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"Black History Month"

Isaiah 43:18-19 (GW)

¹⁸ Forget what happened in the past, and do not dwell on events from long ago.

¹⁹ I am going to do something new. It is already happening. Don't you recognize it? I will clear a way in the desert. I will make rivers on dry land.

Black History Month, also known as African-American History Month, is

observed in the United States in the month of February. The precursor to Black History Month was created in 1926 in the United States, when historian Carter G. Woodson and the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History announced the second week of February to be "Negro History Week." The expansion of Black History Week to Black History Month took place in 1976.

Brothers and sisters, the purpose for celebrating Black History Month is to remind us where we have been and what we have been, where we are and what we are. It is a time to commemorate the accomplishments and achievements of men and women of color. Unfortunately, our American historians have forgotten, or perhaps purposely, omitted our contributions to the history of our nation.

History is the study of the human past. Our past is filled with so many traditions, folk tales, works of art, archaeological objects, inventions, and the list goes on and on. We need to study our past that we may gain a better understanding of who we are, and how strong we were. We are men and women of strength and fortitude. The purpose of studying our history is to gain valuable lessons from which we can improve our present lifestyles.

Listen, until the advent of Black History Month, our school children (me included) learned all of our black history from books provided for us. All we saw was black men with bent backs, bowing to our slave masters. All we saw was black men working in cotton fields and tobacco fields from sun up to sun down. We saw our black women, fat with white aprons on, thick lips, white rags tied around their heads, serving in the big house. We saw our black women taking care of the master's children. It is about time we teach our black children that there is more to our history than our ancestral enslavement.

Our children would be amazed, even shocked, to hear that Blacks are credited with (Continued from Page 1) inventing the mousetrap, the umbrella, and the ironing board. They would be filled with pride when they hear that a Black man performed the first open heart surgery. They would be amazed when they find out that highly developed Black empires existed in many parts of Africa, hundreds and even thousands of years ago, way before the onslaught of slavery exploitation in the late 1500's.

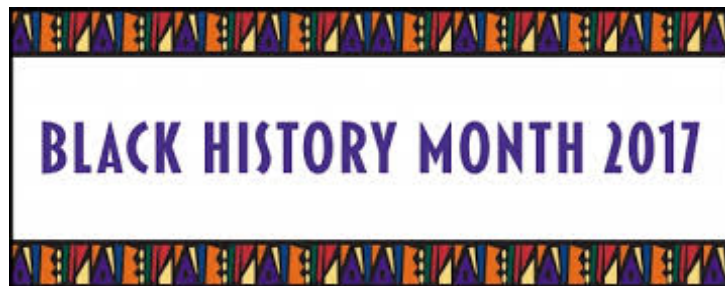
History has a purpose, but it also has its place. Isaiah in our text warned the children of Israel about dwelling too much in the past. It's true that God had brought them through the great Exodus. He released them from the bonds of slavery and set them on a new path. All of this was part of the Israelites' cherished history. But you can't live in the past. History's reflection can be wonderfully satisfying, but beware of letting it ruin your appetite for progress. There is still so much work to be done. God is not through with us yet. God is able to do a new thing.

Ephesians 3:20-21 (KJV)

²⁰ Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,

²¹ Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

Pastor Robert, Sr. and Lady Bessie Herring and Family



Prayer and Supplication for our Pastor

Father we come in humble submission today, and we boldly approach Your throne of Grace to again pray for our Pastor.

God, we pray that You keep him from all disappointments, setbacks, hurts and broken dreams. As the appointed angel of this house, it is our prayer that You continually keep his passion and vision for Your people. Keep him at the foot of the Cross and covered with Your precious blood, always surrounding him with Your Holy Light.

Father God, it is our prayer that You keep his mind clear, his body energized and Your angels encamped around him daily so that he will continue to stand strong for Your purpose and direction.

Lord Jesus, as we close this prayer we pray for his family and ask that You keep them standing strong no matter what they will face, always knowing and standing firm in the fact that their victory is only in Jesus.

We close this prayer in the precious name of Jesus and count it already done. We say "Amen" and "Thank God."

