



Fruits of Joy

No Greater Love... AGAPE
1 Corinthians 13

In This Issue

The Holiness Ministers'
Wives and Widows Council

Love and Marriage...
Ministry Style

IAMWMW Founders Day
News

Case Study - The Church
and Social Media



Love

And hope does not disappoint us,
because God has poured out His *love*
into our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
whom He has given us.
- Romans 5:5



DECEMBER BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Dorothy Durham - Baptist (2)
1446 Nova Avenue; Capitol Heights, MD 20743

Jennifer P. Washington - Baptist (4)
7268 Cedar Avenue; Jessup, MD 20794

Alma R. Fluelling - Baptist (5)
13301 Trumpeter Swam Court; Upper Marlboro, MD 20774

Mildred Young - Holiness (12)
6347 Naylor's Reserve Court; Hughesville, MD 20637

Elzonia W. Smith - Baptist (17)
11253 Kettering Place; Upper Marlboro, MD 20774

Glenda Harden Boston - ICMW/UMA (19)
State President
4008 Rocky Mount Drive; Temple Hill, MD 20748

Patricia J. Smith - Baptist (22)
2705 Rambler Place; Adelphi, MD 20783

Celeste M. Cole - Baptist (24)
7403 Wiheim Drive; Lanham, MD 20706

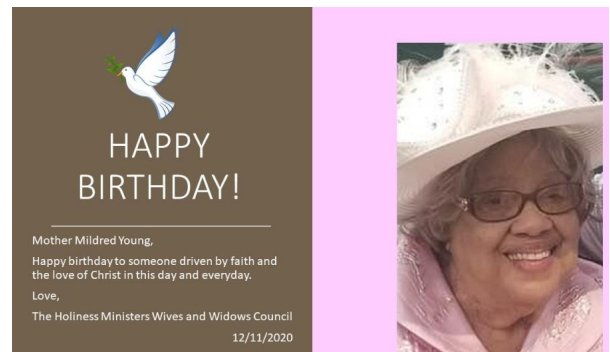
Joyce Quarles - ICMWMW (27)

The Rise of a Holiness Council

On March 14, 1949, a group of Holiness Ministers' Wives met at the home of Bishop and Mrs. Arthur R. Christian in Washington DC. Attendees of this initial meeting were Mrs. Nettie E. Davis, Mrs. India White, Mrs. Nana Acty, and Mrs. Wilhelmina Miller. In this meeting, Mrs. Christian beautifully outlined the revelation given to her from God of unifying Holiness ministers' wives. The aim was to promote and strengthen Christian fellowship among the wives of Holiness Ministers. Although not present at the meeting, others also expressed the desire for Christian unity. The first elected officers of the Holiness Council were: Mrs. Lillian Christian as President, Mrs. Nettie E. Davis as Vice President, Mrs. India White as Treasurer, Mrs. Lelia Wildy as Recording Secretary, Mrs. Celestine Keller as Assistant Recording Secretary, and Mrs. Nana Acty as Chaplin. Mrs. Irene Burton of Buffalo NY was present at the April 4, 1949 meeting and suggested as a motto: "Not by might, nor by power, but by thy spirit saith the Lord of Host." It was graciously accepted, and the organization was named the Holiness Ministers' Wives and Widows Council of Washington DC and Vicinity. Committees were formed and chairpersons appointed. From that first meeting, with few exceptions, the first Monday of each month at 8:00 o'clock PM, all the members assembled at the home of one of the members. By the third meeting in May, the president had drawn up and presented the Constitution and Bylaws which were unanimously accepted. They were printed in booklet form and distributed to the members.



The members decided upon the following aims: To promote and stimulate the interest of its members in all religious and spiritual fellowship; to promote and stimulate intellectual and social matters that were of a common interest; to act upon other matters of a more general nature; and to cooperate with other organizations who have similar interests. The members departed the meeting with a fervent determination to strengthen the bond among the wives and to help ministers' wives to better understand how to handle their day-to-day problems. Over the years, the organization has made many contributions and donations to several worthy causes such as: The American Leper Mission, Missionaries of the United Holiness Church in Liberia, Missionaries of the Church of God in Christ in Liberia, Jamaica, Haiti, to Missionaries in New Guinea, Missions in India, and to home missions in Baltimore, Washington DC, Virginia, and West Virginia, and to members in time of illness and bereavement. The meeting time has now been changed to the first Saturday of each month.



