

FALL
EDITION
2014

Vol. 21 — No. 4

Keeping In Touch Newsletter

VINE MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH

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Reverend James S. Allen, D.D., Pastor

2014 THEME:

"United in the pursuit of excellence in Christ"
—Philippians 1:9-11



Rev. James S. Allen

Pastor's Corner

From the Pastor

When writing articles of this nature, seldom do I take the opportunity to make them personal. In this one, I am moved to make it very personal. I will use this space to express my deep appreciation to you for the celebration of my birthday, Sunday, October 5, 2014. Seldom have I enjoyed an event in my life to the degree I did last Sunday. It seems that the entire congregation was involved in the marvelous celebration. You appeared to joyfully join in the celebration. I take this method to express my deep appreciation. I do not know a more effective manner of expressing my feeling. In fact, I am extremely limited to the degree that I just do not know exactly what I should say. It was for me a grand celebration. What made it so grand, it appeared to me that you enjoyed the event as much as I did. I hope I serve you in such a manner that you will see my appreciation in a tangible way. The young, the middle and the aged were all involved. It was actually a major surprise to me. The Culinary Ministry was supported by all other ministries, and all worked together in harmony. THANKS SO MUCH!

I hope you will not begrudge me when I express my special thanks to my wife for her secretly arranging the whole event. She was regularly communicating with my children, the officers and members of the church to make this event something special for me. Should I council with the fellows to keep a close eye on their wives? Nevertheless, a wife does not go to such extremes unless she cares. THANK YOU MY DEAR!

As we move toward the end of the year, all ministries should even now begin to submit their nominations for officers, request for dates so that we will be timely in putting our 2015 calendar together. Working together, 2015 should be an exciting year for the Lord. Pray that all will be well as we proceed toward the end of the year.

REGULAR

SUNDAY SERVICES

9:00 a.m. Church Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Devotions
10:15 a.m. Morning Worship Service

WEDNESDAY SERVICES

10:30 - 12:00 Noon Bible Study
12:00 - 1:00 p.m. Hour of Power
7:00 - 8:00 p.m. Bible Study
8:00 - 9:00 p.m. Mid Week Worship

Baptism (Every 5th Sunday) * Lord's Supper (Every 2nd Sunday)

Radio Broadcast — can be heard: Saturdays 10:00 a.m. on WNAP (Gospel Highway 11) 1110 on the AM dial AND
Sundays 3:00 a.m. on WURD (900 AM dial)



DIVINE REFLECTIONS

"HEAR OUR PRAYERS OH LORD"

On Friday evening, August 15th the Women's Ministry was pursuing excellence through prayer, praise and purpose. We started off on a high note of praise by our Vine Praise Ministry. The night into morning was filled with powerful prayers, testimonies, young adult musical segment, group praise and spiritual stretch, worship and liturgical dance. Hats off to Sister Anita Washington and Sister Donna Carter for coordinating the service. Rev. Lorina Blake, women's minister and Deaconess Patricia Evans, president.

VINE MISSIONARY CIRCLE #4 IS PRICED JUST RIGHT

Everyone is a winner at Vine's afternoon of fun and fellowship playing the Price Is Right game...Vine Style. On Saturday, July 19th Missionary Circle #4 held their annual game day with food and fun for all. This event is always a big hit and people enjoyed the opportunity to "come on down" to play the Price is Right. The prizes are real and even the losers were winners just in participating. Kudos to Missionary Circle Chair Lady, Nancy Perry and Deaconess Kathleen Coleman, president

PASTOR'S 36TH ANNIVERSARY

"A Man of God Called According to God's Purpose" Romans 8:28 was the theme for the 36th Pastoral Anniversary worship on Sunday August 3, 2014. Vine's son Reverend Kenneth Allen, Pastor of the Zion Missionary Baptist Church of Omaha, Nebraska was the preacher for the service. We were uplifted by his message and the Inspirational Chorus rendered the music. The prelude to the anniversary was the special anniversary prayer service led by Vine's son Rev. Bruce Alick, Pastor of the Mt Zion of Germantown Baptist Church. Trustees Ilona Grover and Douglas Harrell were chairs of this event.

