

THE WALL

Zion Wall FWB Church 4944 Wall St. Linden, NC (910)980 0808 www.zionwallchurch.org

Pastor's Brief

Pressing into His Presence!

You will show me the path of life; in Your presence is fullness of joy; at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore. (Psalm 16:11, NKJV)



Beloved,

We give continual praise, honor and glory to God the Father, His Son, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit. We are so grateful that God has blessed us to see a new year and for what He is doing in the life of His people in this new season. Zion Wall, thank you for your participation and support in our Church Proclaimed Fast during the month of January. Additionally, we were all revived as we felt God's presence in Joy Night Service, as Pastor Thornton and Rehoboth Word Ministry joined us in sweet fellowship to culminate our Fast. What an anointed Word delivered into our hearing from Pastor Thornton, who unapologetically proclaimed "I Will!" What's more, I can think of no better message to usher us into our 2025 church theme; this year God has given us the theme – "Pressing into His Presence!"

While this theme has multiple implications and applications regarding the believer, of which we will explore throughout the year; for now, I would like to encourage you to begin thinking on the different ways we can enter into the presence of God – such as – through continual prayer, daily reading the Word, studying and meditating on the Word, singing Hymns and songs unto the Lord, offering spontaneous praise for His blessings, and actively engaging in worship of the Most-High; these are but a few of the many avenues we can seek to enter into His presence. Our task year is to increase in these and other activities that will bring us into His presence in a very real and intentional way. Psalm 16:11 declares; "in thy presence is fulness of joy" and Nehemiah 8:10 proclaims, "the joy of the Lord is my strength;" I do not know what awaits us in this new year, whether opportunities or challenges, but I do know God holds us in His hand and that the joy of the Lord will take us through every storm and lift us up above all things – as He works continuously both for our Good and for His Glory!

Working Together in Christ,

Pastor Jerry and Alicia Jones

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God Gives Good Gifts

Submitted by Dr. Barbara Smith

There are seasons in our lives when we are more discouraged than encouraged. It's inevitable that all of us will experience these moments, often showing up during times of grief, uncertainty, or exhaustion.

Even in these moments, Romans 15:5 reminds us that there are three things that God offers to those who believe in Jesus.

The first thing God offers is endurance. When we begin to grow tired of doing good things, or living our life for God, it is often because we are living with the wrong motivation. True motivation comes from living for God, not ourselves. It is God who gives us the endurance through the Spirit to make good choices and live for Him.

The second thing God offers is encouragement. In seasons of discouragement when we feel let down by people, God gives us lasting encouragement. He reminds us that we are loved. He reminds us that we are being transformed. We don't need to strive for approval or acceptance because we're already sons and daughters of God.

The third thing God offers is unity of mind toward each other. This means that we consider others how Jesus would consider them. Instead of only seeing their flaws or mistakes, we see them as people loved and cared for by God.

All three of these things are worthy of spending time in prayer asking God for: endurance, encouragement, and unity with each other. If you're feeling discouraged and down, ask God for the endurance and encouragement that only He can give and for unity of mind that reflects Jesus and His love. (Taken from You Version Bible App)



Rule Over the Creation of God

By James Merritt- 52 Weeks Through the Bible

God did not put us on this earth to do nothing. From the first moment that the first man took his first breath, he was given work to do that was exciting, and fulfilling. Genesis 2:15 tells us, "The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and keep it." That is a general job description of the human race. We were given this creation to tend and to keep. We are to manage it and take care of it. How is that to be done?

First we are told, "Be fruitful and multiply." We have a job to develop the social world that we live in. Building families, churches, schools, cities, government, and making laws—all of that is part of what God put us here to do.

Then we are told to "Fill the earth and subdue it." This is how we learn about and develop the natural world. We were put here to investigate and discover, innovate and invent, to plant and build, design and compose. All are part of the cultural mandate that God gave us in the beginning as we create culture and build civilizations. Remember, every design has a purpose, and God created man and women with a perfect physical and genetic compatibility. When we reproduce, we live into part of our design, so part of our work is to procreate. And part of our work is to labor. That means that work is more than just something you do to put food on the table. Work is a divine calling for which we were all created. Work is the plan through which we give glory and honor to God who entrusted us with his creation. When we work we fulfill our design. Submitted By Mother Veronica Smith



My Resurrected Lord

By: Angela Ciero

Submitted by Mother Veronica Smith

So special He is my Savior, my King,
 Ruler, creator, His praises I sing.
 The wondrous amazement of all that He's done,
 My heavenly Father sent down his own son.
 How blessed we are to have such a chance,
 No longer condemned to one circumstance.
 But Jesus came down his life he did give,
 That all whom believed through him now may live.
 Though his death there alone did not pay our way,
 For He is alive and the stone rolled away.
 Thank you dear Jesus for saving my soul,
 Through your birth, death, and resurrection I am
 made whole!

