

EAST CEDAR GROVE BAPTIST INSPIRER

A Message From the Moderator

Proclaiming the Changeless Christ to a Changing World," (Hebrews 1:1-2; 13:7-8)

Living In The New Normal



“When you see the ark of the covenant of the Lord your God being carried by the Levitical priests, then you shall set out from your place. Follow it, so that you may know the way you should go, for you have not passed this way before. “Then Joshua said to the people, “Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do wonders among you. (Joshua 3:3-5)

Joshua gives explicit instructions to a people who were facing a change in their present living context so that would be prepared for their new normal . They were to keep their eyes on the ark of the covenant which represented the presence and leading of God. They were instructed to keep their distance so as to respect the holiness of God. Their new normal required of them spiritual transformation before taking any action. They were to act with unity of purpose and precision after experiencing the power of God.

We are living in unprecedented times. A global pandemic, COVID-19 a.k.a. novel coronavirus, is reshaping the landscape of our lives, causing us to reassess our priorities, making us rethink our lifestyles choices, and forcing us to reconnect with our Creator.

In the face of this challenge, fear and even panic is a common reaction, and self-interest often pushes solidarity aside. We pray that our living and loving God will calm our fears, and quell any rising panic, so that we can be able to focus on what we can do for one another.

Faith communities can in times like these do a lot to promote unity and accountability, wisdom and care. We as churches can and should raise the voice of the communities who are made vulnerable by their marginalization; They cannot be left completely defenseless against the pandemic. We have to be in solidarity with those for whom self-isolating means a loss of livelihood and even the risk of starvation, and with those whose precarious daily life leaves very few options for social distancing.

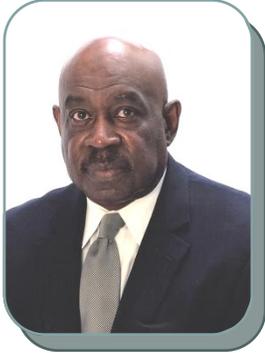
For all this, stopping the pandemic is essential, and this cannot be done unless people and nations care for each other and unite in action. We value togetherness in worship and Christian fellowship. But in this time of crisis, and out of love for each other and the neighbor, we should not gather in great numbers together, if at all, nor touch or embrace each other. This is a time to touch each other’s hearts, by what we say, what we share, what we do – and what we do not do – to protect the life God loves so much. In that love, we must adapt our modes of worship and fellowship to the needs of this time of the pandemic, in order to avoid the risk of becoming sources of transmission rather than means of grace. I commend to all of you the advice and practical recommendations offered by intergovernmental and governmental health authorities to help protect the vulnerable in our communities and others.

Grace and Peace to you all!
Rev. James Isaac, III, Moderator

“When Religion is Not Enough”

Written by, Rev. Dr. Larry G. Wilson, Pastor, New Red Mountain Missionary Baptist Church, Rougemont, NC

“As they led him away to execution, they seized upon a man named Simon, from Cyrene, on his way in from the country, and made him walk behind Jesus carrying it.” (Lk 23:26)



He had probably been planning for this trip for a long time. For him, this may have been the trip of a lifetime. With the eagerness and the anticipation of a little child, Simon had looked forward to the day when he would finally make this pilgrimage to Jerusalem.

Simon was a religious man. He practiced his religion well. And his religion required that every Jew would make their way to Jerusalem on one of their festival days, to celebrate and to carry out their rituals as was required by their customs. Simon had made this long journey from his home in Cyrene to celebrate the Passover, *because his religion required that he do so.*

The journey was long and hard, but he was almost there. He was walking among a throng of other travelers when he encountered another crowd. This crowd was not excited about the Passover—they were looking for blood! There before him were a group of Roman soldiers with three bowed and bloody prisoners being marched towards their execution. And one of them was struggling and falling, and was not able to bear the weight of his cross. ***And suddenly, one of the Roman soldiers calls out to Simon, “You there, come carry this cross!”***

Simon had come to Jerusalem because of his religion. He had come there to honor tradition, to do all of the rituals-- to stand when the preacher says “stand,” to hold up his sanctified finger as he walked down the aisle, and to engage in the call and response within a spirited sermon, but he had not come there to carry a cross! Simon was on his way to church, but now he is confronted by the cross! And when we are truly confronted by the cross, we cannot remain the same!

