

Conference Year 2016-2017 **MAKING THE "SHIFT" FROM** "SERVE US" TO "SERVICE" Matthew 28:19-20 Building a Viable And Sustainable Ministry 2020 And Beyond

> May/June 2017 Volume 21, Issue 03

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Visit our Facebook page

### 24th Pastor & First Lady **Appreciation**

Sunday, May 21, 2017

## **Black Inventors and their Invention List**

air conditioning unit Frederick M. Jones almanac auto cut-off switch Granville T. Woods auto fishing devise automatic gear shift baby buggy bicycle frame biscuit cutter blood plasma bag cellular phone chamber commode clothes dryer

Benjamin Banneker G. Cook **Richard Spikes** W.H. Richardson L.R. Johnson A.P. Ashbourne Charles Drew Henry T. Sampson T. Elkins G. T. Sampson

July 12, 1949 Approx. 1791 January 1, 1839 May 30, 1899 February 28, 1932 June 18, 1899 October 10, 1899 November 30, 1875 Approx. 1945 July 6, 1971 January 3, 1897 June 6, 1862

(Inventors on page 8)

### **Women's Day Celebration**

Sunday, June 25, 2017

## Words of Encouragement

The Christian life is a broad road of happiness, joy, peace, blessing, success, significance, and contentment, which is ironically gained by choosing the narrow road of surrender, obedience, selfdenial, self-sacrifice, truth, worship and service.

Quote from "Ten Secrets For the Man in the Mirror" by Patrick Morley

### **Showing Faith**

Faith is the foundation of every Christian's daily walk with God. But believers often have difficulty maintaining absolute faith in God. Hebrews 11:1 describes faith as "the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." A good, concise definition of faith is "reliance on

(Encouragement on page 9)





May 6, 2017

Dear Church Family,

Greetings In the Name of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

We are approaching the close of another conference year. The year has been filled with exciting new events: We had a John Maxwell Simulcast Leadership Conference, John Maxwell YouthMax Conference, Family Fun nights, Ministerial Alliance Health Conferences, a benefit gospel concert, and other community events. We developed prayer circles for continued spiritual growth in the Body of Christ.

This has been the Year of 'Yes We Can and Yes we will'. We established a Vision for 2017- 2020 and beyond. Our Goal: To develop a viable and sustainable ministry for 2017-2020 and beyond.

Our Vision – People of faith restoring hope to our community and reaching the world through gifted and giving people.

Our Mission: To share the Word, Win souls for Christ, Worship the Lord in spirit and in truth.

### Our Core Values:

Putting Christ first – But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Matthew 6:33.

Reaching the Lost for Christ – Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, Matthew 28:19.

Serving others - He answered, 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind'; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself." Luke 10:27.

We close the conference year with a College Fair sponsored by CSTAC, Middlesex NAACP, and Wesleyan University. On Tuesdays we have launched Alive in the Word with worship & praise, preaching and teachable moments with the Pastor. Sunday, May 7, we celebrate National Nurses appreciation week with a Luncheon.

The Cross is honored to Host the 173<sup>rd</sup> Session of the New England Annual Conference Wednesday- Sunday, June 7-11, 2017.

We begin the New Year with Graduation Convocation on Father's Day. On Sunday, June 25, 2017 – 10:00 a.m. the Cross celebrates Women's Day.

Thank you Cross Street Church Family for another exceptional Conference year 2016-2017. Much love to you and yours. We still believe that the best is yet to come. Prayerfully Yours...

Partners in the Faith,

**Pastor Harvill** 

The fruit of the Spirit abides in us and it is up to us to cultivate it so that we may experience the blessing and the fullness of the Spirit. God is the husbandman..."He prunes, nurtures, waters and protects His own. The indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit will energize and control every faculty of our nature when our will joins the will of God. Then the "beauty of the Lord will be upon us" (Psalm 90:17) and "we shall bring forth fruit unto God" (Romans 7:4)."



## The Fruit of The Spirit

### FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT: A REVIEW

"But the fruit of the Spirit is LOVE, JOY, PEACE, LONGSUFFERING, GENTLENESS, GOODNESS, FAITH, MEEKNESS, TEMPERANCE: against such there is no law." (Galatians 5:22, 23)

The fruit of the Spirit abides in us and it is up to us to cultivate it so that we may experience the blessing and the fullness of the Spirit. God is the husbandman..."He prunes, nurtures, waters and protects His own. The indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit will energize and control every faculty of our nature when our will joins the will of God. Then the "beauty of the Lord will be upon us" (Psalm 90:17) and "we shall bring forth fruit unto God" (Romans 7:4)."

