

# THE TUPPER MESSENGER

## What's INSIDE

April 30, 2017

*From the Pastor's Desk*

*Intercessory Prayer Ministry:  
"Resurrection Prayer"*

*Seasoned Saints Ministry*

*Missionary Ministry*

*Youth Ministry*

*Sunday School Ministry*

*Ushers Ministry*

*Rev. Smith's Diamond Anniversary*

*Tupperites in the Spotlight  
The Bridges Family*

*TMBC's 150<sup>th</sup> Church Anniversary*

*Comic Relief*

*What's Happening*

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:

### *"The Gift of Encouragement"*

Have you ever taken a real look at Philemon 1:7? God is the great giver. Every good gift and every perfect gift comes through Him (James 1:17). God so loved a needy and sinful world that He gave His Son, Jesus Christ, for us. Jesus came into the world as the servant of God and a giver of the gifts of God.

Jesus taught His disciples to be unselfish servants who would define their purpose for being in terms of giving. To His apostles He said, "You received without pay, give without pay" (Matt. 10:8RSV). Jesus believed that it was much more blessed to give than to receive.

Each of us has an acquisitive instinct. We receive great joy and satisfaction from acquiring things. This joy is exceeded, however, by the joy of giving. Nevertheless, many of us feel as Peter did in the presence of great need when he said, "I have no silver and gold, but I give you what I have" (Acts 3:6RSV). Many gifts can be given that cannot be purchased with money.

Today let us think about the gift of encouragement. In our text Paul commended Philemon because Philemon was a great encourager of those about him. He was a beloved fellow worker, and his house was the meeting place for a group of believers (Philem. 2). He was the kind of man who provoked an attitude of gratitude in the heart of Paul when he prayed to the Father God (v.4). Philemon was genuinely concerned for those about him. He had a great faith in God, a great faith in himself, and a great confidence in others that served to bless them and to lift them (vv. 5-6). Paul remembered Philemon with joy and comfort because of the many things he had done to bring refreshment to Paul's soul (v. 7). Philemon was a great giver, because he gave the gift of encouragement to others. You do not need silver and gold to be this kind of giver.

God has given many rich gifts to His church for the good of the body. Significantly, when Paul gives us a list of the gifts of God, exhortation or encouragement is among them (Rom. 12:8).

I would like to remind the Saints of this household of faith that God not only gave us His Son but He gave us each other. Make your prayer request for God to work on your heart that He might transform your attitude about giving, giving of our substance, but also giving encouragement to your brothers and sisters who join you on this journey.

Consider this: do people feel better or worse after they have a conversation with you? May we all strive to remind others of the wonderful blessings God has given to us. Do what you do in His wonderful name.

Be encouraged and be encouraging,

*Dr. H. C. Miller*



# *INTERCESSORY PRAYER MINISTRY*

## **"Resurrection Prayer"**

Our Heavenly Father,

Lord of all, Creator of everyone and everything, You deserve all praise, honor and glory. We bless Your Name for Your goodness and mercy. You, Heavenly Father, have given us Your all. You have shown us unconditional love and we praise Your Name. You gave us Your loving Son to come down to earth, destined to be a sacrifice we did not deserve. You saw a sinful world in need of a Savior, a redeemer, who has the wisdom, knowledge, and power to teach us, heal us, correct us, and forgive us of our sins. We have all committed evil acts and as a result of our sin we deserve Your anger and judgment. But You gave us Jesus Christ, Your Son who died in our place. Jesus, You took the pain, we should have taken, the beatings, the scorn, the strips, mockery, denial, and betrayal. And even in the midst of all this pain, You were still crucified for us. We thank You for what You did for us, for the huge sacrifice. We thank You God for His Resurrection, on the third day. So now Lord, we confess our sins to You for we know we deserve punishment. Yet, we believe You, Jesus, took the punishment we deserve so that through faith in You we could be forgiven. We receive Your offer of forgiveness and place our trust in You for salvation. We accept Jesus as our personal Savior! Thank You for Your wonderful grace and forgiveness - the gift of eternal life!

Amen!

