

# Saint Peter African Methodist Episcopal Church

# THE INFORMER

*A Newsletter designed to inform and inspire readers.*

VOLUME 1, NO. 1

DECEMBER/JANUARY 2017

## CAPTIVATING CHURCH NEWS

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Activities
- Readings
- Pictures

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## Message From The Pastor's Desk



**Reverend Johnny R. Byrd**

Saint Peter AME Church has been given a NEW assignment. Their instructions are a NEW Pastor has arrived. The Bishop of the Seventh Episcopal District (South Carolina) has assigned Reverend Johnny R. Byrd to lead the people at Saint Peter (North). The Christian journey God has planned continues! We (Sharon and I) are proud to be apart of the Saint Peter African Methodist Episcopal

Church Family experience. As we prepare to move to the next level in Christian Ministry, our prayer is for God to lead, guide and direct our path.

We hope our stay will be fruitful, in regard to our leadership and guidance in Kingdom building.

We hope and pray souls will be saved, relationships formed, lives are rededicated to Christ and Church membership increases, during our stay at Saint Peter AME Church. If we seek the Kingdom of God "first" as our "Top Priority", God will add all the rest unto us. If we strongly believe, with all our heart, it will be a new beginning — a new era — for those at Saint Peter African Methodist Episcopal Church in our Christian walk of life.

There is much work for all of us to do. It is our expectation to perceive it, receive it, believe it and achieve it. Through cooperation and participation from the church body, we will strive to carry out God's plans. It is a new season with a new beginning. Let's start fresh and see what God has too offer! Because, we are a church where everybody is somebody!

QUIT  
TALKING  
BEGIN  
DOING

## CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

The Young People's Division (YPD) sponsored their Annual Christmas Program at Saint Peter AME Church on Sunday, December

18, 2016 immediately after Worship Service. The youth of the Church sang various songs and spelled out the word Christmas. Everyone was

asked to wear red. In addition to the Christmas Program, Saint Peter adopted a family through the Department of Social Services.





# STANDARD MONTHLY CHURCH MEETINGS

- 1st and 2nd Saturdays **BEFORE** the 1st and 2nd Sundays ..... Mass Choir Rehearsal
- 2nd Sunday After Service ..... YPD Meeting
- Saturday **BEFORE** 3rd Sunday ... Trustee Board Meeting @ 9:00 AM
- 3rd Saturday **BEFORE** 3rd Sunday ..... Male Chorus Rehearsal
- 3rd Sunday **AFTER** Service ..... Usher Board Meeting
- 3rd Sunday **AFTER** Service ..... WMS Meeting
- 4th Sunday ..... YPD in Charge of Worship Service
- 5th Sunday ..... WMS in Charge of Worship Service



## THE FIRST CHURCH CONFERENCE

Saint Peter AME Church members, along with their Pastor (Reverend Johnny R. Byrd), held their First Church Conference on Sunday, January 8, 2017, immediately after Worship Service. Reverend Byrd had a fulfilled agenda. He discussed the make-up of the church; its organizational structure; finances; duties of officers and burial polices and procedures. Handouts were distributed to all the members present. Members were given the opportunity to ask questions and express concerns. The next Church Conference will be held in early February.





# HAPPY NEW YEAR!

It's a NEW YEAR! A time for making a fresh start. January is the beginning of the year. As the month begins, individuals reflect on life, health, finances and anything that may need to be changed or enhanced in their lives.

Often times, resolutions are made, but never fulfilled. Have you made a resolution for 2017? Are you still fulfilling it or have you broken the resolution already? Was the resolution realistic to begin

with? Keep the faith and trust God! Whatever you need, God's got it! He will give you the desires of your heart. Don't give up! Hang in there! Help is on the way!

