



# Fruits of Joy

**Self-Control for the Sanctity of Ministry**  
*Changing Times Call for Self-Controlled Leaders*

## *In This Issue*

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Baptist Ministers' Wives and Widows  
Association of WDC & Vicinity, Inc.

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Rainbow Tea  
*The Crowning of a DCA Queen*

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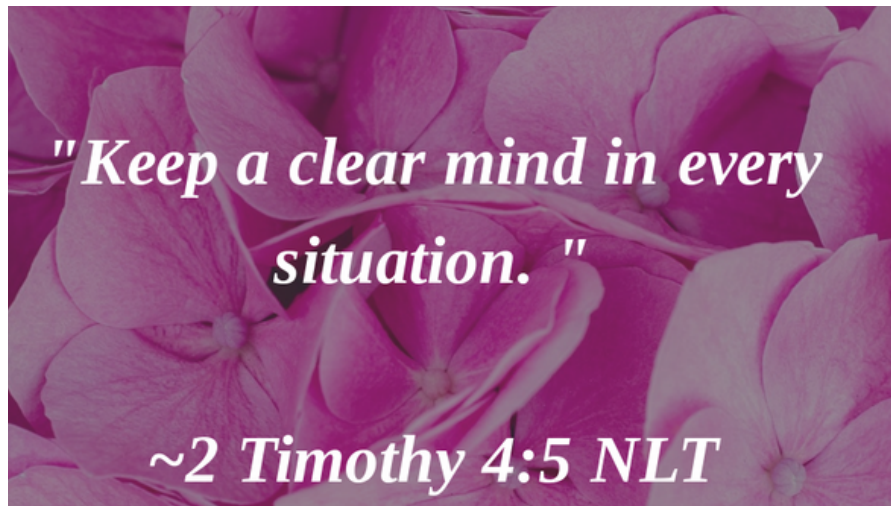
Ministry and Pearls  
*A Soror in The White House*

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DCA Educational Academy  
*"Women of Legacy Shaping their Future"*

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Founder's Day Weekend  
June 10-12, 2021  
*Remembering Mrs. Ruby Marshall*



## **Birthday Recognitions**

### January

Janice Myles (HC) - 2  
Bonita L. Ridley (BA) - 3  
F. Diane Robertson (BA) - 29

### February

Dovie Ross (BA) - 4  
Linda Young (BA) - 6  
Dale Brown (HC) - 9  
Mary R. Wilson (BA) - 18

### March

Barbara Jean Boney (BA) - 12  
Joyce A. Fluelling (BA) - 18  
Amy R. Alexander (BA) - 21  
Dorothy Well-Fowlkes (BA) - 24  
Sally A. Ladson (BA) - 27

# Strengthening The Ties That Bind



**The Baptist Ministers' Wives and Widows Association of Washington, D.C., and Vicinity (BMWVA) was organized in 1933 under the late Mrs. Alberta Randolph, who served as its first president from 1933-1935.** The association's purpose was to bring ministers' wives together in a circle of love and fellowship -- religiously, socially, and intellectually. Membership was and remains open to the wife of any regularly ordained Baptist Minister who is in good standing with his church, provided the wife is of the Baptist faith. She may retain her membership, in the event of her husband's retirement or death. As ministers' wives worked and supported their husbands in ministry, Mrs. Randolph realized the need for the wives to also "strengthen the bonds of friendship" while loving, caring, and sharing with each other while working for our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

During its early history, the BMWVA met twice a month, on Thursday afternoons and Friday nights at the Lott Carey Building. The meetings offered ministers' wives, most of whom did not work, some time away from family responsibilities for a wonderful opportunity for fellowship.

To give you an idea of some of the great things the Lord has done through us, below is a synopsis of a few of our past presidents and key highlights of their administrations:

**Mrs. J. W. Bundrant** (1937-1939) a well-known socialite at the time who led involvement in civic activities to support the YWCA and afternoon teas with various social organizations in the city. "**Ma**" **J.L.S. Holloman** served during World War II from 1939-1943 when women began to working outside of the home in schools, churches, and in government so meetings were held only once a month. She led efforts with the Washington Baptist Seminary to provide support to the husbands involved in seminary studies. **Mrs. Sarah Newton**, an educator who served as president from 1943-1945, initiated a project to support the Mary Weather Home and the Stoddard Baptist Home which we still support today.

