

Springfield CHRONICLES

Luke 2:15-18

D major.

Oh come
let us
adore
Him

B minor (melodic).

B minor (harmonic).

A major.

F sharp minor (melodic).

F sharp minor (harmonic).

The image shows a page of musical notation for the hymn "Oh Come Let Us Adore Him". The lyrics are written in large, black, calligraphic script over the piano accompaniment. The score includes six systems of music, each with a key signature and a tempo/meter marking. The lyrics are: "Oh come let us adore Him".

December 17, 2023
Christmas Edition



A Christmas Message from Pastor Sturdivant

***"God exalted him to his own right hand as Prince and Savior that he might bring Israel to repentance and forgive their sins."
(Acts 5:31)***

I once heard someone say - "after a long drive, I like to zoom out on the GPS just to see how far I've come".

It's a simple omission, but one with prolific application. After a long journey, it does us good to look back and see how far the Lord has brought us. Beyond the exchange of gifts, laughs, and stories - this time of the year is one where we all should reflect and draw close to those who matter the most.

For our church, 2023 has been one of exceptional growth and expansion. By the grace of God, many have been added to our number; we have reached out further into the community through our missional efforts; and have witnessed the awesome power of our God to mend broken relationships.

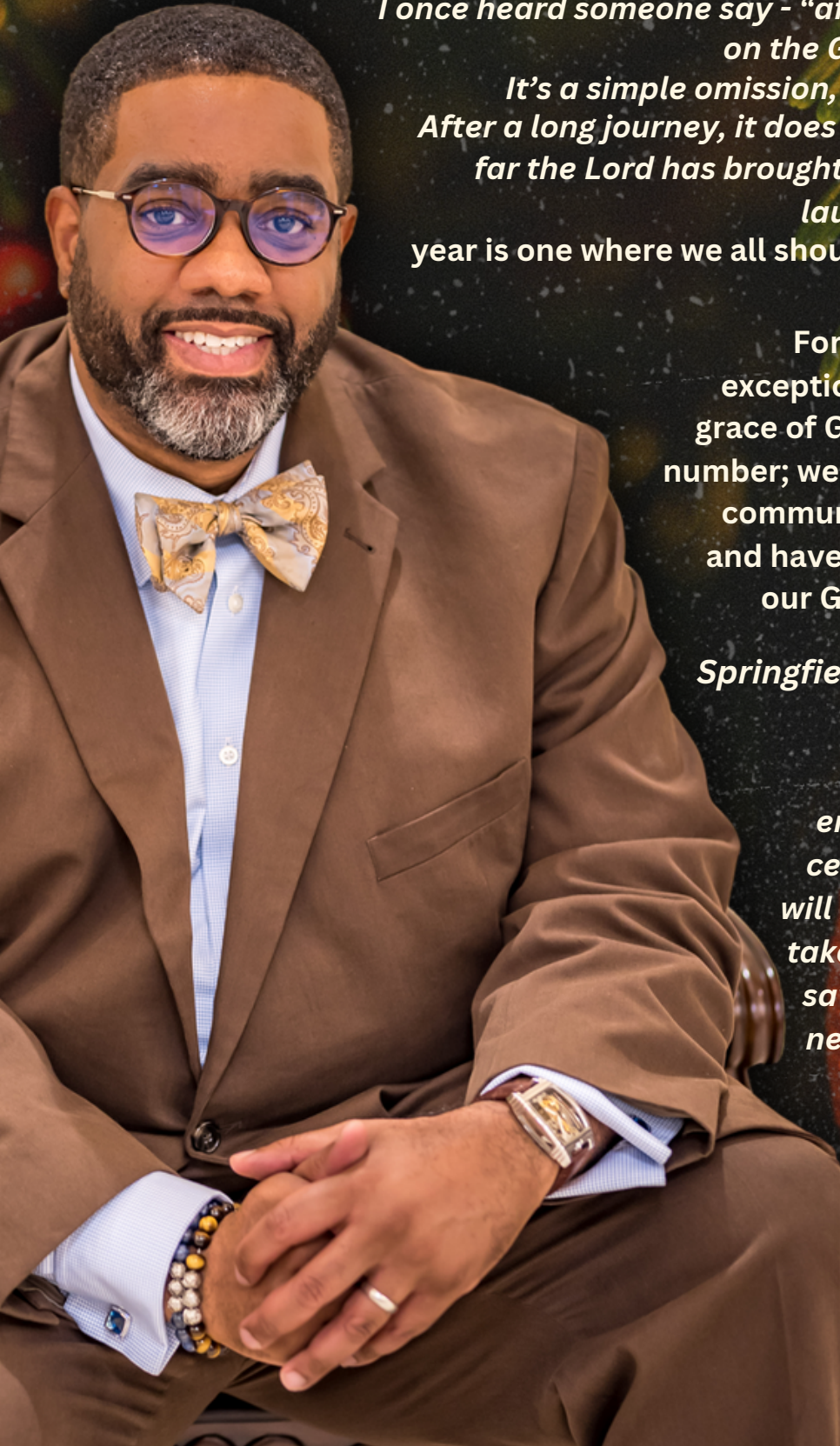
Springfield, we have much to celebrate!

Yes, even for those who will look around the holiday table and see empty places - we all have much to celebrate. Not to say that your pain will magically go away, but we all can take solace in knowing that there is a savior who gives comfort to those in need; and whose sacrifice made the difference.

***How have we made it over?
By the grace of God, through his son, Jesus Christ!***

Happy Holidays Springfield!

***Springfield*
BAPTIST CHURCH**



To God Be The Glory For The Great Things He Has Done!



PICTURED FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: DEACON STEPHEN WHITE, SIS. PATRICIA WHITE, REV. DR. KEVIN STURDIVANT, FIRST LADY TIFFANY STURDIVANT, SIS. VICKY GIBSON, DEACON JAMES A. GIBSON II