*Happy New Year!*

**Remember:**  
**"God is still in the miracle working business, try HIM!"**

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Bro. Thomas Jones	5th
Bro. Antwan Williams	7th
Sis. Lillie Bell Harley	8th
Sis. Sharon Byrd	19th
Bro. Waymon Stewart	20th
Sis. Jamilah West	21st
Sis. Mildred Willis	24th
Sis. Teretha Mitchell	26th
Sis. Shantikea Moore	26th
Bro. Belton K. Evans	27th



## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Bro. Ramon Lopies	7th
Sis. Isabella Way	8th
Sis. CheKirah Woody	8th
Bro. Gerod Scott	18th
Bro. Stephon Scott	18th
Bro. Keyshawn Wright	31st

## DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Mr. & Mrs. Waymon (Ruth) Stewart	17th
Mr. & Mrs. Willie (Jessie) Harley	27th



## JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

NONE

# SICK AND SHUT-IN

- Sis. Willa Dean Baxter (Home, West Columbia)
- Sis. Alpine Gladden (Home, Swansea)
- Sis. Eloise Gladden (Home, Swansea)
- Bro. Curtis Harley (Home, North)

- Sis. Dianne Hook (Home, Orangeburg)
- Bro. Reginal Jones (Home, Orangeburg)
- Bro. Colin "Rickey" Robinson (Home, Columbia)
- Sis. Katherine Shaw (Home, Columbia)

Sis. Quearline White (Home, Saint Matthews)



**Please remember to pray for the Sick and Shut-In everywhere as well as each other!**



# UPCOMING EVENTS



Pastor and Ministerial Staff



Baptism



Adopt-A-Family Items



Men of the Church

The Usher Board will celebrate their **45th Anniversary** on **Sunday, December 4, 2016 at 2:30 PM**. The theme is **"Put It All in His Hands"**. The Master of Ceremony will be Reverend Walter Harley.

Town of North will celebrate **Eartha Kitt Day** on **Saturday, January 14, 2017 at North Middle High School from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM**. Tickets are **\$20.00** per person. There will be a **"Silent Auction"**, prior to the Gala. Eartha Kitt was born in North, SC on January 17, 1927. She claimed the community as her hometown. Ms. Kitt died December 12, 2008.

The **Wateree District** is sponsoring a **"Will" Clinic** on **Saturday, January 21, 2017 at Country Inn and Suites** in Orangeburg, SC at **9:00 AM**. All interested persons should submit their names to Sis. Mary Harley. Make your wishes known by making a "will" and your family will not have to speculate about what you would have wanted.

**WMS DAY** is **Sunday, January 29, 2017**, during **Morning Worship Service**. Invite a friend or just tell somebody!

**Officer Installation Service Day** will be held **Sunday, January 29, 2017**, during the **WMS Day**. **ALL OFFICERS** are asked to be **PRESENT** and pay **\$50.00**.

**Class Leaders' Meeting** will be held on **Wednesday, February 1, 2017 at 7:00 PM**.

The **Steward and Trustee Boards** will meet on **Saturday, February 4, 2017, @ 9:00 AM**.

Saint Peter will celebrate **Sis. Irish Jackson (Musician and Director)** on **Sunday, February 5, 2017 (1st Sunday)** during **Morning Worship Service**. Everyone is asked to bring a **LOVE OFFERING** on that Sunday.

The **AME Church** will celebrate **Bishop Richard Allen** on **Friday, February 10, 2017 at Founder's Day at Allen University (Morning and Afternoon)** and **Reid Chapel AME Church (Night)** in Columbia, SC.

The **Wateree District** is sponsoring a **Valentine Gala** on **Friday, February 24, 2017 from 7:00 PM to 11:00 PM** at the **Cinema** in Orangeburg, SC. Tickets are **\$25.00** per person. The contact person for tickets is Bro. Londrae Knotts.

The **Black History Program** and the **Stewards' Black Program** will be held on **Sunday, February 12, 2017 (3rd Sunday)**, during **Morning Worship Service**. Each member is asked to donate **\$100.00**.



