

# The St. John Beacon

THE CHURCH THAT BELIEVES IN LETTING THE LORD DO IT

March • 2023

(405) 478-3344

## The Pastor's Pen

*Much Beloved Members,*

I do trust and pray all is well with you and your families.

We are looking in the rear view mirror at one of the most exciting, informative and enjoyable Black History Month celebrations to-date. A Great Salute to First Lady Jackie, Sister Lorie Stephens, and the entire committee for such a stellar job this year.

Life presents us with many challenges, but we serve a God who strengthens and enables us to meet them all. Your resilience and perseverance have simply been outstanding. Not only have you met the challenge, but you have used this winter season to advance the ministry of the Church. In a creative way our service has expanded above and beyond expectations. We have been setting new standards, reaching new plateaus, establishing fresh new ministry opportunities while maintaining the level of excellence we are accustomed to. Hats off to the leadership whose tenacity and contribution is at the center of this unprecedented effort.

We are now preparing for Easter Season. The Simultaneous Revival will also take place during that time frame. Returning this year will the dynamic Dr. Bernard Mitchell



*Dr. Major L. Jemison, Pastor*

who stirred our hearts so profoundly before the pandemic. **GET READY!!**

The protocols we have established are working quite well in helping stay safe. They will remain in place each and every time we gather.

In closing, the Easter Season is a great time to assess and rejuvenate our commitment to the Lord. The Cross of Calvary certainly validated his sacrificial love and commitment to us. The Apostle reminds us, "while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us". Listen to Jesus, "Greater love hath no man than to lay down his life for a friend".

As we move toward that celebrated day of redemption, let's read again the Gospel Accounts about the sacrificial love of our Risen Savior.

*Serving Above &  
Beyond the Ordinary,  
Dr. M. L. Jemison,  
Senior Pastor*

## Children & Youth Highlights

*By Rev. Keith Carter & Sis Linda Carter*



The Children & Youth Annual Day is March 19th. We are expecting a grand day in the Lord on the 19th. Be listening and watching for more information.

Our church isn't built on the gifts and talents of a few but on the willing hearts and hands of many who volunteer and give their time, talent, and treasure to make who we are and all we do possible. We would love to help you find your passion, build community, and participate in something extraordinary.

Not only is there a place for you in this great church, but there is also a great need for your time and talents to do God's work in our Nursery, Children's, and Youth Ministry. There are many opportunities to share

God's love and serve our Children. Let us help you find an option that matches your interests, gifts, and available time. If you are ready to join the volunteering team in the St. John Nursery, Children's or Youth areas but unsure where to start or what opportunities are available? Please contact the Church Office, and we'll introduce you to the various ministry areas and the volunteer opportunities available.

On January 21st the Youth Department sponsored an outing to the Lunar Golf at Quail Springs Mall. Each youth was able to invite a guest. For some of the youth, this was the first time that they had ever went to play putt-putt. The Youth had a great time.

**You Tell Us ...  
We Tell Them.**

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Submitted By Dr. Lawrence C. Kirk, Director of Christian Education

### What does “kick against the pricks” mean?

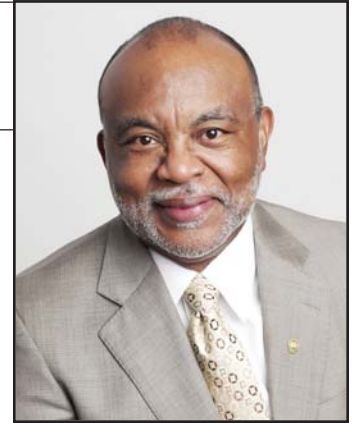
This statement found in Acts 9:5 has often been misunderstood in the Bible. In understanding the Bible, one must understand the culture from which it was written.

Many people in the first century were tillers of the soil. Oxen were used to work the soil. The prick or goad was a necessary device. The prick was usually a

wooden shaft with a pointed spike (prick) at one end. The man working the ox would position the goad in such a way as to exert influence and control over the ox. You see, if the ox refused the command indicated by the farmer, the goad would be used to jab or prick the ox. Sometimes the ox would refuse this incentive by kicking out at

the prick. As a result, the prick would be driven deeper into the flesh of the rebellious animal. The more the animal rebelled, the more the animal suffered. Therefore, the statement to Saul: “It is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.” (Saul was rebelling against God.)

