

MESSAGE FROM THE MOUNT

VFIM



MAAFALEGACY

HYE WON HYE
"that which does not burn "
symbol of imperishability and endurance

credits

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PASTOR'S PEN



Namaste My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We greet you in the name of our Lord and savior, Jesus, The Christ. Wow! This year seemed to fly by quicker than usual. I don't know about you but it's hard to believe that this is actually the first Sunday in the last month of 2017. By God's grace and mercy, we have been fortunate to see this day. If 2017 has taught us anything, it has taught us (I pray) to appreciate even more every moment and every day we have on this earth.

November was an eventful month with both celebrations and challenges, gains and losses. We were certainly proud of the cast and crew of this year's MAFA Legacy commemoration. In particular, we honor the gift and spirit resident in the persons of Shanna Melton and Gina LeVon Simpson, #blackpeoplerock. We also are thankful for the thoughtful work declared by Rev. Xavier Pickett whose word was complimented by a very anointed and dynamic woman of healing praise from the Mount Pisgah Baptist Church, Brooklyn, New York.

November was also a month of unexpected losses. In addition to several disciples having to say a physical goodbye to their various family member and friends, we, collectively as a congregation, had to face the unexpected passing of our young brother Jordan Soares and Brother Phil Tyner. Our prayers continue to intercede on behalf of all families and communities impacted by all of these losses. I am thankful for

God's space to grieve and to miss them. I am also strengthened by God's word that reminds us we grieve yet we grieve in the hope of Jesus' resurrection which ultimately means, through faith we shall see our loved ones again.

In the midst of all the loss, so many within our congregation have sought to lend their helping hand. To you I say "Thank you." Let me also thank Liza Clark and all those who have assisted her in hosting our extended community thanksgiving luncheon and coat giveaway. So many acts of ministry take place both within and outside the walls of this congregation.

During this month of December, our liturgical guide reminds us of the season of Jesus' birth. I dare say, in times of much loss and death and overall anxieties about the state of our country and communities, the season of advent comes right on time. We invite each and every one of you to not only attend our various advent worship celebrations and Bible Study, but please come on out to our Christmas and watchnight worship experiences.

God bless you,

Pastor Anthony L. Bennett. D. Min.
Lead Pastor

IMPORTANT DATES

During this season of prayer, call in to the prayer line at 7:00am daily at 319-527-3510 and the callback number to 319-527-3518. The participant access code is 111933#. The calls are recorded so please mute your phone to eliminate background noise. Please note that long distance charges may apply.

9th Annual Holy Spirit Discernment Session, Wednesday, December 6th at 7pm.

The next New Disciples Class is Saturday, December 16, 2017 at 9am. For more information, call the church or see Sis. Fran Spinks or Sis. Kathy Adams. All info is in the Narthex.

The Re-Entry Ministry is kicking off its Annual Angel Tree Program. The event is Saturday, December 16th from 12-4pm. We have been assigned 60 children and we are in need of your assistance. Please stop by the table in the narthex to sign up to purchase a gift for a child.

Kwanzaa Celebration Sunday, December 17th at 3pm.

Christmas Worship Service Monday, December 25th at 10am.

On New Year's Eve, Sunday, December 31, 2017 we will only have one service at 9:30am, Vesper service at 6pm and Watchnight service at 10pm.

Announcements

- **Message from the Mount** is seeking help with the printing of the MFTM and assisting in the print center. We will train. Please contact Deacon Henry Smalls if you have any questions and are willing to assist.
- **Our Strategic Planning Team** is ministering through social service by serving breakfast at the Merton House once per month. They are expanding this effort by serving every 2nd Saturday. **WE NEED YOUR HELP!** If you are interested in participating, please see Karen Whittington or leave your information in the church office.
- **Here's a new and exciting way** to join in worship with us. Follow us on Ustream.tv. Simply visit this link <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/mount-aery-baptist-church> or go the www.mtaerybaptist.org and scroll to the bottom to select the Ustream link there. Please be sure to pass the link to your friends and family as well so they can be blessed by our ministry.
- **Generation Next Youth Ministry** is calling all youth ages 3-18. Youth Church for the 2017 year will be held at the 11:00 am services on 2nd and 3rd Sunday of each month! Please see Minister Michael Walton or Claudine Mosely-Walton for more information!
- **Chosen Generation** is inviting everyone from the ages of 13-27 to join this youth and young adult choir. Please see Brother D'Andre Haynes or Rev. Ina Alisa Anderson with your interest.
- **Lost and Found** – Several pairs of glasses, sunglasses, bibles and other lost items are in the church office. If you have lost anything, please check the church office. Items may be given away if left any longer. Thank you.
- **Deacons on Call** are Deacons Gardner & Lee.
- **Submissions of announcements and due dates:**
 - o **Message From The Mount**
 - Send information to mftm@mtaerybaptist.org by the second Wednesday after the first Sunday
 - o **Monitors in the Sanctuary**
 - Send information to media@mtaerybaptist.org by Wednesday before the Sunday you want the announcement
 - Please make sure that your announcement is in PowerPoint format.
- If announcements are not received by the due dates they may be omitted or placed in the next edition.
- **No Pork on Church Property**
 - o **For health, healing and sensitivity for those with health conditions**, no pork is to be brought on church premises (i.e. ministry affairs and/or catering).
- **NO Food or Beverage in the Sanctuary**
 - o Please, please, please, do not bring food or beverages into the sanctuary. Parents, please feed infants and toddlers in the Wilson Hall or the Bass Hall. It is everyone's responsibility to be good stewards of the building that God has blessed us with. If you see anyone not being responsible, please get an Usher or a Deacon to handle the situation. Thank you.
- **Parents**, while you are in worship, your children should be in worship next to you, unless Youth Church is in session. Teenagers have been wandering around the church and the younger children have been playing in the Quiet Room. **The Quiet Room is for parents with infants only. Please keep your children with you at all times.**

OUR VISION STATEMENT

To equip the disciples of Mount Aery Baptist Church with the biblical and relational wisdom for the spiritual, educational and social work of ministry beginning in the Hollow Section of Bridgeport, then spreading throughout the Greater Bridgeport Area. - *Ephesians 4:11-12 and Acts 2:44-47*

Edify ~ Equip ~ Engage

Hospitalization & Nursing Home

Please be aware that there are strict legal and ethical guidelines regarding giving out patient information. Therefore, if you are hospitalized and desire pastoral support, you or your family member must notify the church office in advance, if possible. When you are admitted, state your denomination and place of worship.

Clyde McLaughlin

The Carolton Chronic & Convalescent Hospital,
400 Mill Plain Rd, Fairfield, CT 06824

Mary Ryan

Northbridge Health Care Center, 2875 Main Street,
Bridgeport, CT 06606

Sandra Stephenson

Bridgeport Hospital, 267 Grant Street 9th fl East #9016,
Bridgeport, CT 06610

Roger Mullins, Sr.

Willows Rehabilitation and Nursing Center, 225 Amity Road,
Woodbridge, CT 06525

Frances Riley

Bridgeport Healthcare, 600 Bond Street, Room 525,
Bridgeport, CT 06610

Lemme McIntosh

West River Rehab, 245 Orange Avenue, Milford, CT 06461

Eunice Roundtree

Northbridge Rehab, 2875 Main Street, #322, Bridgeport, CT
06606

Please address all correspondences for the above disciples to the church and the administrative office will forward all mail. Thank you for your cooperation.

