



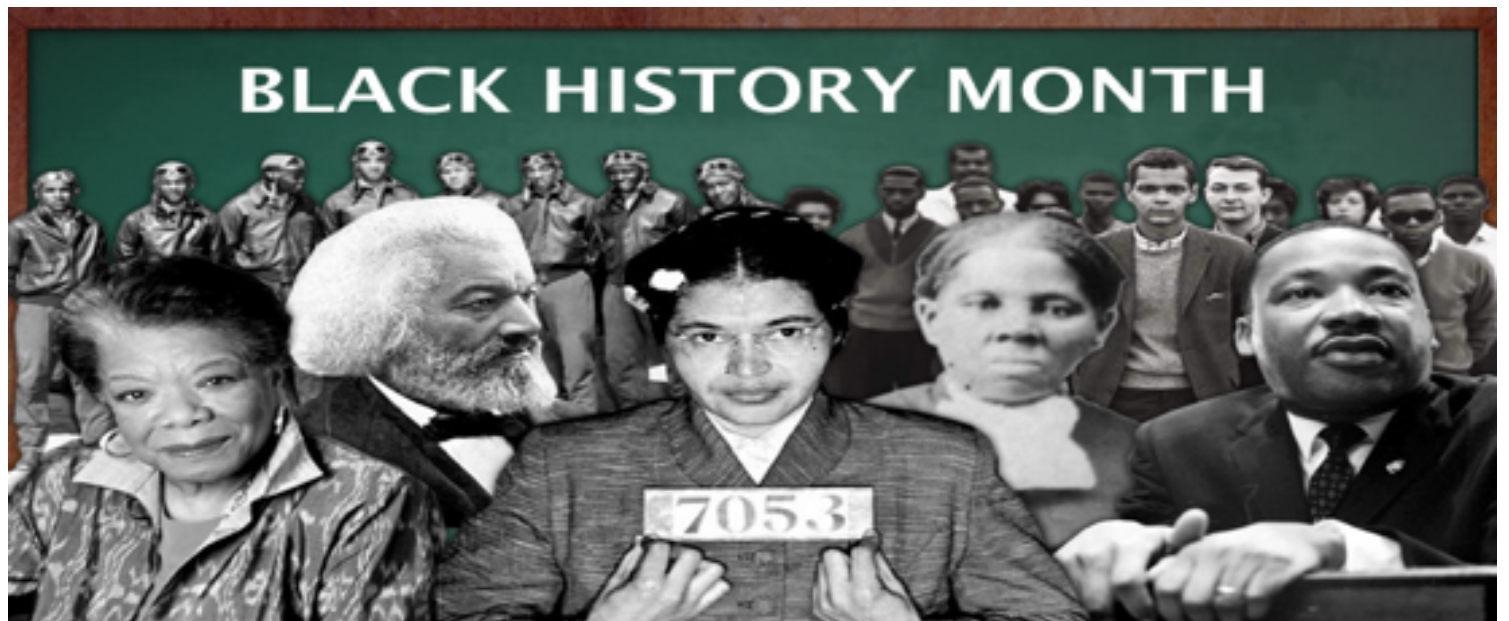
Volume 23:02

Dr. R.E. Herring, Sr., Pastor

February 04, 2018

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Bro. Mark Bennett	2/01
Bro. Santo H. Mack	2/01
Bro. Ronald Rogers	2/01
Sis. Chantina Love	2/02
Sis. Sherrika Frazier	2/02
Sis. Jourdan Lee	2/03
Bro. David Bell	2/03
Sis. Valnita Smith	2/04
Bro. Steven Brooks	2/04
Sis. Fronita Stripling	2/05
Sis. Renee Jones	2/05
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Bro. Amaure Cooper	2/06
Sis. Forlissa Gray	2/06
Sis. Chantina McBride	2/07
Sis. Mekyah Reed	2/08
Sis. Arleen Brookins	2/10
Bro. Devin Masline	2/10
Bro. David Washington	2/10
Sis. Mia Cross	2/10
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Sis. Mary Davis	2/12
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Rev. Damien Scott	2/12
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Bennie & Deborah Davis, Jr
2/07

***Wilbur & Mary Bellamy, Sr.**
2/10
56 Years

***Joseph & Rosa Toussaint**
2/12
45 Years

***Ronald & Cherlynette Nelson**
2/14
44 Years

Martin & Sonja Baptiste
2/20

Rick & Fredrika Hill III
2/26

Terence & Regina Wright
2/27



Faith in Action

Godly Faith

February 4th
Faith Without Works Is Dead
James 2:14-26

February 11th
A Disciplined Faith
James 3:1-12

February 18th
Faithful Disciples
Acts 9:36-43

February 25th
The Good Fight of Faith
1 Timothy 6:11-21



PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Living the Life of Love



In 1977 Michael Masser wrote a song that was recorded by George Benson for the 1977 Muhammad Ali biopic, "The Greatest." But this song became very popular when a lady named Whitney Houston re-recorded it in 1986, and called it "The Greatest Love of All."

