

The Voice

Mount Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church, 414 Pittman Grove Church Road, Raeford, NC 28376

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95th Edition

Mother's Day and Father's Day Edition

May-June 2018

Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another; and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching. Hebrews 10:2

Recently, a pastor preached on **"The Church is the Place to Be"** and it was a timely sermon. He used references to some of the times that Christ was in the synagogue. Yes, the Son of God visited and spoke in the House of the Almighty God. If we are to be followers of Jesus, we must do likewise.



This message is to encourage you to not only come to the House of the Lord, but to use your gifts, talents and abilities to work for Kingdom building. Too many of our young people are too busy with the wrong things. It takes time to do anything well, and that includes Christian living. A few tips include:

- **Daily prayer.** Spend time with the Lord in prayer. Seek His Will in your life.
- **Study God's Word daily.** Learn more about Christ and His plan for your life.
- **Confess Christ daily.** Sing to the Lord. Let your light shine before men so others will see Christ.
- **Seek Christian society daily.** As the older generation often stated, "You are judged by the company you keep." It is still true that others do reach conclusions about you based on your friends and even your relatives.

If you begin with the ideas above, it will be a good start to a new way to serve Christ. Learn and sing songs of praise or learn to recite Bible verses. All of this will draw you nearer to the Lord. It will also equip you to do the work of the Church. You are needed, come and work with us. Your tasks cannot be assigned to others.



But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Matt: 6:33

Reverend Mary Clark Owens, Fayetteville-Cumberland County Religious Leader of the Year



On the 15th of March the Fayetteville-Cumberland County Human Relations Commission celebrated 50 years of fairness, equality and unity. Rev. Owens, President of the Fayetteville-Cumberland County Ministerial Council (FCCMC) was recognized as the Religious Leader of the Year.

She earned the award based on the five years as president where she has promoted diversity. The agency also gives several \$1,000 scholarships each year. The FCCMC was successful in providing a surprise guest this year, Governor Roy Cooper. Also, the Faces of the Community with individuals from all walks of life, was a success. The parade consisted of old, young, all races from the region, law enforcement, medical personnel, scouts and handicapped. It was a poignant moment.

Mary, a retired educator, has been recognized by many agencies over the years, and among the most memorable is when President Bill Clinton named her school, Ramsey Alternative, a Service Learning School, years ago. With that distinction, she provided workshops and visited a number of agencies and schools in our country.

Older sister Ellen was pleasantly surprised when the president, HR Commissioner Sheila Cuffee announced the first secretary in the department in 1968, Ellen McNeill was in the building. Many awards and recognitions were cited as the Human Relations Department continues to strive for improvements in race relations, fair housing, and other areas of improving the lives of the citizens.



The Sunday Newspaper



This article is written to encourage everyone to read more frequently and to save money in the process.

Did you know that each Sunday's edition of *The Fayetteville Observer* has hundreds of dollars of coupons in it? Coupons should be used only for those items that you will use. It's not a sale if you don't want it, don't use it and you're only buying it because it's on sale! We recoup much more than our annual subscription cost from the use of coupons. It doesn't take long for a "buy one get one free" meal to add up to the annual cost of our paper.

The current newspaper not only has the news, it often carries historical information too. You can become better informed on subjects such as the arts, literature, music, and so much more. Another plus is it will help students with testing. Puzzles, recipes and games are free in the newspaper. You may also learn how to grow vegetables and flowers. There is so much information that you can use, and it's in your local newspapers.

Periodically, I ask parents and guardians to make sure that their children read **The Mini-Page**. I am proud to say, "I am a Mini Page reader." I have learned so much from the weekly editions, i.e. Black History, about music, animals, and plants and even how to pronounce some words. An example in a recent edition is the word, hypothesize, (hi-POTH-eh-size). Look up the word. Yes, you may use your phone, tablet or computer! They, too, are useful tools. Use them wisely.

