Greater Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church

July 1, 2018 Volume 7, Issue 7

The Zion Trumpet

FAMILY

The warm feeling The tears that get wiped The hug that holds you tight THAT IS FAMILY

> The tearless nights The everyday smiles The echoed laughs THAT IS FAMILY

The helpful advice The ending fights The endless talks THAT IS FAMILY

The waking sunshine The sleepy sunset The bright faces THAT IS FAMILY

The amazing voices The wrong choices Directed to the right direction THAT IS FAMILY

FAMILY IS ALL AROUND US!

THINK GREEN

Inside this issue

Church School	.3
Preach the Word	.4
Pastor's Desk	.5
Inspiring Moments	6
Birthdays	7
Happenings	8-9
Fun Time	10
Black History	11
Health / Social Action	12
Commission on Stewardship	13
Sick and Shut In	14
Children & Youth Ministry	15

Special Points of Interest

VBS July 9-11, 2018 has been cancelled

For the month of July, we want you to enjoy time with your family and friends. We have cancelled all meetings, Bible Study, events and activities at the Church unless it is approved by Pastor Williams.

Please enjoy this time!



Contact Information

Malory Williams Steward Pro-Tem	727-687-6384
Kelvin Davis, Trustee Pro-Tem	727-409-8749
Rev. Robert Boyd, Clergy/Evangelism M	linistry
the second state of the second states	727-698-1368
Rev. Cherry Chaney, Clergy	561-856-6535
Rev. Ira Whitson, Clergy	727-258-8565
	727-768-6178
Rev. Dr. Sherisse Bryant, Youth Minister	727-608-7695
Valarie Lee, Health and Wellness	727-851-5339
Anna Herring, Social Action	727-258-4769
Elouise Brown Evangelism Ministry	727-906-7191
Patricia Needom, Class Leaders	727-896-1085
Constance Shaw, Minister of Music	727-678-1921
Rodney Davis, Male Chorus	727-327-5496
Chauntea Kirnes, Youth Choir	727-710-1620
Gary / Karen Stanford, Couples Ministry	727-784-7360
Shirley Morgan, Lay President	727-815-6563
Patricia Smith-Johnson, WMS	727-459-8584
Verna Thompson YPD	727-348-8509
Rosalind Macon Women's Ministry	727-492-6186
Donna Butler, Kitchen Manager	727-599-4215
Dozier Harrell, Janitorial	727-656-0302
Frederick Robinson, Sons of Allen	727-563-6054
Mable Gibson, Church Clerk	727-867-2562

OUR ETTA Youths Excelling Through Talent and Academics

The best Way to predict your **future** is to create it.

-Abraham Lincoln



- 07/01 Offer Mercy and Forgiveness Freely Matthew 18:21-35
- 07/02 Reminder of the Commandments Numbers 15:37-41
- 07/03 Jesus Fulfills the Law and Prophets Matthew 5:17-20
- 07/04 Craving Attention, Cheating Widows Luke 20:45-47
- 07/05 Doing Surpasses Speaking Matthew 23:5-12
- 07/06 Keeping People Out of the Kingdom Matthew 23:13-15
- 07/07 Blind Guides and Oaths Matthew 23:16-22
- 07/08 Jesus Criticizes Hypocrites Matthew 23:1-4, 23-26
- 07/09 Ask, God Will Respond Luke 11:5-13
- 07/10 I Always Remember You in Prayer Romans 1:7-15
- 07/11 Unceasing Prayer 1 Thessalonians 5:12-18
- 07/12 God's Justice for the Widow Deuteronomy 10:17-21
- 07/13 Take Care of Widows Now Acts 6:1-6
- 07/14 The Lord Watches His People Psalm 33:18-22
- 07/15 Keep Insisting until Justice Comes Luke 18:1-8
- 07/16 Enter by the Narrow Gate Matthew 7:13-14
- 07/17 Jesus, Gate of Salvation John 10:1-10
- 07/18 Stay Connected to Jesus John 15:1-11
- 07/19 By Their Fruits You Will Know Matthew 7:15-23
- 07/20 Hear and Act on the Word Matthew 7:24-29

