

# The St. John Beacon

THE CHURCH THAT BELIEVES IN LETTING THE LORD DO IT

August • 2022

(405) 478-3344

## 39th Appreciation Service Honoring Dr. & Mrs. M. L. Jemison & Family is Set

On Sunday August 21, 2022, the entire St. John Church Family will join together in a joyous celebration with Pastor Major L. Jemison and Family. This will mark 39 faithful years of outstanding leadership and service to St. John.

The Theme for the day is "Celebrating your Sacrifice, Sharing and Service." Scripture reference is Hebrews 13:16, *And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.*

Our special guest for the 10:45 a.m. Worship Service will be Reverend Larry J. Sanders,



*Reverend Larry J. Sanders*

Pastor of the Keller Springs Baptist Church, Carrollton, TX. There will be a 3:00 p.m. service where churches from across OKC will join in the celebra-

tion. Pastor J. A. Reed of Fairview Baptist Church – OKC, will close out the 3:00 p.m. worship hour.

Each family within St. John is being asked to render a love offering per family for the Pastor's Anniversary as a tangible expression of our love and appreciation for our First Family. As members of this the Lord's church, we're asking that you join in and be an integral part of this year's anniversary. Please help set the stage for another wonderful church-wide event.

Rev. Sanders is a native Oklahoman. He was baptized

at the age of twelve by the late Rev. Samuel G. Smith of the Wildwood Baptist Church of Oklahoma City. He is proud graduate of Bishop College, class of 1988, where he served as class president. He has done additional studies at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Ft. Worth, Texas.

Rev. Sanders was the recipient of the Dallas Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance, Minister of the Year Award, and the Bishop College Alumni Association President's Award for outstanding dedication to the legacy of Bishop College.

He had the great honor and privilege of serving and assisting the late Dr. Richard A. Rollins, Dean of Bishop College, and the Late Dr. Milton King Curry, Jr. President Emeritus of the College. He also served as assistant to the late Dr. Floyd D. Harris, Founding Pastor of the Mt. Tabor Baptist Church, Dallas Texas.

Rev. Sanders has served as the pastor of the Keller Springs Baptist Church Carrollton, Texas for twenty-two years. He is married to the former Ruby J. Haynes of Dallas, Texas. They are the proud parents of Joseph, Sydney, and Matthew, and granddaughter London.

### The Pastor's Pen

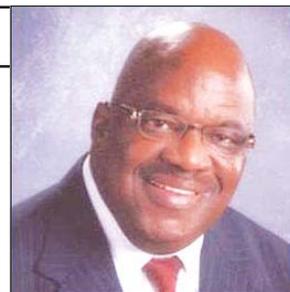
*Beloved Members,*

"Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God." Philippians 1:3 (NLT)

This passage speaks to the sentiment we feel towards you as your First Family. It remains a joy to serve you and to witness your resilience tackling this new normal we are living in. It takes a stouthearted people with a strong faith to remain as vibrant as you have.

It takes a sincere love and affection for the Lord and His work to continue to excel given the last two years of being in hibernation. In more ways than one you are indeed the Best Church This Side of Judgement!!

We are Proud! And it remains our joy to walk with you through all the phrases of this life's journey. As we turn the page on another year, the Leadership legacy of this church is at the forefront of my mind. I think often of my predecessors and the role modeling they left behind. I think of the stories I've been told and the 20 years of mentoring I received. I want to emulate their legacies. I too want to leave the wood pile of service higher for the next generation. My daily prayer for our church family is that the Lord continue ordering our steps, spiritually prospering our souls and leading us from one good degree of grace to another.



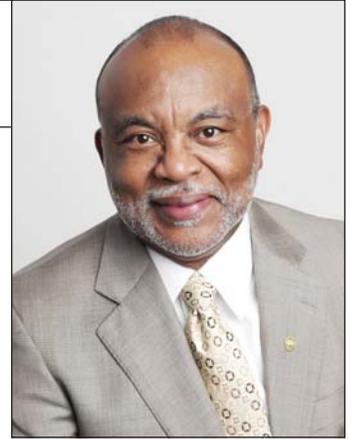
*Dr. Major L. Jemison, Pastor*

In closing, "our beloved brothers and sisters, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord." I Corinthians 15:58 (CBS)  
Onward and Upward Together  
**Pastor and Family**  
*Dr. M. L. Jemison*

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

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

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



### Why worship on Sunday, not Saturday?

Here lately there has been a great deal of confusion regarding Sunday and Saturday worship. Let's remove some of this misunderstanding.

