

*“Proclaiming the Changeless Christ  
to a  
Changing World”*

*~ Hebrews 1:1-2, 13:7-8*

**Congress of Christian Education**

**East Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Association, Inc.**

*Sub Theme:*

*Players Working Together / Different Positions / Common Goals*

**Rev. Dr. Herbert L. Dickerson, Senior Pastor,  
Orange Grove Missionary Baptist Church**

**Rev. Shelton Harris, President,  
Congress of Christian Education**

**The Congress of Christian Education  
East Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Association, Inc.**

**2018 SPRING INSTITUTE**

**April 10-12, 2018 ~ 6:00 - 8:00 PM**

**Orange Grove Missionary Baptist Church • 505 East End Ave. • Durham, NC 27703**



***The beauty of working together towards a common goal***

*“Proclaiming the Changeless Christ to a Changing World”*

— *Hebrews 1:1-2, 13:7-8*

You and I change daily and constantly. We grow older, weaker, heavier, thinner. Our perspectives change. Our priorities change. Our interests, likes, loves, moods, commitments, circumstances, and health conditions change. Yesterday we were not the same as we are today. Today we are not the same as we will be tomorrow.

*“Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today, and forever.”* Hebrews 13:8

**Tuesday, April 10**      **Opening Assembly • 6 pm (Sanctuary)**  
**Classes 6:30 PM**

**Wednesday, April 11**      **Classes 6 - 8 PM (Report directly to class)**

**Thursday, April 12**      **Inspirational Speaker for All Classes (Sanctuary) 6:45 PM**

TARGET AUDIENCE	INSTRUCTORS	ROOM #
<b>Tuesday &amp; Wednesday • April 10-12</b>		
The Ushers	Deacon Ronnie Robinson	Rm 205
The Work of the Church Trustee	Rev. George Crews, III, MS	Rm 208
The Traditional Church	Deacon Johnny Pettiford	Rm 106
The Mission Minded Church	Rev. Joyce Daye Clayton	Room 215
Deacon/Deaconess	Rev. Dr. Langston Logan	Sanctuary
The Center Seat	Rev. Dr. Herbert L. Dickerson	Room 214
The Second Seat	Rev. Dr. Larry Wilson	Room 220
Growing up in a Multi-changing world	Rev. Daryl Glenn	Room 109
<b>Tuesday • April 10</b>		
Blending Generations	Rev. James Isaac, III	Room 204
<b>Thursday • April 12</b>		
Inspirational Word • Rev. Dr. LaMont J. Johnson, Sr. • 6:30-8:00 pm		

*“So faith comes from hearing, and hearing from the word of Christ.”*

THE CONGRESS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION OF THE  
EAST CEDAR GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION OF NC, INC.

# SPRING INSTITUTE PROGRAM

## TUESDAY

Presiding.....Sis. Judy S. Jacobs, Outgoing Dean and Trustee Dannie Daniel, Incoming Dean, Congress of Christian Ed.

Song.....Rev. Adam Pettiford, Greater Cleggs Chapel Missionary Baptist Church

Scripture.....Minister Wanda William-Pettiford, Greater Cleggs Chapel Missionary Baptist Church

Prayer .....Rev. Rosa Hester, Cameron Grove Missionary Baptist Church Youth

Greetings ..... Rev. Dr. Herbert L. Dickerson, Senior Pastor, Orange Grove Missionary Baptist Church  
Rev. James Issac, III, Pastor, New Hope Granville Missionary Baptist Church  
Rev. Shelton Harris, President, Congress of Christian Education

Introduction of Instructors and Directives..... Rev. Shelton Harris, President, Congress of Christian Education

Report to Class  
(OGMBC Deacons & Volunteers will be in the hallways to direct you to the classrooms)



## WEDNESDAY

Report to Class



## THURSDAY

Report to Class for Close out in classrooms  
Report to Sanctuary for Inspirational Speaker at 6:45

Presiding.....Sis. Sandra Wilkerson, & Sis. Vereatha Barnett, Assistant Dean

Scripture ..... Minister Shaun Wilson, Orange Grove Missionary Baptist Church

Prayer ..... Rev. Victoria Dowd, Orange Grove Missionary Baptist Church

Introduction of Speaker ..... West Durham Missionary Baptist Church

Song.....Choir, West Durham Missionary Baptist Church

Inspirational Speaker..... Rev. Dr. LaMont J. Johnson, Sr., West Durham Baptist Church

Song.....Choir, West Durham Missionary Baptist Church



Attendance Report

Closing Remarks

Announcements



Benediction ..... Rev. Dr. LaMont J. Johnson, Sr., West Durham Baptist Church

## REV. SHELTON HARRIS, CONGRESS PRESIDENT

**Reverend Harris**, son of the late Mack and Marion Harris, was baptized on July 24, 1988 at Whites Grove Christian Church where God used him to serve on the Usher Board and as a Junior Deacon. He was later appointed to the Trustee Board. As he grew in the Lord, he was elevated to serve as Deacon and was ordained on September 30, 2000 and served as Deacon Board Chairman for six years.



