

A Christian Education Publication

January-February 2021

From the Desk of

Pastor L. B. West, D.R.S.



“Grace be unto you and peace from God our Father and from The Lord Jesus Christ”.

I am so profoundly grateful to our Heavenly Father for all of you and your continued participation in our virtual prayer sessions and our virtual worship services. It is a real joy to be able to meet with you every day to have conversation with our Heavenly Father mornings and evenings for five consecutive days a week. Moreover, it is so refreshing to witness the development of people’s faith in God and belief in His ability to do for them what He promised He would do.

It is to that end that I put forth these words as Paul did to the church at Philippi: “I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy, for your fellowship in the Gospel from the first day until now; being confident of this very thing that He who has begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.” My brothers and sisters, these last eleven months have placed, front and center, the fact that change is most definitely in the air.

The pandemic that continues to threaten people all over the world, has made all of us look with an analytically concise view at the way we put forth our efforts and actions. The way we fellowship is different. The way we gather in the name of The Lord is different. The way we worship, and from where we worship is different. How we conduct Bible Studies, Prayer Sessions and Ministry meetings are all different. How we

pay our tithes and offerings is different. Change is in the air, and for the believer, seeking God’s instructive direction is a necessity to make all needed, productive, creative, and precisely apportioned adjustments.

Vaccines are in the process of being delivered and given to priority groups as apportioned as supplies last. Appointments are necessary to receive the vaccine and all our members and friends who are a part of the priority groups should look to receive their vaccination as soon as they can get an appointment.

Our reopening committee is still meeting once a month to continue fine tuning what we should be doing in preparation for reopening our facility.

When we do reopen the church facility, perhaps it would be advisable for people to look for and expect various changes in performance procedures and presentation protocols. We have mentioned the following before but let me reiterate:

- Perhaps people can expect a more casual setting in the worship experience, to affirm “The Whosoever Will” concept that Jesus taught us.
- Perhaps people should expect to see newly printed directional/instructional signs posted outside and inside the building.
- Perhaps people should expect to enter the facility through one door only.
- Perhaps people should expect to exit out of the facility through one exit only door.

- Perhaps people should expect to have their temperature taken before they enter the building.
- Perhaps people should expect to wear their protective face masks, always while in the building.
- Perhaps due to space distancing, we should expect fewer people attending worship.
- Perhaps people should expect a shorter time in the worship experience, only one hour.
- Perhaps people should expect, in the sanctuary, to be escorted to an available seat.
- Perhaps people should expect to be in a safe, well maintained, sanitized facility.
- Perhaps people should expect to see the order of service, announcements, words to songs, and Scriptures on TV Monitors.
- Perhaps people should expect to give their tithes and offerings in a much different way.
- Perhaps people should expect to be dismissed from the service in an organized, orderly fashion, versus everyone being dismissed at the same time.

Beloved, change is in the air, and it is tremendously exciting to be a part of this new worship presentation. O taste and see that The Lord is good. So, at the appropriately announced date and time, come back and enjoy worship; “The Same Great Story” in a safe place and in a new way. Until then, enjoy our virtual services through “face-book Live” and “FreeConferenceCall.com.

Looking forward to seeing all of you real soon.

Sincerely Because of Christ, ☐

5 Bulldogs Broke Color Barrier at Georgia

courtesy of Rev. Karen Taylor, CSMMM

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution, February 4, 2021 reported that in 1971, ten years after the University of Georgia integrated, five freshmen were the first African-American football players to break the color barrier at that university.

Richard Appleby, wide receiver from 1971-74, one of the first African-Americans to play at Georgia; Horace King; running back from 1971-74, one of the first African-Americans to play at Georgia; Chuck Kinnebrew, defensive lineman from 1971-74, one of the first African-Americans to play at Georgia; Clarence Pope, linebacker from 1971-74, one of the first African-Americans to play at Georgia; and last but certainly not least, **our very own Senior Pastor Larry West**, defensive back from 1971-74, one of the first African-Americans to play at Georgia. The accomplishments by the five scholarship athletes set milestones at Georgia.

Their stories are among the hundreds highlighted in an exhibit at the College Football Hall of Fame – open through May – called “The Blood, Sweat and Tears,” telling the story of integration in college football. ☐

2021 WAMMIE Awards Finalist

by Dr. Gilbert Pryor

Congratulations are in order for one of our musicians, Dr. Gilbert Pryor. Dr. Pryor has been named a finalist for the 2021 WAMMIE Awards in the category of Best Soul Artist/Group. He has known about and has participated in the WAMMIES in the past, but this is his first time being nominated.

The final winners will be judged in March with a virtual ceremony scheduled by the WAMMIES.

Dr. Pryor wishes to thank all who support this endeavor and especially Roy Battle, Sylver Logan Sharp, Dr. William Smith, Stan, Doug, GoGo Mickey and the rest of the production crew. "Let's Ride." (On all music channels) 🎵



The Black Church: This is Our Story. This is Our Song.

Courtesy of PBS.org.

PBS is now streaming an intimate four-hour series on the Black Church and how music impacted the Civil Rights Movement. The series explored the roots of the African American religion. Gospel music was at the heart of the Civil Rights Movement lifting spirits of those fighting for racial equality.

