

The Testament

January 2020

Lincoln Memorial Baptist Church

Durham, NC

Reclamation

- by Bro. Dean Jernigan

Happy New Year Lincoln! What a blessing it is to crossover into another year. To God be the glory for His grace, mercy and protection as we navigate this journey called life. Our continued presence on earth means that our work in our Father's vineyard is not yet complete. We are still in His plans to grow His Kingdom and to spread the Good News of salvation and redemption.

For many of us, the start of a new year marks a time of reflection, planning and goal setting. What went well last year that we need to continue? What needs improvement? What failures can we learn from? What victories did we experience as we took our walk along faith's highway and, just as important, what caused us to stumble?

In our never ending quest to serve God and to do His Will, we are constantly challenged by the enemy to stay focused on the Word. Mistakes and setbacks plague us. Deception and disappointment pop up to discourage us. Conflict and confusion are tossed into our paths to break our spirit, to cause doubt, and to make us lose our way.

Thankfully, we have God's Word to keep us fortified against the ills of the enemy. We have a house of worship to seek refuge from our adversaries and to join with like minds to encourage each other during the storms of life. We have a shepherd to guide us and clarify the Word to make it plain. Above all, we have God's promise that He will never leave or forsake us and that He will supply all of our needs.

As you contemplate your goals and plans for 2020, I encourage you to take a deep look within. Search for the joy of the Lord given to us in John 5:11. If you can't find it, reclaim it! Search for the peace that surpasses all understanding as noted in Philippians 4:7. If it's nowhere to be found, reclaim it! Search for God's love. If you can't find it within you, then simply look in the mirror. As proclaimed in 1 John 4:16, God is love. Those who abide in love abide in God and His love abides in us! Reclaim His love!

But don't stop there. Make reclamation an ongoing effort during 2020. Relight the fire underneath the embers of dormant dreams, goals and ambitions. Revive the energy in stagnant groups, projects and ministries. Reclaim the hope that once propelled you forward with optimism and an unquenchable desire for success. Recall and reclaim your purpose. In essence - reclaim you!

If you're where you want to be in life, then keep moving forward with boldness and conviction along faith's highway. If you need to make a change, then reclaim the reins steering your course of action. Ask God for direction as you aim for higher heights of progress. You'll find His answer in Matthew's gospel: *Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. (Matthew 7:7-8)* **God's Word for God's people - claim it!**



LMBC Corporate Fast: January 8-22, 2020

The Christian Education Ministry will organize a corporate fast for the Lincoln family at the beginning of 2020. Please monitor the weekly announcements for more information. Also, please use the insert to help guide you during the fast.

PRAYER & FASTING

What is a corporate fast?

- ◆ The church unified to hear by the Spirit of God's direction as one body working through each member with Jesus as the head.

Who?

- ◆ Those seeking God's intervention for divine physical, emotional, mental & spiritual healing.

Why?

- ◆ To seek God's training in righteousness.
- ◆ To tear down strongholds in our flesh & learn to walk and find victory by the Spirit.
- ◆ To seek God's ordered steps for our lives that brings peace, direction and hope amid the storms and temptations of this world.

How?

- ◆ With humility & a repentant awareness of our need to follow Jesus by the Spirit of God.
- ◆ With a teachable spirit & a listening ear.

January 20, 2020

Celebrate & Remember

**Dr. Martin
Luther King, Jr.**



Durham Community Martin Luther King, Jr.
Steering Committee, Inc.

Annual Religious Service

Monday, January 20th

6:00pm

**Mt. Calvary United Church of Christ
(1715 Athens Drive, Durham, NC)**

**"Breaking Barriers to
Economic Justice"**



Keynote Speaker

Senator Erica D. Smith
North Carolina General Assembly

Around Lincoln...



Deacon Eugene Lofton leads the way while participating in a life-saving CPR class.



Members of the Ushers Ministry gathered at Golden Corral to celebrate the Christmas season.



Our Music Ministry gathered for dinner and fellowship at Nantucket's to celebrate the Christmas season.



**Deacon on Duty for the
month of January:**

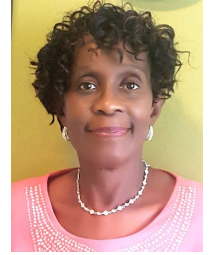
**Deacon Joseph Hillard
(919) 961-3710**

Minister's Corner

- by Rev. Patricia Lee

The Best Christmas Ever

A few weeks ago I prayed a prayer to God asking Him to make this one of our best Christmas's ever. Certainly I had prayed similar prayers before, particularly when most of my family were still present. But this time it was more intense. My desire was that this Christmas be more loving and peaceful with our family and friends than ever before.