Welcome Song

Welcome to Mount Aery
We're so glad you came
You're welcome to
Mount Aery
Where everybody comes to
give God praise

Welcome to Mount Aery
Where the spirit
Of the Lord
Is moving free
Right here, at seven three (73)
Frank Street

Bereavement

- **Tom Butcher and family** on the loss of his cousin.
- **Mildred Howard and family** on the loss of her cousin.
- **Eunice Roundtree and family** on the loss of her sister, Irma Roundtree.
- **The Soares, Blue, and Hardison family** on the loss of Jordon Soares.
- **Diane (Dee) Tyner and family** on the loss of her husband, Phil Tyner.
- **Thomas Smith** on the loss of his mother-in-law Sherry Thompson.
- **Tracey & Deacon Julian JeanBaptiste and family** on the loss of her mother, Elaine Craig.
- **Deacon Avery & Kim Lee and family** on the loss of his grandmother, Mary Melvin.

Please Pray for Our Healing List

Shirley Borum
Elease Breedlove
Isaiah Brown
Carol Carter-Mims
George Cauthen
Lucille Cauthen
Joan H. Colley
Minister Odell Cooper
Tracey Nicole Craig
Deaconess Louise Cunningham
Richard Dailey
Frances Dicks
Ruth Hasty-Dove
Sandra Dunn
James Freeman
Deacon Minnie Grant
Ruth Harvin
Deacon Jeffrey Hill
Deacon Naomi Holmes
Deacon Primus Jackson
Unice Jones
Maria Knight
Cheryl Lewis
Jordan Alexander Lewis
Lemme McIntosh

Mary McRae
Autumn Mitton
Caleb Mitton
Spring Mitton
Edward A. Morris
Deacon Regina Mosely
Hadassah Nightingale
Austin Perkins
Eulalia Pettway
Terrance Quiller
Arthur Ragsdale
Waverly Ragsdale
Frances Riley
Esther Ryan
Rose Samuel
Sandra Simpson
Linda Suggs
Herb Sutton
Paula Watkins
Dorothy Watts
Barbara Wilson
Michelle Lisa Wilson
Jacqueline Tyson-Wright
Willie Mae Wright

TAKING CARE OF YOU STARTS TODAY!

by Cathy Patton

The air is filled with a chill, and it wakes you up the moment you take a step outside. Traffic is hectic and everyone seems to be in a rush to get nowhere and everywhere. The stores and malls are packed with people spending money they should be saving or using toward more meaningful things. Party invites and organizational events are every weekend, and in between all of that, we are working, taking care of family and home. It is December, and holiday stress has set in.

Last month, I reminded you not to let the stress of a season that is meant for celebration, run you down. Everyone gets tired; it's normal. It is the way your body tells you that it is time to rest. But when you get exhausted, that is when it is really time to stop everything and remember to take time caring for YOU!

Don't wait until January to begin a health regimen. Taking care of you can and should begin right now, that way when January comes, you will be ahead of the game. Parties will come and go; gifts will be opened and either used or returned; food will be digested and turkey will become left over sandwiches, but your health is something you want to last a lifetime. Here are health tips I want you to wrap up in a nice big bow and give to yourself as a gift, starting today.

1. Do some type of movement everyday for no less than 30 minutes.

- a. If you can watch a TV show for an hour, you can move for at least 30 minutes during that time. So sit in a chair or stand and march in place, or do some sit-ups or squats during the commercials.
- b. If you have to shop, park further away from the stores you need to visit (keep safety in mind at all times), or once in the mall, take the long way to the store you must visit.
- c. The air is certainly crisp these days, so take a nice brisk walk around your block or up and down your driveway.

2. Everyone will overindulge at mealtime, but be mindful of what goes on your plate.

- a. More proteins and veggies and less carbs.
- b. Always ask yourself, "Is this something I want, or is it something I need?"
- c. Choose to drink water with your meal, rather than the family sweet tea.

3. Begin cleaning out those kitchen cabinets and refrigerator. Get rid of the tempting carbs and replace them with healthy snacks.

- a. Replace the chips with air popped popcorn.
- b. If you need that mid-night snack, try sugar-free jello and low-fat whipped topping and/or Greek yogurt.
- c. Fill that veggie and fruit drawer in your fridge, with veggies and fruit.

4. You know that bucket list you keep pushing back, start working on those items today.

- a. Take a dance class, like salsa or ballroom, or even better, Zumba.
- b. Visit an actual bookstore, and have fun finding something that will spark your interest (great time to ask your family for gift cards).
- c. Time to learn a new language, or pull out the sewing machine and make some of your Christmas gifts.
- d. Check out group, it is a great way to get deals for On-line classes and to also find new hobbies.

These are just a few tips that you can begin today, but of course there are many more. Good health is something you have to work on everyday. No one knows your body better than you, so revitalize that relationship and get ready to welcome a new and healthier you.

MEATLOAF AND GRITS AND CHEESE CASSEROLE

by Jennifer Bruton, RDH, MS Master of Science, Human Nutrition



Meat loaf

Preparation Time: 10 minutes

Baking time: 45 - 60 minutes

Servings: 6-10

INGREDIENTS

1. 2 lbs. ground beef or turkey
2. 1/2 cup onion chopped and sautéed
3. 1 package Lipton onion soup mix
4. 3/4 cup oatmeal or 1 sleeve of crushed Ritz crackers
5. 2 large eggs
6. 2-3 tablespoon worstershire sauce
7. 2-3 tablespoons yellow mustard
8. Salt and pepper to taste

DIRECTIONS

Preheat oven to 375 degrees.
Place all ingredients listed a large bowl. Use your hands to mix until ingredients all well combined.
Spray a 9x13 baking dish with cooking spray.
Place meatloaf mixture in the baking dish and form into a loaf.

Grits and Cheese Casserole

Preparation time: 15 minutes

Cooking time: 45 minutes plus 10 minutes cooling

INGREDIENTS

- 3 cups cooked grits
- 2 cups grated sharp cheddar cheese
- 1/4 cup butter
- 2 eggs
- Salt and pepper to taste

DIRECTIONS

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Spray a 8x8 baking dish with cooking spray. Place the prepared grits in mixing bowl. Add the cheese, butter, salt and pepper to the grits. Stir until well combined. Beat eggs and gradually add to grits mixture stirring the entire time. Place grits and cheese mixture into prepared baking dish. Bake for 45 minutes. Let stand for 10 minutes before serving. Makes 8 servings

MINISTRY OF THE MONTH



 Mount Aery Baptist Church
MINISTRY OF THE MONTH
Angel Tree Ministry



Pictured: Deacons Luis & Annette Febres,
Andrea Barge, and Robin Shepherd



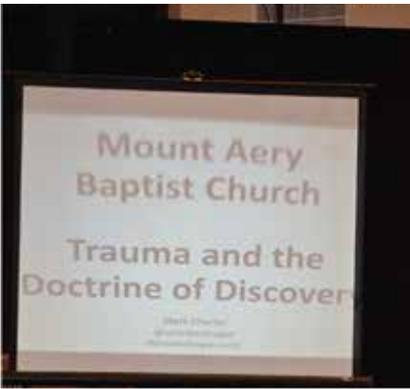
The Angel Tree Ministry of Mt Aery Baptist Church looks to do what God would have us to do on Christmas. When a parent is incarcerated their children are often left out and neglected, but on Christmas we celebrate the love of God with the children of incarcerated parents and their caregivers through fellowship and gift giving. Each year the Angel Tree Ministry hosts an event in December and enlists the help of the congregation to purchase gifts. Thank you Mt Aery for your outpouring of support and always displaying the spirit of the season, giving unselfishly to ensure the families and children feel the love of their incarcerated parents.

MAAFA LECTURE

by Chelsea Morton



During the week of MAAFA, Native American Historian, Dr. Mark Charles visited the Mount Aery Baptist Church. He gave a lecture offering truths of our history here in America. He broke down documents that shaped our country such as the United State Constitution and the Declaration of Independence. He showed that they were never meant for people of color and in order to ensure equity, they both would have to be changed. He showed how the 13th amendment did not fully abolish slavery, continuing to keep slavery legal in prisons throughout this country. The number of African American inmates is higher in this country than the number of slaves that were in the 1800s.

