



THE EPISTLE

*Newsletter of the
Nineteenth Street Baptist Church*

“You are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read by all men...” 2 Corinthians 3:2



Nineteenth Street Baptist Church

4606 16th Street NW
Washington, DC 20011
202-829-2773

www.everyblessing.org

Ministerial Staff

- Rev. Dr. Darryl D. Roberts, *Pastor*
- Rev. James A. Crosson Jr., *Assistant Pastor*
- Rev. Jerry C. Cheatham Jr.
- Rev. Cheryl Coleman Hall
- Rev. Christopher O. Crawford
- Rev. Dr. I. Benni Singleton
- Rev. Reginald Townsend
- Rev. Edward Turner
- Rev. Robin L. Turner
- Rev. Lorise White Wolfe
- Rev. Eddie Martin Jr., *Youth Minister*
- Rev. Dr. Jerry A. Moore Jr., *Pastor Emeritus*

Church School, Sunday 8:45 AM
Morning Worship, Sunday 10:00 AM
Prayer Meeting, Thursday 6:30 PM



GOD is Our Passion. Serving **People** is Our **Mission**.

The mission of the Nineteenth Street Baptist Church is to profoundly *experience*, joyfully *celebrate*, and meaningfully *share* God's grace.

We do this through Christ-centered *worship*, *biblical instruction*, *prayer*, *nurturing fellowship*, and *caring acts* that are reflective of our love for God and one another.

We, through the power of the Holy Spirit, proclaim the Gospel and Jesus Christ to all people while supporting the work of missions in our church, our community, our country, and the world.

The Epistle

is an official publication of the Nineteenth Street Baptist Church.

Editor Emeritus

Rev. Dr. I. Benni Singleton

Editor

Karen E. Williamson

Epistle Contributors

- Deacon Yvonne Dickson
- Deborah Heard
- Cece Johnson
- Deaconess Patricia Kilby-Robb
- Virginia C. Lee
- Deacon Fred Leftrict
- Deaconess Brenda Lightening-Tolbert
- Chaplain Eddie Martin
- Gayle Patrick
- Deacon Leon Pierce
- Trustee Donza Poole
- Trustee Franklin Smith
- Deacon Howard S. Smith
- Robin Smith
- Trustee Charlie Spro
- Rev. Reginald Townsend
- Rev. Robin Turner
- Robin Williams

The Epistle is published monthly on the first of the month. **The deadline for materials is the 20th of each month.** Submit articles and photographs for publication via email to Epistle@everyblessing.org.

Questions?

Contact Karen Williamson at 202-829-5973 or williamsonke@gmail.com.

IN THIS ISSUE...

- Pastor's Corner 3
- Trustee Talk: Solar Panel Update 4
- Celebrating Deaconess Eloise Turner 5
- Welcome New Members 5
- Board of Christian Education News..... 5
- Men's Ministry Update 5
- Why We Will Walk on September 23 6
- GriefShare to Begin Meeting..... 7
- Successful Block Party! 8
- Congratulations! 12
- Progressive Adults Theater Outings 12
- Annual Golf Tournament 13
- Summer Travels..... 15
- Manhood Training Ministry..... 16
- Youth Ministry Retreat 16
- Calendar..... 17

Suit Up – for a More Victorious Life!

By Rev. Robin L. Turner, Associate Minister



This summer's reading series excavated Christian foundations that put us on a pathway to more victorious living. To 'Suit Up,' we not only revisited how to gear up with spiritual armor (Ephesians 6), but were empowered by the teaching of Richard Foster, "Celebration of Discipline." Indeed, there was much to celebrate, from our first session and overview led by Pastor Darryl Roberts, to lessons on

Study, Prayer, Fasting, Simplicity, Confession, Service, Worship and, finally, the Celebration that comes when we grow in these various disciplines. The teaching ministry was reinforced with powerful musical renderings by Sisters Tami Hayes, Monique Griffiths and Siera Toney and Deacon Donald Rankin. In addition, through this work, we have incubated a God-ordained ministry as part of our pastor's vision for a growing program in Christian education. Stay tuned for those exciting details!