- 07/21 Abundant Life Today and Eternally Mark 10:28-31
- 07/22 Strive to Enter God's Kingdom Luke 13:22-30
- 07/23 Military Service Exemption Deuteronomy 20:5-8
- 07/24 Wealth and Kingdom Citizenship Luke 18:18-25
- 07/25 Take Up the Cross and Follow Matthew 16:24-28
- 07/26 My True Mother and Siblings Mark 3:31-35
- 07/27 The Gentiles Will Listen Acts 28:23-28
- 07/28 Count the Cost, then Follow Me Luke 14:25-33
- 07/29 Everyone Invited to the Great Dinner Luke 14:15-24
- 07/30 The Power of the Gospel Romans 1:16-17
- 07/31 Bear Fruits of Repentance Luke 3:7-14
- 08/01 Genuine Christian Behavior Romans 12:14-21
- 08/02 Gentiles Experience Repentance Acts 11:15-18
- 08/03 Joy at Corinthians' Repentance 2 Corinthians 7:9-11
- 08/04 Doers of the Law Are Justified Romans 2:12-16
- 08/05 God's Righteous, Impartial Judgment Romans 2:1-12

Disappointments are just God's way of saying, "I've got something better." So be patient, have faith and live your life.





June 03rd 10:00—Rev. Clarence Williams Philippians 4:4-9 *"Let's Get It Right"*

June 10th 10:00—Rev. Dr. Sherrisse Bryant Philippians 4:4-7 *"Keep Praying"*

June 17th 10:00—Rev. Clarence Williams Numbers 11:6-8 *"A Fresh Start"*

June 24th 10:00 — Rev. Clarence Williams Acts 2:42-47 *"Pass It On"*



Trivia Question for June

What happened after Jesus taught that His flesh and blood were to be eaten and drunk in order to obtain eternal life?

Trivia Answer for June

It is something that still happens today, many of them deserted Him. Read John 6:66

Trivia Question for July

What three things accompanied the Holy Spirit's "visit" on the Day of Pentecost?



The Power of Faith

"All things are possible to him that believeth." Mark 9:23



Scripture teaches us that there is not one truth on which Christ insisted more frequently, both with His disciples and with those who came seeking His help, than the absolute necessity of FAITH and its unlimited possibilities. And experience has taught us that there is nothing in which we come so short as the simple and absolute trust in God to literally fulfill in us all that He has promised. A life in the abiding presence must be a life of unceasing faith.

Think for a moment of the marks of a true FAITH. First of all, faith depends on God to do all that He has promised. A person with true fFAITH does not rest content with taking some of the promises; he seeks nothing less than to claim every promise that God has made in its largest and fullest meaning. Under a sense of the nothingness and utter powerlessness of his FAITH, he trusts the power of an almighty God to work wonders in the heart in which He dwells.

The person of FAITH does this with his whole heart and all his strength. His FAITH yields to the promise that God will take full possession, and throughout the day and night will inspire his hope and expectation. By FAITH, he recognizes the inseparable link that unites God's promises and His commands, and he yields to do the one as fully as he trusts the other.

In the pursuit of the power that such a life of FAITH can give, there is often a FAITH that seeks and strives but cannot grasp. This is followed by a FAITH that begins to see that waiting on God is needed, and quietly rests in the hope of what God will do. This should lead to an act of decision, in which the soul takes God at His word and claims the fulfillment of the promise and then looks to Him, even in utter darkness, to perform what He has spoken.

The life of FAITH to which the abiding presence will be granted must have complete mastery of the whole being. It is such a wonderful privilege — Christ's presence actually keeping us all day long in its blessedness — that it needs a parting with much that was formerly thought lawful, if He is indeed to be the Lord of all, the blessed Friend who is our companion, the joy and light of our lives. By such FAITH, we will be able to claim and experience the words of the Master: "Lo, I am with you alway[s]" (Matthew 28:20)

INSPIRINGMOMENTS

What Is God Telling You?

What is God telling you with the problems He permits in your life? The problems you face will either defeat you or develop you, depending on how you respond to them. Unfortunately most people fail to see how God wants to use problems for good in their lives. They react foolishly and resent their problems rather than pausing to consider what benefit they might bring.