**The Jews worshipped on the Sabbath.** "Keep the Sabbath day to sanctify it," According to Old Testament Scripture "as the Lord thy God hath commanded thee" (Deut. 5: 12). Labor on the Sabbath or the seventh day of the week was forbidden (Deut. 5: 13,14). To disregard the Sabbath day law, was a capital offense (Num. 15: 37-41). The Ten Commandment Law, including

the Sabbath day law, was given to physical or national Israel, not to Gentiles, as such (Deut. 5: 1-3). The Jews also offered animal sacrifice, were to avoid certain foods, and were forbidden marriage with other nations (Lev. 4; Neh. 13). Jesus kept the Sabbath because he lived and died under the Law of Moses (Gal. 4: 4, 1 Pet. 2: 22).

Some people today claim Christians are to still obey the Law of Moses (including the Sabbath). The same was true in New Testament times. See especially Acts 15 when this very issue was discussed (verses 1 & 5) and

clearly resolved by the inspired apostles in the first century. Notice carefully the resulting teaching of verses 23-29. Command the Gentiles to be circumcised and obey the Law of Moses? Not hardly. The law, containing the Sabbath day ordinance, has been "nailed to the cross" (Col. 2: 14). Thus, we are to let no man judge us "in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holiday, or of the new moon, or of the Sabbath days" (Col. 2: 16). *For zealous Jews raised under the Mosaic Law who became Christians, such was often a hard lesson to learn* (e.g., Peter in Gal. 2:3-16 and Acts 10:9-16). The Sabbath was a sign, a distinguishing mark, of God's chosen people. It was "a sign between [God] and...Israel." The Sabbath was for Israel, and it was given to Israel under the Law.

Today, we are not under the Law, we are under Grace (Rom. 6:14). We are not Israel; we are the Body of Christ (Eph. 1:22,23). The Sabbath is not to be observed under Grace. Paul gives no instruction for the Body of Christ to observe the Sabbath. Instead, he speaks of the Church gathering "upon the first day of the week" (I Cor. 16:2). Sunday is not the Sabbath and should never be called the Sabbath. Doing so confuses what "the first day of the week" signifies under Grace, and what "the seventh day" signified under the Law.

The Sabbath speaks of rest after work and relates to the Law and the work re-

quired by those under the Law in Law-keeping, with the works, observation of feasts, and sacrifices that Israel was commanded to do continually by faith. The Sabbath foreshadows the rest that Israel will enjoy in her end times, in her millennial rest within the earthly kingdom.

Jesus was resurrected on the first day of the week (our Sunday, Matt. 28: 1). The church was established on Sunday, the gospel was first preached in its fullness, and remission of sin as a result of Jesus' blood were all begun on Sunday (Acts 2). It was on the first day of the week when Christians came together to observe the Lord's Supper (Acts 20: 7). It was also on Sunday that Christians gave of their means into the treasury of the local church (1 Cor. 16: 1,2). While the Sabbath was part of God's covenant with the Jews, the first day of the week is the day associated with Jesus' new covenant or testament (Heb. 8: 9).

For more information on the Old Testament join us each Wednesday at noon, and at 6:00p.m. as we "Uncover the Mysteries of the Old Testament." Contact me Dr. Lawrence Kirk at (405) 478-3344 or [Lckirk@stjohnokc.org](mailto:Lckirk@stjohnokc.org). We have a seat with your name on it!