P. Cross



FEBRUARY IS HEART HEALTH MONTH

What are you doing to keep your heart healthy? Your heart is the most important organ in your body, it work for all other organs, it is the boss. Keeping your heart healthy is a job. We first have to eat healthy (changing old eating habits by eating less salt), exercise can improve your cholesterol, and even lower your blood pressure by as many as five to seven points. These small but important change improve your health.

Heart disease is the leading cause of death for men and women in the United States. Every year, 1 in 4 deaths are caused by heart disease. The good news? Heart disease can often be prevented when people make healthy choices and manage their health conditions. Communities, health professionals, and families can work together to create opportunities for people to make healthier choices. Make a difference in your community: Spread the word about strategies for preventing heart disease and encourage people to live heart healthy lives.

How you can make a difference? We can use this month to raise awareness about heart disease and how people can prevent it — both at home and in the community.

Here are just a few ideas:

1. Encourage families to make small changes, like using spices to season their food instead of salt.
2. Motivate teachers and administrators to make physical activity a part of the school. This can help students start good habits early.
3. Ask doctors and nurses to be leaders in their communities by speaking out about ways to prevent heart disease.

Controlling and preventing risk factors is also important for people who already have heart disease. To lower your risk:

1. Watch your weight.
2. Quit smoking and stay away from secondhand smoke.
3. Control your cholesterol and blood pressure.
4. If you drink alcohol, drink only in moderation.
5. Get active and eat healthy.

M Taylor



DEACONS HONORED

On Third Sunday, January 15, 2017, two of our deacons retired from active duty and were awarded the honorable title of Emeritus. **Deacon Isreal Boston** served for over 50 years as Leader of District #10, which began as the Young People's District. He also served for many years as Assistant Chairman of the Trustee Ministry. **Deacon Charlie Barlow** served for 40 years at Mt. Canaan Baptist Church. After joining Mt. Bethel, he served as a deacon for four years prior to his appointment as Leader of District #1, a position that he has held for 13 years. They both were presented framed Citations surrounded by memorabilia, and thanked by Pastor Herring and the congregation for their dedicated commitment and service.



LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

The Leadership Conference for 2017 was held the second, third, and fourth Sunday of January. Pastor Herring's theme for Leadership was "The Church Needs Leadership That is Anticipatory Rather Than Reactionary." In Session One, he presented scripture that defined the character of a good leader and the character of a bad leader.

On third Sunday, our Chairman of the Trustees, Brother Terence Wright, emphasized, "As leaders, we must follow and we will get there, but when someone steps out from what the church believes we will never reach our goals."

The Office Volunteers will host a workshop on Program Preparation at the Baptist Training Union Meeting on Monday, February 13th, at 6 pm.

Our Chairman of the Deacon Board, Deacon David Masline, thanked all of the district leaders, presidents and secretaries for participating in leadership training and encouraged them to continuing growing in the Lord through prayer and study.

On fourth Sunday, Baptist Training Union members presented a skit entitled "Leadership Survival."

If you would like to learn more about how your church functions, please plan to join in on the upcoming BTU sessions. You can find meeting dates in your church calendar.

P Lewis



Someone

A young woman tells her friend, "I want someone who will love me forever.
Someone who will guide me, encourage me, and support me in my endeavors.
Someone who is honest and will accept me in spite of my faults.
Someone who shares a bond so close that without speaking they know my thoughts.

I want someone who will bring me joy, protect me, and nurture me when I'm sick.
Someone who will always stand beside me through the thin and the thick.
Someone who will understand me and comfort me when I cry.
Yes, I want someone who will give me strength and will be my ride or die."

The friend replied, "You have Someone that loved you before you first loved yourself.
Someone whose love is so great, it is unlike the love of anyone else.
Someone who can teach you how to love others because He is the epitome of love.
Someone whose every good and perfect gift is from above.

Someone who gave you life by allowing His Son to experience death.
Someone who continues to bless you each day He gives you breath.
Someone who will never leave, nor forsake you, who is your Savior and Friend.
Someone who is merciful, mighty and true, and whose love will never end."

T Robinson

POSITIVE MESSAGE

All That Matters Is God's Word

Why do we spend so much time worrying about the opinions of others when we know God's Word is all that matters in the end? Do you realize a hater's job is to hate on you? They are not friends or supporters. They do not want to hear about God blessing you. Be careful not to surround yourself with people who smile on the outside but inwardly they as cunning as a snake. These people are waiting for the best time to snap at you. All Smiles Are Not Sincere! (Matthew 7:15 - Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves) Do you realize there are some people who sit up at night plotting ways to take you out?