Here are five ways God wants to use the problems in your life:

- 1. God uses problems to **DIRECT** you. Sometimes God must light a fire under you to get you moving. Problems often point us in a new direction and motivate us to change. Is God trying to get your attention? *"Sometimes it takes a painful situation to make us change our ways."* Proverbs 20:30 (GN)
- 2. God uses problems to INSPECT you. People are like tea bags. If you want to know what's inside them, just drop them into hot water! Has God ever tested your faith with a problem? What do problems reveal about you? "When you have many kinds of troubles, you should be full of joy, because you know that these troubles test your faith, and this will give you patience." James 1:2-3 (NCV)
- 3. God uses problems to **CORRECT** you. Some lessons we learn only through pain and failure. It's likely that as a child, your parents told you not to touch a hot stove. But you probably learned by being burned. Sometimes we only learn the value of something, health, money and a relationship by losing it. *"It was the best thing that could have happened to me, for it taught me to pay attention to Your laws."* Psalm 119:71-72 (LB)
- 4. God uses problems to **PROTECT** you. A problem can be a blessing in disguise if it prevents you from being harmed by something more serious. Last year, a friend was fired for refusing to do something unethical that his boss had asked him to do. His unemployment was a problem—but it saved him from being convicted and sent to prison a year later when management's actions were eventually discovered. *"You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good."* Genesis 50:20 (NIV)
- 5. God uses problems to **PERFECT** you. Problems, when responded to correctly, are character builders. God is far more interested in your character than your comfort. Your relationship to God and your character are the only two things you're going to take with you into eternity. "We can rejoice when we run into problems; they help us learn to be patient. And patience develops strength of Character in us and helps us trust God more each time we use it; until finally our hope and faith are Strong and Steady." Romans 5:3-4

Here's the point: God is at work in your life-even when you do not recognize it or understand it. But it's much easier and profitable when you cooperate with Him.

"YOU ARE BLESSED - THERE'S NO NEED TO BE STRESSED!

—Author Unknown

07/01 Cornelius Jackson 07/01 Jaida Flemings 07/01 Andre Smith 07/02 Donnie Williams 07/02 Terri Keys 07/02 Charles Holsey 07/03 Russell Jackson 07/04 Jacquelyn Wilcher 07/04 Charles Jackson 07/04 Dawn Bannister 07/04 Hilda L. Harrell Ross 07/04 Chanish Wilson 07/05 Barbara Oguntade 07/05 Syeria Brown 07/05 Grant Cooley 07/06 Angela Roberts 07/07 Antonio Atkins. Jr. 07/07 Betty Mack 07/07 Wilfred Bevins 07/07 Jaguan Jordan 07/07 Mamie Jackson 07/07 Ralph Gilbert 07/08 Mynaka McGriff-Hunter 07/08 Clarence Rvan 07/09 Deborah Bivens-Evans 07/09 Danielle Wright 07/09 Ashley Keys 07/10 Elouise Brown 07/10 Tonda Tyson 07/11 Christie Hall 07/12 Terry Bradley 07/12 Bernard Scott, Jr. 07/12 Katrina Jenkins 07/13 Garrett Moore 07/13 Landon Moore 07/13 Jaguay Clark 07/13 Myron Landers 07/14 Dezra Flournoy-Hudson 07/14 Rodney Mims 07/14 Aubrey Smith 07/14 Andrea Williams 07/15 Kelly Whiteside 07/15 Zuri Jenkins 07/17 Maurice Cuffie 07/17 Marcus Flovd 07/17 Rosalind Macon 07/18 Shanika Everett 07/18 VaShon Bryant 07/18 Michael Stewart 07/19 Cynthia Floyd 07/19 Alyssi Salter 07/19 Theresa Hicks

Happy Birthday JULY BABIES



If your were born in July... Your characteristics show you are Imaginative, Sympathetic, Placid, Intuitive and Home Lover

Birthstone: Ruby Symbolizes Strength and Beauty



Birth Flower: Larkspur Means Open Heart and Ardent Attachment



07/19 Cynthia Smith 07/19 Ericka Littles 07/20 Daniel Barrett 07/20 Addie Bryant 07/20 Ernestine Rembert 07/20 Deirdre Loftis 07/21 Major Bell 07/21 Ignacia Wiggins 07/21 Sherrae Moore 07/21 Earline Gilbert 07/21 Irma Williams 07/21 Jordan Jackson 07/22 Wilma Lancaster 07/23 Linda Perry 07/23 Kelvin Lamar 07/23 Megan Kelt 07/23 Frederick Porter 07/24 Jazmyn Holmes 07/25 Diedrea Wright 07/25 Tonja Williams 07/25 Jacqueline Rose 07/25 Dr. Lamont Allen 07/25 Jasmine Walker 07/26 Mable Gibson 07/26 Jocelyn Williams 07/26 Cassandra Williams 07/26 Lori Gibson 07/26 Teresa Jordan 07/26 Darryl Wilson 07/26 Zy'Tianna Cromartie 07/27 Delores Byers 07/27 Shuronda Hill 07/27 Clarence Jenkins 07/27 Alondra Collins 07/27 Ayanna Udell 07/28 Darryl Austin 07/28 Kay Hammons 07/28 Teara Pittman 07/29 Willie Rose, Sr. 0729 Lee Anderson 0729 Darrell Miller 07/29 Tamiko Wilford 07/30 Rhonda Rvan 07/30 Delannie Dennis 07/30 Robert Jones 07/30 David Burgess 07/31 Betty Jordan 07/31 Veronica Peters 07/31 Sheroddrick Pritchett 07/31 Erica Tillman

