



The Cross

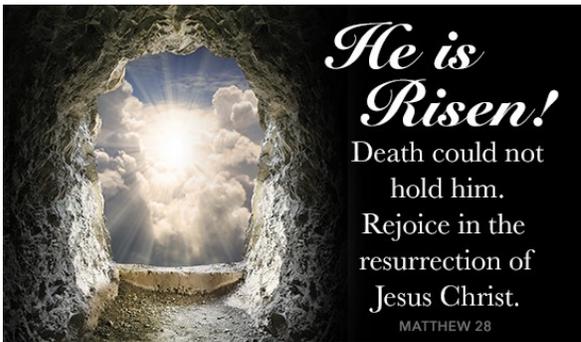
Cross Street A.M.E Zion Church



"A Church Where Everybody is Somebody and Christ is Lord of ALL"

May / June 2018

Volume 22, Issue 03



He is Risen!

Death could not hold him.
Rejoice in the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

MATTHEW 28

God's Great Story

Occasionally we read feel-good stories of people who struck it rich in life yet later gave it all away and lived in poverty. Those stories give us a glimpse into the narrative that has changed the

lives of millions of people for more than 2,000 years.

This was the true story of a man who had absolutely everything. He lived in perfect fellowship with his father in a place of

(God's Great Story on page 19)

Sunday, May 13
Mother Day

Thursday, May 17 - Sunday May 20
**Pastor & First Lady
25th Appreciation Celebration**

Sunday, June 17
Father Day

Sunday, June 24
Women's Day Celebration

The Church Glorious

This year is the one hundred and ninety five anniversary of the founding of Cross Street African American Episcopal Zion Church in Middletown, Connecticut. It is well documented in local historical archives that the beginnings of what would turn out to be this church started in the vicinity of Wesleyan University in 1823. The original structure for prayer gatherings and meetings stood in the vicinity of what is currently the science building of

(Glorious on page 10)

Carl's Garden

Carl was a quiet man. He didn't talk much. He would always greet you with a big smile and a firm handshake. Even after living in our neighborhood for over 50 years, no one could really say they knew him very well.

Before his retirement, he took the bus to work each morning. The lone sight of him walking down the street often worried us. He had a slight limp from a bullet wound received in

(Carl's Garden on page 16)

If Profiled, Will You Be In Portrait or Landscape

We all love to classify, believe it or not. To put it more culturally correct, we all love to identify. I wouldn't say profile, but that is what it translates to. Sociologically speaking, we've always been listing and labeling and numbering and portraying. Politically, we love to hide behind the screen of equity, correctness, hygiene and probity while we continue to perform as usual – profiling and grouping and

(If Profiled page 12)



Visit our Facebook page

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Pastor's Desk	2	Daily Bible Reading	9
Fruit of the Spirit	5	Christian Season	9
Lord Hear Our Prayer	6	Name of God	9
Sunday Church School	7	Our Daily Bread.....	22
The Armor of God	8	Activities.....	23



From The Pastor's Desk

Greetings in the Name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

We are so thrilled to be celebrating the 195TH Church Anniversary of our church and are excited to publish a memorable Cookbook filled with church history and great recipes to share for years to come.

As we look back over the years, we must take pause and be thankful to the Lord who has blessed us with His presence year in, and year out. No, the road hasn't always been easy, but I know you would agree with me that the good times far outnumber the difficult times! We have learned how to lean and depend on the Lord. We have come this far by faith.

Psalms 100:4-5 (KJV) 4 Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name. 5 For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations.

We trust you have a heart of thanksgiving to the Lord as you reflect on the history of the Cross Street Church. The Bible lets us know that truly God inhabits the praises of His people, and as our Heavenly Father, He loves to hear His children's voices rise as one voice of thanks to Him.

Yes, an Anniversary is a time of reflection and appreciation, however, I believe it is also a time for vision casting and dreaming about the future. We live in a changing and challenging world, and the need for the church has never been greater! Share the news about the love and faithful service at the Cross Street Church with your friends, family and neighbors.

YOU are the best advertisement we have, so please don't hesitate to share the importance of this church with others.

We know you will enjoy using and sharing this fantastic 195th Church Anniversary Cookbook! You can contact the church office (860 344-9527) to order this special Historical and memorable Cookbook. You will soon be able to order on-line.

Blessings in Christ,

Pastor Moses Harvill & First Lady Eledia Harvill

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Greetings in the Name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Cross Street African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church is blessed to have such gracious Servants, in the name of Pastor Moses L. and First Lady Eledia Harvill. The Cross Street Family cordially invites you to share in the 25th Pastoral Appreciation Celebration.



*The Celebratory Services will be held at:
Cross Street AME Zion Church
440 West Street
Middletown, CT 06457
on May 17th, 18th, and 20th, 2018*

Thursday: May 17th @ 7 p.m. Worship Service
*The Reverend Dr. Anthony Freeman,
Pastor of Clinton Tabernacle, Hickory, North Carolina*

***Friday: May 18, 25th Pastoral Appreciation
Banquet,***
*Social Hour @ 6 p.m. and Program @ 7 p.m. sharp.
Dr. Bernard L. Richardson, Speaker
Dean of the Historical Andrew Rankin Memorial
Chapel,
Howard University, Washington, DC
Tickets: \$50/Adult; \$40/Senior (65 and older)
\$25/Children under 13:*

Sunday: May 20th, Morning Service @ 10 a.m.
*Pastor Otis Harvill, Doers of the Word Church
of Detroit, Michigan will preach the word.*

In the event that you are not able to attend and would like to be part of this glorious celebration, or just want to pass on a special moment to share, we are putting together a Reflection/Advertisement Booklet.

Advertisement prices:

*Full page \$100/ Half-page \$50/ Quarter-page \$25.
A 10 word or less reflection or greeting \$5.00*

*Please email your ad by April 28, 2018 to crossstreetchurch@snet.net or mail it to Cross St. AME Zion Church,
440 West Street, Middletown, CT 06457*

*To reserve your tickets and/or for more information or questions please call the
Cross Street office at 860-344-9527.*

God's Blessings, The Pastor's Aide Ministry

*"A Church Where Everybody Is Somebody, and Christ Is Lord Of All"
(Organized 1823)*

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).”

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 T H F U L N E S S, *h a l f - h e a r t e d n e s s,* **infidelity**

MEEKNESS, *false modesty,* **self-seeking**

SELF-CONTROL, *choosing lesser goals,* **lack of control**

(The Fruit of the Spirit, John W. Sanderson)





WHEN YOU ARE HAVING MARITAL PROBLEMS

Key Scripture:

"Be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you" Eph 4:32

Key Thought:

Marriage is our last, best chance to grow up" (Joseph Barth).

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, thank you for my spouse and family. Help me to put aside all bitterness, wrath, and anger so that I will be able to work on the issues of my marriage with your help. I pray for my spouse, -----, right now, and as I do so, I know you are changing my heart. Thank you, Lord.

Thank you for my spouse, Father. I believe you gave him/her to me, because you did not want me to be alone. Teach us how to communicate better, to be tender-hearted toward each other, and to be submissive to each other.

Help me to do everything I possibly can to develop our marriage into the model you give us in Ephesians 5. Thank you for showing me that our marriage can be a relationship that is like Christ's relationship with His Church. Help me to do my part, Lord.

Thank you for joining me to love and respect my spouse at all times.

It is my desire, Father, to serve you. Help me and my spouse to make the conscious choice together to choose to serve you at all times. Lead us to put you and your righteousness first in our lives and in our marriage.

Thank you, Father, for showing me that my spouse and I are heirs together of your grace of life. Show me how to honor my spouse so that my prayers will never be hindered.