God has the right to demand the “standards” of man. God has given man commandments to be obeyed (1 John 5:3). However, man may elect to disobey God (Josh. 24: 15). When man disobeys, however, man pays. “The way of transgressors is hard,” wrote Solomon (Prov. 13: 20). God and man is analogous to the farmer and ox situation. When we disobey God, we hurt ourselves. When we violate and rebel against the laws of



God, we are like the ox – driving the prick in deeper and deeper, hurting ourselves in rebelling against authority! When will we learn? Jesus is the author of eternal salvation to all who obey him (Heb. 5: 8,9).

One of the ways a Christian can mature in the ways of God is by joining a Bible study group which can help in understanding God and His requirements of us. Contact me, Dr. Lawrence Kirk at (405) 478-3344 or Lckirk@stjohnokc.org, and I will gladly introduce to you one of our many Bible study offerings.



### PASTOR'S PARTNERS IN PRAYER

Submitted By Deacon Raymond Payton

### Praying for Fearless Boldness

*“And God has given us the task of reconciling people to him.” —2 Corinthians 5:18*

Words from God: “All this newness of life is from God, who brought us back to himself through what Christ did. And God has given us the task of reconciling people to him. For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people’s sin against them. This is the wonderful message he has given us to tell others. . . . ‘Be reconciled to God!’ For God made Christ who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ” (2 Corinthians 5:18-21).

The home and the life are to be built on this foundation: Christ lives in you, and this is our assurance that you will share in his glory” Colossians 1:27). Christ is our life. Until the believers were brought to understand and experience what it meant to have Christ dwelling in their hearts and revealed in their lives, Paul could not be satisfied. The very center truth of his preaching to the Gentiles is to have the Spirit of Christ everyday dwelling within them, controlling their whole being and living out His life in them.

The Christian life is a life in which Jesus Christ Himself absolutely and increasingly lives. Following His example is nothing but the natural outcome of His presence within. This high and holy calling —surrender to Christ and fellowship with Him— needs to be total and habitual.

**Let us continue to PRAY daily wherever you are at 12:00 NOON for our Pastor, Dr. M. L. Jemison, his family, health, strength and guidance.**



#### • Family Fun Day

Saturday, June 3, 2023 — 11:00 – 2:00pm  
St. John MBC

#### • Vacation Bible School

Mon., June 5 – Wed., June 6, 2023 — 5:30 – 8:30pm.

Areas to support the Children and Youth include Food Server, Teacher, Registration, Arts & Crafts. Contact Tasha Miles, VBS Director.

Mrs. Jemison needs workers to assist with planning and executing the VBS Women’s Conference. Contact Mrs. Jemison to volunteer.



# WMU Highlights

Submitted by Penny Emery, WMU President

## Happy Spring St. John!

Your St. John Women’s Missionary Union has been on the move! In the month of February, we continued our tradition of sharing through assembling and PERSONALLY delivering “Love Baskets.” These “Love Baskets” contained toiletries and a Valentine’s Day card from St. John. We were privileged to deliver over 60 “Love Baskets” or gift cards to our sick and shut-in members and friends. We are SO grateful for the prayer and financial support of our WMU members and friends.

During the month of February, we also held our monthly Joint Mission Meeting and Circle #2, Circle #4 and Circle #6(OHJ) held Circle meetings. We encourage you to take part in our Joint Mission Meeting as well as support YOUR Circle’s monthly meetings. We study the Word of God, assist the Circle Chairperson in selected projects that will benefit our church as well as the community, and fellowship together.

Our next Joint Monthly Meeting will be Saturday, March 4th at 2:00pm in the Fel-

lowship Hall. Circle #2(Gerchel Holbert) and Circle #3(Fletta James & Dianne Turner) will lead our devotion. We are excited to begin studying from our new study book, “Be Encouraged” by Warren W. Wiersbe. Come join us on Saturday, March 4th! You won’t be disappointed!