Henry Louis Gates, Jr. interviewed Ms. Rutha Mae Harris. Ms. Harris personally expressed that without these songs, there would be no movement. These songs kept them from being scared. For example, if you are marching down the street during a march and you are approached by the police. They are saying to you turn around or be hit, singing these songs encouraged you to move

forth in your march. Nothing is going to turn you around.

So tune into PBS, channel 19 on Xfinity cable or (pbs.org/show/black-church) stream via PBS.org. 🎵

Our Finance Corner

by Sister Jackie Smith

Thought for the day: RULE 72

What is it?

The Rule of 72 is a quick, useful formula that is popularly used to estimate the number of years required to double the invested money at a given annual rate of return. ... Alternatively, it can compute the annual rate of compounded return from an investment given how many years it will take to double the investment.

How does this work:

Simply put:

You receive your tax refund in the amount of \$1,000.00. You take it to your local bank and you might get 1% interest. It will take you 72 years for your \$1,000.00 to double to \$2,000.00.

Now let's suppose

You receive your tax refund in the amount of \$1,000.00. You take it to your friendly financial producer and she shows you how you might can get 7% to 10% interest in a special investment product. It will take you 10.3 to 7.2 years for your \$1,000.00 to double to \$2,000.00.

Reach out to Sister Jackie Smith if you desire her assistance to understand this financial concept and how to apply it in today's market.

Interest Rate	Rule of 72 Years
2%	36
5%	14.4

7% 10.3
9% 8
10% 7.2
12% 6

All Aboard...

*by Sister Deloris Agee, Chair
Music & Creative Arts Ministry*

Hello, welcome to Flight #2021. We are prepared to take off into the New Year. Please make sure your Attitude and Blessings are secured and locked in an upright position.

All self-destructive devices should be turned off at this time.

All negativity, hurt, and discouragement should be put away. Should we lose Altitude under pressure during the flight, reach up and pull down a Prayer. Prayers will automatically be activated by Faith.

Once your Faith is activated you can assist other passengers.

There will be NO BAGGAGE allowed on this flight.

The Captain (GOD) has cleared us for takeoff. Destination- GREATNESS. ✈️➔! 🗨

Ladies of L.O.V.E. Hosts Bookflix

*by Sister Gwen K. West, Ministry Leader
Ladies of Vision & Empowerment*

Join the Ladies of L.O.V.E. for their three part series of Bookflix, “**When Women Pray**” by T. D. Jakes. The first session is on Sunday February 21st at 6pm. We will discuss the prayers of Hannah, Mary and Sarah. Bring your popcorn and ready yourself for a spirit –filled evening experience!

Part Two of Bookflix will resume on Sunday March 21st at 6pm. We will be

focusing on the prayers of the Woman with the Issue of Blood, Naomi, and the Samaritan Woman. Part Three will be on Sunday April 18th at 6pm focusing on the prayers of Esther, Rhoda, the Shunammite Woman, and Anna.

Join Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 829 5251 2303

Passcode: 341828

Dial in: 1(301) 715-8592 or 1(929) 205-6099.

“Prayer is a stress reliever, chain breaker, peace bringer” T.D. Jakes 🗨

Black History Pioneers...Past and Present

by Professor Barbara J. Smith, Scholarship & Special Needs Ministries

Ella Baker

Civil rights leader Ella Baker helped found the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee.

Ella Baker became one of the leading figures of the civil rights movement of the 1950s and '60s. Following her early work for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, she was among the founders of Martin Luther King's Southern Christian Leadership Conference in 1957. Three years later, she helped launch the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee.

Born in Norfolk, Virginia, on December 13, 1903, Baker grew up in rural North Carolina. She was close to her grandmother, a former slave, who told Baker many stories about her life, including a whipping she had received at the hands of her owner. A bright student, Baker attended Shaw University in Raleigh, North Carolina, graduating class valedictorian in 1927.

After moving to New York City in the late 1920s, Baker joined the Young Negroes Cooperative League (YNCL), which allowed its members to pool their funds to get better deals on goods and services. Before long, she was serving as its national director.

Around 1940, Baker became a field secretary for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), and in 1943 she became the NAACP's national director of branches. Remaining in New York, Baker worked for a number of local organizations, including the New York Urban League. She became director of the New York chapter of the NAACP in 1952.

In 1957, Baker helped launch the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), under the presidency King. She ran its Atlanta, Georgia, office and served as the organization's acting executive director; however, she also clashed with King and other male leaders of the SCLC, who allegedly were not used to receiving pushback from such a strong-willed woman, before exiting the organization in 1960.

During her time with the SCLC, Baker organized the event that led to the creation of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) in 1960.

After leaving the SCLC, Baker remained active in the SNCC for many years. She helped them form the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party (MFDP) in 1964 as an alternative to the state's Democratic Party, which held segregationist views.

Baker continued to fight for social justice and equality into her later years. She died on her 83rd birthday, on December 13, 1986, in New York City.

