



THE VOICE

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

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86thth edition

THANKSGIVING AND CHRISTMAS

November-December 2016

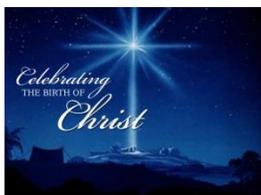


"Oh Give Thanks Unto The Lord, For He Is Good: For His Mercy Endures Forever" (Psalm 107 vs. 1)

Hurricane Matthew roared through here a few weeks ago, and raised havoc from as far away as Haiti, and left a trail that included our region. Several things happened as a result of the hurricane's devastation. First, we saw friends, neighbors and loved ones reaching out to help others. Our emergency teams—power companies, rescue, fire, police, doctors, nurses, governmental employees, and others stepped up and do all that they could to help. That is when we saw the best in mankind.

So many individuals have asked, "What can I do to help?" More importantly, many have stepped forward, saw things that needed to be done, and they did them. Thank you.

Our Church family is no exception. When there is a need, Mount Pisgah steps up to the plate. When our faith has been tested, we learned how to lean and to depend on Jesus. We know He is our friend. Other songs come to mind, "**On Christ The Solid Rock I Stand, I will Trust in the Lord, and Hold to God's Unchanging Hands**", are only a few songs that help us to get through tough situations. The storm was indeed a tough situation. Many individuals, families and businesses are still suffering from the loss of food, clothing, shelter and more importantly, life. Please continue to pray for those God uses to be His hands on earth to meet the needs of His children. Your hands make the difference. Keep them busy doing the work of the Church.



Born of a virgin: Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel. (Isaiah 7:14)

**ANTHONY KELLY,
INTERIM CITY OF
FAYETTEVILLE POLICE
CHIEF**



On the 1st of October, Kelly became the interim chief. This is the first time in the history of the City of Fayetteville, a black serves in the position. Anthony and his wife, (Detective) Jennifer have been long-time members of the department. He was employed 22 years ago. Both are also members of our church.

Anthony, a graduate of Fayetteville State University, also attended the West Point Leadership program at Methodist University, and the FBI National Academy.

He is the son of the late Deacon Charles Kelly and Betty McDougald-Kelly. His family is deeply rooted in this community and just across the county line into Cumberland County.

Our Church family is asked to continuously be in prayer for the Kelly family as they take on this new and different challenge. It is truly a family affair, (as is shown in the picture below, during a unity rally in Fayetteville). It is our duty and privilege to ensure they are covered minute-by-minute.



VETERANS DAY SERVICES



On the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918 an armistice between Germany and the Allied nations came into effect. On November 11, 1919, Armistice Day was commemorated for the first time. In 1919, President Wilson proclaimed the day should be "filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country's service and with gratitude for the victory". ***Veteran Day Services will be held on the Court House grounds at 11 a.m. on the 11th of November.*** Come and be a part of the services.

The 23rd Psalm

The Lord is my Shepherd. that's a **RELATIONSHIP!**
 I will not want; that's **SUPPLY!**
 He makes me lie down in green pastures, that's **REST.** He leads me beside the still waters;-- now that's **REFRESHMENT!**
 He restores my soul -- now that's **HEALING!**
 He leads me in the paths of righteousness -- now that's **GUIDANCE!**
 For His name's sake -- now that's **PURPOSE!**
 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death; now that's **TESTING!**
 I will fear no evil -- now that's **PROTECTION!**
 For You are with me; that's **FAITHFULNESS!**
 Your rod and staff comfort me; that's **DISCIPLINE!**
 You prepare a table for me in the presence of my enemies; that's **HOPE!**
 You anoint my head with oil ---- now that's **CONSECRATION!** My cup runs over -- now that's **ABUNDANCE!** Surely goodness and mercy will follow me. That's **BLESSING!** And I will dwell in the house of the Lord ----now that's **SECURITY!**
 Forever ----that's **ETERNITY!**

Submitted by Sister Doris Jackson Copied from the Internet)



It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to His name.