With the help of the Lord, he began to grow in grace and spirit working with souls in the community and those confined to prison along with outreach education for gang and street ministry, Harris developed workshops geared towards helping youth for evangelism, youth culture, basic youth ministry and other advancement for youth leaders and parents who support their youth. He moved to Durham, NC where he continued working in God's vineyard and attending various churches in the community. God finally led him to First Ledge Rock Baptist Church over 10 years ago. The Holy Spirit began to move in his life and others began to see faithful and dedicated works being performed by this willing vessel which placed him in the following services: Assistant church clerk, Sunday school teacher, Bible study teacher; ECGMBA elected trustee board chairman; President of Congress Education, Chairman of Publicity, Laymen League workshop facilitator and vice president. Harris also served on the following committees: Historical, Budget and Leadership (Secretary). He is also the current treasurer for the Laymen's League for The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina,

As well as being a member of the National Baptist Convention, USA Laymen's League Southeast Regional Registration Committee (2016 Registrar); 2017 Sunday Morning Speaker for the National Baptist, USA Walter Cade South East Regional workshop. Reverend Harris has an extensive educational background to include Business Administration. He serves in the Chaplain ministry at Duke Regional Hospital and Hock Hospice Pavilion while volunteering services in Nursing Homes, Assisted Living Facilities and with the Homebound. He gets joy and inspiration from the smiles and encouraging words from those whom he ministers to. Rev. Harris is a proud dad while rearing and mentoring many children.

He is currently Board Chairman of Healing with CAARE, Inc and on the board of directors for New Hope Medical Training.

## TRUSTEE DANNIE DANIEL, CONGRESS DEAN

**Trustee Dannie Daniel** is a member of Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Church, serves on the Board of Trustees, a member of the Adult Choir, Male Chorus, Senior Missionary, and Christian Education Ministry.



Dannie is truly an outstanding photographer with an almost mystical ability to capture the true nature of people and events taking such amazing images of The East Cedar Grove Association's functions. He does an equally wonderful job of putting together the story of the day in our album.

## VEREATHA BARNETT, CONGRESS ASSISTANT DEAN

**Vereatha Barnett** – served as Superintendent over past 10 years – President Gospel Choir – Chairman of Memorial Service – Past Secretary Gospel Choir – Member of Missionary Circle as Assistant Secretary Pastor Aide – Chairperson of the sick Comm. ECGMBA Woman's Auxiliary – Public News article for church – Past Youth Bible study teacher – Taught adult class on 3rd and 5th Sunday – Currently Assist Dean of CC Ed –



Vereatha attended Vance Granville Community College and also took courses through Durham Tech.

Having retired in 2000, Vereatha spent 30 years at John Umstead Hospital in Butner NC. – Various jobs – Timekeeper – Typist – Transcriber – Med Tech – Staffer – Certified CNA – Work 3rd Shift Past time private duties – Work at many stores as a cashier – Mary Kay Consultant over last 12 years – FIG – Financial Consultant – Helping Hand Ministries – Many Telemarketing Co. Currently has 3 clients 1. Requires transportation to meet her needs. 2. Private duties and babysitting hobbies. Plays tennis for exercise, won many trophies – Eligible to play in league in Raleigh.

Vereatha a widow, is the mother of 2 children – James Hawkins Jr. and wife Wendiford – 1 son Jashawn, 2 step children, Megan and Lloyd. She is the daughter of the late Deacon Cephus and Mary Peace Streeter of Oxford.

Vereatha enjoys teaching – singing hymns – visiting homes and Nursing homes – Most of all her passion is serving all ages and lending a helping hand.

## DEACON RONNIE ROBINSON

Deacon Ronnie G. Robinson is the current President of the Ushers Union of the East Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Association. Concurrently, he also serves as the Ushers Ministry President at Saint John's Missionary Baptist Church, Inc. And is the former 2nd Vice Chairperson of the Durham Interdenominational Ushers Union.



At St. John's, Deacon Robinson also serves as a trustee and as a facilitator for the Men's Sunday School Class, is the Men's Fellowship Chairperson and is on their church's Finance committee.

It is his relationship with these ministries that makes him uniquely qualified to serve as today's speaker. Any ushers that has served with him knows that he is both passionate and is in tuned with ushering and that He has been a strong supporter of this ministry for many years. He has a great understanding of the ministry of ushering and a great appreciation of what it takes to put God first in ushering. Deacon Robinson is continuing on a path of progress for the ministry of ushering, and has a remarkable vision for its future.

As it relates to ushering, Deacon Robinson holds true to the following tenets:

1. The Ministry of Church ushering and welcoming is a sacred and powerful responsibility.
2. Church ushers are the "Welcoming and Hosting Committee" of the church they serve. He also stands on the premise that the church body needs a clearer understanding that they too, are a part of the welcoming ministry.
3. Church ushers must be Christ-like and have a spirit of meekness and humility.
4. A church usher must be well-trained in all aspects of the techniques of Church ushering.

Some of those who have actively mentored him in ushering with excellence are his Pastor Robert L. Daniels, Mrs. Laura Thorpe, Mrs. Phyllis Thorpe, Deacon Frank McCrea and Deacon Lola McKnight.