It has been nothing short of a Blessing

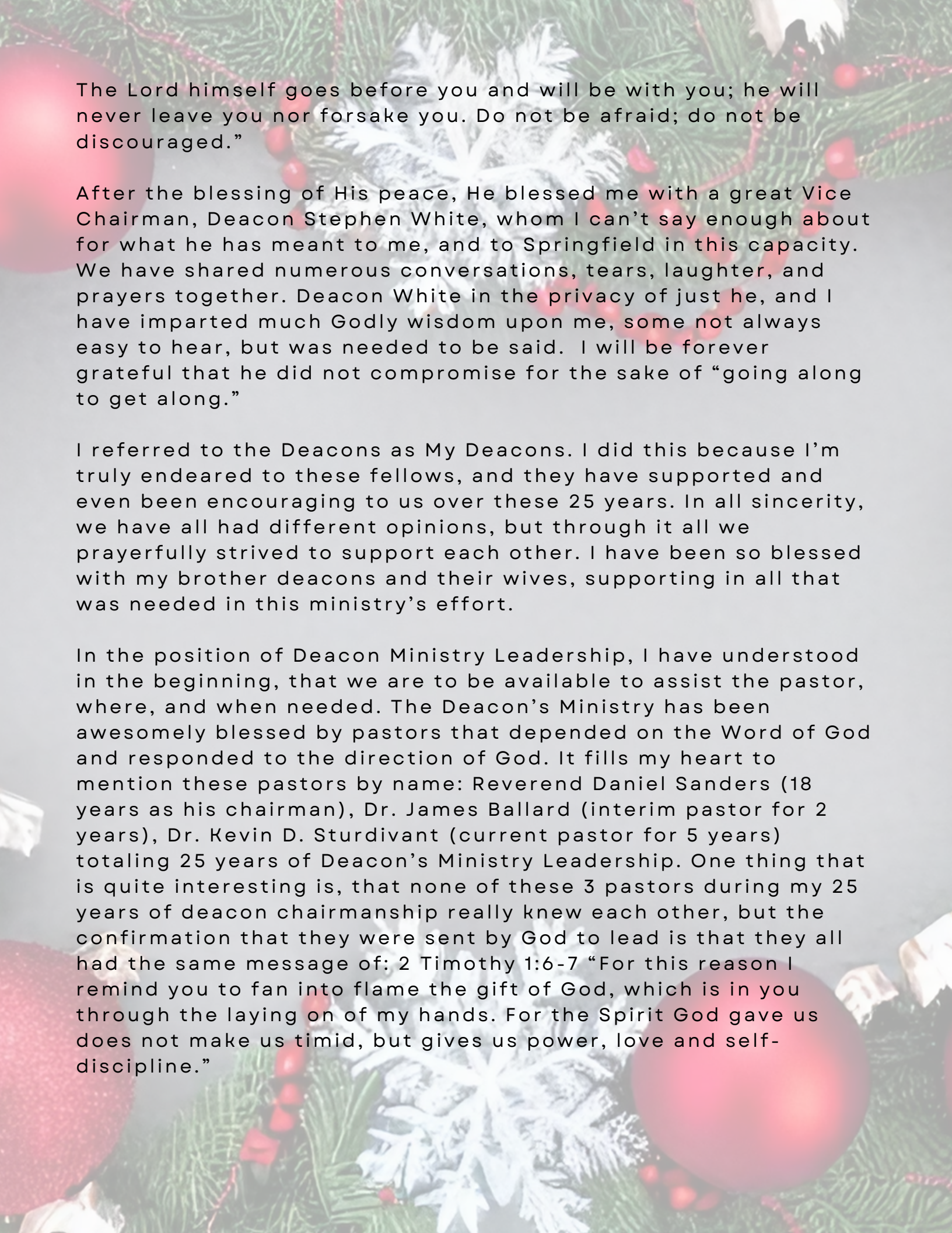
to reflect on the awesomeness of our God for all He has done in using Deacon Stephen White, and myself in the leadership role of the Deacon's Ministry here at Springfield Baptist Church.

Upon being voted as chairman of the Deacon's Ministry, I was overwhelmed with some anxiety, because I was the youngest deacon in the ministry. After much prayer, the Lord took me to the book of Nehemiah, and what the Lord revealed to me was how He was with Nehemiah, and in all of the things that came before him,

he stayed true to his calling, with the blessed assurance that the Lord was with him.

After the revelation that the Lord gave me through this book, I found that my anxiety was being replaced b with the peace that God is in control, and all He wanted was the commitment like it was for Nehemiah and to not lose focus of your assignment, standing on the promise of God as in Deuteronomy 31:7-8 , "Be strong and courageous, for you must go with this people into the land that the Lord swore to their ancestors to give them, and you must divide it among them as their inheritance.

Oh come let us adore Him. Luke 2:15-18

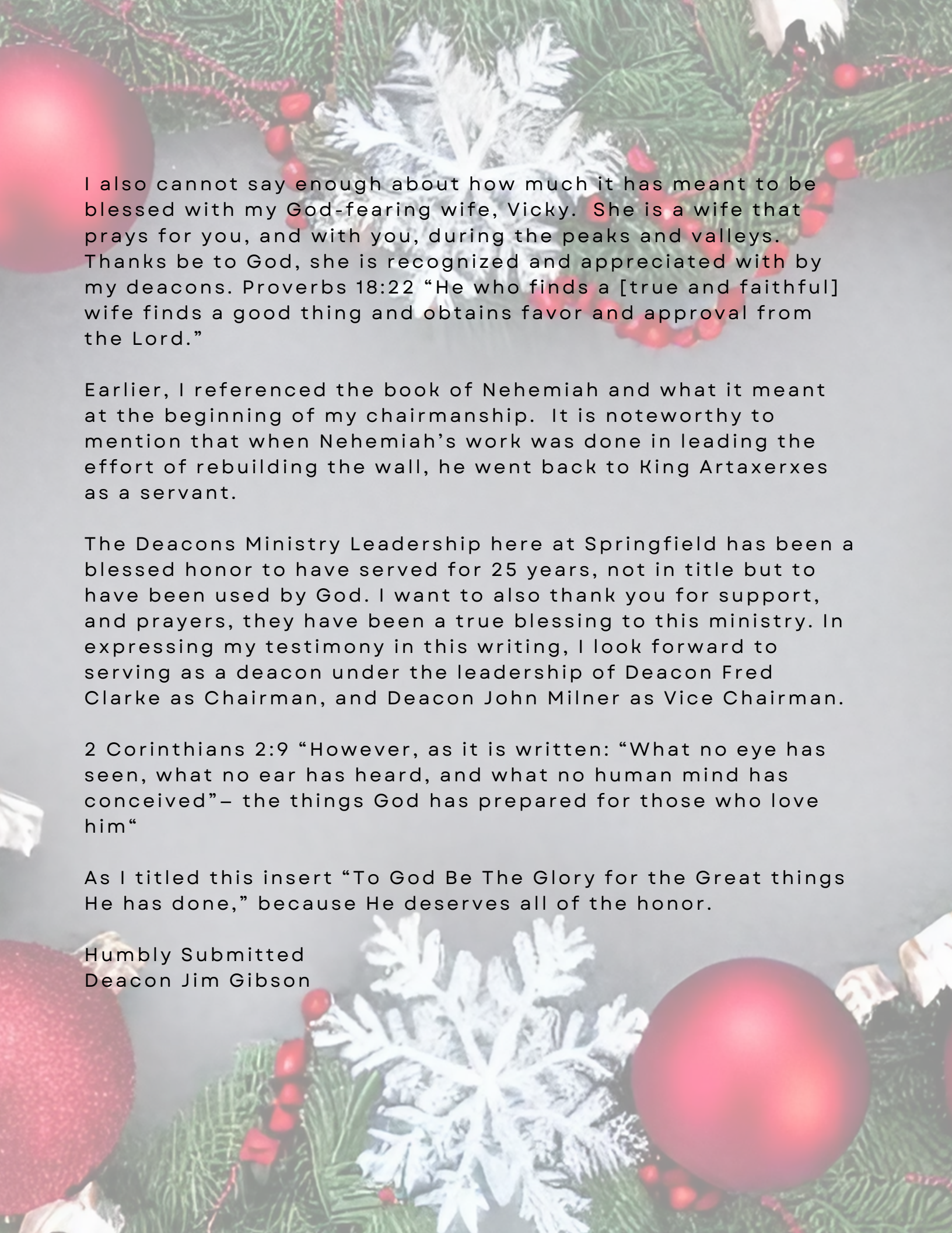


The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.”

After the blessing of His peace, He blessed me with a great Vice Chairman, Deacon Stephen White, whom I can't say enough about for what he has meant to me, and to Springfield in this capacity. We have shared numerous conversations, tears, laughter, and prayers together. Deacon White in the privacy of just he, and I have imparted much Godly wisdom upon me, some not always easy to hear, but was needed to be said. I will be forever grateful that he did not compromise for the sake of “going along to get along.”

I referred to the Deacons as My Deacons. I did this because I'm truly endeared to these fellows, and they have supported and even been encouraging to us over these 25 years. In all sincerity, we have all had different opinions, but through it all we prayerfully strived to support each other. I have been so blessed with my brother deacons and their wives, supporting in all that was needed in this ministry's effort.

