

The Testament

November 2019

Lincoln Memorial Baptist Church

Durham, NC

Grateful

- by Deacon Dean Jernigan

"I am grateful for the things that you have done. I'm grateful for the victories we've won. Flowing from my heart are the issues of my heart - it's gratefulness." Those words are part of the opening lyrics to Hezekiah Walker's beautiful song called *Grateful*. Sung with passion, purpose and praise in places of worship throughout our land, this song sums up the attitude of a Christian when reflecting on the bounty of blessings that flow from above.

God is good to us all the time. He touches us with a finger of love each morning to wake us and sprinkles blessings along our path throughout our day. He shields us from hurt, harm and danger and watches over us. He gives us families to love, opportunities to prosper and provides places for us to gather to fellowship in His name.

Yes, there are trials, tribulations and times when it seems like we have fallen out of favor with God. During these periods, the enemy works overtime in an attempt to steer our thoughts away from God. He casts seeds of doubt, confusion and hopelessness hoping that they will find fertile soil in our minds. His goal is to deceive us and separate us from all that is good.

During our low points, it can be difficult to fight off these powerful attacks from the enemy. Fortunately for us, we don't have to stand up against him on our own. We have an advocate who will fight the enemy on our behalf. More powerful than any force known to man and powerful enough to cause devils to tremor (James 2:19) our advocate can step in to right the wrongs, calm the storms and "restore the joy of thy salvation" unto us. The key,

however, is that we have to continue to believe. We can't lose our faith. We have to trust and believe that the storm will pass and that we will be stronger on the other side of it. We have to take God at his Word that despite any circumstance, we will always be enveloped by His love. *For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8:38-39)*



As we enter into this season of thanks, what better time than now to reflect on the goodness of our relationship with our Heavenly Father. What better time than now to recall the victorious that God has led us through over our various trials and tribulations. What better time than now to allow the issues of our hearts - our gratefulness, to flow out in appreciation of all that our Heavenly Father does for us.

Our Male Chorus sings a wonderful song of praise that reminds us that "Everyday is a day of Thanksgiving". When we rise in the morning and when we gather with our families and the special people in our lives, let's make sure that we give thanks and "take the time to glorify the Lord today!" *Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (ESV))*

Happy Thanksgiving!

*O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever.
1 Chronicles 16:34*

Save The Date!

**Saturday, November 16th
Women's Day Luncheon
(Pre-Registration Required!)
1:00pm**

**Sunday, November 17th
Women's Day
Morning Worship Service**

**Thursday, November 21st
Church Conference
7:00pm**

Please make plans to support these events. Please observe the monitors each Sunday during the announcement periods for more information on these and other church events and activities.

Growing God's Kingdom



Rev. Atkins baptizes Bro. Sean Dinguall, Jr. Welcome to the Kingdom!

Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:19 ((NKJV))

Around Lincoln...



Feasting on a buffet of spiritual food while nourishing their physical bodies, several women from the Lincoln family joined with other believers at the Prayer Breakfast Fellowship sponsored by Union Baptist Church.



Sis. Kimberly Alexander registers to vote during National Voter Registration Day on the campus of Durham Technical College. Thanks Kim for setting a great example!



Hillside High School alums Reginald Davis and LaTonya Brodie ('83) and Robert Brodie ('81) celebrate during Hillside's Homecoming parade.



Deacon on Duty for the month of November:

**Deacon Eugene Lofton
(919) 638-5348**

Minister's Corner

- by Rev. Patricia Lee

When To Do You, And When To Do Jesus

I am normally a pretty open and sharing person. Some of you are aware of some physical challenges I have endured this year and continue to experience. Still I thank God for my steady recovery. I am sure that I will continue to progress and return to my normal self.



As the holidays and the end of this year quickly approaches, I find this a good time for me to survey the year and all its events. As I was sitting and seriously reflecting on things I lost one of my front teeth that was in need of repair. I immediately said "Oh no, I can't go to church like this!"

Certainly I take church seriously and like to give God my best even in dress. A missing tooth would surely impact my appearance. So I could just be absent while I am getting this tooth issue taken care of. That would be doing me.

But then I thought what would Jesus do? That was an easy answer. The Son of God left His beautiful home with an excellent Father to come to ugly sinful earth. He was rejected even in birth because His parents were refused a place to lodge. He was from a poor family.

As an adult He had no money or His own place of residence. People used Him for their own agenda such as healing but when it came time to support Him they rejected Him. Finally He was beaten beyond recognition, insulted and stripped of His clothing for all to see. So if the Lord could endure all of this for a sinful person like me surely the loss of a tooth should not have me so vain that I can't join in corporate worship with my Christian friends. If it does I'm not worthy to follow in His foot steps. Therefore instead of doing me I will do Jesus. I surely can not go wrong. After all church is about worship of a mighty God who gave His life for me empowering me to do me as I do Him.