**MARCH** is the month to celebrate Sisterhood! We look forward to supporting the sisters of the POBSC Women’s Department as they present the annual “*Night In White*” presentation. “*Night In White*” will be held at Prospect Church on Saturday, March 11th at 6:00pm in the Family Life Center(in the back of Prospect Church). The attire is white and our 2nd Vice-

President, Sis. Kim Tomlin has facilitated the program. Please come out and support Sis. DeAndra Stevenson, who will be a part of the program as well. If you would like to be a part of the *Night In White Choir*, rehearsals will be Saturday, March 4th at Evangelistic Baptist Church at 2:00pm and Thursday, March 9th at 6:00pm at Prospect Church.

We welcome ALL women to come and become active with the St. John WMU. Our dues are just \$24 per year and we are COMMITTED to Christ, His Work, and His Church. Again, we thank God for your continued love and support.

Have a blessed March, 2023!

## Facts about Proof of Identity for Voting in Oklahoma

By Varite Brown

In 2010, Legislation Question 746, established Oklahoma’s Proof of Identity Law or Voter Id Law. The Oklahoma’s Proof of Identity Law requires every voter who votes “in person” to show proof of identity before receiving a ballot. Documents used for proof of identity for voting must contain the following information:

- 1) Name of voter
- 2) Photo of voter
- 3) An expiration date that is after the date of the election or no expiration

The law requires the document used for proof of identity to “**substantially conform**” to the voter’s name in the Precinct Registry at their voting place or at their county election board. **You may also use the voter registration card issued to you by your county election board with no photo.** There are three (3) ways voters can prove their identity:

- 1) **State or Federal government issued photo ID**
- 2) **Voter Identification Card** issued by the Oklahoma Election Board issued after registering to vote
- 3) **Affidavit with Provisional Ballot**

(If you do not have or refuse to show proof of identify, you may sign a sworn affidavit for a provisional ballot. Provisional ballots are sealed in special envelopes and counted after election day and after information on the ballot has been investigated and approved. If information provided cannot be verified, the ballot will be rejected.) Contact your county election board for additional details.

Information contained in this article and additional information on this subject can be found at [ok.gov/elections/voters/proof-of-identity.html](http://ok.gov/elections/voters/proof-of-identity.html); Oklahoma State Election Board at the Capital; or your county election board.

ST. JOHN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH	
VIP 2023 CALENDAR	
MARCH 2, 2023	UCO JAZZ LAB, 100 E. 5 <sup>TH</sup> , EDMOND, OK 8 P.M. Shortt Dogg Band
APRIL 2, 2023	OKC THUNDER VS PHOENIX SUNS COST: \$83.00
JUNE 3, 2023	FAMILY DAY
JUNE 5 - 6, 2023	VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
JUNE 10, 2023	JUBILEE THEATRE, FORT WORTH, TX “PRAISE THE LORD AND RAISE THE ROOF” BY Celeste B. Walker COST: \$100 (INCLUDES TRANSPORTATION AND SHOW TICKETS) CONTACT VIP COMMITTEE FOR MORE DETAILS TIME: 3:00 MATINEE SHOW
JULY 15, 2023	OKLAHOMA RIVER CRUISE (1 ½ HOUR) WITH HORS D’OEUVRES COST AND TIME: TBD
AUGUST 2023	OKC DODGERS BASEBALL GAME DATE AND TIME: TBD
SEPTEMBER 2023	VIP HEALTHY AGING CONFERENCE TBD
SEPTEMBER 10, 2023	VIP SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 20, 2023	STATE FAIR SENIOR DAY
OCTOBER 7, 2023	BOWLING
DECEMBER 2023	VIP CHRISTMAS PARTY LOCATION, DATE AND COST: TBD

# College Night

Submitted by Sis. Ruby Nichols, Scholarship Committee Chairperson

“This is Simply the Best College Night, EVER!” ~ Rev. Dr. Lawrence Kirk.

The Scholarship Committee’s annual College Night was held on Wednesday, December 21st, 2022, in The M.L. Jemison Conference Center, from 7-8:30 pm.