The fruit of LOVE when properly motivated "is pure, far reaching, forgiving. There is no limit to the good that LOVE does. God is LOVE. (I John 4:7)

JOY never fades, it is never destroyed by circumstances, it is unaffected by wealth or poverty, sickness or health. It is found in the presence of God (Psalm 16:11)

PEACE "is a tranquility of mind as a result of a right relationship with God". The PEACE of God in our hearts challenges sin at every turn and deals with it immediately in order to maintain that right relationship. (Ephesians 2:14)

LONG-SUFFERING means steadfastness of the soul under provocation. It means forbearance and patient endurance of ill -treatment, without anger or thought of revenge. (Colossians 3:12, 13)

GENTLENESS is sweet reasonableness, calmness and

graciousness. It calms troubled waters, settles turmoil and heals strife. (James 3:17)

GOODNESS does good to others. It is kindness of heart and good deeds. It may not always be a gentle word, but a stern rebuke done for the good of someone else. (Psalm 33:5)

MEEKNESS disarms the stormy, tempestuous person. The qualities of mildness and gentleness in dealing with others. It is not weak. It is a high quality of spiritual strength. (I Timothy 6:11)

FAITH means faithfulness to Christ and His cause. It manifests itself in being a trustworthy steward of God. It is trust and obedience, belief in God's word and promises. (Hebrews 11:1)

TEMPERANCE is power, it is strength, having self-control. It means discipline. It provides balance to the Christian's life. It enables him to praise Him whether in discipline or testing. (Proverbs 11:1) (Information taken in part from World-Wide Keswick publication and Holy Scriptures)

Satan tries to imitate the real thing with an artificial fruit. As you can see, the artificial fruit is very much like the real thing and if we are not careful, we can fall into the trap of expressing limited love, temporary joy, numbness, insensitivity, manipulation, hypocrisy, half-heartedness, false modesty and choosing lesser goals.

THE FRUIT, The Artificial Fruit,

The Weed

LOVE, limited love, hatred
JOY, temporary JOY, sorrow
PEACE, numbness, carelessness, anxiety strife
PATIENCE, laziness, insensitivity, impatience
KINDNESS, manipulation by kindness, pride
GOODNESS, hypocrisy, evil
F A I THFULN E S S, h a I f-heartedness, infidelity
MEEKNESS, false modesty, self-seeking
SELF-CONTROL, choosing lesser goals, lack of control
(The Fruit of the Spirit, John W. Sanderson)

Great is your faithfulness, O God, my Father. Morning by morning new mercies I see. I know that your hands will supply all that I need. Thank you, Lord, for your loving care and supply in my life. I claim the promises of your Word today. I believe your Word, and I look forward to all you are going to do in my life.

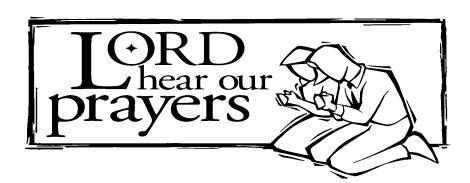
You are Jehovah-jeer, my provider. You know exactly what I need, when I need it, and how my needs will best be met. Thank you for the delight you experience as you give me the desires of my heart. I love you, and you love me.

Thank you, Father, for your great mercies which are new in my life each morning. Your grace and loving favor are upon me and within me. Indeed, your loving kindness is better than life

to me. Thank you for always providing me with my daily bread, and so much more. I rejoice in you and in the knowledge that you are the God of more than enough.

Thank you, Father, for caring about me and my loved ones. I know you want all needs to be met, and you cannot fail in meeting them. I praise you for the wonderful realization that you do fulfill all your promises in my life.

Thank you for your word which will never return to you void. I claim the promises of your Word for me, my family, and our lives. I take my stand upon the solid promises of your Word, Father. Thank you for meeting my every need. Amen



### The Needs of Your Family

Key Scripture: "And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" (Josh. 24:15). Key Thought: "A happy family is but an earlier heaven" (Sir John Bowring).

Prayer: Heavenly Father, you are the one who sets the solitary into families, <sup>1</sup> and you have promised to be a Father to the fatherless. <sup>2</sup> I pray for my family, Lord, that you would ever watch over our comings and goings, and that underneath us we would always find your everlasting arms. <sup>3</sup>

Bless our family, Lord, and keep us safe from all harm.<sup>4</sup> Plant your hedge of protection around us,<sup>5</sup> and let us always dwell in safety.6 Thank you for blessing our family with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ.<sup>7</sup>

Help me to remember that our home will be built through

wisdom, and by understanding it will be established.<sup>8</sup> By knowledge shall all the chambers of our home be filled with precious and pleasant riches.<sup>9</sup> Thank you, Father.

Your Word, O Lord, declares that the home of the righteous shall be filled with much treasure.<sup>10</sup> In times of wickedness, you have promised that the house of the righteous will stand.<sup>11</sup> Thank you, Father. I believe this promise, and I appropriate it for my home and family.

Because I believe on your Son, the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, I know that you have saved me, and I claim your promise that you will save my household as well.<sup>12</sup> Thank you, Father, for all your abundant blessings in my life and the lives of my family.