In 1979, Founder and President, Sister Lillian W. Christian died; and Vice President Mother Evelyn Simms served as Interim President from July 1979 to December 1979. In December 1979, Mother Mary Branch was elected and installed as President and lifted this organization to another milestone. During her administration, she formed a new Education Committee and Fellowship Brunch Committee; instituted the Queen's Rally to benefit the educational fund; authorized the duties of the Executive Secretary; and solidified the Finance Committee. In April 1985, Evangelist Marjorie Brown became president and formed the 40th Anniversary Booklet Committee; established a chairperson for the Membership Pins Committee; established an Executive Board; and revised the Constitution and Bylaws. In April of 1989, Evangelist Patricia M. Brown of Annapolis, MD was elected president and published a monthly newsletter; revitalized the Annual Brunch as a major fundraiser; and realigned the organization with the State and International Associations of Ministers' Wives and Ministers' Widows. In 1993, Evangelist Lillian Tyree became president and took the Holiness Council through a difficult period of transition and change to become stronger women of God to deal with personal problems. In 1997, new President, Pastor Esther Murray, led with her profound wisdom and knowledge of God's Word and instituted the award for Minister's Wife of the Year and Minister's Widow of the Year. In 2000, Mrs. Eileen Baltimore became president and formed regional directors to be used as points of contact when emergencies occurred. Mrs. Baltimore contacted delinquent members to bring them back into the fold and began trips and other activities such as a telephone tree for member contact, mentorship program, and a website. In April 2004, Mrs. Dale Brown was installed as the 9th president, and she immediately added members to enhance the membership committee and took the idea of mentorship to a higher level when she paired new members with seasoned members in the Holiness Council. In 2009, we sponsored the first Minister's Wives Conference and published our 60th Anniversary Souvenir booklet. The Annual Brunch was named the Rosie L. Young Brunch with the funds from this branch earmarked for domestic and international missions.

In 2010, Mrs. Agnes Vincent was elected president of the Holiness Council and renamed the monthly programs as "Spiritual Enrichment Sessions", providing special certificates for engaging in the sessions. Mrs. Vincent trained the vice presidents to prepare them to assume responsibility as president and chaired the Women's Conference. In January 2014, Mrs. Inez Elliott was selected as president and expressed a desire to produce a book on the rich history of the Holiness Council. She assembled a membership directory; and under her tenure for two years, the Holiness Council won First Place in table display at the Annual Rainbow Tea sponsored by the District of Columbia Association of Ministers' Wives and Ministers' Widows. In 2018, Mrs. Beverly Ellerbe was chosen as the current president. She is an example to all ministers' wives, and we stand today celebrating 71 years of keeping the vision alive all because of the inspiration of one woman, our Founder Mrs. Lillian W. Christian. This has become a great organization. May the vision remain alive in our hearts from everlasting to everlasting. Oh God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, be thou our guide while life shall last and our Eternal Home.

Respectively Submitted,
Mrs. Patricia M. Brown, Historian

Condolences

Vernia "Penny" Rollins
Holiness MWW Council





GENERAL BISHOP
TRUE DELIVERANCE CHURCH OF GOD MINISTRIES
Alvin D. Venson, Sr., Headquarters Pastor



Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight. O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer. Psalms 19:14

Dr. AGNES R. VENSON, CPhD, NCC, LPC, LCPC
CO-PASTOR OF TRUE DELIVERANCE CHURCH OF GOD, HEADQUARTERS

BIOGRAPHY



Co-Pastor Agnes R. Venson is the wife of Bishop Alvin D. Venson, Sr., General Bishop and Pastor of the True Deliverance Church of God Ministries, Headquarters. They have three beautiful children, Claresa C. L. Gamble, Alvin D. Venson, Jr., and Jacob Delonte' Venson. She joined the True Deliverance Church of God Ministries at age twelve under the auspices of the Late Apostle Albert Venson, Sr., and wife Mother Clara Venson.