This is how it goes:

"I believe the children are our future. Teach them well and let them lead the way. Show them all the beauty they possess inside. Give them a sense of pride to make it easier. Let the children's laughter remind us how we used to be. Everybody searching for a hero. People need someone to look up to. I never found anyone to fulfill my needs. A lonely place to be, so I learned to depend on me.

I decided long ago, never to walk in anyone's shadows. If I fail, if I succeed, At least

I live as I believe.

No matter what they take from me, They can't take away my dignity.

Because the greatest love of all. Is happening to me.

I found the greatest love of all, Inside of me. The greatest love of all, Is easy to achieve.

Learning to love yourself, It is the greatest love of all."

I believe you would agree with me that some of the statements in this song are true. Such as "children are our future." "They must be taught well." "They need someone to look up to." But there are also some things we would disagree with strongly – First of all, there is an absence of God, this song is very humanistic. Secondly, the greatest love of all is not self-love. The greatest love of all is your love for God.

How many of you here have made some resolutions for this year? It's okay, you can be honest! But today I want to give you some ideas that you can take with you to help make this year one of the best you've ever had. I want to suggest a resolution that you can use year after year for the rest of your life. Living the life of Love. Love is in the air for Valentine's day.

Paul gives to us the three main tenets of the Christian faith in 1 Corinthians 13:13 "And now abideth faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love." Paul says that Love is greater than faith and Love is greater than your hope.

Listen, love is important. In fact, love is so important that Jesus devoted a whole section of the Sermon on the Mount to it. But first, let's make certain that we understand the kind of love that Jesus is talking about. The love Jesus is talking about is not some kind of romantic love or erotic love. Jesus is talking about God's Love.

Look at the text: Matt. 5:43 "Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy. 44 But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;"

Our love must go beyond our neighbors. We must love our enemy. These are those mean people; we all have them in our life, all of us know them. And Jesus said that we have to love them. This goes against all that's within us. The natural man wants to avenge himself. The natural man wants to do to others what they have done to him. Listen, instead of responding back to them with cursing, we are to respond by blessing them. As Christians, we must return good for evil as an investment of love.

God is our example in loving our enemies. If God showers His love on all mankind including his enemies, then we should be able to do the same.

Happy Valentine's Day

Pastor and Lady Herring, Sr.

THE INSPIRATION

Prayer for our Pastor

Holy Father, we come today, in the precious name of your Son, Jesus The Christ. Father we come asking for Grace and Mercy on behalf of our Pastor. We ask also, that You lead and guide him in his role as Angel of this house we call Mt Bethel. As we approach this New Year we pray that he receives strength from You hour by hour, day by day and month by month. Lord we pray that he will graciously take assistance from those who sincerely offer, as You grant him wisdom for any challenges that he may face in the days to come, always reminding Him that He also needs a break from Your people, but NEVER from You. God let him always remember when he is overwhelmed with any situation, to cry to You and only You for help. Now Father as we close this Prayer, we remember his family, praying that they always commit their works unto You Lord, so that all of their thoughts will be established. We ask and count these things already done in Jesus' name. Amen and Amen.



P. Cross

Stop Letting People Upset You!!

When we allow what people say, how they feel about us, or their opinions toward us affect our behavior, we give them power and control over us. There will be times when you will experience hurt and pain, as the result of other people, but you must learn how to deal with the situation without allowing people to get the best of you. Remember no one can upset you unless you allow them. (Ephesians 4:26 - Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath)

(Proverbs 3:5 -Trust in the LORD with all thine heart and lean not unto thine own understanding) The struggles u are facing has nothing to do with whether or not God can do it. The struggles come because you still think you can. As long as u think you have what it takes to do what only God can do you will always trust yourself more than the Master. Sooner or later you will realize God does not need help being God.

D. Bell



Go Red for National Heart Month



Why Go Red? Cardiovascular disease in the U.S. kill approximately one woman every 80 seconds. The good news is that 80 percent of cardiac events may be prevented with education and lifestyle changes. Go Red for Women advocates for more research and swifter action for women's heart health.

