

The St. John Beacon

THE CHURCH THAT BELIEVES IN LETTING THE LORD DO IT

November • 2021

(405) 478-3344

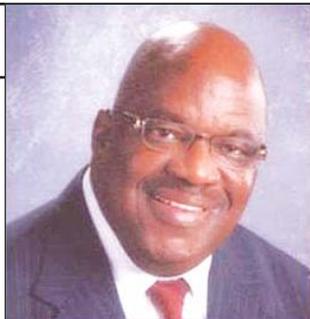
The Pastor's Pen

Beloved Members,

As the curtain draws down on this church year, there are so many reasons to be grateful to God. Our fellowship continues to grow. The ministry continues to give birth to new ministries. The aura and atmosphere of the church radiates with the sweet nectar of God's presence. Yes, there is a sweet, sweet spirit in this place and I know it is the presence of the Lord. We are blessed each Sunday morning with the presence of visitors, many of which are now members, who are just blown away with the quality and spiritual depth of the morning worship service. And the good news is that eyes have not seen nor ears hear what great things God yet has in store for His church.

I want to encourage you to continue being faithful in financially supporting this work. We have in no way reach our potential, but we are definitely taking the necessary steps towards improvement. The only thing that beats a good start is a strong finish. Let's finish this church year strong!

The month of November is the home stretch. During this month we have several major meetings and programs. Chief among them is Homecoming Sunday. This is always the crown jewel of the year. Our



Dr. Major L. Jemison, Pastor

sons from across the state and nation spend the entire day electrifying our hearts with The Word of God. Although it will be abbreviated this year, we are no less excited about the wonderful blessings the Lord has provided. Think about it!!! One Hundred and Two Years of meaningful and progressive existence in this city, state and nation. To God be the glory for the marvelous things He has done for us!!

In closing, as a kid growing up in the 32th Street Baptist Church of Birmingham, Alabama, I was taught a sobering little song which says, "Count your blessings; name them one by one. Count your blessings; see what God has done. Count your blessings; name them one by one. Count your many blessings see what God has done."

The Psalmist says, "For the Lord is good; His mercy is everlasting; and His truth endures through all generations."

I Love You

In the House for Homecoming — 2021

St. John, the time is drawing near. On Sunday, November 21, 2021 the St. John Church family will celebrate our 102nd Church Anniversary and Homecoming. On this third Sunday in November, all St. John members, former members, Sons in the ministry, friends and loved ones will come together and return to the "Old Landmark" to celebrate God's blessings in our lives.

This year's theme for our homecoming annual day is "In the House for Homecoming!" The pandemic kept us from worshipping together in the sanctuary in 2020; however, this year we want to celebrate in a special way by coming "in the house" for homecoming. We want to experience one another in person and encourage all who can and will be present at this worship service. All COVID-19 precautions have and will be taken for your safety. Looking forward to seeing you "in the house" this homecoming!

The speaker for the 10:45 a.m. worship service will be Rev. Alton Blakely, Pastor of the Mt. Olive Baptist Church of Denison, Texas. Pastor Blakely's bio is provided below.

Bro. Rudie Valentine and the Social Department staff are preparing the traditional homecoming dinners "to-go". Parish Fellowship will deliver the to-go meals from the fellowship hall for those worshipping in the



*Rev. Alton Blakely, Pastor
Mt. Olive Baptist Church
Denison, Texas*

house as they exit; and the Fusion ministry will delivery meal in a drive-up fashion. Over 500 meals are being prepared!

Mark your calendars now, and plan to join us for the wonderful homecoming fellowship on Sunday, November 21, 2021. For more information or to request transportation, please call the Church office at 478-3344.

Bio of Pastor Alton Blakely

Pastor Alton E. Blakely is a native of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. He is formerly from St. John Missionary Baptist Church, under the leadership of Dr. M. L. Jemison. He obtained his license to preach in 1990 under the direction of Dr. M. L. Jemison. In 1998, after receiving his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Human Resources, Rev. A. E. Blakely left Oklahoma City

*("Homecoming"
continued on page 2)*

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

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

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

The importance of Jesus' resurrection?