As a song I once heard says, "Humble me and let me do your will."

Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

Matthew 16:24

Black History Spotlight



Dorothy Height

Educator/Civil Rights/Women's Rights

Born on March 24, 1912, in Richmond, Virginia, to parents James and Fannie Height, she moved with her family to Rankin, Pennsylvania at the age of four. A diligent student, she attended New York University, where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Education, and a Masters in Educational Psychology.

Height's first job was as a caseworker in the New York City Welfare Department. In 1937, she met Mary McLeod Bethune, founder and president of the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW). Bethune became Height's mentor and the two worked closely together until Bethune's death in 1955. Two years later Height became the fourth President of the National Council of Negro Women, a post she would hold until 1998. In 1952 Height served as visiting professor in the School of Social Work at the University of Delhi, India.

Height led the NCNW during the Civil Rights era of the 1950s and 1960s. As president, she helped organize The March on Washington in 1963. She worked with every major Civil Rights leader of the period including Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Roy Wilkins, Whitney Young, and A. Philip Randolph. During the 1960s Height coordinated "Wednesdays in Mississippi," where both Black and white women throughout the nation met to discuss racial justice issues. She also personally encouraged President Dwight Eisenhower to desegregate public schools, and urged President Lyndon B. Johnson to appoint Black women into governmental positions.

Over the course of her lifetime, Dr. Height became well respected across the nation for her leadership in the campaign for women's employment, education, and equal pay. She is best known, however, for her efforts on behalf of racial equality. In 1944, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt honored Height with the Freedom from Want Award. In 1989 President Ronald Reagan awarded Height with the Citizens' Medal Award for distinguished service. President George W. Bush presented Height the Congressional Gold Medal and the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2000.

Dorothy Irene Height never married. She died on April 20, 2010 at Howard University Hospital in Washington, D.C.

www.blackpast.org

Giving Honor Where Honor Is Due

In recognition and appreciation of her ongoing labor in our Heavenly Father's vineyard, the Lincoln family paused recently to honor Sis. Maggie Harrell. A tireless worker for Christ, Sis. Harrell's dedication to her work as a Missionary is unmatched. She is a compassionate, caring Christian who constantly places the needs of others above her own. May God continue to bless and enrich the life of our loving sister in Christ.



Happy Birthday to our

November Birthday Celebrities!

*Peyton Thorpe • Ebony Atkins
Antoinette Daye • Nevaeh Hemmingway
Cecil Sharrock • Janetta Wadlington
Ron Lee, Sr.*

Best Wishes For Many More!!

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

Domestic Violence Program

“Stop the Silence to Domestic Violence” is the theme of our annual campaign to raise an awareness of the issue of domestic violence and its deadly consequences. This year’s program featured an array of performers and a touching display of a quilt containing the names of the victims of domestic violence. Minister Leslie Love, the keynote speaker, reminded us that in addition to physical abuse, mental abuse also falls under the umbrella of domestic violence. As we strive to follow the teachings of Christ, let us be ever mindful of those individuals who find themselves in dangerous home environments and do all that we can to come to their aid.



State Fair Outing!

One of the most anticipated outings of the year is our annual youth outing to the State Fair. Smiles are plentiful during this outing as our youth enjoy the various rides and food offerings at the fair. Special thanks to the parents and adult chaperones who accompany our youth on this outing as well as to the Lincoln family for your ongoing support of our youth.



Fellowship Mass Choir Anniversary

Congratulations to our Fellowship Mass Choir on their recent anniversary celebration! Ministering the Word of God through joyous song, the choir members strive to please God and enhance the worship experience for the Lincoln family. Several guest performers joined in commemoration of the choir's ongoing work in our Lord's Kingdom. Thanks to the choir members for their dedication. Thanks also to musician Sam Coley, percussionist Bobby Hamm and director Eric Melvin.



Stay Focused on God's Plan for Your Life

Anyone who lets himself be distracted from the work I plan for him is not fit for the kingdom of God. (Luke 9:62 TLB)

I have met thousands of people who've told me they want to be used by God but who will never be used by God. Why? They're too busy. They've got their own agenda going. They've got their plans and dreams and ambitions, and they don't have any time! In the midst of their busyness, they try to carve out a little sliver from the pie of life and say, "I'll give this to God." But it doesn't work that way.

If you're serious about being used by God, you have to say, "Lord, what do I need to let go of? What do I need to cut out? What barriers are holding me back and keeping me from running the race you have for me?"