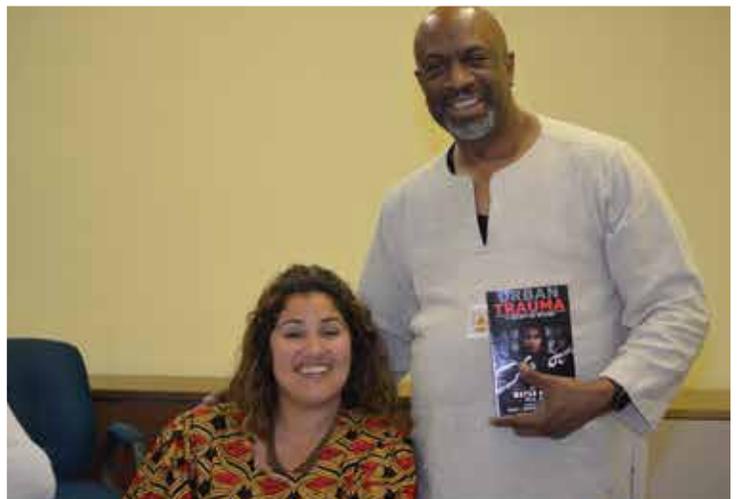


He taught us that what Jesus came here to do, had been misinterpreted by Europeans. The Europeans believed they were to build a Christian Empire, forcing everyone into Christianity whether by free will or by force. They called people who did not worship the Christian God, infidels mostly referring to Muslims and Native Americans. Europeans thought of people of color as subhuman, and some not as human at all. That led to ethnic cleansing, killing off thousands of indigenous people, culture and history. This also enabled Europeans to force their Christian beliefs on both Africans and indigenous people.



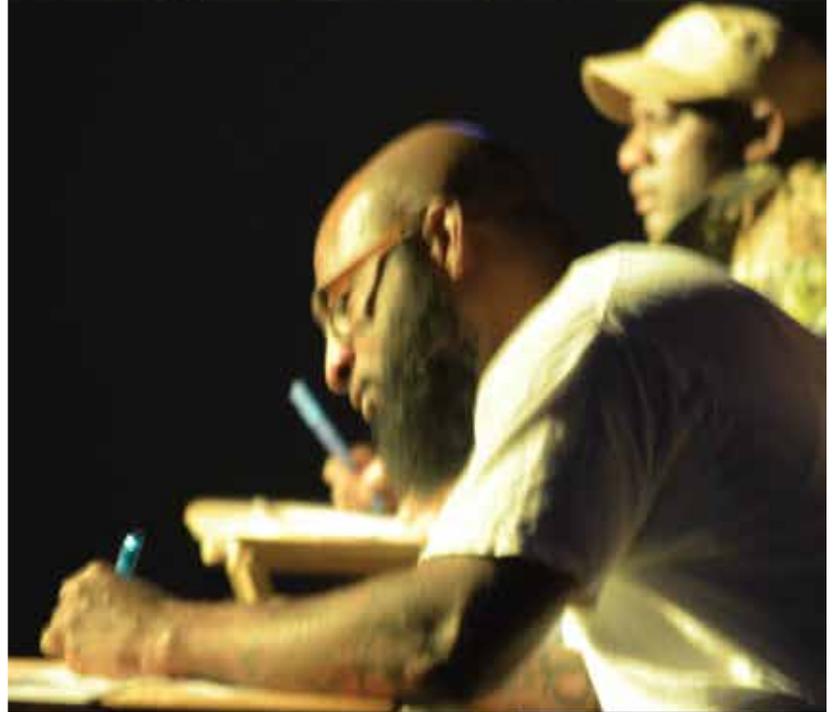
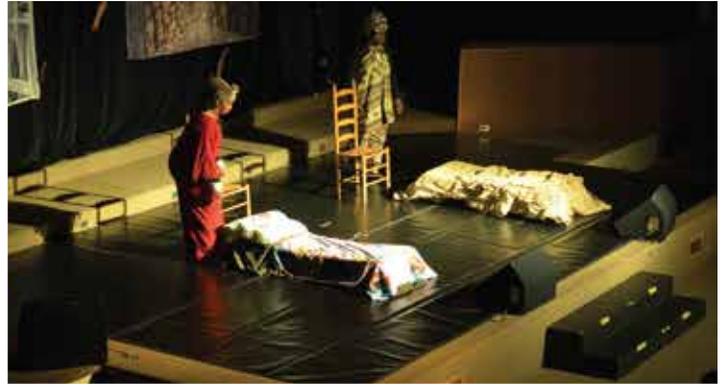
Dr. Mark Charles stated that, eventually, a conversation would have to be held in this country regarding race relations and equity not equality. As Christians we have to realize that not only are indigenous people and people of color traumatized, but white America is also traumatized by what they did. Also, we have to acknowledge the fact that we will have to talk about uncomfortable and difficult topics that white America has continued to avoid. From this lecture I felt informed and empowered with truths. This encouraged me to look into the documents that shaped America, so that eventually I could use my knowledge to help make change for people of color.

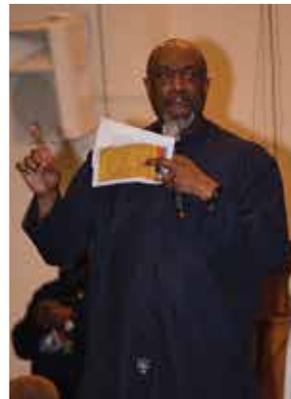




















WE MATTER



Elias Montero--My Life Matters to God because I am helpful, kind-hearted, and smart. I care about the world He made for us. I love helping people with their problems. I love going to church to praise our Lord.



Elise Wilson--My Life Matters to God because I am a people person; kind and friendly to people. I love reading devotion with my family. I love the Lord for giving me the breath of life every morning. I want to praise the Lord and not disobey him.



Ahmad Logan Bennett--I matter to God because I am His child! He has blessed me with my mom and dad, and other family members, like my brother Jaden. My mom and dad raise me to believe in God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. They also raise me to believe in myself and to be kind, helpful, and grateful. They have encouraged me to believe that I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength. I know that God loves me and I feel it when I am in church, even as a little kid. God is raising me to believe in my family, and I want to let my light shine for him. My life and light matters to God because he has used me to minister to and love others like my grandma who passed away.



Jaden Joseph--Do you know why my life matters to God? I do! God has put me in this world to do great things: To inspire and help others; to make people happy and show them my talents. I am not perfect, but I deserve to be treated fairly—not gunned down on the streets! Life is a struggle and people will say negative things, but God says to work harder to reach your goals. I can do great things by earning my education in order to make things better for others. If my life did not matter, why would I be here? Everyone’s life matters; it’s just what you do with it that makes a difference.



Durojaiye Adetona--My life matters because I have a family who loves me. I say this because, if my life didn’t matter, my family wouldn’t love me. But, because they do, it matters. Also, my life matters because I am a smart young boy who gets good grades, and I make my parents proud. I like to make people happy when they are sad because I don’t like to see people upset. That’s why my life matters to God.



Jayvon Givan--I am a miracle child. My mommy and daddy prayed for me and so did some of you, so THANK YOU! My life matters to God because of his grace and mercy, I am so grateful. God loves me and he loves when I sing praises to him. Here is a song that touches God’s heart and I hope you enjoy it too. (Jayvon sings)

You were my strength when I was weak
 You were my voice when I couldn't speak
 You were my eyes when I couldn't see
 You saw the best there was in me
 Lifted me up when I couldn't reach
 You gave me faith 'coz you believed
 I'm everything I am Because you loved me!