D Bell



Member Information for Church Telephone Directory



Today's Date _____

Please check one ☐Add ☐Change ☐Delete ☐Deceased, when? _____

District # _____ District Leader _____

Old Name (as appears in current directory) _____

Name _____

Old Address _____

Current Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

=====

Yellow Pages

Current Business Name _____

Business Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone # _____ Cell # _____

E-mail Address _____

=====

Standard Newsletter

Name _____ District _____

Telephone # _____

Birthdate _____ Anniversary _____

Spouse's name _____

Birthdays of other members in your home:

****PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM AND GIVE TO AN USHER****



'Church Humor'

Shared by Ma Bellamy

HaHaHa



SUNDAY SCHOOL FOCUS

February 2017

CREATION AND SALVATION

UNIT III: The Church is Born

February 5th Heirs of the Promise

Galatians 3:26-4:7

February 12th Delivered from Bondage

Galatians 4:8-20

February 19th Freedom is Christ

Galatians 5:1-17

February 29th Holy Living in the Spirit

Galatians 5:18-6:10

Sunday School

Spiritual Healing Prayer

In the silence of Your divine presence, God, I feel Your healing spirit flowing through me right now. Your life force energy brings passion energy, and enthusiasm to my mind, body and spirit. I feel alive! Surrounded by Your magnificent healing spirit, God, I experience spiritual healing and wholeness throughout every part of my being.

Thank You, Father, for Your spiritual healing energy that pumps through every fiber of my being, nourishing me and restoring me to wholeness and joy.

To you, dear God, I willingly hand over all concerns about my health. I trust that Your healing energy will restore me to my natural health.

Dear God, I am open to receiving the mighty healing power of Your Spirit. Your life-force energizes every cell of my being. I am grateful for Your physical and spiritual healing. Thank You, Father, for my life, health and strength.

M Taylor

Valentine's Day Word Search

c g f l o w e r s i p
j s w e e t h e a r t
e f p a c u p i d a e
v h o i k a c p s r t
a o g u y h e a r t s
l o v e r r d e g o f
e k r a p t r r o w r
n r i r o s e s p x i
t o h s d r d e i r e
i s u h s p i n n h n
n r g a r e l l k t d
e o s c h o s r o s h
s w e e r t s f r i e
v c h o c o l a t e k

valentine
arrow
cupid
hearts
love

red
fourteenth
hugs
chocolate
pink

roses
friend
flowers
sweetheart
kisses





US Presidents

Find all of the US President names. The names can be up, down, forward, backward, or diagonal.



ADAMS
ARTHUR
BUCHANAN
BUSH
CARTER
CLEVELAND
CLINTON
COOLIDGE
EISENHOWER
FILLMORE

FORD
GARFIELD
GRANT
HARDING
HARRISON
HAYES
HOOVER
JACKSON
JEFFERSON
JOHNSON

KENNEDY
LINCOLN
MADISON
MCKINLEY
MONROE
NIXON
OBAMA
PIERCE
POLK
REAGAN

ROOSEVELT
TAFT
TAYLOR
TRUMAN
TYLER
VAN BUREN
WASHINGTON
WILSON



February 2017

Bro. Mark Bennett	2/1
Bro. Santo H. Mack	2/1
Bro. Ronald Rogers	2/1
Sis. Chantina Love	2/2
Sis. Jourdan Lee	2/3
Bro. David Bell	2/3
Sis. Valnita Smith	2/4
Bro. Steven Brooks	2/4
Sis. Fronita Stripling	2/5
Sis. Renee Jones	2/5
Sis. Rosa Lockwood	2/6
Bro. Amaure Cooper	2/6
Sis. Forlissa Gray	2/6
Sis. Chantina McBride	2/7
Sis. Mekyah Reed	2/8
Sis. Arleen Brookins	2/10
Bro. Devin Masline	2/10
Bro. David Washington	2/10
Sis. Mia Cross	2/10
Sis. Annie Frazier	2/11
Sis. Iris Y. Rosier	2/12
Sis. Mary Davis	2/12
Bro. Jonathan White	2/12
Bro. Anthony Barney	2/12
Rev. Damien Scott	2/12
Sis. Darlene Young	2/13
Sis. Mary Brown	2/14
Miss Journey Thomas	2/14
Bro. David Masline, Jr.	2/15
Bro. Edgar Bennett, III	2/15
Bro. Devin Bruner	2/15
Sis. Deborah Davis	2/16
Sis. Felicia Huggins	2/16
Sis. Amya Session	2/16
Miss Joelle Lee	2/17
Master Jadon Lee	2/17
Sis. Kendi Ford	2/17
Bro. Michael G. Smith	2/19
Sis. Kymani Brazle	2/20
Sis. Pamela Ford	2/20
Bro. James Hall	2/21
Bro. Gerald Mixson, Sr	2/22
Sis. Jessie Roberson	2/22
Bro. Paul Napoleon	2/22
Sis. Rachel L. Gaddys	2/22