Lots of different barriers will hold you back from God's plan for your life. One of the biggest categories: distractions. Jesus said in Luke 9:62, "Anyone who lets himself be distracted from the work I plan for him is not fit for the kingdom of God" (TLB).

Here are a few of the many things that could distract you from your life mission:

- ♦ The expectations of other people. You've got to decide whom you're going to please first in life. You can only have one number one.
- ♦ Hobbies. There's nothing wrong with these things. But if they distract you from the most important things, then you need to let go of them.
- ♦ Your past. Maybe you refuse to let go of your past—whether it's guilt or resentment or grief. But if you're stuck in the past, you cannot get on with the present, and you certainly can't get on with God's future for you. Your past is past. It's over! You need to let it go.

What do you need to let go of? The Bible says in 1 Corinthians 10:23, "Everything is permissible, but not everything is helpful" (HCSB). What does that mean? It means this: A lot of things aren't necessarily wrong; they're just not necessary. Life often means choosing either "Am I going to do something good?" or "Am I going to do what's best?"

If the Devil can't make you bad, he'll make you busy. He'll get you so busy that you don't have time for the important stuff—time alone with God, ministry, and mission.

You need to simplify your life and eliminate distractions so God can use you. Don't try to do it all. Do what matters most!

Pastor Rick Warren
www.pastorick.com

KIDZ ZONE

-submitted by Sis. Earleen Sharrock



Thanksgiving is one of my favorite holidays of the year because it **reminds** us to give **thanks** and to count our blessings. I like to think that when our hearts beat with thankfulness, we will also have a heart that is warm, generous, and caring.

How would someone describe your heart today? Let's compare the actions of two kids, a 12-year old girl and a 10-year old boy.

- The 12-year-old is always thankful for whatever you do or buy for her. From the smallest event to the largest gesture, she is consistent and authentic in her character of gratefulness.
- The 10-year-old, however, is never thankful, no matter what you do for him. He complains about your efforts and selections. (e.g. - You buy him a new tablet, but it is the "wrong color" or "wrong brand name." When he opens his birthday present, he says he doesn't like it, etc.)

Given the character of those children, which child best describes you: the grateful 12-year girl or the ungrateful 10-year old boy? Even though parents should not "have favorites" or give preferential treatment, you would naturally enjoy giving to the first child more. Why? Because she has a grateful heart! It's not as easy, or enjoyable, to give to someone who will complain and whine about all your efforts.

In fact, the complaining and ungratefulness of the 10-year old child will earn him the exact opposite response from what he wishes to achieve. He wants more, but his behavior will likely earn him less (not necessarily material goods).

The 12-year old girl, on the other hand, is happy with less, but her character will earn her more (again, not

necessarily material goods). I want you to reflect carefully on this example.

Are *you* the first child, thankful for what you have, exhibiting an *attitude of gratitude*, or are you the second child, ungrateful and full of complaints?

When we are ungrateful, we often focus on what we don't have, rather than on what we do have. Instead of embracing our dreams, goals, and vision, we get stuck in a rut, focusing on things we have lost or never had. When we focus on our *lack*, we attract more of it to us, which means that the areas where we focus our attention and energy become magnified.

God's word is filled to the brim with many reminders of how powerful and essential a thankful heart is in this world.

THE BEAT OF A GRATEFUL HEART – 5 THINGS IT CAN DO:

1. *It gets our eyes off of ourselves and back onto God.*
2. *It reminds us that God is the giver of all good gifts. We were never intended to be fully self-sufficient in this life. A grateful heart reminds us that God is our Provider.*
3. *A heart of gratitude leaves no room for complaining, for it is impossible to be truly thankful and be filled with negativity at the same time.*
4. *It helps us recognize we have so much to be thankful for, even all of the little things, like sunrises, laughter and food at our table.*
5. *It opens up the door for continued blessings.*

God wants us to have grateful hearts. He wants us to show our thanks to him and everyone who blesses us. When we are thankful, we let other people know that we appreciate them. We also remind ourselves, over and over, how blessed we truly are. A grateful heart can't be a sad heart for long because a grateful heart is always aware just how much our God and our loved ones care for us!

Saying, "Thank you," is a great habit, but it should never be a mindless habit. God wants us to be mindful of our blessings. He wants us to take the time to thank Him and others for all they do for us. Be intentional when you say thank you, and go out of your way to thank the people who go out of their way for you. Don't just say the words, "Thank you," because you have to; say, "Thank you," because you mean it.

Dear Heavenly Father, I want to take this time not to ask anything from you, but to simply thank you for all that I have. Amen

KIDZ ZONE

-submitted by Sis. Earleen Sharrock

BibleWise

Thanksgiving

"Let us come before him with thanksgiving,"
Psalm 95:2 (NIV)

How many words can you make using the letters in the word
"THANKSGIVING"? Only use the letters as many times as shown.

