



# Vernon Park Church of God

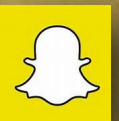
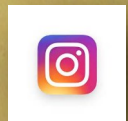
## July 2018

*Committed to loving God, loving others and serving others!*

# Our Class of 2018



**Rev. Jerald January, Sr. - Senior Pastor**  
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**Vernon Park** *Church of God*

# The Corner of Hope & Possibilities

*A monthly reminder of what's possible!*

Greetings Family,

It goes without saying but we live in a different world than just a generation ago. Not only has technology changed beyond our imaginations, so has our community. While some are enjoying life, others are searching for answers to questions they struggle with daily. You and I probably come in contact with people each week who would give anything for just a little peace of mind.

Jesus explained to a large, diverse group of followers in Matthew 5:13 "You are the salt of the earth." What a great description of those who have the answer to the meaning of life. We're housing so many of the answers that our community is longing to know. Like the hungry diner who chooses to season or add flavor to a meal, countless people are seeking the answers to their very existence. We Christians must be available to those who want to know how to fulfill their purpose in life.

It really doesn't matter about your position or possessions. We are the Salt of the earth...of Chicago...of our communities and our families. Salt has no other job than to be available when needed. Our "Different World" is yearning to get a sample of what God has provided in each one of us. It's possible that you have just what the world is hungry for. Share it!

*My pen is positioned,*

*Pastor J*



PASTOR OF POSSIBILITIES





# Vernon Park *Church of God*

## *Announcements*

### Mother Carr's Farm

*A Community Supported Agriculture Project of Vernon Park Church of God*

**Eat better...feel better!**

### *Wedding Anniversaries*

***Emerson & Patricia White - 11 years, July 7<sup>th</sup>***

***Kenneth & Pamela Jackson - 51 years, July 7<sup>th</sup>***

***Fred & Brenda Williams - 21 years, July 11<sup>th</sup>***

***Gerald & Elizabeth Ford - 5 years, July 13<sup>th</sup>***

***Scott & Nicole Hall - 17 years, July 14<sup>th</sup>***

***James & Rugena Turner - 50 years, July 20<sup>th</sup>***

***John & Dawn Hatchett - 7 years, July 23<sup>rd</sup>***

***Paul Alston & Denise Turner Alston - 30 years, July 23<sup>rd</sup> --***





# Vernon Park *Church of God*

## *Responsive Reading*

### **July 1, 2018, 1 Peter 2:4-10 “God’s Living Stone and His Chosen People”**

**Lead:** As you come to him, the living Stone rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

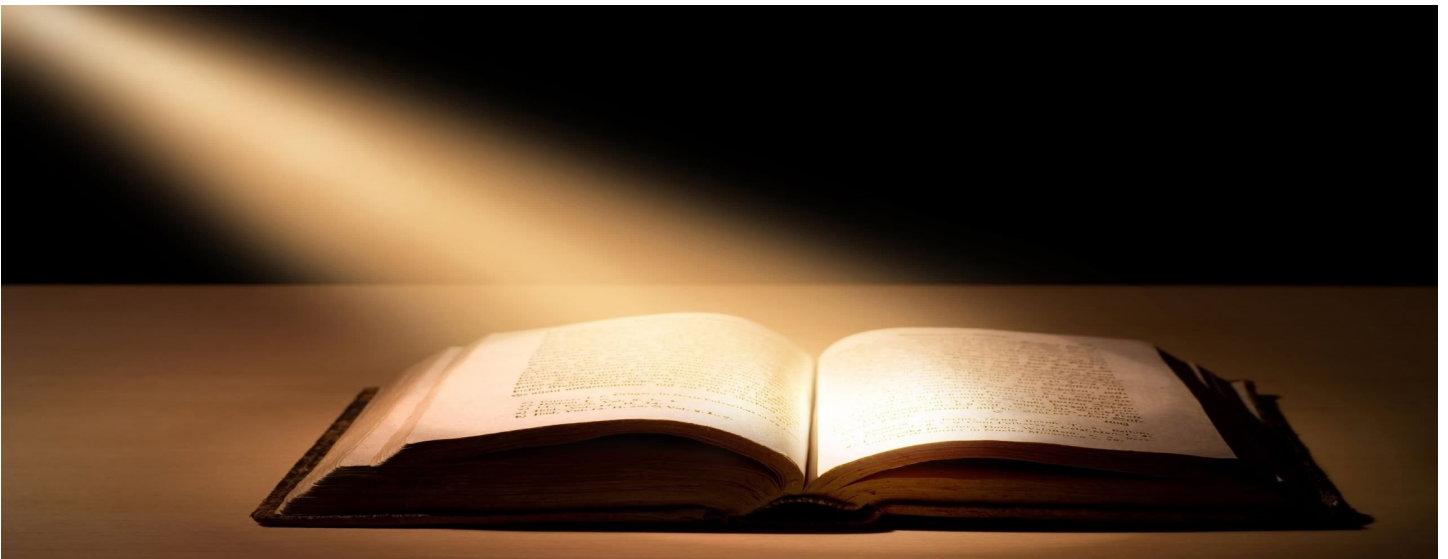
**Cong:** For in Scripture it says: “See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame.”

**Lead:** Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, “The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,” and, “A stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall.”

**Cong:** They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for.

**Lead:** But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

**Together:** Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.







# Vernon Park *Church of God*

## *Responsive Reading*

### **July 8, 2018, John 3:25-36, “Testifying About Jesus”**

**Lead:** An argument developed between some of John’s disciples and a certain Jew over the matter of ceremonial washing. They came to John and said to him, “Rabbi, that man who was with you on the other side of the Jordan—the one you testified about—look, he is baptizing, and everyone is going to him.”