Church Thoughts

By Julie Ackerman Link

I will sacrifice a thank offering to you and call on the name of the Lord. Psalm 116:17

"Sometimes I go to church with the attitude that I am doing you a favor by showing up, Lord. Sometimes I sit in my pew waiting for something I dislike so I can go away unmoved, unrepentant, unchanged. Sometimes I show up only to find out how you can improve my life. Forgive me, Father, for making body get up and attend church while allowing my heart and mind to stay asleep. Forgive me for taking your mercy with giving you my love. May I not allow myself to grow fat and weak by consuming all your blessings for my own enjoyment and pleasure, but instead help me to grow strong by turning all your blessings into words and acts of unselfish praise." From *100 Prayers Inspired by the Psalms*

RSVP Volunteer Spotlight: Barbara Smith, Reality Ministries



Dr. Barbara Smith started volunteering after retiring from a long career in education. She has a special interest in supporting people with disabilities. After moving to Durham, she attended a performance at DPAC – Reality Ministries annual show. She was so impressed with their show that she decided to volunteer with them. Then Covid hit. Once Covid eased up, Barbara was ready to volunteer again, and she came across a volunteer opportunity with Reality Ministries. Today she volunteers on Tuesdays with them as part of the mingle group as well as their gospel choir. She met a participant on her first day and is still friends with them today. Barbara describes her experience at Reality Ministries as heartwarming. She feels she is putting a stamp on their life, yet they have helped her through difficult moments as well. With her servant heart, "you look past the disabilities," says Barbara. "Reality Ministries is a rock where you can go when you don't have anywhere else to go." Barbara invites everyone to spend one day with the people at Reality Ministries and it will change you. You will see life differently. Barbara has also volunteered at Meals on Wheels Durham and the Durham Center for Senior Life. In fact, she is returning there in February to teach a class. The one thing Barbara says she would change about volunteering is that she would have started earlier. Thank you Barbara for sharing your time and your heart through volunteering! (Taken from the website of The Triangle Nonprofit & Volunteer Leadership Center.)

Answers to Bible Quiz: 1-The skin of my teeth, 2-Sian! 3-King Saul 4-Once 5-Jair 6-God is love 7-Greek, Latin and Hebrew

Black History Month

Each February we celebrate Black History Month, many times recognizing the same persons year after year. But there are many others who were pioneers that are unknown to most of us. Here are just a few:

James McCune Smith (April 18, 1813 – November 17, 1865) Because no American university was willing to admit him, he was forced to travel to Scotland to earn was the first African American to hold a medical degree and the first African American to run a pharmacy. his degree from the University of Glasgow.



After graduating in 1837, he practiced medicine for nearly two decades at the Colored Orphan Asylum in Manhattan, contributed papers to scholarly journals and was widely respected as an intellectual. He was an abolitionist who helped enslaved people escape and find their way to freedom via the Underground Railroad. Despite his accomplishments, Smith was never admitted into the American Medical Association.

Georgia Ann Robinson (1879–1961) was one of the first Black American women to be appointed as a police officer in the United States. A former governess, Robinson was a suffragette who worked tirelessly to make the world a better place for women and people of color. During World War I, there was a shortage of men, and she was recruited to work as a police officer in Los Angeles. Though she initially worked on a volunteer basis, three years later she was promoted to the rank of full-time officer. She retired after being hurt on the job but continued her volunteer work with the community.

Jane Bolin (1908–2007) stood apart from the crowd at an early age. A brilliant student, she graduated from Wellesley College in 1928, despite experiencing racism and isolation from her classmates. She went on to be the first Black woman to graduate from Yale Law School, and at age 31 she became the first Black woman in the country to be sworn in as a judge. She retired from the bench at age 70 and focused on volunteer work for local schools.



Charles Follis (1879–1910), NFL fans today might have a difficult time imagining an era when football wasn't integrated, but that was the case until Charles Follis became the first Black American professional football player. Follis was a gifted athlete who played football in high school and joined an amateur league in college. In 1904, he signed on with the Shelby Athletic Club in Ohio to become the first Black professional football player.