In the position of Deacon Ministry Leadership, I have understood in the beginning, that we are to be available to assist the pastor, where, and when needed. The Deacon's Ministry has been awesomely blessed by pastors that depended on the Word of God and responded to the direction of God. It fills my heart to mention these pastors by name: Reverend Daniel Sanders (18 years as his chairman), Dr. James Ballard (interim pastor for 2 years), Dr. Kevin D. Sturdivant (current pastor for 5 years) totaling 25 years of Deacon's Ministry Leadership. One thing that is quite interesting is, that none of these 3 pastors during my 25 years of deacon chairmanship really knew each other, but the confirmation that they were sent by God to lead is that they all had the same message of: 2 Timothy 1:6-7 “For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline.”



I also cannot say enough about how much it has meant to be blessed with my God-fearing wife, Vicky. She is a wife that prays for you, and with you, during the peaks and valleys. Thanks be to God, she is recognized and appreciated with by my deacons. Proverbs 18:22 “He who finds a [true and faithful] wife finds a good thing and obtains favor and approval from the Lord.”

Earlier, I referenced the book of Nehemiah and what it meant at the beginning of my chairmanship. It is noteworthy to mention that when Nehemiah’s work was done in leading the effort of rebuilding the wall, he went back to King Artaxerxes as a servant.

The Deacons Ministry Leadership here at Springfield has been a blessed honor to have served for 25 years, not in title but to have been used by God. I want to also thank you for support, and prayers, they have been a true blessing to this ministry. In expressing my testimony in this writing, I look forward to serving as a deacon under the leadership of Deacon Fred Clarke as Chairman, and Deacon John Milner as Vice Chairman.

2 Corinthians 2:9 “However, as it is written: “What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no human mind has conceived”– the things God has prepared for those who love him“

As I titled this insert “To God Be The Glory for the Great things He has done,” because He deserves all of the honor.

Humbly Submitted
Deacon Jim Gibson

Luke 2:15-18

THE REAL CHRISTMAS STORY

15 When the angels left them and went back to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, "Let's go to Bethlehem. Let's see this thing that has happened which the Lord has told us about."

16 So the shepherds went quickly and found Mary and Joseph and the baby, who was lying in a feeding trough. 17 When they had seen him, they told what the angels had said about this child. 18 Everyone was amazed at what the shepherds said to them.

M E R R Y

Christmas



"O COME AND LET US WORSHIP"

by Johnny Ray Moore

When we feel the heaviness,
Of this daily life.
JESUS gives us much relief,
From all the stress and strife.
He knows what we are up against,
As we go through each day.
He walks with us and covers us,
That's why we all should pray.
O come and let us worship CHRIST,
He is the only way.
He will be right by our side,
From now 'til Judgement Day.
And furthermore, there's no one,
As great as JESUS CHRIST.
In a world that's gone astray,
His mercy will suffice.



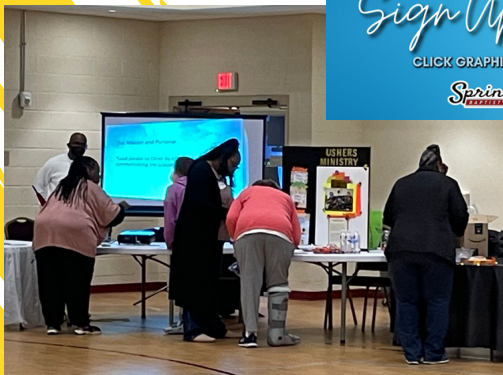
November 2023

- A'Miracle Coneal
- Wanda Coneal
- Xavion Coneal
- Sheryl Ellis
- Laura Jameson
- Cheryl McCadden
- Grace Middleton
- Deja Morgan
- Reginald Morgan Jr.

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 Springfield BAPTIST CHURCH



Carolyn Whitley Dabbin



“I love and appreciate my Pastor, Rev. Dr. Kevin D. Sturdivant and my Springfield church family.”

Carolyn is a native of Wilson Mills, NC. Since 2019, she has served as a city council member. Carolyn comes from a large family! Her family includes 16 siblings (6 deceased), 2 daughters, Connie and Ciji, 3 grandchildren, Jalisa, Marcus and Sage, 1 bonus daughter, Luttisa and 3 bonus grands Dontri', Traquan and Clarissa. She has lots of nieces, nephews, great nieces, great nephews and cousins. She loves spending time with her family!

In July, 2014 after serving 28.5 years, Carolyn retired from the Office Of State Personnel in Raleigh NC. She now spends most of her time shopping, eating out with family, watching tv and sleeping.

After attending Springfield Baptist Church for almost 2 years, she joined in 2006 under the leadership of the late Rev. Daniel Sanders. Carolyn currently serves on the Springfield Chronicle Newsletter and Hospitality committee. She is a former member of the Voices Of Springfield Choir, which she anticipates rejoining soon. With the help of our missionary department, Carolyn was a Springfield liaison to East Garner Elementary School for 3 years working with the principal and teachers concerning the needs of the students and faculty.

Her favorite songs are Jesus, You're the Center of My Joy, The Goodness of God and Thank You Lord for All You've Done for Me.

Favorite scriptures: Philippians 4:13, I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me and 1st Corinthians 13: 1-13.

Carolyn boldly states: I love and appreciate my pastor, Dr. Rev. Kevin D. Sturdivant and my Springfield church family.

© Come Let Us

Luke 2:15-18

Adore Him

Rev. Eric L. Winbush

Springfield did you know...

Springfield, did you know that we have a ranked #3 boxing contender in the world in the light-heavy weight division among us? Get ready to learn more about our very own, Rev. Eric L. Winbush in our next edition.

ERIC WINBUSH'S HOLY WAR!
by J.E. CALDWELL
WAS SAAD MUHAMMAD THE ANTI-CHRIST?

Was it the hand of God that knocked out former WBC light-heavyweight champion, Saad Muhammad, by 21-year-old journeyman club fighter, Eric Winbush, three rounds ago?

The 21-year-old Winbush gives full credit to the Lord for the most shocking upset since David knocked out Goliath. Boxing experts didn't give Eric a prayer against the 28-year-old Saad Muhammad, who was making his first outing since his disastrous rematch with Dwight Braxton Oweil. But a prayer was all that the devout Christian, Winbush, needed to score a third round knockout in the scheduled 10 rounder at the Claridge Hotel in Atlantic City last year.

"I prayed and fasted for this chance," Winbush said, "and while I was praying and fasting, they called me and told me that the fight with Saad was on. I asked the Lord to glorify me, so that I can glorify him."

Winbush believes that God was in his corner all the way. "Saad is a Muslim, and the Muslims don't believe that Jesus was the Son of God. If you don't believe that or less of an Anti-Christ. Saad was the Anti-Christ. I knew that the Lord couldn't let me lose against someone who doesn't believe in his Son. The 10 round knockout was symbolic of the Holy Trinity of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit."

Winbush insists that he was "completely confident" that he would win the fight, but he was alone in that belief. He served that even his own handlers were nervous.

"On the night before the fight one of them was so upset that he kept running to the bathroom," recalls Eric.

If Winbush's trainers, John Bowman and Mort Robinson, and manager, Frank Solacsa, were not confident, it was with good reason. Eric was what is known in the trade as "an opponent"—a fighter who is not expected to win. An "opponent" is used to follow up the record of a contender to give a young prospect experience, or to provide a top star with an easy win and a week's rest.

is employed as a social worker by the city of New York. For the Saad Muhammad fight he trained for two months at the Uptown Gym on 145 St. and 8th Ave. in Harlem, but for six of those eight weeks he had to keep working at his city job. Many of his earlier bouts were taken on short notice, with no real opportunity to train.

Eric was paid about \$5,000 for beating the former world champion. His largest previous purse was the \$1,500 that was paid for decisioning number 10 ranked New York fighter, Richie Pittman, a New York cornerman who has seen most of Winbush's fights.

Fighters like Winbush exist in a world that is vastly different from that of champions like Muhammad, who travel in limousines with an entourage of private drivers and bodyguards.

