

The Testament

November 2023

Lincoln Memorial Baptist Church

Durham, NC

A timeless message from the archives...

Great Expectations

- by Bro. Dean Jernigan

A few years ago, Rev. Atkins shared a story with us about a terminally ill woman who requested a meeting with her Pastor to discuss her final wishes. At the conclusion of the meeting, the woman stunned the Pastor by asking to be buried with a fork in her hand. Sensing his puzzlement, the woman explained that while attending church dinners and other gatherings, she was always told to hold on to her fork after the meal because something better, meaning dessert, was yet to come. Holding a fork in her casket, she explained, would symbolize to those viewing her that she had an expectation that something better awaited her as she transitioned to her eternal home.

Our expectations can greatly influence the results that we get out of life. Low expectations can prevent us from enjoying all that life has to offer. When we aim low, we stifle our growth, bathe ourselves in mediocrity, and never reach the potential stored inside of us. Higher expectations challenge us, push us outside of our comfort zones, and accelerate our progress toward living the meaningful and purposeful life that God has destined for us. *For I know the plans I have for you,* declares the Lord, *plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.* (Jeremiah 29:11)

To ensure that we fulfill the destiny designed for our lives, we have to make sure that our expectations are in order. Rather than merely existing on earth, we must focus on living a life full of purpose and expectancy. Expect that you will meet your personal, professional and spiritual goals and objectives. Expect that your ministry will grow and be a blessing to those inside and outside of Lincoln's walls. Expect that Lincoln will thrive in its efforts to build a church in the community and a community within the church. Expect a greater worship

experience and a greater fellowship with our brothers and sisters in Christ. Above all, expect a greater understanding of God's Word and a "closer walk with thee" as we take our walk of faith on life's highway.



Whenever we strive for something greater, the enemy is certain to rear his head and make every attempt to discourage us and throw us off track. Staying focused on our expectations, holding on to God's Word, and visualizing in our minds the success of our efforts are the keys to tasting victory in the end. *Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a desire fulfilled is a tree of life.* (Proverbs 13:12)

As we prepare for the season of thanks and the various family gatherings between now and the end of the year, let's start with an expectancy of glorious fellowship! Expect a great meal and an embracing atmosphere. Put aside differences of the past and focus on the preciousness of a single moment. Let's treasure the opportunity to gather with those that we love the most, those who complete our circle, and those who share our belief in an Almighty God.

As she laid in her casket, the woman with the fork provided an illustration of an expectancy of a greater experience on the road ahead. Sustained by her faith, she enjoyed the meal called life on earth, but she eagerly awaited the dessert of a heavenly home. She had great expectations for her eternal life around God's throne and wanted everyone to know it.

What are your expectations? Where are you succeeding and where are you falling short? What have you given up on? What deserves a second look? Are you aiming high enough? Has the enemy thrown you off course? Whatever your answer is to these questions, know that you have the power within you to succeed. The

Women's Day 2023



Sunday, November 19th Morning Worship Service

Min. Antoinette Daye will serve as the guest preacher for this year's Women's Day service. A life-long member of the Lincoln family, Min. Daye excels in bringing a well-prepared message of hope and encouragement whenever she preaches.

On the Saturday prior to Women's Day, our women will gather for a fellowship luncheon at Bullock's BBQ. All women in the Lincoln family are invited to attend.

Please contact Sis. Joan Lofton for questions or if additional information is needed regarding Women's Day or the luncheon.

power lies within you for a course correction and a readjustment of your aim. *I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.* (Philippians 4:13)

Beloved, wherever you are, raise your level of expectation to ensure that you continue to grow. God's love for us is plentiful and the reward of a heavenly home is enough to keep all of us holding on to our forks. But He too has expectations. He expects us to love Him and to live by His Word. These are the great expectations that we must be aware of in our daily service to Him. Meeting these expectations serves as the key that unlocks the door to eternal happiness.

Around Lincoln...



Min. Antoinette Daye and Sis. Jackie Brown lend their expertise and guidance as they participate in the Durham Public Schools ACCELER8 career fair. The event provided an opportunity for students to explore various career pathways.



Sis. Apryl Jernigan enjoys the moment with friends and fellow graduates Raven Kirk and Kirria Brown during Homecoming activities at Fayetteville State University.