Gisselle Collier--My life matters to God because I am God’s child, and I am loved by God. No one is more important than anyone else. He created me to spread His word. God also created me to follow the Ten Commandments. I will not kill; I will not wish for a life that is not mine; and I will not disobey God. We were all created to be like the disciples in Jesus’ time. I am one of them, and I am proud.



Vanessa Theagene--My life matters to God because I am friendly and respectful to people. I go to church and receive all my sacraments. I also pray to God every night. I am also caring to people. That is why my life matters to God.

STILL I RISE

by Maya Angelou

You may write me down in history
With your bitter, twisted lies,
You may trod me in the very dirt
But still, like air, I'll rise.

Does my sassiness upset you?
Why are you beset with gloom?
'Cause I walk like I've got oil wells
Pumping in my living room.

Just like moons and like suns
With the certainty of tides
Just like hopes springing high
Still I'll rise.

Did you want to see me broken?
Bowed head and lowered eyes?
Shoulders falling down like teardrops,
Weakened by my soulful cries?
Does my haughtiness offend you?
Don't you take it awful hard
'Cause I laugh like I've got gold mines
Diggin' in my own backyard.

You may shoot me with your words
You may cut me with your eyes,
You may kill me with your hatefulness,
But still, like life, I'll rise.

Does my sexiness upset you?
Does it come as a surprise
That I dance like I've got diamonds
At the meeting of my thighs?

Out of the huts of history's shame
I rise
Up from a past that's rooted in pain
I rise
I'm a black ocean, leaping and wide,
Welling and swelling I bear in the tide.
Leaving behind nights of terror and fear
I rise
Into a daybreak that's miraculously clear
I rise
Bringing the gifts that my ancestors gave,
I am the hope and the dream of the slave.
I rise
I rise
I rise.

BASKETBALL TEAMS QUIZ

Do you enjoy watching or playing the fast-paced game of basketball? Squigly has thought of ten teams that play in the NBA. Can you finish each team's name?

- | | | | | |
|-----|-------------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. | Chicago | Bucks | Bulls | Beatles |
| 2. | Dallas | Raptors | Stallions | Mavericks |
| 3. | Toronto | Blue Birds | Grizzlies | Champions |
| 4. | Denver | Greens | Nuggets | Diamonds |
| 5. | Los Angeles | Kings | Flyers | Lakers |
| 6. | Boston | Garden | Celtics | Mavericks |
| 7. | New York | Bucks | Knicks | Nuggets |
| 8. | Memphis | Kings | Raptors | Grizzlies |
| 9. | Milwaukee | Bulls | Bucks | Nuggets |
| 10. | Sacramento | Mavericks | Kings | Bucks |

squiglyplayhouse.com

WORD SEARCH

by Deacon Kathy Tabb-Small

"God's Reward Attained thru Christian Engagement, our new section designated for our seasoned saints. Enjoy!!!!

WE STILL RISE

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

ACCELLARATE
ACCESSION
ADVANCE
BALLOON
BILLOW
BOOST
BREAKTHROUGH

BULGE
CLIMB
EBB
ENLARGE
FLOW
GROWTH
HEAVE

HEIGHTEN
IMPROVE
INCREASE
INFLATE
INTENSIFY
MULTIPLY
PITCH

PROGRESS
PROMOTION
PUFF
RIPPLE
RISE
SURGE
SWELL
UPGRADE

HERSTORY—MRS. JOHNNIE FOXWORTH

by Deacon Kathy Tabb-Small



As dedicated disciples of Mt. Aery’s Visitation & Bereavement Ministry, about once per week, Sisters Alice Hanna & Barbara Smalls, head over to Middlebrook Farms Assisted Living facility located in Trumbull, CT, to enjoy a visit with Mr. & Mrs. Foxworth (Marvin & Johnnie). On one of their most recent visits, Mrs. Johnnie Foxworth shared just a ‘taste’ of HERSTORY!

Johnnie Foxworth (Hunter) was born in Anderson, S.C., moved to Bridgeport, CT at the age of 8, and became a member of Mt. Aery Baptist Church, where she worked in ministry as a Junior Missionary and an Usher.

Johnnie is married to her soul-mate, Mr. Marvin Foxworth and in September of 2017, they celebrated their 76th wedding anniversary!!! Johnnie is 84 and Marvin is 98 years young, and their love for one another is timeless.



Johnnie’s education includes her attendance at the prestigious Spelman College (Class of ’43) in Atlanta GA, while Marvin received his degree in Business Administration from Quinnipiac University in Hamden, CT. They established and are patrons of the Hunter-Foxworth Endowed Memorial Scholarship of Spelman College.

In 1972, Johnnie became the first African American Woman Assistant Director of Field Operations of the Department of Motor Vehicles in the state of Connecticut. Here’s an excerpt from the March 12, 1972 Bridgeport Post article (pg. 51):

“Monroeite (resides in Monroe) Sets a First for MVD (Motor Vehicle Department) Black Woman in Executive Role, just wants to do the job well. In response to the words, “Congratulations! It must be very exciting to be the first black woman in the state to be named a Motor Vehicle branch office manager. She (Johnnie) looks at you straight forwardly and replies, “Thank You! I intend to do the very best job I know how.” This has been the philosophy of Mrs. Johnnie Foxworth in every job she has ever attempted and she says—without apology, “It works best for me—just to get in there and do the best job I know how, and be nice to everyone, and respect the abilities of the other people with whom I am working. After all, they know something about their jobs too, and if we work together, we get the job done—a good job.” (Read in its entirety in MFTM’s future Black History highlights)

OUR TITHING COVENANT WITH GOD

By Michele Bryant

Namaste, my sisters and brothers,

In the October Message from the Mount, the focus in this section was the question of our satisfaction with our finances, some of the reasons why we might not be satisfied, and it concluded with a forward view of how our Financial Freedom classes would provide practical advice and guidance. The intent is to help us *begin to change the lens by which we view our relationship with God, specifically as it relates to our finances, to help us on this journey of entering into or strengthening our tithing covenant with God.*

It puzzles me (and I suspect Pastor Bennett as well!) as to why many people do not tithe or give at a consistent level, even if they are gainfully employed and able to pay their bills and other expenses. It could be that all the talk about a tithing relationship with God comes down to giving the money to the church and we are not clear as to how the money will be used. Or, we see that the doors are open, the lights and the heat are on, and everything is working properly so our money is not needed. “The church is doing alright” is what many of us think. How many of us come to the leadership meetings or the annual Holy Spirit Discernment Session (church business meeting) to actually understand the challenges of the church’s finances? The fact is, what we take in every Sunday is enough to keep the doors open, lights and heat on, and pay the staff, but what we miss is how difficult it is to have proper funding when an emergency happens such as a roof repair, air conditioning or elevator fixed, kitchen equipment replaced, and on and on. And, how much more could be offered in terms of programs for our youth, seniors, community and others, if our tithing levels matched our pew levels? When we give to the church, we invest in bringing God’s love to help a hurting world.

The focus for this article is to share some information with you on Mount Aery’s properties, and the current and future maintenance required for the upkeep.

Of course, 73 Frank Street is the Church building. We also own and are partnering with the following:

- 105 Frank Street
 - o Partnership with Ashefaith through Mount Aery

- Development Corporation
 - o Partnership with Naturopathic Clinic through University of Bridgeport
- 86 George Street
 - o Partnership with Optimus Health Care
- 62 George Street and 69 George Street – parking lots

As with our own homes, maintenance is required and bills need to be paid.

Some of our projects include, renovating our kitchens in the Bass Hall and the Wilson Hall, replacing the Wilson Hall flooring, removing the excessive plant life on all of our properties, and fixing and replacing our porches at the houses just to name a few. (An extensive list will be given at the annual Holy Spirit Discernment Session on December 6th.)

We will continue to feature an update in the MFTM of all projects the church has underway or expects to undertake in the coming months.