One of the bedrock doctrines of the Christian faith is the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The apostle Paul says without the resurrection, "Our preaching is in vain." 1 Cor. 15:14

The Bible declares Jesus' resurrection. Jesus said he would resurrect the third day (Matt. 16: 21). We read of Jesus' crucifixion (Matt. 27). Jesus' body was placed in Joseph's tomb (Matt 27: 58-60). Great precaution was taken to prevent

any faking of the resurrection (Matt. 27: 62-66). Nonetheless, when the two Marys came to the tomb, the angel of the Lord said to them, "...Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here: for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay" (Matt. 28: 6, 6). Hundreds witnessed the resurrected Jesus during his eleven recorded appearances (cf. 1 Cor. 15: 5-8).

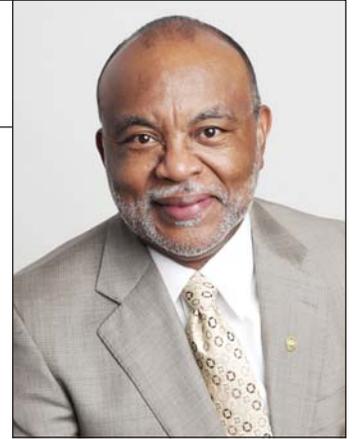
Paul shows the direct connection between Jesus' resurrection and our resurrection (VSS. 13, 16). If Jesus did not resurrect, Paul's preaching was

in vain, and their faith was also futile (vs. 14). The apostles would be false witnesses if there were no resurrection (vs. 15).

In addition, Christians would be in their sins, the dead perished, and life would be miserable (VSS. 17-19).

The good news is Jesus did resurrect. Hear Paul: "But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept" (VSS. 20, 21). Jesus gave his life so you and I could live (Matt. 26: 28, cf. Rom. 1:4).

If you have never accepted the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, you are



missing out on one of the greatest gifts that God has given. To learn more about this gift, contact me, Dr. Lawrence Kirk, and I will personally direct you to one of our many educational venues here at the church to help you understand this marvelous gift. You can contact me at (405) 478-3344 or email me at Lckirk@stjohnokc.org.



November Anniversaries

Langs, Benjamin & Gwinetta
November 5, 1996 — 25 years

Brewer, Michael & Patricia
November 20, 1999 — 22 years

Turner, Ernest & Espenola
November 26, 1966 — 55 years

Perry, Theron & Cleo
November 28, 1958 — 63 years

Sharp, Bobby & Anna
November 29, 1980 — 41 years

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

(*"Homecoming" continued from page 1*)

to pursue his MDiv. He enrolled in Perkins Theological Seminary at Southern Methodist University and united with The McKinney First Baptist Church, McKinney, Tx., under the direction of Pastor Lee A. Edwards.

During this time in school, he raised his three children as a single father, attended school, worked as an Administrative Assistant at First Baptist Church, and worked the night shift at Collin Intervention To Youth (CITY House) in Plano, Tx. Rev. Blakely contributes his making it through God's grace and provision.

In 2003, Rev. A. E. Blakely graduated from Perkins Theological Institute with a Masters of Divinity and became the Christian Education Director for The McKinney First Baptist Church. He received his ordination in 2006 after being called to Sixteenth Street Baptist Church, Honey Grove, TX. After pastoring for two years, God informed him his assign-

ment was complete, and he resigned. God called him back to The McKinney First Baptist Church as the Christian Education Director. On March 12, 2009.

December 12, 2012, Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church called Rev. Alton E. Blakely to serve as their Senior Pastor. Since arriving, the church has experienced several new movements under his leadership. The church moved locations to a larger church facility, incorporated with the State of Texas as a religious organization, began a Transportation Ministry, provided a facility for the Dallas Bible Theological Institute to use as an extension. Ministries such as the Food Pantry Ministry, Transportation Ministry, and several others. The church opened its doors to allow a program for individuals with intellectual disabilities to utilize the downstairs throughout the week.

The church grew spiritually and financially. In 2020, as new

rooms were added, the foyer was restructured, directional placards were installed throughout the church, and Deacon Cells placards. The sanctuary is equipped with a new sound system and TV monitors placed in all church ministry areas. Pastor Blakely has opened the church for individuals in the community to use the facility for funerals, with donations accepted to relieve some of the financial burden placed on family members.