### August Anniversaries

Nichols, James & Ruby  
August 2, 1969 — 53 years

Hill, Craig & Joyce  
August 4, 1972 — 50 years

Watson, Kenneth & Rita  
August 4, 1990 — 32 years

Wood, Jon & Diane  
August 6, 1994 — 28 years

Benson, Lee & Voncile  
August 12, 2005 — 17 years

Ray, Billy & Kathy  
August 14, 1993 — 29 years

Thurston, Roy & Flossie  
August 14, 1965 — 57 years

Lounds, David & Diane  
August 16, 2003 — 19 years

Bray, Lamont & Veola  
August 18, 1973 — 49 years

Neboh-Baker, Julie  
August 18, 2012 — 10 years

Harris, Leroy & Marjorie  
August 24, 1974 — 48 years

Brown, David & Jacqueline R.  
August 28, 2004 — 18 years

Liddell, Larry & Renee  
August 28, 2010 — 12 years

Adams, John & Elizabeth  
August 31, 1984 — 38 years

# PARISH FELLOWSHIP NEWS

By Sis. Debra Johnson, Parish Fellowship Coordinator

Greetings to All!! Praying God's choice blessings upon each of you.

Parish Fellowship is doing well. We are planning for the Parish Fellowship Quarterly Breakfast to be held on the 1st Sunday in September (9/4). The months of July, August & September will step out and give support to this breakfast. Thank you in advance for what you about to do.

As always, let us 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!!



CONNECT will resume on August 17th from 7:00 to 8:00 pm. Our special guest will be Valarie Howard, Director of

One Church, One Child; and Velina Davenport, Sr. Program Development Specialist at the National Resource Center for Youth Services in Tulsa. Mrs. Doolin will provide information about community resources that are available to help the whole family. You don't want to miss this most informative CONNECT session. Be listening to announcements for details. Zoom ID and Password never changes....it is: 245 333 9136 / PASSCODE: 830707

**JOIN THE CONVERSATION.... ENJOY THE FELLOWSHIP..... CONNECT!!**



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY MEMBERS!! AUGUST MEMBERS, it's**

your birthday month and we say **HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!!**

Let's give a birthday "shout-out to Brenda Perry and Cecile Brison, August PF Coordinator, both whose birthday is August 29th. Thank you Brenda and Cecile for all you do.



Brenda Perry



Cecile Brison



### NEW MEMBERS

Welcome our new members who have completed orientation and received the Right Hand of Fellowship in July, 2022. **THEY ARE READY TO SERVE!!** We have more new members you'll learn about in the next Beacon!

1. Demetrius Allen - April
2. Courtney Allen - July
3. Lolita R. Wesley - March

I also want to also give a special "Shout-Out" to our August Deacons, Brothers Durant Lamey, Kenneth Washington, James Harris and Deacon Consultant Herbert Bailey. Thank you for all you do!!

**LOVE IN ACTION – THAT IS WHAT WE DO!!**

## Anna's House Scheduled for Repairs in August — Helpers Needed

Submitted by Debra Johnson, Parish Fellowship Coordinator

Well, the sweat equity hours have been completed and Anna's house is scheduled for repairs by Habitat for Thursday thru Saturday, August 18, 19 & 20th as well as August 25, 26 & 27th. **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!**

Under the leadership of Parish Fellowship, St. John will participate in making home repairs for one of our own young adults, Anastasia Hillard through the Habitat for Humanity's Program. Volunteers are needed to help Habitat complete the work. You don't have to be an expert or have previous experience. All that's needed is helping hands. Habitat professions will show you want to do and teach you a little about home repairs in the process.



Habitat does have a limited budget and can only do so much in two weekends. Because the interior remodel needs are so great, we are seeking electricians and plumbers from among our membership or community contractors to help fully remodel the interior; i.e., flooring cabinets, kitchen cabinets, sheetrock and painting, etc. There is a great need for donated materials.

Let's extend ourselves to help one of our own. This is something we can be really proud of as a church family. A meeting giving all the details will be held via Zoom on Wednesday, August 10th. For more information, please contact Debra Johnson at 405-816-7493.

# Back To School Sunday Program is a Tradition at SJMBC

Submitted by Sis Ruby Nichols

Back-To-School is held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in August. It represents the beginning of each year's educational cycle. This year's Back to School Program Speaker is the Honorable Aletia H. Timmons who is judge in District 7 in Oklahoma County. Like those speakers before her, Judge Timmons is highly qualified to meet the task at hand.