References: (1) Psalms 68:6; (2) Psalms 68:5; (3) Deuteronomy 33:27, (4) Proverbs 29:25; (5) Job 1:10; (6) Psalms 4:8; (7) Ephesians 1:3; (8) Proverbs 24:3-4; (9) Proverbs 24:4; (10) Proverbs 15:6; (11) Proverbs 12:7; (12) Acts 16:31.

Taken from Bible Prayers for all your needs by Victory House



### **Sunday School is a Family Affair**

8:45 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. We have classes for all ages – 3 to 103 New Members Class meets at the same time. (For Transportation Needs Please call the Church 860-344-9527)

### Come Grow with US!

### **RESCUED FROM DANGER**

Devotional Reading: Psalm 116:1-14

Scripture: Jonah 2

**Key Verse:** But I with the voice of thanksgiving will sacrifice to you; what I have vowed I will pay. Deliverance belongs to the Lord! Jonah 2:9

**Central Thought:** A Love That Delivers.

**Lesson Objective:** To better understand a process by which God delivers.

### **Lesson Introduction**

God has ways and means of doing whatever love requires of God. It could be reconciling, perfecting, building good will, making joy complete, and emerging victorious over death - whatever love requires.

Using the goodwill created by the loving spirit of God dwelling in them and around them. Jonah and the sailors had attempted to save those whose lives were in grave because of a tempestuous storm used by God to display God's displeasure.

It is proposed that those God loves, God chastens and delivers. The lesson today will highlight a process God used to deliver a fleeing prophet - a deserter, and sailors of good will engaged with Jonah, tying to make the best of a bad situation. We saw God in last week's lesson allowing the endangered men to do what they could and would do to save themselves.

Today, in the end, we observe God taking over and love delivering.

### **Lesson Outline**

- I. Calling Out to the Lord: Jonah 2:1-3.II. Context and Content of the Call: Vv.
- 4-8.
- III. The Promise Then Deliverance: Vv. 9-10.

#### **Lesson Comments**

I. Calling Out to the Lord: Jonah 2:1-3.

<sup>1</sup>Then Jonah prayed to the Lord his God from inside the fish. <sup>2</sup>He said, "I cried out to the Lord in my great trouble, and he answered me. I called to you from the land of the dead, and Lord, you heard me! <sup>3</sup>You threw me into the ocean depths, and I sank down to the heart of the sea. The mighty waters engulfed me; I was buried beneath your wild and stormy waves.

What had motivated the thinking of Jonah up to this point? Perhaps he thought that the situation could be worked out without having to be confronted by God. Paraphrasing from William Shakespeare's play. "A Midsummer Night's Dream," "Lord what fools we (these) mortals be." Was Jonah that unware of God's identity, the One who called him to the office of a prophet? In verse 1, he did make a passing reference to the Lord he worshiped. But it, at best, seemed to have been a causal reference. Apparently he knew more about the people of Nineveh than he did about his God. I say that because he was more concerned about the power of the Ninevites to hurt, than about the

power of God to help. Therefore, he fled to Tarshish, rather than going to Nineveh as he had been ordered.

Nevertheless, when in jeopardy and deep trouble, with no one else toturn to, Jonah said, "I called to the Lord out of my distress, and he answered me," (2:2). Not only did God answer Jonah, God delivered him. Unlike the sailors, God asked no questions, for God knew all of the answers regarding Jonah. God knew more about Jonah than Jonah knew about himself.

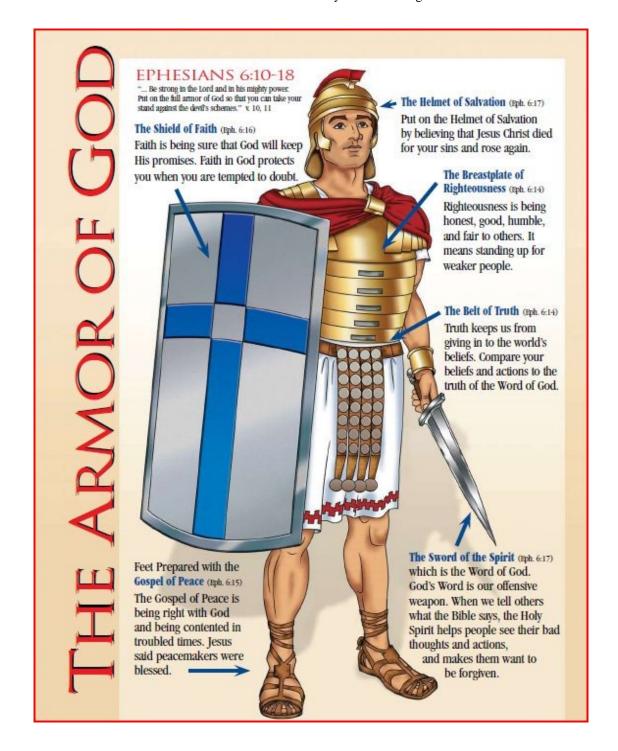
Thus, the first step in the love delivery process is to call out to God. Jonah did not allow his past unfaithfulness to deter him from calling out to the Lord. This step is completely in the caller's hands. Jonah said that God heard his voice. Ours is call - step one. God will hear - step two. Having God to hear is having God to answer. Thus, God's process has begun. Could delivery be far away?