Carla D. Hayden, Ph. D

(First woman and first person of color)

Librarian of Congress



Dr. Hayden broke the 214 year glass ceiling when the Senate confirmed her as its librarian. Thankfully, women and/or blacks are now going into business, becoming active in agencies and/or entering new roles as manager, director or chief executive officer. All of the many changes are a blessing, as it has only been 52 years since the **Voting Rights Act** was approved. Think of it this way, individuals of privilege for more than 400 years are now in competition with others who have only been able to vote in some places in this country since 1964.

MEMBERS OF MOUNT PISGAH'S YOUNG ADULT CHOIR



Members of the choir wearing red, representing Sickle Cell Month as they share with a member, who has the illness.

COUPLES FELLOWSHIP SERVICE Thank You Brother and Sister Sawyer

The 11th of September was a special day in the lives of our married members. Brother and Sister Sawyer planned, prepared and delivered a wonderful afternoon based on Genesis 1:27 & 28, ***"The Abundant Marriage Living by Design."*** The CRC was beautifully decorated, a large selection of delicious food had been carefully prepared and available, and the fellowship was outstanding. It was truly an afternoon to remember. On behalf of all who enjoyed the afternoon, a heartfelt ***"Thank You"*** is extended. ***May God continue to bless and keep you.***

Dr. Karen Smith Named 2017 National Family Physician of the Year



On the 23rd of September in Orlando, Florida, ***Dr. Smith was named the 2017 National Family Physician of the Year*** by the American Association of Family Physicians.

Smith’s adventure in rural family medicine began in 1992. Although, she was inspired to become a physician at the tender age of 11 years old, her residency at the Duke/Southern Regional Area Health Education Center Family Medicine Residency program in Fayetteville, is where she was recruited to Raeford, N. C. After a few years, she opened her practice. Dr. Estes’ leadership and support were critical in helping her.

Smith holds this saying close to her, ***“The Power of Touch – physical, emotional, and spiritual.”*** She stated the mantra came to her while attending Mount Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church. She came to the revelation she wanted to be able to fully connect with all of her patients through the power of touch. Dr. Smith states that each patient is important to her and it is reflected back. She is a doctor who often works from sun-up-to sundown. Her patients know that she respects them and they will receive good care even if they are not able to pay for it.

Dr. Smith is a former president of the NC Academy of Family Physicians, Inc. where she was the spokesperson for the Academy in 2005.

She was the first African American installed since its beginning in 1948.

Dr. Smith was chosen from among physicians from all over the United States. She was chosen because of her lifelong commitment to improving patient lives in rural Hoke County. Smith is known pretty much as a medical rock star!

Congratulations, Dr. Smith, for again placing Hoke County as a “first” in our Country. We are proud of you and of your accomplishments.



Aaron Thomas reporting the news on WTJA

Aaron is making the most of his major in communications. He is a reporter and can be seen periodically reporting the news.

It was only a few years ago that he was the Drum Major at N. C. State University in Raleigh. He is comfortable in front of audiences, has excellent communication skills and a great sense of humor. All of those attributes serve him well in his chosen field. We are proud of Aaron and wish him continued success.

Aaron is the grandson of Rev. Vina and Brother Jake Clark of Raeford, and Brother Clyde and Sister Doris Thomas of Pinehurst. Both families have members in Mount Pisgah.

Reflect on the meaning of THANKSGIVING and talk with your family members about its importance



**Robert F. Smith -
Founder, Chairman
and CEO**

**Vista Equity
Partners**

**The Little-Known Black
Billionaire Who Made a
\$20 Million Donation to
the African American
Smithsonian Museum**



Robert F. Smith is the Founder, Chairman and CEO of Vista Equity Partners. As Vista's Chairman and CEO, Mr. Smith directs Vista's investment strategy and decisions, firm governance and investor relations.

