

# The Testament

May 2021

Lincoln Memorial Baptist Church

Durham, NC

## Morning Glory!

- by Bro. Dean Jernigan

*For His anger is but for a moment, His favor is for life;  
Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning.*

(Psalm 30:5 NKJV)



With those words, the God inspired pen of King David reminds us of the nature of our Heavenly Father's untiring grace and mercy for us. God's wrath is just a blip on the screen compared to the love and favor that He sends our way over the course of lives.

Sometimes, as we take our daily walk along faith's highway, we fall short of our goal to please God and to do His Will. Whether it's giving in to temptation, mistreating our neighbor, or any of the sins noted in Proverbs 6:16-19 that displease God, we find ourselves out of alignment with His desire that we act in ways that show love toward each other. King David notes that while weeping may result as an outcome of God's wrath, His everlasting and life sustaining love for us will always prevail as the larger end result. Thus, joy will greet us each day as we rise with a new opportunity to do His Will.

God makes it clear in His Word that our joy is a priority for Him. His Will is that our joy will be full and complete (John 15:11), that we are joyful in our hope and faithful in prayer (Romans 12:12), and that we count it all joy during our trials and tribulations (James 1:2).

The story of Paul and Silas in the book of Acts provides a wonderful illustration of why we should always keep the faith and maintain the joy of the Lord within us. Recall that as they travelled spreading the teachings of Christ, they were wrongly arrested, severely beaten and thrown into prison. With their feet shackled and the two of them placed in an inner dungeon of the prison, Paul and Silas faced a dire and uncertain future. Yet, despite the gloom that hovered over them, they rejoiced! Acts 16:25 tells us that around midnight, they were praying and singing hymns to God. Reading further we learn that a powerful earthquake occurs, the shackles are broken and Paul, Silas and all of the

other prisoners are set free. Rather than losing their joy, Paul and Silas stayed faithful in their trust in God. *Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)*

As we continue to combat the perils of a deadly global pandemic and the seemingly endless loss of life in our community, we too have to stay faithful to God's Word and hold on to the joy that resides in us. Remember that as we start each day, we have to plant it in our minds that no one will steal our joy. We have to know that the enemy will send his troops to distract and annoy us, but we have to understand that it's only a test. We know that God allows us to be tested – Job is the best example of that fact. But throughout the trial, we have to take comfort in knowing that no matter how hard it gets or how difficult the day may seem, that our Heavenly Father has said in His Word that He will never leave or forsake us.

So take the joy of the morning with you wherever go throughout the day! Give thanks and appreciate the fact that just by waking us up, God has bestowed His glory upon us! Choose to be happy. Choose to succeed. Choose to overcome the ever-present vibes of hate with the overflowing love of Christ that resides our hearts.

In their walk of faith, our senior adults held on to the joy of God's love as they endured the trials and challenges of an unjust society. Our mothers and mother figures bestowed the joy of God's love onto the precious gift of life that He placed under their care to nourish, raise and protect. And those faithful and forward-thinking members who gathered together 65 years ago built on the morning glory of God's favor and erected a sanctuary to express our ongoing joy of God's favor.

Hold on to your joy during life's challenges and rejoice in the victories that

## Working The Works of God



*Supported by family and friends, Minister Eric Melvin delivers his initial sermon on faith and hope to the Lincoln family. We pray that God will continue to guide Minister Melvin as he follows his passion to help grow God's Kingdom! Congratulations Minister Melvin!*



*Sis. Kathy Williams provides words of gratitude to the Lincoln family during our annual Graves Scholarship Day. The Graves Scholarship is entering its 34th year of providing assistance to students pursuing higher education beyond high school.*

God grants on our walk along faith's highway. Savor the glory of each new morning and the opportunity to do God's Will. *Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 15:13 NKJV)*

# “The Sacrifice of Christ” Good Friday Service

Led by our Christian Education Ministry, the Lincoln family remembers and honors the awesome sacrifice of our Saviour in observance of Good Friday. Our service featured the reading of selected scriptures, musical performances and a tribute from our youth. The service provided a vivid illustration of the fact that although we may be socially distanced as a church family, nothing will separate us from the love of Christ.



