

The Voice

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99th Edition

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January-February 2019

Happy New Year



Jeremiah 29: 11

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Our Bible is full of stories of how God allows His people to go through trials and tribulations and yet He will save them. It is the Trinity that provides hope for our future. Yes, God, our creator, Jesus, His Son, and the Holy Spirit, who will lead and guide us.

As we pray, plan, and work together, His purposes for Mount Pisgah will be revealed. He will direct our path, and "where God guides, He provides!" That is not a cliche. It is true! Our strength comes from the Lord, and we must trust Him. Not one plan, change or direction should be made without ensuring that it is the Will of God. God, our provider, will provide what we need; but we must trust Him.

Now is the time Mount Pisgah to follow the Great Commission: Matthew 28:16-20, ¹Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. ¹⁷When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."



Deacon and Mrs. Roy Sutton

Deacon and Mrs. Sutton were married 68 years ago on the 17th of December

Roy Lee Sutton was born in Cumberland County to Elijah and Maisy Sutton. His mother died when he was young, and he was reared by his Uncle Buck and Aunt Dicey Melvin.



Jeanette Sutton was born in Durham County to John Rozier and Maggie O'Neill. Maggie couldn't support Jeanette so she gave custody of Jeanette to Robert and Molissia Buxton. As the story goes Molissia couldn't have children. Maggie sent word that she wanted to give up her daughter to Molissia. Molissa, thinking her husband Robert wouldn't let her keep Jeanette, had a family friend drive to Durham and pick up Jeanette and place her under a walnut tree in the Buxton's yard. Molissia pretended to find Jeanette after hearing a baby crying outside. Robert and Molissia raised Jeanette as their own. When Jeanette found out the Buxtons were not her biological parents, she said she was going to create a lot of blood relatives.

Roy Lee Sutton joined the army in 1948. He served in both the Korean and Vietnam wars. During the Korean War in 1950, he was shot. Word came to the US that he was killed. Jeanette was distraught. A few days later she found that he was in the hospital at Ft Bragg. **Roy earned the Purple Heart.**

Continued on page 2, Sutton



Deaconess Lois Allen, Speaker

7:55 a.m.

*Deacon Johnny Allen,
Coast Guard,
Sister Lois Allen, Navy*

A Veteran is someone who had the intestinal fortitude (gusts or courage) to walk into a recruiter's office and sign his/her life away in service to their country. There are millions of American sailors and soldiers who you don't know and may never know that have given their life for you. They give up so much just so you can live free in the United States. What kind of person would give up so much for a person that they don't even know? Who can love this country so much that they would die for it and the values it stands for? Who can take those dangers and not expect any thanks in return? You're truly, A Veteran.

Are we sergeants in the Lord's Army? What kind of sergeant are you? First sergeant, drill sergeant or recruiting sergeant. If you're none of the above, I'm not going to make you drop and give me twenty pushups. I'm just here to tell you, you aren't "being all you can be" in Jesus.



**SFC (Retired)
Venston Harris
and wife
Brenda Harris,
Members of
Covenant Love,
Fayetteville, NC**

Colonel Darry Shaw, Sr., (Retired) was scheduled to bring the 10 a.m. message, however, health issues

prevented his doing so. God has a way, and his friend SFC Harris was available and generously agreed to bring the message for veterans. SFC Harris was introduced by his wife Sister Brenda Harris.

A special program book was prepared with names and pictures of all known veterans or those whose names were provided by family members. Veterans and family members, thank you for your service.

VETERANS DAY SERVICES BY HOKE HIGH SCHOOL ROTC

*Christopher Jones, Curtis Loving,
Jessica Bies and Mara Baez*



The Hoke County High School ROTC is under the leadership of Harold A. Thacker, Jr.; PH.D, CWF-USA Retired.

The ROTC routinely posts and retrieves flags at annual veterans' services. The picture above shows the members who served on November 11th in the McLaughlin Building. We commend them for a job well done and congratulate the School System for students who conduct themselves as professionals.

Congratulations students for a job well done!

Office of Hoke County Sheriff

On Veterans Day, November 11, 2018, the Office of the Sheriff posted the Colors at the beginning of Worship. It was an impressive sight! The Honor Guard was the perfect beginning for the service which honored all veterans. We congratulate the men who participated and thank Sheriff Peterkin for a job well done.

Sutton Anniversary continued from page 1

After his release from the hospital on December 17, 1950, Roy and Jeanette were married. Jeanette made good to her words of creating a lot of blood relatives. She gave birth to 11 children. Jeanette and all the children followed Roy throughout his military career.

Roy served as a Military Police Officer during his career in the Army. He was an E-7, Sergeant First Class when he retired after 22 years in 1970.

The day after he retired from the Army, Roy became a Correctional Officer. He retired from the state as a Correctional Captain in 1996.