First Lady Margaret L. Miller

Intercessory Prayer Ministry Leader



# SEASONED SAINTS

*As Seasoned Saints, Our mission is to be faithful servants of God by studying God's Word and sharing the Gospel of Christ to people across the globe. We devote ourselves to spirit-filled living, expressing love, kindness, care and support for ourselves and others. We will be prayerful and actively work to help those in need in our church and community. We will exemplify Christ-like characteristics letting everyone see God in us working through us, and always giving Him glory for the great things He has done.*

Saints on the move for Christ. Luke 10:2 Jesus states: *The Harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few.* God gave all a gift. Are you using your gift? Look around and see the need. Don't let your living be in vain. With that being said, The Seasoned Saints of Tupper invites you to come out and join us in studying God's Word, fellowship with one another and be of service to people in need.

We meet here at Tupper, in the Annex, every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday from 10am - 12 noon. Come out and be blessed.

Special Recognition of our Active Seasoned Saints:

- ✓ Sis. Minnie Adams
- ✓ Sis. Lettie Chavis
- ✓ Sis Juliette Holt
- ✓ Sis. Rosa Jackson
- ✓ Sis. Lola Standback
- ✓ S.s Anna Watkins
- ✓ Sis. Edna M. Allen
- ✓ Sis. Ocela Bishop
- ✓ Sis. Frances Mitchell
- ✓ Sis. Naomi Russell
- ✓ Mother Rosa Johnson

*"Our mission is based on Loving one another."*

Submitted by:

*Mother Rosa Johnson*

*Seasoned Saints Ministry Leader*

# MISSIONARY MINISTRY

I bring you greetings on behalf of our Missionary Circle.

The Missionary Ministry is hard at work serving the community. One of their ongoing projects is the quarterly clothing giveaways, which are held on the last Saturday of January, April, July and October. The next scheduled giveaway will be on Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. to noon. On Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, we will be cleaning out the storage shed and sorting clothes to prepare for the event. Volunteers of any age are always welcome to help us! We could not do good works in the name of our Lord without the help of our church family, friends and neighbors.

A special THANK YOU goes out to the following people: Deacon Jimmie McLean and Bro. Earl McLean, Jr. from McLean Chapel Free Will Baptist Church in Bunn Level, NC for their constant support of our ministry.

*"He will not forget your work and the love you have shown Him as you have helped His people and continue to help them." Hebrews 6:10*

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We are a part of the Women's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina.

**Our Motto:** Christ in Every Home.

**Our Goal:** To be an A1 Missionary Circle to include a Senior Department, a Young Adult Department and a Youth Department.

We are all Missionary Brothers and Sisters. We must focus on reaching the Masses. We are very proud of our Youth Department in action. Under the leadership of Sis. Rouse, they are doing a wonderful job. We say, Youth keep on doing, we are sure God is smiling on you.

Under Sis. Valtina Bronson-Jones' leadership of the Young Adults, it is our prayer that her vision will come true. She is God sent and her love is shown through her time spent in organizing the clothing giveaway, feeding the hungry and many

other projects we do not know about. God is pleased with her work and He will give her the glory.

Last, but not least, we want to recognize our Seasoned Saints. We appreciate their support of the Missionary Ministry. We thank God for allowing them to come and be a part of this ministry.

The Missionary Ministry meets every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday from 12 noon - 1 p.m. All missionaries are asked to come out, fellowship and study God's Word together.

What outreach project has God laid on your heart?

Please come and share it with us.

Love You!

Submitted by:  
*Mother Rosa Johnson*  
*Missionary Ministry Leader*

# YOUTH MINISTRY

## **“Teach Me Lord”**

*Shirley Strawter Ministries*

Teach me, Lord, the way of truth,  
So I may not abuse my youth  
In idle things that will not give  
Instructions in the way to live.

Bless me with a Godly mind  
That I may walk and be most kind  
To all of those who may not know  
The **Christian way** in which to go.

Teach me, Lord, in my old age  
To see your goodness in every page  
**Of my Bible** as I read  
Of how you'll meet my every need.

Please teach me, Lord, this prayer I pray  
To serve you now in every way.

