



ELIZABETH AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH NEWSLETTER

“The Church Where Heaven and Earth Meet”

Volume 2 Quarterly Newsletter

A NEW HORIZON

God’s Wonderful Life

Sister Georgette Jackson, a native of Philadelphia, PA graduated from West Philadelphia High School, OIC and Peirce College. She worked as an accountant and an accountant specialist for more than forty years. She has been married to Andrew Jackson, Sr. for forty-eight years and from this union two children Andrew Jr. and Charmaine who is deceased.

Georgette says that she has always had the desire to help others. After retiring she was a Mentoring Coordinator and mentor at Rich Middle School. With her husband they started a foundation honoring her daughter “Charmaine Star Jackson Starlight Foundation”, which gives scholarships to Special Education College students.

Through Prison Ministry, Georgette volunteers at the Baylor Women’s Prison. She is a mentor and assists in their library. She says that, “the Lord has done great things in her life, that has made her a better person in all areas.” Her spirit soars when she thinks about God’s wonder and mercy. “Let us become weary in doing well, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.” Galatians 6:9 (NIV)

Editor’s note: “God’s Wonderful Life” will be a regular feature to introduce Elizabeth Church members to each other. Each issue will feature one or two members. Who will be next?

Why Do You Think We Should Attend Sunday School?

By Manali Oak

Sunday schools are a part of the system of education that believes in imparting religious education to its students. Sunday schools instill in the minds of their students, the principles of Christianity and the teachings of Jesus Christ.

Sunday schools do not only aim at achieving a qualitative investment of free time but also promote the spread of Christianity. They are not just meant to engage children on school holidays. They rather induce the common masses to follow the path of virtue. They have a very noble purpose and a high motive. They aim at the spread of the principles of Jesus Christ. They are meant to impart to the common masses what Jesus had to say. They aim at communicating to the masses what Christianity says. Sunday schools were established with the purpose of bringing about a reform in society. We should attend Sunday school to be a part of the noble cause. We should be a student of Sunday school to be able to contribute to the spread of the principles of God.

Sunday schools aim at inculcating in our minds the principles of social service. We should be a part of Sunday school so that we gain an exposure to their mission of social service. It is important for the young minds in society to be cultivated and nurtured and an excellent way to bring about this cultivation is to encourage the children and youngsters to attend Sunday school. These schools aim at instilling a positive attitude of looking towards life in the minds of the students. Their main aim is to bring about a spiritual growth of their students. Attending Sunday school gives us an opportunity to be a part of this process of growth and development.

It is essential for us to understand that the primary purpose of Sunday school is the achievement of spiritual growth. We cannot ignore the fact that attending Sunday school can help us attain a spiritual growth by communicating with us what the God has to say. We should attend a Sunday school to promote the spread of religious principles. Being a student of a Sunday school can pave for us a path of approaching.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

†
(1/1/12 to 5/1/12)

*Beverly Alexander
Rubin Cephas
Andrea Cephas
Madison Cephas
Christopher Cephas
Michael Evans
Pequoia Evans
Crystal Lewis
Jared Lewis
Elaina West
Mary Fitzgerald
Tanika Jeffers
Charlemaine Parker*

Elizabeth’s Upcoming Church Events 2012

May 19th 2012, 9:00 am

Women's Prayer Breakfast
Elizabeth AME, Newark, DE

Website Coming Soon!
Stay tuned for our 1st youth event
coming in June and for our summer
barbeque & fellowship

Sunday Worship Service
9:00 a.m.
Children’s Sunday School
9:30 a.m.
Wednesday night Bible Study
7:00 p.m.

A Sunday school serves as the means for a large number of people to come together for a common cause. They bring together different sections of society in pursuit of a common goal. In this way they unite people from different sectors of society irrespective of their financial or educational background.

People of different age groups get a platform to collaborate their efforts towards the realization of a common goal. Attending Sunday school is an excellent way to make our small contribution towards the spread of the principles of God. Being a student of Sunday school can pave for us a path of approaching God and understanding what He has to say.



Family and Friends Day

God has ordained three institutions: The church, the government, and the family. While some in the culture might seek to redefine what constitutes a family, His perspective is unchanged. The family is the foundational institution of human society, composed of individuals related to one another by marriage, blood, or adoption.

What were you doing on a cold, icy Sunday morning with one hundred and forty plus of Gods' children praising His name? If you answered Family and Friends Day at Elizabeth AME Church, you're correct.

On January 22, 2012, our families and friends were invited out to celebrate the goodness of our Savior, Jesus Christ. The church was overflowing and our members were just amazed at the love that was felt from our guest. As our Pastor Karen Washington entered the sanctuary with Rev. Vera Worthy and Sister Arlivia Howard-Holland, you could feel the Spirit of the Lord in Elizabeth. Everyone had a spirit of eagerness because they knew that they were in for a tremendous treat.