So yes, I strongly believe that tithing is the first step to Financial Freedom, because as it says in Malachi 3:10: **“Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse**, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the LORD Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.” But we also must know that our tithes and offerings are used for the upkeep of the house of the Lord.

Please know that the Finance Ministry is grateful to everyone that is faithfully committed to giving through tithing, offering and contributions. The ultimate goal for Mount Aery is that we are financially stable such that we can edify, equip, and engage for the welfare of the people!

Finance Ministry:

- Ramona Berry – Church Administrator
- Cynthia Seabrook – Treasurer
- Pat Allen – Financial Secretary
- Margo Lazaro – Assistant Financial Secretary

Thank you for reading.

safety precautions.

- o Learn how to *shut off water valves* (in case a pipe bursts).
- o Insulate your home by installing storm windows or covering windows with plastic from the inside to keep cold air out.
- Hire a contractor to check the structural ability of the roof to sustain unusually heavy weight from the accumulation of snow - or water, if drains on flat roofs do not work.
 - o If you have a wood burning fireplace, consider storing wood to keep you warm if winter weather knocks out your heat. Also, make sure you have your chimney cleaned and inspected every year.
 - o Have at least one of the following heat sources in case the power goes out:
- Extra blankets, sleeping bags and warm winter coats
- Fireplace or wood-burning stove with plenty of dry firewood, or a gas log fireplace
- *Prepare your vehicle:*
 - o Fully winterize your vehicle: Have a mechanic check antifreeze, brakes, heater and defroster, tires, and windshield wipers to ensure they are in good shape. Keep your gas tank at least half full.
 - o Keep an *extra emergency kit specifically created for your car*. In addition to the basic essentials, consider adding a portable cell phone charger, ice scraper, extra blanket, sand for traction and jumper cables.
 - o Rock salt or more environmentally safe products to melt ice on walkways. Visit the *Environmental Protection Agency* for a complete list of recommended products.
 - o Sand to improve traction.
- Make sure you have a cell phone with an emergency charging option (car, solar, hand crank, etc.) in case of a power failure.
- People who depend on electricity to operate medical equipment should have alternate arrangements in place in case power is out for an extended period of time.
- Plan to check on elderly/disabled relatives and neighbors.
- Plan to bring *pets* inside.
- Know where the manual release lever of your electric garage door opener is located and how to operate it in case you lose power.
- Fill a gallon container with water and place them in the freezer to help keep food cold.
- A NOAA Weather Radio broadcasts alerts and warnings directly from the NWS for all hazards. You may also sign up in advance to receive notifications from your local emergency services.



During Snowstorms and Extreme Cold

- Stay indoors during the storm.
- Drive only if it is absolutely necessary. If you must drive: travel in the day; don't travel alone; keep others informed of your schedule and your route; stay on main roads and avoid back road shortcuts.
- Walk carefully on snowy, icy, walkways.
- Avoid overexertion when shoveling snow. Overexertion can bring on a heart attack—a major cause of death in the winter. Use caution, take breaks, push the snow instead of lifting it when possible, and lift lighter loads.
- Keep dry. Change wet clothing frequently to prevent a loss of body heat. Wet clothing loses all of its insulating value and transmits heat rapidly.
- If you must go outside, wear several layers of loose-fitting, lightweight, warm clothing rather than one layer of heavy clothing. The outer garments should be tightly woven and water repellent.
- Wear mittens, which are warmer than gloves.
- Wear a hat and cover your mouth with a scarf to reduce heat loss.



Cold Related Illness

- *Frostbite is a serious condition that's caused by exposure to extremely cold temperatures.*
 - o a white or grayish-yellow skin area
 - o skin that feels unusually firm or waxy
 - o numbness
 - o *If you detect symptoms of frostbite, seek medical care.*
- *Hypothermia, or abnormally low body temperature, is a dangerous condition that can occur when a person is exposed to extremely cold temperatures.* Hypothermia is caused by prolonged exposures to very cold temperatures. When exposed to cold temperatures, your body begins to lose heat faster than it's produced. Lengthy exposures will eventually use up your body's stored energy, which leads to lower body temperature.
 - o Warnings signs of hypothermia:
 - o *Adults:* shivering, exhaustion, confusion, fumbling hands, memory loss, slurred speech drowsiness
 - o *Infants:* bright red, cold skin, very low energy
 If you notice any of these signs, take the person's temperature. *If it is below 95° F, the situation is an emergency—get medical attention immediately.*

Carbon Monoxide

Caution: Each year, an average of 430 Americans die from unintentional carbon monoxide poisoning, and there are more than 20,000 visits to the emergency room with more than 4,000 hospitalizations. Carbon monoxide-related deaths are highest during colder months. These deaths are likely due to increased use of gas-powered furnaces and alternative heating, cooking, and power sources used inappropriately indoors during power outages.

- Never use a generator, grill, camp stove or other gasoline, propane, natural gas or charcoal-burning devices inside a home, garage, basement, crawlspace or any partially enclosed area. Locate unit away from doors, windows and vents that could allow carbon monoxide to come indoors. Keep these devices at least 20 feet from doors, windows, and vents.
- The primary hazards to avoid when using alternate sources for electricity, heating or cooking are carbon monoxide poisoning, electric shock and fire.
- Install carbon monoxide alarms in central locations on every level of your home and outside sleeping areas to provide early warning of accumulating carbon monoxide.
- If the carbon monoxide alarm sounds, move quickly to a fresh air location outdoors or by an open window or door.
- Call for help from the fresh air location and remain there until emergency personnel arrive to assist you.

Stay or Go

STAY:

- If stuck on the road to avoid exposure and/or when rescue is likely
- If a safe location is neither nearby or visible
- If you do not have appropriate clothing to go outside
- If you do not have the ability to call for help

GO:

- If the distance to call for help is accessible.
- If you have visibility and outside conditions are safe.
- If you have appropriate clothing.
- Once the storm has passed, if you are not already home, follow instructions from your local transportation department and emergency management agency to determine if it is safe to drive and, if so, which route will be safest for you to get home. Drive with extra caution.

After Snowstorms and Extreme Cold

- If your home loses power or heat for more than a few hours or if you do not have adequate supplies to stay warm in your home overnight, you may want to go to a designated public shelter if you can get there safely. Text **SHELTER** + your **ZIP code** to **43362** (4FEMA) to find the nearest shelter in your area (e.g., SHELTER20472)
- Bring any personal items that you would need to spend the night (such as toiletries, medicines). Take precautions when

traveling to the shelter. Dress warmly in layers, wear boots, mittens, and a hat.

- Continue to protect yourself from frostbite and hypothermia by wearing warm, loose-fitting, lightweight clothing in several layers. Stay indoors, if possible.



Winter Weather Watches and Warnings

- Familiarize yourself with these terms to help identify an extreme winter weather alerts:
- **Freezing Rain** - Rain that freezes when it hits the ground, creating a coating of ice on roads, walkways, trees and power lines.
- **Sleet** - Rain that turns to ice pellets before reaching the ground. Sleet also causes moisture on roads to freeze and become slippery.
- **Wind Chill** - Windchill is the temperature it “feels like” when you are outside. The NWS provides a Windchill Chart to show the difference between air temperature and the perceived temperature and the amount of time until frostbite occurs. For more information, visit: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/winter/windchill.shtml>.
- **Winter Weather Advisory** - Winter weather conditions are expected to cause significant inconveniences and may be hazardous. When caution is used, these situations should not be life threatening. The NWS issues a winter weather advisory when conditions are expected to cause significant inconveniences that may be hazardous. If caution is used, these situations should not be life-threatening.
- **Winter Storm Watch** - A winter storm is possible in your area. Tune in to NOAA Weather Radio, commercial radio, or television for more information. The NWS issues a winter storm watch when severe winter conditions, such as heavy snow and/or ice, may affect your area but the location and timing are still uncertain. A winter storm watch is issued 12 to 36 hours in advance of a potential severe storm. Tune in to NOAA Weather Radio, local radio, TV, or other news sources for more information. Monitor alerts, check your emergency supplies, and gather any items you may need if you lose power.
- **Winter Storm Warning** - A winter storm is occurring or will soon occur in your area.
- **Blizzard Warning** - Sustained winds or frequent gusts to 35 miles per hour or greater and considerable amounts of falling or blowing snow (reducing visibility to less than a quarter mile) are expected to prevail for a period of three hours or longer.
- **Frost/Freeze Warning** - Below freezing temperatures are expected

Reference: www.ready.gov

SERGEANT WAVERLY T RAGSDALE

by Deacon Henry C. Smalls, Jr



H. Smalls: Mr. Ragsdale, how many years did you serve in the military?

W. Ragsdale: Oh, ok I served in the 3rd Army under General George S. Patton Jr. during World War II. We did a lot of fighting up there in Germany,

which is where I got shot. I served about two and a half years before returning home.

