

**Issue IV**  
**October 2024**



## **Our Family Tree**

The Giving Tree.

The Tree of Life.

Our Roots are Deep.

Our Branches Strong.

Centered in Christ.

Memories of Past.

Moments Today.

Dreaming Beyond.

Linked Together.

There for Each Other.

Connections Strong.

# **The Tomlinson Times**



## **Greetings Family!**

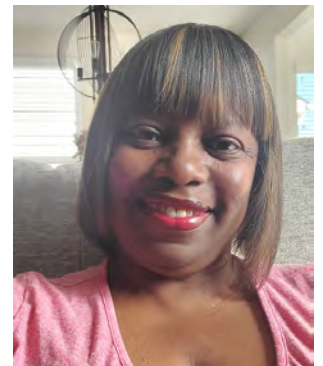
As fall is upon us, and the seasons change, our hearts remain the same! Fall is the time of year where we harvest all of the great crops in life that were planted throughout the year. Some may not have flourished as you had hoped, others took off like gangbusters. Through it all, fall is the time to realign your values with what works, what doesn't and where your heart connects them all - for a better year (crop) ahead!

It feels like it was just yesterday that we were together at the Tomlinson Family Reunion in Raleigh, NC, as it was one for the books! We received great feedback and even heard "one of the best yet"! We do hope that we meet and exceed expectations for fun and fellowship with each year that God affords us to gather, as we would be so blessed! As we are extremely grateful for our last reunion, we are already kicking off planning (planting) for the 2025 event! If you have yet to respond to our email on "Land and Sea" intentions, please make sure your voice is heard so that we may take into account all of your feedback and suggestions and do our best to address each one! May your fall harvest fill your hearts and your hands, despite the outcome, let your heart be glad that you see the next day to try again!

## **A Message From Our 2023-2024 Past President**

### **GREETINGS TOMLINSON FAMILY**

Ain't no family like the one I got! I know this isn't proper English, but I can't express my feelings for my family any better than this. I am so proud and elated to be a part of the Tomlinson Family. I am just as proud to have served the Tomlinson Family Association as its President over this past year. Since my term of office ended on Sept. 30, 2024, I want to take the opportunity to give thanks for the support, uplifting and guidance received as we worked to organize for a better family experience.



As a family, we have made some great strides over this past year. From applying for our 501(c)7 to establishing the first Portia Tomlinson Scholarship Fund, to fund raising activities resulting in over \$3,000.00 in revenue and experiencing one of the best family reunions ever, I look over this body of work and say, well done. I expect this momentum to carry into the next year and for years to come. I pledge my support to those at the helm of the family and look forward to bigger and better things that even I could ever imagine.

So, I bid you farewell as your President and join my 4th generation, first cousins as the family elders. I wish abundant life for the 5th, 6th, 7th, and all other generations of the Tomlinson Family to come.

Love & Peace  
Elnora L. Jenkins-Christie

# Your 2024 - 2025 Officers

We are here to serve you by completing tasks that promote unity, facilitate support, ensure sustainability and enhance communication within our family.

We each volunteered to serve as an officer at the July 2024 Family Reunion and we have been busy planning for this upcoming year ever since.

## Thank you to our 2025 Tomlinson Family Reunion Planning:

**"Sea" Committee Chair:**  
Debra Phillips

**"Land" Committee Chair:**  
Tashera Nichols-McDuffie

with members:  
Karen Hodges and  
Donna Norwood



### President - Lydia Aaron

Daughter of Lemuel & Merlinda Jenkins; Granddaughter of William & Hazel Jenkins; Great Granddaughter of John & Adaline Tomlinson; Great, Great Granddaughter of Fred Douglas & Amelia Tomlinson



### Vice President - Tina L. Mitchell

Wife of Jeffery Mitchell who is the son of William "Billy" & Ethel Mitchell; Grandson of William and Mazie Mitchell; Great Grandson of John & Adeline Tomlinson; Great, Great Grandson of Fred Douglas & Amelia Tomlinson



### Treasurer - Karen Hodges

Daughter of Nathaniel "Bud" & Ann Hodges; Granddaughter of Mayo & Josephine Tomlinson; Great Granddaughter of John & Adeline Tomlinson; Great, Great Granddaughter of Fred Douglas & Amelia Tomlinson



### Secretary - Diana Mitchell

Daughter of Charles & Valgean Mitchell; Granddaughter of William and Mazie Mitchell; Great Granddaughter of John & Adeline Tomlinson; Great, Great Granddaughter of Fred Douglas & Amelia Tomlinson



### Historian - Charles D. Mitchell, Sr.

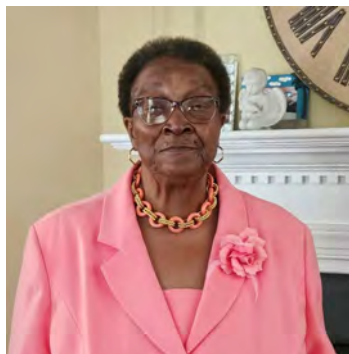
Son of William and Mazie Mitchell; Grandson of John & Adeline Tomlinson; Great Grandson of Fred Douglas & Amelia Tomlinson



on **Nov. 5, 2024**  
in **HONOR** of our  
**ANCESTORS!**



## SPOTLIGHT



## KATY BETH TOMLINSON

the oldest daughter, born to Clarence & Essie B. Mitchell Tomlinson, the granddaughter of John & Adeline Tomlinson and the great granddaughter of Fred Douglas and Amelia Durham Tomlinson. Katy was born in Clayton, N.C., Johnston County, on September 10, 1943.