*Youth members from the Sounds of Joy provide spiritual recitations based on Easter acrostic.*



*Musician Andrew Dillion and his wife, Chelsea, perform a moving rendition of “It Is Well”.*



*Sis. Adrienne Jernigan replicates herself to provide harmony during her performance of “Majesty”.*

*\*Note-Because of the intentional low lighting surrounding the scriptural readings, photos of those individuals are not available. Still, we would like to recognize Sis. Pamela Jernigan, Sis. Barbara Leathers, Deacon Tony Williams, Sis. Kathy Williams, Deacon William Mayfield, Sis. Deborah Murphy, Bro. Dean Jernigan and Sis. Janetta Wadlington for their participation in the service.*

# Minister’s Corner

- by Rev. Patricia Lee

**Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing.  
1 Thessalonians 5:16-17**

## Come On and “Fan the Gnats”

Recently I was removing unused items such as toys, household goods and unwanted office supplies from our crowded closets and cabinets. This task lasted for quite some time. I am not sure what happened but all of a sudden I felt a sharp strong pain on the right side of my head. I immediately sat down to try to rest. I had no success with sitting. I made the room dark and quiet. In a few minutes my husband entered the dark room. Because he is aware of my health issues he immediately began to call on the Lord while insisting that I take some Tylenol. The strong headache slowly eased but didn’t go away. It remained a constant reminder of the previous pain and the threat of its return. It was obvious I needed a defense tactic!



Pastor Douglas West shared a story of abused female prisoners being held in an extremely warm and gnat infested prison camp. Some of the camp's holding tents were so badly invaded with the gnats that women would spend endless hours fanning the pesty bugs away. It was common for the guards to visit the prison camps and carry lady prisoners away for their own pleasure. According to Pastor West it was recorded that whenever the guards approached the ladies and saw them persistently fanning away the gnats they would pass by that camp assuming it to be unsanitary due to the presence of so many gnats. This action kept these prisoners from further violation by the prison guard.

Oftentimes life doesn’t treat us as we desire to be treated. Its unfairness can lead to much pain and suffering. We continue experiencing family issues, plagues, violence, racism, classism, socialism, and more. And yet we also continue the steadfast strength of God's love through Jesus Christ and by the Holy Spirit. Our position and only defense is simple. “Fan the Gnats.”

Your head may be hurting but you have a loved one crying out to God for you, “Fan the Gnats”. BUDGET in critical condition but faithful God already has a blessing coming through, “Fan the Gnats”. Arthritis all in your bones but the warm water soaks enables you to hold on, “Fan the Gnats”. Children straying and misbehaving, “Fan the Gnats”. All kinds of wars and rumors of war, “Fan the gnats”.

So let’s come together and give our wonderful Saviour all the glory and praise He always deserves. His agonizing suffering on the cross is proof that we too can FAN THE GNATS!

Always praying and believing, “Fan the Gnats On Christ the Solid Rock I Stand”. “Fan the Gnats.” No weapon formed against me shall prosper. “Fan the Gnats!” Be grateful and “Fan the Gnats!” Always rejoicing because we know that our labor is not in vain. If we just hold out til tomorrow, if we just keep the faith while holding God's strong hand we will overcome. Just keep on praying while we FAN. **THAT IS OUR ONLY DEFENSE.**



# ***Black History Spotlight***

***Historically Black Colleges and Universities Series***



## **Johnson C. Smith University**

On April 7, 1867, at a meeting of the Catawba Presbytery in the old Charlotte Presbyterian Church, the movement for the school was formally inaugurated, which by charter was named The Freedmen's College of North Carolina.

**1867-1876:** Mary D. Biddle of Philadelphia, Pa., pledged \$1,400 to the school. In appreciation of this first and generous contribution, friends requested Mrs. Biddle name the newly established school after her late husband, Major Henry Biddle. From 1867 to 1876, the school was named Biddle Memorial Institute and chartered by the state legislature.

**1876:** Charlotte citizen Colonel W. R. Myers donated the first eight acres of land for the school. The school charter was changed by the North Carolina Legislature, and the name became Biddle University.

**1919:** Biddle University became the first Black college in the South to offer professional courses in education.

**1921-1922:** The late Jane Berry Smith, of Pittsburgh, Pa., gave funds to build a theological dormitory, science hall, teachers' cottage and memorial gate. She provided a handsome endowment for the institution in memory of her late husband, Johnson C. Smith. In recognition of these gifts, the board of trustees changed the name of the institution to Johnson C. Smith University (JCSU).