Go Red For Women is a movement that starts with you. Lead by example and make the time to "Know Your Numbers." It's knowledge that could save your life. Five numbers, that all women should know to take control of their heart health are: Total Cholesterol, HDL (good) Cholesterol, Blood Pressure, Blood Sugar and Body Mass Index (BMI). Knowing these numbers can help women and their healthcare provider determine their risk for developing cardiovascular diseases. It's time for all women to learn the most critical numbers in their life — their hearts depend on it.

If you had heart disease, would you recognize the symptoms? You might be thinking, "Of course!" Many people are familiar with the scene of a man clutching his chest and falling to the ground, but there's plenty more you need to know.

While there are many similarities in the symptoms of heart disease in men and women, there are even more differences — differences that could save, or end your life if you don't know them. So before you pass that jaw pain off as the result of sleeping funny or lightheadedness as something a snack or rest can fix, learn the symptoms. And don't ignore them. To learn more visit: <https://www.goredforwomen.org/>



African-Americans Black History Month

Ten Little Known Black History Facts

Here are some black inventors that you may not have heard of and what made them famous:

1. Benjamin Banneker—Almanac
2. Patricia Bath—Laser surgical device
3. Charles Drew—Blood bank
4. Thomas Elkins—Modern toilet
5. Philip Emeagwali—World's fastest computer
6. Frederick Jones—Refrigeration machine
7. Lewis Latimer—Light bulb
8. Alexander Miles—Improved elevator
9. Garrett Morgan—Traffic light, gas mask
10. Daniel Hale Williams—Pioneer of open heart surgery

A HALF CENTURY OF LOVING

"I, ____, take thee, ____, to be my wedded husband/wife, to have and to hold, from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death do us part, according to God's holy ordinance; and thereto I pledge thee my faith [or] pledge myself to you."

Over the years the ceremony of marriage has changed. It is about how much money is spent, the venue, the dress and not about the vows that are taken. These couples had very simple beginning. Yes, that ceremony was important and not the venue. Some got married in a family member's home, in a judge's kitchen or at the court house. But wherever they were, God was in the midst. These couples have stood the test of time to be married a half century plus years. As I spoke with each couple I learned one main point: "If it had not been for the Lord, were would they be."

If you understand that no marriage is perfect, that there are many peaks and valleys that you must encounter along the way, then you have reached the first check point. Marriage is not a race, it's a marathon, slow and steady with loving days and sleepless nights; hardships, misunderstandings, good days, loving moments with your children, and moments when your children test your patience and faith. But with God all things are possible. It takes two people working together, communicating and knowing you both have a role to play in the success of your story.

I'm still a hopeless romantic, so all you singles that desire this special union, don't give up or in. God has someone for everyone.



Deacon Bobby and Elaine Smiley - 50 years



Alvin and Paytie Cross - 52 years

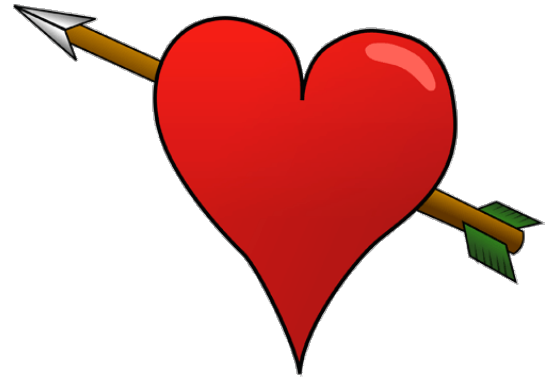


Deacon Wilbur and Mary Helen Bellamy – 56 years





Deacon William and Vivian Cherry - 60 years



Deacon Eddie and Catherine Wright - 60 years



James and Daisy Gloster - 60 years



Richard and Rosa Lockwood - 60 years

JANUARY 2018 BLANKET GIVE-A-WAY

(Acts 20:35 - *I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.*)

There are things in our lives that we take for granted each day such as a roof over our head, clothes to keep us warm, personal hygiene items, and/or something to eat. Jacksonville has its share of folks who for one reason or another are homeless due to loss of a job, a home and everything in it being destroyed by fire or some natural disaster, or someone in an abusive situation needing help until they can get back on their feet.