The purpose of College Night is for St John students who are attending college to return home to St John for a question-and-answer session, targeting the current St John high school students who are considering attending college. The goal is to provide high school students with valuable information that helps them get a better understanding of things to do now, while still in high school, to prepare for college.

Sister Ruby Nichols, Scholarship Committee Chairperson, extended the welcome and Deacon Bobby Sharp offered an effectual and fruitful prayer. The “Occasion” was presented by Sister Penny Emery, who reminded us that College Night has been in operation for better than 30 years! Additionally, with the onset of COVID-19 and many scheduling changes, the Scholarship committee was



blessed to be able to award the churches scholarship in all the subsequent years to each St John high school graduate who continued their formal education during those years.

All of the college students participating were recipients of a \$1,000 Rev. W. K. Jackson Christian Fellowship Scholarship. The college students were; Freshmen: Elijah Miles (Rose State) Mauresha Walker (Fisk

Univ.), Zoe Hammond (Tennessee St.) Sophomores: Josiah Billingsley (Langston Univ.), Michayla Harris-Tate (American Univ.), Kristian Baccus (Langston Univ.) Malcolm Williams (OU), and Seniors: Anai Robinson (Langston Univ.), and Dillard Bowie (OSU).

Assistant Chairperson, Brother Brian Stewart, served as the moderator and posed questions to the college students, who responded candidly; giving their points of view and sharing thoughts on their experiences with current issues that affect their young lives as students and all of our lives as Americans. They were poised, articulate, respectful, & beautiful to watch.

The college students also provided some very bright ideas, suggestions, and expectations of ‘college life’ by sharing “things they wish someone had told them before they went to college,” that surely left an impact on the high schooler’s as they consider continuing their post high school education.

The program closed with remarks from our very own

enthusiastic Rev. Dr. Lawrence Kirk, followed by a presentation and remarks from Rev. Marcus Carruthers, and finally, a special season’s greetings of the college students’ singing “We Wish You A Merry Christmas” to their STJMB church family, under the direction of Sister Cheryl!

Of course, none of this is possible without our leader, Pastor Rev. Dr. M. L. Jemison. Thank you Pastor for supporting the Scholarship Committee along their journey and throughout the years!

A special thank you to Rev. Marcus Carruthers; who has been recording the scholarship committee’s programs since the onset of Covid-19, the committee is grateful for his presence, participation, and love he shows for our mission and documenting our journey for our own congregation, as well as those beyond the walls of St John.

We thank all supporters of the Rev. W.K. Jackson Christian Fellowship Scholarship processes, whether it is in their prayers and/or with their financial support.



## March Anniversaries

- Heath, James & Anna • March 1, 1980 — 43 years
- Kirk, Lawrence & Beverly • March 9, 1974 — 49 years
- Townsend, Henry & Susan • March 11, 1972 — 51 years
- Richardson, Reginald & Sherry • March 12, 1994 — 29 years
- Davis, Darryl & Cynthia • March 14, 1993 — 30 years
- Gray, Melvin & Latresha • March 14, 2000 — 23 years
- Spigner, Marcellus & Melody • March 16, 2010 — 13 years
- Washington, Kenneth & Maxine • March 16, 1979 — 44 years
- Watson, Donald & Mary • March 16, 1976 — 47 years
- Walker, Michael & Brenda • March 19, 1977 — 46 years
- Bell, Desoto & Diana • March 30, 1968 — 55 years



# PARISH FELLOWSHIP NEWS

By Sis. Debra Johnson, Parish Fellowship Coordinator

Happy March!! I pray God's choice blessings upon each of you.

By the time you read this article, we would have had our first Parish Fellowship Quarterly Breakfast for 2023. We have hosted the breakfast for a full year now for 2022. The breakfast was well attended and has evolved into a great time of sharing information and fellowship.

Thank you January, February and March PF for hosting the March 5th breakfast. Special thanks to Bro Rudie Valentine for his assistance and support; and to Rev. David Dawson for bringing a good word. The next PF Quarterly Breakfast will be in June 4th...see you there!