# Black History Month: Maya Angelou

## Haters

A hater is someone who is jealous and envious and spends all their time trying to make you look small so they can look tall. They are very negative people to say the least. Nothing is ever good enough! When you make your mark, you will always attract some haters...

That's why you have to be careful with whom you share your blessings and your dreams because some folk can't handle seeing You blessed...

It's dangerous to be like somebody else... If God wanted you to be like somebody else, He would have given you what He gave them! Right?

You never know what people have gone through to get what they have. The problem I have with haters is that they see my glory but they don't know my story....

If the grass looks greener on the other side of the fence, you can rest assured that the water bill is higher there too!

We've all got some haters among us! Some people envy you because you can: a) Have a relationship with God, b) Light up a room when you walk in, c) Start your own business, d) Tell a man/woman to hit the curb (if he/she isn't about the right thing.), e) you are a strong person and don't let people run you over and f) you have a strong and loving marriage and they can't get in-between spouses to spoil it.

Haters can't stand to see you happy. Haters will never want to see you succeed. Most of our haters are people who are supposed to be on our side (like some family and friends).

How do you handle your undercover haters? You can handle these haters by: 1. Knowing who you are and who your true friends are. (VERY IMPORTANT!!) 2. Having a purpose to your life: Purpose does not mean having a job. You can have a job and still be unfulfilled. A purpose is having a clear sense of what God has called you to be. Your purpose is not defined by what others think about you. 3. By remembering that what you have is by divine prerogative and not human manipulation.

Fulfill your dreams! You only have one life to live. When its your time to leave this earth, you want to be able to say, 'I've lived my life and fulfilled my dreams. Now I'm ready to go HOME! When God gives you favor, you can tell your haters, 'Don't look at me. Look at who is in charge of me...' Pass this to all of your family and friends who you know are not hating on you.

Don't worry about it, it's not your problem, it's theirs. Just pray for them that their life can be as fulfilled as yours! Watch out for "Haters"... BUT most of all don't become A "HATER"!



Maya Angelou





*"Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it."*

## SHIRLEY AND MARCY

A mother was concerned about her kindergarten son walking to school. He didn't want his mother to walk with him. She wanted to give him the feeling that he had some independence but yet know that he was safe. So, she had an idea of how to handle it. She asked a neighbor if she would please follow him to school in the mornings, staying at a distance, so he probably wouldn't notice her. She said that since she was up early with her toddler anyway, it would be a good way for them to get some exercise as well, so she agreed. The next school day, the neighbor and her little girl set out following behind Timmy as he walked to school with another neighbor girl he knew. She did this for the whole week.

As the two walked and chatted, kicking stones and twigs, Timmy's little friend noticed the same lady was following them as she seemed to do every day all week. Finally she said to Timmy, 'Have you noticed that lady following us to school all week? Do you know her?' Timmy nonchalantly replied, 'Yeah, I know who she is.' The little girl said, 'Well, who is she?' 'That's just Shirley Goodnest,' Timmy replied, 'and her daughter Marcy. Shirley Goodnest? Who is she and why is she following us?' 'Well, Timmy explained, every night my Mom makes me say the 23rd Psalm with my prayers, 'cuz she worries about me so much. And in the Psalm, it says, 'Shirley Goodnest (surely goodness ) and Marcy (mercy) shall follow me all the days of my life', so I guess I'll just have to get used to it!'

*The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine upon you, and be gracious unto you; the Lord lift His countenance upon you, and give you peace.*

*May Shirley Goodnest and Marcy be with you today and always!*







## FAMOUS FIRSTS WORD SEARCH

FIND THE NAMES

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

- Guion Bluford
- Ralph J Bunche
- Nat King Cole
- Thurgood Marshall
- James Meredith
- Hiram Revels
- Jackie Robinson
- Madame C J Walker
- Booker T Washington
- Phillis Wheatley