He is a lifetime member of the NAACP, on the board of the Denison Chambers of Commerce, member of the Denison Ministerial Alliance, and owns one of the few black businesses in town, The Right Spot, which employees people from the community. Currently, he is working on his DMin in 21st Century Ministry at Anderson University. He is married to Sister LaTonya Blakely, where she serves on the Hospitality Ministry, Evangelism Ministry, and Women's Ministry.

PARISH FELLOWSHIP NEWS

By Sis. Debra Johnson, Parish Fellowship Coordinator

Greetings All!! The Parish Fellowship is alive and well!! Praises to God Almighty for the things he has done in the past, things He's doing now and the good things to come!!

The PF held its first in-person meeting since the pandemic began. It was a wonderful experience!! Pastor Jemison personally greeted our PF body of coordinators, group leaders and deacons and we had a full agenda of business to address. Approximate 60 persons attended. I'd like to thank Bro Rudie Valentine for providing refreshments; to thank Sis. Jemison and Jenail Willis for donating toward our gift giveaways; Sis. Margo Richardson for helping with set-up and Sis. Vernetta Johnson and Sis. Irene Edwards for executing our attendance pandemic protocol.

Assignment of January Parish Fellowship Coordinator was made. Let's congratulate both Deborah Glover and Beverly Kirk for their new role of Co- Coordinators for January. Brenda Perry will also serve as the new Coordinator for August. I appreciate them so much for their willingness to serve in this new capacity.

We also agreed to participate in a community service project in partnership with the City Rescue Mission. In fulfillment of Matthew 25:31-46, PF and Deacons will bring donations of "currently needed items" to the church and will box and deliver those items on November 27th. Lending a helping hand to those in need is a rewarding endeavor.



The CONNECT Community Forum held on Wednesday, October 27th was outstanding! We addressed the topic of Julius Jones case and Representative and Attorney at Law Jason

Lowe was our special guest. Rep Lowe provided background information and current status of the Jones case. Update: The Pardon & Parole Board clemency hearing was held this morning and clemency was granted to Julius Jones, just as the recommended commutation for Julius to our governor, Kevin Stitt. So the fate of Julius again is in the hands of Governor Stitt. Let's continue to pray that our Governor Stitt heeds the recommendation of the Pardon & Parole Board.

Our next CONNECT session is tentatively scheduled for November 17th. Our special guest will be Representative Ajay Pittman! We are looking for another powerful and informative 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 NOVEMBER MEMBERS!! NOVEMBER MEMBERS, it's your birthday month and we say HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

Let's give a birthday "shout-out to Sis. Kimberly Chaney whose birthday is November 23rd. Thank you for all you do. I also want to give a special



Sis. Kimberly Chaney

"Shout-Out" to our November Deacons Richard Perkins, Clarence Beatty, and Raymond Payton. Thank you for all you do!!

LOVE IN ACTION – THAT IS WHAT WE DO!!

EVANGELISM MINISTRY

Submitted by Rev. Cornelious Wade, Evangelism Minister

Evangelism Ministry Update!

METROPOLITAN BETTER LIVING SENIOR DAY CARE AND ST. JOHN MISSIONARY BAPTISM JOIN TOGETHER IN CARING AND SHARING: A HYGIENE GIFTING FOR OUR SENIORS AND STAFF

On Thursday, October 14, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. Reverend Cornelious David Wade, Evangelism and Prison Ministry, and Penny Emery, WMU, and Denise Blakely went to Metropolitan Better Living Senior Day Care Center to minister to the clients and staff at 10th and Kate Streets. They were met by the staff Director, Ms. Bader. They were joined at the 37th Street location by Reverend Christine Harris Byrd, New Life Baptist Church and Reverend Wade's nephews, Dominique Boone, Orenzo Byrd, and

Julius Smith. This was a conscious effort to minister to a very vulnerable part of our society—the "Aged".

Clients, at both locations, received hygiene gift bags containing, toothpaste, tooth brush, deodorant, soap, lotion and the evangelism piece—"GOD'S LETTER JUST FOR YOU"—. These items were presented in brightly colored gift bags in geometrical shapes. A total of 50 bags were presented. Reverend Byrd presented the 37th street location with enough Lysol wipes and hand sanitizers for



Rev. Cornelious Wades and Rev. Christine Harris-Byrd speaks to Metropolitan Better Living Center attendees.

both locations.