When we carry the cross, our “religion” is not enough. Everybody has some religion. We get it from our parents or maybe we absorb it from the culture. There’s even a song in our tradition that asks, *“Have you got GOOD religion?”*

Simon certainly had religion, but I suggest religion is not enough! Religion is often a veil that we hide behind to keep from doing the right thing. Religion is that covering that enables us to ignore the ugly issues facing society and our communities. Religion is the mute button on our voices when we should speak up for righteousness, but instead we remain silent. Religion is what causes us to put so much energy into our anniversaries, and programs, and ignore that hurting family right in our midst. Religion makes us argue about budgets, and choir robes, and carpet color. In fact, religious people were part of that crowd that crucified Jesus!

But faith says I can no longer just be a hearer of the word. I’ve got to do something with what I hear! Faith compels us to take up a cross and follow Jesus. When people are being oppressed and silenced, faith says we are their voice. When governments place a higher priority on renewal and development than its citizens who are without homes, faith compels us to cry out.

When the marginalized are being mistreated, faith requires that we step in. When our hearts are motivated by the love of our Savior, we, like Simon, are compelled to take up the cross and follow Jesus. Be careful when you encounter the cross—*one is forever changed by the experience!*

“What’s About the Night?”

Written by, Rev. J. Eric Morgan, III, Pastor Mount Vernon Missionary Baptist Church, Creedmoor, NC
& Former Moderator

A story was told of a fifty-year-old man known as Will Collins. Will was sick for a long period of time. He judged his sickness to be in some way related to the Lord being angry with him. One day, in telling his story, Will said; *“The mornings are a welcoming and refreshing joy. But the nights seem to belong to sleeplessness and pain.”*



Will’s story reminds me of King David’s song he sang when he dedicated his home in Jerusalem. The Bible records this from David’s song. **“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). So, what’s about the night?

Figuratively, night time is a period when things become dark for you as a believer. This is the period of time when things are not changing as fast as you would like. You’re praying and believing in the Lord for a miracle, but things keep getting worse. You got laid off from your job and can’t find employment anywhere else. Your finances are depleting and you have no other income. Your health is declining and nothing is improving for you. Your friends are few and far off. You feel alone and forgotten. You can count more disappointments than successes. In our current situation, the Covid-19 virus is affecting more people than you can count. In the United States alone, more than Fifty Thousand people have died and there seems to be no end to it. It is night time!

In these night times, we can’t see what the Lord is doing. Our vision is being clouded by the sorrow, fear and disturbance this pandemic has brought us. When King David’s sleep was eluded one night because of severe sorrow, he said this to his musicians; **“I am worn out from groaning; All night long I flood my bed with weeping and drench my couch with tears”** (Psalm 6: 6, NIV). In all this, he found his rescue in the morning.

The real truth of the night time is this. Night time is when the Lord does His best work. The Bible records in Genesis chapter 1, verses 2 and 3; **“The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. Then God said, ‘let there be light’ and there was light.”** (NKJV) From this text, we see the Lord creating our world in the darkest hour. When there was nothing formed, nothing structured and there was no life nor light, He spoke into existence what was on His mind. He did His best work in the night!

Also, in Luke chapter 2, the Bible tells us when the Lord sent Jesus into the world. Verse 8 says it was in the night. I wonder why He didn’t send His Son in the morning when everyone could see this miracle. Well, the Lord may have thought that the night time is a preparation for the joy that will come in the morning. The scripture records in verses 15 to 20 that the shepherds who heard what happened the night before went throughout the community telling others of Christ birth.

The third story that tells us about the Lord’s best work is the resurrection story. All four Gospel writers wrote about this. But the Gospel of John caught my attention. John recorded his story this way. **“Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb...”** (John 20: 1, NIV). As you can see, Jesus’ resurrection happened in the night time. **“While it was still dark”** implies nothing was moving, no one could see what was going on. The Lord does His best work when we don’t seem to understand what He is doing. In the night times,

Continued on page 4, Morgan, What ‘s About the Midnight?