More specifically to our student body, the greater challenge is to do their best to prepare themselves for opportunities that will come! Our prayerful focus is for those who are involved in promoting as well as those seeking an education. The spotlight is on parents, students and educators, as well as admin-



Judge Aletia H. Timmons

istrators, counselors, nurses, and support staff. This also included students going to the classroom for the first, or those returning to grade levels higher than the previous year.

Each year following May Graduations, St. John awards

\$1000 per person scholarship to active youth members who are continuing their education at a postsecondary school. During the Back to School (BTS) period, last year's graduates are being paid one half their awards to be used to help support their first semester expenses. Also during BTS, students entering their senior year of high school will identify themselves to the scholarship committee in preparation for receiving an application to apply for the Rev. W.K Jackson Christian Fellowship Scholarship, following their graduation.

The cycle continues! As some of The Church Family begin their post-secondary edu-

cation adventures through its youth members at higher education institutions throughout America, each year, we remain anchored at 5700 North Kelley Avenue in OKC!

Our thanks and praises to Rev. Dr. M. L. Jemison, Pastor for not only continuing but also growing the scholarship initiative at St. John.

Scholarship Name: Rev W. K. Jackson Christian Fellowship Scholarship

Scholarship Committee Theme: INVESTING IN OUR YOUTH: Expecting Their Best!

Guiding Scriptures: Proverbs 3:5-6 & 4:1-14; Ephesians: 6:1-4; Philippians 4:13

## Prayer Ministry

Submitted by Rev. David Dawson, Prayer & Visitation Minister

### A Failure To Communicate

Effective communication takes place when at least 2 people exchange ideas, views or opinions and they understand each other. If an understanding doesn't occur, effective communication hasn't taken place. The morals, values, practices and culture that define a people are realized and continued when the succeeding generation accepts and practices the established standards as their norms. Today we are witnessing a great lack of attendance in churches nationwide that affects all denominations and I can't help but wonder if perhaps my generation has done all it can to effectively communicate what we believe to be the proper standard of living that promotes a healthy relationship with GOD to our children and grandchildren. Our nation is experiencing a downward spiral of social, moral and spiri-

tual degradation never before seen by our forefathers and parents. Left unchecked this downward spiral will continue and our spiritual identity will be lost to the archives of history. But what can we do that hasn't already been done, to correct this major issue that has fractured us and return us to the wholesomeness required by GOD and that has served us well thus far. The answer isn't easy nor is it easily achieved without disagreement, dissension and perhaps discomfort.

Let us consider what we must ensure takes place in our homes while our children are impressionable and leave the home.

**(1) THE RULE AND REIGN OF GOD MUST START AND REMAIN CONSTANT IN THE HOME:** it must first and foremost be believed and practiced by the parents. Our lights

should shine so bright and consistently that it's the first light our children see and the most influential factor that induces them to seek and find the LORD for themselves. If we fail to make GOD real in our home HE will not be seen as real in other places our children go. "Charity begins at home and then spreads abroad".

**(2) A POSITIVE INFLUENCE IS BEST ACHIEVED THROUGH CONSISTENCY:** The worst thing Christian parents can do to their children and those in their circle of influence is to be inconsistent in the practice of their faith. "Little pitchers have big ears", eyes and functional brains that are very able to deduce, disseminate and determine the truth from a lie. Let me put it another way, they know a phony when they see one and will tell you so because they have learned the inconsistency

from somewhere. Better it is learned from TV, the internet or school than from the home.

**(3) MAKE A GOOD HANDOFF:** Let's change gears for a moment. I love track and field and was a fairly good sprinter in high school. Nothing was more exciting than the relay events. However, it didn't matter how fast your guys are, how great they're start is or how strong they're kick is if the baton is exchanged properly. Many a team that should have won, could have won and was expected to have won lost or was disqualified because the baton wasn't exchanged properly. The worst thing that a runner can do, after having done all they can do to win the race is to be guilty of an improper exchange of the baton.

Until next time that's all of my time. GOD bless.