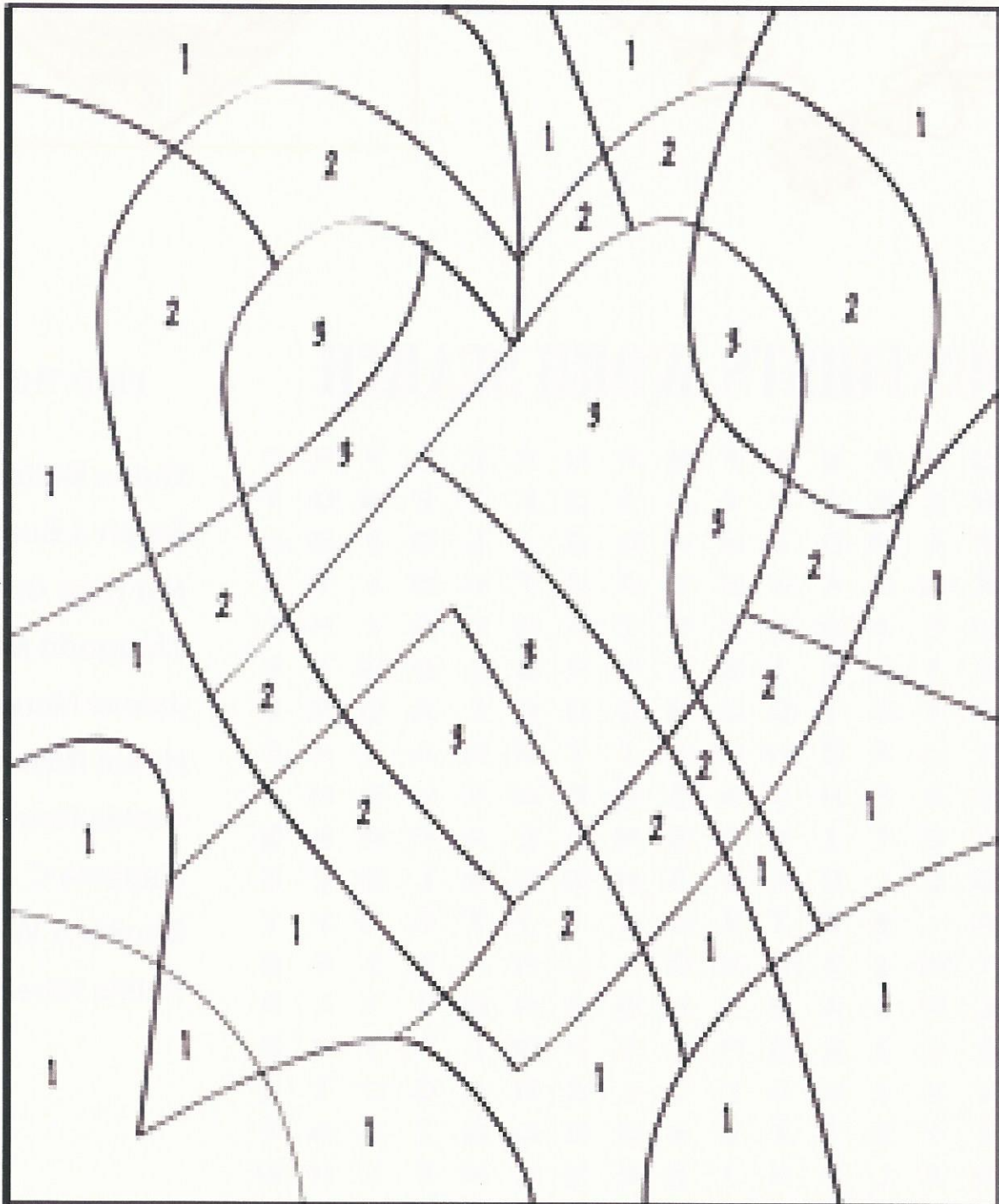
# Color-by-Number

Color each section the color that corresponds to its number to uncover a holiday symbol.