At our second stop, the 37th street location, Reverend Wade gave initial greetings from Pas-

("Evangelism Ministry Update!" continued on page 4)

WMU Highlights

Submitted by Penny Emery, WMU President

The St. John Women's Missionary Union did a wonderful job of serving the Lord during the month of October. We had a tremendous time in worship with Circle OHJ Mission Member, Sis. Mary Robinson as our Eula Lee Jackson Women's Day Speaker. She really encouraged our hearts as she expounded on our theme: Called to Serve - Using Our Gifts, I Corinthians 12:4-14. Thank you ladies for showing up and showing your support. We appreciate our Fine Arts Department as well as our guest soloists, Sis. Terri Celestine and Sis. Helen Smith. Thank you to everyone who prayed and supported this annual event.

Immediately following Women's Day, Circle #3, under the leadership of Sis. Fletta James and Sis. Dianne Turner, led their Circle in donating needed toiletry items. These donations were partnered with World Vision (Pastor Christine Byrd) and St. John Evangelism Outreach (Rev. Cornelious Wade). Sis. Denice Blakely helped deliver these items to the Metropolitan Better Living Center participants at both campuses. Residents and staff were elated to not only have the toiletry items, but to have the fellowship and knowledge that they are remembered. We had a lovely time singing and praying. We thank God for Pastor Christine Byrd, Rev. Cornelious Wade, Sis. Denice Blakely, and Circle #3.

Our Mission focus continued as Kim Tomlin, Gerchel Holbert, and myself took the opportunity to visit a former member, Youth Choir Sponsor and WMU supporter, in the person of Mrs. Bernice Callender



Penny Emery, Rev. Wade and Denise Blakley

Nails – 93 years young! We had a wonderful visit in her home in Tulsa, OK. The picture includes Sis. Nails' niece – Loma Nelson as we gathered to say a prayer before leaving.

Continuing our Mission focus, Circle OHJ gathered on October 23rd to assemble donated baby items. Items included bibs, bottles, clothing, diapers, wipes, teething rings, socks, towels, and specialty items. These items were assembled and boxed ready for delivery to ministries in Ardmore and Tulsa, OK.

As you can see, the St. John WMU is determined to use every opportunity to share the love of Christ within our church family, the community, and the world. Our next focus is our Foreign Missions' Project and the PNBC World Day of Prayer. The World Day of Prayer is traditionally held the first week of November. Missions is on-going and our commitment to missions is on-going as well. If you would like to part-



WMU visit to Mrs. Bernice Callender



OHJ prepares donation to Hope Center

ner with us in our mission activities and other evangelism outreach projects – please give your Mission Dues (\$24/year) to Sis. Patricia Brewer or your Circle Chairperson. We thank you in advance for your support.

Blessings to you.



Rev. Wade comes bearing donated supplies and gifts.

tor, Dr. Major L. Jemison and St. John Missionary Baptist Church Family. Reverend Christine Harris Byrd was pre-

(“Evangelism Ministry Update!” continued from page 3)

sented and spoke to salvation and led the song, “THERE’S A STORM OUT ON THE OCEAN AND ITS MOVING THIS A WAY”. Reverend Wade would lead the clients and staff in “O HOW I LOVE JESUS” and “JESUS LOVES ME THIS I KNOW”. At the end of the singing Reverend Wade prayed for the clients and the staff and God’s blessings on the centers. Reverend Byrd would say a final word of benediction.

A project that was initially

started for the New Orleans hurricane victims was redirected to the “least, last, lost”.. **the least of these**...right here at home in Oklahoma city. Our efforts were redirected after we learned Catholic charities and the United Methodist Foundation (among others) were no longer taking things to New Orleans. Local charities, we learned, have refocused their efforts on the Afghanistan refugees. We were elated to bring some joy to our senior population right here in Oklahoma City. Thank you

Venetta Johnson for alerting us we could be of service. We thank your cousin Jackie Parks, Manager, for opening the doors for this opportunity and providing a very valuable service.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO WMU, CIRCLE #3, Fletta James, Chairperson, Norma Baker, Rosie Craft, Mary Ann Harris Beatty, Delinda Ruck, Velma James Smith, Dianne Turner—**ladies, you made this happen. Thank God, and thank you, one and all, Reverend Cornelius David Wade.**

“OHJ Makes Hope Center Donation”

By Lady Jacquie Jemison

It was such a blessing for the OHJ Mission Class under the leadership of President Penny Emery and Chairperson, Lady Jacquie Jemison to do our yearly Missions Project with The Hope Centers of Oklahoma. That included, Tulsa, Ardmore, Edmond and Oklahoma City.