For now, we know there is a desire and need to sharpen our spiritual tools — especially in the current social and political climate. This is evident, especially when considering all the developments, tweets and footage we have witnessed this summer. As Christians, we are reminded how to proceed — Suited Up in full armor. We also look forward to advancing and winning in this spiritual warfare as details soon will be unveiled

on how we can grow individually and corporately, and thereby strengthen our families and grow the Kingdom of God.

Special thanks to our Sunday School Superintendent Shirley France, who offered this great platform by opening the combined adult Sunday School class for a nine-week series. At the same time, parallel classes were offered for our youth. We also are thankful for the leadership of Pastor Roberts and Board of Christian Education Director Deaconess Patricia Kilby-Robb, who envisioned this series and invited Rev. Cheryl Hall and me to share in its leadership. Week by week, we saw the building blocks fitly joined with 40 to 50 participants gathered for each session. One person who we embraced as a new visitor even found a church home here on her path to victorious living! We know there are more blessings to come as we prepare to receive more pragmatic and powerful ministry from our Board of Christian Education. The best is yet to come.

Please pray and be prepared for the unveiling of this transformative ministry. As God implores us in Joshua 1:8:

"Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will make your way prosperous and then you will have good success."

Solar Energy Update

By Trustee Donza M. Poole



Earlier this year, solar panels were installed on the church's roof, allowing the church to go green by using the sun — a renewable energy source — to generate electricity. This renewable energy system began generating electricity in an environmentally-friendly and cost-saving way on May 27, 2017. At the July church business meeting, Trustee Chair Franklin Smith reported on the savings the church has already begun realizing from its use of

renewable energy.

June 2017 was our first full month using solar energy, allowing us to make our first comparison of the cost of using solar to the cost of using a non-renewable source of energy, as we had in the past.

Last year, we paid Pepco over \$5,000 for the church's June 2016 electricity use. This year, using solar energy, our bill was less than \$3,700, providing the church with a 27% savings! At this rate, the church is on track to save approximately \$16,000 in energy costs each year.

Continue watching this space for periodic updates on the church's use of solar energy and going green and to learn of other efforts the Trustee Board is making to manage the church's resources. ❖



Solar panels on our church's roof

Celebrating Deaconess Eloise Turner

By Deborah Heard



During New Members Ministry Sunday on September 17, Nineteenth Street will pay tribute to Deaconess Eloise Turner for her years of service to the New Members Ministry. She has worked in this vital ministry for close to a quarter century, according to research by the Deacon Board.

Deaconess Turner, who succeeded Deaconess Katherine Thomas as director, will be passing the baton to the next director once that person is identified. The ministry welcomes new members, orients them to church doctrines and activities, and helps them get to know church staff and other members. ❖

Welcome New Members

AUGUST 2017

By Experience of Grace

Brother Mack Sullivan

Sister Taylor Sullivan

Sister Emily Woolcock

Brother Oran Woolcock

Workshops and Worship at Baptist Convention

Join the Nineteenth Street Board of Christian Education and other member churches at the 141st annual gathering of The District of Columbia Baptist Convention, October 26–28 at People’s Community Baptist Church in Silver Spring, Maryland.

Descriptions of the various workshops and worship experiences can be found on their website at www.dcbaptist.org.

For more information about participating in this and other Christian education and development experiences, contact Board of Christian Education Director Deaconess Patricia Kilby-Robb at robbr1361@yahoo.com. ❖

Men’s Ministry Update

By Deacon Howard S. Smith

The Men’s Ministry will resume its monthly meetings and Saturday morning fellowship on Saturday, September 16 at 9 AM in the Deacon Boardroom.

Join us also for weekly Monday morning devotions at 7:30 AM, beginning on September 18. Start your work week immersed in corporate prayer with your brothers in Christ and share in the joyful work of supporting our church. We begin timely and the call lasts ten minutes. The dial-in number for the “Answering Our Call” devotions is 515-603-3111; access code is 220825#.