"What's About the Night?", Morgan, Continued from Page 3

when life feels unfair and the condition you've been use to is disturbed, please be mindful, that is when the Lord does His best work. Just because you don't see things happening as you expect. You don't see the cure for Covid-19. You don't hear the politicians getting along. You don't see how the economy will recover. You don't know how families will live without their loved ones who have died in this pandemic. And you don't know how we will return to the norm. Just be assured that the Lord has got it all in control. He doesn't show you what He's up to. Just remind yourself, "He got this!" And the reason why you are so certain, it is because this is the night time. And He does His best work at night time.

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***O Lord, I'm So Grateful***

O Lord, I'm so grateful to you,  
For all the things you do,  
For your loving showers of mercy  
that bathe me day by day.  
You touch and start me on my way  
With blessings requiring no collateral or pay.

When sadness comes my way,  
You brighten my cloudy day.  
When doubt haunts my soul,  
there you are speaking gently into my spirit,  
Calming and reassuringly keeping your promises,  
being with me in the floods and in the fires of life.

You rescue me from my prison of fears;  
You wipe away my streaming tears.  
O Lord, you are so near and dear,  
All praises I shout out for you to hear.  
O Lord, I am so deeply *grateful* to You!

Written by, Joyce Daye Clayton  
April 23, 2020  
Asst. Pastor, New Red Mountain Missionary Baptist Church

*"Heal me, O Lord, and I will be healed; save me and I will be saved, for you are the one I praise."  
(Jeremiah 17:14)*

## ***Receiving Your Sight in 2020***

Written by, Deacon Cynthia Lawrence, Pine Grove Missionary Baptist Church



As we go into a new decade let us take a look at what happened in the last ten years and gain from those experiences. What went wrong and what went right? We must recognize the things that kept us from being and doing what we were purposed to do. This is a new year and we want to be focused on the call for our life and not just walk around blind or with a blurred view of the world and what our role is in it.

Matthew 20:29-34 tells us about an encounter of Jesus and his disciples with two blind men. They were leaving Jericho with a great crowd of people around them. Two blind men heard that Jesus was passing by, they cried out to him, "Lord, Son of David, have mercy on us!". The people tried to make them be quiet but they cried out even more. Jesus heard them and stopped and asked them what they wanted him to do for them. They said they wanted their sight. Jesus had compassion on them, touched their eyes and immediately they received their sight and followed him.

We see several things in this story that relate to us and how our last decade went. First, we have let ourselves be just a number in the crowd.– just following along and going with the flow. Second, we could not be picked out in a crowd. There is nothing that distinguished us from the rest of the crowd. The word says that we are to set apart. We are to let our light shine so others can see the Christ in us. Third, we have not learned to ask God boldly for what we need.

As we embark on 2020 let's learn to stay away from the crowd. We must remember that the wide gate and broad road leads to destruction, and many take that route. So, following the crowd we have a lot of company but destruction waits for us at the end of our journey. Look for the small gate and the narrow road that leads to life. This road is not heavily traveled and only a few people find it. This path is found by receiving your sight from the Holy Spirit.

We must also stand out in the crowd. We must be a part of the minority which means we will be different and looked upon as not normal, but that's okay. The word says we are fearfully and wonderfully made. We are all unique and made for God's purpose. We must learn to embrace our differences and let God use them so that HE may be glorified. When we stand up and stand out for God the Holy Spirit shows us the vision God has for us.

Now that we are no longer in the crowd and we have distinguished ourselves from the crowd there is something else we must do. We must learn to ask God for what we need. God already knows but as part of our relationship with God we must talk to him. We must let him know we reverence HIM and depend on HIM. To receive our sight for 2020 we must ask for it. We must ask God to let us focus and keep our mind stayed on HIM. We don't want to be walking around in 2020 with blurred vision (not seeing things clearly). We don't want to be nearsighted (only able to see things that are close to us) or farsighted (only able to see things that are far away from us). God wants us to have clear vision, being able to see things that are obvious and things that are obscure (hidden or unknown). God uses the Holy Spirit to give us sight. We see in the natural but He also gives us discernment (judging the spirits).