Reading is a way to travel without ever leaving home. Many individuals who appear on Jeopardy and other shows read a lot! They study words and their origins, and they read all types of books and articles to be informed. Reading is a great past time, especially if you're shut in on a snow day or you're sick and have to stay in bed. Another plus is a person who is well-read is better able to carry on conversations. They are able to pronounce words, understand their meanings and to make their stories come alive. They are much more interesting to know and to listen to as they have something to say. Join the group of readers and be informed.

**TRUST AND
OBEY, THAT IS
THE WAY TO
BE HAPPY IS
TO TRUST AND
OBEY**



SUMMER RULES FOR STUDENTS

- ❖ 20 minutes of Reading
- ❖ 20 Minutes of writing, drawing or coloring
- ❖ Clean up at least one room
- ❖ Play outside 20 minutes or more
- ❖ Make, build or construct something
- ❖ Help someone in the family or volunteer to help at the church or other non-profit

DO THESE THINGS BEFORE USING ELECTRONICS

BEING A VISION OF GOD'S LOVE



Just how can we be a vision of God's love? We can be the living vision of God's love with compassion in our smile, in our eyes, in our words, and in the touch of our hands. People should be able to see from the friendliness we radiate that we are Christians. People can sometimes be confused and are attracted to what's inside of you, not realizing its God. Some of us are friendlier by nature, but if not, each one of us can learn to smile more and do more for others in an attitude of love. It's not always easy to be friendly, but we cannot allow unhealthy environments change who we are or how we act. We may be the only glimpse of God that some people see. A smile is one of the most attractive things there is. If you give one, you may get one. Let's make a decision today to be friendly to everyone regardless as to how they treat us. Can you do it? Will you do it? 2 Timothy 2:24 ***The Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but must be kind to everyone...able to teach...not resentful.***

Dineen Morton, *A Seed to a Glory Lily*

MEMORIAL DAY MAY 28, 2018

Services will be held at 11 a.m. on the Court House lawn, downtown Raeford. All are welcome to attend. Services are usually less than one hour. Plan to attend.





**MICHAEL
DAWSON**
*Introductory
Sermon Sunday,
March 18, 2018*

Family, friends,
church members
and others
gathered to
support Brother

Michael Dawson as he presented his first sermon.

Brother Dawson
was presented by
his wife, Sister
Karen Dawson.
After the inspiring
sermon, Pastor
Bernard Fuller
asked the Church to
present his license,
and by vote it was
unanimously
approved.



***Reverend Dawson's
Family was present
in full support***

***L-R Kenton (Son), Jaydon (Son), Karen, Rev.
Dawson, Josiah (on lap Grandson), Micah (Son),
KaMiyah (daughter) Back L-R Jayde (Daughter), Kia
(Daughter), Shay (Daughter)***

YOUR NAME

You got it from your father
It was all he had to give.
So it's yours to use and cherish
For as long as you may live.

If you lose the watch he gave you
It can always be replaced,
But a black mark on your name, son
Can never be erased.

It was clean the day you took it
And a worthy name to bear.
When he got it from his father,
There was no dishonor there.

So make sure you guard it wisely;
After all is said and done,
You'll be glad the name is spotless
When you give it to your son.

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!

Song for the Old Ones
By Maya Angelou

My Fathers sit on benches
their flesh counts every plank
the slats leave dents of darkness
deep in their withered flanks.

They nod like broken candles
all waxed and burnt profound
they say 'It's understanding
that makes the world go round.'

There in those pleated faces
I see the auction block
the chains and slavery's coffles
the whip and lash and stock.

My Fathers speak in voices
that shred my fact and sound
they say 'It's our submission
that makes the world go round.'

They used the finest cunning
their naked wits and wiles
the lowly Uncle Tomming
and Aunt Jemima's smiles.

They've laughed to shield their crying
then shuffled through their dreams
and stepped 'n' fetched a country
to write the blues with screams.

I understand their meaning
it could and did derive
from living on the edge of death
They kept my race alive.

Submitted by Sister Stephanie Sutton

And now, brothers, I commend you to
God, and to the word of his grace, which
is able to build you up, and to give you an
inheritance among all them which are
sanctified.



