

The Testament

February 2021

Lincoln Memorial Baptist Church

Durham, NC

Time Spent

- by Bro. Dean Jernigan

Time - that precious resource that we use each day. Time is filled with moments of joy, pain, learning, reflection and sometimes disappointment. During our youth, we give little thought to time. Time is as abundant as the air that we breathe and seemingly always available to us. As we grow older, we learn to value the preciousness of each moment of time and become aware of the finiteness of its quantity.

In *The Purpose Driven Life*, Pastor Rick Warren does an excellent job of tying our use of time to our expression of love. In one chapter of his book, he writes that - "the best use of life is love, the best expression of love is time and the best time to love is now". This is a wonderful example of the strong relationship between life, love and time and in essence, it drives home the importance of time spent with the people in our lives that we love and cherish.

"Time is filled with swift transition", is a line from the powerful hymn, *Hold to God's Unchanging Hand*, that alerts us to the ever-changing nature of time. Predictable transitions, such as a child leaving home to enter a new phase of life or a person retiring from a job, bring us joy and excitement. Undesirable and untimely transitions, however, like the loss of a cherished family member, bring an ache to our hearts and leave an unfillable void. In these moments, we fondly reflect on the expression of love in the form of the time spent with them during happier moments.

How often do we reflect on how we spend our time? The early part of a new year is always a good time for reflection and planning on the best use of time during the year. It's a great time to catch up with old friends, to sacrifice a day of nothingness to experience something new, to crack open the pages of that book that's yearning to be read and to just recognize the joy and pleasure of being present at a significant moment in the life of someone that you care about.

Through the study of God's Word, we know that everything that happens in life occurs in a timeframe established by our Heavenly Father. *For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter*

under heaven. (Ecclesiastes 3:1 ESV) We pray for God's guidance in our lives and that He will order our steps in a manner that is pleasing to him, helpful to our fellow man and that provides for the well-being of our families and those under our care. To fulfill our duties and enjoy the benefits of living in His Kingdom, we have to remind ourselves to never try to get ahead of God. Whenever we feel as though as prayers are going unanswered or that the desires of our hearts are going unmet, we have to remain steadfast in His Word, in His presence and in His time. During his days of fellowship with us at Lincoln, the late Bro. Charles Bailey would often remind us that God works on His timetable, not ours.

Since we don't know His timetable, but know and appreciate that His works are always in our best interest, we simply have to make the most of the time that He has given to us. We cannot waste our time holding on to the bad feelings of hate, jealousy or envy. We can't wallow in self-pity or give in to feelings of doubt or negativity. We have to rely on our faith, recognize when we are being tested by God or tempted by the enemy, and remind ourselves of the word presented to us in Romans 8:28, *And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.*

God cares for us. As an example of His overflowing love for us, He has surrounded us with people to bring joy to our lives. In the best use of our lives, let's make every effort to express our love with the time that we spend with others. Time spent with others builds relationships, strengthens bonds and deepens the love that we have for another. Time spent studying God's Word helps to gain an understanding of His plan for unifying the body under Christ. *And this is the plan: At the right time he will bring everything together under the authority of Christ - everything in heaven and on earth. (Ephesians 1:10)*

As long as we are here together on earth, now will always be the best time to show our love through time spent with each other.



In Memoriam



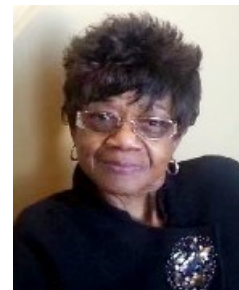
Sis. Allene Owens
September 12, 1923 - December 26, 2020



Sis. Ruth Howard
July 22, 1932 - December 30, 2020



Deacon Dan Campbell
March 19, 1950 - January 17, 2021



Sis. Henrietta Buie
February 2, 1937 - January 23, 2021
*Precious in the sight of the Lord
is the death of his saints.*

Psalm 116:15



Around Lincoln...