## II. Context and Content of the Call: Vv. 4-8

<sup>4</sup>Then I said, 'O Lord, you have driven me from your presence. Yet I will look once more toward your holy Temple.' <sup>5</sup>"I sank beneath the waves, and the waters closed over me. Seaweed wrapped itself around my head. <sup>6</sup>I sank down to the very roots of the mountains. I was imprisoned in the earth, whose gates lock shut forever. But you, O lord my God, snatched me from the jaws of death! <sup>7</sup>As my life was slipping away, I remembered the Lord.

(Rescued on page 10)

Pray for all of our children, teens, young adults in this school years that God's hands will be upon them keeping them from all hurt, harm and danger. Also pray for all of our families, friends, and all of God's children.



### **Ephesians 6:10-20 (New King James Version)**

10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, [a] against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. 13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. 14 Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, 15 and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; 16 above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. 17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; 18 praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints— 19 and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel, 20 for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

### Read the BIBLE in ONE Year

MAY	8 Nehemiah 4-6	16 Job 8-10	24 Job 35-37
1 2 Chronicles 26-29	9 Nehemiah 7-9	17 Job 11-13	25 Job 38-42
2 2 Chronicles 30-32	10 Nehemiah 10-13	18 Job 14-17	26 Psalms 1-4
3 2 Chronicles 33-36	11 Esther 1-3	19 Job 18-20	27 Psalms 5-8
4 Ezra 1-4	12 Esther 4-7	20 Job 21-24	28 Psalms 9-12
5 Ezra 5-7	13 Esther 8-10	21 Job 25-27	29 Psalms 13-15
6 Ezra 8-10	14 Job 1-4	22 Job 28-31	30 Psalms 16-18
7 Nehemiah 1-3	15 Job 5-7	23 Job 32-34	31 Psalms 19-21
JUNE	8. Psalms 43-45	16. Psalms 67-69	24. Psalms 91-93
1. Psalms 22-24	9. Psalms 46-48	17. Psalms 70-72	25. Psalms 94-96
2. Psalms 25-27	10. Psalms 49-51	18. Psalms 73-75	26. Psalms 97-99
3. Psalms 28-30	11. Psalms 52-54	19. Psalms 76-78	27. Psalms 100-102
4. Psalms 31-33	12. Psalms 55-57	20. Psalms 79-81	28. Psalms103-105
5. Psalms 34-36	13. Psalms 58-60	21. Psalms 82-84	29. Psalms 106-108
6. Psalms 37-39	14. Psalms 61-63	22. Psalms 85-87	30. Psalms 109-111
7. Psalms 40-42	15. Psalms 64-66	23. Psalms 88-90	
July	8. Psalms 137-139	16. Proverbs 15-18	24. Ecclesiastes 10-12
1. Psalms 112-114	9. Psalms 140-144	17. Proverbs 19-21	25. Song 1-4
2. Psalms 115-118	10. Psalms 145-147	18. Proverbs 22-24	26. Song 5-8
3. Psalms 119	11. Psalms148-150	19. Proverbs 25-28	27. Isaiah 1-3
4. Psalms 120-123	12. Proverbs 1-3	20. Proverbs 29-31	28. Isaiah 4-6
5. Psalms 124-128	13. Proverbs 4-7	21. Ecclesiastes 1-3	29. Isaiah 7-9
6. Psalms 129-132	14. Proverbs 8-11	22. Ecclesiastes 4-6	30. Isaiah 10-12
7. Psalms 133-136	15. Proverbs 12-14	23. Ecclesiastes 7-9	31. Isaiah 13-15

### Pentecost (June 4, 2017)

Pentecost is the birthday of the Christian Church and reveals the descent or out pouring of the Holy Spirit on the believers in the Upper Room. (<sup>1</sup>On the day of Pentecost all the believers were meeting together in one place. <sup>2</sup>Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm, and it filled the house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup>Then, what looked like flames or tongues of fire appeared and settled on each of them. <sup>4</sup>And everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in other languages, as the Holy Spirit gave them this ability. Acts 2:1-4)

### **The Season After Pentecost**

The Season After Pentecost is sometimes referred to as Whitsuntide or Trinity season. This period has also been divided by some denominations into The Season After Pentecost and Kingdomtide. When the period is divided, The Season After Pentecost covers 10-14 Sundays, and Kingdomtide covers 13-14 Sundays.