H. Smalls: You were wounded as a member in Army under General Patton!

W. Ragsdale: That's right! Absolutely!

H. Smalls: And your injuries?

W. Ragsdale: Hip...Hip injury.

H. Smalls: After returning home did you ever return to serving in the Army or were you home for good?

W. Ragsdale: I was unable to return to the service because when I got shot up there (Germany), it was very early in the morning, and I was unconscious for hours and hours with a million other soldiers, lying around me, a lot of them dead. The Red Cross removed my dog tags because they assumed I was dead too. My dog tags were sent to The White House, therefore no one could identify me. Then, they sent me around from Company to Company until they found a place in the hospital for me.

H. Smalls: Oh WOW! Now, how long were you in the hospital when all this was going on?

W. Ragsdale: Oh, I was in the Hospital about 9 months!

H. Smalls: Oh Wow...wow!

W. Ragsdale: Yes...

H. Smalls: So, was there extended damage to your hip?

W. Ragsdale: If I had gotten hit right here (Mr. Ragsdale shows me an area below his hip,) I would be dead, but I got hit just above my hip.

H. Smalls: So what saved your life was the location of where the bullets hit you?

W. Ragsdale: Yes Lord! So the first thing I thought was, I was supposed to be dead, but I was just unconscious. God is good!

H. Smalls: All the time!

W. Ragsdale: All the time! When the Red Cross came up and was making sure all the bodies were dead, and then burying them, I couldn't speak, but I thought to myself, please Lord, somebody help me. I could not see the Red Cross Officials walking around, then heard one of say, "he's not dead, don't put him in there (bury him). So they picked me up and carried me back behind enemy lines. They kept moving me from Company to Company until they were able to admit me into a hospital in England. I don't recall the name of the hospital, but they really fixed me up in there. They saved my leg and brought me back home on a medical ship with a cast on my leg. I went down south. Things were going good for a while. It was like I had gotten a second chance at life. Then I had a dental problem with a rookie doctor. I was blessed that Dr. Machete was on post that Saturday. That rookie doctor was working on my tooth and he made an incision that came up through the top of my gum and through my jaw--I fainted and I stayed in what they call a white room for 4 months where I was given meds every hour. The damage from the incision was so bad you could see the blood rising under my skin going up the side of my face. So I survived that too. I'm a blessed man and God has been good to Waverly. (laughter)

H. Smalls: And that was that?

W. Ragsdale: That was it.

H. Smalls: So what have you been doing in the interim since you've gotten out of the military, gotten married? (Laughing with each other)

W. Ragsdale: Oh yeah...I was single. I had a hard time being discharged.

H. Smalls: Oh yes, because of the medical?

W. Ragsdale: No. I should have gotten out of the military easily, but at that time black people were not getting their money or medical benefits; they were just getting black people out of the military and we had to just leave. So I said listen Sir, Lieutenant, you can't discharge me like that. I need to have access to my medical benefits in order to go to the hospital and I'm getting none of that. I said, "Here is my friend right here, a white dude, he was not hurt at all in the war and he received his money, got benefits to the hospital, and he was leaving to go home the next day. So the Lieutenant looked at me and he said, "Sergeant Ragsdale", he said just like this, "I will take those stripes from you if you don't sign this paper and get out of here". I said, "Lieutenant Sir, that's your business; I was born with no stripes so that won't bother me".

H. Smalls: Alright now! Alright now!

W. Ragsdale: He was red in the face and mad. (Laughter) So anyway I stayed there for 3 months before they discharged me at Fort Mead, Maryland. Yep.

H. Smalls: Wow... so Fort Mead in Maryland is where you got discharged from and you were able to get your money and benefits?

W. Ragsdale: Oh yes, I got some money right away too.

H. Smalls: Nice! That's good.

W. Ragsdale: That Lieutenant wanted to get rid of me for being a pain. (Laughter)

H. Smalls: He got tired of hearing you right... sometimes persistence is good, right? (Laughter)

W. Ragsdale: That's right. Absolutely! (Laughter)

H. Smalls: Where did you go after being discharged?

W. Ragsdale: Virginia! After I was discharged.

H. Smalls: Where are you originally from?

W. Ragsdale: Kenbridge, Virginia.

H. Smalls: Oh my goodness. Ok, so you went back home? (Laughter)

W. Ragsdale: Yeah. (Laughing)

H. Smalls: How long did you stay there?

W. Ragsdale: Ok, I needed some money and I had money that I sent home. I had some good parents and a good family; they were really good. I had a Sister, Uncle, Father, Mother, and a Brother. I went into the service as a Corporal making about \$64 a month or something like that and I put some of my pay into an allotment in each of their names, and the government put 2 to 1 on top of what I put in, so when I made Sergeant and I doubled my money due to a pay increase, my family members saved all that money until I returned home from military duty.

H. Smalls: Oh my goodness!

W. Ragsdale: I had to come home to Virginia and Momma said I got a lot of money for you. I said you do Momma? (Laughter), what do you call a lot (Laughter)? My Daddy said "I'll take the money, son, if it's not enough for you. (Laughing) Then I worked at Camp Pickett Army Base for 2 years and it was nice over there. Then I came to Connecticut and stayed up here for a month and said I want to own a home here. So my brother (Jim) had already lived in CT for 20 years during the war, and he said you don't want to own a home boy; you can't pay for it (meaning Waverly couldn't afford to buy a home in CT). Bobby (our friend) was here longer than me and worked hard and managed to buy a home in CT. Bobby was raised in Connecticut from a kid and he was a carpenter and a real good one at that. So I went to the bank and Mr. Hubbell (the bank loan officer) said, "Waverly, you can get a house, but you can't live where you want to live. I said, "Mr. Hubbell, I can live anywhere I want to live if I can afford it", and he said, "no you can't, you are in Connecticut now." (Laughing) I laughed at him, but he told me I could not live in the areas I wanted to live in. So I went back home and got that "whole lot of money" (I call it a "whole lot of money") and I had also worked for two years and saved all that money too. I went to the bank again, and Mr. Hubbell told me those same words about not living where I want to, and I told him thank you for your time. In the meantime, I had made an appointment with the guy in Washington, DC (Veterans Affairs) and he said, "Waverly, you can live anywhere you

want to live if you can afford it; just make sure you can afford it; don't embarrass me to death, and this man was a colored dude too. I said, "I'm not going to embarrass you", and I moved in on Capitol Avenue in Bridgeport into my first home.

H. Smalls: Ah man, so do you still keep in touch with anyone who was in the military with you or served with you?

W. Ragsdale: Sorry to tell you, but at 93 years old, they all are gone and that's why the government is so hard on 2nd World War Vets because according to the "Federal Government" we are supposed to be dead. I'm lucky to be still going around and alive. Lucky as a bull.