Happenings at the Z

Prayer Line

Monday thru Friday 6 am

1-302-202-1110 Access Code: 356251

All Men are invited to join us to start



Ladies Are you in need of PRAYER?

The Women's Ministry has a Prayer Conference Line. You can call every Monday-Wednesday and Friday at 7:00 am.

Number: 641-552-9161 Access Code: 375083 Please join us!







Trustees and Stewards on Duty for the Month of July

> Gwendolyn Elliott Dozier Harrell, Jr. Eddie Pringle

(Please make sure your event, activity, rehearsals (Choir and Dance), are listed on the monthly calendar so we can adequately provide coverage for the building).

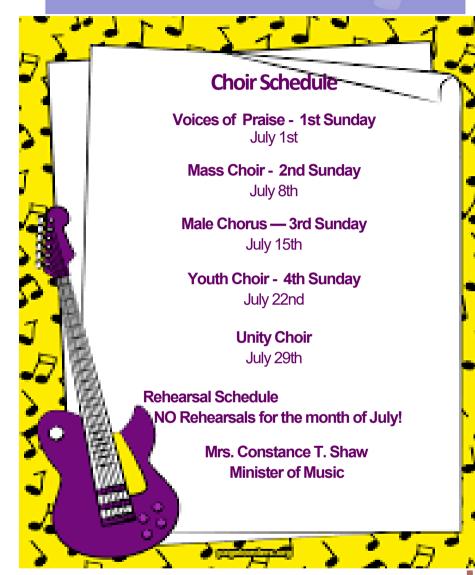
> Thank you, Kelvin Davis, Pro-Tem Trustee Board



FAMILY & FRIENDS SUNDAY

See you HERE!

NEWSand **ANNOUNCEMENTS**



ANNOUNCEMENT

Would you like to place something in the Trumpet? If so, **ALL** information **MUST** be submitted to the Church Office by the 15th of the month. This will ensure that it will appear in the next issue of the Trumpet.

If you would like your announcement to be on the screen for Sunday, the information **MUST BE** in the office on Wednesday before it is to be announced.

Thank you,

Homeless Shelter in Need

Personal hygiene items are being collected for residents of My Place in Recovery Shelter. One of there facilities is located in our neighborhood.



Items are needed for both male and female (soap, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrush, razors, shaving cream, etc. Your donations can be placed in the gray bin in the Fellowship Hall. Your contribution is appreciated.

Thank You, Anna Herring, Social Action Commissioner



resume in August with:

"Giving to God" Hope to see you here every Wednesday, 6 pm.