1 = leave white

2 = red

3 = pink





# Valentine's Day Word Search

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

candy  
card  
chocolate  
cuddle  
flowers  
friend  
heart



hugs  
kisses  
love  
roses  
smooch  
snuggle



# G O S S S S S I P!!!

## Doing the Devil's Work for Him

You've heard the phrase, "Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me." It's not true — like a poisonous snake, gossip can kill you!

— Earl H. Williams



## The Snake That Poisons Everybody

It topples governments, wrecks marriages, ruins careers, bust reputations, causes heartaches, nightmares, indigestion, spawns suspicion, generates grief, dispatches innocent people to cry in their pillows. Even its name hisses. It's called gossip. Office gossip. Shop gossip. Party gossip. It makes headlines and headaches. Before you repeat a story, ask yourself:

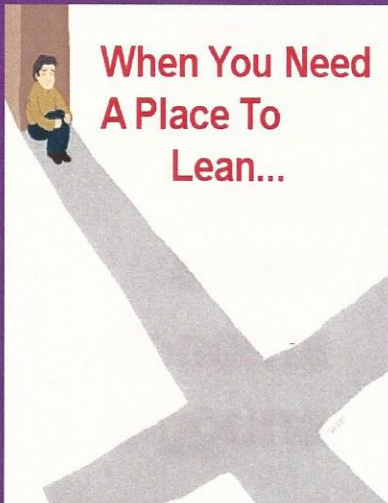
- ◆ Is it true?
- ◆ Is it fair?
- ◆ Is it necessary?

If not, SHUT UP!

Trusting In  
**JESUS**

JOURNEY  
OF  
*Faith*

When You Need  
A Place To  
Lean...





## Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Now is the time to make justice a reality for all of God's children - Martin Luther King, Jr.

Enter the correct words in the boxes based on the shape of the letters.



1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

11.

12.

preacher	justice	speech	protest
freedom	rights	dream	marches
liberty	equality	boycott	leader

Fill in the missing letters that remind YOU of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

1. J \_ s \_ i \_ e

2. D \_ e \_ m

3. F \_ \_ \_ dom

4. L \_ \_ d \_ r

5. \_ i \_ h \_ s

6. Li \_ e \_ t \_

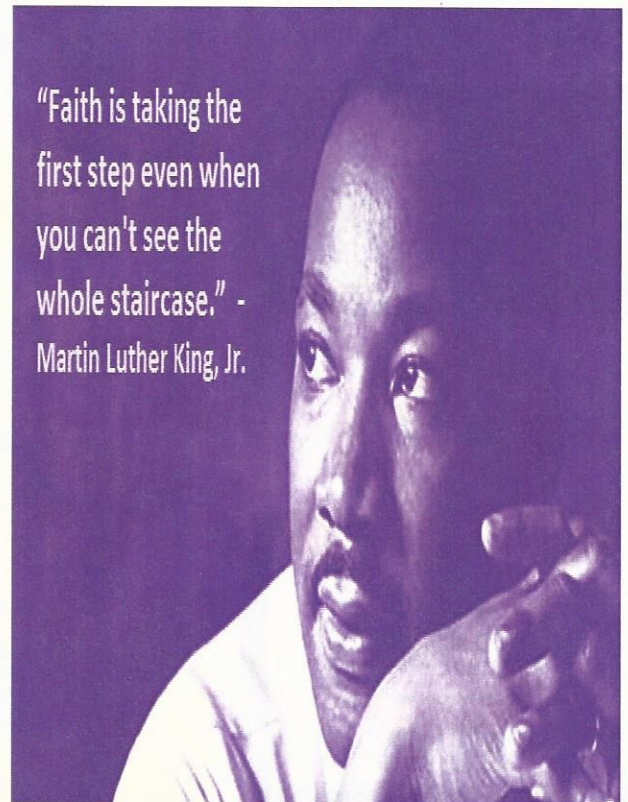
7. \_ r \_ a \_ her

8. P \_ ote \_ t

9. \_ qu \_ l \_ ty

10. Sp \_ \_ ch

"Faith is taking the first step even when you can't see the whole staircase." - Martin Luther King, Jr.