Bro. Eric Melvin announces his calling to preach God's Word! We're excited for Bro. Melvin and pray for God's continued blessings upon him and his effort to work the works of God to grow His Kingdom. Congratulations Bro. Melvin!



Following the preaching of his initial sermon, Rev. Atkins presents Minister Carlos Best with a certificate recognizing his status as a Licensed Minister of the Gospel. Congratulations Minister Best!



Sis. Kathy Williams, Sis. Pamela Jernigan and Sis. Apryl Jernigan participate in a service project with the Diaper Bank of NC to assist families in need.

Minister's Corner

- by Rev. Patricia Lee

HEBREWS 11:1

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things to come.

Biblical scriptures often begin with the words "it came to pass". Theologians offer different definitions of this phrase. I particularly prefer the one that reminds me that nothing lasts forever. One needs that assurance when a problem drags on so long that you start believing it will never end. Try using my true scenario as an example.



The night has been long for me and sleep has failed to come. It is past seven a.m. and I have to get labs drawn in a few hours. I don't wish to disturb my husband so I quietly enter another room. I flick on a switch and the imitation flames from the gas logs light up. My mind immediately travels back in time. I remember growing up without gas logs for providing heat or creating a somber quiet ambience. Instead my Granny is in the cold kitchen where the large shiny coal stove stands. The wood and coal have been brought in from the night before. Granny is singing in that cold room while she loads the stove with the coal, wood and newspaper. It only takes a small amount of time for the fire to "catch". The stove begins pouring welcoming heat into the cold kitchen. Homemade biscuits and pear preserves are now ready. Of course by now everyone is awake and Granny is still singing. I'm looking at her and wondering why is she singing and thanking God.

She has done all this work this early in the morning. Now she has to walk many miles to her job at a tobacco factory in the cold weather. She has to walk back home in the cold weather and repeat the same hard chores. Yet she is still singing. She is still going to church and dragging us kids with her. Still offering praises to her Promise Keeping God. She is still trying to help raise her grandchildren so my mama can work. Granny why are you singing? I never asked her that question because I knew better. But as I came to know Him for myself I realized why she was singing. During the many storms and struggles she had to bare she also enjoyed the Harvest of true enduring faith.

For "it came to pass", that her remorseful husband returned. He purchased a home for them that had central heat and air conditioning. She had no more financial worries.

God's plan and love for his precious daughter was manifested in His promise. This promise is for us all if we only believe.

As we seek to remember a hero or outstanding achiever to honor during Black History Month, try looking in your own family history. Hopefully you will see Jesus there too.

"It came to pass". Sleep has now come.

Black History Spotlight

Historically Black Colleges and Universities Series



Bennett College

In 1873, Bennett College had its beginning in the unplastered basement of the Warnersville Methodist Episcopal Church (now known as St. Matthews United Methodist Church). Seventy young men and women started elementary and secondary level studies. In 1874 the Freedmen's Aid Society took over the school which remained under its auspices for 50 years.

Within five years of 1873, a group of emancipated slaves purchased the present site for the school. College level courses and permanent facilities were added. In 1926, The Women's Home Missionary Society joined with the Board of Education of the church to make Bennett College in Greensboro, N.C., formerly co-educational, a college for women. The challenges that were overcome to establish Bennett demand that today's challenges be met and overcome to ensure her survival.

For nearly 150 years women have found Bennett to be the ideal place to foster the constant rhythm of ideas. Each student's individual need for self-expression and desire for achievement is constantly nurtured. The College fosters a strong respect for every student. Today, in the midst of a very active renaissance, Bennett is preparing contemporary women to be well educated, productive professionals, informed, participating citizens, and enlightened parents. The College offers twenty-four areas of study in Education, the Social Sciences, the Humanities, and in Natural and Behavioral Sciences and Mathematics. Numerous opportunities to study at other higher education institutions at home and abroad are available to continue the educational enrichment of Bennett's students. From its founding in the basement of a Methodist Church, Bennett College remains affiliated with the United Methodist Church.