For information about Men’s Ministry activities, contact me at 202-882-1444 or howardsmith@everyblessing.org. ❖

Why We Will Walk on September 23

By Virginia C. Lee

Haitiwalk5K Teams and Captains

Agape Youth
Chaplin Eddie Martin

Cooke and Company
Phillis Cooke

Highsteppers
Deaconess Sageta Jackson

New Members
Deaconess Eloise Turner

Zelophehad Daughters: BRI
Rev. Cheryl Hall

Christian Mite
Deaconess Pearl Sudduth

Team France
Shirley France

Team Velma Bonhomme
Andrea Bonhomme

The Beatitudes
Monica Reeder

The Men's Ministry
Deacon Howard Smith

The Saints
Deacon Johnnie Love

VillageMed
Nancy Quincy

Plans for the Global Missions Ministry Haitiwalk5K are in full swing with a record number of teams positioned to raise \$25,000 for the second annual walk on Saturday, September 23, 2017 along the historic C & O Canal. (See sidebar for list of walk teams and captains.)

VillageMed President Nancy Quincy gave an informative talk about the Haiti Healthy Child Project to an attentive audience in the fellowship hall on Sunday, July 30. Her sister Dr. Valerie Bowman, VillageMed chief medical officer, vividly described what it is like treating the children on-site. VillageMed was conceived in the wake of the devastating earthquake that ravaged Haiti in 2010. It aims to increase the number of minority female physicians volunteering to deliver crisis medical relief to communities around the world. One of its goals is to operate and manage a training clinic in Haiti. Working in conjunction with Howard University Medical School, VillageMed hopes to establish a Pediatric Rotation Program that encourages the

continued on next page



VillageMed President Nancy Quincy giving Haiti Healthy Child Project presentation to rapt audience on July 30.

next generation of medical students to pursue careers in global medicine.

The goal of the Haiti Healthy Child Project is to provide sustainable quality health care to children living in unsafe and unsanitary environments. In 2016 the Global Missions Ministry joined as a community partner with VillageMed to help make a pediatric clinic a reality and made a five-year commitment to raise \$100,000 toward that effort. The estimated total cost of the project is \$250,000.

The Global Missions Ministry raised over \$16,000 in the Haitiwalk5K last year. Our \$25,000 goal this year is even more critical as the project enters its first phase. The anticipated ground breaking is January 2018, with a tentative completion date of April 2019. The Global Missions Ministry and VillageMed thank everyone who has given to this cause, giving hope to the children of Haiti.

This year Global Missions Ministry Sunday will be celebrated on September 10. Exhibits will honor the people and culture of Burkina Faso, Nicaragua, Jamaica and Haiti — countries where we are doing mission work. ❖

GriefShare to Begin Meeting September 10

By Deacon Leon Pierce

God has given us a blessing with GriefShare, a unique grief recovery support group that gently helps carry us through the pain of losing a loved one. It was developed by Church Initiative, a ministry in Wake Forest, North Carolina, that serves over 300,000 churches worldwide.

Our leadership team, who has been in training for the program, agrees that GriefShare is not like your typical support group. We are convinced that GriefShare is from the Holy Spirit because it is like a gift that fell into our laps and warmed our hearts.

Our first meeting is scheduled for Sunday, September 10 from 12:30 to 2:30 PM in the Jones-Handy House. Invitations will be extended to bereaved persons in our church family and in the community. We will alternate our meeting location with group sessions in the Deacon Board Room.

Our vision for this ministry is to provide healing support and guidance to each one who seeks it. We all know that losing a loved one is a dreadful and traumatic experience. As a church, we want to step forward and respond to the echoes of Scripture that encourage and teach us to bear one another's burdens, such as II Corinthians 1:3-4:

"... the Father of mercies and God of all comfort who comforts us in all our tribulation that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort which we ourselves are comforted by God."

It is our prayer, and we ask for the prayers of everyone, that God will use GriefShare to lighten the burden and pain of those who participate and experience a closer relationship with Him. ❖

Prayers Answered for a Successful Block Party!

By Deaconess Brenda Lightening-Tolbert

When prayers go up, blessings come down. Our Community Block Party on Saturday, August 12 was a true testament to the power of prayer. Joined hearts prayed for a fun-filled family-friendly day of fellowship, and that it was. Blessings also came in the form of a rain-free day even though weather forecasts predicted otherwise.