Deacon Robinson is a retired military veteran and the loving husband of Deaconess LaVerne Denise Robinson. They are also the parents of Dwight LaShawn Jones, Kenyatta Dwayne Robinson and Carmen Micole Robinson. They are also the proud grandparents six times over. He is an avid Green bay Packer and Clemson tiger Fan.

## REV. GEORGE CREWS III

Pastor Crews was born on May 15, 1973 to the late George Crews, Jr. and Mary B. Crews of Durham, North Carolina. Pastor Crews is married to the former Yvette Reade of Durham, North Carolina. This union has been blessed with four children, Symone Paige, George Malcolm, IV, Jasmyne Taja' and Hezekiah Dallas.



After receiving his call from God, Pastor Crews preached his blazing sermon on December 17, 1995 in the pulpit of the illustrious Rev. Dr. William Hazel Height of Greater St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church after which he also received his license to preach. Pastor Crews was thereafter ordained on July 25, 1999. Pastor Crews is a graduate of North Carolina Central University with a BA in Political Science with concentration in Public Administration. Additionally, he has also attended Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. Currently he is attending Apex School of Theology, and he will receive a Master's Degree in Divinity in May of 2016. In addition to all of this, Pastor Crews has worked for the Durham Public School System. He was active in the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance of Durham, NC. He has served as Treasurer for the Ministers and Deacons of the New Home and Durham Association. Pastor Crews served as President and Director of the Alpha Delta Service Group Incorporated, located in Mebane, NC. Pastor Crews began his pastoral journey by serving as Pastor of Evans Grove Baptist Church in Raleigh, NC for over three years. Then on March 17, 2002 Rev. Crews was installed as Senior Pastor of the Lattisville Grove Missionary Baptist Church, Hurdle Mills, North Carolina. He came with a vision of new ministries for the church family. In the short period of time that Pastor Crews has been here, God caused an increase to the church membership, which has grown from over 300 members up to 1,000 members. Along with that growth, the budget has increased significantly.

In 2003 and 2004 Pastor Crews and the Lattisville Grove Missionary Baptist Church was awarded Pastor and Church of the Year by the Northern Orange County Branch of the NAACP. In 2008 Pastor Crews and some of his members went on a mission trip to Africa where they helped to build a school and distributed eye glasses and shoes. As with everything that he does, Pastor Crews preaches and teaches with the fiery passion for the Word thereby always evidencing the fact that no matter how old or young, any vessel is fit for God's use.



## DEACON JOHNNIE PETTIFORD

Deacon Johnny Pettiford serves as Deacon at First Ledge Rock Missionary Baptist Church. Other experiences:



- Senior Sunday School Teacher
- Past President, Hawley Alumni Association
- Past President, District One and Past President Congress Christian Education (12 Yrs)
- Secretary of Ministers/Deacons/Deaconesses Union (8 Yrs)
- Secretary of East Cedar Grove Association (12 Yrs)
- Served on Budget Committee, Nominating Committee, Advisory Council
- Oratorical Director
- Has taught the Following Classes in Spring Institute: Superintendents, Trustee Class, Officers of Sunday School, Relationship of the Pastor, Trustee and Deacons to the Sunday School
- Principal, Assistant Principal and Teacher in the Public Schools (40 Yrs, plus)
- President of South Granville Users Union (22 Yrs)
- Have received over 30 Awards-Trophies from various organizations and groups including "Man of the Year", "Teacher of the Year", "Outstanding Educator", and the "Pioneer Award from Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity"
- Church Clerk
- Financial Secretary for Congress Christian Education
- Chair of the East Cedar Grove Graduation Celebration (June 2014)

## REV. JOYCE DAYE CLAYTON

Reverend Joyce Daye Clayton, Assistant Pastor at New Red Mountain Missionary Baptist under the leadership of Pastor, Reverend Dr. Larry Wilson was licensed to preach, March 31, 2009 and ordained on May 29, 2011, having received the Certificate of Ordination from The East Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Association of NC, Inc.



Reverend Clayton received a Diploma, Ministries/Pastoral Education from Northern Piedmont Bible Institute, Seminary Extension of Southern Baptist Convention, in 2014. She holds a Masters of Art Degree and a Bachelors of Arts Degree in History from North Carolina Central University, and pursued graduate studies beyond the Master's Degree in

History at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC-CH) and received a Certificate, University Management Development, from the UNC-CH School of Business. Professionally, she served as a high school teacher and chair of the Social Studies Department at Chapel Hill High School; an Assistant Dean in the College of Arts and Sciences & the General College and Lecturer/Director of the Upward Bound Program at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Ministries and mission activities of Reverend Clayton include the following: preaching at Nursing Homes and Rehabilitation Centers; serving at New Red Mountain as an assistant pastor, New Members Class Teacher, member of the Missionary Circle Ministry and the Personnel Committee and Chairperson of Constitution and Bylaws Committee; and serving in the East Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Association as Editor of the ECGMBA Newsletter and Acting Secretary to the ECGMBA Pastor's Fellowship Luncheon; and 4th Vice President of the Woman's Auxiliary of ECGMBA. Reverend Clayton has provided leadership as president of state and regional associations and served as a member of a national board of directors and a local school board.