The goals of the College continue to focus on the intellectual, spiritual and cultural growth of young women who must be prepared for lifelong learning and leadership. Since 1930 more than 5,000 women have graduated from Bennett College. Known as Bennett Belles, they continue to be among contributing women of achievement in all walks of life.

<https://www.bennett.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

Christian Education Ministry Presents...

The COVID-19 Vaccine: Making Your Decision

With
Cedric M. Bright, MD, FACP
East Carolina University

Associate Dean for Admissions,
Brody School of Medicine
Professor of Internal Medicine
112 President, National Medical
Association



**February 1
7 pm
Login: 6:45 pm**

**Meeting ID: meet.google.com/fvy-dnoe-cth
Phone Number 530-414-9578
PIN: 640 132 591#**

Teen Sunday School

meet.google.com/rxr-rehw-keg

Phone:

484-816-4113 • PIN: 870 747 288#

Adult Sunday School

meet.google.com/irq-saum-atu

Phone:

315-642-7335 • PIN: 710 765 343#

Weekly Bible Study

meet.google.com/qyw-qspm-omb

Phone:

567-259-6448 • PIN: 251 064 968#

Happy Birthday to our February Birthday Celebrities!

*Tyrone Pratt (2nd) • Annie Wright (3rd)
Miracle Johnson (4th) • Robert Brodie (7th)
Shannon Daye (7th) • Sam Kearney (8th)
Kimberly Alexander (14th) • Felicia Amos (20th)
Bianca Brodie (21st) • Annie Wilson (21st)
Bryce Davenport (27th)*

Happy Anniversary!

None

Best Wishes For Many More!!

Moments and Memories

Losing our friends and family members is never easy and that same feeling of loss and sadness extends to our departed Lincoln family members as well. We are blessed, however, to have memories of our time spent with them. Following are just a few of the many moments shared over the years with Sis. Allene Owens, Sis. Ruth Howard, Sis. Henrietta Buie and Deacon Dan Campbell. May they forever live on in our hearts.



Sis. Owens enjoys the moment at one of our Senior Adult Appreciation Dinner events with her friends Sis. Rosa Bass and Sis. Pearline Hicks. Later, she enjoys the moment at a Senior Adult Appreciation Cook Out with Mrs. Emma Gatling, a friend of several Lincoln family members.



Sis. Howard enjoys the fellowship following a church function. Years later, with the aide of her grandson Robbie, she makes her way to a Senior Adult Appreciation Cook Out.



Sis. Buie enjoys a special moment with her husband, Bro. Alton Buie. Later, Bro and Sis. Buie prepare to attend a Senior Adult Appreciation Dinner event.



Deacon Campbell shares a proud moment with his family following the graduation of Jocelyn and Jacqueline from North Carolina A&T State University. Later, he shares a tender moment with Janice at her 50th birthday celebration.

Celebrating Black History!

- by Bro. Cecil Sharrock

Welcome to Black History Month 2021. As we celebrate the Men and Women who were the builders of our many “Illustrious past Accomplishments”, let us renew our commitment to the youth of today by talking and teaching them their “History”! Tell them how out of much “Struggle, Pain, Prayer and Persistence”, the “Footprints and Influence” of our “Forefathers” can be seen in the rise of this Nation’s prominence in all areas!! Today, let us renew our “Promise” to those who paved the way for us, by ensuring that the Youth of today never forget the “Sacrifices” that were made to ensure that in their lifetime, there would be the “Opportunities” that were not afforded to their “Forefathers” as they fought the “Good” fight!! In 1865, Frederick Douglass words to the Freed Slaves still ring true today in 2021. He informed them that “The only way up and out of your Economic Circumstance, is through Education”!! Today, the number of those seeking Education is lower than in the 60’s and 70’s for a variety of reasons! At this “Watershed” moment in our History, it is “Imperative” that we do not allow our young people to continue on the road of “Cynicism and Apathy!! We must encourage our young people to get out of the “Complaining Line and get into the Blessing Line”, because they now have the opportunity to choose their own “Destiny”!! However, we must show and teach them first how to “Love GOD” and they will “Learn to Love” themselves!! These are the two main “Ways” to live Neighborly with Men” and it is a requirement of our Faith to GOD!!