I was asked to sit on the Board of the Oklahoma Baptist Homes for Children and saw a great opportunity for our Church, St. John to do Missions at home in the State of Oklahoma.

This Board consists of: The Boys Ranch, Owasso Girls Home, Idabel Girls Home the 4 Hope Centers of Oklahoma. In the meetings, I saw a great need for our church to serve. The eyes of children that are considered the Lost, the Least, the Last and the Leftout.

OHJ and our President took the opportunity to serve



Director Leanne, Lady J and Nate Starks



OHJ Mission Group

and they did an outstanding job. My Hat of off to them.

The Ladies over the Centers were in tears as we delivered the items and are doing a Paper article with the Southern Baptist Convention on our works. In spite of it all, let all Glory and Praise be given to God and may those that don't even know our names, benefits from what was given.

In Jesus Name!



Lady J, Mary Robinson, and Hope Center representatives

Frankly Speaking

By Patricia T. Brewer, Luella Dunn Children's Department Minister



The Apostle Paul wrote that we should... "Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in everything; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18. Giving thanks in all circumstances means we should thank God when things are good and when things are bad.

Let's pretend that you're all on a sports team and I'm your coach. If our team just won a game, what could we thank God for? (We could thank Him for letting us win.) But what if our

team lost? Then, what could we thank God for? (We could thank Him for letting us play well and have fun together.)

Second example: What if it was a beautiful, sunny day outside? What could we thank God for? (We could thank Him for the nice weather.) But what if it was rainy all day? What could we thank God for, then? (We could thank Him for the rain to help the grass and other plants grow.)

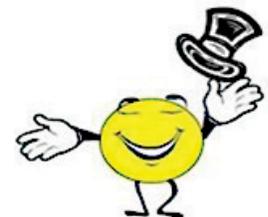
Last example: What if someone was sick, and we prayed that they would get better and then, they did get better? What could we thank God for in that situation? (We could thank God for healing the sick person and making them healthy again.) But what if we prayed, and God

didn't heal the person? What if the person died? What could we thank God for, then? (We could thank God for the good life the person had and that we'll see them in Heaven again someday.)

Whether things are good or bad, we can always thank God for something. That's why Paul tells us to "Give thanks in all circumstances."

Closing Prayer: Let's pray and give thanks now.

Dear Lord, we thank You for being a good God. You are so good that no matter what happens, we can always thank You for something. Help us to see the good in every situation so that we can always give You thanks. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.



Hat's Off to all of the Luella Dunn Children's Department Parents who log in weekly with your child/children for our Wednesday Night Zoom Bible Lessons each week @ 6:30 PM! Our children are growing spiritual by leaps and bounds!

Keep up the Good Works.

Technology/Media/Digital Ministry: More About Culture Than Computers

By Rev. Marcus Carruthers

We are part of a broad, tech-shaped culture that conditions us to think, learn, and act in ways that are rather different from the time before the rise of the pandemic. As church leaders tasked with setting mission and vision, our leadership always intersects with this surrounding tech-shaped culture. **Our goal shouldn't be to adopt every new technology. Our goal should be to study digital culture to find areas of overlap with our mission and vision.** Ministries aligned to digital culture need not be digitally sophisticated. They simply need to be aware of some core values that all of us share in common. **Technology is not the most important thing, sharing the message of Jesus Christ is.**

The Core Values of Tech-Shaped Culture

With this goal in mind, here is what we mean when we talk about tech-shaped culture: Fundamentally, to understand tech-shaped culture is to understand how and when widespread digital technologies influence the meaning-making process. To know some-

thing of tech-shaped culture is to know that digital tools are changing meaning-making by facilitating the asking of questions, by forging new types of connection, by encouraging collaboration, and by making space for creativity.