Reverend Clayton was married to her late husband, Burley McCoy Clayton, Jr. for 50 beautiful years. Lucious Alvin Clayton, married to Latrise Collins Clayton, is their only child. She is the daughter of the late George (G.C.) and Alberta Parker Daye and sister to William (W.C.) Daye and the late George Alvin Daye. She resides in Durham, North Carolina and loves to sing hymns and write poetry. Reverend Clayton views herself a humble servant striving to do God's will being guided by the Holy Spirit.

"Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me." (Psalm 51:10)

## REV. DR. LANGSTON LOGAN SR.

Langston D. Logan, Sr. is a native of Gretna, Virginia and is a product of the school system there. He received his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Religion and a Masters of Divinity Degree from Virginia Seminary and College, now known as Virginia University, Lynchburg, Virginia. Rev. Logan did furth study at Episcopal Theological Seminary in Alexandria, Virginia. He received his Doctor of Theology Degree from Florida International. His Dissertation was entitled "The Effects of Martin Luther on the Church, Religion, and the World."



Dr. Logan began his ministry over 30 years ago and first served as Pastor at Sunflower Baptist Church in Halifax County, Virginia for 10 years after which he was called to pastor Lawson Chapel Baptist Church of Roxboro, North Carolina where he has served for the past 25 years.

He has conducted workshops in Virginia and North Carolina on such topics as: Church Leadership, Church Membership, Pastoral Leadership, Calling the Pastor, Deacon's Leadership, and Resolving Conflict in the Church, etc. Dr. Logan has served as president of the Roxboro/Person County Ministerial Association and the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance. He continues to serve as a mentor to many pastors and ministers in Virginia, North Carolina, Maryland, and the District of Columbia.

He currently serves as president and adjunct professor of the Northern Piedmont Bible Institute which serves as a Seminary Extension Center for Shaw University Divinity School and the Southern Baptist Seminaries. He and his wife, Joyce Martin Logan, who is a retired educator, reside in Roxboro, North Carolina. Together they have four children and three grandchildren.

### REV. JAMES ISAAC, III

**The Reverend James Isaac, III**, is a native of Durham, NC. He is the son of Mr. James Isaac, Jr. and the late Mrs. Annie B. Isaac. He was licensed to preach the Gospel and ordained by the New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church of Durham. Pastor Isaac was educated in the Durham Public Schools System. He is a graduate of North Carolina A & T State University, Greensboro, NC, with a BS Degree in Computer Science. Reverend Isaac has furthered his studies at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary and Shaw University Divinity School.



He is a former member of the Board of Directors of the National Christian Student Leadership Consultation and the Association of Christian Student Leaders. He served as Second Vice-→ Moderator and Executive Board Member of the Wake Missionary Baptist Association. He served on the Board of Directors of Method Day Care Center, Inc.

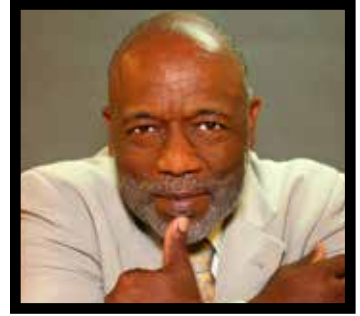
Reverend Isaac served as a member of the Minister's Council of the General Baptist State Convention of NC and the Special Assistant to the National Director of the National Baptist Student Union.

Currently Pastor Isaac serves as the Moderator and Executive Board Member of the East Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Association. He is the former pastor of the First Baptist Church, Chinquapin, NC and the Oberlin Baptist Church, Raleigh, NC. Reverend Isaac currently serves as pastor of the New Hope Granville Missionary Baptist Church in the Berea Community, Oxford, NC.

Pastor Isaac is married to the former Cheryal Blount. They are the proud parents of three children, Jasmine Renee, James, IV, and Jessica Irene.

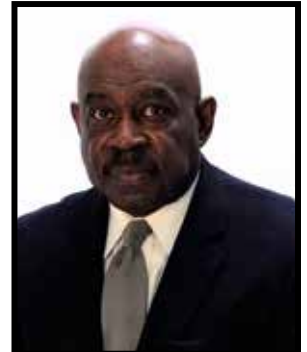
### REV. DR. HERBERT L. DICKERSON

**Reverend Dr. Dickerson** answered the call to serve as the pastor of the Orange Grove Missionary Baptist Church (OGMBC) in April 2004 after 26 years as Pastor of Vance Street Baptist Church in Danville, Virginia. Dr. Dickerson is a faithful man of God who is anointed to preach the gospel and to minister to the needs of the people of God. This is possible because of his passion for the Word, along with having compassion and love for God's people. Pastor Dickerson began his ministerial journey at Greater Triumph Baptist Church where he was licensed (1974) and ordained (1977) as a minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Pastor Dickerson holds a Bachelor of Theology from the Richmond Virginia Seminary. From the Jacksonville (Florida) Theological Seminary, he holds both a Master of Religious Arts in Theology and a Doctor of Theology degree and is the author of "Dare to Dream: Trusting God With the Details" A story of the life of Joseph. Pastor Dickerson is a member of the Kingdom Association of Covenant Pastors, Lott Carey Pastoral Excellence Program, and serves on the Durham Ministerial Alliance.