H. Smalls: That's it, that's it. I'm glad you're here. And I want to thank you for just paving the way for folks in the service like myself. What advice would you give to young people today?

W. Ragsdale: First thing I'd tell them is get yourself a good job, go to work, save your money, when you're ready to buy a house, the bank is always ready, but don't go down to the bank with nothing. Without a job and not ever having a job, stay home (don't bother going to the bank requesting a loan), cause you're not going to be able to get a home. That's what I'd tell them, quick!

H. Smalls: Well, Mr. Ragsdale, I want to thank you for your time.

Sgt. Ragsdale: I enjoyed talking to you too, and where you going? You aren't going anywhere. (Laughter—he wanted to continue the conversation)

TSgt. Smalls: Again, thank you for your time, Mr. Ragsdale. (Laughter)

Mr. Ragsdale was initially dispatched from the U.S. to Scotland on April 7, 1944. He fought in a total of 5 Battles, one of which was the well-renowned battle on the beaches of Normandy, France. Mr. Ragsdale also fought in Southern France and Northern France, and the Medals he received are as follows:

1. Good Conduct Medal
2. Purple Heart
3. American Theater Ribbon
4. European African Middle Eastern Theater Ribbon
5. The World War II Victory Ribbon

At the age of 93, Mr. Waverly Thomas Ragsdale is a 26 year Cancer Survivor, WWII Vet, Disciple of Mount Aery, Senior Usher, and a Purple Heart Recipient (wounded in combat). His career path also includes Caretaker, Waiter, Chauffer, and Landscaper. A devoted family man, Waverly is the loving father of 5 children, 11 grand-children, 10 great-grandchildren, and several great-great grandchildren. Ironically, Waverly's parents, the late Victor & Avelene Shell-Ragsdale had 5 children as well, 1 girl and 4 boys. Waverly and his wife of 23 years, Lilly, are devoted to supporting others in the fight against cancer. There is so much Mr. Ragsdale spoke to me about—too much to include in this article. He is a wealth of knowledge and has great stories about the war and life in general. He is just a great man to sit down and talk to, so if you ever get the opportunity, I highly recommend that you take advantage of a rare chance to hear his story. I guarantee you will leave a wiser person.

A Heart-Felt Thank You

I would like to thank everyone for your gifts, lunch dates, caring, and sharing. I appreciate the kindness of members, non-members, and friends, far and near.

I pray for you & I love you all.

Having lived for 90 years, I hope and pray that I have helped somebody along the way. I am going to continue to do God's Will.

When I received the flowers, monetary gifts, cards, hugs, kisses, smiles, handshakes, phone calls, and listened to the voice messages, I prayed that I had made a difference in your life.

May God continue to bless all of you!

Mrs. Edith (Nana) Brown



DECEMBER 2017

December 1st

Bember, Porter
Bradley, Keith
Brassell, Diane
Caesar, Gloria
Coplton, Latosha
DeJesus, Marta
Febres, Annette
Foremar, Nenyelle
Kenyattaia, Dorothy
King, Tameka
Lindsey, Curtis
Matthews, Ronald
Reyes, Luis
Scales, Reginald
Storms, Stephanie
Williams, Brittany

December 2nd

Cato, Elijah
McDuffie, William
Moye-Sprangle, Yvonne
Pasha, Hope
Rogers, Dawn
Williams, Donell
Williams, N'Gai

December 3rd

Bernard, Michelle
Eagleton, Tonia
Smith, Karin
Wright, Lavanda

December 4th

Barreiro, Elizabeth
Penix, Elizabeth
Reed, Lakeya
Skeeter, Sharron
Wilson, Lamar

December 5th

Buford, Carlton
Cauthen, Adrian
Ess, Darin
Hunter-Faison, Jeanette
James, Jesse
McKenzie, Roger
McKnight, Quincy
Travis, Lisa

December 6th

Brown, Jr, George
Dunn, Sandra
Fleming, Brianna
Joyner, Bennie
Lyles, Starsheenma
Simpson, Sheila
Wedda, Elizabeth

December 7th

Brown-Palmer, Bernadette
Gray, Donna

Harris, Artrena
Marsh, Mary
McIntyre, Keneisha
Mendes, Anthony
Reese, George
Walls, Kecia
Wright, Jessie

December 8th

Gallimore, Cirell
Geter, Frederick
Hargrove, Ebony
Holmes, Kimberly
Lee, Kevin
Penix, Avery
Phaire, Claudine
Porter, Michael
Reed, Valerie
Robinson, Wesley
Walden, Chimere

December 9th

Housey, Angela
Marshall, Leola
Perry, Vanessa
Satchwell, Sharon
Sims, Bonita
Thompson, Terry
Watley, Andrea

December 10th

Boyd, Sean
Burks, Cecelia
Frederick, Monique
Galberth, Tory
Gay, Kenyon
Jackson, NaQuasha
Johnson, Rhoshenae
Lee, Brittany
Mack, Barren
Pollard, LaJeune
Risher, Vanessa
Sanders, Rodney
Walton, Catherine

December 11th

Blanding, Jennifer
Jackson, Kevin
White, Howard
Williams, Nicole

December 12th

Hill, Betty
Rollins, Quintin
Simmons, Denetris
Wortham, Terrance

December 13th

Bradley, Rubin
Burres, Betty
Dicks, Carl
Foster, Telazia

Hardison, Shawn
Haskins, Marian
Hendrickson, Jhakiema
Ingram, Philip
Reese, Justan
Mitchell, Justan

December 14th

Darden, Mamie
Hudson, Armoni
Jordan, Nhrari
Joseph, Veronique
Lee, Charlene
Lewis, John
Mendez, Tykeisha
Mercer, Rhonda
Pettway, Robert
Stephenson, Kathy
Whittington, Za'nai

December 15th

Bennett, Anthony
Cooper, James
Freeman, Lawrance
Gathers, Quadir
Horton, Horace
Seawright, Dwayne
Thomas, Alisha
Thomas, Felisha
Womack, Crystal

December 16th

Ben, Joe
Failey, Felicia
Garner, Katrina
Jones, Shanda
Lanham, Roosevelt
Samuel, Shaniyah

December 17th

Day, Terrell
Gore, Tyrell
Johnson, Jeannette
Maye, Tamika
Mincey, Loletha
Moorer, Mazie
Nichols, Sean
Pettway, Lee
Small, Trevon
Stokes, Alan
Taylor, Shayna
Walker, Virginia

December 18th

Butler, Whilamenia
Cook, Talyn
Dennis, Monica
Hill, Lakisha
Holmes-Cobb, LaNeesa
Narcisse, Paul
Pettway, Lenora
Seldon, Christina
Slade, Rosie

Thornton, Marion
Worsley, Irene

December 19th

Eason, Reginald
Gordon, Calbert
Ploughman-Hamm,
Jeanine N.
Rosino, Cianela
Sundar, Keisha

December 20th

Bush-Hanks, Denise
Clark, Rhonda M
Dewitt, Janell
Domond, Ellen
Eldridge, Mary
Gary, Blair
Thompson, Leona
Thornton, Barbara
Williams, Aleen

December 21st

Boyd, Melanie
Gist, April
Holmes, Anthony
Mitchell, Inez
Shakur, Alquan

December 22nd

Hill, Shirley
Jones, Cynthia
Richards, Jasmine
Rowe, Charmaine
Strode, Seonique

December 23rd

Daniels, Rhozharia
Gary, Marquet
Gray, Christie
Hendrickson, Simon
Sapp, Michelle
Walker, Vickie

December 24th

Lazaro, Madison

December 25th

Buford, Mary
Carter-Mims, Carol
Duharte, Tiffany
Lesperance, Esther
Reed, Shirley
Scudder, Janis
White, Andrea