Deacon on Duty for the month of November:

*Deacon Tony Williams
(919) 625-2829*

State Fair Outing

In a welcomed return of a favored activity from the past, the Youth Activities Committee (YAC) organized an outing for our youth to the NC State Fair. A number of youth and chaperones gathered for prayer before heading off to enjoy the food, fun and fellowship that is a hallmark of this outing. Special thanks to Sis. Jackie Brown for leading YAC in returning our youth to the fair.



Black History Spotlight

Historically Black Colleges and Universities Series



Fisk University

In 1865, barely six months after the end of the Civil War, three men - John Ogden, the Reverend Erastus Milo Cravath, and the Reverend Edward P. Smith - established the Fisk School in Nashville.

The school was named in honor of General Clinton B. Fisk of the Tennessee Freedmen's Bureau, who provided the new institution with facilities in former Union Army barracks near the present site of Nashville's Union Station. In these facilities Fisk convened its first classes on January 9, 1866. The first students ranged in age from seven to seventy, but shared common experiences of slavery and poverty - and an extraordinary thirst for learning.

The work of Fisk's founders was sponsored by the American Missionary Association - later part of the United Church of Christ, with which Fisk retains an affiliation today.

Ogden, Cravath, and Smith, along with others in their movement, shared a dream of an educational institution that would be open to all, regardless of race, and that would measure itself by "the highest standards, not of Negro education, but of American education at its best." Their dream was incorporated as Fisk University on August 22, 1867.

Then, in 1930, Fisk became the first African-American institution to gain accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. It was also the first such institution to be placed on the approved lists of the Association of American Universities (1933) and the American Association of University Women (1948).

Its rich history includes notable faculty members such as W.E.B. Du Bois, Booker T. Washington and Ida B. Wells-Barnett. The world-famous Fisk Jubilee Singers generated notoriety and financial support for the school during its early years. And notable leaders, such as Thurgood Marshall, have contributed to the growth of the institution.

Probably no single institution has played so central a role as Fisk in the shaping of black learning and culture in America. The Fisk tradition of leadership and excellence continued throughout the 20th century and is being carried on today

<https://www.fisk.edu/about/history>

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

Please Vote!!

The 2023 Municipal Election
will be held on

Tuesday, November 7th.
Polls open 6:30am - 7:30pm

One-stop early voting will be held:

**Thursday, October 19th -
Saturday, November 4th**

NORTH CAROLINA

Voter Photo ID Requirement

Beginning this year, voters in North Carolina must show a valid Photo Id in order to vote. The following items can be used to satisfy this requirement:

- ◆ North Carolina Drivers License
- ◆ US Passport
- ◆ State Id from the NCDMV
- ◆ NC Voter Id, issued by county board of elections
- ◆ *College/University Student Id
- ◆ *Charter school Id
- ◆ *State/Local Government employee Id
- ◆ Military or Veteran Id issued by the US Government.

For a complete list of acceptable items, or if you have questions regarding your voter registration, or other questions regarding the elections, please contact the Durham County Board of Elections at (919) 560-0700

**- requires approval from the NC State Board of Elections*

***“Voting is the cornerstone of
Democracy”***

***Happy Birthday
to our***

November Birthday Celebrities!

*Ebony Atkins (3rd) • Min. Antoinette Daye (12th)
Nevaeh Hemmingway (13th) • Cecil Sharrock (17th)
Ron Lee (23rd) • Janetta Wadlington (26th)*

Best Wishes For Many More!!

Guard Your Mind Ministry



Seeking to shed light and spread hope, the Guard Your Mind (GYM) Ministry continues to engage in activities aimed at preventing deaths by suicide. Supported by members of the Lincoln family and a financial contribution from our church, the Ministry participated in the “Out of the Darkness” Community Walk for Suicide Prevention in late September in Fuquay-Varina. A large number of individuals and organizations from across the Triangle region participated in the walk. In addition, during the event, Sis. Kathy Williams was interviewed by a reporter from television WNCN 17 to offer commentary on the event and the importance of noticing warning signs that could help save a life. The interview was played on the evening newscast and featured video of several Lincoln members during the walk.