EUCLIDES VALDEZ OUTPOINTS WINBUSH OVER EIGHT ROUNDS, AT MADISON SQUARE GARDEN'S FIST FORUM

Winbush "the underdog" knocks out opponent in 3rd round.

"The sweet hospitality, gentle coaxing and encouragement of Sister Nyoma Moses" brought this story to light! - Mrs. Winbush

CANVA STORIES FF

The Accidental Boxer

Ex-contender helps local kids learn the ropes

By Robert Grady

Eric L. Winbush, a former world champion boxer, is helping local kids learn the ropes of the sport. He is a former world champion boxer who has seen most of Winbush's fights.

020

I have something to give. I feel I have a duty to teach. My pay is to see these kids go into something, keeping off the streets reward.

Local Veterans Medal at Wheelchair Games

SPONSORS

NOTEBOOK

Local Veterans Medal at Wheelchair Games

By Nancy Brown

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CANVA STORIES

ERIC WINBUSH

PHOTO BY ROBERT GRADY

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CANVA STORIES

ERIC WINBUSH

PHOTO BY ROBERT GRADY

020

Jackie

Moore

CSI CERTIFIED SAINT INTERROGATORS



Jackie is a graduate of N. C. Central University where she earned a degree in Business Administration. She also holds a Real Estate Broker License for the State of North Carolina and is a Notary Public. With her love for helping people and God's direction, she became the Founder and CEO of Moore's Realty, Inc. aka "Moore For Your Money" in 2002. This business has helped hundreds of people realize their dreams of homeownership and for this she is so grateful to God. She says, "everyone deserves to live the American Dream". Jackie has also taught many First Time Homebuyer Workshops to educate people on the homebuying process and introduce them to programs which aid with down payment assistance, closing cost, and /or other home purchase costs. In November 2022, God blessed her with land where she plans to build a facility to help more people in the community. Today she thanks God and gives him all the Praise, Glory, and Honor for using her as a vessel for this purpose.

*Favorite
Scripture*

**Philippians 4:13
"I Can Do All Things
Through Christ Who
Gives Me Strength"**

Jackie Rogers Moore is a native of Raleigh, North Carolina. Jackie is married to Johnny Ray Moore and they have three daughters; Jenell Young, Jyrita Moore, and Jamica Moore. She also has two grandchildren; Ethan and Jade Young that she adores more than words can express and a son-in-love Tramaine Young.

Jackie and her family formerly joined Springfield in 1990. Springfield, the friendly church in the curb was not at all unfamiliar to Jackie as she fellowshipped with the church even since her childhood. She particularly remembers attending many Homecoming services as Jackie's grandparents, the late Millard and Arliena Griffis were members until their deaths. Jackie often says that "Springfield is where my roots are." Over the years Jackie has served on several church auxiliaries which includes but is not limited to singing in the church choirs, performing in plays with the Drama Ministry and serving on the Children's Ministry.



Jackie loves spending time with family, friends, and helping others. Her favorite song is "Give Me Jesus" because she knows without God she is just like a ship without a sail. Jackie will continue to shout out

*"To God Be The Glory For All The Things He
Has Done and Continues to Do In My Life."!*

© Come Let Us Adore Him Luke 2:15-18

College Life

Mckenna Gresham

Honor College Induction

Mckenna Gresham, a 2nd year kinesiology major, was inducted into the Freddie T. Davy Honors College at Hampton University on November 17, 2023. Since its inception in 1986 The Freddie T. Davy Honors College has been the hallmark of honors education at Hampton University. Honors College students are encouraged to pursue an off-campus experience, such as the study abroad program, university exchange, or internship/co-op opportunities.

Mckenna is excited to be a part of community with like minded people. She is also an active member of the HU Terpsichorean Dance Company, The Greer Dawson Wilson Student Leadership Training Program and the Kinesiology Club. She is the daughter of Robert & Lakeisha Gresham.



When asked why she wanted to join, she said...

- community atmosphere amongst other individuals that look like me
- prior knowledge of the programs stature
- the like minded people in the program
- the academic advancement / challenge
 - delving into a spectrum of enhanced learning and global skills
- learning balance between social and academic skills"



BELIEVERS ENTERING TRAINING



ASHLEY EMERSON

How old are you? I am 12 years old and in the 7th Grade

What school do you attend? Clayton Middle School

What activities, clubs, or organizations are you a participant of? Band and Orchestra

What advice would you give to other youth in middle school? Don't give up

What's your favorite thing about being a follower of Christ?

The best part about being a follower of Christ is that He helps through trouble times.

What's your favorite bible verse? Psalm 1

How does your faith affect your lifestyle? My everyday lifestyle includes praying.

What is the name of your parents? Carl and Veronica Emerson



Ace12 - Ashley Emerson



AVA EMERSON

How old are you? 10 years old and in the 5th Grade

What school do you attend? West Clayton Elementary School

What activities, clubs, or organizations do you participant of? Battle of the books - book club
Bulldog buddy - tutor mentor club, Violin

What advice would you give to your future middle self? Ask for help and pray

What is the best thing about being a follower of Christ? iHe guides me. He always helps me.

What is your favorite bible verse? John 1:1 ""In the beginning was the word, and the word was with God, and the word was God.

How does your faith affect your lifestyle?

My life style is filled with singing praises to God everyday.

What is the name of your parents? Carl and Veronica Emerson



Ace10 - Ava Emerson



Grace Middleton



Dear Grace,

Congratulations on your recent spelling bee win at your school. We are all so proud of you! We know you will do well at the next level!,

Sincerely,
Your SBC Family

YOU
got
THIS

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Congratulations! Your child is the Thanksgiving Elementary School Spelling Bee winner! They will go on to compete at the county-wide spelling bee for the title of Johnston County Elementary Spelling Bee Champion. This event will be held on Thursday, January 11th from 5:00 - 8:00 pm at Selma Elementary School. You are invited to attend and support your

2016 Throwback

To encourage Grace and all of our scholars

Here is a 2016 ThrowBack...

Back in 2016 many of us remember Caleb Bynum's Spelling Bee journey.

Please look forward to our next "Throwback" as we mesh the past with the present!

Congratulations

CALEB BYNUM

A seventh grader at North Raleigh Christian Academy, has had quiet a successful school year.

Feb. 23rd - Inducted into the National Junior Honor Society.

Feb. 26th - Placed 2nd in the ACSI District Spelling Bee in 7th grade bee and 1st place in the 5th -8th grade Spell-off.

March 5th - Recited an excerpt from "The Drum Major Instinct" sermon by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at the ACSI Speech Meet and received highest score of "Superior".

March 19th - Placed 5th out 70 spellers at the ACSI Southeast Regional Spelling Bee in Atlanta, GA.

April 30th - Competed in the ACSI National Spelling Bee in Washington, DC. Caleb did not place, but it was truly a blessing and honor to be among the top 42 students out of the overall 14,000 spellers from Christian schools throughout the USA.



He accomplished all of this while maintaining a 4.0 GPA (99.6 average).

As his parents, we are very proud of Caleb and all his accomplishments, but mostly we are grateful to God because we know Caleb could not have achieved this without Him. We are so thankful for how He has chosen to use Caleb and for the favor He has poured out upon him.

Donald and Johnette Bynum

*ACSI - Association of Christian Schools International

And a Child Shall Lead Them

Wisdom from Springfield's Small But Mighty Members

EDEN SERENITY HILL (8)

&

ZORA JEAN HILL(6)

**School : Carolina Charter Academy
3rd Grade / 1st Grade**

Parents : Joshua Hill and Margaret Herder-Hill

Grandparents : Rev. & Mrs. James K. Herder & Mr. Murl & Elder Lasheilla Hill

Who is God to you?

- Eden: A Friend
- Zora: He is my Savior, my heart and my friend.