So, I hope we all strive to **"Receive Our Sight in 2020"**. God can make our lives clearer and more focused. **All we have to do is get out of the crowd, be recognized and ask for what we need.**

### Disclaimer

The views and opinions expressed in the articles in this newsletter are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of East Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Association of NC, Inc.

## **Social Distancing (What is the Welcoming Ministry to Do?)**

Deacon Ronnie G. Robinson; Usher Union Chair & Member, St. Johns Missionary Baptist Church



The Welcoming Ministry of our various churches play a major role in the growth of each of our churches. Since COVID-19 has raised its ugly head; our Pastors have had to rethink how they need to continue to extend the gospel during this time of great worry.

By and large, our Pastors have become very creative in how they are reaching out to their flock while maintaining social distancing. Your Pastor maybe using YouTube, ZOOM, or some other types of media to reach the masses; the key is that everyone listening has an awesome worship experience.

To that point, your hospitality ministry (First aid, Greeters, Parking Lot Team and Ushers) are all key parts of your churches' Welcoming Ministry. So if you haven't done so, check with your Pastor so that you can understand any specific or modified duties relating to your role.

Your role is the part that you play in the life of your church body. For example, (within your church) the Pastor's role is to be the spiritual head of his assigned church. In order to support your Pastor, you have a team of Deacons whose role is to support your Pastor and assist him in carefully watching over the churches' membership. There are also Trustees who assist your Pastor in managing your churches physical assets. These roles contribute to the mission of their assigned church.

With this understanding of the word *role*, what is the role of a church usher? Here is my thought: The role of a church usher is to help your first time guests, repeat visitors, and members ***experience the joy of a worship service.***

In this current time, each church has had to make some adjustments in how we "assemble" for corporate worship in light of Social Distancing?

### **What is social distancing?**

Social distancing means keeping at least 6 feet between yourself and people outside of your home. With that being said, you are wondering how can you as usher, greet or assist with the parking lot ministry as you welcome someone properly when close contact is limited.

### **My recommendations are as follows if your church is still assembling:**

1. Check with your Pastor and your local health agency for any instructions that relate to your role.
2. Everyone must wear Latex gloves and a mask or face cover (have some additional ones available for those without the appropriate face covering and gloves).
3. If anyone scheduled to serve is ill or displaying any symptoms, stay at home or seek medical attention immediately.
4. Add signage to direct worshippers to enter through a specific doorway. Have a table in the area and place on it the following items:

|                 |                    |                    |
|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Lysol           | Hand sanitizer     | Offering envelopes |
| Church programs | Disinfectant wipes | Tissues            |
| Hand fans       |                    |                    |

## Social Distancing, Robinson, Continued from Page 6

**Why practice social distancing?** The Ministry of Hospitality is a “close-contact” ministry. We are to be aware that COVID-19 spreads when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks, and droplets from their mouth or nose are launched into the air and land in the mouths or noses of people nearby. **It may also be possible** that a person can get COVID-19 by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it. The virus can live for hours or days on a surface, depending on sun light and humidity.

Although we love having large crowds at our churches, we must avoid both large and small gatherings in private places and public spaces, such as a friend’s house, barber shops, beauty salons, tattoo parlors, parks, restaurants, shops, and any other place.. In regard to assembles at your church, ask your Pastor about the possibility of using video media options for digital/distance sermons and bible study.

It is very important to stay in touch with friends and family that don’t live with you. Call, video chat, or stay connected using social media.

### Things That Everyone Should Do

- **Wash your hands often:** Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after having been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- **If soap and water are not readily available,** use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- **Cover coughs and sneezes:** If you are alone and do not have on your cloth face covering, remember to always cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow. Immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- **Watch for symptoms:** Symptoms range from mild to severe illness. They may appear **2-14 days after exposure to the virus.** People with these symptoms or combinations of symptoms may have COVID-19: Coughs and Shortness of Breath or difficulty in breathing.
- **When to Seek Medical Attention**

**If you have any of these emergency warning signs\*** for COVID-19 get **medical attention immediately:** Trouble breathing, Persistent pain or pressure in the chest.