Thank you. **Rev. Clarence A. Williams**



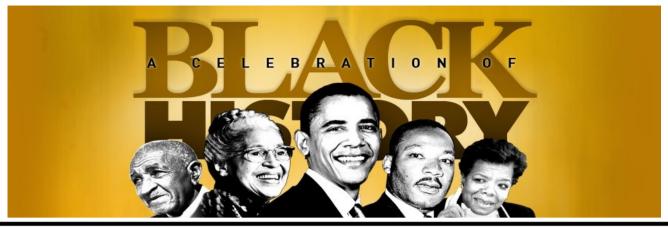


July Forth Word Search

R	D	н	х	м	s	н	I	G	А	U	Ν	Z	Р	V
							-							
	М	0	D	Е	Е	R	г	U	М	D		W	L	Z
G	Н	J	т	s	Κ	R	0	W	Е	R	I	F	Q	W
н	0	А	М	s	Е	х	U	Y	R	Е	т	Ρ	к	Q
т	т	А	С	Y	С	Ν	R	I	Ι	v	А	Е	н	J
s	D	Е	I	в	Ν	0	т	L	С	0	R	v	Ν	Х
А	0	Y	D	А	Е	s	н	U	А	L	А	J	к	Ν
Е	G	т	т	R	D	R	С	С	J	U	L	Y	J	Н
х	s	I	м	в	Ν	Е	Q	0	Ν	т	С	т	Р	G
v	0	L	V	Е	Е	F	z	Т	L	Т	Е	R	А	Е
Ν	F	А	D	С	Ρ	F	т	Е	D	0	D	Е	R	Κ
Q	z	U	Р	U	Е	Е	т	Y	s	Ν	Ν	в	А	I
D	х	Q	R	Е	D	J	х	J	W	R	I	Ι	D	А
s	s	Е	R	G	Ν	0	С	Ρ	s	F	J	L	Е	Μ
х	w	Ρ	т	н	I	R	т	Е	Е	Ν	υ	F	к	s



ADAMS AMERICA BARBECUE COLONIES CONGRESS DECLARATION EQUALITY FIREWORKS FOURTH FREEDOM HOTDOGS INDEPENDENCE JEFFERSON JULY LIBERTY NATION PARADE REVOLUTION RIGHTS STATES THIRTEEN UNITED



- July 1, 1889 Frederick Douglass named U.S. Minister to Haiti.
- July 5, 1892 Andrew J. Beard patents Rotary Engine.
- July 6, 1957 Althea Gibson wins women's singles title at Wimbledon, becoming the first African American to win tennis's most prestigious award. Born August 24, 1927 in South Carolina, she was the first African American tennis player to compete at the U.S. National Championships in 1950, as well as breaking racial barriers in professional golf.



- July 7, 1948 Cleveland Indians sign pitcher Leroy "Satchel" Paige.
- July 9, 1893 Dr. Daniel Hale Williams performs the first successful open-heart operation.
- **July 11,1905** W.E.B. Dubois and William Monroe Trotter organize the Niagara Movement, which demanded abolition of all race distinctions.
- July 13,1965 Thurgood Marshall becomes first Black appointed U.S. Solicitor General.
- July 14,1955 George Washington Carver Monument, first National Park honoring an African American, is dedicated in Joplin, Mo.
- July 15,1867 Maggie Lena Walker, first Black woman to become President of a bank.
- July 17,1953 Jesse D. Locker appointed U.S. Ambassador to Liberia.
- July 20,1950 First U.S. victory in Korea won by Black troops of the 24th Infantry Regiment.
- July 21,1896 Mary Church Terrell elected first President of the National Association of Colored Women.
- July 22,1939 Jane M. Bolin of New York City, appointed first Black female Judge.
- July 23,1778 More than 700 Blacks participate in Battle of Monmouth (NJ).
- July 25,1916 Garrett Morgan, inventor of the gas mask, rescues six people from gas-filled tunnel in Cleveland, Ohio. Born March 4, 1877, he was an American Inventor and Community Leader. Not only did he invent the first gas mask called a smoke hood, but also created the first traffic light that included a third "warning" position which is standard today.



July 26,1948 President Harry S. Truman issues Executive Order 9981, ending segregation in the U.S. Armed Forces.

July 28,1868 14th Amendment granting Blacks full citizenship rights, becomes part of the Constitution.



Health & Wellness

Ways to Eat Healthy During the Summer Months

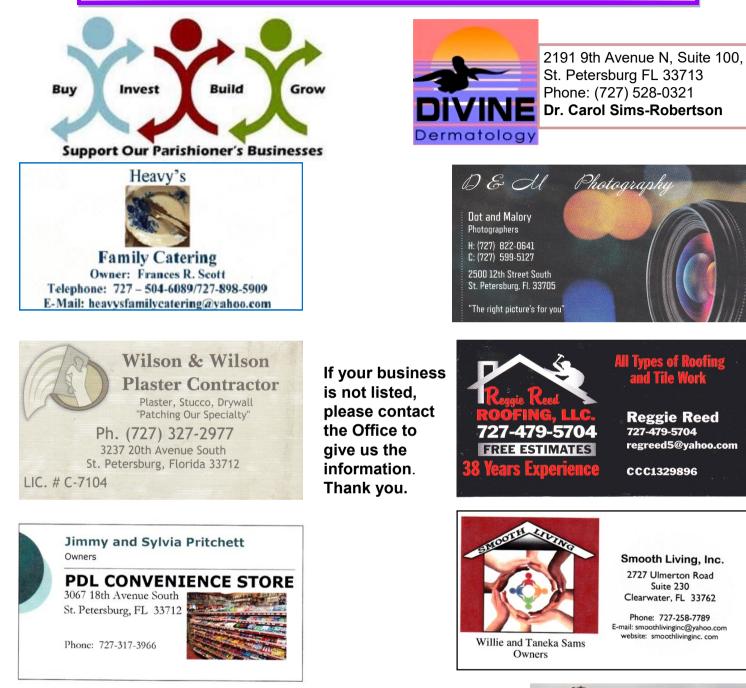
Between barbecues and vacation getaways, it's easy to skimp on the exercise, but pile on the food during the warmer months. Try these tips to make your summer months a little healthier.