At the age of 13, Katy professed her faith in Christ and joined the New Bethel Baptist Church. Katy graduated from William Mason Cooper High School in May, 1961. She got a live-in job with the Smith family, where she worked for 45 years. Katy later joined the Oakey Grove Missionary Baptist Church, where she sang in the Junior & Senior choirs, taught the youth and beginner's Sunday School classes, was Secretary for the Missionary and the church planning ministry, member of the usher board, Treasurer of Sunday School, chair of Kitchen Ministry and Chairman of the Pastor's Aide committee. Katy was one of 9 children, 6 brothers & 2 sisters, all who are deceased with the exception of her brother, Terry Keith Tomlinson. Katy's hobbies include watching great movies, cooking cheese biscuits and nutty finger cookies, which are her favorites. At the mature age of 81, Katy is semi-retired, working 2 days a week, and still driving. As the elder member of the Tomlinson Family in attendance at the annual family reunions, Katy thanks everyone for this spotlight honor.

## FAMILY REUNION 2025

For information regarding the Tomlinson Family 2025 "Sea" Reunion check your email that was sent on Monday, Sept 30th. If you don't have access to email, please contact **Debra Phillips at 239-290-8753** for details. **ALL ABOARD!**



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!



## THANKSFUL THURSDAY

ZOOM CALL

### HAPPY belated BIRTHDAY

to those who celebrated in  
JUNE - SEPT 2024!

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to those  
celebrating in NOV 2024 -JAN 2025!



10/01 Valgean Mitchell  
10/08 Charles Mitchell, Jr.  
10/18 Marcello N. Edward  
10/22 Rolhando Aaron  
10/24 Lydia Jenkins-Aaron



Don't forget to mark your calendars **every 4th THURSDAY** of the month for **THANKFUL THURSDAY PRAYER** zoom at 7:30pm, EST:

Oct. 24	Feb. 27	June 26
Nov. 28	Mar. 27	July 24
Dec. 26	Apr. 24	Aug. 28
Jan. 23	May 22	Sept. 25

# FAMILY DUES REMINDER

## THE TOMLINSON TINDER

Customized Family  
Gifts and Keepsakes

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Tomlinson Family  
Holiday Fundraiser

As you are aware we started DUES in 2023/2024 to offset costs related to creating the infrastructure/legal status for the Tomlinson Family and to cover pre-planning costs associated with the family reunion. The annual dues for 2025 is \$25.00 per blood line family member. If you feel led to donate more than the assessed dues, we highly encourage this support. Also, if there are non-blood line family members in your household (e.g., spouse), we welcome dues from them as well which will grant them full membership rights. Our goal is to continue to establish a financial base to build upon for years to come to support activities such as scholarships, destination reunions, family emergency fund, memorial recognitions and other opportunities to support each of you as the need presents.

Family dues paid by Nov.15, 2024  
will receive the following:

- Voting Rights
- FaceBook Recognition
- Special Reunion Activity

Family dues can be paid via the following mobile  
payment services:

- Venmo - @FDTomlinsonFamily
- Cash App - \$fdtomlinsonfamily

Another payment option is the good old U.S. Mail. Make  
checks payable to:FD Tomlinson Family Reunion

Mail to:

Karen Hodges 3710 Exchange Glenwood Pl. #65  
Raleigh, NC 27612



- 2024 Tomlinson Family Reunion t-shirt (\$5.00)
- "The Tomlinson T" Earrings by Adama Nicole (copper and crystal earring) - \$20.00
- BUILT TOMLINSON TOUGH Car magnet - \$8.00
- TOMLINSON Christmas Ornament - \$8.00
- Taste of Tomlinson Cookbook - \$20.00
- Tomlinson Family Bookmark - \$2.00

To purchase please  
reach out to Lydia:  
[lydiaajenkinsaaron@gmail.com](mailto:lydiaajenkinsaaron@gmail.com)

**It's time to start raising money** for our next family adventure, and back by popular demand - The DOUBLE GOOD POPCORN Fundraiser! Just in time for the holidays, we will launch our popcorn sale in November/December and will be so grateful for your support. This year, you can assist us in many different ways in addition to purchasing your own popcorn, consider the following:

- If you are unable to personally purchase, please consider opening your own "Virtual Popcorn Store" and sell to your family and friends.  
**The person who sells the most popcorn will win a prize!**
- If you have co-workers, or individuals that you like to show your appreciation during the holidays, consider purchasing our popcorn for your holiday gifts.
- If you are watching what you eat, but would still like to support - consider sending your popcorn to teachers, first responders and the like through THE DOUBLE GOOD charity program, whereby your purchased popcorn will be donated to share the joy with those that work to serve us each and every day

**Keep an ear and eye out in the coming weeks for more details!**

# FAMILY REUNION 2024 RECAP!



# FAMILY REUNION 2024 RECAP!



What's going on? Got "Good News" you want to share with the family? Spotlight? Celebrating an anniversary? Special recognition? Graduation? Honored? Anything you'd like us to share? Any Feedback/Suggestions? Please let us know. Contact The Tomlinson Times designer, Diana Mitchell at [candiana71@yahoo.com](mailto:candiana71@yahoo.com)