Volunteering church members, family and friends joined forces to create an awesome block party! Tents...balloons in the fellowship hall and outside...grilled hot dogs and hamburgers...frying fish...coolers filled with water and soft drinks...sweet cotton candy...icy snow cones...games...a moon bounce...a Velcro wall...face painting...pony rides...an expansive bazaar...yummy bake sale items...musical entertainment



that kept folks on their feet and more! Musical performers volunteered their time and talents, thanks to our own talented musician and fitness guru Tami Hayes. WKYS radio personality Jordon Johnson, aka “Shorty Da Prince,” made a surprise appearance and gave the crowd a hearty shout out!

An important area of the block party was the health and education expo where representatives from community vendors distributed valuable information and provided free screenings for diabetes and high blood pressure. Exhibitors included our Usher Board, which gave away backpacks and supplies to school age children; the Global Missions Ministry, which provided information about the 2017 Haiti 5K fundraising walk; and our give-away of children’s books, donated from Barnes and Noble. We were also thrilled to have the presence of uniformed personnel and an



impressive fire truck from the DC Fire and EMS.

On behalf of Pastor Roberts, Block Party Committee Chair Rev. Christopher Crawford, and the entire block party team, thank you to all individuals, ministries, administrative, maintenance, and culinary staff members who gave their time, talent, and treasures to make this year's event one of our best. The committee was prepared for all eventualities, including having a security detail volunteered by our own Leon Russell.

We are especially grateful to team member Martha Benjamin, who single-handedly solicited from her network of friends and associates very generous financial support and donated items. Special thanks go to Evelyn Sellers and Alice Thompson, who coordinated the vendors for the health and education expo. Appreciation is also extended to Industrial Bank and the Church of Jesus



Christ of Latter Day Saints for their generous financial support, and to our great neighbors whose attendance truly made our event a Community Block Party.

A week later, on a Sunday morning, we discovered a very loving “thank you” written in chalk on the church’s front sidewalk. We are reminded that such expression of love and thoughtfulness echoes our church mission — **“God is our Passion, Serving People is our Mission.”**



2017 Community Block Party Committee

Rev. Christopher Crawford, Chair

Martha Benjamin, Bazaar

Shirley France, Budget, Games and Amusement

Deaconess Gwen Harris Gale, Lighting/Sound

Tami Hayes, Entertainment

Deaconess Sageta Jackson, Bake Sale

Deaconess Brenda Lightning-Tolbert,
Communications Liaison

Evelyn Sellers, Health Ministry

Deacon Howard Smith, Food

Deacon Gerald Young, Logistics

Dellareesa Banks

Deaconess Monique Wiley-Crawford

Violetta Graham

Angela Griffin

Deacon Deborah Crain Kemp

Deacon Fred Leftrict

Monica Reeder

Trustee Franklin Smith

Robin Smith

Alice Thompson

Robin Williams

Congratulations to....

Trustee Board Chair Franklin Smith, who was recognized by DC Councilman Brandon Todd in the August 16 issue of the *Ward Four Weekly Newsletter* for being an engaged resident and improving his community. Trustee Smith served as superintendent of DC Schools from 1991 until 1997, after which he was regional vice president of sales for Renaissance Learning until retiring in 2014. The spotlight on Trustee Smith mentioned his service as chair of our Trustee Board and membership in Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. In addition, each year Smith supports a scholarship in his name for a DC high school graduate going to college.



Michael Beale, CEO of Mb Staffing Services, for being accepted to participate in the elite Inner City Capital Connections (ICCC) Program. ICCC is a national capacity-building program for small businesses and provides executive education, mentoring, and matchmaking with capital resources and investors. Founded in 2003, MB Staffing serves a wide spectrum of industries and staffing needs and has been recognized nationally for its commitment to providing outstanding service. The DC Chamber of Commerce nominated Beale for the program. Beale joined Nineteenth Street this February and is looking forward to getting involved with a church ministry soon.