**Color:** Red is the liturgical color for the Season After Pentecost. Red is symbolic of loyalty, power, witness, Christian zeal, blood, fire, the work and ministry of the church, and the Holy Spirit.

Name of God	Meaning	Application
JEHOVAH -SHAMMAH	The Lord is There The Lord My Companion	God's presence is not limited or contained in the Tabernacle or Temple, but is accessible to all who love and obey Him.
JEHOVAH –TSIDKENU	The Lord Our Righteousness	Jesus is the King who would come from David's line, and is the one who imparts His righteousness to us.
YAH, ORJAH	"I AM<" The One Who Is The Self-Existent	God never changes. His promises never fail. When we are faithless, He is faithful. God promises His continuing presence.
YHWH	"I AM<" The One Who Is The Self-Existent One	God never changes. His promises never fail. When we are faithless, He is faithful.

(Inventors from page 1) curtain rod S. R. Scratton curtain rod support William S. Grant door knob O. Dorsey O. Dorsey door stop dust pan Lawrence P. Ray egg beater Willie Johnson electric lamp bulb **Lewis Latimer** elevator **Alexander Miles** eye protector P. Johnson fire escape ladder J. W. Winters fire extinguisher T. Marshall folding bed L. C. Bailey folding chair **Brody & Surgwar** fountain pen W. B. Purvis furniture caster O. A. Fisher gas mask **Garrett Morgan** golf tee T. Grant guitar Robert F. Flemming, Jr. hair brush Lydia O. Newman hand stamp Walter B. Purvis horse shoe J. Ricks ice cream scooper A. L. Cralle improv. sugar making Norbet Rillieux insect-destroyer gun A. C. Richard ironing board Sarah Boone key chain F. J. Loudin lantern Michael C. Harvey L. A. Burr lawn mower

November 30, 1889 August 4, 1896 December 10, 1878 December 10, 1878 August 3, 1897 February 5, 1884 March 21, 1882 October 11, 1867 November 2, 1880 May 7, 1878 October 26, 1872 July 18, 1899 June 11, 1889 January 7, 1890 1878 October 13, 1914 December 12, 1899 March 3, 1886 November 15, 18--February 27 1883 March 30, 1885 February 2, 1897 December 10, 1846 February 28, 1899 December 30, 1887 January 9, 1894 August 19, 1884 May 19, 1889

lawn sprinkler J. W. Smith May 4, 1897 lemon squeezer J. Thomas White December 8, 1893 lock W. A. Martin July 23, 18-lubricating cup Ellijah McCoy November 15, 1895 lunch pail James Robinson 1887 mail box Paul L. Downing October 27, 1891 Thomas W. Stewart mop June 11, 1893 motor Frederick M. Jones June 27, 1939 peanut butter George Washington Carver 1896 pencil sharpener J. L. Love November 23, 1897 phone transmitter Granville T. Woods December 2, 1884 record player arm Joseph Hunger Dickenson January 8, 1819 refrigerator J. Standard June 14, 1891 riding saddles W. D. Davis October 6, 1895 rolling pin John W. Reed 1864 shampoo headrest C. O. Bailiff October 11, 1898 spark plug **Edmond Berger** February 2, 1839 stethoscope **Imhotep** Ancient Egypt stove T. A. Carrington July 25, 1876 Madam C. J. Walker straightening comb Approx. 1905 street sweeper Charles B. Brooks March 17, 1890 thermostat control Frederick M. Jones February 23, 1960 traffic light Garrett Morgan November 20, 1923 tricycle M. A. Cherry May 6, 1886

Burridge & Marshman

April 7, 1885



typewriter

(Encouragement from page 1)

an unseen power." This definition helps illustrate how we exercise faith in the things of the world on a daily basis, very often without question.

We have faith that the electrical wires inside the walls of our home will not ignite and cause a fire. We have faith that every time we press the brake pedal, the car will stop. We exercise faith every time we ride in an airplane. It takes faith to be confident.

By Joyce M. Simon

Do not ask to have your life's load lightened,
But for courage to endure.
Do not ask for fulfillment in all your life,
But for patience to accept frustration.
Do not ask for perfection in all you do,
But for wisdom not to repeat mistakes.
And finally, do not ask for more,
Before saying "Thank You"
For what you have already received.

By Brenda Short

### Office Prayer

Lord Jesus, as I enter this work place,
I bring your presence with me.
I speak Your Peace, Your Grace, and Your Perfect Order into
the atmosphere of this office.
I acknowledge your Lordship over all that will be spoken,
thought, decided, and accomplished within these walls.
Lord Jesus, I thank you for the talents you have deposited in

me.

I do not take them lightly, but commit to using them

responsibly and well. Give me a fresh supply of truth and beauty on which to draw as I do my job. Anoint my creativity, my ideas, and my energy so that even my smallest task may You honor.