### REV. DR. LARRY G. WILSON

**Reverend Dr. Larry G. Wilson** is a native of Fayetteville, North Carolina. He was educated in the public school system there, and later attended Winston-Salem State University, Winston-Salem, N.C., graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology.



While at Winston-Salem State he was active in a number of organizations, among them the Student Government Association and the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity.

Reverend Wilson earned the Master of Divinity Degree with a concentration in Biblical Studies, from the historic Shaw University Divinity School, Raleigh, N.C., in May 2002. He has also earned the Doctor of Ministry degree from Mercer University, Atlanta, Ga., May 2016.

Prior to acknowledging a call to ministry, Reverend Wilson served the church in a number of roles, including trustee, treasurer, teacher, and deacon-in-training. He was licensed to preach the gospel in September 1999, and was ordained to Christian ministry by the American Baptist Churches of the South in May 2002.

His pastoral experience includes serving the Chestnut Grove

Baptist Church, Semora, N.C. In December 2016, Reverend Wilson prayerfully accepted the call to pastor the New Red Mountain Baptist Church, Rougemont, N.C., and began his tenure there February 6, 2017.

He resides in Durham with his wife, Chaplain Audrey L. Wilson. They are the proud parents of 3 children: Litasha, Shaun, Jennifer, and one grandchild, Ava.

#### REV. DARYL ENRICO GLENN

Reverend Daryl Glenn was born in Long Beach, New Jersey to United States Airman Norman Glenn and his wife Maxine. He has one brother, Norman R. Glenn, Jr. He and his family moved to Landover, Maryland a few years after his birth.

He also became active at New Red Mountain Missionary Baptist Church. This was the church where he was baptized.

Rev. Glenn was educated in the Durham public schools and continued his education at Winston-Salem State University, majoring in Business Administration. While in college, he enjoyed running track and was very active in the on-campus Christian organization/Choir/outreach ministry. Rev. Glenn had a hunger to learn more about God and Pleasant Union Baptist Church. Quickly after joining, Rev. Glenn gave his life to the Lord during a campus revival.

Rev. Glenn transferred to North Carolina Central University in 1989, changing his major to Public Administration/Physical Education Certification/History Certification. He reaffirmed his membership at New Red Mount Missionary Baptist Church and is still an active member. He graduated with a degree in Political Science-Public Administration in 1993 and followed that with a teaching certification in 1997.

Rev. Glenn attended Shaw Divinity and the Apex School of Theology to complete his Masters in Divinity with honors. He is also trained in Pastoral Counseling and has been ordained by the East Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Association. Reverend Glenn is a seasoned minister.

He is currently a North Carolina Public High School Social Studies/Physical Education teacher and high school basketball/track coach.

Rev. Glenn was elected to the State Employees' Credit Union Board of Directors in 2018.

Currently, Rev. Glenn is an Assistant Reverend at New Red Mountain Missionary Baptist Church where he serves under the leadership of Rev. Dr. Larry G. Wilson. He has also served as Sunday School Superintendent, bible study teacher, Sunday School Teacher, Third District Christian Education President



and enjoys working with the youth.

Reverend Glenn lets the Lord lead him in his work. He believes that all tasks we accept and all things that we do should be led by God. He teaches and preaches because he loves God, has a commission from God, and wants to see the lives of people changed and enriched by and through the Word of God.

## YOUTH CLASS

**Growing up in a Multi-changing world**

**Ages 13-17**

**Rev. Daryl Glenn**

All of life is to be lived for the glory of God.

We can not miss the opportunity to merge technology enhanced education with Christian training.

Technology is at the center of students' learning and their interactions with information. We cannot miss the opportunity to merge technology enhanced education with Christian training. Technology is a vital part of our students' daily lives and future workplace environments. Technology can also play a key role in enhancing the education process and learning about God's word and grace. Social media is where younger generations are interacting. It's the new marketplace. It may be unnatural for past generations, but it is how community for younger people is now started and developed. Use of technology in church can enable communication, community and discipleship. Through Facebook and Twitter or through a church blog, Pastors can easily communicate directly with the people in their congregation, throughout the day and week.

## ADULT CLASSES

### The Ushers

#### Deacon Ronnie Robinson

The Ushers/Doorkeeper, What is your Position//Roles and Responsibilities

The dictionary defines an Usher as a doorkeeper who escorts people to seats in a hall, an officer who introduces, strangers/ or walks before a person of rank. This definition barely scratches the surface. An Usher is a very important officer of the church who serves as the law enforcement agent, an orderly and a caretaker of the Church and all its treasures; material and souls.

The work of Ushering is enormous, but the Lord who has called us into ministry would always supply the grace to be faithful. The Usher must continually emphasize the spiritual and must not leave out the Physical. He/she must be a faithful servant in the Vineyard and must ensure that he/she is available in the sight of God.