Lord, I believe you are at work in my marriage, and I thank you that the troubles of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory you are going to reveal to us.

Giving God First Place

Key Scripture: *"I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty" (Rev. 1:8).*

Key Thought: You belong to God.

Prayer: Dear God, I realize I am not my own. I have been bought with a price - the price of the precious blood of Jesus.¹ I am crucified with Christ. Nevertheless, I live; yet it is not I, but it is Christ who lives within me. The life I now live in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave himself for me.² I embrace your Word which tells me that I am dead to sin, and my life is hid with Christ in God.³

Because of your great love, I am risen with Christ, and I will seek those things which are above, where Christ sits at your right hand.⁴ Father-God, I commit myself to giving you first place in my life at all times. I will seek first your kingdom, and your righteousness, and I thank you for taking care of me.⁵

Your Word declares that my heart will be found where my treasure is. Lord, I want you to be my treasure.⁶ You are the one God, the Father of all, and you are my Father. You are above all and through all, and in all believers.⁷ Help me, Father, to keep you first in my life, and to keep all the priorities of my life in line with yours.

Father, I am so honored to be your child, and I appreciate the presence of your Holy Spirit both with me and within me.⁸ Lord, it thrills me to know that you have first place in my life in the here-and-now, and I rejoice to know that this will continue throughout all eternity, and we will be together forever.⁹

You are my love, you are my life, you are my breath, you are my all in all.

References: (1) 1 Corinthians 6:20, (2) Galatians 2:20, (3) Colossians 3:3; (4) Colossians 3:1; (5) Matthew 6:33; (6) Matthew 6:21; (7) Ephesians 4:6; (8) John 14:17; (9) Revelation 19:6.



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!

REASONS TO GIVE

Devotional Reading:
 Ephesians 4:25 - 5:2

Background Scripture:
 Leviticus 2:14; 23:9-22

Scripture:
 Leviticus 23:9-14, 22

EXALT!

Invocation: Speak Lord so that we hear from heaven. Speak through Your word, our teacher, and to each of us. Center our thoughts on You. During this lesson and in the week to follow, let the Holy Ghost energize our spirits for your purpose. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Declaration: *Leviticus 23:9-14, 22*

⁹ **The LORD spoke to Moses:**
¹⁰ Speak to the people of Israel and say to them: When you enter the land that I am giving you and you reap its harvest, you shall bring the sheaf of the first fruits of your harvest to the priest. ¹¹ He shall raise the sheaf before the LORD, that you may find acceptance; on the day after the Sabbath the priest shall raise it. ¹² On the day when you raise the sheaf, you shall offer a lamb a year old, without blemish, as a burnt offering to the LORD. ¹³ And the grain offering with it shall be two-tenths of an ephah of choice flour mixed with oil, an offering by fire of pleasing odor to the LORD; and the drink offering with it shall be of wine, one-fourth of a hin. ¹⁴ You shall eat no bread or parched grain or fresh ears until that very day, until you have brought the offering of

your God: it is a statute forever throughout your generation in all your settlements.

²² When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap to the very edges of your field, or gather the gleaning of your harvest; you shall leave them for the poor and the alien: I am the LORD your God.

Affirmation: We give that we might have more to give.

ENGAGE

God knows the secret of giving. The key that opens the doors to giving is in God's possession. It is carried in God's heart. God has shown us by precept and example. Did God not give God's only son? Did not God's Son give His life? We must trust their demonstration of word and deed. Who else are more trustworthy than this Father and Son? But remember, their reason for giving required dying! Our reason requires living!

As we saw last week, the reasons for giving vary. The motivation reflects individual differences, and yet, at the same time, there are common causes that appeal to many of us. God allows for differences. No two persons are alike. That is God's will. Therefore, individual choices are available and permissible.

Some exercise their choice based on 2 Corinthians 9:6-8. it is a give-more, get-more paradigm. You reap what you sow! Therein lies a

part of the reason some give. I say a part because there are manifold reasons for giving, some more noble and service-oriented than others.

Upon examining the giving motivation in Exodus 35:20-29, we discovered that the response to the giving appeal was based on multiple reasons. Primarily, it was because the Lord asked the Israelites to give Him the "Lord's offering." They were told what it was for and encouraged to give a generous free-will offering no obligation to give; no said amount to give; no intimidation, or obvious enticement to give. The response to the appeal was the impact of a combination of these factors. The lesson today affords us another opportunity to explore reasons for giving.

EDUCATE

"The Lord spoke to Moses: 'Speak to the people of Israel and say to them...'" (Leviticus 23:9) is an often used formula when God spoke to Moses to inform Moses of what He wanted conveyed to God's people Israel. This formula appears thirty times in Leviticus-five times in chapter twenty-three alone.

The initial verses of this lesson offer a good example of reasons for giving to the Lord. You should notice instantly that which is given to and for the Lord is not financial. Unfortunately, too often, when the subject is giving, our minds register dollar signs. In many cases, the alarm signals the alert offering

(Reasons to Give on page 15)

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.

THE ARMOR OF GOD

EPHESIANS 6:10-18
 "... Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes." v. 10, 11

The Shield of Faith (Eph. 6:16)
 Faith is being sure that God will keep His promises. Faith in God protects you when you are tempted to doubt.

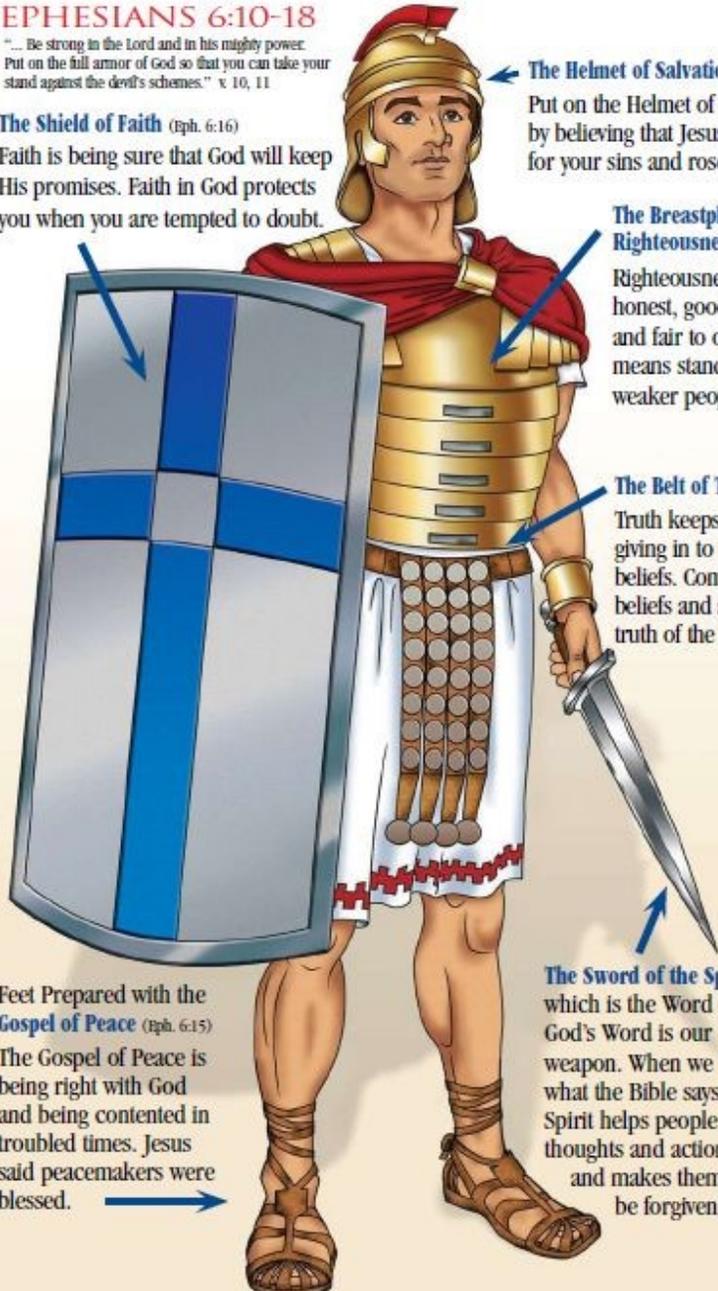
The Helmet of Salvation (Eph. 6:17)
 Put on the Helmet of Salvation by believing that Jesus Christ died for your sins and rose again.