Lastly, please continue to be in prayer for those on the sick and shut-in list. It is our goal that each member of St. John be contacted monthly by their Parish Fellowship Coordinator or Group Leader. If you are not being contacted, please let us know so we can make adjustments to ensure you are connected to you and you to us monthly. Blessings to all!!

The Parish Fellowship is actively engaged in informing our members to inform them of new format for Bible Study. By now you have seen the promotional videos regarding "The Refreshing Hour", which is the new name for Wednesday Night Prayer & Bible Study period. Pastor is encouraging all mem-

bers to come out to support the church in this effort. We are bringing back the prayer circles to encourage personal connections within the membership. Monthly participation of ministries/auxiliaries is also being added, as well as a little friendly competition for fun and excitement. The new format starts March 15th. Be listening and watching for more details.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY MEMBERS!!



**MARCH MEMBERS**, it's your birthday month and we say **HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!**

Let's give a birthday "shout-out to Sis. Kathy Simpson (Birthday March 12th) and Sis. Geneva Wray (Birthday March 18th). Thank you Geneva and Kathy for all you do.

I also want to also give a special "Shout-Out" to our March Deacons Bobby Sharp, Leonard Cayton and Theodore (Ted) Saxton. Thank you for all you do!!



Sis. Kathy Simpson



Sis. Geneva Wray



LOVE IN ACTION – THAT IS WHAT WE DO!!

# EVANGELISM MINISTRY

Submitted by Rev. Cornelious Wade, Evangelism Minister

## EVANGELISM/ PRISON MINISTRY/ "FULFILLING THE SCRIPTURE..COME...BUY..WITHOUT MONEY AND WITHOUT COST"

*"COME, ALL YOU WHO ARE THIRSTY, COME TO THE WATERS; AND YOU WHO HAVE NO MONEY, COME, BUY WINE AND MILK WITHOUT MONEY AND WITHOUT COST. WHY SPEND MONEY ON WHAT IS NOT BREAD, AND YOUR LABOR ON WHAT DOES NOT SATISFY. LISTEN TO ME, AND EAT WHAT IS GOOD, AND YOUR SOUL WILL DELIGHT IN THE RICHEST FARE. GIVE EAR AND COME TO ME; HEAR ME THAT YOUR SOUL MAY LIVE. I WILL MAKE AND EVERLASTING COVENANT WITH YOU, MY FAITH-*

*FUL LOVE PROMISED TO DAVID". ISAIAH 55:1-3 NIV.*

At a very physical level the "FOOD PANTRY" AND "HAND ME UP(S)" spoke (and continue to speak to) the physical needs of the people. They came for food and clothing and did not have to have money to pay—their needs were met. As Isaiah 55 unfolds it becomes clear that the real and the greater need is that our clients, our brothers a sisters, the people must understand that they cannot

*("Evangelism Ministry" continued on page 6)*

# Technology Media/Digital Ministry

## Technology Enables the Mission of the Church

By Rev. Marcus Carruthers, Technology Minister

Technology is a resource the church must wisely steward to accomplish the Great Commission. The technology of the church is a huge issue, and we need to take advantage of technology in order to enable the church's mission.

### Technology Enables Communication

Through Facebook and YouTube or through our

website, We can easily communicate directly with our members and people not just next door but around the world, throughout the day and week. Technology enables the congregation easily to have direct communication with our Pastor and ministry leaders, and we can have communication with them on a broader and a clearer scale. Ongoing communication

through technology helps the mission of the church.

### Technology Enables Community

Technology allows a greater sense of community that doesn't demand proximity. Proximity isn't required for community. For example, you can sit next to each other week after week and never talk. But through technology, people in our church are praying for each other thanks to our church Facebook page. Sometimes they already know each other, but at other times they meet one another through Facebook.

Social media is where younger generations are interacting. It's the new marketplace. It may be unnatural for past generations, but it is how community for younger people is now started and developed. I am blessed because some or most seasoned members are engaging us using technology.

We use technology within our church to enable communication, community and discipleship.

Through social media, a new attendee can connect to other church members before he or she ever has a chance to meet at a church gathering or a small group. Of course, true community requires feet and faces and not just electrons and avatars. But those electrons and avatars can be tools to bring



people into closer community with feet and faces. This is a big shift in how we interact, but we have to use it if we want to enable community for the sake of the mission of the church.