Expanding their reach throughout the community, the GYM Ministry recently reached out to members of the Hispanic community to share a presentation on suicide prevention. The meeting was held at Jordan High School and attracted an attentive audience. Aided by an interpreter, Sis. Kathy Williams engaged the attendees in discussion on this critically important topic.



Missionaries In Action

Led by Sis. Vera Hodge and fueled by a servant's heart, our Missionary Ministry spent a recent Saturday evening feeding the homeless at the Urban Ministries of Durham Shelter. In addition to serving a hot meal, the group also served a measure of dignity as they engaged in pleasant small talk with many of the individuals as they passed through the line. Hats off to our Missionaries for this outstanding effort. *Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. (1 Peter 4:10 NIV)*



God's Presence: Your Anchor Through Any Storm

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me.

Psalm 23:4 (NIV)

No one gets through life without setbacks. All of us will face storms from time to time.

The real issue is how we respond. When you experience a setback, what happens next? Do setbacks dominate you? Do you stop trying and give up?

If we're not careful, setbacks will cause us to make unhelpful decisions:

Drifting from our goals. We hear the little voice inside that asks, "What's the use of trying?" Then we stop striving for what God has clearly called us to do.

Discarding what we value. Sometimes, after a period of intense pain, our priorities change - we let go of what once mattered greatly to us.

Despairing about our future. We figure we're doomed, we're finished, and it's all over.

As a pastor for more than 40 years, I watched many people react to crises in one of those three ways. I've discovered that the true test of faith is not how high you jump when you're singing praises to God, but how straight you walk when you're going through the valley of the shadow of death.

You'll always drift in a storm without the right anchor. And only one anchor will really do.

One of the Bible's most famous passages says it like this: "Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me" (Psalm 23:4 NIV).

God's presence is the greatest anchor in any situation.

When you're feeling hopeless, remember that God hasn't left you. Choose to make him your rock-solid anchor.

No matter how dark your valley, you've never been closer to God than you are at this exact moment. When I remind people of that truth while they're in the middle of a setback, they often tell me: "Well, I don't feel his presence."

But it really has nothing to do with how you feel. The Bible says God is there in your darkest valley. That's reality - whether you believe it or not.

The Bible says, "I'm absolutely convinced that nothing - nothing living or dead, angelic or demonic, today or tomorrow, high or low, thinkable or unthinkable - absolutely nothing can get between us and God's love because of the way that Jesus our Master has embraced us" (Romans 8:38-39 The Message).

No matter what you're going through, God and his love are right there with you.

That truth offers stability in any storm.

Pastor Rick Warren
www.pastorrick.com

KIDZ ZONE

-submitted by Sis. Earleen Sharrock

Thankful vs. Grateful

What's the difference?

You might be using the term “thankful” and “grateful” as synonyms for showing your appreciation for something or someone. Although the definitions are similar, there are some distinct differences between these two words. Not to say that being thankful is less than gratitude or not as important, as both terms are concerned with the feeling of gratitude and both show that one is aware and appreciates the benefit received from someone else. Although thankful and grateful are similar terms, they differ according to the way they are shown or expressed and the depth of emotions.

Being thankful is a feeling, while being grateful is an action and an emotion. Someone who is thankful feels pleased or relieved about something and expresses their feelings through their words like saying “thank you” after someone gives you a compliment or after they hold open a door for you. However, someone who is grateful will show it in their actions, such as giving a gift to someone who helped you study for a math exam or feeling grateful for your health after recovering from a sports injury. The word grateful derives from the Latin word “gratus”---also meaning grace. Being grateful is more a state of mind and is typically longer lasting than thankfulness. It is a feeling of appreciation for something in your life. But the “something” is not one that you feel entitled to. This is not about feeling like you deserve things, but rather understanding that you can just as easily not be as fortunate to be where you are today---alive, breathing and enjoying your life in general. You understand that others may not have the blessings that you have, and you are grateful for that.

Thankfulness is a response to something external, while gratitude is an appreciation that comes from within. Since gratitude involves showing appreciation for something (or someone), there is a giver and a receiver. Thankfulness, however, doesn’t involve both parties because it’s a feeling that mainly benefits the person on the receiving end. For instance, if your friend helps you run an errand, thankfulness would be feeling relieved that you got help and your errand is complete. Being grateful would be feeling appreciation toward your friend, instead of focusing on yourself. You could tell your friend how much you value them or buy them a gift card to express your gratitude—you are the giver, and your friend is the receiver in this case.