## WMU Highlights

Submitted by Penny Emery, WMU President

# Happy August Everyone!



*Parade of Love sign*

My, how time flies! We have had a wonderful time during the month of July! Thank you for your support and attendance at our events. During the month of July, we had the privilege of sharing love of Christ with over 30 sick and shut-in members. Members of the WMU graciously gave hours of time, effort, and energy during our first "Parade of Love." In the "Parade of Love" our members took yard signs reminding our sick and shut-in members that we, their church family are praying for them, missing them, but most of all, we LOVE them. The yard signs were received with joy and gladness. Thank you and hats off to all of the ladies who contacted our members and took the yard signs. Special recognition and thank you to Shawn Emery who helped in this effort as well.

We closed the month of July out with the Annual Fruit Filled Fellowship. It was SO great to be able to come together again, praise God, hear the Word of God, and simply fellowship with other women of God. The St. John WMU hosted this event July 18th with guest speaker, Sis. Rhonda Mitchell from Tabitha Baptist Church.



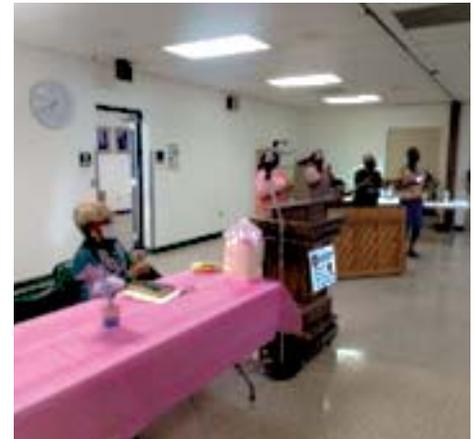
*Sis. Kim Tomlin speaking to WMU*

What a WORD. Sis. Mitchell spoke about the "Fruit of the Spirit", Galatians 5:22. She gave us the Greek form of each fruit as it is described in Galatians 5:22, additional scriptures to help our understanding, and then Sis. Mitchell gave us an edible fruit example that coincided with the Biblical Fruit of the Spirit. It was AMAZING! We also welcomed ladies from 5 other sister churches. Thank you for sharing this special time with us.

Coming up in the month of August, Sis. Kim Tomlin and I will attend the PNBC National Convention in Orlando, FL. We will also affirm, celebrate, and congratulate Pastor and First Lady Sis. Jacquie Jemison on their 39th Anniversary.

The WMU will NOT host any mission meetings during the month of August, but we will resume regular monthly mission meetings on Saturday, September 10, 2022. We plan to meet in-person for this meeting.

The St. John WMU continues to plan and prepare for upcoming events such as our Annual Women's Day (Sunday, Octo-



*Sister Rhonda Mitchell, seated, prepares to speak to WMU*



*Attendees at Annual Fruit Filled Fellowship*

ber 9, 2022), our Annual WMU Bazaar (Saturday, November 12, 2022), and our Annual Bouquet (Saturday, December 3, 2022). Please mark these dates in your calendar. We're excited about where God is calling us to go! We invite YOU to join us! If you would like to activate your membership with the St. John Women's Missionary Union, please contact us through the church office at 405-478-3344. Our yearly dues are only \$24/year.

## PASTOR'S PARTNERS IN PRAYER



Submitted By Deacon Raymond Payton

### The Spirit of Prayer

“For the Spirit pleads for us believers in harmony with God’s own will.” —Romans 8:27

Prayer is not our work. It is God’s work in us by His almighty power. As we pray, our attitude should be one of silent expectation that the Holy Spirit will help in our weakness and pray for us with groaning that cannot be expressed.

What a thought! When I feel how imperfect my prayer is, when I have no strength of my own, I may bow in silence before God in the confidence that His Holy Spirit will teach me to pray. The Spirit is the Spirit of prayer. It is not my work, but God’s work in me. The Spirit will make perfect the work even in my weakness.

We see an example of this in the story of Jacob. The same One who wrestled with him and seemed to withhold the blessing was in reality strengthening

him to continue and to prevail in prayer. Prayer is the work of the Triune God: the Father, who gives the desire and will provide all we need; the Son, who through His intercession teaches us to pray in His name; and the Holy Spirit, who is secret will strengthen our weak desire.