She worked closely with these anointed leaders unknowingly that she was being groomed to be a Pastor's wife. Co-Pastor Venson's compassion is outreach, counseling and ministering to the lost. She is a member of The Holiness Minister Wives and Widow's Counsel. She is also the Founder and Director of ARM Support Services where her motto is "giving a loving arm to the community". She is a Nationally Certified Counselor and practices as a Licensed Professional Counselor and Certified Sex Offender Therapist in Maryland, The District of Columbia and Virginia. She was recently featured on WBGR Gospel Network Compelling Conversations Program, leading a discussion on mental health and the church and on another occasion virtually discussing the same topic with over sixty women.

Co-Pastor Venson is dedicated to her husband and family. She receives joy in partnering with her husband in ministry. Her husband is her pastor, business partner, confidant, and best friend. They work as a team specializing in teaching, preaching, providing marriage counseling and training clergy leaders and their spouses.

She is currently the newly appointed Second Vice President to the State of DCAMWMW.



Strengthening Women to Empowerment

Ms. Frances' House for Women is an extension of New Restoration Ministries (Pastor Lamon and Lady Angela White). Ms. Frances' House faithfully service women to overcome drug addiction, homelessness, and abuse within Baltimore and surrounding areas. It provides a safe, loving environment that challenges women to respect and love themselves, confront emotional and social-economic barriers and build stable and productive lives. The program provides recovery housing with support services to women seeking recovery and successful return to their communities, a safe haven for women leaving abusive situations, and shelter for those who are in between housing. The women of Ms. Frances' House benefit from love, care, counseling, and spiritual guidance as they strive to transform their lives.

Respectively Submitted,
Mrs. Angela White
Holiness MWW Council



Wellness Wednesday for Women
Every 2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month
11:30^{am} - 1:30^{pm} @ Ms. Frances' House
Light Lunch included | Food Bank & Clothes Bank

What is Wellness Wednesday for Women?
*It's designed to help w/ Life Skills, Job Readiness, Health & Wellness
*Who is this for: Any woman that needs help with life! Any woman who needs hope and a loving sisterhood. Any woman that is looking for a new start. This will help your Mind, Body and Soul!
Community & City Resources will be available!

Hosted By: Elder Tee Johnson, Director of Ms. Frances' House
www.msfranceshouse.org

Empowering the Women of Baltimore!
All Women Are Welcome...

For more info and to become a sponsor/donation or a workshop host: Call 443-560-5010





Love and Marriage... MINISTRY STYLE

What a privilege it is to be chosen by God to serve Him in ministry. I am equally honored and humbled to serve Him in ministry with my husband, Pastor Carey E. Pointer, Jr. I am confident God brought us together in marriage for the purpose of ministry; that we might use our individual personalities, gifts, abilities, capabilities and talents to be a blessing to His people. I certainly love Carey as my husband and honor Pastor Pointer as my pastor; but must admit, I was initially apprehensive about working day-in and day-out, along-side him when I was called and elevated to the position of Co-Pastor, but God soon put to rest all concerns.

For the past 16 years, God has allowed us to work together in unity, with the highest regard of appreciation, admiration and respect for each other. Yes, we are different, in fact totally opposite; I don't think you can find two people as opposite as we are! We have, however, found our differences to be part of the real strength of our marriage and ministry – with our differences, we compliment and compensate for each other; where I'm weak, he's strong and vice versa. Our differences also help us to maintain balance at home and in the church – balance in our thinking, our approach and our execution – this is real partnership which is undergirded by real love.

This year we celebrated 52 years in ministry for Pastor Pointer and 21 years of ministry for myself. Yes, there has been good and bad, ups and downs, ins and outs; but through it all, we remain committed to the cause of Christ and to each other.