Submitted by: *Sis. Iwinosa Idahor*  
*Youth Ministry Leader*

# SUNDAY SCHOOL MINISTRY

## **“Tournament Thinking”**

From the beginning of time, the Lord destined us to be champions. More often than not, we win many victories. However, there are occasions where the enemy pulls a surprise setback from the three point line. When this happens, we feel dejected and start to listen to the voices that tell us that we are not “championship material”. That’s when we need to remember the Scriptures that tell us that we can always shoot at 100% by the power of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. It is imperative that we also keep in mind that, by way of Calvary, our Lord Jesus Christ reset the game clock. We

also must forget about the past, follow the plays that our Coach has given (The Bible), and play this game called life with total focus and intensity. When, not if, we win Championships through Christ, we need to take to the streets and praise the Lord in celebration, while at the same time telling others about the many great things He has done for us.

Submitted by:

*Brother James Montague*  
*Sunday School Ministry Leader*

# USHERS MINISTRY

## “What is the role of ushers in the church?”

**Question:** “What is the role of ushers in the church?”

**Answer:** A church usher is a person who helps ensure a smoothly running church service and who ministers to people in a variety of practical ways. The specific responsibilities of an usher vary with the church, but his/her duties usually include greeting people as they arrive for the service, assisting people with special needs, and collecting the offering. Some churches provide a pin or name tag of some kind to easily identify their ushers.

Before the church service starts, the ushers will often have the responsibility to make sure the hymnals are placed correctly, and prepare the bulletins for distribution. As the churchgoers arrive, the ushers will act as doorkeepers, greeting each person with a smile, shaking hands, and handing out bulletins. They are also available to answer visitors’ questions and extend help in seating those who need the assistance. Often, the ushers will escort people to the proper Sunday school classroom.

During the church service, the ushers usually take part in some way. They are responsible to take up the church offering. Ushers have a goal of minimizing distractions during the sermon. Ushers stand ready to assist anyone in the congregation who might need help, to aid latecomers in finding a seat, and to inform those in the sanctuary of any urgent matters.

Church ushers are well versed in emergency procedures. In case of emergency, the ushers

will take the lead in getting people to safety in an orderly manner.

After the service, the ushers will then make sure that the sanctuary is tidy.

Although the position of “usher” is not mentioned in the Bible, ushers today provide an invaluable service to the local church body. In many ways, the ushers are the “face” of the church, the first ones that people see when they arrive and the last ones they see as they leave. It is important that an usher be friendly, honest, and willing to serve. It is an honorable position in the church, requiring integrity, cordiality, and wisdom.

The heart of an usher is the heart of a servant, and he/she does their work for their Lord Jesus (Colossians 3:24). A church usher has a true love for the people of the church and a desire to promote an atmosphere of reverence and worship in the house of God. An usher’s theme verse could very well be Psalm 84:10. “I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.”

Called to *Serve*

Submitted by:

*Sister Carolyn Muldrow*  
*Usher Ministry Leader*



**“The pride of the swift, growing south”**

Founded in a one room shanty, near Butler Chapel AME Zion Church, thirty adults represented the first class – Dr. Booker T. Washington the first teacher. The founding date was July 4, 1881, authorized by House Bill 165.

In the year of 1953, during a time of racial tension and segregation, one overzealous and determined student, by the name of Frederick D. Smith enrolled in this great university. His desire to ensure the dietary health of his people, he majored in Food Nutritional Science graduating in the year of 1957.

During his tenure at Tuskegee University, Rev. Smith participated in many extracurricular activities. To name a few, he was a member of the Christian Club, Who's Who Among College Students at Tuskegee University, and a member of those men searching for that diamond in the sky, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated.



Along with these extracurricular activities, Rev. Smith participated in two major historical occurrences within this country; the Montgomery Bus Boycott and marching with Martin Luther King, Jr. in Montgomery, AL. During the Montgomery Bus Boycott, Rev.

Smith spent countless hours transporting African Americans to and from their destination. His determination to support an important movement such as this, proved to be beneficial to our people resulting in the U.S. Supreme Court ordering Montgomery to integrate its bus system.

Also during this time, one of the leaders of the Montgomery Bus Boycott, a young pastor named Martin Luther King, Jr. emerged as a prominent national leader of the American civil rights movement in the wake of the action. Rev. Smith's desire to live in a desegregated world fueled his determination to fight for what was right, resulting in him marching with Dr. King in Montgomery, AL to further enforce the Civil Rights Movement.

Although Rev. Smith lived in a world filled with so much hatred and controversy towards African Americans, he was never involved in any situations that would question his integrity. He was focused on getting his education, while supporting the movement.