Deaconess Gloria Morris, whose photograph appeared in the July 21, 2017 issue of *Leisure World News*. Deaconess Morris was acknowledged for being one of the founders of the Leisure World Association for African American Culture (LWAAAC). As a founder, Deaconess Morris officiated over the recent swearing-in ceremony for officers of the association. The mission of LWAAAC is to provide “residents with an opportunity to focus on and enjoy the rich heritage of the African American culture from various perspectives, including history and traditions, entertainment and the arts, and support of community projects.”



Progressive Adults Fall Theater Schedule

Sign Up Now!



Dreamgirls

Saturday, October 7
Toby's Dinner Theater
Dinner: 6 PM - Show: 8 PM
Cost: \$75



Nina Simone: Four Women

Friday, December 8 PM
Kreeger Theater, Arena Stage
Cost: \$65

All Shows Benefit Our Love Pal Program

Transportation is available
from the church to all shows.

Call Ann Saunders (202-529-3188) or
Cynthia Thompson (202-722-4694)

Fun and Funds on Par at Annual Golf Tournament

The 21st Annual Memorial Golf Tournament provided over ninety golfers and volunteers with a wonderful day of sunshine, fellowship, fun, food and golf while raising nearly \$9,800 to benefit several church ministries. The June 28 tournament, which was held at Enterprise Golf Course in Mitchellville, Maryland, honors the memory of the late Rosemary and John H. Brinkley, dedicated members of Nineteenth Street.

Congratulations to tournament chair Trustee Charlie Sprow and his team for another successful golf tournament.





Winners Patti Caulk and Colonel Robert Riddick's team with Club Pro Randall Thompson (far right)



Tournament staff: Chair Trustee Charlie Sprow, Deacon Stan Britt, Sheila Hyppolite, Trustee Frank Smith, Karen Sidney-Drumgold and Bernard White

Thank You Sponsors!

Platinum Sponsors (\$1,000)

Diane & George Lewis
 (Family of the Late Rosemary & John H. Brinkley)
 Tony Parchment (Upstart Connectors, Inc.)

Gold Sponsor (\$600)

Trustee Bill Hoff (Hoff and Harris, Inc.)

Silver Sponsors (\$350)

Ben Soto
 James Robinson
 Craig Kirby
 Johnny Grier
 Dr. Evelyn Higginbotham

Hole Sponsors (\$200)

Deacon Stan Britt (Sulton Campbell Britt & Assoc.)
 Aldolphus Gaines
 Randy Woolridge (Lucas Tucker & Co.)
 Deaconess Dena Bowen
 Trustee Juniors Thompson
 Deaconess Louise & Bernard White
 Physical and Sports Rehab, Inc.
 Nineteenth Street Baptist Church Ministers
 James Wyatt (Nannie Helen Burroughs Project)
 Horton Funeral Services
 McGuire Funeral Services
 Dr. Darryl Roberts, Senior Pastor
 Trustee Steven & Barbara Jumper
 Hanagan's Auto Body, Inc.



Family Reunion in Jackson

By Rev. Reginald Townsend

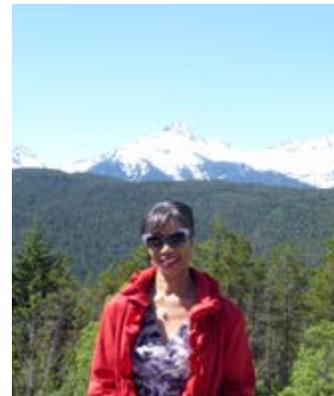
Rev. Reginald and Mrs. Ferlandia Townsend spent a very restful, relaxing and enjoyable stay in Jackson, Mississippi July 20–24. The occasion was Mrs. Townsend’s Grizzell Family Reunion; the theme was “Family: A Powerful Connection.” While visiting the Magnolia State, we enjoyed eating many different Southern delicacies, especially catfish and grits, fried okra, shrimp, collard greens and hush puppies. A notable highlight of the festive weekend was an old-fashioned river boat ride on the Ross Barnett Reservoir. While cruising along the 50-mile man-made lake, we saw some of the most prominent homes and historic sites in the Jackson-Madison County area. The Sunday worship service was a spiritually uplifting worship experience held at our nephew’s church. He preached a powerful sermon on love, dedication and commitment to Christ and family. ❖

An Eagle’s Majestic View

By Cece Johnson

I am blessed always and everyday by the beauty, majesty, joy, grace and loveliness that is our Lord and Savior. The Lord walks and talks with me daily in so many ways. I am a nature person, and I simply bask in the glory that God reigns on us to comfort, strengthen, love, bless and give us joy.