### Technology Enables Discipleship

Technology enables members and attendees to enhance their discipleship experience at church. We have encouraged our members and attendees to post questions on Facebook in the middle of services, and we try to answer them. All of these are tools to enhance discipleship. Technology, though, is not the goal. The goal is to enable the church's mission to make disciples of all people groups.

### Find the Benefits of Technology

There are unintended side effects of technology that are both de-personalizing and de-humanizing. But there are some wonderful benefits of technology that enable the mission of the church. We will use purposeful technology in church to enable communication, community and discipleship.

*("Evangelism Ministry" continued from page 5)*  
live by bread (or clothes) alone. They must live by every "WORD" that comes from the mouth of God. We must pray continually that they understand their deeper need, **THE DEEPER NEED IS THE WORD OF GOD, AND RELATIONSHIP THROUGH JESUS CHRIST. WE HAVE THAT AND WILL SUPPLY THAT TOO.**

**Saturday, February 18, 2023** was a pretty warm day as it began, but as 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m. and 12 noon rolled around, our hands were freezing. 26 people brave the cold and signed in and half a dozen teens were shopped for by parents and grandparents. Again, we had Blacks and Whites, men and women, and teens. A middle aged man loved fashion "I have always loved fashion", got several pairs of size 14 shoes, shirts and ties. The team helped them shop. It was a cold day but **like the mailman, we could not be stopped.**

**A BIG THANK YOU TO THE TEAM:** Wanzetta Woody, Lisa Shelton, Ardena Harris, Denice Blakely; our honorary member, Eddy ; **UNSEEN BUS MOVER,** Curry Harris, **IT TECHNOLOGY MINISTER,** Reverend Marcus Carruthers, **PHOTOGRAPHER,** Ardena Harris. **THANK YOU DONORS:** Donald Watkins, Malcolm Stoughtenborough, Annie Hinton; Roy & Flossie Thurston; Dr. Gloria Anderson, Fred Demerson, Lynn James and her mother, Cleo and Theron Perry, Diane McDaniels.

**EVANGELISM EXPLOSION/ EVERYDAY EVANGELISM INTENSIVE CLINIC/ MARCH 30, 31, 2023—8 A.M.-6 P.M. DAILY.** The sessions led by Art Hallett will include lectures, practice session and in the field sessions. Reverend Lester Vogler and additional trainers will be a part of the sessions. Practice sessions and field work will be made up of small groups of 3. See Reverend Cornelius David Wade about registration.

**PRISON MINISTRY: MENTOR WORSHIP SESSIONS:** Led by Reverend Cornelius Wade at the "Berry House" every second and 4th Saturday. **LEXINGTON PRISON WORSHIP SESSIONS:** Reverend Marcus Carruthers, shared sessions, every Sunday. **MENTOR SESSION FOR JULIUS JONES/ JOSEPH HARP CORRECTIONAL FACILITY:** Reverend Carruthers.

**You Tell Us ...  
We Tell Them.**

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You! Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

Time has passed but the prayers, acts of kindness and love will always hold a special place in our hearts. God's blessings to you. Eva, Janet and the King Family

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Dear WMU Sisters,

Thank you for the cards, money visits and prayers and support you expressed to my family and I. Love to each of you! Eva King

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Thank you, Pastor Jemison, for your accommodation in allowing us to celebrate the life of deacon Tracy Lane at your church. It is acts of kindness like yours and the St. John Baptist Church family that display the loving acts of the body of Christ. May God continue to bless you and the St. John Baptist Church. Pastor Kenneth Morgan

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Pastor Jemison and the St. John Missionary Baptist Church,

The Hill, Ewing and Scott Family wishes to express our sincere appreciation for the prayers and words of comfort during the homegoing of our dear brother and cousin of "Jimmy Wallace Hill" of Wewoka, OK. May God bless each of you.