**Cong:** To this John replied, “A person can receive only what is given them from heaven. You yourselves can testify that I said, ‘I am not the Messiah but am sent ahead of him.’”

**Lead:** The bride belongs to the bridegroom. The friend who attends the bridegroom waits and listens for him, and is full of joy when he hears the bridegroom’s voice. That joy is mine, and it is now complete. He must become greater; I must become less.

**Cong:** The one who comes from above is above all; the one who is from the earth belongs to the earth, and speaks as one from the earth. The one who comes from heaven is above all.

**Lead:** He testifies to what he has seen and heard, but no one accepts his testimony. Whoever has accepted it has certified that God is truthful. For the one whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for God gives the Spirit without limit.

**Together:** The Father loves the Son and has placed everything in his hands. Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God’s wrath remains on them.





# Vernon Park *Church of God*

## *Responsive Reading*

### **July 15, 2018, Psalm 119:33-45 “God’s Holy Precepts”**

**Lead:** Teach me, LORD, the way of your decrees, that I may follow it to the end. Give me understanding, so that I may keep your law and obey it with all my heart.

**Cong:** Direct me in the path of your commands, for there I find delight. Turn my heart toward your statutes and not toward selfish gain.

**Lead:** Turn my eyes away from worthless things; preserve my life according to your word. Fulfill your promise to your servant, so that you may be feared.

**Cong:** Take away the disgrace I dread, for your laws are good. How I long for your precepts! In your righteousness preserve my life.

**Lead:** May your unfailing love come to me, LORD, your salvation, according to your promise; then I can answer anyone who taunts me, for I trust in your word.

**Together:** Never take your word of truth from my mouth, for I have put my hope in your laws. I will always obey your law, forever and ever. I will walk about in freedom, for I have sought out your precepts.

### **July 22, 2018, Psalm 86:11-17, “Let God Lead”**

**Lead:** Teach me your way, LORD, that I may rely on your faithfulness; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name.

**Cong:** I will praise you, Lord my God, with all my heart; I will glorify your name forever. For great is your love toward me; you have delivered me from the depths, from the realm of the dead.

**Lead:** Arrogant foes are attacking me, O God; ruthless people are trying to kill me - they have no regard for you.

**Cong:** But you, Lord, are a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness.

**Lead:** Turn to me and have mercy on me; show your strength in behalf of your servant; save me, because I serve you just as my mother did.

**Together:** Give me a sign of your goodness, that my enemies may see it and be put to shame, for you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.



# Vernon Park *Church of God*

## *Responsive Reading*

### **July 29, 2018, Romans 10:4-10, “A Confession of Faith”**

**Lead:** Christ is the culmination of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes.

**Cong:** Moses writes this about the righteousness that is by the law: “The person who does these things will live by them.

**Lead:** But the righteousness that is by faith says: “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down) “or ‘Who will descend into the deep?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead).

**Cong:** But what does it say? “The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart,” that is, the message concerning faith that we proclaim:

**Lead:** If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

**Together:** For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.







# Vernon Park *Church of God*

## Graduation Ceremony



The Scholarship and Education Ministry from left to right are: Alberta Stallworth, Andrea Turner, Brenda Williams, Qutester Mapp-Rushing, Vicky Cyprain, Tiffany Frank, Constance El-Amin, Jennifer Snell, Arlene Coleman and Julia Hill.





# Vernon Park *Church of God*

## *Our Class of 2018*



**Min. Quincy Dyer** - Quincy earned a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Trinity International University. He hopes to lead the minds of tomorrow in God's Kingdom work.



**Elijah McKinnis** - Elijah earned a Bachelor's Degree in Communications from Claflin University. He's seeking to work for a sports affiliate doing sports analysis or journalism.



**Theresa Johnson** - Theresa graduated from Harold Washington College with an Associate's Degree in Arts. She'll be attending Chicago State to pursue a Bachelor's Degree in Health Administration and Technology.



**Jasmine Reed** - Jasmine graduated from Morgan Park High School and will be attending Malcolm X College this fall.



**Dajaun Davenport** - Dajaun graduated from Simeon Career Academy and will be attending Harold Washington College this fall.



**Cameron Sawyer** - Cameron graduated 8th grade from Sandridge School and will attend Bloom Trail High School this fall.



**Avery Harris** - Avery graduated 8th grade from Edward K. Duke Ellington Elementary and will be attending Wells High School this fall.



**Jada Miller** - Jada is moving from kindergarten to first grade at Flossmoor Hills Elementary School.



**Noelle Jackson** - Noelle is moving from kindergarten to first grade at Christ The King School.



**Luke Dyer** - Luke graduated kindergarten from St. Sabina Academy and will be attending St. Thomas the Apostle this fall.



**Madison Hatchett** - Madison is moving from preschool to attend kindergarten this fall at Calvary Academy.



# Vernon Park *Church of God*

*Speaker:*

*Sermon:*

*Date: July 1, 2018*

*Speaker:*

*Sermon:*

*Date: July 8, 2018*

*Speaker:*

*Sermon:*

*Date: July 15, 2018*





# Vernon Park *Church of God*

*Speaker:*

*Sermon:*

*Date: July 22, 2018*

*Speaker:*

*Sermon:*

*Date: July 29, 2018*



# Souvenir Journal



**There's still time to get your ad into the Souvenir Journal ... a collector's item that will commemorate the opening of our new main sanctuary.**

**Full Page Color - \$250      Full Page Black & White - \$200**

**Half Page Color - \$175      Half Page Black & White - \$125**

**Quarter Page Black & White - \$75      Patron - \$25**

**For more information, contact the church office at 708.753.1975**