Cultural Value 1: Questions

Perhaps the most direct way that digital technology influences our culture is through questions. You can think of major technologies like Google, Siri, and even Netflix as tools that invite our questions and provide us with many possible answers. In the digital age, we expect opportunities to learn and grow through questions. This expectation extends into our spiritual life, where we expect to find God through reflection, introspection, and questioning. Whether online or offline, it is our responsibility to create a space for our communities to engage their questions and to sift through answers, even if those questions don't directly pertain to "churchy" topics.

Cultural Value 2: Connection

Digital technology influences connection by turning everything into a hybrid experience, a blend of offline and online. Tools like Zoom, WhatsApp, and Facebook Live continue to blur the line between online and offline. As participants in tech-shaped culture, we expect to integrate the physical and the virtual, especially through church. As church leaders, our task is to make connections easy for our community and to ensure all connections have shared online and offline expressions.

Cultural Value 3: Collaboration

Online tools like Google Docs and Slack create seamless opportunities for multiple people to make meaningful contributions. Real-time collaborative software flattens hierarchies and invites us all to join in collaborative conversation, work, and learning. As church leaders, we are called to make our ministries increasingly collaborative, within our congregations and throughout the broader community.

Cultural Value 4: Creativity

Platforms like Facebook, YouTube, Vimeo, and Instagram provide a platform for broadcasting creative expression. These tools make us all into artists and directors, empowered to tell stories and share our perspectives. In the church, we should seek ways to further creative expression, exploring what it would mean for our communities to function not just as spaces for worship, but as workshops to help us articulate our experience of God.

These are the shared values of tech-shaped culture:

- Making space for questions
- Connecting the online with the offline
- Promoting collaboration, and celebrating creativity

We don't need to be sophisticated users of technology; sometimes we may not need much technology at all. As church leaders, we simply need to notice these values in action and to determine how they align to God's work in our Church.

Invite your friends and family to join us online on Facebook, YouTube, or our website: www.StJohnOKC.org.

PASTOR'S PARTNERS IN PRAYER

Submitted By Deacon Raymond Payton



The Power of Prayer

The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and wonderful results. —James 5:16

Prayer is effective with God. It affects the history of His church and people. Prayer is the one power the church can exercise in securing the working of God's omnipotence in the world.

The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective. A righteous person lives as the servant of righteousness (see Romans 6:16,19). The Lord loves the righteous, and their prayers have power (see Psalm 66:18-19; I John 3:22). When Christ gave His great prayer promises, it was to those who kept His commandments. "If you love me, obey my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor, who will never leave you" (John 14:15-16).

"But if you stay joined to me and my work remains in you, you may ask any request you like, and it will be granted!" (John 15:7).

When the righteous commit their whole being to take hold of God, prayer is powerful and effective. As Jacob said: I will not let you go unless you bless me." (Genesis 32:26).

Then comes the earnest prayer of many righteous people together. When two or three agree, there is the promise of an answer. God will display His power even more when hundreds and thousands unite in earnest prayer.

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

NORTH TO WILSHIRE

Bus Transportation Services

“Need a ride to church services?”

CALL FOR THE BUS

DIAL: 478-5644, Ext. 160

The Bus Transportation Ministry will pick-up individuals for the Enrichment Hour (Sunday School), Worship Service, Prayer Meeting, including P31 and SOS and most other church programs. Please call this number at least two (2) hours before your services or program start time. Leave a message on answering services giving us your name, address and phone number. On Sunday mornings, Transportation Ministry will take individuals home immediately after service. Anyone desiring to stay after church for dinners or other programs will need to make provisions for their transportation back home.

Thank You, Kenneth Washington
A blessed service, rendered by the church

WEST TO WESTERN EAST TO BRYANT

SOUTH TO FIRST STREET

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

The Beacon

Published monthly to communicate more effectively the mission of the St. John Missionary Baptist Church.

Staff
Debra Johnson • Diana Bell • Lamonica Parker

DON'T FORGET

The membership can keep abreast of what is going on at St. John by submitting your news to the BEACON newspaper mailbox no later than the Third Sunday of every month.

Social Media Volunteer Needed

The church is in need of responsible/committed volunteers to work with Sis. Debra Johnson in updating and maintaining our social media accounts. If you are skilled and interested in serving in this area, please contact Sis. Johnson at 816-7493.