I will tell you that I was inspired to make this request after watching an old television show called *The Waltons*. The mother of the Waltons' 7 children name is Olivia. Olivia loved the Christmas holiday. As she was excitedly and happily making cookies and plans for when and where to place the tree she proclaimed, "This is my favorite time of year and I want this to be our best Christmas ever!" I agreed with her that I too wanted this to be the best Christmas ever. She had her reasons for wanting this and I had mine. She made her request to her family members; I made mine to God. Though we did not share in all our thoughts we did share in one common fact. It seems like as soon as the words were out of our mouths trouble arose from many directions for each of us. Situations occurred making it highly doubtful that this would be the best Christmas for the Walton or the Lee family.

During this time of trouble I was repeatedly reading Luke 2, (which I usually do during the Christmas season) and a revelation was given to me from verse 7. In paraphrase it reads: And she brought forth her firstborn son. That means to me and to all of us The Best Christmas Ever has already happened and can never ever be duplicated. It can only be exemplified. This is done when the first born son is accepted and born in us allowing us to share the gifts of love, peace and joy. It is at this very real moment that we experience the Best Christmas Ever and we experience it everyday with Jesus.

The natural circumstances aren't always what we want or even like but the fact is the spiritual benefits far out weigh the effects of the good, the bad, and the ugly.

Just to make it clear when we shout praises of joy, when we help our fellow man, when we visit the sick and shut in, when we offer words of comfort to the broken hearted we bring forth the first born son which makes for The Best Christmas Ever!!!

Black History Spotlight



Andrew Young
Civil Rights Activist/Politician

Andrew Young, Jr., came into prominence as a Civil Rights Activist and close associate of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., during the modern Civil Rights Movement in the United States. He worked with various organizations early in the movement, but his civil rights work was largely done with the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) where he served as an Executive Director and later Executive Vice President. Young served on the Board of Directors until 1972.

He earned a B.S. degree in Pre-Med from Howard University (1951), but chose to become a minister. He attended Hartford Theological Seminary and graduated with a degree in Divinity in 1955. Soon afterwards he became a Pastor at Bethany Congregational Church in Thomasville, Georgia.

In 1961 Young resigned his pastoral position and joined the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), which had been founded in Atlanta by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. three years earlier. Young quickly emerged as a trusted lieutenant of King and served as a principal strategist and negotiator during the Civil Rights Campaigns in Birmingham and Selma, Alabama that resulted in the passage of the Civil Rights Bill of 1964 and Voting Rights Act of 1965.

In 1972, Andrew Young became the first African American elected to the United States Congress from Georgia since Reconstruction. He served as a twice re-elected Congressional Representative from the 5th district from 1973 to 1977. After the election of fellow Georgian Jimmy Carter as President in 1976, Young was appointed by Carter to serve as the US Ambassador to the United Nations.

In 1981 Young was elected Mayor of Atlanta and served in this capacity until 1990 when he ran unsuccessfully for Governor of Georgia. During his tenure as Mayor he brought the 1996 Olympic Games to Atlanta.

Young had four children with his first wife, Jean Childs Young, who passed in 1994. Young married Carolyn McClain Young in 1996. A member of Alpha Phi Alpha and Sigma Pi Phi fraternities, he heads the Andrew Young Foundation and teaches in the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies at Georgia State University in Atlanta.

www.blackpast.org

The Testament is produced monthly by our Newsletter Committee. Please send articles, photos or other items for publication to newsletter@mylmbc.org by the 3rd Sunday of each month.

Newsletter Committee

Reginald Davis • Willee Murphy
Joan Lofton • Marva Atkins • William Mayfield
Earleen Sharrock, Editor • Dean Jernigan, Chair

Sounds Of Joy Celebrate The Season

Finding time for fellowship during the Christmas season, the Sounds of Joy gathered for their annual Christmas Social. Smiles and good cheer filled the air as the choir members played games, ate good food and enjoyed each other's company. In appreciation for supporting them throughout the year, the Deaconess, Bro. Karl Brodie, Bro. Cecil Sharrock, Rev. Atkins and First Lady were all invited to join in the celebration. Let's continue to support the Sounds of Joy in all of their efforts to minister God's Word through song!



Happy Birthday to our January Birthday Celebrities!

*Leonidus Murphy. • Kenya Harrell
Joseph Eley, Sr. • Enza Ellis
Charmaine Zaza • Anissa Belcher
John Hodge, Jr. • Joan Lofton
Lelia Ervin*

Best Wishes For Many More!!