Opposing players frequently went out of their way to injure him with excessively rough play, and he was subjected to taunts and racial slurs by the fans of other teams. After an injury ended his football career, he joined the Cuban Giants, a Black baseball team. He died of pneumonia at the age of 31.

12 WAYS TO BE A BLESSING TO YOUR CHURCH

- Rev. Kate McVeigh

1. **Ask Not What Your Church Can Do for You, but What You Can Do for Your Church**
2. **Pray Daily for Your Pastor**
3. **Bless Your Pastor on Special Occasions**
4. **Get Involved in the Helps Ministry**

(Numbers 1-3 in previous newsletters)

Get Involved in the Helps Ministry

A great way to be a blessing to your church is to serve in the ministry helps. If you really want to be a blessing, then be available for anything your pastor needs to make the church run smoothly.

Helps ministry simply means "to help" in any way that help is needed. It's important that you do what helps your pastor the most and not just what you think he needs. It's kind of like buying someone a birthday present. You may really like it, but it doesn't mean the other person will like it as much as you do. The best thing to do is to find out what that person really likes and get him what he wants. Even if it's not what we like, it's a much bigger blessing. It's important that you do what helps your pastor the most and not just what you think he needs.

Back Your Pastor's Vision

We must remember that it is our job to back the vision God has given to our pastor. Sometimes people tend to promote their own vision instead of backing their pastor's vision, not realizing that it is his vision that counts the most in your church. You may have a great idea for something you think your church should do, but you should understand that your pastor may not feel called to do that, or the church is already doing everything it can and can't take on another project.

Be Open To Help Anywhere

The best thing you can do is make yourself available for any position, wherever help is needed. Often you will start out in one area of helps ministry, but end up somewhere else. You may have a heart to be in one position, but there's not an opening there yet.

Be Part of the Solution

One minister friend of mine always says, "You will be

remembered in life either by the problems you solve for others or by the ones you create."

Hold Up Your Pastor's Arms

In Exodus 17, Moses and the children of Israel fought a battle against the Amalekites. Moses, the leader, and his two helpers, Aaron and Hur, went to the top of a hill to watch the battle, and when Moses held up his hands, the Israelites prevailed over their enemies. But when his arms got tired and he lowered them, the Amalekites prevailed.

So, Aaron and Hur rushed to aid Moses, holding up his arms so the battle could be won. The Israelites won their battle when someone helped to hold up the arms of the leader.

Make Your Pastor's Job Easier

The Bible says that the pastor's job is to teach you and me how to do the work of the ministry. Ephesians 4:11- And He gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers, for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ. Your pastor isn't supposed to be doing all the work of the church himself. As a matter of fact, that would be impossible. Things run more smoothly in your church and you can be more effective in reaching others when everyone is doing his part. Submitted by Dr. Barbara Smith

Happy Birthday to You!

April

Sis. Bridgett Bell- 12th

May

Deacon James Smith-1st
Mother Lucille McNeill- 19th
Sis. Teresa Elliott-20th
Mother Emily Byrd-27th
Sis. Phyllis McNeill-27th



Judas Asparagus

Submitted by Dr. Barbara Smith, Christian Education Director
SEEDS 4 H.O.P.E. (Helping Others Prepare for Eternity)

A child was asked to write a book report on the entire Bible. This is amazing and brought tears of laughter to my eyes. I wonder how often we take for granted that children *understand what we are teaching???*

Through the eyes of a child:

The Children's Bible in a Nutshell

In the beginning, which occurred near the start, there was nothing but God, darkness, and some gas. The Bible says, 'The Lord thy God is one, but I think He must be a lot older than that. Anyway, God said, 'Give me a light!' and someone did. Then God made the world.

He split the Adam and made Eve. Adam and Eve were naked, but they weren't embarrassed because mirrors hadn't been invented yet. Adam and Eve disobeyed God by eating one bad apple, so they were driven from the Garden of Eden.....Not sure what they were driven in though, because they didn't have cars. Adam and Eve had a son, Cain, who hated his brother as long as he was Abel.



Pretty soon all of the early people died off, except for Methuselah, who lived to be like a million or something. One of the next important people was Noah, who was a good guy, but one of his kids was kind of a Ham. Noah built a large boat and put his family and some animals on it. He asked some other people to join him, but they said they would have to take a rain check.