**Mrs. Ruby Marshall**, a successful businesswoman and financier, served as president from 1945-1947.

During that time, the association hosted, housed, and fed the National Association of Ministers' Wives (which later became the IAMWMW). In 1947, the BMWWA and another local ministers' wives organization jointly hosted the Annual Conference of the IAMWMW. This was the first conference held outside of Richmond, VA, and the Virginia Union University. Under the leadership of **Mrs. Ruth Jones** (1949-1951), the organization began associating with ministers' wives of other cultures and ethnicities and initiated the annual Baltimore MD-Washington DC Ministers' Wives Fellowship.

**Mrs. Etta Gibson** (1959-1961) led the association in furnishing and decorating a room at the Stoddard Baptist Home during her tenure, and in establishing the association as a lifetime member of the NAACP. Under the leadership of **Mrs. Catherine Wheeler** (1973-1975), the Scholarship Fund and the Constitution Reform Committees were initiated. We also hosted the third Northeast Regional MWMW Conference and introduced the Friday Night Welcome Program. The Johnson-Wheeler Scholarship was established in her honor. **Mrs. Dorothy Durham** (1979-1981) grew membership by 28 ladies; created the Sunshine Committee; had a Hawaiian Luau-themed Baltimore-Washington Fellowship; a banquet at the Masonic Temple; dramatic plays performed by students and young adults at monthly meetings; and, attended IAMWMW annual session in Barbados. She also served eight years as Secretary and Treasurer of The Herald.

**Mrs. Delores Waldo** (1987-1989) was inducted into the IAMWMW Hall of Fame and more BMWWA members began holding offices at the regional and national levels. She encouraged wives to serve with a focus on the sick, shut-in, young mothers, elderly members, widows, and newly married ministers' wives. **Mrs. Cora Jackson** (1989-1991) formed the Cora L. Jackson Scholarship Award which has given over \$75,000 to 100 worthy students. **Mrs. Rosella Reid** (1993-1995) was an inductee into the IAMWMW Hall of Fame. **Mrs. Vanessa Hilliard** (2003-2005) created a Policy and Procedure Manual, the Hilda Washington Award, the Layman Award, reinstated the Orientation Committee, and support for the Angel Tree Project.

**Mrs. Quienzella Lattimore** (2005-2007), **Mrs. Amy Alexander** (2007-2009), and **Mrs. Pamela Barksdale** (2009-2011) all greatly expanded the Annual Fellowship Breakfast fundraisers and Scholarship Awards ceremonies.

**Mrs. Patricia F. Brown** (2011-2013) created website [baptistminwivesandwidowsondc.com](http://baptistminwivesandwidowsondc.com) and our physical and financial support to the Capital Area Food Bank and *So Others May Eat* (SOME). **Mrs. Mary Wilson** (2013-2015) worked with DCAMWMW to host the North East Regional IAMWMW Conference in Arlington, VA, and began transportation to meetings and events for our Senior members.



## Condolences



Mrs. Dorothy Durham  
January 13, 2021

**Mrs. Sherl Streeter** (2015-2017) created a new logo for the association, began giving a welcome tote bag to new members, and led donations of books and clothing to an area homeless shelter. **Dr. Marie Bowe-Quick** (2017-2019) created partnerships with the congressionally sponsored Return to Ghana Initiative and the Embassy of Ghana, hosting a formal reception for Ghanaian royalty to launch a donation drive for personal hygiene items for teen girls in Ghana. She also created the Dr. Marie Quick Snack Program that annually provides school supplies and weekend food for at-risk students. **Bishop Eunice Turner** (2019-Present) is leading us to stay connected through prayer and virtual meetings as the Lord leads us through this pandemic. Our best days are ahead of us and we can't wait to see what the Lord has in store for us.

To God be the Glory for 88 years of exceptional leadership! The association has experienced tremendous growth over time, while reinforcing the Christian ethic of love and maintaining the vision of its founder and sister, Alberta Randolph: "To strengthen the bonds of friendship; to strive towards a wholesome, harmonious, sympathetic, and sisterly relationship among ministers' wives everywhere; and, to practice and uphold the great Christian principles given by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ."