No Ordinary Night

It's a story that never gets old. The divinely orchestrated birth of Jesus occurred on a precious and holy night. Indeed, it was no ordinary night as an angel of our Lord proclaimed good tidings of great joy as he announced the birth of Christ. In a wonderful presentation reflecting the essence of that holy night, members of the Lincoln family combined their theatrical and musical talents to present "No Ordinary Night" - a dramatization of that blessed event. Hats off to the play participants, choir members, musicians and supporting personnel for their outstanding presentation of this biblical experience. Presented a few days before Christmas, it was an awesome reminder of the true reason for the season.



Health and Wellness New Year New You 2020

We are ending the year with a workshop that Sister Jay attended. "Music Opens New Pathways to Health: The Influence of Stevie Wonders' Music." Our annual dinner was on December 17, 2019. We celebrated the accomplishments that we made in 2019 and thanked God for all that He has allowed us to do.

What is Wellness?

Wellness is the state of being healthy in body and mind, but it's also a result of deliberate effort. Wellness is something you have to work on.

Health and Wellness presented workshops on:
Healthy Leadership
Women in Pink. Breast Cancer Awareness
Health Fair

5 Goals for 2020

- ◆ Eat more fruits and veggies
- ◆ Have more home cooked meals
- ◆ Increase muscle strength
- ◆ Be more present
- ◆ Allocate 15 minutes of quite "me" time each day

In The Community

The Health and Wellness Ministry has been involved in the Bryan Center - by giving materials needed for many activities, giving toiletries for personal care and giving gifts for Christmas. We also donated items to our Layman's League.

Upcoming Activities

February 15, 2020 (Saturday, 9am-10am)
Lyon Park Indoor Track
1309 Halley Street
Upcoming Health Forum,
February 2020
(Date to be announced)

Dietary Approaches to Obesity and Cardiovascular Disease Prevention

What is the Council's Goal?

- ◆ Educate, inspire and lead men & boys to live their best lives.
- ◆ Reduce health disparities by engaging men with the greatest health inequities.

How to I join the Council?

- ◆ Contact Ms. Joyce C. Page
- ◆ jpage@dconc.gov (919-506-7109)

Local and State Memberships

- ◆ Health and Wellness Collaborative
- ◆ Lincoln Memorial Baptist Church is a Partner in Health and Wholeness a Collaborative Congregation (since 2012)
- ◆ Durham County Health Ministry Network
- ◆ North Carolina Council of Churches
- ◆ Received Recognition at State Conference
- ◆ Attend State Conference in March 2020

***May you have the best Christmas ever!
And a Happy New Year***

Look for information each month in the Newsletter

We are always available to assist you during Sunday Service, we are available to help you with resources you may need. We are available each Sunday for blood pressure checks.

*Sister Betty Jay: Chair • Sister Dorothy Reid: Vice Chair
Sister Janice Swann-Campbell: Coordinator
Deaconess Tanga Best*

Deacons & Deaconess Christmas Social

Joined by Rev. Atkins, First Lady Marva and our Associate Ministers, the Deacons and Deaconess gathered for their annual Christmas Social at the Millennium Hotel. Reflecting on God's ever-present goodness and mercy, the gathering was a thankful, joyous and festive event.



KIDZ ZONE

-submitted by Sis. Earleen Sharrock

2020

NEW
YEAR



Theme: *Don't be afraid, God is there.*

Scripture: *The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? Psalm 27:1 (KJV)*

We all want to begin a new year in anticipation of joy & hope. For some of us, there is hope that our circumstances will be better in the coming year than they were in 2019. Others may admit that there's an element of fear as we think about the future. As long as we are in this world, it can be hard to escape fear, but we can learn how to deal with it.

David had some helpful things to say about fear, which will enable us to face this year without that overwhelming sense of fear of what may happen. We must be CONFIDENT IN THE LORD (Psalm 27:1-3) --- CONFIDENT IN THE LORD For Who He Is; CONFIDENT IN THE LORD For What He Has Done; CONFIDENT IN THE LORD For What He Will Do. If our confidence is in the Lord, then our fears about the future will fade into nothing more than a minor mental distraction. To overcome his fears, David placed his confidence in the LORD, he sought the LORD, he prayed to the LORD, & finally he waited....