The Breastplate of Righteousness (Eph. 6:14)
 Righteousness is being honest, good, humble, and fair to others. It means standing up for weaker people.

The Belt of Truth (Eph. 6:14)
 Truth keeps us from giving in to the world's beliefs. Compare your beliefs and actions to the truth of the Word of God.

The Sword of the Spirit (Eph. 6:17)
 which is the Word of God. God's Word is our offensive weapon. When we tell others what the Bible says, the Holy Spirit helps people see their bad thoughts and actions, and makes them want to be forgiven.

Feet Prepared with the Gospel of Peace (Eph. 6:15)
 The Gospel of Peace is being right with God and being contented in troubled times. Jesus said peacemakers were blessed.



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

1 2 Chronicles 26-29
 2 2 Chronicles 30-32
 3 2 Chronicles 33-36
 4 Ezra 1-4
 5 Ezra 5-7
 6 Ezra 8-10
 7 Nehemiah 1-3

8 Nehemiah 4-6
 9 Nehemiah 7-9
 10 Nehemiah 10-13
 11 Esther 1-3
 12 Esther 4-7
 13 Esther 8-10
 14 Job 1-4
 15 Job 5-7

16 Job 8-10
 17 Job 11-13
 18 Job 14-17
 19 Job 18-20
 20 Job 21-24
 21 Job 25-27
 22 Job 28-31
 23 Job 32-34

24 Job 35-37
 25 Job 38-42
 26 Psalms 1-4
 27 Psalms 5-8
 28 Psalms 9-12
 29 Psalms 13-15
 30 Psalms 16-18
 31 Psalms 19-21

JUNE

1. Psalms 22-24
 2. Psalms 25-27
 3. Psalms 28-30
 4. Psalms 31-33
 5. Psalms 34-36
 6. Psalms 37-39
 7. Psalms 40-42

8. Psalms 43-45
 9. Psalms 46-48
 10. Psalms 49-51
 11. Psalms 52-54
 12. Psalms 55-57
 13. Psalms 58-60
 14. Psalms 61-63
 15. Psalms 64-66

16. Psalms 67-69
 17. Psalms 70-72
 18. Psalms 73-75
 19. Psalms 76-78
 20. Psalms 79-81
 21. Psalms 82-84
 22. Psalms 85-87
 23. Psalms 88-90

24. Psalms 91-93
 25. Psalms 94-96
 26. Psalms 97-99
 27. Psalms 100-102
 28. Psalms 103-105
 29. Psalms 106-108
 30. Psalms 109-111

July

1. Psalms 112-114
 2. Psalms 115-118
 3. Psalms 119
 4. Psalms 120-123
 5. Psalms 124-128
 6. Psalms 129-132
 7. Psalms 133-136

8. Psalms 137-139
 9. Psalms 140-144
 10. Psalms 145-147
 11. Psalms 148-150
 12. Proverbs 1-3
 13. Proverbs 4-7
 14. Proverbs 8-11
 15. Proverbs 12-14

16. Proverbs 15-18
 17. Proverbs 19-21
 18. Proverbs 22-24
 19. Proverbs 25-28
 20. Proverbs 29-31
 21. Ecclesiastes 1-3
 22. Ecclesiastes 4-6
 23. Ecclesiastes 7-9

24. Ecclesiastes 10-12
 25. Song 1-4
 26. Song 5-8
 27. Isaiah 1-3
 28. Isaiah 4-6
 29. Isaiah 7-9
 30. Isaiah 10-12
 31. Isaiah 13-15

Easter tide covers a fifty-day period (six Sundays) that challenges persons to reflect on the resurrection of Jesus.

Ascension Day is celebrated the sixth Thursday after Easter and commemorates the last manifestation of Jesus to His followers after the resurrection. (Luke 24:50-51 and Acts 1:2-11.)

Ascension Sunday is the Sunday following Ascension Day. The season ends with the Day of Pentecost.

Color: White is the appropriate color for the season, with gold as an accent color. White is symbolic of light, joy, purity, glory, and the bright light of truth.

The Season After Pentecost covers 10-14 Sundays. The liturgical color is red for the Season After Pentecost. (May 20, 2018)

Trinity Sunday is the first Sunday after the day of Pentecost. This Sunday emphasizes the three-fold manifestation of the Godhead (God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit/Ghost): three and yet one. White is the appropriate color.

Color: 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
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.
ADONAI	The Lord My Great Lord	God is the Master and majestic Lord. God is our total authority.
EL	The Strong One	He is more powerful than any false god. God will overcome all obstacles. We can depend on God.
EL ELOHE YISRAEL	God, the God of Israel	The God of Israel is distinct and separate from all false gods of the world.

UNDERSTANDING THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

The order of Worship can be found where?

The Discipline, The Hymnals, Church Bulletin

What is Worship?

Reverent honor and homage paid to God, or a sacred personage, or to any object regarded as sacred.

What is a Tabernacle?

1. A movable shelter, especially for religious worship by the Israelites. A place for worship: the human body.
2. A sacred tent and its furniture made according to a divine plan given to Moses in the mount.

The tabernacle was placed within a courtyard measuring 100 cubits by 50 cubits. It is also called the "Tent of Congregation".

The tabernacle was divided into two parts separated by a veil:

The Holy Place and The Holy of Holies

1. **The Holy Place** was twenty cubits long and ten cubits wide or 36.5ft x 18.5ft. It contained the Table of Shew bread, the golden candle stick and the Alter of Incense.
2. **The Holy of Holies** was ten cubits square or 18.5ft x 18.5ft.

The Alter of Incense is located inside the **Holy Place**.

The Alter of Incense was a raised structure upon which sacrifices were offered or incense burned. It was man's simplest and earliest effort to give outward expression of faith in God, the desire to worship, and his need of sacrifice for sin.

It was the idea of The Alter of Incense expanded by divine revelation to meet the needs of the nation for sacrifice and worship.

In chapter 25 –27 of Exodus, God tells Moses what the Israelites must offer for the making of the Tabernacle.

In the layout there are two floor plans:

1. The plan of the Tabernacle (which Moses and the nation of Israel carry while journeying around in the wilderness.
2. The plan of Solomon's temple.

Note how similar they are.

There are five major parts to the tabernacle:

The Gate: *The entrance to the tabernacle.*

The Court: *The area where the people gathered.*

The Holy Place: This is where only the priests could enter.

The Veil: the entrance to the Holy Of Holies.

The Holy Of Holies: This is where only the High priests could enter. This is also where the Ark was placed.

The Ark not only served the purpose of housing the two tables of the Law, but it was also a symbolic throne for God, and reminded the Israelites of His constant presence in their midst.

Now let look at how we can apply this plan to how we worship today.

Our Service Of Worship: Sunday morning worship in our church represents another design in the human search for God. The movement of our worship is as altar stairs ascending to the living presence. Not content to remain in the sanctuary as a sheltered place, the worship culminates in a dedication of life to go forth in service to the world. In Protestant tradition worship has been known as a "meeting" in which persons meet together to meet God.