Sixty years later, Rev. Smith is a PROUD graduate of Tuskegee University and a living testimony that if he can obtain his degree during a time where African Americans getting an education were frowned upon, then none of us should have an excuse not to push towards greatness.

Rev. Smith leaves you with this little tidbit of advice:

***“Play Less and Study Hard”***

Written by: *Sister Jeanine Smallwood, Editor-in-Chief*  
Interviewee: *Rev. Frederick D. Smith*

# TUPPERITES IN THE SPOTLIGHT



## The Bridges Family

The Bridges Family has been busy. They have obtained many accomplishments in the past couple of months. Spotlight is being shined on the following accomplishments:



Daschiel Bridges' team won  
1<sup>st</sup> place in the  
BallHandler's Competition  
Sponsored by NetWorks  
"Because I Can" Program

Zandria Bridges was  
promoted to  
Debit Card Systems  
Manager  
At the State Employees  
Credit Union





# COMIC RELIEF

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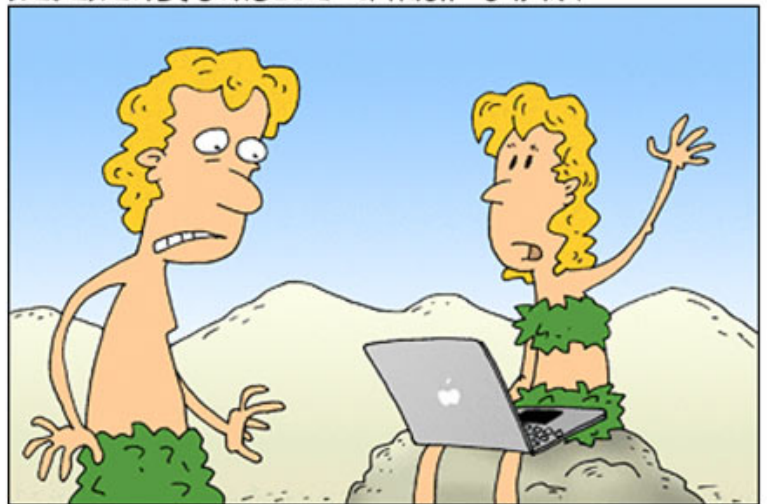
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I'VE BEEN DEBUGGING YOUR CREATION MODEL AND, NATURALLY, THERE WERE NO ERRORS ... WHEN I ADD THE SIN VARIABLE, HOWEVER, THINGS GET NASTY



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Thanks to Charles Dunleavy (See Genesis 3)

01-19-2009

I KNOW WE CAN'T AFFORD IT BUT THAT SERPENT IS SO CONVINCING AND YOU KNOW I CAN'T RESIST APPLES

WWW.PURECHRISTIANGRAPHICDESIGN.COM

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**SUNDAY**

8:30am Intercessory Prayer  
9am Sunday School  
10am Worship Service

**1<sup>ST</sup> MONDAY**

7pm M.O.S. Ministry meeting  
8pm Male Chorus Rehearsal

**MONDAY**

CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED  
7pm Male Chorus Rehearsal

**TUESDAY**

12pm Midday Bible Study  
6:45pm Prayer Service  
7:15pm Evening Bible Study

**1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> TUESDAYS**

10am Seasoned Saints Ministry meeting

**WEDNESDAY before 1<sup>st</sup>**

**SUNDAY**  
7:15pm Women's Choir Rehearsal

**WEDNESDAY**

12pm Weekly Announcements Due

**WEDNESDAY before 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAYS**

7:30pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

**1<sup>st</sup> THURSDAY**

6:00 pm The Page Turners Book Club Meeting

**THURSDAY before 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday**

6:15pm Praise Team Rehearsal

**FRIDAY**

7pm WOVEN Ministry meeting – 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday  
7:30pm Power & Deliverance Service – 1<sup>st</sup> Friday

**2<sup>ND</sup> SATURDAY**

9:30am Minister's Class  
11am Leadership Class

**3<sup>RD</sup> SATURDAY**

12pm Missionary Ministry meeting  
3pm Singles Ministry meeting

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**Tupper Messenger Staff**

*Jeanine Smallwood*  
Editor in Chief



*We would love to hear your news!*

*Remember to submit your articles by the deadline.*