**Call 911 if you have a medical emergency:** Notify the operator that you may have COVID-19. If possible, put on a cloth face covering before medical help arrives.

**What do you do if you feel sick at home?** Contact your health provider or urgent care clinic to be seen. You should notify your care group leader (who will inform your Pastor) and remain at home until your primary care provider says that it is okay for you to return to leave home. If you are showing flu-like symptoms, you may be asked to self-quarantine at home for up to two weeks as a precautionary measure to protect yourself and other members of your Church and co-workers.

**What do you do if you feel sick at Church?** Contact your health provider or urgent care clinic to be seen. If they are unable to see you immediately, please notify your Team or Care Group leader and go home and wait for your appointment. You should remain at home until your care provider says that it is okay for you to return to Church. If a member of the Church staff is showing flu-like symptoms, they may be asked to self-quarantine at home for up to two weeks as a precautionary measure to protect themselves and other members of the Church staff members.

An Ounce of prevention is worth a pound of Cure. We must do all that we can, every time that we can. Our Heavenly Father has our attention and “Come what may” we shall not disappoint him..



## General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. Pastoral Support Fund Application

**Thank you to your interest in the Pastoral Support Fund. Please complete this application and submit via email to Rev. Quan Stewart ([q.stewart@gbsonline.org](mailto:q.stewart@gbsonline.org)) or via mail to the Baptist Headquarters at Rev. Stewart's attention. Applications will be accepted until funds are exhausted or until December 31, 2020. Please know that all personal information regarding applicants will be maintained in the strictest confidence and will not be shared.**

### Church Information:

Church Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Association Church belongs to: \_\_\_\_\_

Church Physical Address (this may be different from the mailing address):

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please include area code in all phone numbers)

Church Website: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Desire for Convention Email Updates?  Yes  No

*We would like to send all contribution receipts and church mailings to a single address. Please indicate the church mailing address below. Remember to update us if this address changes so that mail is not returned as undeliverable.*

Church Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Church Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Attention to: \_\_\_\_\_

### Pastor Information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Desire for Convention Email Updates?  Yes  No

### Questionnaire:

1. Beyond this funding opportunity, list other financial resources the church and/or pastor has sought during this pandemic? (i.e. federal Paycheck Protection Program, unemployment benefits, other grants)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Is this church a duly-aligned, Cooperating Congregation of the Convention?  Yes  No

a. If not, do you plan to become a Cooperating Congregation in 2020?  Yes  No

3. Please include a letter, on church letterhead, which explains your current employment status with the church. The letter must be signed by the lead financial officer.  Attached

**Form Completer:**

*Should we have questions, please complete this information.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**OFFICE USE ONLY**

Application received on \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewed By: \_\_\_\_\_

GBSC Cooperating Congregation

Yes  No

A GBSC Church but not a Cooperating Congregation

Yes  No

Neither GBSC Church nor Cooperating Congregation

Yes  No

Approved

Denied with Rationale:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_

## “The Visitor”

Written by Rev. Shelton Harris, Trustee Board Chairman & Assoc. Minister, Pettiford Grove Baptist Church



I am sure that we have all had an unexpected visitor to knock at our door. Some are welcome and some we would rather come to our homes. We normally have the control to attend the door or watch from the peep hole. Today, we are faced with an unwelcomed visitor by the name of COVID 19. Now that we have this unwelcome, invisible and vicious thing into our lives, what are we to do? Especially, when this pandemic has, more than likely, brought about many changes to how we live our lives and with uncertainty from day to day. We have altered our daily routines. There is also financial pressure and social isolation for some. We may worry about getting sick, how long the pandemic will last and what the future will bring. There has been, at times, information overload, rumors and misinformation that have made our lives feel out of control making it unclear about what to do, causing various emotional reactions.