**1924:** JCSU was recognized as a four-year college by the North Carolina State Board of Education, and the university was further strengthened by a substantial provision from James B. Duke.

**1938:** The institution attained the status of an independent college, affiliated with the Presbyterian Church, reporting to the General Assembly through the Board of Christian Education.

**1944:** JCSU joined the United Negro College Fund as a founding member.

**2000:** JCSU became one of the few colleges in the country, and the first HBCU, to provide an IBM laptop computer to every student.

**Today:** JCSU continues its mission of providing an outstanding education to its students and endeavors to produce graduates who are able to and think critically and demonstrate competence in their chosen fields.

[https://www.jcsu.edu/about/our\\_university/history](https://www.jcsu.edu/about/our_university/history)

The Testament is produced monthly by our Newsletter Committee. Please send articles, photos or other items for publication to [newsletter@mylmbc.org](mailto: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

# ***“Mom”***

*A baby asked God, “They tell me you are sending me to earth tomorrow, but how am I going to live there being so small and helpless?”*

*God said, “Your angel will be waiting for you and will take care of you.”*

*The child further inquired, “But tell me, here in heaven I don’t have to do anything but sing and smile to be happy.” God said, “Your angel will sing for you and will also smile for you. And you will feel your angel’s love and be very happy.”*

*Again the child asked, “And how am I going to be able to understand when people talk to me if I don’t know the language?” God said, “Your angel will tell you the most beautiful and sweet words you will ever hear, and with much patience and care, your angel will teach you how to speak.”*

*And what am I going to do when I want to talk to you?” God said, “Your angel will place your hands together and will teach you how to pray.”*

*Who will protect me?” God said, “Your angel will defend you even if it means risking its life.”*

*But I will always be sad because I will not see you anymore.” God said, “Your angel will always talk to you about Me and will teach you the way to come back to Me, even though I will always be next to you.”*

*At that moment there was much peace in Heaven, but voices from Earth could be heard and the child hurriedly asked, “God, if I am to leave now, please tell me my angel’s name.”*

**God said, “You will simply call her, “Mom.”**



## ***Happy Mother’s Day!***

### ***Happy Birthday***

***to our***

### ***May Birthday Celebrities!***

*Cameron Smith (1st) • Maranda Leverette (11th)*

*Makiah Atwater (14th) • Hazel Parker (20th)*

*Heaven Williams (21st) • Edith Thorpe (23rd)*

*Kenneth Holman (26th)*

### ***Happy Anniversary!***

*Bro. Joe and Sis. Janetta Wadlington (May 3rd)*

*Deacon Leonidus and Deaconess Willee Murphy (May 27th)*

***Best Wishes For Many More!!***

# Saluting Our Senior Adults

“Communities of Strength” is this year’s theme for Older Americans Month. Each May, the Lincoln family joins the rest of the nation in honoring these precious pillars of our community. We recognize them for the paths that they have cleared for the generations that follow and for their ongoing commitment to enriching the lives of others. Thank You to our wonderful Senior Adults. We also honor the memory of those members who have transitioned from laboring in the vineyard to resting in the bosom of our Heavenly Father.