Why is having a relationship with him important?

- Eden: It's important because it changes your life.
- Zora: It's important because it can flip you around. It can make what was bad become good. Jesus came to earth so we could have a relationship with Him.

How do you show others your love for God?

- Eden: I enjoy helping others and making crafts like cards and baskets to give away.
- Zora: I invite others to play with me and encourage them.

Do you have a favorite scripture? If so, what is it and why?

- Eden: Not yet.
- Zora : I Corinthians 11: 24 (KJV) "and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for our: this do in remembrance of Me."



Oh come let us adore Him Luke 2:15-18

SPRINGFIELD MEMBER

Her “Array” is on Display



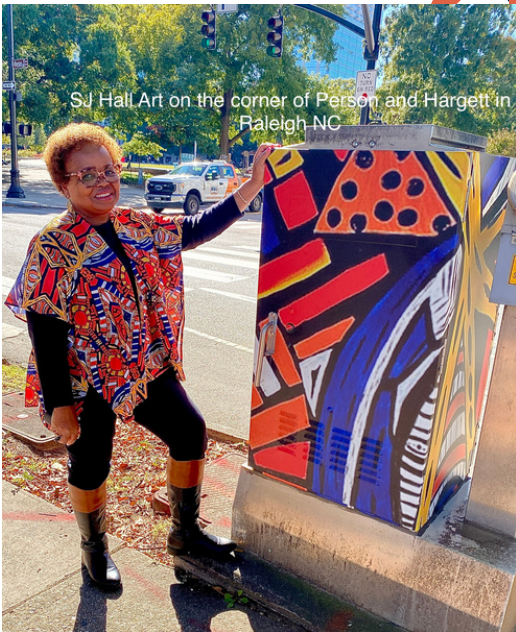
SHEILIA J. HALL

*Next time you're at the corner of
Hargett and Person Street*

Springfield member Sheila J. Hall's artwork "Array," was chosen by Raleigh Arts for a vinyl wrap insulation in downtown Raleigh. Her design can be seen on the SE corner of Hargett and Person St.

Also, visit Artscape

Sheila has two paintings in the 12" x 12" Exhibit at Artspace on Davie street



O COME LET US ADORE HIM

LUKE 2:15-18

An *Adventure* of a LIFETIME



We boarded planes from different states to embark on a once in lifetime adventure. Ten of my family members saved and traveled to Alaska for an eleven-day fishing trip. We made many preparations before the trip, from buying Alaskan fishing and hunting licenses, renting an Airbnb home, getting transportation, the right equipment for the freezing water, learning fishing sites and securing space on a chartered boat to catch large halibut fish in the Alaskan freezing waters. The trip was amazing!

We started our adventure, leaving port and traveling 38 miles out into the ocean, seeing seals and catching big halibut. The weather was cold, but we were prepared. The Alaskan government has laws in place to catch large fish, and you must be on a chartered boat. Only 2 fish per person are allowed and once caught, they are measured for the minimum length and if they are below, must be released. The day we were out on the ocean, it was reported that 2,000 halibut were caught. For the remainder of the trip, we fished in two different rivers, Swift River Creek and Alaskan Creek, catching large salmon. On the first day of salmon fishing, we saw a large black bear on the other side of the river, looking for what we were trying to catch...salmon! The water is crystal blue and pack a swift current. We saw many "creatures" also looking for large salmon. The next day a small black bear came into proximity of my brother. To get the bear away, he started to beat on the rocks. We knew the mother bear was nearby, but we were prepared with bear spray and other types of protection. Bears are peculiar, they will not attack unless provoked. We were not there to provoke the bears but to enjoy one of the many fascinating trips available to us.

The members of our first fishing expedition were, Gail McGraw, retired US Army, 33 years, Jennifer; sibling, her spouse Lloyd Byrdie, 21 years, retired Army, Calvin Newton, 21 years retired Marine, Marilyn Newton; sibling, Wyoma Moses, retired Army 25 years (holding the large fish on the chartered boat) Johnnie Jacobs; sibling, retired Air Force, 21 years, Josh Jacobs, US Army combat soldier, Johnnie Jacobs Jr, Medic Coast Guard, Sarah Jacobs GS13, US government, Dottie Jacobs, retired teacher, Marilyn, 30 yrs Dept of Social Service in Florida, and Jennifer, Retired Army Spouse. We do plan to have more adventurous trips as a family, extending our legacy through all generations of Johnnie and Emma Jacobs.

Many watched as we rushed to our charter boat, with one person saying, "you must be important," I ask why and my reply was, "we are important, we belong to Jesus!" We all made it to Alaska, traveled many miles on the ocean and made it back home, safely. ***The captain said we were the first African Americans to charter a boat to fish.***

What an adventure!!





WHY WE CELEBRATE THE NATIVITY

— *By: Angela Phillips* —

Have you ever wondered why we celebrate the Nativity.
And the reason surrounding all its activity.
In a time when the world was in darkness and turmoil from the Romans.
God set forth a plan for us to show His goodness toward man.

In a distant land so very far away.
God sent the angel Gabriel with a message to say.
Gabriel appeared to the virgin Mary and Joseph because they were the chosen
ones.

To raise God's most precious Son.

Out of the town of Nazareth God selected Joseph and Mary.
Mary would be the bearer of God's Son to carry.
Born of a virgin Jesus had to be pure.
Because of the pain and suffering He would later endure.

Jesus had to be fully God and fully human.
Through Him would come a new revolution.
When Jesus came everything changed.
And nothing would remain the same.

God's love from Heaven came down.
To fill the earth all around.
Jesus came to give us hope and peace.
From the mighty to the least.

Shepherds were the least of all.
And went forth rejoicing to spread the good news
Throughout the city unto all of the Jews.
Wisemen also came from lands afar.
They came to worship after following his star.

Bethlehem was chosen for Mary to lay Jesus head.
Because Bethlehem means house of bread.
Jesus is the bread of life.
Sent by God for the salvation of all of our lives.

During Christmas have some time set aside.
Or even before Christmas day even arrives.
Remember the Nativity's actual reason.
And why we celebrate Jesus all year and even before the Christmas season.

O Come Let Us Adore Him Luke 2:15-18

The Christ in Christmas


BY BETTY SMITH

This specific holy day instituted into this God given life.
Celebrated by the Church of God, the Master's virgin wife.
Honored and praised by all who know it was God's holy plan.
Restoring His image to Himself as intended called 'man.'
Using the virgin Mary who was not married.
Overshadowed by the Holy Spirit to produce the Holy One she carried.
The spectacular night our Savior Jesus was born as a newborn manchild.
The perfect remedy for our salvation, so perfect meek and so mild
Someone chose the name for this spectacular, magnificent advent.
Jesus our Savior the Christ meaning anointed One was sent.
Let our lips repeat as the angels did of that heavenly theme and never
cease.
"Glory to God in the Highest and on Earth, Goodwill and Peace."
Mass is derived from the Latin formula for dismissing the congregation,
Meaning 'go, it is the sending' reminds me of the Great Commission in
Matthew chapter twenty-eight.
The purpose and plan of our salvation by Jesus was exceedingly Great!
Merry Christmas to the world ...let God's Spirit of mercy and grace.
Surround each nation He created looking fully in Jesus' face.