In her open hearted welcoming to our guest, Sister Holland read a poem **Blessings Grow** by Jill Lemming

Just one act of kindness
Will take flight across the land...
Spreading about its beauty
With a touch of the Master's hand.

Just one simple gesture
Is enough to start a fire...
Igniting a lasting friendship
That will warm you and inspire

Just one word of appreciation
Will bloom like a garden in Spring
Like the heart that knows no boundaries,
Love is a wonderful thing.

God gives us many blessing
To share with others each day...
It was never meant to keep them –
Blessings grow when you give them away.

Rev. Worthy served as our worship leader and Pastor Washington preached from the topic "Out with the Old; In with the New." The theme of the message was, clinging onto the old, leaves no room for the new. Our guests were over joyed and filled with the Holy Spirit. It was a great day and a good time was had by all!

We like to give the men of Elizabeth an extra portion of admiration. They excelled themselves with the parking of cars and escorting our guests to the door on an icy morning without one incident. A special thanks to the whole congregation of Elizabeth for making our after service brunch better than any caterer could have done. The fellowship hall was decorated with our purple and gold colors. Sister Barbara White completed the appearance with her centerpieces, corsages and boutonnieres that were expertly done.

♪ Sing Unto the Lord ♪

Our Praise and Worship team has been formed and seeking for all that wants to praise the Lord with Music. We practice on Tuesdays nights @ 7:00 p.m., if you're not ready to join come and encourage us.



From left to right: Bishop Richard Allen, Bishop Morris Brown, Bishop Willis Nazrey, Bishop Jabez Campbell, Bishop Cornelius Shaffer, Bishop Levi Coppin, Bishop William Heard, Bishop John Bright, Bishop Richard Franklin Norris, Bishop Jeffrey Nathaniel Leath, Rev. Mark Kelly Tyler, Ph.D. Currently serving as the 52nd Pastor

Black History Month “WOW”

Sis. Veronica “Rhonnie” Riley

I would like to take this time to thank our “New” Elizabeth AME Church members, for participating in our Black History activities. As a committee we combined our spiritual gifts along with our experiences, training and natural talents to prepare events for our church. Brother D’Rayfield Shipman started our praise and worship with songs of old.

The first Sunday February 5, 2012 our theme was “We are Family”. Sister Christol Stewart, shared with us a reading, “A Lesson from the Geese”, which paralleled the ways that geese and humans should support one another. Miss Sierra and Master Sidney Stewart also, shared their poem “Little Black Boy, Little Black Girl”, another thoughtful reading about family relationships. Mrs. Cheryl Allen-Spell led the church with Negro National Anthem (Lift Every Voice and Sing). After the service many of the congregation went to a local diner to have a Sunday morning family style breakfast. A great time and fellowship was had by all.

Sister Patrice Parks quizzed us on the second Sunday February 12, 2012, with our Black History and Civil Rights trivia. How much did we know about the struggles? She recalled some of those who answered freedoms call in the poem, “Mirror, Mirror”, which highlighted Fredrick Douglas, Harriet Tubman, Medgar Evers, Malcolm X, Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King. Of course we know that there were many more special Black and White leaders involved in our cause for Freedom and The Civil Rights Movement.

The third Sunday, February 19, 2012 we highlighted the gifts of African American inventors for all of us to enjoy; Sister Rhonnie Riley thanked Madame C.J. Walker for inventing the straightening comb for all of our black sisters. The men that play golf, express thanks to George Grant for the golf tee. Garrett Morgan for the traffic light and children of all ages has enjoyed Granville J. Woods’s roller coasters at amusement parks. These were just a few of the many Black Inventors whose “gifts” have led to the greatness of our country.

On Friday, February 17, 2012 was a “Blast”; soul food pot luck held at the Riley’s and it was D-E-L-I-C-I-O-U-S!! Everyone enjoyed; pigs feet, ham, chicken, ribs, mac & cheese, greens, corn pudding and everything in between. Mmm Good!!! Brother Aaron and Sister Noelle Holiday presented us with an overview of the principals of Kwanzaa. Sister Loni Holiday prepared several Black History games for us to play. We had a great evening of “NEW” Elizabeth Fellowship!

The last Sunday, February 26, 2012 had another awesome sermon by Pastor Karen Washington. The morning featured Sister Angel Washington and the Bethel AME Church Praise Dancers. In song were friends of Elizabeth; Beverly Whittaker and Carolyn Chambliss who gave selections that were worthy of celebrating our ancestors. A small brunch followed and then we traveled to Mother Bethel AME Church and Museum in Philadelphia, PA. Brothers Leroy Parks and Jay Stewart, our drivers concluded our trip in Wilmington at Evelyn’s Restaurant for a soulful dinner.