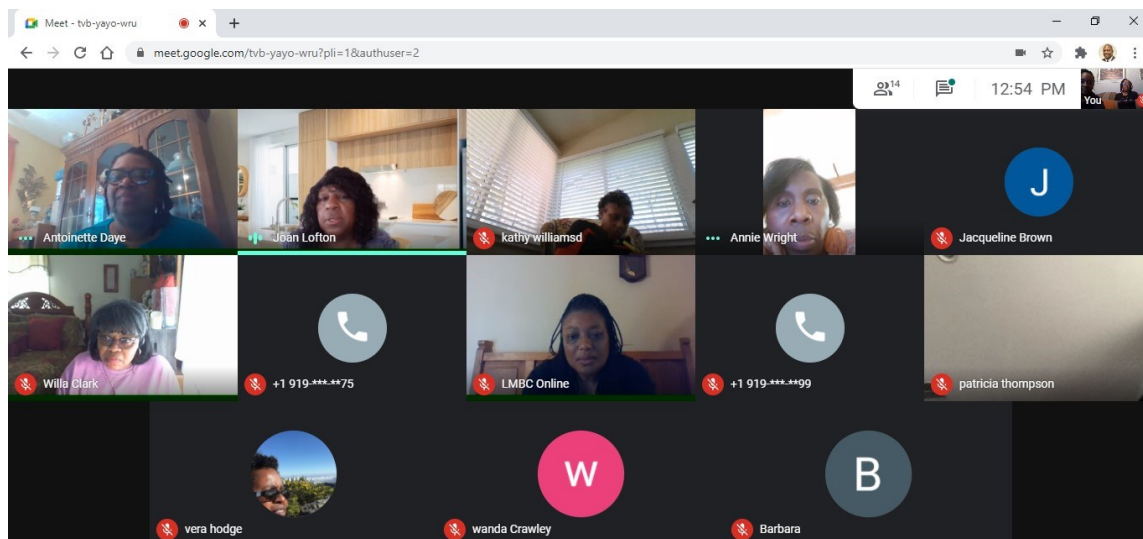


*Ye shall walk in all the ways which the Lord your God hath commanded you, that ye may live, and that it may be well with you, and that ye may prolong your days in the land which ye shall possess.*

*Deuteronomy 5:33*



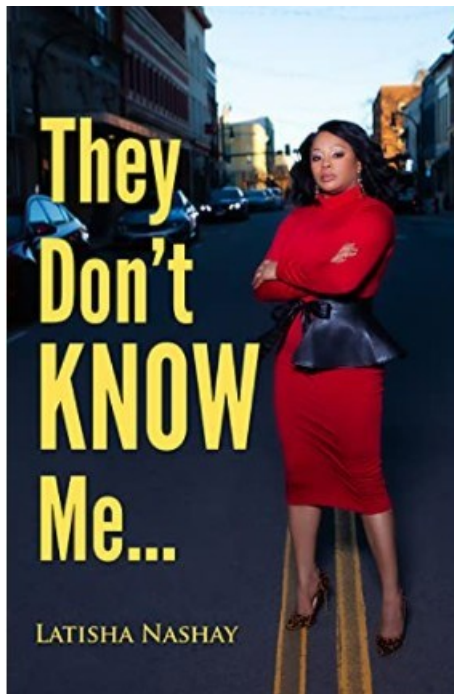
## Women Of Faith



The Women of Faith are continuing to enjoy their book study of *Life Interrupted*. Minister Antoinette Daye led a spirit-filled discussion of Part 2 - “On the Run”, at the April meeting. All women are invited to join the Women of Faith each first Saturday at noon for an afternoon of sisterly fellowship. Please contact Sis. Joan Lofton for more information about the Women of Faith. Please join the monthly meeting on Google Meet at: [meet.google.com/tvb-yayo-wru](https://meet.google.com/tvb-yayo-wru) or call to join by phone at: 573-568-8273 PIN: 228 755 757#



# Do We Know Her?



**Congratulations to Sis. Latisha Johnson** on the publication of her book, *They Don't Know Me*. The book is a collection of poems that Sis. Johnson has written over the years. On the day of its release, it ranked #1 in two categories on Amazon:

Best Sellers Rank: #4,901 in Kindle Store (See Top 100 in Kindle Store)  
#1 in Two-Hour Parenting & Relationships Short Reads  
#1 in Black & African American Poetry (Kindle Store)  
#4 in Two-Hour Teen & Young Adult Short Reads

To promote her book and celebrate its publication, Sis. Johnson held a virtual launch party on Zoom and Facebook. She read some of her poems and shared the stories behind them. The book has received many favorable and positive comments, but here at Lincoln we're not surprised by that at all. Because yes, we do know her, and we have been blessed by the beauty of her poetry for many years. We pray for God's continued blessings for Sis. Johnson and the success of *They Don't Know Me*.



Joined by several friends and members of her support circle, Sis. Johnson celebrates the release of *They Don't Know Me*. The book is available at Amazon.com

# Singing A Message of Love

With a heart of love and compassion, several members of the Fellowship Mass Choir were moved to pay a surprise visit to Sis. Grace McFadden and Sis. Ann Williams during the Easter weekend. The choir used their voices to sing songs of joy to these beloved individuals. Sis. Barbara Harrell and Bro. Leon Goldston also joined in this heartfelt display of love.





# KIDZ ZONE

*-submitted by Sis. Earleen Sharrock*

## Blessed Mothers

Blessed are the Mothers who love God, for their children shall not be ignorant of their Creator and His plans concerning them.