The Spirit truth will glorify Christ in us, and the Spirit of love will shed this love abroad in our hearts. And we have the Spirit of prayer, through whom our life may be one of continued prayer. Thank God that the Holy Spirit has been given to teach us to pray.

Let us continue to keep Pastor Jemison and his family in our prayers. Join us as we pray for our pastor at noon daily.

## Technology Media/ Digital Ministry



### Connecting People to God

By Rev. Marcus Carruthers

Church is still about having a real-life connection with people, and that includes the online community. It’s important that the people who want to experience church online are not excluded, and so we must develop an intentional process for connecting in-person and online attendees to the life of the church.

We must use church online to supplement the in-person experience, especially since it does such a great job of serving those who were home-bound (whether because of chronic illness, or travel). It’s a relatively easy way to engage with more people and grow a church’s reach and impact.

At the same time, we want help those who watch online to get plugged into an in-person community. Our online church

experience is never to replace the in-person gatherings, It is here to be used to complement our church, there is nothing like worshipping Jesus in-person, developing relationships and encouraging others to grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ. In Hebrews 10:25, in the Bible it says: “Do NOT forsake the assembly of ourselves together...” God desires for us to worship together and encourage one another.

In addition to church growth, we should all agree that church online is an extension of weekly in-person worship and spiritual growth. For many of our church members, it has been increasingly important for them to be able to go back into our church’s sermon archives to revisit previous messages, and they enjoy being able to actively share these messages with people they know.

Church online is an essential part of our growing ministry here at St. John. Thank you church for prayerfully implementing meaningful life changing ways to enhance and grow our church. This week we want to encourage you to share our online ministry with your friends and family members. Visit our website @ [www.StJohnOKC.org](http://www.StJohnOKC.org).

## EVANGELISM MINISTRY

Submitted by Rev. Cornelious Wade, Evangelism Minister

### Evangelism / July Hand Me Up(s) / Still Has It All

“**HAND ME UP(S)**” continues to seek to dress the whole woman, the whole man, the whole boy, the whole girl and even the baby. Your generosity (**ST. JOHN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH FAMILY**) continues to allow us to have everything it takes to get dressed—dresses, pants, shirts, blouses, shoes, hats, wigs... house wares and some children’s toys. We found ourselves adjusting to our new schedule 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon this past third Saturday. Early workers were pushing 9:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. found us pushing racks. We are indebted to James and Ardeena Harris for moving the bus, a must for spacing, and in this heat the water chest to keep workers and clients hydrated, “**PRAISE GOD**”.

**WE ARE ALWAYS THANKFUL FOR OUR DONORS/ JULY DONORS:** Varite Brown, Dea-

con Levert Parks, Wanzetta Woody, Alice & Lawrence Myers, Cleo & Theron Perry and Daughter, Deneen Rhonedunn, Rudie Valentine, Mabel Friday, Dr. Ardrea Smith, James and Ardeena Harris, Yvette & Darin Lipscomb.

**THANK GOD FOR THE WORKERS, PRESCREENERS, AND WORKERS FOR JULY 16, 2022:** Judy Rackett, Shirlee Tomlin, Ardeena & James Harris, Darin & Yvette Lipscomb, Grandson and Company, Lisa Shelton and Tamique Perry (behind the scenes). **WE CONTINUE TO SERVE A WORLD OF PEOPLE IN THE OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY.** St. John Missionary Baptist Church Family thank you, thank you and thank God for making it happen.

You Tell Us ... We Tell Them.

### SAFETY and SECURITY MINISTRY

By Standardization and Training Officer

2 Timothy 1:7.... For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and self-control. For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline. For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline....

Once again greetings from your Safety & Security Ministry with the August communication. Focused on increasing YOUR situational awareness on and off the church grounds. Our main goal is to ensure when you come to SJMBC to fellowship, enjoy the message, then get that spiritual battery charged to fight that week's battle you feel safe in this environment. Understand we are in very trying times with so many mixed messages that we must be vigilant yet not scared to be faithful servants of God. This month's goal is to test what you "see" in one section of

the church. The next six questions are to make you think.....uummmm.