I was blessed to visit a dear friend in Vancouver, British Columbia for nine days in May, a grand time I shall treasure for years to come. My request to her was that we do nothing, but one thing: Zipline! I’d never done it before and wanted to feel the joy of it. She and her sweetheart joined me, and we had a time to remember. I LOVE trees and, being so high up and swishing past the trees so quickly, I felt as though I could touch them. To look down and see the water from snow that has melted off the mountains running along the streams is breathtaking. The bears were a sweet sight to behold! I felt so blessed to be able to witness this myself, and it is good to know God thought so much of us to give us such majestic beauty. I am humbled, grateful, thankful and joyful. Thank you, God! ❖



Field Trips and Drones Planned for MTM

By Deacon Howard S. Smith

Manhood Training Ministry will resume on September 15 at 6 PM in the fellowship hall. Interested participants should come to receive this year's schedule, pledge and other materials and to learn what is in store for the season. Your attendance is important because we are planning immediate field trips for September 23 and in October. This year's program will include drone technology, relationship with law enforcement training, and George Mason University's team building.

For more information, contact me at 202 882-1444 or howardsmith@everyblessing.org. ❖

Youth Ministry Planning Retreat

The Youth Ministry held its annual planning retreat on Saturday, August 26 in the fellowship hall. The purpose of the retreat was to discuss important topics, such as the ministry's structure and volunteer assignments; upcoming events, such as the annual ROCK retreat; the youth church calendar and curriculum; and partnerships with other Nineteenth Street ministries as well as youth ministries at other churches. Youth Ministry volunteers participated in very thoughtful and lively discussions. The Youth Ministry asks for everyone's prayers and support as they continue to build this vital ministry for our church. ❖



Calendar

SEPTEMBER

Monday, September 4 – Labor Day Holiday, church office closed

Friday, September 8 – Ushers Ministry *JAZZ on The Lawn* Concert featuring Synchronicity, 7-8:30 PM

Sunday, September 10 – Global Missions Sunday

Saturday, September 16 – Booker Memorial Committee, *Honoring Our Heritage Women of Faith and Courage* Luncheon, fellowship hall, 1 PM

Sunday, September 17 – New Members Ministry Sunday

Saturday, September 23 – Global Missions Ministry, HaitiWalk5K, C&O Canal, 8 AM

Sunday, September 24 – Food Pantry Collection In-Gathering

Thursday, October 19 & Friday, October 20 at 7 PM

The Nineteenth Street Baptist Church family will be special guests at St. Mary's Baptist Church.

Pastor Rev. Dr. Darryl Roberts will be preaching both nights for their revival under the theme, *Equipping Disciples for Kingdom Living*.

St. Mary's Baptist Church
8008 Eastern Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20012

OCTOBER

Saturday, October 7 – Evangelism Committee Annual Prayer Breakfast, fellowship hall, 8:30 AM

Saturday, October 7 – Progressive Adults Theater Outing, *Dreamgirls*, Toby's Dinner Theatre, Dinner 6 PM, Performance 8 PM

Sunday, October 8 – Jarvis Memorial Club Annual Fall Concert, fellowship hall, 4 PM

Monday, October 9 – Columbus Day Holiday, church office closed

Sunday, October 15 – Deaconess Annual Family Dinner, fellowship hall, 12:30 PM

Saturday, October 21 – Board Leadership Workshop, fellowship hall, 9-11:30 AM

Saturday, October 21 – Building Fund Committee "Project Raise the Roof," Vintage Fashion and Hat Show featuring hats from the Ursula Holmes Heritage Hat Collection, fellowship hall, 2 PM.

Sunday, October 22 – Building Fund Committee "Project Raise the Roof," Stewardship Sunday

Friday, October 27 – Church Business Meeting, church sanctuary, 7 PM

Sunday, October 29 – Homecoming Sunday sponsored by the Missionary Society