The Almighty God who has called the Usher is more than able to bless him/her as long as he/she pays attention to His words in Proverbs 4:20-27 and 11 Timothy 2:11-15. We must always be ready to adopt to changing circumstances and time frames and anticipate the unexpected. May God bless us all in Jesus Name.



## **The Work of the Church Trustee** **Rev. George Crews, III**

Result Expected: Effective trustees will function as Christian stewards of property God has entrusted to the congregation. This includes supervising and maintaining both the physical property of the congregation and gifts made to the congregation so that the ministries of the congregation can be effective and all legal requirements related to the property are satisfied.

Trustees benefit from having one or more of these spiritual gifts: servanthood, helping, discernment, leadership, administration, and giving. The chairperson should show evidence of prior effective ministry leadership, especially in the area of stewardship of assets, and this leader should exhibit evidence of active and growing discipleship.

Useful knowledge and skills for this position are knowledge of property and asset management, ability to listen to and communicate with people of all ages and the ability to work with other ministry leaders. The chair should show prior ability to preside over meetings, the ability to delegate responsibility and to follow up to complete tasks.

Trustees should show genuine interest in responding to the hopes and concerns of people in the community and show willingness to partner with community interests.

The congregation's committee on nominations and leadership development may establish specific standards for this position.

## **The Traditional Church** **Deacon Johnny Pettiford**

There are many traditional or established churches doing things well. And though we can't make categorical statements about any group of churches, it is indeed true that there are some elements in traditional churches we need to celebrate. Here are five of them.

1. The members have a deep love and concern for one another. Go into many traditional churches and you will see members caring for one another, taking meals to each other, and praying consistently for one another.
2. They are loyal to the institution. I have argued in other articles that institutional loyalty taken to an extreme is unhealthy. But the inverse is true as well. Members with no institutional loyalty will move from one church to another with little concern. Traditional church members tend to be fiercely loyal to the churches where they are members.
3. They are passionate about giving to missions. It seems to be in the congregational DNA of many traditional churches. If there is a mission cause put before the church, these members often give abundantly.
4. They offer stability to the congregation. Because of their loyalty and devotion to their church, traditional church members offer stability and steadiness to local congregations. They will continue to give, to serve, and to care for others even in challenging times in the church.
5. The members have a historical perspective that can be healthy for the church. Many of them have seen the best of times and the worst of times. The traditional church member has a healthy perspective that realizes God is above the crisis or the situation of the moment. Sometimes just hearing from these members about how the church survived a crisis in the past can be encouragement for the congregation to move to the future.

## **The Mission Minded Church** **Rev. Joyce Clayton**

In missions today we may wonder, "Who dropped the ball?" Why are there so many who still have not received the good news of the Gospel? Who will replace the thousands of missionaries retiring by the end of this century? Where lies the responsibility of continuing to carry out the Great Commission of Jesus Christ? (Matthew 28:18-20)

"You are a chosen race," wrote Peter, "a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, that you may declare the wonderful deeds of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light." (1 Peter 2:9 RSV) Peter speaks of God's people as having a privileged position: special, royal, holy. The privilege is for a particular purpose: that they might declare the wonderful deeds of the One who called them from darkness to light.

God's people must be the instruments to carry the Gospel message to the ends of the earth. The church, made up of ordinary but privileged people, must be the source of multitudes of "players" who will successfully "carry the ball." Such a church will be a mission-minded church—made up of mission-minded individuals. Is yours a mission-minded church? Are you a mission-minded Christian? How can you tell? What are the marks of mission-minded churches and mission-minded Christians? The church, made up of ordinary but privileged people, must be the source of multitudes of "players" who will successfully "carry the ball." Such a church will be a mission-minded church—made up of mission-minded individuals. Is yours a mission-minded church? Are you a mission-minded Christian?

## **Deacon/Deaconess** **Rev. Dr. Langston Logan** **Deacon Role in Brief**

The deacon, like the elder, is an elected and ordained role. The deacon's primary roles are the assistance in running of services, the visitation of members, the care of the sick and the maintenance of church property.

### **Duties of Deacons**

The work of the deacons involves a wide range of practical services for the church, including:

1. Assistance at Services and Meetings—At church services, the deacons are usually responsible for welcoming members and visitors as they enter the church, and for assisting them, where necessary, to find seats. They also stand ready to cooperate with pastor and elders for the smooth functioning of the meetings conducted in the church.
2. Visitation of Members—An important duty belonging to deacons is that of visiting church members in their homes. In many churches this is arranged by a distribution of membership by districts, assigning a deacon to each district, with the expectation that he will visit each home at least once a quarter.
3. Preparation for Baptismal Services—The deacons should do their part in making the necessary preparations for this service; there should be no confusion or delay.
4. Assistance at the Communion Service—At the celebration of the ordinance of foot-washing, the deacons or deaconesses provide everything that is needed for the service, such as: towels, basins, water (at a comfortable temperature as the occasion may require), buckets, et cetera. After the service they should see that the vessels and linen used are washed and returned to their proper place.