What a Wonderful Month!

Pastor Washington and the congregation would like to thank the 2012 Black History Committee for all the time and effort that was put into our celebration of Black History Month. Every day we make history in our own way by loving and caring for our fellow man. Words cannot express our appreciation for our committee Sister’s Patrice Parks, Christol Stewart, Cheryl Allen- Spells and Veronica Riley.

Can we wait until next year?

Birthday Role Call

MAY 2012

SIDNEY STEWART
STEVE HOLIDAY
AARON HOLIDAY

JUNE 2012

RUBEN CEPHAS
GEORGETTE JACKSON
BARBARA WHITE

JULY 2012

CHRISTOPHER CEPHAS
PATRICE “PAT” PARKS

AUGUST 2012

SHIRLEY ROBERTS
MICHAEL EVANS

WORDS OF WISDOM

The worst mistake you can make is to give up on yourself and stop challenging yourself for fear of failure. Keep moving forward with a firm eye on the future, telling yourself, “I’ll start from today!” “I’ll start afresh from now, from this very moment!”

~Daisaku Ikeda~

Kevin's Financial Corner on Stewardship

Lesson: Maximizing the 90%

Lesson 2

Lesson 1 of our previous newsletter talked about "Our Part" in maximizing the 90% and how handling money affects our fellowship with God. In lesson 2 we will discuss "God's Part."

God's Part

1. Ownership (1 Chronicles 29:11-12, Psalms 24:1). We must transfer all ownership of our possessions to the Lord.
 2. Control (Daniel 4:34-35). God does as He pleases with the powers of heaven and the people of earth.
 3. Provision (Matthew 6:33). But seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.
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Psalm 24 verse 1 states, "The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof..." What this means is that everything we have belongs to God. However, God loves us so much that He is giving us 90% and He is only asking for 10%. Unfortunately, most people handle or mismanage the 90% incorrectly and don't understand why they are not blessed with more riches. Many people pray about getting out of debt and for financial blessings, but aren't willing to give God what's due Him.

We don't serve a foolish God; therefore, if we can't handle the 90% that He has already given us, why would He give us anymore? God will do His part with the 10%; what will you do with the 90%? How will you maximize it to become debt free and prepare for your future? Like the parable of the 5 talents, use what God has given you wisely so that your return will be a blessing to God, your family and your future.

Check with Kevin for your financial investments or advice

Kevin Washington, RVP
Primerica Financial Services
79 Green Tree Drive
Dover, DE 19904
302-521-0730

God's Gifts Comes in Many Forms

Grandmother Barbara White

Andrew Jones is a senior at Salesianum School and will be graduating this year. He is a member of the National Honor Society, African American Club, Mock Trial Club, and Model United Nations Club. Andrew also participated in many hours of volunteer work for Christian Service and did Eucharistic Ministry with his mom from 8th grades until this year. He is also a member of the winter and spring track teams and was on the State Champion Cross Country Team in 2011; as well as a member of the Freshman Basketball Team. He has excelled in many areas at Salesianum and as such, was accepted by every university he applied to for admission in the fall 2012 freshman class. He applied to University of Maryland, University of Delaware, George Mason University, and University of Maryland Baltimore County.

He has chosen to attend University of Maryland. Congratulations to Andrew for all of his successes and continued growth.

Editor's Note: This time of the year our children are changing grade levels or graduating from college. We at Elizabeth AME Church wish them many victories. They have put in their time and energy to succeed. Parents, we thank you for all your prayers that got them where they are. Continue to Pray for all children.

**Delaware Annual
Conference and First
Episcopal District 2012**

Wilmington District

May 12, 2012, 9:00 am

*Wilmington District Meeting;
Elizabeth AME, Newark, DE*

May 19, 2012

*Banquet Honoring Connie
Fleming, YPD Director
Sheraton Hotel, Dover, DE*

June 8th-9th

*Sunday School Convention
Trinity AME, Middletown, DE*

First District

June 14th-16th

*First District Planning
Meeting
First District Plaza,
Philadelphia, PA*

June 27-July 4, 2012

*General Conference
Nashville, Tennessee*

July 16-19, 2012

*Christian Education Congress
Wesley College, Dover, DE*

July 20-21, 2012

*First District Lay Annual
Meeting-Sheraton Hotel,
Dover, DE*

But covet earnestly the best gifts and yet shew I unto you a more excellent way.”

1 Corinthians 12:31

Annual Women’s Day

“Women of God...Pursuing Excellence”

April 22, 2012 will forever be remembered as the “New” Elizabeth African Methodist Episcopal Church celebrated its 1st Women’s Day, under the leadership of our Pastor Karen L. Washington. We take great pride that our Praise and Worship, was presided over by Rev. Everett Jenkins. Rev. Jenkins is celebrating 25 years in ministry of the gospel of Jesus Christ. He was licensed to preach in August 1985 by the late Rev. Dr. R.D. Brown at the Mount Ollie Baptist Church of Brooklyn NY. He was ordained in 1991 at the Berean Baptist Church of Nashville Tennessee.

