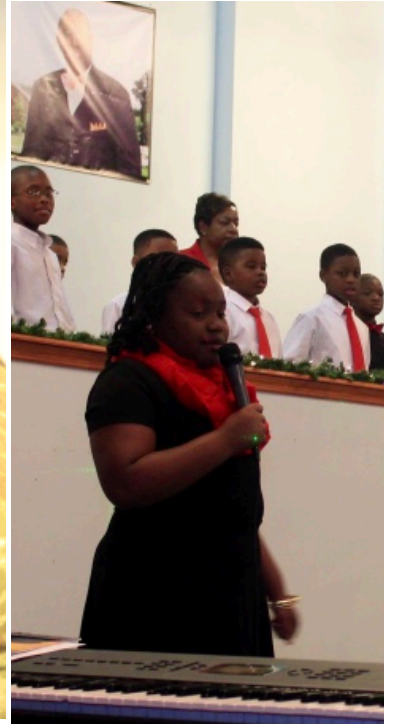
The Christmas concert was held on 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday, December 13, 2015 at 5 o'clock pm, in Mt. Bethel Missionary Baptist Church. If you were not there, you missed a treat. It was awesome.

We were truly led into a worship experience. Under the direction of the **Minister of Music, Bro. Richard Hill, III**, the featured choirs were the **Youth Choir, the R. E. Herring Male Chorus and none other than the S.A. Thomas Sanctury Choir**. The Youth Choir let us know that we need a "Praying Spirit". We clapped our hands and stomped our feet with the Male Chorus as we gave our "Living Testimony" and thanked God that we're "Still Alive". We celebrated our "King, the ruler of everything" with the S.A. Thomas Choir. And to bring the concert to a close, the combined choirs lead us in "Silent Night".

This concert, this evening, was truly a night to remember.

**V. Benjamin**





## 2015 Dance Recital - "Who Would Imagine A King"

On Saturday, December 12, 2015 at 6:00 p.m., the MBMBC Dance Ministry presented, "Who Would Imagine a King", under the direction of Sister Renee Jones.

The Most Precious Angels - Addisyn Campbell, Journee Huntly, Ja'Don Jones, Jaidon Walker, and Louis Wright, opened with devotion. Shirley Hinson, Mary Davis, Gloria Roberts, and Elouis Randall, spread the Christmas cheer as the Queens of Ceremony. Jamise Cooper, Alexandria Holliday, and Brittany Griffin ministered to the congregation in a skit titled, "The Real Meaning of Christmas, Jesus is the Reason".

The recital included 12 selections that featured the Missionaries, the Empowered Brethren, Sister Crystal Harrity, and a special feature by Pastor Herring.

Sis. Jones thanked God and everyone in attendance for sharing in the ministries gifts and reminded all that Jesus is the true reason for the Season.

*A Thomas*





# Happy New Year

Find and circle all of the words that are hidden in the grid.

The remaining letters spell the name of a popular location for celebrating New Year Eve.

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

APPETIZERS

BABIES

BALLOONS

BANNERS

BUFFET

CELEBRATE

CHAMPAGNE

CONFETTI

DANCE

DAY ONE

DECORATIONS

END OF DECEMBER

EVENTS

FAMILY

FATHER TIME

FEAST

FESTIVITIES

FIREWORKS

FIRST OF JANUARY

FRIENDS

HATS

HOLIDAY

HORNS

KISS

MIDNIGHT

MUSIC

NEW YEARS DAY

NEW YEARS EVE

NOISEMAKERS

OCCASION

PARADES

PARTY

PUNCH

RESOLUTIONS

SINGING

STREAMERS

THIRTY FIRST

TIARAS

WINE

YEAR IN REVIEW

## Quote Of The Day - If You Hesitate

There is an old downward spiral to sin that goes like this: If you hesitate, you will contemplate; if you contemplate, you will negotiate; if you negotiate, you will participate; and if you participate, you will desecrate. But maybe we could say that with the coming of Christ in His incarnation, God reverses that downward spiral of sin to this: Redemption gives rise to celebration, which leads to purification, and in turn follows through to consecration, which ultimately shows up as dedication.