Thankfulness is an automatic reply, while gratitude is an intentional act. If someone does something nice on your behalf, you might say “thank you” as a natural response, especially since most people expect you to say it. Gratitude, however, occurs on a deeper level because it involves a willingness to express appreciation; you want to let the other person know how much they mean to you on your own terms. For instance, you might say “thank you” to a stranger for holding your spot in line, but you could express gratitude towards them by offering to pay for their meal; they didn’t ask you to do anything for them, but you feel grateful for their small act of kindness.

Gratitude grows over time, while thankfulness fades. Being thankful is often linked to materialism because it occurs after you receive some type of benefit; it’s a short-lived reaction that doesn’t impact you in the long run. Being grateful, however, is an emotional response to an event (or a series of events) that impacts you in the long run; you typically reflect on the other person’s intentions for being kind to you and develop an ongoing mindset of appreciation. For example, you might be thankful that your friend bought you lunch, but you can be grateful that your friend actively listens to you and supports your dreams.

<https://www.wikihow.com/Grateful-vs-Thankful>

Dear Heavenly Father, I pray I'll always have a THANKFUL attitude and see Your blessings every day with a heart of GRATITUDE. In Jesus' name, Amen.

KIDZ ZONE

-submitted by Sis. Earleen Sharrock

Thanksgiving

WORD SEARCH



CHILDREN
DINNER
FAMILY
GATHERING
GRATEFUL

HOLIDAY
HOME
JOYFUL
MEMORIES
OCCASION

PARENTS
RELATIVES
SEASON
VISITING
THANKFUL

LINCOLN MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH
REVEREND LINZIE B. ATKINS, PASTOR

Women's Day Luncheon

11/18/23 | Saturday | 11am

BULLOCK'S BARBEQUE

3330 QUEBEC DRIVE, DURHAM, NC

Food, Fun and Fellowship



THEME: ORDER MY STEPS

PSALM 119:113

*"DIRECT MY FOOTSTEPS ACCORDING TO
YOUR WORD, LET NO SIN RULE OVER ME"*

You are cordially invited to attend the LMBC Women's Day Luncheon. We are planning fellowship activities for prizes.

All women are asked to

- *Bring one of their favorites shoes in a bag for game .*
- *Place your name on a piece of paper inside the bag.*
- *When you arrive, please give your bag to Minister Daye*
- *Bring a pair of new socks to donate for service project*

Invite a Friend!

*Please RSVP by November 5, 2023
TEXT OR CALL SISTER WANDA CRAWLEY
(919) 943-7041*

November 2023

“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 12 Noon 6:00pm *Conference Call Prayer Line 7:00pm Bible Study	2 6:30pm Mass Choir	3	4 Seventh Day Adventist (All Day) 10:00am Trustees 12:00Noon Women of Faith 1:00pm Missionary Min.
5	6 7:00pm Music Ministry	7 6:30pm Sounds of Joy	8 6:00am 12 Noon 6:00pm *Conference Call Prayer Line 7:00pm Bible Study	9 6:00pm Christian Education 6:30pm Sounds of Joy	10	11 Seventh Day Adventist (All Day) 10:00am Deaconess
12 Deacons (TBA Internally)	13	14 6:30pm Women's Day Choir	15 6:00am 12 Noon 6:00pm *Conference Call Prayer Line 7:00pm Bible Study	16 7:00pm Church Conference	17 6:00pm Women's Day Choir	18 Seventh Day Adventist (All Day) TBA Laymen's League 11:00am Women's Day Luncheon
19 Women's Day	20	21 6:30pm Voices of Praise	22 6:00am 12 Noon 6:00pm *Conference Call Prayer Line 7:00pm Bible Study	23 Thanksgiving	24	25 Seventh Day Adventist (All Day)
26	27 6:30pm Computing & Technology	28 6:30pm Mass Choir	29 6:00am 12 Noon 6:00pm *Conference Call Prayer Line 7:00pm Bible Study	30 6:30pm Mass Choir		

Photos Taken/Submitted by Sis. Jackie Brown, Min. Antoinette Daye, Sis. Pamela Jernigan, Sis. Kathy Williams and Sis. Vera Hodge