After Noah came Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Jacob was more famous than his brother, Esau, because Esau sold Jacob his birthmark in exchange for some pot roast. Jacob had a son named Joseph who wore a really loud sports coat.

Another important Bible guy is Moses, whose real name was Charlton Heston. Moses led the Israel Lights out of Egypt and away from the evil Pharaoh after God sent ten plagues on Pharaoh's people. These plagues included frogs, mice, lice, bowels, and no cable.



God fed the Israel Lights every day with manicotti. Then he gave them His Top Ten Commandments. These include: don't lie, cheat, smoke, dance, or covet your neighbor's stuff. Oh, yeah, I just thought of one more:

Humor thy father and thy mother. One of Moses' best helpers was Joshua who was the first Bible guy to use spies. Joshua fought the battle of Geritol and the fence fell over on the town.

After Joshua came David. He got to be king by killing a giant with a slingshot. He had a son named Solomon who had about 300 wives and 500 porcupines. My teacher says he was wise, but that doesn't sound very wise to me.

After Solomon there were a bunch of major league prophets. One of these was Jonah, who was swallowed by a big whale and then barfed up on the shore. There were also some minor league prophets, but I guess we don't have to worry about them.

After the Old Testament came the New Testament. Jesus is the star of The New. He was born in Bethlehem in a barn. (I wish I had been born in a barn too, because my mom is always saying to me, 'Close the door! Were you born in a barn?' It would be nice to say, 'As a matter of fact, I was.')

During His life, Jesus had many arguments with sinners like the Pharisees and the Democrats. Jesus also had twelve opossums. The worst one was Judas Asparagus. Judas was so evil that they named a terrible vegetable after him.

Jesus was a great man. He healed many leopards and even preached to some Germans on the Mount. But the Democrats and all those guys put Jesus on trial before Pontius the Pilot. Pilot didn't stick up for Jesus. He just washed his hands instead.



Anyways, Jesus died for our sins, then came back to life again. He went up to Heaven but will be back at the end of the Aluminum.. His return is foretold in the book of Revelation. (Author Unknown)



Calendar of Events

March

- 1st- Unity Day@ CFA
- 9th- Pastor's 19th Anniversary
- 29th-30th- District Union

April

- 14th-18th-United Holy Week Services
- 19th- Ministerial Alliance Conf. @CFA
- 20th- Easter Sunday
- 25th- Quarterly Conference
- 27th- Holy Communion

May

- 11th- Mothers'/Women's Day
- 17th- Mid-Year Conference @CFA
- 25th- Ushers' Banquet @ CFA
- 26th-Family and Friends' Day
- 27th- Memorial Day



Grief

Submitted by Mother Lois Murphy
Taken from the Hymn *He Cares for Me*
By Ada R. Habershon

When my heart is crushed with sorrow,
Weighted down by many a care;
Then I look to Him who saved me,
And I find my comfort there.

When I long for voices silent,
For the touch of those not at rest;
Overcome with grief and anguish,
He will calm my soul distressed.

When my heart is bowed in sorrow,
Oh, what peace to find it true!
"Casting all your care upon Him",
Knowing that He cares for you.



UNITY DAY 2025

Christian Education Department Presents UNITY DAY March 1, 2025. Registration starts at 10am, sessions at 11am.

3 Concurrent Rotating Sessions of 30 minutes each :

- 1) Are You a Disciple or Just A Christian - Rev. Markesoe Patton-Williams
- 2) Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts - Minister Angela Marks
- 3) Doing God's Work Inside and Outside The Church Walls- Dr. Linda Inman

Prizes will be given in age groups: Elementary to Middle School aged, High School to College aged, Adults. PLEASE REGISTER! LUNCH TO GO!!
Further Info: First Lady Sarah Baker 910-850-0402



SUNDAY SCHOOL CORNER

Coming Up Next Quarter

March, April, May 2025

“Costly Sacrifices”

The spring quarter is devoted to the theme of worship, sacrifices, and offerings which are found in Scripture. Understanding the old covenant sacrifices and offerings is essential to understanding the New Testament’s view of Christ’s sacrifice.

Unit 1 explores texts from Exodus and Leviticus that describe the system of sacrifices and offerings which created a holy people and place for the presence of the Lord.

Unit 2 turns to New Testament texts to explore the significance of Jesus’s perfect sacrifice.