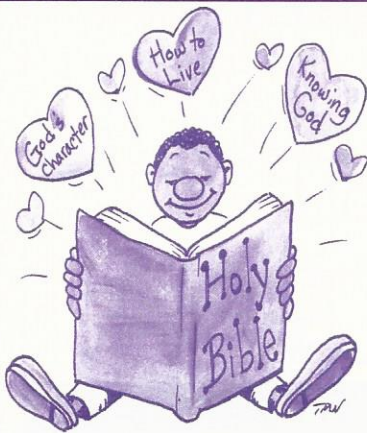


**Remember:**

**“Only  
what you  
do for  
Christ will  
last!”**



**A** is for always thinking of others  
**N** is for numerous kind acts  
**G** is for going above and beyond  
**E** is for endless devotion  
**L** is for how much you are loved !



God always gives His best to those who leave the choice with Him.

A hug is a great gift ... one size fits all. It can be given for any occasion and it's easy to exchange.



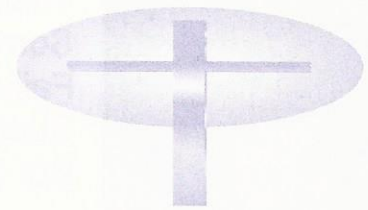
Anger is a condition in which the tongue works faster than the mind.

You can't change the past but you can ruin the present by worrying over the future.



## OLD TESTAMENT HISTORY

1. What did God use for coverings for Adam and Eve after they ate of the fruit?
2. What did God tell Adam would happen if he ate of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil?
3. What did God use to fashion the woman from the man?
4. What did Adam and Eve do when they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden after they ate of the fruit?
5. Who was Adam and Eve's first son?



## NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH

1. The two themes of Luke are: a) the acts of Peter and the acts of Paul, b) rejection of the Gospel by the Jews and its reception by the Gentiles, c) history of the Jews and the history of the Gentiles, d) Paul's journeys in Asia Minor and his journeys in Rome.
2. A primary emphasis of Acts is on: a) the Holy Spirit, b) the temple, c) the twelve apostles, d) the Jews.
3. In the following statement, to what account is the author of Acts referring? "The first account I composed, Theophilus, ..."
4. What was the first account written to Theophilus about?
5. What was the last thing that Jesus did before He was taken up according to Acts 1?

## PEOPLE OF THE BIBLE

1. Where was Abraham buried? a) Bethel, b) Hebron, c) Haran, d) Shechem.
2. Who was chosen by God to become the father of a new people?
3. What was Abraham's home town?
4. Whom did the Lord tell to "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you"?
5. How old was Abraham when Isaac was born? a) 50, b) 75, c) 100, d) 525.



# Some Things To Make You Say Hum!

"Whenever God Closes One Door He Always Opens Another, Even Though Sometimes It's Hard in the Hallway"

I would rather have one rose and a kind word from a friend while I'm here than a whole truck load when I'm gone.

Happiness keeps You Sweet,  
Trials keep You Strong,  
Sorrows keep You Human,  
Failures keep You Humble,  
Success keeps You Glowing,  
But Only God Keeps You Going.

'Worry looks around, sorry looks back, Faith looks up.'