Our services are designed so that our members can have a full opportunity to worship. We begin our Morning Worship promptly at 10:00 A.M.. We should make each moment with God in worship count for good.

Worshippers should really be in their seats at least ten minutes before the formal worship begins. This gives the worshiper time to prepare himself for worship in quiet meditation: to

withdraw his mind from all outside attractions.

Entering The Worship Area: When entering the worship area we must be concerned about those who are already in and meditating as they prepare for service. Considering this, it would follow that we would enter the sanctuary quietly and reverently; take our places and begin our meditation (save greeting for the close of the service). If possible all entering should be done during the PRELUDE. However, if one comes after the Prelude specific times will be set for their entrance.

The Actual Worship: The PRELUDE is the beginning of our period of meditation in preparation for worship. The organist will begin the prelude at 9:45 A.M.. During this period those who are in the sanctuary will be able to begin preparing themselves for worship service. It is a devout and quiet period and should be reserved for purposes of preparatory meditation.

The Call To Worship: At 10:00 A.M., the pastor will give the call to worship. This is the summons to attention, to waken absent-minded apathy. It is the recognition of the solemn privilege of meeting God. The introit declares God is in His Holy Temple. Let all keep silence before him.

THE GATE

The Processional: After the Introit, (Introit: a part of a Psalm with antiphon recited at the beginning of the service by the pastor) the PROCESSIONAL begins as the choir proceeds from the rear of the church to its position in the chancel. The congregation joins the choir in the singing of the processional. Processionals are dramatic invitations to advance into the presence of God, moving from a natural point of departure directly toward the altar. Processionals represent man's journey to God, an urgent forward march that lingers not, nor wanders, but moves onward to a definite goal.

(Worship on page 14)

(Glorious from page 1)



the university.

The university itself had not been started until later in 1831. Since the church did not relocate too far from its inception-site we can envisage a continuous next-door neighborly relationship between the church and the school for a long time. Long before moving further west to its current location, the church had been recognized as the 'freedom' church and indeed registered as laying strategically on the 'underground railroad' system, aiding and comforting all who struggled to escape the ravages of servitude and oppression.

To celebrate this long, illustrious existence and continued dedication to the welfare of the community, Cross Street invited none other than Bishop George Edward Battle, the senior Bishop of the A.M.E. Zion Church as guest preacher for the anniversary day, Sunday, April 15, 2018.

All that history at the start of this essay is to further expand on the Bishop's message of the day, which paid a well-deserving homage to the black church at large and declared in no uncertain terms the grandeur and majesty of the universal church.

Bishop Battle painted the picture of the church as been the sanctuary for prayer, the source of hope, the foundation of faith and the beacon and stalwart light that continued to inspire the people who otherwise had nowhere else to turn to.

His message was so profound and strategic, considering the days

we live in and find ourselves. Even more so when we consider Attorney Bryan Stevenson's efforts at highlighting the extent and depth of the injustices that entire black people had to deal with in years not too far in our memories. His Equal Justice Initiatives are relevant and pertinent today because, according to Bishop Battle, the church successfully kept the people alive and fed them the elixir of hope until better day would manifest itself.

And as if anyone needed further illustration and substantiation of what it meant to live in those dark, days of oppression and intimidation, here comes the Legacy Museum. If I had my way, I would have an excerpt of the Bishop's sermon at the entrance to the new Museum that just opened



in Montgomery, Alabama, to provide an instantaneous response to anyone who would be tempted to question as to 'how did the people prevail'?

The Church has and will always be glorious because – it is one undeniable source of inspiration – source of hope – source of the courage to continue on and the

source of unyielding faith that has and continues to see believers through the horrors of oppression, institutionalized segregation, blatant discrimination, vicious atrocities and lately; brutal authoritarian misuse of force resulting in numerous fatalities across the length and breadth of the country.

The 195th anniversary is a continuous event throughout the year. A momentous 195th Church Anniversary Cookbook is available for purchase at \$25. There is also the opportunity to get further involved with the need for financial support of the church's efforts by heeding the call of Reverend Dr. Nathan A. Proche of Detroit, who recommended donating \$1 for each of the 195 years of the church's existence. That is the \$195 campaign.

The universal Christian church, heeding the call to action by Christ, has made major, undeniable impact on people's lives all over the world. In its own fundamental way, the black church of America should pride itself as the glorious one. In the face of untold hardships and unbelievable circumstances of existence, where could the oppressed and the disenfranchised have turned to, but to the Lord, by way of the church? The subtle, never on anyone's conscious, is the other triumph of the black church in how it succeeded to make a home possible all over this country for other minority immigrants to live, to survive and to flourish in America.

By Kwame Ocansey



195th Church Anniversary Celebration Sunday April 15, 2018



(If Profiled from page 1)

labeling. I want to apologize right here, before I get deeper into this article that I personally love to admire and single out people who stand out in society. That means I am one of those who classify people and identify people and profile people. I do, more for insight than just labeling. I gain inspiration from such proven measures which those people might have used to achieve and establish their individual identities. I also try as best as I can to emulate them by consciously seeking new frontiers of purpose in order to forge new territories.

Think about this for a moment. Our language is replete with expressions such as 'winners' and 'losers', 'leaders' and 'followers', 'first' and 'last'. 'Inside' and 'outside', 'black' and 'white'. 'Front' and 'back', 'Alpha' and 'Omega', 'up' and 'down', 'here' and 'there', 'this' and 'that', 'what have you', 'love' and 'hate'. All of these expressions indicate classification, listing and labeling. They make it seem as if there are only those dual circumstances and nothing else. Certainly, in most social situations involving any kind of challenge you will have a 'BROAD' category of those who 'win', based on a definition of 'success' and those who do not, based on some accepted definition of 'failure'. Not winning does not make one a 'loser'. Life is not a 'black' and 'white' circumstance. Within the categories of those who 'win' and those who 'lose,' there are numerous other categories. And, it is within those two categories that you find the majority of humanity. The 'participants' of the human race. In effect, there are 'winners' and 'losers' and then the REST. They did not win, they did not lose, they are humanity.

Yes, there are leaders and there are followers. Then there are those folks in between. In some sense it may appear as if there are no others besides leaders and followers. But on second thought it is apparent that there is even a larger population of folks who neither lead nor follow. They don't compete. They match to their own drummers, they mind their

own business and they are in the majority. My point is that most circumstances require different perspectives and different approaches. It is up to the observer, that is you and me, to tune in to the events happening in our lives and to adjust our radar-antenna to the appropriate channel of reception to be able to participate accordingly.

In some sense, at some level, all of us belong in multiple categories at the same time. We lead in our families, yet we follow some other leader at work. We lead in church and yet follow the supervisor in our schools and other places. Then at some times we just don't fit into either category.



Garnet Douglass Baltimore

Well, the profiles of this month's cultural essay clearly defined their own categories. One was the first African American to receive a Bachelor's Degree from the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York and the other made life comfortable and subsequent inventions feasible with his numerous inventions. Both were 'giant' African American men whose categories you could not mistake. We can only just profile them for the benefit of the rest of us, mere mortals.

Landscape Engineer, **Garnet Douglass Baltimore** of the class of 1881 and Esteemed Inventor and Engineer **W. Lincoln Hawkins** of the Class of 1932 both of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, certainly defined their own personal categories.

As early as the 18th century, wherever black men found

themselves hemmed in by social and economic restrictions, thousands found legitimate ways to prosper, thereby sustaining their families and uplifting the community.

Many decades before affirmative action policies and "race-norming" of grades, when American blacks were expected to measure up to the same academic standards required of others, they excelled as chemists, biologists and engineers. Over the years, thousands achieved as scholars and professionals; in the mid-1930s, there were at least 300 black chemists employed in private industry in the United States.