- Take Advantage of Fresh Produce—with produce at its peak during the summer months, now is the perfect time to indulge in nature's finest by eating the freshest vegetables and fruit. Veggies:
 - Tomatoes—slicing one cup of raw tomato for your lunch salad gives you as much as 40 percent of your recommended daily intake of vitamin C and 20 percent of your daily vitamin A.
 - Avocados—find their way into salads, dressings and on top of burgers regularly, so it's a good thing they're full of fiber.
 - Greens—beet greens, dandelion greens, spinach, lettuce and swiss chard are all in season through the spring and summer months. These greens contain protein and iron, and are full of the cell-protecting and repairing antioxidants, vitamins C and A, as well as B vitamins and fiber.

Fruits—when choosing fruits, always make sure to buy the freshest, best quality.

- **Berries**—though each tasty variety of berry has its own unique nutritional values and functional benefits, all berries are high in antioxidants, fiber and vitamin C.
- Watermelon has the highest concentration of lycopene of any fresh fruit or veggie.
- 2. **Choose Lean Meats**—instead of going for the traditional fare, choose leaner meats. Healthier meat alternatives include ground turkey and skinless chicken breasts. Fish is a very important part of a healthy diet. Grill salmon, tuna, lobster, steamer clams, and calamari for a low-calorie, protein-packed lunch or dinner.
- 3. Be Smart About Cold Treat Choices—to satisfy your sweet tooth and not feel guilty about it, look for some healthier alternatives to the typical calorie-laden summer treats. Buy low-fat versions of fat-free and sugar-free ice cream or try a sugar-free sorbet, which is a lower-calorie, refreshing alternative. Experiment with different brands and remember to control your portions!
- 4. Stay Quenched—with scorching hot temperatures and outdoor activities ramping up, dehydration is a major concern. To stay hydrated during the summer, buy a reusable water bottle and keep it with you all the time as a reminder to take sips regularly.
 From Daily Health Wire

Commission on Stewardship and Finance





Robinson Insurance and Financial Services A State Farm Insurance Agent 1474 Gulf to Bay Blvd Clearwater, FL 33755 727-446-6200







Sister Betty Covington Bouey Brother Johnny Dallas Sister Patricia Daniels Sister Dezra Flournoy-Hudson Sister Mamie Jackson Sister Sallie Johnson Sister Sallie Johnson Sister Sylvia Johnson Sister Nancy Keys Sister Louise Mack Brother Charles Myrick Sister Bertha Searcy Sister Bertha Sorey Ms. Jasmine Walker Brother Marcus Wynn Sister Sherrisse Wynn

Sister Ethel Eva

Sister Jessie Gamble

Brother Eugene "Geno" Harrell Sister Betty Jordan Brother Quentin Keys Sister Valerie Griffin Sister Darlene Dudley Brother Wilson Bryant Sister Addie Bryant

Sick & Shut In

Sharing biblical principles with the sick, their family members and friends by showing love, sharing their burdens and addressing their needs.

1458 15th Street South 3126 1/2 Oakley Avenue 1391 63rd Avenue South 2012 69th Avenue South 3821 1st Avenue South 1230 40th Street South 1035 Arlington Avenue North #307 219 38th Avenue South 684 59th Avenue South 514 Kingston Street South 1831 26th Street South 2456 16th Avenue South 1955 29th Street South 2456 16th Avenue South 2456 16th Avenue South 2456 16th Avenue South 2523 28th Street South