Elijah Moses

Executive Director Wise Young Builders (WYB)

"It is easier to build strong boys, than repair broken men"

Wise Young Builders takes inspiration from two important places. First of all, from a young Hebrew carpenter named Jesus of Nazareth who called for social and economic transformation. Secondly, from a 25-year old educator and founder, Booker T. Washington of the Tuskegee Institute, who believed that being skilled in the trades was vital to success in life.

Wise Young Builders was founded in Washington, D.C. in May of 2010. The Executive Director, Elijah Moses organized and ran the first class of Wise Young Builders with a small group of boys with a vision of using project-based learning to advance math skills.

The program officially began after a group of moms requested that Mr. Moses teach their children the skills that he was teaching his own son. Parent Advocacy has been at the roots of Wise Young Builders humble beginnings. After seeing the confidence, math knowledge, and trade skills that the first class of Wise Young Builders gained, it was decided to expand the program to multiple sites across the Washington, D.C. Metro area.

Wise Young Builders (WYB) is a unique enrichment program for youth ages 8-15. We use carpentry to strengthen participants' math skills, confidence and exposure to hobbies and careers. Improving youth's success in math is vital to reducing dropout and unemployment rates in our communities, but more importantly, it is a key ingredient in helping bolster confidence and a can-do attitude. WYB bridges youth to the STEM trades and construction industry, helping youth realize the practicality and value in skill development. We help youth

design and build projects, meet real estate developers, visit construction sites, use tools and engage in activities to increase their interest in math and STEM related fields. We increase their confidence, aptitude and exposure to careers.

During each session, WYB participants spend the time learning age-appropriate math concepts such as multiplication, division, fractions, area, perimeter, and more with program instructors and math coaches.



2021 Minnie Louise Anderson Young (MLAY) Scholarship Accepting Applications

by Rev. Karen Taylor

Applications are now being accepted for the 2021 Minnie Louise Anderson Young (MLAY) Scholarships.

The MLAY Scholarship Fund was created by the estate/will of the late Mrs. Young, who lived from December 19, 1922 to June 6, 2012. Mrs. Young was an outstanding and dedicated D.C. public school teacher for 34 years. She was a life-member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, longtime member of WDCAC, and a faithful and generous member of St. George's Episcopal Church in Washington, D.C. for 75 years. In memory of Eula Rambeau Anderson, the mother of the late Mrs. Young, the MLAY Fund was established to award educational scholarships to graduating seniors entering their first year of post-secondary education.

This year the MLAY Fund will award multiple merit-based scholarships up to \$5,000 each. To be eligible for the scholarship, applicants must: 1) be students in good standing at high schools in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area; 2) have at least a 2.5/4.0 G.P.A.; 3) plan to pursue study at an accredited 2 or 4-year post-secondary institution; and 3) submit a

completed, signed scholarship application with supporting documents electronically. Please note: We will not accept any documents by mail.

Use this link for the application or copy this url into your browser:

<https://forms.gle/zhqH49ffTN5gc6dj8>

The application deadline is **March 13, 2021**. Award decisions will be announced no later than May 1, 2021. Please forward the email to your eligible seniors and encourage them to submit their completed applications. ■

Happy Valentine's Day

May God, who watches over us
And guides us from above,
Grant you the riches blessings
Of His everlasting love.
He has shown you time and time
again,
In ways that have no measure,
That He grants true happiness
And lasting joy to you - -
Not only on this special day
But every day, all year through.

Happy Valentine's Day!

From...
Special Needs, Hospitality, and
Get Acquainted Ministries of
Mount Airy Baptist Church Rev.
L. B. West, Senior Pastor ■



For Your Meditation...

“I Pray We Don’t Go Back To Normal”

by Newsletter Ministry

- **I pray that the next time a friend grabs me and pulls me in for a hug, I actually take the time to appreciate the gift of their embrace.**
- **I pray that when school resumes and people are dropping kids off, they take the time to thank the staff for the amazing gift that they give to our community.**
- **I pray that the next time I’m sitting in a crowded restaurant I take the time to look around at the smiling faces, loud voices and thank God for the gift of community.**
- **I pray that the next time I’m standing in church listening to the voices of praise and worship that I take a moment to thank God for the gift of congregation.**
- **I pray that the next time I see a person or situation that needs prayer, I hope I pray as passionately and fervently as I have these past months. ☐**

Inclement Weather Notification

by Newsletter Ministry

Be mindful that if inclement weather occurs please consult the Mount Airy website (www.mountairybaptist.org.) and/or Facebook page. You may also tune into NBC-4, Fox- 5 DC, WJLA-7, Newschannel-8, and WUSA-TV-9 for any weather-related information. ☐

Submitting Newsletter Articles

by Newsletter Ministry

To submit something for the Newsletter, you need to...

Prepare article in Microsoft Word format and email it to tcholly@comcast.net. Documents are accepted at any time.

We prefer that articles be limited to 220 words or ½ page due to space. We will no longer accept hand written articles.

Next Issue: Sunday, April 25, 2021

The Newsletter Ministry reserves the right to edit all submissions. ☐



*Peace and Blessings
from God the Father
and Our Lord Jesus
Christ!*