Following the Lord's Supper, great care should be exercised in disposing of any bread or wine left over after all have partaken of these emblems. Any remaining wine that was blessed is to be respectfully poured out. Any remaining bread that was blessed should be buried, burned, or respectfully disposed of in another appropriate manner but in no event returned to common usage.

5. Care of the Sick and the Poor—Another important responsibility of deacons is the care of the sick, relieving the poor, and aiding the unfortunate. Money should be provided for this work from the church fund for the needy. The treasurer, on recommendation from the church board, will pass over to the deacons or deaconesses whatever may be needed for use in needy cases. This work is the particular charge of the deacons and the deaconesses, but the church is to be kept fully acquainted with the needs, in order to enlist the membership's support.

6. Care and Maintenance of Church Property—In some churches, where the responsibility for the care and maintenance of the church property is not assigned to a building committee, the deacons have this responsibility.

### **Deaconess: Role in Brief**

The duties of a deaconess are very similar to the deacon, with particular emphasis placed on assistance in running services and the care of the sick.

Deaconesses were included in the official staff of the early Christian churches. "I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a deaconess of the church at Cenchreae, that you may receive her in the Lord as befits the saints, and help her in whatever she may require from you, for she has been a helper of many and of myself as well" (Rom. 16:1, 2, RSV).

#### Duties of Deaconesses

Deaconesses serve the church in a wide variety of important activities, including:

1. Assistance at Baptisms—Deaconesses assist at the baptismal services, ensuring that female candidates are cared for both before and after the ceremony. They also give such counsel and help as may be necessary regarding suitable garments for baptism. Robes of suitable material should be provided. Where robes are used, the deaconesses should see that they are laundered and carefully set aside for future use.

2. Arrangements for the Communion Service—The deaconesses assist in the ordinance of foot-washing, giving special aid to women visitors or those who have newly joined the church. It is the duty of the deaconesses to arrange everything needed for this service, such as seeing that the table linen, towels, et cetera, used in the celebration of ordinances are laundered and carefully stored.

3. The Care of the Sick and the Poor—Deaconesses are to do their part in caring for the sick, the needy, and the unfortunate, cooperating with the deacons in this work.

### **MEDITATION FOR THE DAY**

You cannot help others unless you understand the person you are trying to help. To understand the problems and temptations of others, you must have been through them yourself. You must do all you can to understand others. You must study their backgrounds, their likes and dislikes, their reactions and their prejudices. When you see their weaknesses, do not confront the person with them. Share your own weaknesses, sins, and temptations and let other people find their own convictions.

### **The Center Seat**

#### **Rev. Dr. Herbert L. Dickerson**

The goal of the pastor is to reveal the glory of God in Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit to a people who need God's grace for life. The primary way the pastor will do this is by teaching the Word of God to the church. The gift of pastor is directly linked to the gift of teaching in Ephesians 4:11 and elsewhere. In fact, this gift could be called the gift of pastor-teacher. The ability to teach the Scriptures is also one of the many requirements of being an overseer (1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:6-9). By teaching the Scriptures to the church, the pastor feeds the "sheep" of God.

The Holy Spirit gives the spiritual gift of pastor to some in the church to humbly teach them, guide them, protect them, and to lead them in the mission that God has for His church, namely the Great Commission. The pastor loves the Gospel of Jesus Christ and puts it at the center of his life and ministry. Pastors do not seek fame or recognition for themselves, but they are placed in a position of authority by the Holy Spirit. The role of a pastor is one of humility and service as he is reminded daily of his overwhelming need of God's grace for the task at hand. See also Ephesians 4:11; Jeremiah 3:15; Acts 20:28; John 10:11-18.

### **The Second Seat**

#### **Rev. Larry Wilson**

"God Called You to Ministry. Now What?"

This discussion would be around the "Call." Exploring the nature of one's call, the changing seasons of the "Call," and how to fully execute one's call. We will also examine both general and specific hurdles and obstacles faced by associate ministers, ministerial frustrations, and maneuvering through those frustrations. Weaved into the discussion as well will be the value of mentors, mentorship, and guidance by trusted friends or confidantes.

My hope is to get associates to engage in discussions around their personal development and fulfillment as associates and to possibly help them know their place, role, and assignment.

### **Blending Generations**

#### **Rev. James Isaac, III**

It's a challenge to meet the needs of all generations. "It's an effort to keep folks together." We base our commitment to reach all generations on the admonition found in Titus 2 that "the older teach the younger."

Churches need to understand that when they reach a younger generation for Christ and disciple them, they are preparing future leaders for churches in general. Young people grow up, go off to college, and find jobs that take them away from home, or get married. "We are training the future of the church. It just may not be the church they grew up in," he said. Churches need to reach every generation, but he especially feels they need to do what it takes to reach younger generations. "I believe that older adults need to exhibit a higher level of spiritual maturity than those who are young in age and in their faith,



## INSPIRATIONAL SPEAKER

### REV. DR. LAMONT J. JOHNSON, SR.

REV. DR. LAMONT J. JOHNSON, SR. was born March 30, 1979 in Orange, New Jersey . He Matriculated in the Orange Public School System

Dr. Johnson's educational pursuits include:

- Virginia Union University, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in Religion.
- Richmond Virginia Seminary, with a Master of Arts in Religion.
- Shaw University School of Divinity, with a Master of Divinity
- Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary, with a Master of Sacred Theology.