Two distinguished graduates of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York, are **Garnet D. Baltimore**, an alumnus of the Class of 1881, and **W. Lincoln Hawkins** of the Class of 1932. Over their long, successful careers, both men were honored for their commitment and work. Baltimore, who was a native son of Troy (born there in 1859), entered Rensselaer to study engineering. On graduation, he first went to work as a civil engineer, and participated in the design and building of bridges, railroads, canals and waterways around New York State.

He is best known, however, for his gift that is seen and enjoyed daily by Troy's residents, that is, Prospect Park, billed as "84 acres of elegant nature. When private land was bought by the city, Baltimore was hired to conceive and design a park that could be enjoyed for leisure activities by all Troy's residents. He created a circular landscape with "winding roads and walks," gardens, a playground, a tennis court, pool, and an overlook which offered a breathtaking 25-mile view of the Hudson Valley.

Of all his duties and assignments, Baltimore loved his work as a landscape engineer, since it satisfied his highly developed sense of beauty. In 1903, he wrote, "[I am] firmly convinced that it is the calling and duty of the Landscape Engineer to devise ways of arranging land and its

(If Profiled on page 13)

(If Profiled from page 12)

accompanying landscape so that whatever the particular purpose in view may be, the result shall be as thoroughly beautiful as possible."

Records show different dates for his death, but it is certain that he died in the mid-1940s around the age of 87.

In 1928, **W. Lincoln Hawkins**, who had just graduated from the acclaimed all-black Dunbar High School in Washington, DC, passed the demanding entrance exam at Rensselaer and enrolled in his first year. It was the beginning of what was to be an extraordinary career that was to span 34 years as a scientist at AT&T's Bell Laboratories, where he was granted 145 U.S. and foreign patents for his inventions.

Hawkins is respected most for his work on a polymer that was initially developed for use as synthetic rubber. Up to World War II, telephone cables had been insulated with lead, which proved impractical for a variety of reasons. British scientists developed a polymer which seemed practical, because it could be manufactured so cheaply. However, this material proved useless, since it would break down in severe hot or cold weather and, therefore, made for poor cable insulation.

After experiments, Hawkins decided that the polymer did possess

all the right qualities, but simply lacked "stability." He and his partner, Victor Lanza, set out to resolve the problem. His co-invention, which prevented the breakdown or oxidation of the polymer earned him wide recognition as an eminent scientist. For it is this ingenious discovery that made inexpensive plastic insulation of telephone cables possible and, most important, made universal telephone service economical.



W. Lincoln Hawkins

In 1963, Hawkins became Bell Labs' Supervisor of Applied Research and in 1972, he became department head. Over the years, Hawkins was honored by all the many professional associations to which he belonged. One account claims that he "won enough awards and honorary degrees to fill a memorial library." He published

over 50 scientific papers and three books.

After mandatory retirement from Bell Labs in 1976, he energetically continued working in his field. He taught at New York's Polytechnic Institute, acted as technical consultant to chemical and pharmaceutical companies around the country, and was research director of the Plastics Institute of America.

He is revered for his lifelong dedication to helping black youngsters develop science skills and for his work with educators to expand science programs at black colleges. Hawkins credited much of his success to the strict academic demands of his teachers at Dunbar High School, which today would be scorned for being "segregated," but at the time, measured up to other institutions as one of the finest schools in the country. In an interview in 1992, Hawkins made reference to American blacks' recognition in sports and entertainment, claiming that "Youngsters need more than that." Through his generous service and dedication, Lincoln Hawkins gave them much more than that.

(the profile of the two men is adopted from Internet feature by the RPI, in their honor). By Kwame Ocansey

Obedience

Key Scripture: "If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land" (Isaiah 1:19, NKJV).

Key Thought: Obedience is a life style.

Prayer: Dear God, I love you and I want to obey you. I'm thrilled with your Word that teaches me that as I obey you and keep your words, I will experience your love, and you will make your abode with me.¹ Your abiding presence gives me fullness of joy,² and inspires me to obey you more and more.

As I ponder the importance of obedience in my life, Lord, I am truly stunned by your promise which tells me that if I will obey your voice and keep your covenant, I will become your special treasure.³ Your Word teaches me that all your promises are yes to me, in Christ Jesus.⁴

Please forgive me, Lord, for each time when I have disobeyed you in any way. I truly repent of all disobedience in my life.

Show me your ways, O Lord, and teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation.⁵ Let your Spirit guide me into all truth, according to your Word.⁶

I now surrender to your will in all things,⁷ as I commit myself to obeying you.

References: (1) John 14:23; (2) Psalms 16:11; (3) Exodus 19:5; (4) 2 Corinthians 1:20; (5) Psalms 25:4-5; (6) John 16:13; (7) Luke 22:42.

(Worship from page 9)

A congregation that joins in the processional hymn with understanding is advancing to meet God.

The Invocation: The INVOCATION is the calling of a superior being to be present. This prayer offers salutations to God and invokes his presence in the worship. It may be a vocal salutation, sung by the choir.
 The Morning Hymn: This is the first hymn of the worship service. It expresses praise, rejoicing in gratitude and ascribes glory and honor to His Name.

The Responsive Reading: The RESPONSIVE READING is the opportunity for the whole congregation to share in the reading of the word. The responsive reading reflects the togetherness of the congregation toward its central theme of worshipping God.

The Gloria Patri: The GLORIA PATRI is said or sung to bridge the gap between the Old Testament Scriptures and the New Testament Scriptures. It expresses our belief in the Judeo Christian Faith.

The Affirmation Of Faith: The AFFIRMATION OF FAITH is a constructive act of rejoicing in the truth. To recite a creed is to declare a faith with conviction as a code to live by and die for. There is value in confessing the faith that binds the worshipers to a common heritage.

The Scripture Lesson: The SCRIPTURE LESSON is guiding thought to spiritual verities. The lesson should be carefully chosen. A reader who is absorbed in the message to the point of forgetting himself becomes a voice for the utterance of truth. The Bible holds a central place in Christian worship as

the voice of divine revelation.

The Call to Prayer: This call may be said by the minister as sung by the choir. It is intended to prepare the people for prayer. It assures the congregation of God's willingness to hear and answer prayer.

THE HOLY PLACE

The Pastoral Prayer: The PASTORAL PRAYER is a meeting of mutual concerns. Extempore prayers may wander far or settle into ruts of well-worn phrases. Yet to read prayers is often to miss the sense of direct address to God. Here, if anywhere, worship is seeking to meet and commune with God. One who is equally aware of the divine Presence and of human dependence is in the mood of prayer. To voice the needs of men and the desire of God to meet those needs is a priestly privilege and responsibility of the minister.

The Choral Section: CHORAL SECTION is a musical outburst to express praise, icing in gratitude, faith and consecration.

Pastoral Observations & Announcements: At this point we give announcements of church activities and special observations by the pastor.

The Offering: The OFFERING dramatizes the generous impulse to give. The gift without the giver is bare, yet if the giver offers himself, there is counter. It may be the climax of the whole service if one makes it a complete offering in dedication to God. The historic devotion of sacrifice is reenacted here, when the worshiper brings forward to the altar his sacrificial gifts to offer his best to God. A genuine offering has the emotional release of surrender and the votive act of dedicating oneself as a living

sacrifice.

THE VEIL

The Hymn Of Preparation: This is a carefully chosen hymn intended to prepare the congregation to receive the message.

THE HOLY OF HOLIES

The Sermon: The SERMON is central in many Protestant services, bringing a united search for the deeper meaning and concerns of the religious life, to declare and decide to follow this way.