Unit 3 explores the unique relationship between the sanctuary and offerings or sacrifices. *Lessons come from Echoes Adult Comprehensive Bible Study*

Submitted by Mother Veronica Smith, Sunday School Superintendent

Bible Quiz

Test your Bible knowledge. Answers on page 3.



1. In Job what did he say that he escaped with? Job 19:20
2. What famous mountain smoked like a furnace and trembled violently? Exodus 19:17
3. What bible character was beheaded, cremated, and then buried? 1Samuel 31:8-13
4. The word eternity is used how many times in the Bible? Isaiah 57:15
5. What is the name of the Bible character who had 30 sons who rode on 30 donkeys and controlled 30 cities? Judges 10:3,4
6. In John, what does it say God is? 1John 4:8
7. The title written above Jesus cross was “**JESUS OF NAZARETH THE KING OF THE JEWS.**” What 3 languages was it written in? John 19:19-20

**The SWEET Truth of Easter**

These candies tell a story~
the best news you'll ever hear.
~It's about Jesus dying on the cross
so that we could be brought near.

So hold them and turn them and you will see...
the “M” become a “W” an “E” and then a “3”

The “E” stands for... Easter...
God's everlasting love and His eternal plan.

It reminds us of the cross
and the way God rescued sinful man

The “3” represent the 3 days Jesus spent in the grave...
By His death, His children He did save

The “M” reminds us of the mercy the Messiah showed
as He died in our place.
and the miracle of the resurrection
so we can see Him face to face.

The “W” reminds us... that He alone
is worthy of our worship and praise
and calls us to be His witnesses
around the world for all of our days.

by Bethany Tapp

<http://ministry-to-children.com/easter-poem/>



Veterans' Day 2024 at the Annual Conference



Monday Night at the Annual Conference-
First Lady Patricia McDowell, Mother Veronica
Smith and Mother Sharon Baker



Eldress Frances Harvey was recognized
for her years of ministry at the 157th
Annual Conference



Mothers Emily Byrd and Veronica Smith



ZW Members donate to make Christmas
brighter for others.



Sunday School partakes of hot chocolate
and cookies



Joy Night 2025 with Rev. Eric Thronton and Rehoboth Word Ministries



Photos Courtesy of Mother Veronica Smith

Share the Story

By T Rock taken from Christart.com

His Son purchased us at Calvary at a great price
 Our Father had said nothing else would suffice
 For His body and blood, we give Him praise
 In turn, He promises our soul He will raise

He gave all He had, then died to give more
 Came back to life to open heaven's door
 Bearing our cross and all our transgressions
 Granting forgiveness for all our confessions

In remembrance, we worship Him on Easter day
 For our Savior's sacrifice, we can never repay
 Except to bring others to Him and share the story
 To pray, worship, serve, and bring God all the glory

What is greater an offering than the life Jesus gave
 And the hope of eternity when He rose from the grave



Bible Wordsearch

Wordsearch 272
Matt 17:17-27

E	M	U	A	N	R	E	P	A	C	N	E	P	O	K
I	V	F	N	W	G	D	I	S	E	H	W	D	S	N
M	O	I	M	D	P	E	E	C	D	X	O	O	O	I
O	Y	L	G	E	O	H	N	E	O	N	E	U	N	H
U	U	L	T	K	K	S	E	E	S	L	E	M	S	T
N	M	E	H	U	I	I	A	T	R	G	L	F	P	E
T	R	D	A	B	N	F	D	E	A	A	D	E	F	T
A	S	E	N	E	G	T	R	L	M	V	T	U	C	O
I	U	S	D	R	S	E	I	U	D	H	I	I	T	T
N	S	I	S	W	H	L	S	E	X	A	T	R	O	Y
I	E	A	O	T	E	T	V	H	E	M	M	U	P	N
O	J	R	E	E	A	I	A	S	I	M	O	N	R	L
C	H	G	F	R	R	E	L	P	M	E	T	V	L	T
T	O	I	D	R	I	V	E	T	E	A	C	H	E	R
T	L	F	A	I	T	H	E	A	L	E	D	N	I	F

After you find all the hidden words the left over letters spell out a Bible verse reading from the top left to the bottom right

Paying Taxes

- COIN
- DRIVE
- DUTY
- FAITH
- FILLED
- FIND
- FISH
- GIVE
- JESUS
- KINGS
- LIFE
- MOVE
- OPEN
- OWN
- PETER
- SEED
- SIMON
- SONS
- TAXES
- THINK

MORE PUZZLES AT:
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