GLAD TO BE IN THE SERVICE

The 40th Anniversary Gospel Concert of the Inspirational Chorus was Sunday June 29 at the Church. Our own Pastor served as Master of Ceremonies. The Choir rendered some old favorites and some new renditions. Music is invaluable in bringing about a feeling of unity to the Church. Thank you Inspirational Chorus for bringing that song, music to the Church.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY VINE

The time is upon us to celebrate our church 82nd anniversary. There are a series of events leading to that great day! The theme is "United in the Pursuit of Excellence in Christ". Wednesday, Special Prayer Service will have, Rev. Lorina Blake as preacher, Friday, October 17th is the annual Drama Ministry Dinner Theater, Sunday, October 19th is morning worship service with Rev. Ralph Blanks, preacher and a joint celebration of the Chancel Choir's 60th anniversary concert presenting Professor Gregory H. Hopkins and the Young Adult Choir of Convent Avenue Baptist Church of New York. For further information consult your church herald or see Deaconess Cassandra Bradley & Deacon Wayne Stewart, co-chairs.

THE WOMEN'S MINISTRY HOLDS PRAYER & PRAISE SERVICE

On Wednesday, September 24th the sanctuary of Vine Memorial hosted God's prayer and praise service in preparation of the Women's Ministry Retreat. The guest preacher (and she was a preacher extraordinaire) Rev. Chandra Williams, pastor of the United Missionary Baptist Church and her choir glorified God with the highest of praise & worship. The women of Vine are charged up and ready for their spirit filled retreat. Deaconess Harris Cunningham, Retreat Chairlady & Deaconess Patricia Evans, Women's Ministry President.

WOMEN'S DAY COMMITTEE HONORS FIRST LADY "PENNY ALLEN"

Tea, fellowship and conversation was the theme for the day as our first lady was honored. Sister Anita Barnes Cauthorn presented a skit "Hats Off". We found that Sister Anita wears a lot of hats with humor. The tea promised dainty eats, tea, stimulating conversations and musical selections. This promised to be a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon. Our First Lady was "Happy."

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HIGHLIGHTS

HEAR YE YE CLASSES ARE NOW IN SESSION

Classes have resumed for our Discipleship Academy. Morning classes are 10:30AM and evening classes are 7:00pm. Please remember to also stay and be refueled with God's word at noon day prayer and evening prayer services immediately following discipleship classes. Pastor Allen wants even more Vine members and community friends to seek knowledge and understanding of God's word as the key to enhancing our prayer time with Him. All are welcome!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL A BIG HIT

It delights Pastor Allen's heart to have Vine Memorial filled with children and youth. Once again the Christian education Ministry sponsored our annual Vacation Bible School. There is always a class for children and adults. This year's theme was "The Jesus Connection...What a Friend". There was singing, bible study, arts & crafts, breakfast and snacks (from the culinary crew) plus fun and educational day trips. This ministry was offered from June 30th -July 11th. The staff included teachers, management staff, devotion leaders, exercise and health consultants and general volunteers ready to do whatever was needed. The attendance was 100 plus strong and Rev. Lorina Blake kept everyone energized in the mission to connect with Jesus.

A SPECIAL NEWS ALERT FROM PASTOR ALLEN

Pastor Allen has requested that we devote a portion of our prayer time to the EBOLA VIRUS crisis in Africa. Vine Memorial is especially concerned for the families and students of our Vine Memorial Church & School located in Sierra Leone, Africa. Pastor Allen will provide a report on the situation in the upcoming weeks.

Let us pray...let us pray...let us pray!!!

D'VINE REFLECTIONS

F.Y.I.



DEACONESS & DEACONS ANNIVERSARY IS CELEBRATED

The Deacons' Ministry works day and night to the protection and betterment of our church and church family. They are a tireless group of men whose ministry extends to all the members of the church. The Deaconess are their supporters in addressing the needs and concerns of Vine members. They host cell group meetings (in home Bible study), Cottage Prayer week activities and other behind the scenes missions. Both ministries visit the sick and shut in, tend to our bereaved families and are ready to provide assistance as needed. On Sunday, September 28th we celebrated their anniversary. Deacon Barry Robinson Sr., chairman and Deaconess Fannie Campbell, president.

THE MEDIA MINISTRY

Do you have friends or relatives that once were Vine members but relocated to other cities? Do you have shut in and homebound loved ones who always enjoyed Pastor Allen's sermons or the various choirs' concerts? The season of gift giving will soon be upon us. Pastor's sermons and/or the choir concerts of years present and past make special gifts. Are their moments in the history of Vine that you want to remember? Order forms for the media ministry are located outside the church office. Make someone really happy with a spiritual uplift.