Deacon Roy and Sis. Jeanette Sutton accepted Jesus Christ as their savior at a young age. They joined Mount Pisgah Baptist Church January 2, 2000.

Pictures worth Thousands of Words



Christmas Craft Day on the 15^h and Christmas Social on the 23rd,
Fun, Fellowship & Food

Jeremiah Hamm

Jeremiah was named after the prophet Jeremiah in the Bible. They drew lots and Jeremiah won. He loves hot wheels, remote control cars and football. You can see that football stance! He loves to eat, and his favorite foods are ice cream, meatballs and fried chicken.

He is very smart and always asks challenging questions.



Jeremiah, we are proud of you and thankful that you are such an engaging youth who works in our Church.

Mt. Pisgah as It Relates to Black History

If we look at the history of Mt. Pisgah, we can see parallels of events reflected throughout Black History in America. First of all, our church was birthed about 35 years after the Civil War when Blacks were just beginning to experience freedom from bondage. There were struggles, challenges, and open hostility towards the newly freed Blacks. Likewise, even in starting this church, Reverend Anderson McNeill did so in the face of threats and danger, but he persisted and built the first Mt. Pisgah structure, and today, despite past challenges and tough situations, the church still stands, 118 years later. Over the years, the church was destroyed twice by fires, was once fire-bombed, but it still survived. In 2015, the church faced imminent foreclosure but survived. Approximately a month after celebrating our 118th Homecoming Anniversary this year, the church suffered a split, with probably more than half the membership leaving. Taking solace and assurance from God, the church will continue to stand, recognizing that many things must change as we rely on the promises and sovereignty of God, and God, alone. Sometimes, churches are named for different reasons, but this church was named because of the vision Reverend McNeill received as he looked over what he considered, the Promise Land for the Blacks in the community needing land and a place to worship. Mt. Pisgah, built upon a vision and a promise, will stand as a testament to the promises of

God and faith of those who trust Him. We trust Him with the same faith in Psalm 121 *I will lift up my eyes unto the hills from whence cometh my help; my help cometh from the Lord.*

Reverend Mary Owens, CED

OUTREACH MINISTRY

The newly reformed Mount Pisgah Outreach Ministry Team has hit the ground rolling! The ministry met on Saturday, December 15th to discuss how to involve our church more in the community,



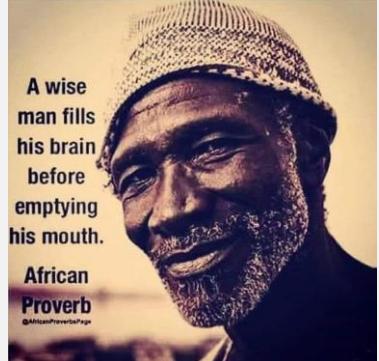
fellowship with other believers and churches, and the purpose and overall meaning of outreach. Members brainstormed and gathered ideas for our church Christmas Social, Christmas Caroling, a fellowship for January and the months to follow. All members were positive and excited about moving Mt. Pisgah forward according to the will of God and in a positive image. With the help and direction of God our Father, we will plan many more events for the church and community to include a Gospel Choir fest, community talent show, and a rainbow tea in the spring. The Outreach Ministry has a short term goal of sending an encouraging letter to inactive members, and showing love to visitors and friends of Mt. Pisgah. Our next meeting is scheduled for January 5th at 10am. If you have any ideas for the Outreach Ministry or want to become a part, please see a member of the team:

Sister Alison White-Coordinator, Sister Phyllis Wallace, Sister Pamela Shaw, Sister Mary Massenberg, Sister Kimberly Wilson, Brother John Baker, Sister Deidra Hadley and Sister Lucille Epps

Psalm 86:11

*Teach me your way,
O LORD, that I may
walk in your truth;
unite my heart to fear
your name.*

African Proverb
@AfricanProverbPage



Internet Safety/Social Media

Basic Internet safety rules all kids should know

- Don't give anyone your password, name, address, the name of your school or any information about your family.
- Don't talk to strangers on the Internet or agree to meet anyone in person that you've met online.
- Don't fill in a profile about yourself that asks for your name and/or address.
- Don't visit a chat room without your parent's permission.
- Don't stay online if you see something that makes you feel uncomfortable or has adult content.

Useful information about social networking sites

Social networking sites are public spaces; everything you post there can be seen by the whole online world. What you share is really a permanent display of your personal information, whether that is a photo, a comment about somebody, your diary or blog, or videos. It's all stuff that can haunt you later in life.

Remember, you should not give out your name, passwords, address, school name, e-mail address, Social Security number or phone number to anyone!

A person who contacts you and claims to be an innocent 12-year-old may not be 12 or as innocent as he or she would have you believe.

Parents

Don't be afraid to look at what your kids are posting to these sites and help them make appropriate postings.