Sis. Janet Jones	2/22
Mo. Cora Hudson	2/23
Sis. Precious McCoy	2/23
Sis. Eileen Gresham	2/24
Sis. Violet Johnson	2/25
Sis. Jacquelyn Lovett	2/25
Bro. Lester McGriff, Jr.	2/25
Sis. Cheryl Bryant	2/26
Sis. Fredrika Hill	2/26
Sis. Janise Campbell	2/26
Sis. Linda Parker	2/27
Bro. Lorenzo Monroe	2/27
Bro. Shadrac Franck	2/27
Sis. Rosalind Miller	2/27
Bro. Pharrell Carlyle	2/28
Sis. Michelle Smith	2/28
Sis. Brenda Jackson	2/28



February 2017

Bennie & Deborah Davis, Jr 2/07
 Wilbur & Mary Bellamy, Sr. 2/10
 Joseph & Rosa Toussaint 2/12

44th Anniversary

Ronald & Cherlynette Nelson 2/14
 Martin & Sonja Baptiste 2/20
 Rick & Fredrika Hill III 2/26
 Terence & Regina Wright 2/27




****Wilbur & Mary Bellamy, Sr.**2/10
 55th Anniversary**



****If there's any Birthday or Anniversary
 missing please contact the office at
 (904) 764-8032****

MT. BETHEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

February 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 9:00A Prayer Line 11:30A Clothes Closet 11:30A Noon Day Prayer 6:30P Dance Ministry 7:00P SAT Sanctuary Choir	2 Groundhog Day	3 Nation Red Dress Day 	4
5 HOLY COMMUNION SUNDAY 9:30A Sunday School New Members Class 11A Morning Worship	6 7:00P Empowered Brethren	7 6:30P Sun School Teachers 7:00P Youth Explosion 7:00P Mid-Week Prayer & Bible Study	8 9:00A Prayer Line 11:30A Clothes Closet 11:30A Noon Day Prayer 6:30P Dance Ministry 7:00P SAT Sanctuary Choir	9	10	11
12 8A Early Worship 9:30A Sunday School New Members Class 11A Morning Worship (Wear Red) 4:P Church Outing Greater Macedonia Baptist Church	13 6:30 P BTU	14 6:30P Sun School Teachers 7:00P Youth Explosion 7:00P Mid-Week Prayer & Bible Study 	15 9:00A Prayer Line 11:30A Clothes Closet 11:30A Noon Day Prayer 6:30P Dance Ministry 7:00P SAT Sanctuary Choir	16	17	18
19 8A Early Worship 9:30A Sunday School New Members Class 11A Morning Worship Black History Celebration 5P BTU	20 	21 6:30P Sun School Teachers 7:00P Youth Explosion 7:00P Mid-Week Prayer & Bible Study	22 9:00A Prayer Line 11:30A Clothes Closet 11:30A Noon Day Prayer 6:30P Dance Ministry 7:00P SAT Sanctuary Choir	23	24	25 9:A Deaconess Ministry 6-9 P Youth Ministry Banquet
26 9:30A Sunday School 11A Morning Worship 8A Early Worship 9:30A Sunday School New Members Class 11A Morning Worship	27 4:P Missionary Society 6:30P Trustee Ministry 7:30P Deacons	28 6:30P Sun School Teachers 7:00P Youth Explosion 7:00P Mid-Week Prayer & Bible Study	Notes : February is National Heart Month 