Senator Ben Clark

Prayer Walk in April



We are very proud of Senator Clark as he supports community efforts in District 21. He can be depended on to support in prayer, attendance and even financially. The picture above shows him in April with the Prayer Walk in Cumberland County.

In Hoke County he was able to support and help to bring \$2 million in revenues for education in our County, \$25,000 to the Hoke Reading/Literacy Council, and he has continually voted for each teacher pay raise since his first term. Additionally, he has helped the Raeford-Hoke Museum, the parks, including the Hoke County Splash Pad, (which our children enjoyed so much last summer), and other community efforts.

Everyone who know me, is aware of my support of Senator Clark. He was educated in the public-school system in Cumberland County, is a retired Air Force Lt. Colonel, devoted son, father and brother, and he resides in Hoke County. He is a great example for our boys and men to emulate.

My thoughts have always been, when possible and practical, let a man lead. Too often our men have been pushed aside, especially since integration and affirmative action. With affirmative action many companies would choose a woman and get two points if it were a black female instead of a male. It made good business sense, but it again placed our men in the position of a woman being chosen over a man. Our men are often feared, as many feel that a strong black man is a threat; that is wrong. Our men, like other men, can and will do the job when the opportunity is present.

The opinions in this article are solely those of the individual named below.

Editorial Opinion by Ellen Clark McNeill

Key Factors affecting your Credit Score*

- **Number of accounts with delinquency**
Missed and late payments, including the number of late payments, how late they were, and how recently they occurred, are important to Credit Scores. Your score will be impacted if your credit report shows one or more accounts with missed payments. *Keep in mind: It's important to pay bills on time. Generally, people who remain current on payments appear less risky to lenders.*
- **Time since delinquency is too recent or unknown.** *(Information copied from the State Employees Credit Union site).*

SPRING REVIVAL

MAY 14 – 16, 2018

Rev. Hamid Kamara, Mount Calvary MBC, Guest Revivalist. Services begin at 7 p.m. each night. Come prepared to be blessed.

ALPHONSO AND WILHEMINA ROBERTSON

Celebrated 40 Years of Marriage

On Saturday, March 10, 2018, the happy couple celebrated 40 years of marriage with family members



and friends at Westgate Community House. Our Church Family extends best wishes for many more years together in good health and happiness.

Proverbs 18:22 He who finds a wife finds what is good and receives favor from the LORD.

A Wise Word from former First Lady Barbara Bush



It was often reported how much she loved her family and she was the one who kept them together

The African Children's Choir Concert



Community members and friends poured into Lewis Chapel MBC to hear and enjoy the African Children's Choir which is on tour right now in the United States. The children sang with such joy that was moving and inspirational. They sang familiar hymns and current Gospel songs in both English and their native African language. They not only sang, but also danced and gave drum performances, recounting to the audience the role drums have always played in the African tradition and culture. We took our grandchildren, whose maternal lineage is African, but mainly for them to not only, hear the

music, but to hear first-hand some of the stories these young children have experienced in their desire to get an education. Often, the choir is composed of teenagers and some young ones, but for this tour, it was only children 7-11 years old. They shared they and their parents' struggles in just surviving and how getting an education was a luxury beyond their dreams. Most of the children were orphans; some may still have parents, but their parents chose for them to be a part of this ministry, so they could receive an education. It drove home to us in the audience how blessed and privileged our children are here in America. We are blessed!

Reverend Mary C. Owens, CED

Senior Prom 2018 Johnny and Nancy McCraney Prom Queen and King



The Nutrition Site at Mount Pisgah was well represented. For fear of missing someone the editor is choosing not to name anyone but the Queen, King and Sister Joann. The event always sells out in advance and has participation from across the region. Individuals from other counties come to the enjoyable affair. The food was good; the atmosphere was nearly perfect along with the music, especially the line dancing and "old school" CDs. Some are already planning for next year's Senior Prom.



When clean, fun activities are planned, reasonably priced and in a good environment people will participate. The Hoke County Senior Services Prom is an excellent example.