Blessed are the Mothers who love the word of God, for their children shall know of the way, the truth and the life.

Blessed are the Mothers who love the house of God, for their children shall enter there and sit with them in the presence of God.

Blessed are the Mothers who love to pray, for their children shall feel the power of prayer and many shall find salvation.

Blessed are the Mothers who love to give to the cause of Christ, for their children shall become supporters of the Kingdom of God.

Blessed are the Mothers who love the family altar, for they shall have their reward in this world and in the world to come.

Blessed are the Mothers who love to speak kind words to their neighbour's children, for thereby they shall win other boys and girls besides their own to Jesus Christ.

Blessed are the Mothers who love to be companions to their children, for they shall be called understanding Mothers.

Blessed are the Mothers who love to fight life's battles bravely with a strong and steadfast faith in God, for their children shall know where to find strength in time of need.

Blessed are the Mothers who, when they are old and gray, can look back upon memory's wall with no regret and can say, "I brought my children up in the fear of the Lord."  
Theirs are the mansions in glory.

(Author unknown)

# KIDZ ZONE

-submitted by Sis. Earleen Sharrock

Find the path to MOM's heart!



Happy Mother's Day!

[www.sayplease.com](http://www.sayplease.com)



1. SMOEMERI \_\_\_\_\_
2. EWSTE \_\_\_\_\_
3. RADC \_\_\_\_\_
4. IDNK \_\_\_\_\_
5. EPASCLI \_\_\_\_\_
6. GUSH \_\_\_\_\_
7. FSIGT \_\_\_\_\_
8. EOLV \_\_\_\_\_
9. OTSHEMR ADY \_\_\_\_\_
10. ORSLWFE \_\_\_\_\_
11. SESKSI \_\_\_\_\_
12. LNHDCRIE \_\_\_\_\_
13. TECOLOHCA \_\_\_\_\_
14. YANCD \_\_\_\_\_
15. GRACNI \_\_\_\_\_

*All About Mom*

My Mom is \_\_\_\_\_ years old.

My Mom's favorite color is \_\_\_\_\_.

My Mom's favorite food is \_\_\_\_\_.

My Mom's favorite TV show is \_\_\_\_\_.

My Mom cooks the best \_\_\_\_\_.

My Mom's favorite thing to do is \_\_\_\_\_.

My Mom's job is \_\_\_\_\_.

My Mom loves me because \_\_\_\_\_.

My Mom makes me feel special when she \_\_\_\_\_.

If my Mom could go on a trip, she would go \_\_\_\_\_.

My Mom always tells me \_\_\_\_\_.

My Mom likes to wear \_\_\_\_\_.

My Mom is the best at \_\_\_\_\_.

Love, \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

# May 2021

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30 9:00am Worship Service	31 <b>Memorial Day</b>	<div> <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> </div>				1 10:00am Trustees 12:00Noon Women of Faith 1:00pm Missionary Ministry
2 <b>Senior Adult Appreciation Day</b>	3  6:30pm Music Committee	4  6:30pm Sounds of Joy	5 6:00am 12 Noon 6:00pm *Conference Call Prayer Line  7:00pm Bible Study	6 1:00pm RTTC Community Group  6:30pm Sounds of Joy	7	8  10:00am Deaconess
9 <b>Mother's Day</b>	10	11  6:30pm Voices of Praise	12 6:00am 12 Noon 6:00pm *Conference Call Prayer Line  7:00pm Bible Study	13 1:00pm RTTC Community Group  6:00pm Christian Education 6:30pm Voices of Praise	14	15  10:00am Layman's League
16 <b>Church Anniversary</b>	17  6:00pm Health & Wellness	18  6:30pm Male Chorus	19 6:00am 12 Noon 6:00pm *Conference Call Prayer Line  7:00pm Bible Study	20 1:00pm RTTC Community Group  7:00pm <b>Church Conference</b>	21	22
23	24	25  6:30pm Computing & Technology 6:30pm Mass Choir	26 6:00am 12 Noon 6:00pm *Conference Call Prayer Line  7:00pm Bible Study	27  6:30pm Mass Choir	28	29

*Photos Taken/Submitted by Sis. Adrienne Jernigan, Minister Eric Melvin and Bro. Dean Jernigan*