Rev. Jenkins allowed the Holy Spirit to use him in a powerful way as he led the congregation in singing and praising the Lord in the morning Praise and Worship Service. His music ministry ushered in the presence of our Heavenly Father into the sanctuary that fueled the power of the Holy Spirit as it moved upon the congregation.

The Word was proclaimed by Rev. Chandra Ivory Williams; she is the founder of Chandra Williams Ministries. Her ministry is founded on the principles of Praise and Worship unto God. In 2005 she was officially ordained and installed as Co-Pastor to her father, Pastor Charles I. Williams, Sr. of the United Missionary Baptist Church.

Rev. Williams preached from the topic “You’re too Much” from Esther 1:10-13. Rev. Williams focused on queen Vashti who refused the king’s command when he summons her to come and display her beauty. The theme of the message is to think highly of yourself and not allow others to disrespect you because you are “too much.” In other words, we as women are “too much of a queen” to be taken for granted and mistreated. Do not compromise your morals and values as a queen of God. What a blessed word!

There was food and fellowship after service and we concluded our day with a gospel concert by Rev. Jenkins in the afternoon. His anointed voice filled the atmosphere and the Spirit of God moved in an awesome and special way. The ministry of music touched and ministered to the hearts of the people.

There is power in the ministry of music!

Special thanks to co-chairs of Women’s Day, Rev. Vera V. Worthy and Sis. Georgette Jackson and to the men of Elizabeth who cleaned the church, greeted our guests and served the food.

What a Blessed and Wonderful Day!

REFLECTIONS FROM OUR PASTOR

PRAISE THE LORD EVERYBODY!

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

Praise the Lord for bringing the “New” Elizabeth AME Church (AMEC) through the first quarter of 2012! The Lord has truly demonstrated for us, “the just shall live by faith” (Habakkuk 2:4). He has demonstrated “the effectual fervent prayers of the righteous availeth much” (James 5:16), by responding to our cries and answering our prayers. He has demonstrated that He is a God of favor, by moving on our behalf and touching the hearts of those in authority. He has demonstrated that He is a way maker, by making a way out of no way. He has demonstrated that He is Jehovah Gibbor, our avenger, by fighting our battles effectively for us and being our shield and buckler because we trusted Him. He has demonstrated that He is Jehovah Nissi, our covering, by covering and protecting us from the fiery darts of the enemy. He has demonstrated that He is Jehovah Jireh, our provider, by blessing us with increase and “supplying all of our needs according to His riches and glory in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4:19). He has demonstrated that He is Jehovah Rapha, our healer, by continuing to administer healing in mind, body and spirit. He has demonstrated that He is Jehovah Shammah; the Lord is there, as we continually experience His presence and manifestation of His glory. He has demonstrated that He is Jehovah Shalom, a God of peace, by bringing peace to turmoil situations. He has demonstrated that He is Jehovah Rohi, the Lord our Shepherd, by leading and guiding us every step of the way. He has demonstrated that He is our deliverer by delivering us from some major challenges. Although we still have many more challenges to overcome, God continues to demonstrate that He is with us and His favor is upon us.

Before dismissing the congregation after worship on Sunday’s, I declare these words, “*We are the church where heaven and earth meet!*” The church where heaven and earth meet is the pivotal point of the horizon where heaven and earth come into agreement; “Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven” (Matthew 6:10). Close your eyes for a minute and picture what that looks like. We are a church that lines up with the will of God; declares the Word of God and is open to the move of God; bringing great manifestation of the spiritual to the natural.

As we look “beyond the horizon” this second quarter and thereafter, there is still much work to be done in order to bring God’s vision to fruition. It is time to step outside of the box “reaching, reclaiming and transforming lives” by doing things we have never done before. As the manifestation of the vision is in the incubator stage, this is a time of preparation, creativity, maturity, growth and development. It is up to us to keep focus and press forward to the mark of the prize. God has equipped us to do the task assigned to us. Jesus said, “Greater works than these you will do” (John 14:12). Imagine that; greater works than Jesus did? Yes! It is time to take back everything that the devil has stolen!

We have turned the corner and entered another conference year. It’s time to *turn the page* to the next chapter. Chapter 1 told the story of great healing, restoring and rebuilding in the structure, foundation and life of the church. Chapter 2 is an extension of the previous chapter. We will continue to build and restore with our focus primarily on kingdom building, renewal and transformation.

To whom much is given; much is required!

Yours in Christ Jesus,

Rev. Karen L. Washington, Pastor