CHANCEL CHOIR BOWLS A STRIKE FOR FUN

On Saturday, September 20th the Chancel Choir sponsored an afternoon of bowling for family and friends. This event was held at the Gehris Lanes. This was just one of the planned activities in preparation of the choir's 60th anniversary concert. The bowling party included line dancing, door prizes, food, games and bowling. A great time was held by all.

*In the sentence of life,
the devil may be a comma,
but never let Him be the period.*

SHARE & SHARE ALIKE

The harvest can be plentiful for all who purchase a SHARE food package on a regular monthly basis. There are packages to appeal to everyone's taste palette and pockets.

Costs range from \$10.00 to \$23.00 with varied items per package. The SHARE program can help those who are challenged with traveling to the store and also helps with budgeting for healthy meals. SHARE is a wonderful way to donate a package to a person or family in need. Orders can be placed in the church office and pick up is the last Saturday of each month. Vine's SHARE staff is Sis. Bernice Palmer, Deaconesses Emma Brooks & Roseanne Grant, Deacons Clifton Christopher & William Jernigan.

SENIOR MINISTRY HAPPENINGS

A big shout out to the Senior Ministry of Vine Memorial and community. Hope you had a blessed summer, we are excited to get back to our group meetings and activities. Get ready for another season of fun and great resources. Come out and meet with friends and make new ones. Meetings are held every 3rd Thursday at 1pm. Sister Mazie Pearson is President. This is just a brief glance at some of the activities planned for the season:

PCA Clergy & Senior Day Conference, Thursday, October 30th, "Motown Review" at the Kimmel Center.

*Respectfully Submitted
Deaconess Mary Crockett, Secretary*

PENNSYLVANIA BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION EASTERN REGION WOMEN'S MINISTRY

The Clergy Women of the Pennsylvania Baptist State Convention Eastern Region Women's Ministry held their annual clergy women's program on Friday September 12, 2014 at the Vine Memorial Baptist Church. The preacher for the day was VMBC's own Reverend Dr. M. Marcia Butts-Schwartz who is also clergy chairperson for the P.B.E.R.W.M. clergy women's division of the Eastern Region.

The theme for Rev Schwartz' highly spirit filled message was the anointed and the anointing yesterday, today and tomorrow. Vine's first lady Mrs. Henrietta Allen delivered the welcome address and delicious culinary luncheon fete was put on by Deaconess Fannie Campbell and Deaconess Kathleen Coleman and the Missionaries.

TRUSTEE GENEVA BLACK IS HONORED

On Tuesday, September 9th, Trustee Geneva Black was one of nine Philadelphia Grandparents honored by Gateway Health, Council-women at large Blondell Reynolds Brown & Maria Quinones Sanchez recognized these exceptional grandparents. Citations from the city and plaques from Gateway were awarded each grandparent. This event took place at the Hilton City Avenue Hotel and included a scrumptious lunch. We congratulate Trustee Black for this recognition.

DASH AWAY VINE ATHLETES

Vine proved we can run and the prize can not hide from us. A yah yah yippee shout out to the participants of the 2014 Track & Field event sponsored by the Eastern District Baptist Christian Education. The participants were Aaron Foy, Isaiah Bush, Damita Christopher, Shelia Newkirk Squire, Clifton Christopher & Marques Mobley. We received 3 gold, 3 silver and 2 bronze medals. Dash away ... dash away..all for the Vine. Deacon Clifton Christopher coach and Minster Matthew Foy assistant coach.

YOUTH CORNER

YOUNG VOICES PERFORM IN THE 4TH COUNCIL MATIC DISTRICT

District Day and Block Captain Boot Camp were sponsored by Councilwoman Curtis Jones of the 4th District, Saturday August 16. A good day of workshops, information resources, fellowship of old friends and new, great entertainment and refreshments. The performance by Young Voices of Vine ministered the audience in gospel song.

If I had to answer the question "Why pray?" in one sentence, it would be, "Because Jesus did."

KULTURAL KORNER



DID YOU KNOW?

AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY AND GENEALOGY NEWS

The Association for the Study of African-American Life and History (ASALH)- Philadelphia Heritage kicks off our centennial year with a re-reading of Carter Woodson's "Mis-Education of the Negro." Our meetings are held every second Saturday at 1pm at Berean Church, Broad & Diamond St. A key site to visit for cultural education is the National Constitution Center to view "Slavery at Jefferson's Monticello. Exhibit ends October 19th.