***THE /CUMBERLAND COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE
SHAW UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP BANQUET WILL BE
FRIDAY, JUNE 1, 2018, AT THE METROPOLITAN
BALL ROOM IN FAYETTEVILLE. TICKETS ARE
AVAILABLE FROM ALUMNI MEMBERS.
TICKETS ARE \$30.00 EACH, AND A TABLE OF 8,
\$250.00. SUPPORT THE MOTHER HBCU!***

Darryl Shaw makes Indoor Track & Field All- ACC Academic Team 2018



DJ, son of Pam and Darryl Shaw, is recognized for making the Indoor Track and Field All-ACC Academic-Team in 2018. Congratulations DJ!

10 Things to Do Before 10 a.m.

(Copied from UnitedHealthCare Winter publication)

Of course, you know that the day should start with your personal communication with God and commitment to prayer and Bible Study.

1. **Make your bed.** This is linked to increased productivity. You will have at least accomplished one thing successfully at the beginning of the day.
2. **Fuel up.** Eat a healthy breakfast.
3. **Move around.** It is a good idea to exercise in the morning.
4. **Breathe deeply.** Practicing meditation may be helpful. As a Church newsletter, we recommend using this quiet time for personal communication with God. Begin the day with your prayers and personal Bible Study.
5. **Early in the day,** call or text an important person in your life.
6. **Up and At 'EM.** Don't hit the snooze button. This disrupts your sleep cycle.
7. **Write it down.** Write important things you need to do and set some goals and objectives.
8. **Do something hard.** You're more likely to finish an unpleasant task when you're fresh in the morning. Also, once an unpleasant or hard task is complete, you can look forward to the remainder of the day being more relaxed and productive.
9. **Drink refreshing** Vitamin C products and water to stay hydrated.
10. **Have some fun.** Play! Yes, play to place variety in your life. Make sure some physical activity is included. Walk, run and participate in a competitive sport—tennis, basketball, baseball, golf, and/or football.

Celebrating Our Men Volunteers

Three years ago, through VBS, we began collaboration with Fayetteville Cumberland County Ministerial Council in collecting and delivering bicycles to the *Bicycle Man Project* which provides bicycles for children during the Christmas holidays.



We, along with a silent partner who actually collects the bikes, provide the bicycles for restoration for the huge Christmas give-away. We are so proud of the men of Mount Pisgah who volunteered their time, energy and muscles to this last bike delivery. Approximately 500 bikes were loaded and delivered to Ms. Anne Mathis at the Bicycle Man Project location near Hope Mills. The church volunteers were Deacon Marshall Hadley, Deacon Willie McNeill, Brother Adale Clark, Brother Ron Story, and his son, RJ. Each man drove a truck loaded with bikes but each also had an attached trailer full of bikes. We want to send a special thanks to Reverend Charles Jackson who, although he could not be there, loaned his large, car transport trailer to help deliver the bikes. Brother Story said, "I quit counting after 250 bikes were loaded on Rev Jackson's trailer, and we were just past half way." These men worked hard, fast, and seemingly, enthusiastically. Our church Mission Department requested for each ministry to do one or two community projects per year. This is a Christian Education project and we join voices with Mission in encouraging everyone to get on board with a community outreach project. Mount Pisgah is alive and well in this community. Let us reach out to our community and serve with joy and spirit of giving to others.

Reverend Mary C. Owens, CED

Love never ends, and now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love. 1st Cor 13

A Joyous Resurrection Celebration



Easter, Resurrection Sunday, dawned bright and early for many of the members of Mount Pisgah and worshipers pressed their way to Easter Sunrise Service 6:30 in the morning. Reverend Rosaland Loyd brought the Resurrection message. Sunrise began what would be an event packed day at Mount Pisgah. After the service, the members and friends feasted on a scrumptious buffet style breakfast that rivaled anything at Golden Corral buffet! Next was the 8:00 service with Pastor Bernard delivering the message; this was followed at 9:00 by baptism for two new converts.