Vista currently manages equity capital commitments of over \$14 billion and oversees a portfolio of over 30 software companies that employ a combined approximately 30,000 employees worldwide. Since Vista's founding in 2000, Mr. Smith has overseen over 200 completed transactions by the firm. During that time, Vista has managed capital for hundreds of limited partners, including many prominent public, private and corporate pension plans, endowments, family offices, and high net worth individuals.

Under Robert Smith's leadership, Vista has exclusively focused on the enterprise software, data and technology enabled solutions sectors. Mr. Smith is a member of the investment committees of the Firm's funds and currently serves on, or participates on, the boards of many of the Vista Flagship and Foundation Funds' portfolio companies.

Prior to founding Vista, Mr. Smith worked for Goldman Sachs, M&A, from 1994 to 2000, in New York and Silicon Valley.

Mr. Smith earned his B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Cornell University and his MBA from Columbia Business School. He is the principal inventor on two United States and two European patents.

Mr. Smith is the Chairman of the Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice and Human Rights,

member of the Cornell Engineering College council, and a trustee of the Boys and Girls Clubs of San Francisco. Mr. Smith is also a Board Member of Carnegie Hall. He is an avid fly fisherman.

THE BICYCLE MAN – ANOTHER LOAD OF BIKES DELIVERED



Photo shows Mrs. Ann Mathis of The Bicycle Man, a staff member, Deacons Marshall Hadley and Willie McNeill and Robert Owens representing the FCCMC

Thanks to our silent business partner, members of Mount Pisgah, and the Fayetteville/Cumberland County Ministerial Council, another four truck load of bicycles, scooters and other small riding cars, etc., have been delivered to Mrs. Ann Mathis. Mrs. Mathis is carrying on her husband's (***Moses Mathis, the Bicycle Man***) dream of preparing and giving bikes to children for Christmas. Receiving the bikes is only a part of the job. Individuals clean, polish, repair and paint the bikes to make them look and ride as if they are all new.

Children all over this region will be named by school social workers to receive bicycles. When all of the paperwork is complete and they are approved, they will be given the date and time to go over and select their own bicycles. Parents are not allowed to choose for the children. They go in with one of Santa's Helpers (individuals volunteering with Mrs. Mathis and her staff) to pick out their bikes. Additional Santa Helpers are needed to get the bikes ready for pickup. If you have the time and you are willing to do some of the work, please contact Mrs. Mathis at 910-424-3083 or 910-822-2034. She will welcome you and your friends as you help to ensure that a child has a great Christmas gift.

PASTORAL APPRECIATION SERVICES

How Great Is Our God is an update and remix of How Great Thou Art and other songs extolling the greatness of our Lord. Truly, we here at Mount Pisgah can join our voices in singing the Lord's praises for the great things He has done. One of those great things is sending us a pastor a year ago, who is not only a man of God, but is also one who possesses a shepherd's heart in loving and tending for the flock under his care.

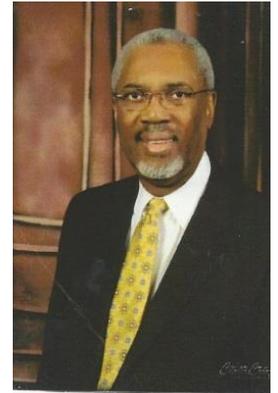
A shepherd is known for being devoted to his sheep, guiding, protecting and keeping them through all types of circumstances and conditions. When Pastor Fuller agreed to come here to "help" us last year, he knew he was coming in the midst of a terrible storm and uncertainty, but through his faith in God, his leadership and his exceptional administrative experience, he led us out of the abyss into a place of joy and victory! That's why on Sunday, September 18, 2016, the Mount Pisgah Church family, friends and community came together to celebrate the dedication and service of Dr. John D Fuller, Sr., who put his own personal aspirations and "retirement" on hold to fulfill this unexpected assignment from God. Everyone, young and old, was excited to honor our pastor for his faithfulness and due diligence.