*Author Unknown, shared by L. Smith*



### January 2016

Rev. Gary Kitt	1/01
Bro. Dondre Rosier	1/01
Sis. Margaret Thomas	1/01
Sis. Miracle Prince	1/02
Sis. Alexis Davis	1/02
Mo. Donna Gosine	1/04
Dea. Michael Jones Sr.	1/04
Sis. Katrina Jones	1/05
Mo. Betty Ingram	1/06
Sis. Diane Williams	1/06
Sis. Stephanie Davis	1/07
Bro. Stanford Harrity	1/07
Sis. Tamia Bradley	1/07
Sis. Cynthia Morrell	1/08
Sis. Linda Barney	1/09
Bro. Thaddeus Anderson	1/09
Bro. Ralieyh Floyd	1/09
Sis. Aundrea Jones	1/10
Sis. Saundra King	1/10
Sis. Tonia Harris	1/10
Sis. Frances Twyman	1/11
Sis. Shirley Dixon	1/11
Sis. Tracie Hubbard	1/11
Bro. Robert Lee Davis	1/11
Sis. Torien Easterling	1/12
Bro. Branden Jackson	1/12
Dea. Anthony Davis, Sr.	1/14
Sis. Catherine B. Newman	1/14
Bro. Anthony Crummell Jr	1/14
Sis. Ebony Easterling	1/14
Bro. Marvin Johnson Sr	1/16
Bro. Terry Clark, Jr	1/17
Sis. Shirley Hinson	1/17
Rev. Aaron Jacobs	1/18
Bro. Isaiah Solomon	1/19
Sis. Paytie Cross	1/19
Sis. Samone Carlyle	1/20
Bro. William Martin Sr	1/20
Sis. Lamekia Carlyle	1/20
Sis. Derrell Mixson	1/21
Sis. Stephanie Washington	1/21
Mo. Rebecca Jones	1/22
Sis. Kera Skinner	1/22
Dea. William Cherry Jr.	1/23
Sis. Lawanda Williams	1/24
Sis. Antoinette Bing	1/24

Sis. Lucenda Ferguson	1/26
Bro. John E. Corley Sr	1/26
Sis. Debra Williams	1/26
Bro. Larry Mathis Sr	1/26
Sis. Barbara Harrity	1/27
Sis. Frances Boyd	1/28
Mo. Mary H. Bellamy	1/29
Bro. Fitzgerald Miles	1/29
Sis. Jetta Loggins	1/30
Sis. Carlene Spencer	1/30
Sis. Cherlynette Nelson	1/30
Sis. Charilyn Grace	1/30
Bro. Ernest Alston	1/31
Sis. Bessie Forest	1/31
Sis. KeAusha Haynes	1/31



### January 2016

Stan & Priscilla Thomas	1/02
James & Cynthia Boykins	1/15
John & Geri Crumley	1/20
Isaiah & Ruby Solomon	1/22
<b>**William &amp; Vivian Cherry</b>	<b>1/25</b>
<b>58th Anniversary</b>	





# MT. BETHEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

## JANUARY 2016

Emphasis: The Force of Faith-Past, Present and Future

Mark 11:22, Romans 4:13-16, Corinthians 4:13

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration</b> <b>1866-2016</b> <b>Coming June 2016</b>					<b>1</b> 	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> <b>HOLY COMMUNION SUNDAY</b> 9:30A Sunday School New Members Class 11A Morning Worship	<b>4</b> 7:00P Empowered Brethren	<b>5</b> 6:30P Sun School Teachers 7:00P Youth Explosion 7:00P Mid-Week Prayer & Bible Study	<b>6</b> 9:00A Prayer Line 11:30A Clothes Closet 11:30A Noon Day Prayer 6:30P Dance Ministry 7:00P SAT Sanctuary Choir	<b>7</b> 7:00P Male Chorus	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> 8A Early Worship 9:30A Sunday School Leadership Training New Members Class 11A Morning Worship	<b>11</b> 6:30P BTU	<b>12</b> 6:30P Sun School Teachers 7:00P Youth Explosion 7:00P Mid-Week Prayer & Bible Study	<b>13</b> 9:00A Prayer Line 11:30A Clothes Closet 11:30A Noon Day Prayer 6:30P Dance Ministry	<b>14</b> 7:00P Male Chorus	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 8A Early Worship 9:30A Sunday School Leadership Training New Members Class 11A Morning Worship	<b>18</b> 	<b>19</b> 6:30P Sun School Teachers 7:00P Youth Explosion 7:00P Mid-Week Prayer & Bible Study	<b>20</b> 9:00A Prayer Line 11:30A Clothes Closet 11:30A Noon Day Prayer 6:30P Dance Ministry	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 9:A Deaconess Ministry
<b>24</b> 8A Early Worship 9:30A Sunday School Leadership Training New Members Class 11A Morning Worship 4P Installation of Officers	<b>25</b> 6:30P Trustee Ministry 6:30P Missionary Society 7:30P Deacons	<b>26</b> 6:30P Sun School Teachers 7:00P Youth Explosion 7:00P Mid-Week Prayer & Bible Study	<b>27</b> 9:00A Prayer Line 11:30A Clothes Closet 11:30A Noon Day Prayer 6:30P Dance Ministry 7:00P SAT Sanctuary Choir	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> 8A Early Worship 9:30A Sunday School New Members Class 11A Morning Worship Youth Sunday	<b>Notes: **Church office will be closed 01-18-2016 in observance of the holiday. **</b>					