## Isn't It Strange!



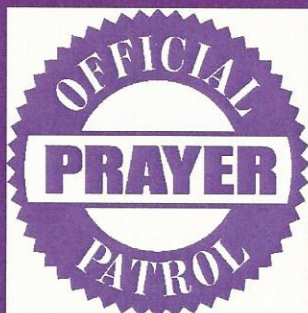
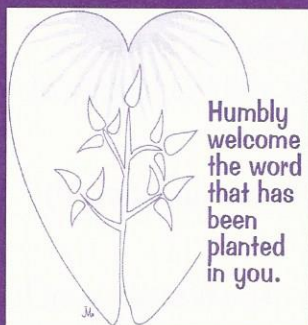
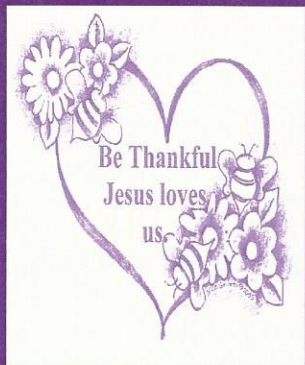
Isn't it strange how a 20 dollar bill seems like such a large amount when you donate it to church, but such a small amount when you go shopping?

Isn't it strange how 2 hours seem so long when you're at church, and how short they seem when you're watching a good movie?



Isn't it strange how everyone wants front-row-tickets to concerts or games, but they do whatever is possible to sit on the last row in Church?

Isn't it strange how we need to know about an event for Church 2-3 weeks before the day so we can include it in our agenda, but we can adjust it for other events at the last minute?



'Cause I Know God Is Working!

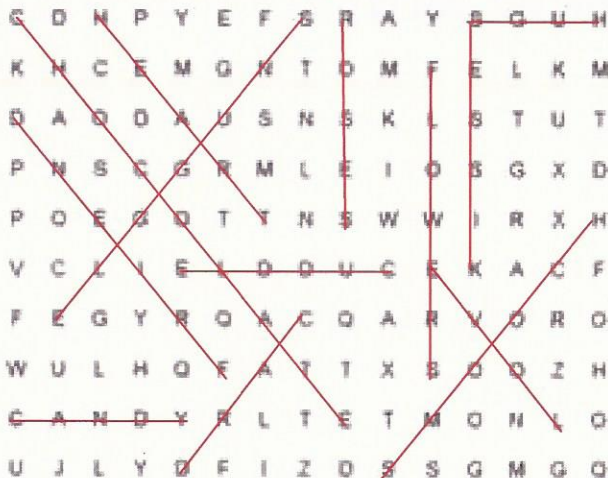


**OLD TESTAMENT HISTORY:** 1. Garments of skin. 2. "In the day that you eat from it you shall surely die." 3. One of His ribs. 4. They hid themselves. 5. Cain.

**NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH:** 1. Rejection of the Gospel by the Jews and its reception by the Gentiles. 2. The Holy Spirit. 3. The book of Luke. 4. "All that Jesus began to do and teach until the day when He was taken up, ..." 5. He, by the Holy Spirit, gave orders to the apostles to wait in Jerusalem.

**PEOPLE OF THE BIBLE:** 1. Hebron 2. Abram (renamed Abraham) 3. Ur of the Chaldeans 4. Abraham 5. 100.

## Valentine's Day Word Search



1. Justice
2. Dream
3. Freedom
4. Leader
5. Rights
6. Liberty
7. Preacher
8. Protest
9. Equality
10. Speech

### Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

1. Liberty
2. Equality
3. Freedom
4. Rights
5. Preacher
6. Protest
7. Leader
8. Justice
9. Boycott
10. Marches
11. Dream
12. Speech

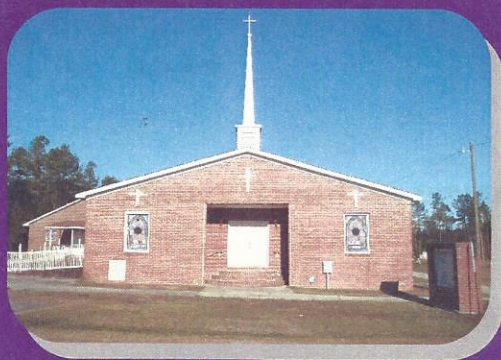
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Famous Firsts Word Search

Find the names.





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District

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Presiding Elder of the Wateree  
District

Mrs. Sandra Anderson, Wateree  
Area Supervisor

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Mrs. Sharon W. Byrd, First Lady

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