All ministries and church members were involved in some capacity throughout the entire day, beginning with 8:00 worship service and 10:00 worship services, and with Sunday School being taught by his former high school classmate from Georgia, Deacon Larry Gilpin. Lunch for about 400 was served at 12:00 at the CRC, followed by the afternoon worship service and the giving of gifts by the church, the Fuller Family, individuals and others.

In presenting the gift from the entire church to Pastor Fuller, Deacon Calvin Hadley expressed our sincere appreciation and gratitude for all that had been accomplished in one year, most especially for helping us to save the church. The list, however, of accomplishments was extraordinary, which included about 53 things that were initiated or completed within the one-year

time frame. In retrospect and thankfulness, we say as the Apostle Paul, *Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honor is due.*

Reverend Mary C. Owen



THE ANNUAL PASTORS APPRECIATION BREAKFAST IN DECEMBER



Pastors of the Hoke County Union attending the annual Scholarship Banquet, August 2016

The Annual Breakfast will be Saturday, December 3, 2016 at 9 a.m. in the CRC. See Sisters Sue Baker or Callie Graham for tickets. The cost is \$10 per individual and must be paid in advance. Tickets are NOT sold at the door, and the count must be given to the committee in advance. Plan and share breakfast with our pastors. It's a fun time!

VICKEY MC PHAUL AND HER TEAM WIN AN "A"



Team work makes the difference

(Copied from the Internet)



***POLITICAL TRIP TO
FAYETTEVILLE STATE
UNIVERSITY TO SEE
PRESIDENT BILL
CLINTON***

Reverend Mary Owens, President of Fayetteville/Cumberland County Ministerial Council, and Shirley Hart, President of Tiahart Recovery Program and friends were among the first in line.

DARRYL S. SHAW, JR.

Darryl Shaw Jr. a 2015 Jack Britt High School graduate, recently participated in UNC-Chapel Hill awards ceremonies for track and field and athletic and academic awards.



Darryl's performance included some first place finish at some of UNC's local collegiate meets in the triple jump and was interviewed by ESPN during the 2016 season. He placed 8th at the outdoor 2016 ACC finals in Tallahassee, FL and 4th in the 2016 Junior World Trials in Fresno, CA for the triple jump event.

In September 2016, UNC held a ceremony to award athletes and Darryl earned a **“first year letter in the sport of track and field for the 2015-2016 academic school year.”** In October, Darryl was recognized as one of the athletes that made the **“All Academic Men’s Track and Field Team”** for performance and academics for the 2016 season as determined by the All-Academic Board of the National Collegiate Division 1 Track and Field Coaches Association. **Darryl was also a “2015-2016 ACC Academic Honor Roll” student.** We pray that Darryl continues to compete and be thankful for the blessings that God has bestowed upon him.



***DEACON HADLEY’S BIRTHDAY
CELEBRATION WAS TRULY A
FAMILY AFFAIR***

Family, church members, friends and guests shared in with The Hadleys on our Deacon’s birthday. It was a joyous occasion enjoyed by all.

***MOUNT PISGAH FIRST
COMMUNITY GIVE-AWAY***

On Saturday, October 3rd, Mount Pisgah, ministries, such as Evangelism, Mission and

ALEX CLARK CASTS EARLY VOTE



96 year old Alex Clark voted at the Board of Elections on the 25th of October. Brother Clark has his own opinions about the candidates and he eagerly looks to each election cycle. He is shown with Deacon Willie McNeill and Mrs. Twanna Jackson of the Board of Elections Office.



other members joined together in holding its

first Community-wide Give Away, completely



free to anyone who dropped by. Originally, the idea was to give away or auction items from inside the church that were good but no longer used, but it was expanded to members bringing in clothes, household items, and many other gently used and sometimes new things to simply “give away.” Every member and person who came



also received a hotdog and drink and a bag of toiletries donated by *Unilever of Hoke County*.