As you read these words my “Young” Brothers and Sisters while thinking about and planning your “Future”, please know and accept the “Fact” that “YOU” must invest in yourself and take advantage of “Grants, Scholarships, Federal and Private Loans” to help better your lives!! Yes, you will owe money, but your return on your “Investment” will be better “Jobs, Housing” along with a “Positive Path” into an “Awesome Future”. This is your 1865 “Call to Action” moment! You must have a “Diploma, Certificate or Degree” in a “Profession” of your choosing in order to live a “Productive and Positive life”!! Please understand that I am not telling you where to go, because where you seek your higher learning experience is always your choice! I merely want to share with you how your forefathers “Prayed and

Prepared” a place for you long before you were born. How “Cool” is that”! Allow me to share with you the “Fact” that there are 100 plus “Historically Black Colleges and Universities” (HBCU’S) in this country, all “ACCREDITED” for you to attend and each one is filled with the richness of “OUR History” on full display on a daily basis!! As you walk the campuses of these “Universities” that were built for us, by us!! (FUBU), you will see buildings named after people who looked like you, walk on the “hallowed” grounds of “Legends, Mothers, Fathers, relatives and other individuals” who donated their “Time, Talents and Treasures” to ensure that there would be a place where “Generations” could Learn, Grow” and make “viable and lasting contributions” to our Nation. The “Freedom” of choice is always your right, but I encourage all young people to consider one of the “HBCU’S in the state of “North Carolina”, as they are being featured monthly in *The Testament*!!



Lovingly, I encourage all of us to talk with the “Elders” in our family, to ensure that your “Family’s” History will be told and not lost!! As we go through “LIFE”, we know that everyone needs a good marching song. Please add to your “Playlist” our National Anthem, *Lift Every Voice and Sing*, which has led “GENERATIONS” to the “Positive” place that we find ourselves today. I employ you to “LEARN” the words, sing it in your “HEART”; “TEACH” it to your “Children” and make it a part of your daily “Spiritual and Earthly walk!! In this song, the last verse is our “PROMISE to GOD that we will never Forget”! Please take the time to “READ and Reflect” on that Verse and what it could mean in your “Life”!! I pray that all of us will “RENEW” our “Promise” to GOD, by being the best example of “GOD’S LOVE, Grace and MERCY” daily!! Remember: “LEGACY” must be taught by the consistent repeating of “Historical” facts!! In 2021 my “Prayer” is: “May we “NEVER” come this close to losing “LIBERTY” in our “Beloved Nation” again”!!

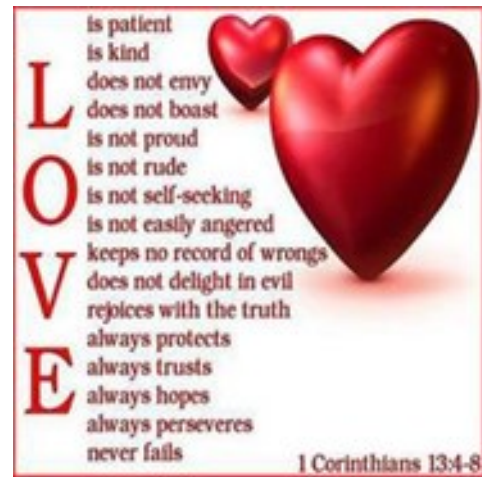
Please note: The “Pot Luck” and “Black History Program “ will be VIRTUAL this year. Details are forthcoming and information will be shared via email and LMBC Website!!

KIDZ ZONE

-submitted by Sis. Earleen Sharrock



Many people talk about the things they think they love. A little boy might say he loves his new video game. A little girl might say she loves her new doll house. A grown man might say he loves his car or a grown woman might say she loves her new hairdo. But is all of this really love? Can a person really love things?