Message from Missionary Union President Sarah Pope

Many thanks are extended to the Pastors and Churches for our successful Christmas project

with the Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Center. The gifts were delivered to the Center today. Special thanks again to Sister Betsy Bailey and Sister Callie Graham who were very instrumental in the success of this project. You are a wonderful group to work with and I only look for greater in 2019.

Christmas 2018 at the Altar

At 11 a.m. on Christmas Day, members of the Church, family, friends and guests gathered and worshipped in Mount Pisgah. The message was by Moderator McCrimmon; and it was powerful and full of hope.



ALEX CLARK

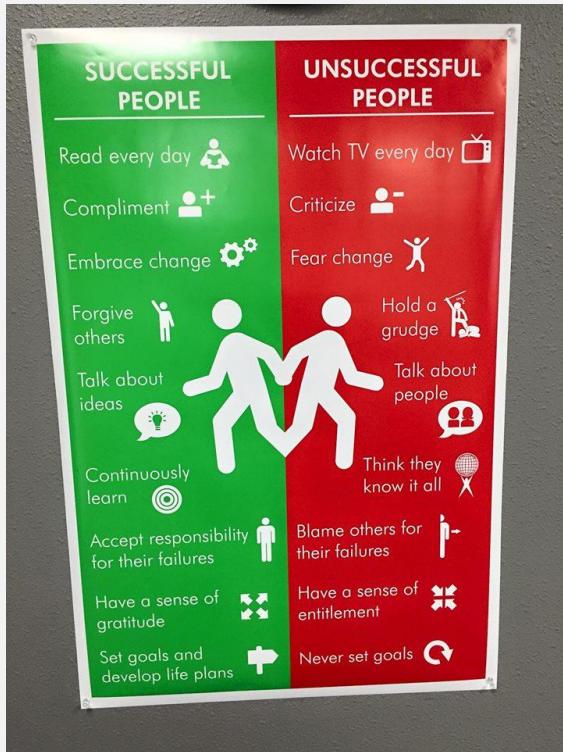
Alex Clark decked out for Christmas in the Nursing Home. He was able to spend Christmas Day at the home of his son-in-law, Zebedee Graham. Many of his grandchildren were present and enjoyed a day of family fun and fellowship..



Old aged people have been through many different hardship experiences that will help your walk of faith. They have made mistakes and they will help guide you so you don't make the same mistakes. No matter what age, Christians should never fear death.

Isaiah 25:1 – O LORD, thou art my God, I will exalt thee, I will praise thy name; for thou hast done wonderful things, thy counsels of old are faithfulness and truth.

FOR THE NEW YEAR FOOD FOR THOUGHT



ZAMIAH ROBINSON

Zamiah, a multi-talented individual, has choreographed her first dance and performed it on the second Sunday in December. It was easy to tell her Worship through dance was inspired by the Holy Spirit.



She was so excited to perform her first solo dance that she choreographed, and she expressed herself in such a positive and exciting manner. She has wanted to lead a dance, and her opportunity is now. She moves with so much grace.

Zamiah is ten years old and currently in the 5th grade, and is an exemplary student. God is using Zamiah and others whose time has now come.

We thank and praise God for Zamiah and for willingness to serve in Kingdom Building in Mount Pisgah.

A great Valentine Love Story



Google and read!
<https://www.today.com/news/20-years-later-these-preschool-sweethearts-got-married-t113358>

They met in Kindergarten, and became friends, they went to separate schools and colleges, yet, they reunited and fell in love again and married 20 years later.



1 Corinthians 13:4
4 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. 6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

You are holding a cup of coffee when someone comes along and bumps into you, making you spill your coffee everywhere. Why did you spill the coffee? You spilled the coffee because there was coffee in your cup. Had there been tea in the cup, you would have spilled tea. The point is whatever is inside the cup, is what will spill out. Therefore, when life comes along and shakes you (which will happen), whatever is inside you will come out. It's easy to fake it, until you get rattled. So, we have to ask ourselves, "What's in my cup?" When life gets tough, what spills out? Joy, gratefulness, peace and humility? Or does anger, bitterness, harsh words and reactions come out? You choose! Today let's work towards filling our cups with gratitude, forgiveness, joy, words of affirmation, kindness, gentleness and love for others.

1 Timothy 4:12

Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.

SAINT FRANCIS PRAYER OF PEACE

**Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace;
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
and where there is sadness, joy.**

**O Divine Master,
grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled
as to console;
to be understood, as to understand;
to be loved, as to love;
for it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.**

HATRED CORRODES THE CONTAINER

President George W. Bush once gave a young senator some advice: *Hatred corrodes the container it's carried in.* The senator spoke those same words at his funeral last month. Going into 2019, I want to use those words and the quote below:

The most important lesson I've learned this past year is, don't let anybody make you cruel. No matter how badly you want to give the world or somebody a taste of its own bitter medicine, it is never worth losing yourself over.