Lord, when I am confused, guide; When I am weary, energize me.

Lord, when I am burned out, infuse me with the Light of your Holy Spirit.

May the work that I do and the way that I do it, bring hope, life and courage to all that I come in contact with today.

And, oh Lord, even in this day's most stressful moments...may I rest in you. In Your strong and powerful name I pray, Jesus Christ, Amen.

By unknown

The Future is yours, It belongs to you, And with faith in God, And in yourself, too, No hill's too high, No mountain's too tall, For with faith in the Lord you can conquer them all. And all that you wish for That is honest and true The Lord will certainly Give to you, Not always the way you most desire, But always He gives What you most require. Helen Steiner Rice

### Words of Encouragement

There's power in your witness.

Purpose for your pain.

Joy where there's sadness.

Rejoice, Live again.

Represent God in everything. Shine!

The power of your walk is evidence of God's faithfulness.
Your witness is evidence.
Don't allow your situation to hinder your faith witness.
Give witness to your faith. Bear witness. Soar!

 $^{16}$  For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jews first and also to the Greek.  $^{17} For$  in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it written, "The righteous shall live by faith." Romans 1:16-17 (ESV)

(Rescued from page 5)

And my earnest prayer went out to you in your holy Temple. <sup>8</sup>Those who worship false gods turn their backs on all God's mercies.

Step three is knowing the seriousness of your trouble. The context of any situation greatly influences the words spoken and the action taken in the situation. The conditions (or context) in Jonah's case are graphically stated and they portray dire circumstances. Jonah misstates the facts in verse 4. he was not driven away from God's sight. He chose to leave, to be disobedient. Perhaps the burden was more difficult to bear because the blame fell squarely on Jonah. But, nevertheless, he was no longer in God's sight in the holy temple. Further, the forces of nature were furious and deadly. The waters, the weeds, the deep, the roots of the mountains, and the enclosing bars joined in creating a death scene.

Jonah declared that his "life was ebbing away," (2:7); and in those terrifying moments, he remembered the Lord. Then he prayed a prayer that reached God in the holy temple. Need I speak of the content of the call or the nature of the prayer? I think not. Consider again the context.

## III. The Promise Then Deliverance: Vv. 9-10.

<sup>9</sup>But I will offer sacrifices to you with song of praise, and I will fulfill all my vows. For my salvation comes from the Lord alone." <sup>10</sup>Then the Lord ordered the fish to spit Jonah out onto the beach.

Step four is knowing and taking the right approach to God. Verse 9 refers to a "voice of thanksgiving." Giving thanks can be a reflection of attitude, a contrite

spirit, and a changed heart, rather than a formality anticipating the petitions and intercessions of the prayers. Notice the giving of thanks preceded deliverance. It was before the fact.

Jonah promised to sacrifice and made a vow to pay his obligation. (I wonder if the Lord smiled at Jonah spoke of vows and promises again?) vows and promises were not unusual for prophets of God. But whatever the case, deliverance was pending.

Step five involved a declaration that "Deliverance belongs to the lord." it positions one to find favor in the eyes of the Lord. Were not favor, forgiveness, grace, reconciliation, and deliverance the cause of the incarnation? Did Christ not come to set the captives free? Isn't He inclined by choice to seek, find, and restore? However, you must show some signs. It appears that Jonah did that. The deliverance protocol began with a call to the Lord and a prayer of thanksgiving. Then deliverance came. But things were in order for the hands and the will of the Lord.

### **Lesson Sidelights**

As an aside, it seems like God was determined to deliver Jonah. God set out ◆ to do it. God was going to do it, and God did it! There is little to justify, from a human point of view, the rescue of Jonah. ◆ Was he remorseful regarding his disobedience? Was there ever an indication of his change of heart and mind and an effort relative to going to Nineveh? Did there seem to be an inner struggle, a wedding with God in the matter? Apparently not! Even the lifethreatening storm did not prevent him from sleeping soundly in the hold of the ship. Fleeing from God in the midst of a raging storm did not disturb Jonah.

Thus, the determination to deliver was the Lord's concern. Jonah had his own agenda and was prepared to pursue it until the end. But deliverance speaks to the nature and purpose of God. The Creator was not going to allow a creature to alter the divine plan and heart-felt intent of God.

### **Lesson Applications**

What can we carry away from this lesson that has a daily life application value? That which sticks out in my mind, are the steps in the process of God's delivery plan. Therefore, we conclude the lesson reviewing these steps. As we have shared them with each other, let us share them with others. While deliverance by God from our deadly circumstances is the divine work of God, and often appears to be event specific, there is in fact a process involved. In each delivery event, close examination will reveal action, reaction, and counter action.