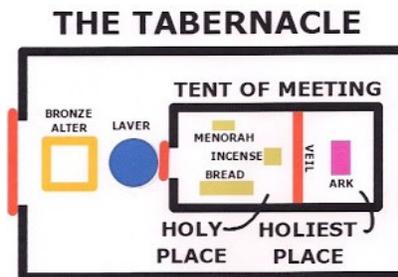
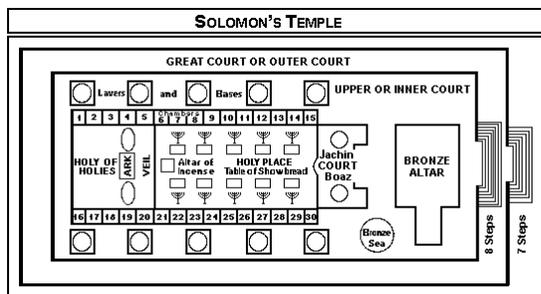
The Invitation: After the exposition of God's word, we "Open the doors of the Church," and extend the invitation to Christian Discipleship to those who would declare and decide to follow in the Way. The hymn is sung as an indication of our desire to be consecrated to Him.

The Recessional: The RECESSIONAL provides a formal closing for the service. It signifies marching forth to serve humanity.

The Benediction: The BENEDICTION offers repose easily lost in closing the service. The benediction sends the worshiper forth with the guiding and sustaining presence "Even unto the end of the world." Matt. 28:20

The Postlude: This is the period of reflection on the worship experience. In these moments of quietness before dismissal the value of the whole service may be summed up in perspective.

This "The Star of Zion" article by Reverend Vernon A. Shannon, was presented to the adult class during Vacation Bible School by Sister Addie F. Battle. Reprinted by Permission from Reverend Vernon A. Shannon.



(Reasons to Give from page 6)

times. The mood seldom stays the same. At this point, no commentary is forthcoming on the nature of the change. This is just an observation that there is a change. What has been your experience?

What we give is related to why we are giving, that is the purpose for what is given. The purpose could be worship, financial, ecclesiastical (church administration) biblical law, theological, doctrinal, et cetera. A quick glance at the scriptural text from Leviticus indicates that the matter at hand is legal and worship matter. The concern is the requirements of the Levitical law and how it plays out in personal living and religious life.

Verses 10-14 make plain what the gifts for the rituals are to be, other required details are clearly stated, the participants are listed, and the ceremonial offerings are cited. The Lord spoke with clarity and specificity. The instructions were:

1. Bring the sheaf (bundled stalks of the first fruits of the fall harvest. Barley is generally the first fruits because they first ripen in the spring and used for grain offering in the fall.
2. The first fruit is received by the priest for ceremonial purposes. The sheaf is raised before the Lord for acceptance.
3. After the raising of the sheaf, a burnt offering of a year-old lamb, without blemish is sacrificed.
4. The grain offering also called the meal offering with its pleasing aroma was presented. It was meatless and bloodless-thus, the name or meal offering.
5. The drink offering was a part of the festive observances. It accompanied the grain offering. It was daily and in the morning.

These festivals were (are) celebrated because they commemorate, show appreciation, honor, and serve as an unending story of the blessings of YAHWEH. The regular re-enactment perpetuate history, tradition, and the favor of God. What they give is an unending story of God and His people.

Oh! The reason they give? They just love to tell this story!

A final reason for giving is as important as any we have. Give that the poor and the foreign may have something. You see, not reaping to the edges and not gleaning completely are ways of giving. Reasons to give are as many there are needs to be met. But surely, God's word, saying, "Do it" and a need that would leave only the heartless untouched, are sufficient cause!

ELEVATE

What is the true nature of humankind? Is self-preservation its first law? "I got mine. You get yours." is that the extent of our concern for one another? Is our extended, open hand seeking to give or to receive?

If we were reaping and gleaning and we heard the voice of God say, "That's enough; don't get any more; leave some for the poor and the foreigner, what would we say and do? Regarding the poor, would this cold retort be heard? "They are poor because they want to be. It wasn't easy for me either. They should have gotten a better job. I did. Their kids are just bad. No one can help them because they don't want any help. Other kids did okay in that school. They must have done something wrong for the police to arrest them and beat them. Had they not been there, they would not have been shot. No Lord, I am not going to leave my reaping out there to go to waste. I worked too hard to grow that crop!"

Now consider this second quote: "There are too many 'aliens' in our country already. They are one of the reasons why a lot of Americans can't get jobs. We must stop them at the border. Whatever it takes, they must be stopped. These foreigners should stay in their own country. This is our country that they are destroying thieves, thugs, drug suppliers, and gang bangers. They are filling our school and don't even speak English.

Remember 911 and the Boston Marathon, to name two terrorist attacks, and the many that they are

planning. You can be in their midst and never know if they are plotting. They don't believe in God, foreigners, aliens, terrorists that they are."

Note: These last two paragraphs are random statements made by many ill-advised, violent, thoughtless, dangerous individuals who are found in village, cities, states, provinces, countries the world over.

The persons just quoted have not found a reason to give - neither to God or anyone else. Giving is neither in their heart, on their minds, nor in their plans. Giving as an act is preceded by thoughts about, interest in, or desire to give.

Our lesson demonstrated that Israel had reasons to give, was opened to give to God and share with each other, all to the honor and glory of God. To elevate this lesson to the next level, we must ask the inevitable question, not o

I THINK:

1. Think about and discuss the various forms of giving identified in this lesson.
2. Identify the reasons involved in your giving. Would God be pleased?
3. If God was to critique our reasons for giving, what would He say?

VERSE OF THE WEEK: *Speak to the people of Israel and say to them: When you enter the land that I am giving you reap its harvest, you shall bring the sheaf of the first fruits of your harvest to the priest. Leviticus 23:10*

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

(Carl's Garden from page 1)

W.W.II. Watching him, we worried that although he had survived W.W.II, he may not make it through our changing uptown neighborhood with its ever-increasing random violence, gangs, and drug activity.

When he saw the flyer at our local church asking for volunteers for caring for the gardens behind the minister's residence, he responded in his characteristically unassuming manner. Without fanfare, he just signed up. He was well into his 87th year when the very thing we had always feared finally happened.

He was just finishing his watering for the day when three gang members approached him. Ignoring their attempt to intimidate him, he simply asked, Would you like a drink from the hose? The tallest and toughest-looking of the three said, Yeah, sure, with a malevolent little smile. As Carl offered the hose to him, the other two grabbed Carl's arm, throwing him down. As the hose snaked crazily over the ground, dousing everything in its way, Carl's assailants stole his retirement watch and his wallet, and then fled.

Carl tried to get himself up, but he had been thrown down on his bad leg. He lay there trying to gather himself as the minister came running to help him. Although the minister had witnessed the attack from his window, he couldn't get there fast enough to stop it. Carl, are you okay? Are you hurt? The minister kept asking as he helped Carl to his feet.

Carl just passed a hand over his brow and sighed, shaking his head. Just some punk kids. I hope they'll wise-up someday. His wet clothes clung to his slight frame as he bent to pick up the hose. He adjusted the nozzle again and started to water. Confused and a little concerned, the minister asked, Carl, what are you doing? I've got to finish my watering. It's been very dry lately, came the calm reply. Satisfying himself that Carl really was all right, the minister could only marvel. Carl was a man

from a different time and place.

A few weeks later the three returned. Just as before their threat was unchallenged. Carl again offered them a drink from his hose. This time they didn't rob him. They wrenched the hose from his hand and drenched him head to foot in the icy water. When they had finished their humiliation of him, they sauntered off down the street, throwing catcalls and curses, falling over one another laughing at the hilarity of what they had just done. Carl just watched them. Then he turned toward the warmth giving sun, picked up his hose, and went on with his watering.