Then after everything had settled down again, the Easter Ministry Team presented the Annual Easter Ministry. Part I was presented by the Children's Sunday School Ministry under the direction of Sisters Lois Allen and Karen Dawson. ***For the first time in recent memory, every child had memorized his or her speech because no papers were allowed.*** They rose to the level of high expectations! Part II

was *Down the Via Dolorosa*, a drama narrative depicting Christ's long and painful walk down the *path of suffering* all the way to Calvary. Along the tortuous route, biblical characters pleaded with the audience, giving personal testimonials that this was truly the Messiah. After His off-stage crucifixion,



the Praise Dancers blessed us dancing to *Don't Cry, He's Not Dead!* The climax came when the audience looked up in the choir loft to see Christ rise, the whole meaning of the day. No, He is not dead. He rose early one Sunday morning and today, He lives, He lives! Christ Jesus lives today!

Reverend Mary C. Owens, CED

Jaelon Black

Jaelon Black (son of Aliza Kelly Newton and Chris Black) is a freshman at Colonial Forge High School. He has qualified for the Virginia High School National Track Meet in Greensboro NC. Jaelon is currently ranked in the top ten for freshman and ranked in the top 40 for overall high school runners for the 100 and 200 meters in the state of Virginia.

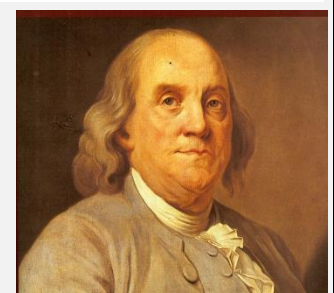


Jaelon is the grandson of Deaconess Betty M. Kelly and the late Deacon Charles Kelly.

We're proud of Jaelon's record, and it sure would be nice if we could surprise him when he comes to Greensboro.

Be civil to all; sociable to many; familiar with few; friend to one; enemy to none.

Benjamin Franklin



FAITH OF OUR MOTHERS

(Verses 3 and 4 Hymn #410 copied from our hymnal)

Faith of our mothers, guiding faith
For youthful longing, youthful doubt\
How blurred our vision, blind our way
Thy providential care without
Faith of our mothers guiding faith
We will be true to thee to death.

Faith of our mothers, Christian faith
In truth beyond our man-made creeds
Still serve the home and save the church
And breathe thy spirit through our deeds.
Faith of our Mothers, Christian faith.
We will be true to thee till death.



HAPPY
MOTHERS'
DAY

NAACP MOTHER OF THE YEAR

Mrs. Ola Stubbs McGill-Owens



Ola lived within two miles of Mount Pisgah and attended here during her youth. Currently, she is a member of New Bethel AME Zion Church. Years ago, Mount Pisgah, Beauty Spot and New Bethel use to share services, especially revivals. You knew without any doubt you would be going to at least three nights of revival (at least one in each of those churches).

*This is the day the Lord hath made; let us rejoice
and be glad in it. Psalm 118:24*

General Gary M. Brito



Congratulations to General Gary M. Brito on becoming the first African-American commander of the Maneuver Center of Excellence at US Army Fort Benning! This historic achievement is a milestone for the U.S. Army and Major General Brito is well deserving of this distinguished post.

**TICKETS AVAILABLE FOR THE HOKE COUNTY
MISSIONARY UNION SCHOLARSHIP BANQUET –
STUDENTS MAY APPLY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS**
*Scholarship applications are on the table in the front of
the Church or you may see Sister Callie Graham for a
copy and assistance, if needed.*

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO OUR MEMBERS

Mount Pisgah members please use the offering envelopes provided for your convenience. The offering envelope is used as a record of your giving for tax and other purposes. Also, if you have not used an envelope in several years, your name may have been purged from the membership roll. You may call the Church office Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. to verify if your name shows. If it does not, it is easy to restore your membership by coming back before the church and making your statement and commitment to the church; provided you are sincere and wish to be a part of the active church. The Church needs each and every one of its members to be active. We must be about our Father's business in the field of mission; therefore, you are wanted and needed.

**Vacation Bible School June 11th – 15th 6:00–8:00
p.m.** *Make it a family affair with all members
attending. Come learn and share!*

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All church members are encouraged to write articles for The Voice. You may submit drawings, pictures, short articles and other good news. Thank you.