In addition, Dr. Johnson studied for a semester at Gladstone's Library (St. Denoils), Hawarden, Wales in the United Kingdom. He was conferred the Doctor of Ministry degree in May 12, 2012 from Drew University School of Theology in Madison, NJ. He is currently a Ph.D. candidate in the Leadership Studies program at North Carolina A & T University. His research is on the transformational leadership practices of African American seminary presidents and deans.

Dr. Johnson was licensed to preach at the age of 14 by the St. Paul's Baptist Church of Elizabeth, NJ., and hee was ordained at the age of 19 by the New Hope Association of North-Central New Jersey.



He is:

- A skilled organist and pianist;
- An active member of New Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Greensboro, NC;
- The Director of Music for the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina;
- The former Moderator at-Large of the Pee Dee Educational Missionary Baptist Association;
- The former pastor of Providence Baptist Church, Rockingham and Phillips Chapel Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, NC;
- The immediate past Vice President at-Large for the Music Auxiliary of the National Baptist Convention, USA;
- The Author of Autonomous: A 21st Century Look at the African American Baptist Church;
- The pastor of the historic West Durham Baptist Church of Durham, NC; and
- A loving father.

### In Loving Memory of Deacon Burley McCoy Clayton



March 8, 1946 - December 14, 2017



I am free  
 Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free,  
 I'm following paths God made for me  
 I took his hand, I heard him call  
 Then turned, and bid farewell to all



## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Thanks be to God! I am aware that we have so much to be thankful for. Welcome to our Annual Spring Institute! 1<sup>ST</sup> Vice President Judy Jacobs and her team have put together a wonderful agenda for us. This year's Spring Institute theme is sure to inspire and be thought provoking as we listen and engage with our dynamic line-up of speakers! We are glad to add four new presenters to the team this year. Rev. Dr. Hubert L. Dickerson (Host Pastor), Rev. James Isaac, III (Moderator), Rev. Dr. Larry Wilson and Rev. Daryl Glenn. I Thank all of our presenters for your ongoing leadership, support and for participating in our Annual Spring Institute, I'm sure you'll have a tough time deciding which sessions you'll want to attend as all are featured presenters with important messages to share. You'll also have the chance to connect with Orange Grove MBC Nursing staff and have a free Blood Pressure check. This is an opportunity you won't want to miss. As we start out our year I look forward to what lies ahead, I want to thank our current Officers for their tireless energy and dedication to serving the Congress. Thank you for everything you've accomplished as we anticipate the many great opportunities that lie ahead. And, thanks to you, our members of the East Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Association, for participating and sharing your thoughts, ideas and insights on how we can serve you better. We value your perspectives and continually strive to provide you with the best Congress has to offer. It's been a great honor to serve you this past year. Thank you! and Love and Blessings

**-REV. SHELTON HARRIS, CONGRESS PRESIDENT**

## *Acknowledgements* *Special Thanks* *to*

Rev. Dr. Herbert L. Dickerson,  
Pastor, Orange Grove MBC

Administrative Staff of Orange Grove MBC

Rev. Penny, Christian Education Director

Trustee Dannie Daniels ~ Dean & Photographer  
Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Church



Orange Grove Missionary Baptist Church

Deacons

Greeters Ministry

Trustee Ministry

Associate Ministers

Usher Ministry

Nurse's Ministry

## A MESSAGE FROM THE OUTGOING DEAN

Dear fellow church members,

It is with a deep sense of gratitude for all that you have done to support Congress during the last seven years that I write the last Dean's message of my term as Dean of Congress of Christian Education. I truly believe that we have strengthened our Congress and made it, once again, strong and vibrant. I have so enjoyed the annual programs and end of the year Christmas dinners. A good meal with good friends is always a blessing! The dedication of the East Cedar Grove Board members is second to none. They are the core of the Congress and work diligently behind the scenes to be sure that every event is successful.



I'm very grateful to Rev. Joyce Clayton for providing me with the knowledge to understand protocol. She made it very clear that she would do everything possible to teach and guide me in the right direction. With unsurpassed kindness and patience, she took me under her wing and shared her vast knowledge and expertise in a supportive, nurturing manner in a new environment full of new challenges.

Now, we are blessed with a new Dean, Trustee Dannie Daniel and Assistant Dean, Sis. Vereatha Barnett who are dedicated to building upon what we have accomplished. I am sure that we will continue to flourish, and I look forward to serving you as your 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President of the Congress. I wish all of you well and Godspeed.

*Sis. Judy S. Jacobs*



Sis. Judy S. Jacobs, Chair, Program Committee  
Minister Shelton Harris, Congress President  
Deacon Johnny Pettiford, Program Designer  
Trustee Dannie Daniel, Congress Dean