I heard a story about a boy who wanted to learn to swim, but he was afraid that he might drown. Then, one day, a new swimming instructor came to the pool. This instructor's swimming lessons were exactly what the boy needed. He knew that the boy was afraid of drowning, so as the lesson began and the boy began trying to swim, he walked alongside with his hand underneath the boy's belly. His hand was like a safety net in the boy's mind. He knew that he had nothing to fear because his instructor was there to keep him from drowning!

Sometimes, life can be a lot like learning to swim. It can be frightening. There may be times when we face uncertain situations and we may be afraid that we are getting in over our heads. Like the boy holding to the side of the pool, we want to hold on to those things of which we are sure.

There is no reason for us to be afraid. Just as the swimming instructor's hand was there to keep the boy from drowning, we have God's promise that He will be there for us when we go through deep water. Listen to his promise. "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you." Isaiah 43:1b-2a (NIV)

We are at the beginning of a new year. It is time for a fresh start -- a time of new beginnings. It is exciting, but it can also be frightening. As you face new situations in the coming year, let God's hand support you. God knows the depth of our fears and our difficulties. Though He may allow the elements to have their way for a time, we can trust that His intentions are for our growth in Christ, never our destruction. So take heart today, your Father is near, and He won't let you drown. He will always be there for you; and, he won't let you down.

Dear Father,

As we face the uncertain days of a new year, we place our life in your hands. We claim your promise that you will be with us. Amen.

KIDZ ZONE

-submitted by Sis. Earleen Sharrock

Do not fear; I will help you (isaiah 41:13)

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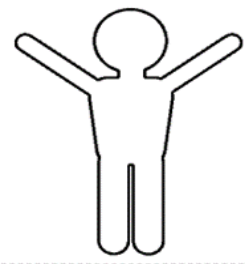
Holy Spirit	Jesus	save me	Peace
storm	uphold you	right hand	Trust God
Faith	Love	no fear	Savior

My Fears

What are some things that make you feel nervous or scared? _____

What do you think about when you are nervous or scared? _____

How does your body feel when you are nervous or scared? Color the areas where you can sense these feelings.



What's something you can do to feel better next time you are afraid? _____

Happy New Year!

January 2020

“Building the Church in the Community and the Community in the Church”

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>*Conference Call Prayer Line: Dial (605) 475-3235 and enter the pin - 20396# after the prompt.</i></p> <p><i>To add an event to the church calendar, please contact Sis. Janice Campbell by calling the church at 919-688-1886. You may also reach her at churchcalendar@mylmbc.org.</i></p> <p><i>Please send articles, photos or information for The Testament to newsletter@mylmbc.org by the 3rd Sunday of each month.</i></p>			1 6:00am *Conference Call Prayer Line 7:00pm Bible Study	2 1:00pm RTTC Community Group 6:30pm Mass Choir	3 7:00pm Seventh Day Adventist	4 Seventh Day Adventist (All Day) 10:00am-Trustees 12:00Noon Women of Faith 1:00pm Missionary Min.
5	6 6:30pm Music Committee	7 6:30pm Pastor's Aide 6:30pm Sounds of Joy 7:00pm Seventh Day Adventist	8 6:00am *Conference Call Prayer Line 12:00Noon Noon Day Prayer & Bible Study 7:00pm Bible Study	9 1:00pm RTTC Community Group 6:00pm Christian Education 6:30pm Sounds of Joy	10 7:00pm Seventh Day Adventist	11 Seventh Day Adventist (All Day) 10:00am Deaconess
12 8:00am Deacons 3:00pm Youth Missionaries	13	14 6:30pm Voices of Praise 7:00pm Seventh Day Adventist	15 6:00am *Conference Call Prayer Line 12:00Noon Noon Day Prayer & Bible Study 7:00pm Bible Study	16 1:00pm RTTC Community Group 7:00pm Church Conference	17 7:00pm Seventh Day Adventist	18 Seventh Day Adventist (All Day) 9:00am Layman's League
19	20 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday 6:00pm Health & Wellness	21 6:30pm Male Chorus 7:00pm Seventh Day Adventist	22 6:00am *Conference Call Prayer Line 12:00Noon Noon Day Prayer & Bible Study 7:00pm Bible Study	23 1:00pm RTTC Community Group 6:30pm Male Chorus	24 7:00pm Seventh Day Adventist	25 Seventh Day Adventist (All Day)
26 Ushers Meeting After Service	27	28 6:30pm Mass Choir 7:00pm Seventh Day Adventist	29 6:00am *Conference Call Prayer Line 12:00Noon Noon Day Prayer & Bible Study 7:00pm Bible Study	30 1:00pm RTTC Community Group 6:30pm Mass Choir	31 7:00pm Seventh Day Adventist	