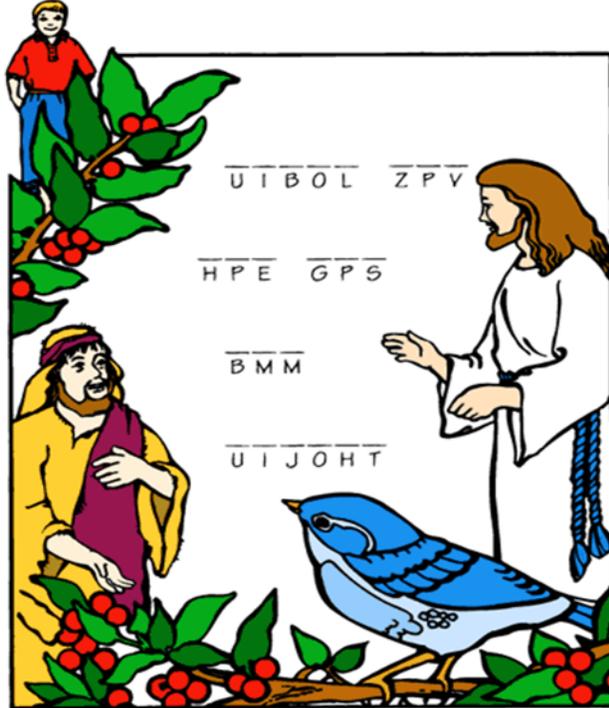


Neill de Vries and Mary Currier. More Bible Activities You Can Do. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books Publisher, 1999.

BibleWise

Be Thankful Luke 17:11-19

Jesus healed ten lepers. Only one thanked him. We must all learn to be thankful to God for everything. Fill in each blank with the letter of the alphabet that comes before the letter under the blank.



The Gospels Activity Book by Mary Currier. Baker Book House, 1973.

BibleWise

Break The Code

Using the code breaker below, decipher the secret message

A=		N=		_____	_____
B=		O=			
C=		P=		_____	_____
D=		Q=			
E=		R=		_____	_____
F=		S=			
G=		T=		_____	_____
H=		U=			
I=		V=		_____	_____
J=		W=		_____	_____
K=		X=		_____	_____
L=		Y=		_____	_____
M=		Z=		_____	_____

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BibleWise

Thanksgiving Word Scramble

We have many things to be thankful for. Unscramble the letters in the apples to find out what some of them are. Write the words on the lines below the basket.



Neill de Vries and Mary Currier. More Bible Activities You Can Do. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books Publisher, 1999.

November 2019

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>*Conference Call Prayer Line: Dial (605) 475-3235 and enter the pin - 20396# after the prompt.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Please send articles, photos or information for The Testament to newsletter@mylmbc.org by the 3rd Sunday of each month.</p>					1	2
			6:00am *Conference Call Prayer Line 12:00Noon Noon Day Prayer & Bible Study 7:00pm Bible Study	7 1:00pm RTTC Community Group 6:30pm Sounds of Joy	8 7:00pm Seventh Day Adventist	9 Seventh Day Adventist (All Day) 10:00am Deaconess
3	4 6:30pm Music Ministry	5 6:30pm Pastor's Aide 6:30pm Sounds of Joy 7:00pm Seventh Day Adventist	6	7	8	9
10 8:00am Deacons 3:00pm Youth Missionaries	11	12 6:30pm Voices of Praise 7:00pm Seventh Day Adventist	13 6:00am *Conference Call Prayer Line 12:00Noon Noon Day Prayer & Bible Study 7:00pm Bible Study	14 1:00pm RTTC Community Group 6:00pm Christian Education 6:30pm Voices of Praise	15 7:00pm Seventh Day Adventist	16 Seventh Day Adventist (All Day) 9:00am Layman's League 1:00pm Women's Day Luncheon
17 Women's Day	18 6:00pm Health & Wellness	19 6:30pm Male Chorus 7:00pm Seventh Day Adventist	20 6:00am *Conference Call Prayer Line 12:00Noon Noon Day Prayer & Bible Study 7:00pm Bible Study	21 1:00pm RTTC Community Group 7:00pm Church Conference	22 7:00pm Seventh Day Adventist	23 Seventh Day Adventist (All Day)
24 Ushers Mtg After Service	25	26 6:30pm Mass Choir 7:00pm Seventh Day Adventist	27 6:00am *Conference Call Prayer Line 12:00Noon Noon Day Prayer & Bible Study 7:00pm Bible Study	28 Thanksgiving	29 7:00pm Seventh Day Adventist	30 Seventh Day Adventist (All Day)