Respectfully Submitted,
Reverend Dr. Kathy E. Pointer
Co-Pastor
Greater Fellowship Full Gospel
Baptist Church, Washington, DC

From the Desk of our President

Virtual Founder's Day Weekend

The IAMWMW Founder's Day Virtual celebration was a great success! Congratulations to the DCAMWMW Sisterhood for their labor of love and financial donations in support of our DC State Queen Representative; Founder's Day Contributions; Northeast Regional Assessment; and Mortgage Burning Project.

Our very own Baptist Sister, Reverend Barbie Daughtry represented us well in the IAMWMW Queen's Coronation. Sister Daughtry placed 1st with a donation of \$2,280. The IAMWMW Queens Coronation raised \$20,000 for the up-keep of the IAMWMW Headquarters located at 609 S. Davis Avenue, Richmond, Virginia. Also, our State sisterhood donated \$1,610 for Founder's Day Weekend and our Baptist Local gave the largest contribution of \$360.

Congratulations Baptist sisters for always representing us well financially in your considerable giving above and beyond the norm with fulfilling the Local Northeast Regional Assessment of \$625 towards the mortgage liquidation project. The DC Sisters recognized in the IAMWMW Kiosk Contributors that supported the Mortgage Burning Project with their donations of \$520 or more are:

Pamela Barksdale
Marie Bowe-Quick
Patricia F. Brown
Barbara Daughtry
Willetta K. Graham
Glenda Harden-Boston
Vanessa Hilliard
Andrea R. Logan
Edna M. Owens
Kathy Pointer
Sherl Streeter
Eunice Turner
Mary R. Wilson

Sisters our little has become much, as we continue to work together in love and on one accord! Thanks again for representing our State, the District of Columbia, in a "Marvelous" way!

With Much Love & Respect!
President Glenda Harden Boston



The Top Ten Things Your Husband Does Not Like

1. Throw him under the bus in public.
2. Remind him of his past failures.
3. Upload on him as soon as he walks in the door.
4. When you expect him to be like your girlfriend.
5. When you expect him to read your mind.
6. When you treat him like a heel.
7. When you unload the big guns at 11 pm.
8. When you compare him to the "perfect" guy in church.
9. When you give him the silent treatment.
10. When you use sex as a weapon.

What All Widows Need To Know

1. God is your husband man.
2. He will never leave you or forsake you.
3. Cast all your cares upon Him.
4. God will supply your every need.

Exodus 22:22-24

You shall not mistreat any widow or fatherless child. If you do mistreat them, and they cry out to me, I will surely hear their cry, and my wrath will burn, and I will kill you with the sword, and your wives shall become widows and your children fatherless.



Case Study — Worship via Social Media

Shaw University Divinity School

PWS 521 01 Introduction to Christian Worship

Janice E. Noble

Dr. Joe Stevenson, Instructor

April 14, 2020

Many states in this country recently instituted stay-at-home orders to stop the spread of COVID-19. This pandemic has governments ordering or advising the avoidance of gatherings of more than 10 people. This means that most churches are not able to physically meet. Therefore, the church has been deployed into the realm of social media. This case study analyzes three churches and determines their readiness for this new platform, and what the church needs to do in the future to advance the message of the Gospel.

The worship services of a small, medium, and a mega church from my hometown in the Washington D.C., area were analyzed: *Servants For Christ Ministries, Campbell A.M.E. Church, and the First Baptist Church of Glenarden.*

Servants for Christ Ministries is a small church pastored by Reverend Dr. Jerry Jones in Ft. Washington, MD. It has an average attendance of 20-25 people per week. The church was using social media prior to the pandemic. However, as a result of the pandemic, the church began using additional social media platforms including a Facebook live streaming service in their sanctuary. They also started a YouTube channel. They have a Technical/Communications Director who developed the platforms. In addition, the church now has prayer meetings via Zoom. They have also established an Instagram account.

Lastly, as a result of the pandemic, they updated their website and offered additional platforms to give tithes and offerings on-line. They also began utilizing electronic giving through phone apps. Servants for Christ Ministries' worship services can be accessed on <https://youtu.be/yttVjSwvmYo>. This church's quick adaptation to the need for social media during the pandemic was impressive. The Facebook Live video was excellent. Most of the videos are of the pastor providing the sermon from the pulpit. The quality of the video is excellent particularly so since the church does not have a large budget.