Jesus is LORD! Amen



O Come Let Us Adore Him Luke 2:15-18



The Indescribable Heart of God
By: Lorraine (L W) Smith

*I read and learned about You in Your Word,
Yet, my mind cannot comprehend Your magnificent glory.
Who can tell Your story?
For You are the Ancient of Days
With unimaginable ways.
Like no one else I have ever known,
You are ever present from Your heavenly throne.
In Spirit and truth,
You give unconditional love to Your creation.
With a rod of iron, You rule the nations.
You are God, Who is true to Self,
For You show us mercy within Your wrath.
Holy, holy, holy, are You Lord of Hosts,
Father, You have shown us Your love the most.
As You forgave by giving us Your very best,
You continue to love those who fail every test.
Lord, I thank You for Your tender heart and special love,
Which has been trustworthy to me
Through all my troubles and miseries.
As I cried many tears You were the only one there for me
The only True Friend my eyes could see.
The Holy Spirit has poured Your love into my heart,
So that I cannot bear to live apart,
Nor be separated from You and Your love.
Please forgive me for the many times
I sinned and broke Your heart.
Thank You Lord for every rescue,
For every brand-new start.
AMEN*

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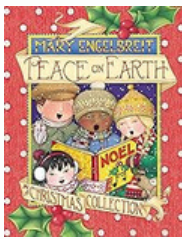
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Sundays for 30 minutes after service

BOOKS AND DVDS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH



Peace on Earth/Mary Engelbreit. A Christmas Collection of Stories and Poems
J 808.803 Engel



The Twelve Dogs of Christmas DVD. Emma has to bring together schoolmates, grown-ups and a whole bunch of adorable dogs in a spectacular holiday pageant.
ADULT DVDS for CHRISTMAS

The Hallmark Channel has lots of Christmas movies. Our library has a few also. Enjoy one of these during the holiday.

Christmas Everlasting DVD. Forgotten wishes can become second chances.

Kinkadee's Christmas Cottage DVD Thomas. Thomas Kinkadee and his brother return for Christmas to discover that their kind mother is about to lose their cottage home.

Christmas Hope DVD. When lives collide during Christmastime, hope offers the ultimate gift of healing.

Christmas for a Dollar DVD. The most meaningful gifts come from the heart (inspired by a true story)

Christmas Oranges DVD. See what happens to Baby Rose when she becomes an orphan.



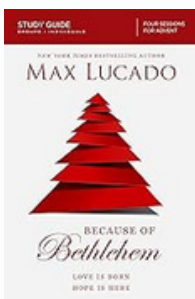
We Sing for Christmas/Pamela Conn Beall. If you want to go Caroling, this book may be for you.



A Fruitcake Christmas DVD. Christmas is not only about presents, treats, or even Fruitcake. The real meaning of Christmas is God's greatest gift of all- the birth of His Son, Jesus Christ

Children's Christmas Classics DVD-contains 4 stories with over 3 hours of entertainment.
A. Joseph and the Coat of Many Colors.
B. Silent Night
C. The Little Drummer Boy
D. Hans and the silver skates

BOOK FOR ADULTS



Because of Bethlehem/Max Lucado. A remarkable gift can arrive in an unremarkable package. 263.915 Luc

The Heart of Christmas/Max Lucado. Christmas messages from well-known pastors of the Gospel.
232.92 Luc

Visit us to check out these and many other exciting books.

EEM & PAC News

SCHOOL CHOICE OPTIONS

IN 2024 & BEYOND



Knowledge is POWER

Lack of knowledge is the state or fact of not having enough information, education, or awareness about something. *Hosea 4:6 states "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children."*

When we have knowledge, we are no longer subject to selfish agendas and can make well informed decisions that are not controlled by emotions.

In an effort to inform parents about school choice options, members of the Economic Empowerment, and Political Action ministries are collaborating to provide information that will empower them with the knowledge, tools and support needed to make well informed decisions for their children.

The North Carolina Opportunity Scholarship aims to empower the upcoming generations of North Carolina through access to options that previously may not have been available. Since 2014 the program has been providing private school vouchers to K-12 students. Families can use these school vouchers to pay for tuition, transportation, equipment, and other necessary private school expenses. The funds that will be available in the next two fiscal years are:

- 2024-2025 \$191,540,000
- 2025-2026 \$415,540,000

after that the amount will be increased by \$15,000,000 up until 2031.

If you or someone you know is interested in pursuing this path for a child, please contact Deacon Anthony Jenkins (919) 737-4648 or Brother Ben Johnson (602) 559-8751.

Springfield supports education as a whole and our actions for public schools are shown in support of East Garner Middle School as our adopted school. However, there is not one size that fits all for K-12 students and parents, just like it's not for college.

For those who want to address the financial impact of our public schools please familiarize yourselves with North Carolina's Leandro case. It is a decades-old education case alleging that children were not receiving an adequate public-school education, as required by the state constitution.

After multiple judges, several trips to the state supreme court, a 300-page report on how to improve school conditions, Democratic and later Republican controlled legislatures that failed to act, not to mention an untold number of court filings — the case remains open and unfinished. As a result, \$1.7 billion that was ordered to be disbursed for the first two years of the plan has not been released. **The total amount at stake is \$5.6 billion and the State of North Carolina has a state surplus of \$6 billion.**

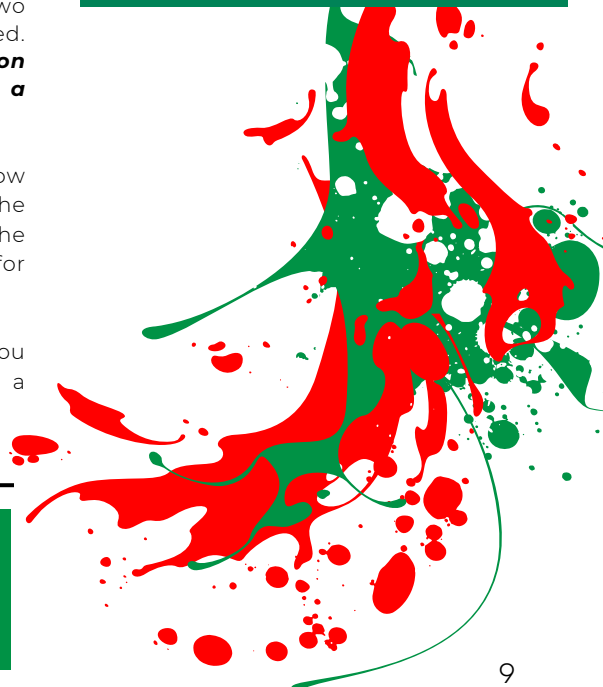
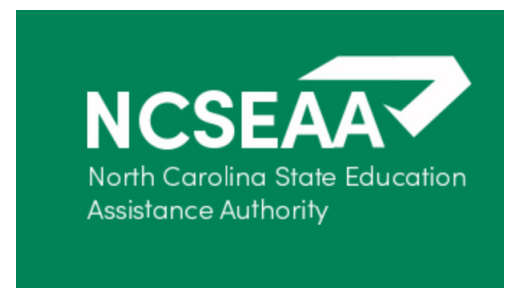
What can we do? Pray and get to know the elected officials who are blocking the flow of these funds. They are likely the same ones who approved the funding for the Opportunity Scholarships.

After getting to know the officials, if you don't like what they stand for, work on a strategy to replace them.

As we look at the landscape of education, we should be informed about the options for our Black children. A quote from Daniel J. Boorstin states, "Education is learning what you didn't even know you didn't know".

"EDUCATION IS LEARNING WHAT YOU DIDN'T EVEN KNOW YOU DIDN'T KNOW"

DANIEL J. BOORSTIN



*O Come Let Us Adore Him
Luke 2:15-18*

CELEBRATING GOD'S GREATEST GIFT

*Happy
Birthday*



SBC Children's Celebrating God's Greatest Gifts

The Children's ministry has continued to share the good news of Christ in ways that children can not only relate to, but have fun while learning. On Saturday December 2nd during our scheduled Saturday fellowship we had a birthday celebration for Jesus. We all know the excitement & joy that having a party brings. We sang Christmas carols and made wreaths during arts and crafts. We made gifts and cards for our Sick n' Shut-In members. We even got to play musical chairs and of course there was cake. A good time was had, but we did not leave without sharing the most important gift we all have...Jesus! We read the story of his birth and discussed what it meant and it's importance. While the world will tell our children with all the focus they put on toys and Santa what this season is about, our children will know Jesus being born into this world is what Christmas is truly about.