These emotions can range from depression to rage. Some may experience stress, anxiety, fear, sadness, hate, and loneliness and mental health disorders, including anxiety and depression, which may get worse. Are we taking care of ourselves as a whole? There are self-care strategies that are good for our mental, physical and spiritual health. Self-care can help us better balance our lives.

Are we getting enough sleep? Are we staying close to our typical schedule, even if we are staying at home or sheltering in place? Participating in regular physical activity is recommended by many health officials. Regular physical activity and exercise can help reduce anxiety and improve mood. We can find healthy activities that include movement. If we love the outdoors, find an outside area that makes it easy to maintain distance from people. As recommended by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the World Health Organization (WHO), our state( North Carolina) or local government, places such as a nature trail or your own backyard can be used for outdoor activities. Some have found a *walking indoor regiment* effective. Are we eating healthy? Are we loading up on junk food and refined sugar, as I am sometimes guilty? Are we relaxing and recharging? Are we setting aside time for ourselves- even a few minutes of quiet time can be refreshing and can help to quiet our minds, reduce anxiety and stress. **Are we spending quality time with God?** Are we calling our brothers and sisters with an encouraging word? Are we having praise and worship times with others virtual or via telephone? Are we staying connected to our church through the methods that are available? **Are we still holding on to the promises of God?** The unwanted situation is here but we have a **Risen Savior** that knows what's best for us. HE knows what we need and how to take care of us, His children. It's up to us to make an individual choice? Again, I ask what are you going to do about this unwanted visitor?



**HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY**

**ECGMBM MOTHERS!**

From

**The Moderator, Rev. James Isaac, III & The Executive Board**

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***“Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also,  
and he praiseth her. (Proverbs 31:28)***

## ***Be Still and Know That I Am God***

Written by Co-pastor Pebbles Lucas, First Chronicles Community Church  
Pastor, Rev. Dr. William Lucas

### **Psalm 46:10-11**



When I reflect on the state of the world it leads me to the voice of God. A voice that has declared, *“If my people who are called by name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.”* 2 Chronicles 7:14. Many people all over the world have neglected, suppressed, ignored, and failed to listen to the voice of God. My mother used to tell us when we were younger that, *“God has a way of getting our attention.”* I think we all can agree that God has not only gotten our attention, but God has demanded the attention of the world.

Our newest pandemic, “Coronavirus” has demanded the attention of every American, our top officials, pastors, students, health care workers, sinners, and the saints of God. The coronavirus has crossed the lines of racism, sexism, classism, economic status, and poverty. No matter how big we think we are, or how small we think we are, all of us are wearing face masks because of what we have learned about the coronavirus.

According to John Hopkins School of Medicine, the “Coronavirus or COVID-19 is the disease caused by the new coronavirus that emerged out of China in December 2019. The COVID-19 symptoms include cough, fever, shortness of breath, muscle aches, sore throat, unexplained loss of taste or smell, diarrhea and headaches. COVID-19 can be severe, and some cases have caused death. The new corona virus can be spread from person to person. There is no vaccine yet. Prevention involves frequent hand-washing, coughing into the bend of your elbow, staying home when you are sick and wearing a face covering when practicing social distancing.”

I believe God is trying to tell us something. What is God trying to tell us? You and I are the only ones who can answer this question. Psalm 46:10 says, *Be Still and know that I am God.* I can’t tell you what God is saying to you, but I know that God is speaking. Take a moment to reflect on what God is saying. Be blessed and stay safe.



**WITH DEEPEST SYMPATHY  
ECG MBA GRIEVES  
THE PASSING OF BROTHER OBIE L. LOGAN,  
FATHER OF REV. DR. LANGSTON LOGAN, SR.,  
EXECUTIVE BOARD CHAIR & PASTOR  
LAWSON CHAPEL BAPTIST CHURCH**

**“The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit” (Psalm 34:18)**



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**APPRECIATION**

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**Rev. Joyce Daye Clayton, Editor**

***ECGMBA BAPTIST INSPIRER***

**Smith-Thomas Convention Center, 2174 Brassfield Road, P.O. Box 808, Creedmoor, NC 27522**

**[eastcedargrove-mba.org](http://eastcedargrove-mba.org)**