Focusing on Jonah's release from his deep and deadly trouble, the following sequence is observed:

- ♦ Step one The call out to God.
- Step two The assurance that God will hear the call.
- Step three The knowledge of the jeopardy.
- Step four The Prayer to God.
- Step five The Declaration of faith: "Deliverance belongs to the Lord," (2:9)

From The Young People-Adult Quarterly (Ages 18 and up) International Sunday School Lessons for Christian Teaching

Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have.

For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you, nor forsake you."

So we may boldly Say: "The Lord is my helper; I will not fear. Hebrews 13:5,6.

## Fallen Mother's Memorial

Sunday, May 14, 2017 Mother's Day

Mother Martha McArthur

Mother Annie Hunter

Mother Bertha McCrae

Mother Eliza Weston

Mother Minnie Aiken

Mother Addie Battle

Mother Julia Sanders

**Mother Gladys Butts** 

**Mother Earlene Butts** 

Mother Mattie Randolph

Mother Annie Turner

Mother Mary Chilsolm

Mother Gertrude Sansbury

Mother Juanita Byrd

**Mother Hazel Hewitt** 

**Mother Estelle Cooper** 

**Mother Christine Sneed** 

**Mother Edith Meyers** 

**Mother Sadie Brahm** 

Mother Lois Brackett Gallagher

Mother Althea Deas

\*Honor your Beloved mother with memorial gifts to support the Cross Street Mortgage fund.

Sponsored by Sis Flizabeth Humphrey

Please mark your calendar and plan to attend as we show our appreciation and celebrate

## Pastor Moses & First Lady Eledia Plarvill



on their

24TH PASTOR & FIRST LADY APPRECIATION

at

Cross Street A.M.E. Zion Church on Sunday, May 21, 2017 @ 10:00 a.m.

# Men's Day Celebration → Sunday, March 26, 2017 Brother Marvin Privott, Chair Brother Woodrow James, Co-Chair



### **SCATTERING SEEDS**

READ: Matthew 13:1-9

The seed falling on good soil...produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. Matthew 13:23

received a wonderful email from a woman who wrote, "Your mom was my first-grade teacher at Putnam City in 1958. she was a great teacher and very kind, but strict! She made us learn the 23rd Psalm and say it in front of the class, and I was horrified. But it was the only contact I had with the Bible until 1997, when I became a Christian. And the memories of Mrs. McCasland came flooding back as I re-read it."

Jesus told a large crowd a parable about the farmer who sowed his seed that fell on different types of ground-a hard path, rocky ground, clumps of thorns, and good soil (Matthew 13:1-9). While some seeds never grew, "the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it" and "produces a crop yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown" (V.23).

During the twenty years my mother taught first grade in public schools, along with reading, writing, and arithmetic she scattered seeds of kindness and the message of God's love.

Her former student's email concluded, "I have had other influences in my Christian walk later in life, of course. But my heart always return to [Psalm] and [your mom's] gentle nature."

A seed of God's love sown today may produce a remarkable harvest.

**Lord, today** I want my life to sow good seeds in those around me. Help me to give out what You have put in me.

We sow the seed-God produces the harvest.

Ministries, Grand Rapids, Michigan, Reprinted by Permission





### Crises/Emergency: Cell phone 860-754-4606

Cross Street Recovery Ministry the "Hope Line" is in operation 24 hours per day. Please call 860-754-4606 if you, a friend and/or a family member are in need of counseling and/or are in crisis,

PLEASE dial the "Hope Line". All information will be confidential.

### **CROSS STREET MINISTRY OF RECOVERY**

We can't but through God, all things are possible. How might we pull on God's strength to help each other recover?

Let the spirit of God work for you in a Mighty, Mighty Way

For more information contact: Church office 860-344-9527.or

Rev. Gregory B. Winborne: Days: 860-616-3834

### **WEEKLY ACTIVITIES**

### Sunday

8:30 a.m. Church School

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

2nd Sunday Senior Usher Board Meeting (following service) Youth Meeting 1st & 4th Sunday's (following service)

#### Monday

7:00-9:00 p.m. Bible Study, Eddy Shelter 6:00 p.m. Zumba

7:00 Media Ministry (1st and 3rd of month)

<u>Tuesday</u> Special Prayer for Pastor Harvill

6:00—7:00 p.m. Prayer meeting and bible study.