December 26th

Ellis, Chyna
Manns, Melissa
McFadden, Lori
Simpson, Shakira
VanNorden, Gregory

December 27th

Carr, Thelma
Edwards, Bernardine
Kearney, Chyron
Kearney, Yolanda
Simpson, Sandra
Williams, Melissa

December 28th

Bennett, Angelope
Collier, Vernon
Ely, Clara
Fields, Audrey
Gardner, Joy
Gerald, F.
Jackson-DeYounge,
Gladys
Langs-Johnson, Selaja
Tawney, Millicent

December 29th

Burton-Seldon, Brenda
Chandler, Martin
Clemons, Charles
Curtis, Anderson
Evans, Toni
Geer, Connie
LaFountain, Sadara
Pettway, Bernetta
Rochr, Djuly
White, Gloria

December 30th

Bass, Santoni
Bowens, Debbie
Givan, Jayvon
Grey, Tawanda
James, Robin
Kearse, Serverina
Mitchell, Cheryl
Pettway, Randy
Rainey, Juanita
Smith, Geronald
Taylor, Marcia

December 31st

Brown, Vendance
Lesperance, Bernadette
Seawright, Jacqueline
Simmons, Darlene
Washington, Sally

DECEMBER 2017

Organized Prayer Time

Prayer time is 7:00am to 7:10am beginning 12/1/2017 through 12/31/2017. Conference Dial-in Number: 319-527-3510, Participant Access Code: 111933#. See Rev. Alicia Tyson-Sherwood for more information. **To playback prayer: 319-527-3518, access code is 111933#.** **This is not a toll free call, Long Distances Charges May Apply.** Note: Do not announce yourself if you call after 6:58am. Please mute your phone so that prayer will not be disturbed. **Ephesians 4:11-13 NIV Reference number for December 1, 2017 is 2129#**

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
3 Isaiah 64:1-9 Rev. Tucker	4 Revelation 15:1-8 Deacon N. Jackson	5 Rev. 18:1-10 Pastor Williams	A GENEROUS CHURCH		1 1 Thess. 4:1-18 Pastor Bennett	2 Matthew 24:15-31 Sis. Barnes
10 Isaiah 40:1-11 Rev. Williamson	11 Acts 2:37-42 Deacon Paul	12 Acts 11:1-18 Sis. Hasan	6 Luke 21:34-38 Rev. Sherwood	7 1 Thess. 1:2-10 Deacon Gardner	8 Acts 11:19-26 Sis. L. Smith	9 Mark 11:27-33 Sis. Green
17 Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 Deacon JeanBaptiste	18 Ephesians 6:10-17 Min. Blackwell	19 Acts 3:17-4:4 Deacon Cotter	PRAYING WHEN YOU'VE GOT PROBLEMS		15 Philippians 3:12-16 Deacon J. Seawright	16 Matthew 21:28-32 Deacon D. Seawright
24 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16 Sis. Ellis	25 Isaiah 9:2-7 Rev. Kearney	26 Psalm 148 Deacon Hurst	13 Luke 1:5-17 Sis. Gist	14 Philippians 3:7-11 Bro. D. Smith	22 Hebrews 1:5-14 Deacon Vermont	23 John 7:40-52 Bro. H. White
31 Numbers 6:22-27 Deacon A. Febres		27 1 John 1:1-9 Bro. Newton	A SANKOFA SUPPLICATION		29 Matthew 12:46-50 Min. Walton	30 2 Peter 3:8-13 Deacon Adetona
		28 Matthew 2:13-18 Sis. Langley	I'M GLAD GOD KNOWS ME			
			THERE'S A BLESSING WITH YOUR NAME ON IT			

December 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
					9:00 AM Elaine Craig Viewing 11:00 AM Elaine Craig Homegoing Celebration 1:00 PM Craig Family Repast	8:30 AM Men's Fellowship Ministry Mtg. 10:00 AM Ministers' Meeting 12:00 PM Music Ministry Rehearsal-All Choirs 12:00 PM Ushers Senior Christmas Party
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
7:45 AM Prayer 8:30 AM Worship Celebration 9:45 AM Mount Aery Cafe 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Celebration	9:00 AM System of Care Training 7:00 PM Music Ministry Rehearsal-P&W	12:00 PM Daytime Bible Study 7:00 PM 9th Annual Holy Spirit Discernment Session 7:00 PM Bible Study	6:30 PM REFUGE 7:00 PM Music Ministry Rehearsal-Musicians	8:30 AM Men's Fellowship Ministry Mtg. 9:00 AM Safe Place Training 9:00 AM Sisters at the Well 12:00 PM Music Ministry Rehearsal-Children's Choir		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
7:45 AM Prayer 8:30 AM Worship Celebration 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Celebration 11:00 AM Youth Church	6:00 PM Fellowship Ministry Meeting 7:00 PM Music Ministry Rehearsal- P&W and Women	12:00 PM Daytime Bible Study 1:00 PM Quilters 6:30 PM Bible Study	6:30 PM Deacon Min. Mtg. 6:30 PM REFUGE 7:00 PM Music Ministry Rehearsal-Women's Choir 7:00 PM Ushers	8:30 AM Men's Fellowship Ministry Mtg. 9:00 AM New Disciples Ministry Class 12:00 PM Angel Tree Celebration		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
7:45 AM Prayer 8:30 AM Worship Celebration 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Celebration 11:00 AM Youth Church 3:00 PM Kwanzaa	7:00 PM Music Ministry Rehearsal- P&W	12:00 PM Daytime Bible Study 7:00 PM Bible Study	6:30 PM REFUGE 7:00 PM Music Ministry Rehearsal-Musicians	8:30 AM Men's Fellowship Ministry Mtg. 11:30 AM Missionary Meeting		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
7:45 AM Prayer 8:30 AM Worship Celebration 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Celebration	10:00 AM Christmas Worship Celebration	7:00 PM Music Ministry Rehearsal- P& W	12:00 PM Daytime Bible Study 1:00 PM Quilters 7:00 PM Bible Study	6:30 PM REFUGE 7:00 PM Music Ministry Rehearsal-Musicians		8:30 AM Men's Fellowship Ministry Mtg. 11:00 AM Security Meeting 12:00 PM Music Ministry Rehearsal-Mass Choir 1:30 PM Music Ministry Rehearsal-Youth and Young Adults
31						
8:30 AM Sunday School 8:45 AM Prayer 9:30 AM Worship Celebration 5:30 PM Church Office opens 6:00 PM Vesper Service 10:00 PM Watch Night & Baptism						

F.R.A.N.GELISM SUNDAY

**BRING A FRIEND, RELATIVE, ACQUAINTANCE, OR
NEIGHOR TO CHURCH!**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 8:30AM & 11AM WORSHIP CELEBRATIONS

**MOUNT AERY BAPTIST CHURCH
73 FRANK STREET, BRIDGEPORT, CT 06604
PASTOR ANTHONY L. BENNETT, D.MIN., LEAD PASTOR
WWW.MTAERYBAPTIST.ORG**



SISTERS AT THE WELL
Holiday Breakfast

DEC 9TH | 9-12
MOUNT AERY BAPTIST CHURCH
73 Frank Street | Bridgeport, CT

ADMISSION: Children's Hat & Glove Set



MOUNT AERY'S
FELLOWSHIP, DEACON & NURSING MINISTRY
PRESENT...

*Our Annual
Holiday Luncheon*

JAZZ RAZZMATAZZ

*w/ Musical Guest
David Davis*

**SATURDAY
JANUARY 6, 2018
11-2 PM**

TICKETS \$30

PLEASE SEE ANYONE IN THE FELLOWSHIP,
DEACON OR NURSING MINISTRY FOR TICKETS

Mount Aery Baptist Church
73 Frank Street | Bridgeport, CT