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In appreciation to Pastor Jemison, Sis Opal Floyd, the Prayer Ministry and Sis Kathy Simpson (March Parish Fellowship), Sis Rhonda, the Adult Choir, and WMU. Thank you so much for the lovely Valentine gifts. Words of encouragement and continuing prayers my St. John Family, is much appreciated for all that you do. God Bless. Sis. Betty Williams

\*\*\*\*\*

Thank you for thinking of my family during this very difficult time. Your cards was very much appreciated. Thank you for your expression of sympathy. Roy Piggee

\*\*\*\*\*

St. John Scholarship Committee,

First, I would like to say thank you for your support. I've been very grateful for you guys and the church family. College has been a journey and you guys have been there every step of the way. I greatly appreciate your financial support, prayers, and love! Dillard Bowie

\*\*\*\*\*

Thanks Pastor Jemison and Prayer Ministry Rev. David Dawson for your prayers and Resolution on the death of my cousin, Jimmie Hill. Thanking you for the prayers and encouragement during my illness and health issues. Your "get well" cards and God's grace and mercy lifted my spirits. With gratitude, Thank you! Alva Jean Ewing

\*\*\*\*\*

St. John:

Please accept this donation for any expenses incurred by the church staff in your support of funeral services for Elton Matthews. We truly appreciate your generosity and hospitality. Love, The Matthews Family

Words cannot express the love shown my family during this time. Thanks for the calls, prayers and love offerings. Thanks again to the Best Church this Side of Judgement. A special thanks to Pastor Jemison, Rev. Dawson, St. John WMU and the Adult Choir, and other members for being with me at the service for my grandson Imri Talley. Continue to keep us in prayer. Level, Henry, and Myers Family

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Major,

Thank you for your willingness to participate in our State Conference. Your messages about Nehemiah to rebuild, restore and redeem were powerful and inspiring. You made some history by being the first Pastor from another church to preach at our State conference. I will never forget the experience. I'm so grateful for our friendship and I look forward to finding new ways to serve together. Love & Blessings... Thomas Gray

\*\*\*\*\*

WMU & President Penny,

Thank you so much for your kindness. I appreciate the Valentine card and love sack it came with. A special thanks for being so thoughtful to me and the deliverer Quincy who delivered it to me. Love, Deborah

\*\*\*\*\*

Thank you for thinking of my mother Irene Cutliff during this Valentine Season. She really appreciated the gift. Christy Perkins for Irene Cutliff

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To My St. John Baptist Church Family, Pastor Jemison & Rev. Dawson,

Thank you so very much for the love in the passing of my nephew Robert Snowball, IV. Jana Dugar

\*\*\*\*\*

WMU Sisters,

Thank you for the lovely birthday card. Sister Annie M. Kirk To Our St. John Family; Thank you for the many acts of kindness shown to us during the passing of our loved one. Thank you St. John for always being there! The family of Belinda Spigner

Social Media Volunteer Needed. The church is in need of responsible/committed volunteers to work with Rev. Marcus Carruthers in updating and maintaining our social media accounts. If you are skilled and interested in serving in this area, please contact Rev. Marcus Carruthers at (479) 263-8363.

You may view the Beacon on the church website www.stjohnokc.org. You can follow us on Facebook: Search for St. John Missionary Baptist Church of OKC



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**Ambassador's**  
 CONCERT CHOIR

HONORS

OKLAHOMA CITY  
**Women**

*Who Made A Difference*

**Posthumous Awards**

- Maurine Francisco
- Ruby Hibler Hall
- Dr. Marvonne Keeton
- Clara Luper
- Evelyn Labue Pittman

**Living Honorees**

- Joyce Henderson
- Joyce Jackson
- Dr. Maudra Staley Jones
- Norma L. Noble
- Marjorie Young
- Angela Monson
- Weki Miles-Lafarge
- Dr. Betty Mason

**Sunday, March 19, 2023 @ 7:00 P.M.**

**St. John Missionary Baptist Church**  
 5700 N. Kelley, Ave. | Oklahoma City, OK 73111

**ALLIED ARTS**

OKLAHOMA CITY  
 COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



St. John Missionary Baptist Church  
 5700 N. Kelley Avenue  
 Oklahoma City, OK 73111  
 Address Service Requested