The summer was quickly fading into fall. Carl was doing some tilling when he was startled by the sudden approach of someone behind him. He stumbled and fell into some evergreen branches. As he struggled to regain his footing, he turned to see the tall leader of his summer tormentors reaching down for him. He braced himself for the expected attack.

Don't worry old man, I'm not gonna hurt you this time. The young man spoke softly, still offering the tattooed and scarred hand to Carl. As he helped Carl get up, the man pulled a crumpled bag from his pocket and handed it to Carl. What's this? Carl asked. It's your stuff, the man explained. It's your stuff back. Even the money in your wallet. I don't understand, Carl said. Why would you help me now? The man shifted his feet, seeming embarrassed and ill at ease. I learned something from you, he said. I ran with that gang and hurt people like you. We picked you because you were old and we knew we could do it. But every time we came and did something to you, instead of yelling and fighting back, you tried to give us a drink. You didn't hate us for hating you. You kept showing love against our hate. He stopped for a moment. I couldn't sleep after we stole your stuff, so here it is back. He paused for another awkward moment, not knowing what more there was to say. That bag's my way of saying thanks for straightening me out, I guess. And with that, he

walked off down the street. Carl looked down at the sack in his hands and gingerly opened it. He took out his retirement watch and put it back on his wrist. Opening his wallet, he checked for his wedding photo. He gazed for a moment at the young bride that still smiled back at him from all those years ago.

He died one cold day after Christmas that winter. Many people attended his funeral in spite of the weather. In particular the minister noticed a tall young man that he didn't know sitting quietly in a distant corner of the church. The minister spoke of Carl's garden as a lesson in life. In a voice made thick with unshed tears, he said, Do your best and make your garden as beautiful as you can. We will never forget Carl and his garden.

The following spring another flyer went up. It read: Person needed to care for Carl's garden. The flyer went unnoticed by the busy parishioners until one day when a knock was heard at the minister's office door. Opening the door, the minister saw a pair of scarred and tattooed hands holding the flyer. I believe this is my job, if you'll have me, the young man said.

The minister recognized him as the same young man who had returned the stolen watch and wallet to Carl. He knew that Carl's kindness had turned this man's life around. As the minister handed him the keys to the garden shed, he said, Yes, go take care of Carl's garden and honor him. The man went to work and, over the next several years, he tended the flowers and vegetables just as Carl had done. In that time, he went to college, got married, and became a prominent member of the community. But he never forgot his promise to Carl's memory and kept the garden as beautiful as he thought Carl would have kept it. One day he approached the new minister and told him that he couldn't care for the garden any longer. He explained with a shy and happy smile, My wife just had a baby boy last night, and she's bringing him home on Saturday.

(Carl's Garden on page 17)

(Carl's Garden from page 16)

Well, congratulations! said the minister, as he was handed the garden shed keys. That's wonderful! What's the baby's name? Carl, he replied.

The Best Mathematical Equation I have ever seen: 1 cross + 3 nails = 4 given.

That's the whole gospel message simply stated. Take 60 seconds give this a shot!
Let's just see if Satan stops this one.

All you do is:

1. Simply say a small prayer for the person who sent you this, (Father God bless this person in whatever it is that You know he or she may be needing this day!)
2. Then send it on to five other people. Within hours five people have prayed for you, and you caused a multitude of people to pray to God for other people. Then sit back and watch the power of God work in your life for doing the thing that you know He loves.

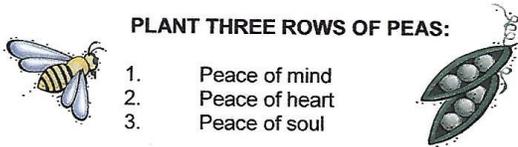


THE GARDEN

Come to the garden alone, while the dew is still on the roses...

FOR THE GARDEN OF YOUR DAILY LIVING

PLANT THREE ROWS OF PEAS:



1. Peace of mind
2. Peace of heart
3. Peace of soul

PLANT FOUR ROWS OF SQUASH:



1. Squash gossip
2. Squash indifference
3. Squash grumbling
4. Squash selfishness

PLANT FOUR ROWS OF LETTUCE:

1. Lettuce be faithful
2. Lettuce be kind
3. Lettuce be patient
4. Lettuce really love one another



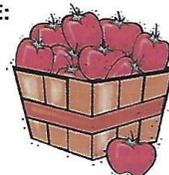
NO GARDEN IS WITHOUT TURNIPS:

1. Turnip for meetings
2. Turnip for service
3. Turnip to help one another



TO CONCLUDE OUR GARDEN WE MUST HAVE THYME:

1. Thyme for each other
2. Thyme for family
3. Thyme for friends



**WATER FREELY WITH PATIENCE AND CULTIVATE WITH LOVE.
THERE IS MUCH FRUIT IN YOUR GARDEN BECAUSE YOU REAP WHAT YOU SOW.**

Bible Quotes on Marriage

And the Lord God said, it is not good that the man should be alone, I will make him an help meet for him.

(Genesis 2:18)

Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

(Genesis 2:24)

Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. (Proverbs 3:5,6)

Hatred stirreth up strifes: but love covereth all sins.

(Proverbs 10:12)

Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the Lord. (Proverbs 18:22)

Live joyfully with the wife whom thou lovest all the days of the life of thy vanity, which he hath given thee under the sun, all the days of thy vanity: for that is thy portion in this life, and in thy labour which thou takest under the sun.

(Ecclesiastes 9:9)

Nevertheless, to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband. Let the husband render unto the wife due benevolence: and likewise also the wife unto the husband. The wife hath not power of her own body, but the husband; and likewise also the husband hath not power of his own body, but the wife. (1 Corinthians 7:2-4)

4)

Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and

clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice. And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you. (Ephesians 4:31,32)

Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God. Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body. Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing. Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with

the washing of water by the word.

That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. For no man ever

yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church: For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones. For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh.

This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church. Nevertheless let everyone of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.

(Ephesians 5:21-33)

Marriage is honorable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.

(Hebrews 13:4)



(God's Great Story from page 1)

unbelievable splendor and perfection. One day he left his home to go to a place marked by poverty and pain and become part of a low-income, working-class family. As an adult, he sometimes didn't even have a place to sleep at night.

But here's the best part of the story: He did that for you and me.

One writer said this about that Person: "Though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty he could make you rich" (2 Corinthians 8:9).

His name is Jesus; and He took that journey from heaven to earth to "save his people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21).

He did that by dying on a cross as a sacrifice for you and me. He took the punishment for our sin on that cross, and He rose from the dead to show His power over death. Then He rejoined His Father in heaven.

Because of Jesus's willingness to do God's will (John 6:38) and to give up so much for us, we can enjoy an abundant life on this earth—not material blessings, but God's presence, help, guidance, and love in our lives. And He promised us we will someday enjoy His home in heaven with Him forever.

What is our part in all of this? How can we establish this vital relationship with Jesus?

First, we need to recognize that we need what He did for us. This simply means we acknowledge we are sinners— that we have done things that are wrong. Scripture helps us with that: "Everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard" (Romans 3:23).

Next, we must realize that when Jesus came to earth, He was here to rescue us. That is why this perfect, sinless Man allowed Himself to be killed on a wooden cross. He alone could bear our sin.

Finally, we need to understand that there's nothing we can do on our own to establish a relationship with God. The Bible, God's message of hope, says, "God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done" (Ephesians 2:8-9). It's vital that we place our faith in Jesus's gift of salvation through His sacrifice.