### Wednesday

6:00 p.m. Zumba

6:00 p.m. Ministerial Staff (1st of month) 7:00 p.m.. Praise & Worship Choir rehearsal, 8:00 p.m. Men's Choir Rehearsal

### **Thursday**

6:00 p.m. Steward Board 7:00 p.m. Trustee Board (2nd of month) 7:00 p.m. Unity Choir Rehearsal

### Friday Day of Fasting

6:00 p.m. Vision Choir (3rd & 4th of month) 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm Cross Street Recovery Ministry (room 2)

### Saturday

10:00 a.m. Pastors Aide (2nd) 11:00 a.m. Security Ministry Meeting (2nd Saturday of month) 12:00 noon Missionaries (2nd Saturday of month)

### **MONTHLY ACTIVITIES**

Monday, May 8 - 6:00 pm

Ministerial Health Alliance Meeting
Coping with Crisis/Pastoral Care

Will meet at Cross Street in Classroom 3

Tuesday, May 9 - 6:00 pm Alive in The Word

Devotion: 6:00-6:15 pm Preaching: 6:15-6:35 pm Teachable moments from the Pastor:

6:35-6:50 pm **Prayer:** 6:50-7:00 pm

Saturday, May 13 - 5:00 pm Fashion Show with Dinner

Please see any of the Women's Ministry for tickets.

Sunday, May 14 Mother's Day

**Fallen Mother's Memorial** 

Saturday, May 20

@ 9:00 am - Men's Ministry Meeting Asking all men to please attend.

@ 11:00 am - Church Wide Clean up -Inside & Church Grounds Let's show some LOVE for this amazing place of worship. All are invited to help!

Sunday, May 21
Pastor & First Lady Appreciation

Tuesday, May 23 - 7:00 pm 4th Quarterly Conference All reports due no later than Sunday, May 21

Friday-Saturday, May 26-27
Harriet Tubman Pilgrimage to Auburn,
New York
Cost of Bus & Hotel \$195.00

Please contact church office for more information.

Wednesday - Sunday, June 7-11
173rd New England Annual Conference
Cross Street is the Host Church

Sunday, June 25 - 10:00 am
Women's Day Morning Service
Minister Terri Harvill, Guest Speaker

Saturday, September 30 Women's Health Conference

### Doxology

Now unto Him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy. To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.

Jude 24-25



### CROSS STREET A.M.E. ZION CHURCH Organized in 1823

440 West Street P.O. Box 223
Middletown, CT 06457
Phone: 860-344-9527 Fax: 860-344-1740
crossstreetchurch@snet.net
www.crossstreetamezion.org

Sunday School — 8:45 a.m. Worship Service — 10:00 a.m.

Rev. Moses L. Harvill, M. Div.,
Pastor
Email: mharvill@snet.net

The Rev. Dr. Terry L. Jones
Presiding Elder

Mrs. D. Diane Proctor Missionary Supervisor

The Right Reverend Dennis Proctor
Presiding Prelate

#### **Ministerial Staff**

Rev. Robyn Anderson-Turner
Rev. William D. Wilson
Rev. Ella Frances Perry
Rev. Karen Nesmith
Rev. James Battle
Rev. Myrtle Turner
Rev. Jennifer Cherry-Woods
Rev. Gregory Winborne
Rev. Joyce Johnson
Rev. Earlene Grants
Sister Felicia Freeman



### "I am a Christian" By Maya Angelou

When I say ... "I am a Christian" I'm not shouting "I'm clean livin'."
I'm whispering "I was lost,
Now I'm found and forgiven."

When I say ... "I am a Christian" I don't speak of this with pride. I'm confessing that I stumble And need Christ to be my guide.

When I say ... "I am a Christian"
I'm not trying to be strong.
I'm professing that I'm weak
And need His strength to carry on.

When I say ... "I am a Christian"
I'm not bragging of success.
I'm admitting I have failed
And need God to clean my mess.

When I say ... "I am a Christian" I still feel the sting of pain. I have my share of heartaches So I call upon His name.

When I say ... "I am a Christian"
I'm not holier than thou.
I'm just a simple sinner
Who received God's good grace, somehow!

### The Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13 (KJV)

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.



Then the Lord answered me and said:
Write the vision and make it plain on tablets,
that he may run who reads it.
Habakkuk 2:2

### The Jabez Prayer

And Jabez called on the God of Israel saying, "Oh, that You would bless me indeed, and enlarge my territory, that Your hand would keep me from evil, that I may nor cause pain! "So God granted him what he requested.

1 Chronicles 4:10 (NKJV)

### "God's Word

For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart"

Hebrews 4:12

Prayer: Forever, O Lord, your Word is settled in heaven. I bless you because you have given me rest according to all that you have promised to me. Not one word of all your good promises has ever failed. In light of this truth, I will walk in your Word at all times. I love your Word, Father, it is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path. All of your words are pure, O God, and you are a shield to me. Lord God, your way is perfect, and

your Word is tried. You are a shield and a mighty buckler to me as I trust in you. With your Word you made the heavens, O Lord. all of your promises are yes in Christ, unto your glory, O God. You have spoken through your Word since ancient times, in order to give light to those who sit in darkness, and you guide my feet in the way of neare

Your Word is quick, alive, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword. It pierces even to the dividing asunder of my soul and spirit, and of my joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of my heart.

Father, I am thankful for your Word, and I will endeavor to walk in the light of your Word all the days of my life.

### If you were to die today, do you know where you will spend eternity ???