For the past six years the Music and Arts Ministry, spearheaded by Sis. Lynette Greene, has held a “blanket drive” for Jacksonville’s homeless. This year’s event was held on Saturday, January 6th. The areas targeted were the Sulzbacher Center, the park near 8th street and UF Health, the City Rescue Mission area, Hemming Park Plaza and neighboring downtown areas. The Sulzbacher Center is home to more than 300 homeless, many of whom are children.

Through the work of Sister Greene and her “helpers,” we were able to pass out blankets, goodie snack bags, toiletry bags, skull caps and gloves. Present were members of Mt. Bethel, along with their kids, who had their first experience seeing up close and personal just what these people go through and how grateful they are to receive these items. The workers inside the Sulzbacher Center were very grateful to see Mt. Bethel come through for them for the seventh year.

The goal of the “Blanket Drive” is to be able to pass out 200 or more items each year. If you would like to donate something toward this worthy cause anytime through the year, kindly see Sister Lynette Greene for the details of what is needed. On behalf of Sister Greene and Bro. Richard Hill III, Minister of Music, the Music and Arts Ministry would like to thank everyone who assisted in this year’s effort. Be on the lookout for the next one.

There is a song by Kirk Franklin called “Could’ve been” that we need to think about whenever we pass through an area of any city in the United States, because that person you see out there who is in need could be you one day.

“It could've been me with no clothes, No shoes and no food to eat.

It could've been me, without Your love; Lord, tell me where would I be?

It could've been Me in the cold with (Everything gone)

No house, no job (Outside all alone), Sitting trying to figure out (Where I went wrong)

Can somebody help me? (Tell me, what do I do?)

Can't feed my kids need (Money for the rent), Bills after bills but (Everything's spent)

The enemy telling me you (Might as well quit and) With tears in my eyes crying (Lord, please get me through)

See, it's easy to complain ('Bout material things) When you don't have to worry ('Bout whatever life brings)

But somebody tonight (Don't know what they gonna eat) So I gotta be careful ('Cause it could've been me)

See that's the reason (I just can't thank You enough) No matter how hard I try, Jesus I realize

Thank You, thank you, could've been me (Then I) You didn't have to do it, no, thank You

Too good to stop now, Father, I wanna give You thanks some more

All the things I've been through, Now I see I'm better than I was before

When I think about all You've done, How You've opened up every door

I can't help but say thank You, And if You wanna help me get up on the floor

(Help me now).”

D Bell



MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.



T R U T H P E C N A T S I S E R L S N
P O A T L A N T A G E O R G I A Y D K
C A D V A N C E M E N T E E C T F C H
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activist
advancement
Atlanta Georgia
civil rights
clergyman
courage
freedom
historian
human dignity
humanitarian



icon
I Have A Dream
influential
justice
leader
marches
March on Washington
Nobel peace prize
nonviolence
organizer



politician
protests
racial inequality
radical
religious
resistance
segregation
speaker
struggle
truth

Highlighting Dea. Stanley Holsey and the Convention

In churches today, you have various ministries that assist a pastor in making a church run smoothly, such as a men's ministry, a women's ministry, an usher board, etc. You also have these same type of ministries in a state convention setting under various denominations throughout the United States. One in particular is the Laymen's Movement (men's ministry). The President of the State Convention appoints his people to lead each ministry, and Dea. Donald Rogers, a member of First New Zion MBC, was appointed by Rev. James B Sampson, his Pastor and President of the Florida General Bapt. Convention. One of Dea. Rogers's jobs was to appoint a staff to assist him and one of our very own, Dea. Stanley Holsey, was appointed as 4th Vice President of the State Laymen's Movement. Deacon Holsey is responsible for the NE Region, which includes the Gateway, Emanuel Progressive, Mount Zion NE Coast, Saint Johns River, Union Saint James, and the Union Progressive Baptist Associations. Deacon Holsey's term is will be for four years or eight years depending upon who is the state president. One of the factors that Dea. Holsey was chosen by Dea. Rogers for this position is that our very own Empowered Brethren ministry has become a standard for other churches to strive for, based upon the various activities that our Brethren do throughout the year. Dea. Holsey stated that



being chosen for this position is an honor and one that he does not take lightly. One of his latest outings was the National Convention Winter Board meeting recently held in Mobile, AL from January 8 – 11, 2018. Dea. Holsey brings back to our Brethren information from such local, state and national meetings throughout the year. Congratulations, Dea. Holsey, on this awesome task that has been bestowed upon you.