How the SBC Children Celebrated
 God's Greatest Gifts

- The Christian Christmas Tree
- Cards for the Sick n' Shut In
- Christmas Carols
- Cupcakes & Gifts
- Musical Chairs

CELEBRATING GOD'S GREATEST GIFT



The Children Ministry's mission is:

- 1- Continue Striving for the salvation of the children
- 2- Using Bible lessons & stories that point to the Gospel of Jesus Christ to give children more in- depth view of God's redemption plan for our lives.
- 3- The children will get an understanding of who we are in Christ and how we can always be ready to face any situation.

We need your support in bringing your children so we can continue to spread the Gospel to the world.

And if you are interested in being a part of teaching our children or have ideas feel free to share. You truly will be blessed beyond belief.

FOR MORE DETAILS PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE OR EMAIL CHILDREN@SPRINGFIELDBAPTISTCHURCH.COM

THE ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT MINISTRY PRESENTS

BUSINESS NETWORKING

over **40** vendors

**FRIDAY
NOV 17
6-8PM
MPC GYMNASIUM**

VENDOR FAIR EVENT

"Sharing Our Knowledge-

EACH ONE MEET ONE"

bit.ly/3swaDle



Springfield
BAPTIST CHURCH

REV. DR. KEVIN D. STURDIVANT, SENIOR PASTOR
4309 AUBURN KNIGHTDALE RD. RALEIGH, NC. 27610

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
RYAN RAY

FOUNDER OF TRIANGLE ENTREPRENEURIAL LEADERSHIP (TEL)













BJM
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- Augmentative Communication
- Pragmatics/Social Skills
- Auditory Processing
- Spelling Disorder
- Receptive/Expressive Lang



New Orleans Seafood & Chicken Gumbo!

Here's what you will need:

1 large soup pot

Ingredients:

1 large pack of smoke or spicy sausage (sliced)

10 to 15 drummettes

4 smoke turkey necks

6 cleaned (boiled) crabs broken in two (I get the blue crabs from Earps) (optional)

40 to 50 pack raw, peeled and tail off shrimp (optional)

1 large onion (finely chopped)

1 celery stalk (finely chopped)

1 pk of green onion (finely chopped)

6 dried bay leaves

1 large green bell pepper (finely chopped)

1 large red bell pepper (finely chopped)

Salt or Tony's seasoning or your favorite creole seasoning (use as desired)

Pepper (use as desired)

Thyme (use as desired)

Gumbo File'

Roux or 6 pks of Brown gravy (prepare according to the package)

Roux or 6 pks of Brown gravy (prepare according to the package)

1. Saute sausage, chicken, turkey necks, onion, green onion, bell peppers and bay leaves in a large pot; stirring all ingredients until the meat begins to brown, roughly 30 minutes.

2. Add the roux or 6 pk gravy mixture (mix as stated on the pack) into the pot. Fill the pot with water, about a quarter or 4th of an inch from the top. Add desired amount of Tony's seasoning and boil for another 30 minutes.

3. Add shrimp, crab and Thyme (desired amount) and continue to boil. Lightly sprinkle the File' over the top (sprinkle, sprinkle, sprinkle, because File' is what makes the GUMBO taste like Gumbo but it can become very thick and mushy if you put too much in the pot.

4. Cook/Boil for about 30 minutes to an hour. Remove from the stove and let sit for 15 to 20 minutes and immediately place in the refrigerator IF you use SHRIMP and Crab. If you exclude the seafood, you can leave the pot on the stove until it cools off and then place in the refrigerator.

Let sit overnight and the next day, cook a pot of jasmine or long grain rice. Do not heat up the entire pot unless you plan to eat it. I suggest only heating up what you plan to eat, and enjoy! Don't forget the Potato Salad. Yes, we eat a spoon of potato salad, along with the gumbo and rice in a bowl.

Enjoy

This gumbo recipe has been in our family for years. This is not "soup" as my husband called it when I first introduced him to this famous well known family cuisine. Gumbo is a bowl of creole love and is typically paired with homemade potato salad. You can ditch the shrimp and crabs, which makes Chicken and Sausage Gumbo! Submitted by Sharon Clarke

The True Story of Christmas Word Search



Read the story below. Find and circle the words that are underlined. The words can appear in any direction: horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backwards.

The True Story of Christmas

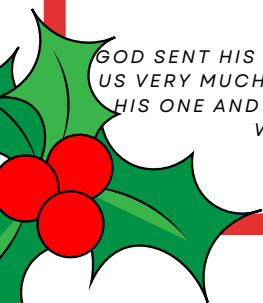
MORE THAN 2000 YEARS AGO, THERE LIVED A YOUNG WOMAN NAMED MARY. SHE WAS PREPARING TO BE MARRIED TO A MAN NAMED JOSEPH. ONE DAY, AN ANGEL APPEARED TO MARY AND SAID, "LISTEN! YOU WILL SOON HAVE A SON, AND YOU WILL NAME HIM JESUS. THE BABY WILL BE HOLY AND WILL BE CALLED THE SON OF GOD."

AROUND THE TIME FOR JESUS TO BE BORN, THE ROMAN RULERS ORDERED EVERYONE TO RETURN TO THEIR HOMETOWN TO BE COUNTED. JOSEPH AND MARY HAD TO TRAVEL TO THE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM. WHEN JOSEPH AND MARY ARRIVED AT BETHLEHEM, THE TOWN WAS VERY CROWDED. THEY HAD TO STAY WHERE ANIMALS WERE KEPT. WHILE THEY WERE THERE, BABY JESUS WAS BORN. MARY WRAPPED HIM WITH PIECES OF CLOTH AND PLACED HIM IN A MANGER. THAT NIGHT, IN A FIELD NEAR BETHLEHEM, SHEPHERDS WERE LOOKING AFTER THEIR SHEEP. AN ANGEL APPEARED TO THEM AND SAID, "I BRING YOU GOOD NEWS OF GREAT JOY FOR ALL PEOPLE. TODAY IN BETHLEHEM, A SAVIOR HAS BEEN BORN. HE IS CHRIST THE LORD!" THEN MANY MORE ANGELS APPEARED, PRAISING GOD FOR THE BIRTH OF JESUS. SOMETIME LATER, WISE MEN FROM THE EAST SAW A BRIGHT, NEW STAR IN THE SKY. THEY KNEW IT WAS A SIGN THAT A GREAT KING HAD BEEN BORN. THE WISE MEN FOLLOWED THE STAR TO LOOK FOR THE CHILD. WHEN THEY FOUND JESUS, THEY BOWED DOWN, WORSHIPED HIM AND GAVE HIM GIFTS. THIS IS THE TRUE STORY OF CHRISTMAS. CHRISTMAS IS THE DAY WE CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF JESUS.

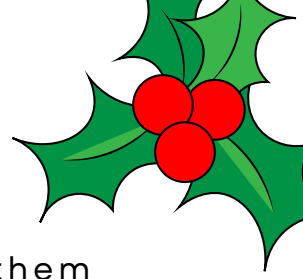


GOD SENT HIS SON, JESUS, TO BE BORN ON EARTH BECAUSE HE LOVES US VERY MUCH. FOR GOD LOVED THE WORLD SO MUCH THAT HE GAVE HIS ONE AND ONLY SON, SO THAT EVERYONE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT PERISH BUT HAVE ETERNAL LIFE.