This message, along with President Bush's words, spoke specifically to me when tempted to strike back at something or someone for what I perceive as a wrong done to me. This year, I want to really learn to live by and trust in the Lord and allow Him to direct my path and fight my battles. Rather than being a *corroded container full of cruelty or malice*, I want to be filled with His Spirit that overflows into fruitfulness for up building His kingdom and sowing seeds of love, joy, and peace. This is my prayer for

2019. Help me to love as Jesus loves.



Rev. Mary C.
Owens, Christian
Education Director

AVOID TAX SCAMS

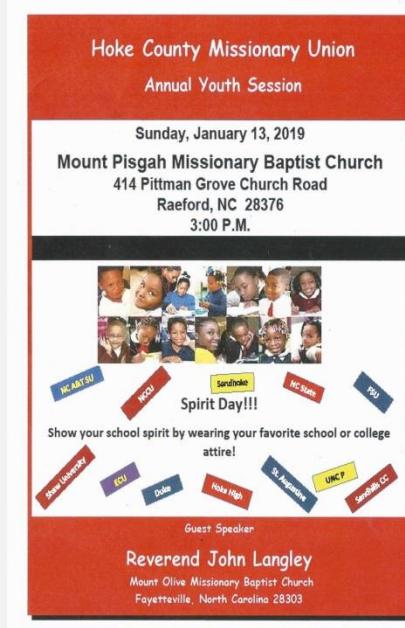
(Information from the State Employees Credit Union)

According to the N. C. Department of Revenue some red flags are below:

- They will NOT contact you by phone or in person unless the agency has already sent you a notification in the U. S. mail.
- They will NOT require a specific payment method. Never purchase gift cards and give them to individuals or mail them. Neither should you ever give information off the card to someone on the phone.
- They will NOT ask for your social security number, birthdate, etc. as they already have that information.
- They will NOT tell you that unless you immediately pay you will go to jail or have your bank account frozen.

Be alert and NEVER—NOT EVER give out your social security number or bank account number by phone. Companies you do business with already have all of your personal information. When someone tries to pressure you, hang up the phone!

Support the Hoke County Union Youth Day in Mount Pisgah. Encourage others to attend and to participate.



Philippians 4:6-7

6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Santa's Helpers at the Christmas Social



17 Black Women Elected in Houston Texas, November 6, 2018 (Copied from the Internet)

The election of 17 Black Women shows what can be done when we work together for common causes. There is strength in numbers.

Houston courts will

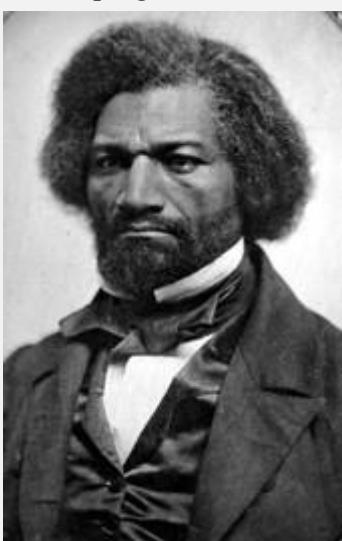


now be different. The citizens now have women of color, who know their struggles. This has to help. Google and read the article. Yes, you can. Women become more active in the political arena.

<https://www.yahoo.com/news/magic-campaign-lands-17-black-women-houston-courts-153513876--politics.html>

Frederick Douglass

"If there is no struggle, there is no progress. Those who profess to favor freedom, and yet deprecate agitation, are men who want crops without plowing up the ground. They want rain without thunder and lightning. They want the ocean without the awful roar of its many waters. This struggle may be a moral one; or it may be a physical one; or it may be both moral and physical; but it must be a struggle. Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will."



Annual Civic League MLK Banquet

The annual banquet will be Monday, January 21, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in Conference B Headquarters on Fayetteville Road in Hoke County. Tickets are \$30.00. The deadline for purchasing tickets is Monday, January 14th at the Civic League meeting. Everyone is encouraged to purchase their tickets in advance of that date to help the committee plan more effectively.

PREPARING COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

It is time for students and their parents to prepare to complete college applications. A few suggestions follow;

- You need your social security number, and driver's license number.
- W2-Forms from 2017 for the student and parents.
- Current banks statements
- Records of any grants, scholarships, or other income that was included in your parents 2017 adjusted gross income statement.

Everyone involved needs to set aside the time to secure all documentation and to complete the FAFSA form tougher.

Students attending schools in the Hoke County System may apply for the White Oak School Scholarship. Applications are available in the Guidance Office March 1 – 31, 2019.

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James 3:17 | NIV

But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.