Campbell A.M.E. Church is a medium-size historic church in Washington, D.C. It has approximately 300 members. Frederick Douglass lived in close proximity to the church and attended it on several occasions. The pastor is Reverend Dr. Henry White. Prior to the pandemic, the church posted its full Sunday Service on Facebook. They have a few YouTube videos of past events as well. After the pandemic Dr. White posts his sermons only. The Easter Worship Service was actually taken at Dr. White's home. The video was well done. His message was clear. It was evident that Dr. White has videotaped messages in the past.

First Baptist Church of Glenarden is pastored by Reverend John Jenkins. The church has over 10,000 members and approximately 400 employees. First Baptist Church of Glenarden is located in Upper Marlboro, MD. This church has done a lot of social media prior to the pandemic. The YouTube video titled, "Spiritual Warfare Part Seven—The Sword of the Spirit," done after the pandemic was near perfect. Many of the mega churches have outstanding videos. This is likely because of their larger budgets. The video began with clips of the choir during past worship services. There is a text box on the top of the screen stating that it was prerecorded prior to restrictions. The short clips during announcements and of the choir and scenes of worshippers praising God, provided one with a feeling that you were actually present at worship. The scriptures are beautifully posted. The video is clear and quite impressive.

It was evident that all the churches in this case study were prepared in various degrees to move to a social media platform for worship when the pandemic restrictions began. All of the pastors had an excellent message to preach and all provided a call to salvation. However, with the exception on First Baptist of Glenarden, I felt that I had not been to a corporate worship service. I realize that it must be difficult to preach in the African American experience without at least an occasion amen; however, we must remember that worship is not just the preaching moment. The awe and adoration of God was not evident in some cases. Many of the preachers was more concern with getting through this new experience instead of creating a worshipful event.

In the last few weeks, I have watched many online services. Preachers have been creative. Some present themselves at home like a fire-side chat moment. Others, like my Pastor, Paul Anderson, videotaped their message at church. My pastor actually created a worshipful background using worship flags that remind one of the date on the liturgical calendar, for example, a flag for Palm Sunday. Some of the pastor's videos had sound or buffering issues. There was one video where the Pastor was at his desk at home preaching the Sunday message and obviously quite uncomfortable with using social media. His wife walked into the room in the middle of his talk to assist him on the computer. It was obviously a first time and painful experience for this pastor. However, I applaud him and all the other preachers that have had to do a new thing and learn how to do a video presentation for worship. It was uncomfortable for many, but it is necessary considering the times we live in.

I love and miss corporate worship. However, for safely purposes, I will continue to watch worship services online for now. I understand that worship is not just a corporate event. There is of course personal worship. However, if pastors are having social media worship instead of corporate worship at churches, my personal preference is a service that recreates, as much as possible, the full worship experience with maybe scenes of worshippers and some music. We need more training for pastors in how to reach the masses through social media. In addition, for those churches who can afford it, a skilled Videographer is now a necessary staff position.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lady Patricia A. Jones

Do you know the Bible?



Take the Quiz



1. What is the longest book in the Bible?

- A. Psalms
- B. Proverbs
- C. Numbers
- D. Song of Solomon

2. How many books are in the Old Testament?

- A. 42
- B. 39
- C. 44
- D. 47

3. How many books are in the New Testament?

- A. 32
- B. 30
- C. 25
- D. 27

4. Who is the first woman mentioned in the Bible?

- A. Sarah
- B. Ruth
- C. Esther
- D. Eve

Thank you DCAMWMW for your participation with the newsletter. It could not have been successful without your prayers and input. We believe God is pleased with your service!

If you know of any ministers' wives within your church organization or statehood who would like to join any one of the four local chapters, please have them contact the State President at info@dcamwmw.org for more information.

If you are interested in submitting content for the newsletter, please contact the editor at willettak.graham@gmail.com.

Answers: 1) Psalms 2) 39 3) 27 4) Eve