It was an opportunity to connect to our community and to also share information about our church. However, we had no idea the extent or impact as to how the giveaway spread beyond the church’s parking lot. The very next week, Hurricane



Matthew blew into our state, causing tremendous devastation and turning the lives of so many in



Hoke, Cumberland and Robeson Counties upside down. But thanks to our giveaway, we had clothes and supplies on hand to

send to others and to take to shelters. Pastor Fuller, cleaning out the church pantry, even loaded up his truck, along with other food and supplies he had secured and took them to Fairmont, NC.



Mount Pisgah’s giving even stretched across the seas to Haiti by sending them boxes of toiletries that were still on hand. Members continued to give money and donations, some which went locally to Fayetteville and Hoke through an FCCMC Give-Away the following Saturday at the John D Fuller Center. Mary Massenburg, Evelyn Newsome, Callie Graham, Evelyn Baskervill, Verma Williams, Rosaland Loyd, and the entire Epps family assisted in serving those persons who were impacted by the storm.



Antoinette McLean, a liaison for

Haiti support, told how thankful they were to get soap and toiletries and how two-three people would unselfishly share one bottle of body wash or anything with each other. Food, of course, was a priority, but just to feel clean was an unexpected joy.



Thanks to everyone for having helping hands for giving.

Rev Mary Owens, CED Director

Psalm 92 1-2

It is a good thing to give thanks unto the LORD, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most High: To shew forth thy lovingkindness in the morning, and thy faithfulness every night,

SENATOR BEN CLARK

In Race for Re-Election

The Fall Election is Tuesday, November 8th. This is your final day to cast ballots in this year's election. Senator Clark is on the ballot. If you did not vote in the early period, cast your ballot on the 8th in your precinct.



It is a responsibility as well as an honor and privilege to participate in the election process. It is being reported that Blacks are not voting; please go and vote!

CHURCH TRUSTEES HONORED

On the third Sunday in October during the 10 a.m. worship services, trustees of the church were honored with plaques. The Board of Trustees is chaired by Brother John Monroe. This was the first time in history (as far as we can remember) that the members of the Board of Trustees have been publicly recognized. Along with Pastor Fuller, thank you for the work you do for our Church.

HOMECOMING RESCHEDULED

Homecoming services will now be held on the 20th of November. Since the date had to be rescheduled, what better time than leading into the week of Thanksgiving. We will worship at 7:55 and 10:00 a.m. followed by a traditional homecoming meal in the CRC. The committees preparing and serving the food have been selected and there are no known changes for ensuring our home cooked food and enjoying fellowshiping with our members, guests and others.

Yes, I'm glad you asked, our Homecoming offering has been set as \$116.00. However, you are free to give more— even the amount previously asked in past years. You and God know of your desire to



help our church. We ask you do your best and God will multiply good you do.



THANKSGIVING WORSHIP SERVICES

At 11:00 a.m. Thanksgiving Day we will hold our annual worship services. Everyone is asked to invite others to come and share with us as we give thanks.

HOKE COUNTY MISSIONARY UNION YOUTH TO TOUR AIRBORNE AND SPECIAL OPERATIONS

On Tuesday, December 20th, youth ages 12-18 +/- will tour the Airborne and Special Operations Facility in Fayetteville. Additional information will be sent to pastors and youth directors. Parents will be required to sign permission letters.

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulder. And his name shall be called
Wonderful, Counselor,
The Mighty God,
The Everlasting Father,
The Prince of Peace.

Friday, December 23rd, our Youth and Children's Ministries will participate in Christmas Caroling.

Sunday, December 25th – Christmas Day. Come and worship with us.

Watch Night Services will be on the 31st of December beginning at 10 p.m.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it:

There is one body and one Spirit, you just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God, and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

Newsletter Staff

Submit your articles and pictures via email to emcneill1005@aol.com or call numbers below

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