Then we can say to Jesus, Thank You for dying on the cross for me. I realize I am a sinner, and I'm putting my faith in You to forgive my sin. I accept Your free gift of salvation. I trust You to save me, guide me, and someday allow me to enjoy the splendor of heaven with you.

If this is your heartfelt expression of faith in Christ, you have become a key part of God's great story. Welcome to God's forever family!

Dave Branon
(Our Daily Bread Ministries)

FACT, NOT FABLE

READ: 1 Corinthians 15:1-19

If Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins! - 1 Corinthians 15:17

The resurrection of Jesus Christ is the cornerstone of the Christian faith. Without it we have no hope for this life nor the life to come. That's why it is important to recognize that our belief in Christ's resurrection is not based on a religious feeling or unfounded rumor, but on historical fact with solid evidence to support it.

A century ago, a group of lawyers met in England to discuss the biblical accounts of Jesus' resurrection. They wanted to see if enough information was available to make a case that would hold up in a court of law. They concluded that Christ's resurrection was one of the most well-established

facts of history.

In his book *Countdown*, G. B. Hardy offers some thought-provoking questions about the resurrection: "There are but two essential requirements: (1) Has any one cheated death and proved it? (2) Is it available to me?" Hardy goes on to declare that only the tomb of Jesus is empty. And because Jesus conquered sin and death, we who put our faith in Him will share in His resurrection.

"If Christ is not risen, your faith is futile," Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 15:17. Historical evidence and countless changed lives testify that the resurrection of Jesus is a fact. Have you put your hope in the risen Christ? - Dave Egner

Christ's resurrection is more than a fact of history— it's the proof of our salvation.

Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.

Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended: but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Therefore, let us, as many as are mature, have this mind; and if in any thing you think otherwise, God will reveal even this to you. Nevertheless, to the degree that we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us be of the same mind.

Philippians 3:12-16

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Philippians 4:13

Warmly welcome everyone possible, especially the children.

Help children participate by sharing bulletins, hymnals and Bibles as they are used. Point to the words as they are read or sing.

However small their offering might be, let them place it on the offering plate.

They will rejoice at being included.

Also, let them sign their own name on the attendance registration pad or card.

Be patient when children participate as a group in worship.

Their singing or Scripture reading or little dramas mean a great deal to them.

If they make mistakes, compliment them on their willingness to be in front of the congregation anyway.

While parents should accept responsibility for a child that disrupts worship, the rest of us need to accept interruptions occasionally as part of the joy of having children in worship with us.

Pray for the children.

They need all of the blessings of God possible ... as do we all.

Morning Prayer

Dear God, Thank you for the night and the early morning light. For rest and food and loving care and all that makes the world so fair.

Help us to do the things we should, to be to others kind and good. God bless me, my mummy and daddy, my brothers and sisters, my teachers and friends and everyone.

Help us to have a good day.

THE BLESSING OF CHILDREN IN THE WORSHIP SERVICE

"Let the children come to me."
said Jesus.

As a congregation, we have a special responsibility to teach them to worship.

Here are some things we each can do:

Make a special effort to make the church a place of joy.

WORDS TO LIVE BY

***ENCOURAGEMENT For the Week
Subject: Philippians 4:13 -- "for days to come"***

"I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me."

The Road To Success Is Not Straight.

There Is A Curve Called Failure,

A loop Called Confusion,

Speed Bumps Called Friends,

Red Lights Called Enemies,

Caution Lights Called Family...

You Will Have Flats Called Jobs,

But, If You Have A Spare

Called Determination,

And Engine Called Perseverance,

Insurance Called Faith...

Then You Will Have A Driver

Named Jesus!

You Will Make It To A Place

Called Success.

Be Blessed In The Lord, Jesus Christ!!!

TREASURE IN HEAVEN

READ: Matthew 6:19-21

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Matthew 6:21

When I was growing up, my two sisters and I liked to sit side-by-side on top of my mother's large cedar-lined chest. My mom kept our wool sweaters in it and handiwork that was embroidered or crocheted by my grandmother. She valued the contents of the chest and relied on the pungent odor of the cedar wood to discourage moths from destroying what was inside.

Most earthly possessions can easily be destroyed by insects or rust, or can even be stolen. Matthew 6 encourages us to place a special focus--not on things that have a limited lifespan but on those that have eternal value. When my mom died at fifty-seven, she had not accumulated a lot of earthly possessions, but I like to think about the treasure she stored up in heaven (vv. 19-20).

I recall how much she loved God and served Him in

quiet ways: caring faithfully for her family, teaching children in Sunday School, befriending a woman abandoned by her husband, comforting a young mother who had lost her baby. And she prayed....Even after she lost her sight and became confined to a wheelchair, she continued to love and pray for others.

Our real treasure isn't measured in what we accumulate-- but in what or whom we invest our time and our passions. What "treasures" are we storing up in heaven by serving and following Jesus?
Cindy Hess Kasper

Dear Father, help me to choose to invest my life in things that are eternal.

Our real wealth is what we invest for eternity.

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

<p>Sunday 8:45 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)</p> <p>Monday 6:00 p.m. Zumba 7:00-9:00 p.m. Bible Study, Eddy Shelter 7:00 Media Ministry (1st and 3rd of month)</p> <p>Tuesday Special Prayer for Pastor Harvill 6:00—7:00 p.m. Prayer meeting and</p>	<p>bible study.</p> <p>Wednesday 6:00 p.m. Zumba 6:00 p.m. Ministerial Staff (1st of month)</p> <p>Thursday 6:00 p.m. Steward Board 7:00 p.m. Trustee Board (2nd of month)</p> <p>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)</p>	<p>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)</p> <p>Choir Rehearsals Men - 7 p.m. Monday Women - Tuesday & Friday before 5th Sunday Children - 7 p.m. Friday before 1st Sunday Unity - 7 p.m. Thursday Praise & Worship Choir 7:00 pm Wednesday</p>
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

Tuesday, May 8
 6:00 pm
Alive in The Word
 Devotion: 6:00-6:15 pm
 Preaching by Rev. Myrtle Turner: 6:15-6:35 pm
 Teachable moments from Pastor: 6:35-6:50 pm
 Prayer: 6:50-7:00 pm

Tuesday, May 8
 7:00 pm
4th Quarterly Conference Meeting
 Please turn in reports no later Sunday, May 6

Wednesday, May 9
 6:00 pm
Young Adult Fellowship
 Please Note: Young Adult Fellowship will be meeting EVERY Wednesday @ 6:00 pm

Thursday, May 10
 10:00 am
Food Pantry Truck
 @ Cross Street Church
 Please Note: The food pantry truck comes EVERY 2nd Thursday of the month @ 10:00

Monday, May 14
 6:00 pm
Ministerial Health Alliance
 Health Ministry, Evangelism Ministry, and others please attend!

Thursday, May 17 - Sunday, May 20
 Pastor & First Lady
25th Appreciation Celebration
 More information see page 3

Thursday, June 7
 12:00 pm
Senior Luncheon
 Men & Women 55 or better are welcome to attend

Thursday, June 7
 6:00 pm
Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, June 13 - Sunday, June 17
New England Annual Conference
 @ Farmington Marriot
 Host Church: Varick Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church

Sunday, June 24
 10:00 am
Women's Day

Thursday, June 28
Pastor's 65th Birthday

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. 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, some-
how!

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 power-
ful, and sharper than any two-edged
sword, piercing even to the dividing asun-
der 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 peace.
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 ???

The Cross Street Journal is published Bi-monthly. If you have an article or information for current and future publications the deadline for this information is the Monday after the 2nd Sunday of each Month. **You may submit your information in the following ways:** place the information on a CD (Window format) and leave it in the Cross Street office with Verna Boyce Or, E-mail Ken Simmons (Ken46@snet.net), or give it to him **Praise God!!!**