JOHN 3:16



Barely Escaping the Flames
A Spoken Word
By Lorraine (LW) Smith



Don't store up treasures here on earth, where moths eat them and rust destroys them, and where thieves break in and steal. Store your treasures in Heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and thieves do not break in and steal. Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be. Matthew 6:19-21.

For no one can lay any Foundation other than one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. If anyone builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, their work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each person's work. If what has been built survives, the builder will receive a reward. If it is burned up, the builder will suffer loss, but, yet will be saved—even though only as one escaping through the flames. 1 Corinthians 3:11-15.

Barely Escaping the Flames

Long ago when I was a Jr. Missionary, once a month, the church Mission group would visit the Sick and Shut-In at a local nursing home. On my first visit, I entered one of the residents' rooms, whose name was Agnes, to give her a Care Package. Miss Agnes held onto my hand tightly as she thanked me for coming and asked me to sit with her.

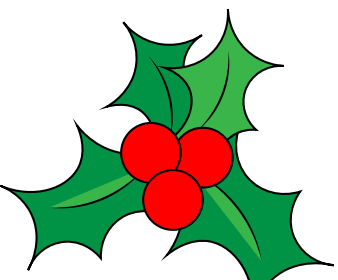
"For just a little while," she pleaded, "and if it is ok with you, I would like to tell you a story about something that happened to me recently." I love a good story and this woman had a way about her—I could see God's favor upon her face. I pulled up a chair to listen.

"One night I fell off into a deep sleep," the old lady began. In a dream, I found myself standing in a long line of people and we all were dressed in beautiful white clothes. An Angel stood behind a gold podium made of glass—it was so beautiful—the podium had a large book on it. There were words written on the front of the podium in gold letters that said, "THE BOOK OF LIFE." When I stepped up to the podium, the Angel flipped the pages back and forward.

He looked confused and asked me, "What is your name?"

Worried, I gave the Angel my name. "Aah Agnes," he replied and started turning to the back of the big book.

"Here you are."



I wondered why my name was in the back section of the Book of Life because it starts with the letter “A.”

“Please step forward and receive Your Works,” the Angel said.

“My what?” I asked, but I was immediately ushered forward to another Angel who extended a tiny wooden box to me with the words, “Your Works” scrawled on the front of it.

I noticed the believers ahead of me had much larger beautiful boxes made of gold, with all kinds of stones and jewels that glistened in the surrounding bright light. Then I saw a large altar with words written in flames above it, but I couldn’t make them out. As I got closer, I was able to read the words, which said: “IF YOUR WORK SURVIVES THE TEST OF FIRE, YOU WILL RECEIVE A REWARD, IF NOT, YOU WILL SUFFER LOSS.”

I looked down at my small wooden box and wondered how it could withstand the altar of fire. Suddenly I heard a voice whisper, “Only what you did for Christ will last.” I reflected on what I had done for Jesus. “Hmm, not much,” I thought. Wait, I went on a mission trip with the church to Central America; that must be in this box. Then I remembered, while the missionaries shared the Gospel with the Natives, I went shopping in their marketplaces and found some great buys on homemade quilts and artwork. I guess I didn’t get to bring any of those nice things with me. I remembered another missionary outing I did with the Prison Ministry—surely that must count for something. But a memory rushed into my thoughts of me standing in a corner because I was afraid to be touched by the prisoners, who the other Missionaries openly embraced. I realized that I might not have anything in my Box of Works. Even when the Mission went out in the community to feed the Homeless, I waited in the Church van and looked through fashion magazines I had brought along with me.

As the line of Believers moved forward, I saw a man place his beautiful gold box on the altar and it was immediately engulfed in magnificent flames of many colors. When the flames died down his works had turned into shiny gold refined by the fire. That man stepped forward to receive his reward, and a beautiful gold Crown with jewels was placed on his head. By then I had to know what was inside my box, so I barely opened the lid and saw a lump of wood—I wanted to cry. A voice whispered, “There is no crying in Heaven.”

When it was my turn, I stepped up to the altar and held onto my little box. An Angel standing by noticed my hesitation, took my box, and placed it on the altar. It was overtaken by flames that quickly died down to a gray-like smoke and when the smoke cleared only ashes remain on the altar—no reward was given to me. Suddenly I felt rings of fire surrounding me and I began to run to escape the burning flames. My body got extremely hot from the heat, but I did not burn up.



Next, I was in a large, beautiful room, where many people with crowns on their heads, stood before the Throne of God, with Jesus seated at His right hand. There was a massive number of people, who stood before the Throne. The people sang out, "Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God Almighty, which was, and is to come." People started removing their Crowns and casting them at the feet of Jesus. But I had no crown, no reward to cast at His feet! For I was one who had barely escaped through the flames. I awoke from that dream and found myself back here in my own bed in this nursing home. Tears of sorrow rolled down my cheeks and regret filled my heart. I bowed my crown-less head and prayed, "Speak Lord for Your servant is listening."

Just then, one of the older Missionaries knocked at the Agnes' door and said it was time for the Mission to leave—talk about "bad timing." I did not want to leave Agnes because I knew she had not finished her story and for the first time I had not driven my own car.

The old lady patted my hand and said, "Now my dear young missionary, before I let you go, I want you to continue to do the work that God has given you to do, so that you will have a Crown to cast at our Savior's feet when you see Him in Heaven. Unlike me, who has just started to use my remaining short time in this World to store up treasures in Heaven."

The following month when the Mission went back to that nursing home, I immediately went to Miss Agnes' room. Her bed was empty and made up. I asked about her at the front desk and I was told she had passed away three days earlier. I realized I had just missed seeing her again—if only I had not waited a whole month to return. The receptionist asked, "Are you the young lady who visited with her when your church was here last month on the second Sunday?"

"Yes, yes I am!" I told her.

"She left something for you," the receptionist said and handed me a big yellow envelope with "To the Young Missionary" on the front of it. I opened the envelope and inside was this white linen white cloth. It looks like the hem of a garment scorched by fire.

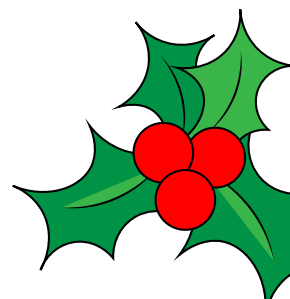
A note was enclosed, and it said: Dear Young Missionary, I wanted to show you this during our visit, but we ran out of time. It was lying beside me when I awoke from the dream I told you about, and it read: Storing up Treasures in Heaven, signed by Agnes.

At that very moment I felt in my spirit that her testimony would bear much fruit in my life. SO MUCH, that in Heaven she will have a Crown to cast at Jesus' feet. As I walked back to my car, I heard a voice whispering in the wind, "Only what you do for Christ will last; only what you do for Christ will last; only what you do for Christ will last."

THE END

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L. W. Smith Production



Please use this page to write a letter to Our Greatest Gift, Jesus, for His birthday!

Dear Jesus,



Mckenna



Clarissa



Gwendolyn



Betsy

The SBC Newsletter Ministry wishes you a *Merry Christmas* and we look forward to all the events, happenings, celebrations that will come in 2024. We appreciate your readership!



Carolyn



Lakeisha



Isaac

Merry Christmas



Johnny



Monica

AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

From the Newsletter Ministry



Jackie



Tabitha

*See You In
2024*

CHRISTMAS EDITION

Springfield Chronicles

O'Come Let Us Adore Him Luke 2:15-18



Senior Pastor
Reverend Dr. Kevin D. Sturdivant

Surely Goodness Television Broadcast

Sunday: 5:00 PM
WARZ-TV — Cable TV 5

Monday: 8:00 PM
Raleigh Television Network
RTN22

Tuesday: 8:00 AM
WLFL — CW22

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Springfield
BAPTIST CHURCH

O'Come Let Us Adore Him Luke 2:15-18

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