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

Pastor Jemison & Family,
May God continue to bless us. Praying for our St. John family.
Sharon Kaye Washington-King
PS. My nephew Pastor Vincent Rhodes lost his mother Annie Pearl Rhodes. Please keep our family in prayer.

St. John Church Family,
As I celebrate 60 years of life, 40 years in the preaching ministry, and 17 years as Pastor of the New Hope Baptist Church, it is my joy to reflect on the kindness everyone has shown during this September “Month of Love”. Mama always said “people don’t have to be nice to you, but when they are, the least you can do is say “Thank You!”. Thank you so much for sharing in my 60th and Je’Nell’s 25th birthday celebration. To God be the Glory!
Rev. E. Jennings Tyson

Pastor M.L. Jemison & St. John Family,
Your expression of sympathy means more than you know. Thank you for your prayers during this difficult time. Much love.
Shelton Family: Lisa & Ellington

To Pastor Jemison,
You will never know how much your kindness means. You are a blessing! —*Always, Tiffany Perkins*

Dear Commissioner Jemison,
Thank you for your service to the Judicial Nominating Commission. I know that you spend an incredible amount of time as Commissioner and it can sometimes seem thankless. Rest assured, your job is very important and it promotes good government. I thank you for your time and your dedication. May God bless you and your family. —*Mark Antinoro, Owasso, OK*

To Pastor Jemison & Church,
Thank you for your kindness following the passing of my step-mother. I am so grateful for everything you have done to support me during this sad time. Thanks for the beautiful resolution that was sent by the church. You are truly the best church this side of judgement.
With sincere thanks, Patricia Brewer

Thank You Church Family,
First, I want to give thanks to God for his son who has showed me how to live by studying His word on a daily basis, and for giving me strength to carry on. I’d like to thank my pastor, Pastor Jemison, his wife, and the associate ministers and the St. John Church Family who came and shared their heartfelt sympathy in the passing of my brother, Vincent Smith; and to all those who gave their prayers, cards and love. Everything my church family done for me, I give thanks to God for you and appreciate all you are to me. Again, I thank God for you. —*Ronald Smith*

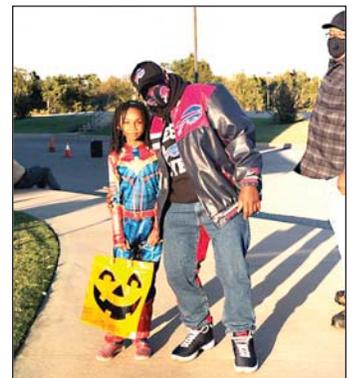
To Pastor Jemison & the My St. John Family,
Thank you very much for the resolution sent in the passing of my grandmother Anita Peterson-Harris. On behalf of my Peterson family and all my brothers and sisters, may God bless you in return. —*Anastasia Hillard*

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“Movie Night Successful”

By Sis Jacqueline Jemison



— Children enjoying Movie Night! —

The St. John’s Ladies Division of the VBS, presented the 1st Family Night of Movies for the Children and Adults, in our membership and community.

The Lord granted us a beautiful and cool night to show movies this Past Sunday October 31st, 2021. We were able to either sit in our cars and listen on the radio, FM88.7 setup by Rev. Marcus or bring out the lawn chairs for safe Social Dis-

tancing. It was such a beautiful sight to see the children running and playing with delight as they filled their buckets with treats from the committee/Lorie Stephens.

Under the direction of Chair, Lady Jacque Jemison and Co-Chair Lorie Stephens. The Committee that helped to make it all possible for the membership was, Rev. Marcus Carruthers Kevin Smith.

We would like to also thank Rev. Keith Carter for the Popcorn and use of the Popcorn machine donated by Arvest Bank and the many of others that donated to make it all possible by setting up, serving and clean-up such as Mr. Paul Stephens, Jenail Willis and St. Johns Security team.

The movies shown for the children was, The Princess and the Frog, and for the Adults was

Fighting Temptations. Of course, with movies comes, lots of hotdogs, hotlinks, pickles, Popcorn, sodas, and candy and cookies. We had one or two challenges, but the excitement and fun surely outweigh the Movie time. Be Blessed and look forward Church for our Christmas Movie, in December with loads of hot chocolate and Christmas cookies in the Gymnasium.