*For more information on the Baptist Ministers' Wives and Widows Association, please refer to our website at [baptistminwivesandwidowsondc.com](http://baptistminwivesandwidowsondc.com)*

Respectfully Submitted,  
Patricia F. Brown, Historian





## The Crowning of a DCA Queen

*"I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth...I will remember my covenant between me and you and all living creatures of every kind..." Genesis 9:13-16*

The District of Columbia Association hosted its first virtual Rainbow Tea under the leadership of State President, Minister Glenda Harden-Boston. The event was chaired by Dr. Marie Bowe-Quick (BMWVA). The four locals that make up DCA came together in unity and sisterly love to rally around two of its members representing the United Metropolitan Alliance and Interdenominational Council MWMW associations. The queen contestants were Dr. Edna Owens (UMA) and President Gloria J. Williams (IC).

It was a morning filled with devotion, songs, "Elegant Tea Place Setting" and "Best Formal Tea Hat" contests, virtual vendors, an auction, and inspiration message presented by Evangelist Linda Strickland from the Atlanta Chapter MWMW, Georgia. Her message was all too prevalent as she spoke on the importance of **staying connected** to and supportive of fellow ministers' wives and widows. Stay away from unhealthy competition amongst each other; recognize the differences between each other and embrace how those differences can strengthen the organization; and realize we can lose our connection if we fail to plan for the future.

Evangelist Strickland also suggested that we mentor and encourage those younger ministers' wives wanting to join the sisterhood by allowing them room to grow and operate in their gifts... **"as we don't have a sister to lose"**. Her plea to the seasoned sisters was that they discern when to step aside and allow others to lead. The organization must become innovative in its thinking and willing to grow beyond how it is used to operating. The goal should be to not allow for the association to die on "our" watch.

Lastly, final blessings and benediction was given by Rev. Dr. Agnes Venson of the Holiness MWMW Council. Sharing in the festivities was International President, Dr. Margaret Brown Payton and Dr. Cheryl Evans, NE Regional Vice President. They were able to join in as we all witnessed the crowning of a new queen...

**Congratulations to President Gloria J. Williams and the Interdenominational Council of Ministers' Wives and Ministers' Widows!**

Committed to the cause,  
Mrs. Willetta Graham  
Newsletter Editor / DCA Communications Team



# Ministry and Pearls: A Soror in The White House

*"Do not despise these small beginnings, for the LORD rejoices to see the work begin, to see the plumb line in Zerubbabel's hand."*

*Zechariah 4:10*

All of us experienced overwhelming joy as we watched Madam Vice President Kamala Devi Harris being sworn in as the first woman and person of African American and Asian descent to hold this office. My feelings of joy were intensified by the fact that she was a proud member of my dear Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. As I sat and watched, I realized that my joy was coupled with gratitude and a flood of memories.

My feeling of gratitude was to God. Gratitude to God for being allowed to witness this moment. Rev. Dr. John Kinney, Dean of the Samuel Dewitt Proctor School of Theology at Virginia Union University, often reminded us, we often live "God Ordained Moments." A moment that you know was only possible because of God. Just think about it, by the time January 21, 2021 arrived, we had collectively experienced nine months of a pandemic that rendered most of the world to their homes as the only means of protection. This pandemic, many soon realized, affected, and was killing our senior citizens and black skinned and brown skinned individuals at a disproportionately higher percentage. Those who were in power did not care that so many of us were dying. African Americans had witnessed the continued killings of black women and black men in the streets and in their homes by police. Many of us had witnessed the killing of George Floyd, by a white police officer, as he knelt with a knee on his neck, for 8 minutes and 46 seconds. We watched as the life drained out of another black man, as he called for his dead mother. This killing sent us to the streets in protest in massive numbers to shout throughout the world that our "Black Lives Matter"!

Lastly, we had lived out the end of four years of a racist political regime, with a President who had espoused racist ideologies, promoted racist and sexist policies, and supported radical white supremacist. So, yes in this moment, I knew that it was only by God's grace and God's mercy that I was alive! God had kept me and my family so that we could witness and testify to this moment. A "God Ordained Moment" for which I was grateful to witness! A "God Ordained Moment" that had allowed the entire world to collectively exhale!