Some facts about Deacon Holsey:

Florida General Baptist Convention Inc – Laymen's Auxiliary

4th Vice President, Coordinator for the FGBCI retreat site – Palatka, FL

Stewardship – August 2015 FGBCI Congress of Christian Education – Daytona Beach, FL

National Baptist Laymen's Movement

October 2015 – Walter Cade Jr. 19th Annual SE Regional Workshop – Augusta, GA

November 2015 – First Central Assoc. Laymen's Annual Address, 5th Vice President, Dea. Robert Daniel

West Coast Baptist Assoc. Laymen's Annual address – Laymen coordinator, Dea. Dunbar

December 2015 – FGBCI winter board meeting – St. Augustine, FL

February 2016 – Seaboard District Association Laymen's Annual Address – Dea. Woodrow Wilson

April 2016 – Florida General Baptist state convention – Kissimmee, FL

June 2017 – National Baptist Convention Congress of Christian Education – Tampa, FL

January 2017 – National Baptist Convention Winter Board Meeting – Birmingham, AL

April 2017 – FGBCI – Kissimmee, FL

June 2017 – Emanuel Progressive District Congress of Christian Education – Philadelphia Baptist church

September 2017 – National Baptist Convention – Cincinnati, OH

October 2017 – Gateway Assoc. Laymen– State Laymen's president, Dea. Donald Rogers, First New Zion

Emanuel Progressive Assoc. Laymen President's Annual Address, Dea. Leroy Kohn, and Moderator

Johnny T. Johnson's Annual Address. Dea. Holsey was appointed Emanuel's new Laymen's President.

National Bapt. Convention's 21st Annual Walter Cade, Jr. Southeast Regional workshop – Orlando, FL

Congratulations!



Swearing In Ceremony

Congratulations to Judge Karen Simmons-Person who was sworn in on January 2, 2018, for her third six year term as a Municipal Court Judge in Philadelphia, Pa. In attendance to witness this event were her husband, Attorney John Person, her son, Chazz, her stepdaughter, Shayla, and her mother, Mrs. Frances Williams. A product of the Moncrief Creek area and childhood member of Mt. Bethel, she is the sister of Min. Sandra McCoy, Rev. Michael McCoy and Dr. Toni Simmons-Scott.



“Honor, Courage, Commitment” Hoorah!

On December 1, 2017, 2nd Class Petty Officer Quiyana Pollard-Whitley was promoted to E-5, IT2 in a ceremony held in VA. This is the 5th rank for an enlisted navy person. Quiyana is the wife of Marvin Whitley, the daughter of Sis. Chiquita Harris and Brian Pollard and the granddaughter of Sis. Renetta McIntosh. Continue to trust and serve the Lord and He will be your Shield and Buckler.



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MT. BETHEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

February 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 HOLY COMMUNION SUNDAY 9:30A Sunday School New Members Class 11A Morning Worship	5 6:00P Empowered Brethren	6 6:30P Sun School Teachers 7:00P Youth Explosion 7:00P Mid-Week Prayer & Bible Study	7 9:00A Prayer Line 11:30A Clothes Closet 11:30A Noon Day Prayer 6:30P Dance Ministry 7:00P SAT Sanctuary Choir	8	9	10
11 8:00A Early Worship 9:30A Sunday School 11A Morning Worship	12 6:00P Baptist Training Union	13 6:30P Sun School Teachers 7:00P Youth Explosion 7:00P Mid-Week Prayer & Bible Study	14 9:00A Prayer Line 11:30A Clothes Closet 11:30A Noon Day Prayer 6:30P Dance Ministry 7:00P SAT Sanctuary Choir	15	16	17
18 8:00A Early Worship 9:30A Sunday School 11:00A Morning Worship 4:00P Church Outing Greater Macedonia Baptist 5:00P Baptist Training Union	19	20 6:30P Sun School Teachers 7:00P Youth Explosion 7:00P Mid-Week Prayer & Bible Study	21 9:00A Prayer Line 11:30A Clothes Closet 11:30A Noon Day Prayer 6:30P Dance Ministry 7:00P SAT Sanctuary Choir	22	23	24 9:00A Deaconess Ministry
25 8:00A Early Worship 9:30A Sunday School 11A Morning Worship	26 5:P Missionary Society 6:30P Trustee Ministry 7:30P Deacons	27 6:30P Sun School Teachers 7:00P Youth Explosion 7:00P Mid-Week Prayer & Bible Study	28 9:00A Prayer Line 11:30A Clothes Closet 11:30A Noon Day Prayer 6:30P Dance Ministry 7:00P SAT Sanctuary Choir	BLACK HISTORY MONTH		