Let's take a moment to think about love.... What is love? ... How can we show love?

Love means caring for another person as much as you care for yourself. Love means to treat another person the way you want to be treated. We show our love through our actions. If you would not want to be hurt, or pinched, or kicked, or teased, or bullied, then you should never do those things to someone else. On the other hand, if you would like to be treated kindly, then you should be kind to others.

The Bible, in 1 Corinthians 13, tells us how to show our love:

By being patient. This means not whining or complaining when having to wait a long time.

By being kind, even when someone is not kind to you.

By not being envious. That means being happy when good things happen to someone else and not being upset that it didn't happen to you.

By being well-behaved.

By sharing and not being selfish.

By staying calm and not being quick to become angry.

By telling the truth.

Now let's take another look at the things people think they love. The little boy will eventually become bored with playing the same video game over and over. It will be left on the shelf and forgotten. Is that really love?

The little girl will get older and find new interests, and stop playing with the doll house. Is that really love?

Even adults don't always know what love is. The car will someday break down, and the man will have to dispose of it and get a new one. The woman's hair will grow; she will not like it and will get a new hairstyle. All of these things are only with us for a little while. We cannot and should not love things, because they come to an end and then love would have to end. But **real love never ends**. We should love people and we should love God so that our love will last forever.

Dear Heavenly Father, Thank you that you are a loving, gracious God. We ask for your help in reminding us that the most significant thing we can do in this life is simply to love you and to choose to love others. In Jesus' Name I pray. Amen.

KIDZ ZONE

-submitted by Sis. Earleen Sharrock

Love Word Search

1 Corinthians 13:4-8

Find the hidden words.



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

Is **PATIENT**

Is **KIND**

Is Not **JEALOUS**

Does Not **BRAG**

Is Not **ARROGANT**

Does Not Act **UNBECOMINGLY**

Does Not Seek Its **OWN**

Is Not **PROVOKED**

Does Not Take Into Account A
Wrong **SUFFERED**

Does Not Rejoice In
UNRIGHTEOUSNESS

REJOICES With The Truth

BEARS All Things

BELIEVES All Things

HOPES All Things

ENDURES All Things

February 2021

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

**Note - Most meetings are being held either virtually or via the telephone. Rev. Atkins will advise when all services and meetings may resume at Lincoln.*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 7:00pm CBE COVID Webinar	2 6:30pm Mass Choir	3 6:00am *Conference Call Prayer Line 12:00Noon Noon Day Prayer & Bible Study 7:00pm Bible Study	4 1:00pm RTTC Community Group 6:30pm Mass Choir	5	6 10:00am Trustees 12:00Noon Women of Faith 1:00pm Missionary Ministry
7	8 6:30pm Music Committee	9 6:30pm Sounds of Joy	10 6:00am *Conference Call Prayer Line 12:00Noon Noon Day Prayer & Bible Study 7:00pm Bible Study	11 1:00pm RTTC Community Group 6:00pm Christian Education 6:30pm Sounds of Joy	12	13 10:00am Deaconess
14 8:00am Deacons	15	16 6:30pm Voices of Praise	17 6:00am *Conference Call Prayer Line 12:00Noon Noon Day Prayer & Bible Study 7:00pm Bible Study	18 1:00pm RTTC Community Group 6:30pm Voices of Praise	19	20 10:00am Layman's League
21	22 6:00pm Health & Wellness	23 6:30pm Computing & Technology 6:30pm Male Chorus	24 6:00am *Conference Call Prayer Line 12:00Noon Noon Day Prayer & Bible Study 7:00pm Bible Study	25 6:30pm Male Chorus	26	27 Time TBA Virtual Black History Program
28						

****Conference Call Prayer Line: Dial (605) 475-3235 and enter the pin - 20396# after the prompt.***

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.

Please send articles, photos or information for The Testament to newsletter@mylmbc.org by the 3rd Sunday of each month.