1. Other than the books of the Bible, what do these names represent? Chronicles, Deuteronomy, Exodus, Genesis, Joshua, Judges, Kings, Leviticus, Numbers & Samuel?
2. How many AED's do we have and where are they located?
3. How many wheelchairs do we have and where are they located?
4. What are the cardinal directions of the stained glassed doors?
5. Where do you go if there is a fire in the kitchen/fellowship hall?
6. What would your first reaction be during an active shooter situation?

Answers will be provided in September's Beacon. Never forget that justice is what Love looks like in public.

### The Privilege of Voting God's Way

By Deacon Greg DeMartra

Romans 13:1, the verse tell us to live responsibly as a citizen. (MSG) Therefore, voting as a citizen is being responsible. We have a constitutional right and privilege to vote in the United States of America.

It has been a hard fought privilege, and we have earned that right through the blood, sweat and tears, even unto death for those who have championed the cause throughout the history of our lives.

Choosing to vote sets the parameters in place for everyone to choose those we want to represent. We have an important Governor election forthcoming in November, and many other primary and special elections already taking place, so let's get focused, and let's get engaged.

There are four principle perspectives of voting:

1. Voting is the citizens responsibility to be informed, and to seek God's leadership in making sound decisions, as well as to encourage others and inspire them too.
2. As citizens we need to research candidates to discern outcomes, making informed choices, so that they can hear our voices too.
3. We need leaders to empower the people to vote by faith, and then vote themselves.
4. Encouraging others to become more engaged in the voting process, wherever forum's may be held.

It is incumbent upon each person to encourage, motivate, and assist in the democracy of voting. The principle purpose of voting is to make a positive impact at the polls, showing our influence towards making a difference.

When we do things God's way, we make a positive stance, then we can influence the outcome of voting.

### Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

To Pastor Jemison, Rev. Dawson and the entire St. John Family,

I cannot express in words my appreciation for all of the prayers, cards, visits, flowers, phone calls and love offerings I have received from this church body. I continue to receive cards and calls and visits. I keep asking myself who am I to receive such love and attention.

God is so good and this church is truly the "Best Church This Side of Judgment".

Your prayers brought me through 121 days of hospitalization and rehabilitation. I made it home on those prayers. I am still getting stronger and hope to see you soon in person to express my gratitude.

Only the prayers of the righteous can produce such results. THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU. Clara and Bernard Rhone

\*\*\*\*\*

To the best church this side of judgment,

I just want to thank you for your support and prayers for me as the Women's luncheon speaker for the Southwest Regional Meeting in June. You have no idea how much you and the Holy Spirit touched my heart that day. But know, I am grateful for the part each of you play in my life for it is very significant to me and you and your actions make a difference. I love you! Thank you!

Kim Tomlin

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Dear Pastor Jemison and the SJMBC Family,

Thank you for your generous donation to the MTCCOK-OKC Eastside Bike Ride! Your financial support will aid in promoting cycling, exercise, and good health in our community. Thank you again for your generosity and support of cycling!

Sincerely, Major Taylor, Cycling Club of Oklahoma

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Pastor Jemison,

Thank you for leading our opening prayer at our recent County Commission meeting. Your calm, wise words and caring demeanor were exactly what we needed.

Thank you, Commissioner Carrie Blumert

\*\*\*\*\*

My Sister Jacquie,

"You really went out of your way...and that was such a blessing to me."

You and Major took great care of your "elder" Bishop College brother. Thank You! Enjoy a summer lunch on Hochi!

Love, Warren

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Dr. M.L. Jemison & First Lady Jacqueline Jemison

# THANK YOU



**39 YEARS** OF FAITHFUL SERVICE

AUGUST 21, 2022 @ 10:45AM & 3PM  
[www.StJohnOKC.org](http://www.StJohnOKC.org)

"Celebrating Your Sacrifice, Sharing, and Service." - Hebrews 13:16



THANK YOU      THANK YOU      THANK YOU