Not only was I overwhelmed with joy and gratitude, the wonderful memories of my grandparents and my small beginnings with the women of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., were brought to mind. Growing up in small town Chesapeake, WV, often as a child, I would go along with my paternal grandparents, Deacon John and Deaconess Ada Hill, to their various church services. These were the seeds of my small beginnings in ministry. One of my favorite places to go with them was to my grandmother's Deaconess Wives Council meetings.



The president of the Deaconess Wives Council at that time was Deaconess Payne and the meetings were held at her home for the entire area. Truth be told my favorite reason for going was that Deaconess Payne had a store connected to her house. I knew that if I sat quietly until the meeting was over, Deaconess Payne would allow me to have as much candy as I could stuff in my little candy bag.

As time went by, what I would learn is that all of Deaconess Payne's daughters and granddaughters were school teachers and school administrators and they all were members Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Her daughter Ms. Doris Payne was the junior high girls' basketball coach.

Her daughter, Mrs. Louise Anderson, was my high school short hand and typing teacher. These were more seeds of my small beginnings. These women supported and encouraged me in my formative years. The women of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc, provided a scholarship which allowed me to attend and become the first college graduate in our family. Soror Louise Anderson and Soror Doris Payne were there and welcomed me in as a Soror of the Nu Pi Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., on April 15, 1983. Although for years, after graduating, I did not actively participate in a chapter, God always put Sorors in my path that have continued to support and encourage me along the way in ministry. Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., truly is a sisterhood that reaches over the chasms of time.



After reflecting on these memories, I can say that my early church experiences with my grandparents and my experiences with the sisterhood of my dear Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., have come together to shape my current ministry to my sisters in the body of Christ. Paul writes in his letter to Corinth:

*Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God. For just as the sufferings of Christ flow over into our lives, so also through Christ our comforter overflows (II Corinthians 1: 3 - 5).*

My gifts of discernment, encouragement, healing, and helps, come together to help in walking out this scripture within the walls of the church and beyond.

Fulfilling a ministry of service for Christ,

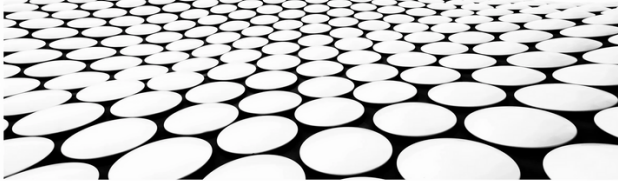
Reverend Monica A. Teal  
First Lady and Minister to Women  
Jerusalem Baptist Church of Washington, DC  
United Metropolitan Alliance MWMW



# DCA Upcoming Events



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION OF MINISTERS'  
WIVES AND MINISTERS' WIDOWS  
EDUCATIONAL ACADEMY  
BUILDING OUR FUTURE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES



## Women of Legacy Shaping their Ministries or Life's Work to Advance Kingdom Building

*2 Timothy 2:15 KJV*  
*Study to shew thyself approved unto God,  
a workman that needeth not to be ashamed  
rightly dividing the word of truth.*

### Objectives:

Provide training that will promote cohesiveness and accountability within the organization and help those members wanting to pursue opportunities in leadership at the local and state levels of the organization.

Building a curriculum geared toward basic organizational protocol and leadership skills.

Subjects of interest to include facilitating business meetings, planning programs, handling of organizational funds, etc.

Keep the communication and fellowship between the four (4) locals and DCA open to regular feedback on educational needs. Allows for the Association to remain appealing to new members and relevant to the ministers' wives and ministers' widows community as it strives to maintain inclusiveness and diversity among all women of faith.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION OF  
MINISTERS' WIVES & MINISTERS' WIDOWS  
MINISTER GLENDA HARDEN-BOSTON, PRESIDENT

# FOUNDER'S DAY WEEKEND

JUNE 10-12, 2021

REMEMBERING OUR FOUNDER  
MRS. RUBY MARSHALL

CELEBRATING 69 YEARS IN SERVICE

"THE LEGACY OF GOD'S CALLED WOMEN  
MOVING FORWARD IN KINGDOM ASSIGNMENTS"

DONATION: \$75  
REGISTRATION DEADLINE: MAY 31, 2021

REGISTER ONLINE AT [WWW.DCAMWMW.ORG](http://WWW.DCAMWMW.ORG)

If you know of any ministers' wives or ministers' widows 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](mailto: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](mailto:willettak.graham@gmail.com).