Nursing Homes and Rehabilitation Centers

Gulf View Health Care Center 3636 10th Avenue North Alpine Nursing Home, 3456 21st Avenue South Egret Cove, 550 62nd Street South, Bed 18B Carrington Place, 10501 Roosevelt Blvd Shores Acres Rehabilitation, 4500 Indianapolis St. N.E. Springwood Facility. 4602 N. Gate Court, Room 205C, Sarasota Westminster Rehab, 1095 Pinellas Point Drive S. Pinellas Point Rehab, 5601 31st Street South Health South Rehab, 901 Clearwater Largo Road



Our Sincere Condolences and Deepest Sympathy



Patrick, Myron and Anitra Landers, Monica Pickens, Brother Wilson and Sister Addie Bryant, Whitney Kyle, Ashley and Austyn Pickens, Alphonso and Patricia Bryant, Margaret Hollis, Marjorie and Charles Buckner, Brother Pierce Bryant, the Greater Mt. Zion Family and all other Family Members on the loss of our Beloved Member:

Sister Patricia Landers

Clyde and Wilma Lancaster and all other Family Members on the loss of your Nephew:

Mr. Leon Major Thomas, III

James and Donna Butler and all other Family Members on the loss of your Sister:

Sister Delores Butler

Rev. Robert and Cynthia Boyd, LaWanda Reed, and all other Family Members on the loss of your Love One:

Sister Audrey Harris

Rohland, Manalito Sr., Manalito Jr. Moneii Bryant Phyllis Dorsey and all other Family Members on the loss of your Mother / Grandmother:

Sister Louvenia Bryant



How Parents Can Prepare for Back to School Time

Back to school time is always a big transition, not only for children but for parents. While children are filled with excitement and first-day jitters, parents are filled with thoughts of "Am I prepared enough? To help eliminate these thoughts, and help you and your child prepare for the new school year, all you need is a little organization and forethought. Here are some tips to get you prepared for a fresh start:

- 1) **Get Back into Your Sleep Routine**—to help eradicate those stressful school mornings, set up a regular bedtime and morning time routine to help prepare your child for school. Begin your usual school sleep routine about a week or so before school starts.
- 2) Shop for School Supplies Together—to get your child excited about starting a new grade.
- 3) Re-establish School Routines—have your child practice getting back into the rhythm of their daily school routine. You can do this by having them wake up at the same time every day, and eat around the same time they would at school. About a week or so before school starts, plan a few outside activities where your child will have to leave and come home around the same time they would if they were in school. This will help them be rested and ready for the big day.
- 4) **Set-up a Homework Station**—sit down with your child and together designate a time and place where they can do their homework each day. Make sure to choose a time where you are available in case your child needs your help.
- 5) **Prepare for the Unexpected**—working parents know that it can be difficult to find a sitter when your child is sick. Before school even begins, it's a good idea to have a sitter already lined up in case you get that phone call home from the nurse saying your child is ill.
- 6) **Make an After-School Game Plan**—make a plan for where your child will go after school. Depending on the age of your child, figure out if they will go to a neighbor's house, an afterschool program, or be allowed to stay home by themselves. This will help eliminate any confusion during the first few weeks.
- 7) Turn OFF the TV and Video Games—for a lot of children summertime is filled with endless video games and TV programs. Children are usually in shock when they begin school and realize that six hours of their day is going to spent learning and not playing games and watching TV. Ease your child in the learning process by turning off the electrics and encouraging them to read or play quietly.
- 8) Review School Material and Information—for most parents, schools send home a packet with a ton of information regarding their child's new teacher, important dates to remember, emergency forms, and transportation routines. Make sure that you read through this information carefully, and mark down all important dates on your calendar.
- 9) **Get Orga**nized—with school comes a massive amount of paperwork which can consume your household. Designate a spot in your house for homework, permission slips, and any other school-related papers. This can help eliminate all of that paper clutter and make your life less stressful.
- 10) **Get Your Child's Yearly Checkup**—school and germs go hand in hand, so it's best to get your child's yearly checkup before school even starts. Get any required vaccinations and ask your pediatrician the best ways your child can stay healthy throughout the year.

-from Janelle Cox



Greater Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church

1045 16th Street South St. Petersburg, FL 33705 Phone: 727-894-1393 Fax: 727-827-4707 E-mail: helen@greatermtzioname.org www.greatermtzioname.org



Human Services, Inc. 1201 7th Avenue South St. Petersburg, FL 33705 Phone: 727-821-0285 Fax: 727-821-0002 www.crossandanvil.org www.meninthemaking.org www.womeninthemaking.org