-GENEALOGY NEWS-

Every one and every family has a story to tell and leave for future generations. Listen and communicate with your parents/parent and elders. Ask questions about family members. Talk and listen to your family, family friends, and neighbors. Record and preserve family photographs, Bibles and documents. Make time for family and friends. "We do not know the day, nor hour, nor minute when the Lord will call us home."

*Submitted by,
Regina Vaughn*

DR. MAYA ANGELOU IN MEMORY

Born on April 4, 1928, in St. Louis, Missouri, writer and civil rights activist Maya Angelou is known for her 1969 memoir, *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*, which made literary history as the first nonfiction best-seller by an African-American woman. In 1971, Angelou published the Pulitzer Prize-nominated poetry collection *Just Give Me a Cool Drink of Water 'Fore I Die*. She later wrote the poem "On the Pulse of Morning" — one of her most famous works—which she recited at President Bill Clinton's inauguration in 1993. Angelou received several honors throughout her career, including two NAACP Image Awards in the outstanding literary work (nonfiction) category, in 2005 and 2009. She died on May 28, 2014.

LET US KEEP THE EBOLA VICTIMS IN PRAYER!

- On June 30th Vine Church & Community Outreach Ministry sponsored a Free Financial Literacy Seminar. Topics included debt & budgeting, estate planning and retirement strategies.
- Vine Memorial is offered credit union services by Mt Carmel Baptist Federal Credit Union. Deposits and loan payments continue to be accepted at Vine every Sunday after church. For more information and weekday hours contact 215-471-8511.
- Olivet Baptist Church held a mortgage burning worship service on Sunday, September 14th. Vine's son, Rev. Randall McCaskill, Jr. is pastor.
- Missionary Circle #2 took a cruise down the Delaware on the Gospel Cruise Lunch on the Spirit of Philadelphia. This event took place on Saturday, August 23rd.
- Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10AM are offered sewing and crochet classes. These classes are held at 659 N. 56th Street and Trustee Geneva Black is coordinator.

To Your Health

PASTOR ALLEN STRESSES HEALTH WELLNESS FOR THE WINTER SEASON

Pastor Allen wants to encourage our church family to stay healthy this winter season. He reminds us that Vine will make available opportunities to learn about Glaucoma and receive your Flu shot in the month of October. Check your church herald or contact the church office for further information.

READ THE FOOD LABELS

The Nutrition Facts label is the serving size and the number of servings in a package. Serving sizes are standardized and are provided in familiar units, such as cups or pieces, followed by the metric amount, e.g., the number of grams.

The size of the serving on the food package influences the number of calories and all the nutrient amounts listed on the top part of the label. Pay attention to the serving size, especially how many servings there are in the food package. Then ask yourself, "How many servings am I consuming"? (e.g., 1/2 serving, 1 serving, or more) In the sample label, one serving of macaroni and cheese equals one cup. If you ate the whole package, you would eat two cups. That doubles the calories and other nutrient numbers, including the %Daily Values as shown in the sample label.

3 Spectacular Celebrations . . .

• Pastor Allen's Birthday

Sunday, October 5, 2014

• Founders' Day

Sunday, October 12, 2014

• 82nd Church Anniversary

Sunday, October 19, 2014

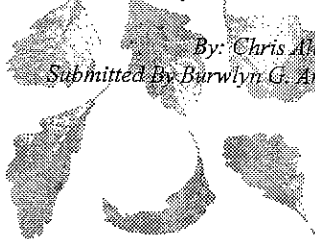
POTPOURRI



AUTUMN

The sunny hours of yesterday
 So recently have flown,
 And on their wings they bore away
 Some happy days I've known .
 At times I've yearned for them again --
 Those carefree days gone by,
 When laughter floated down the lane
 And rarely did I sigh.
 Yet now, I taste the ripened grain
 That comes from peace within,
 Serenity, despite my pain,
 A warmth not felt back then.
 I gaze outside at falling leaves
 All yellow, orange, and red
 And know the joy my Jesus gives--
 Life's best is just ahead

*By: Chris Aulemann
 Submitted By: Barwlyn G. Anderson*



A CAREGIVER PRAYER

Dear Lord,

As I begin my day, I pause for a moment and reflect on the beauty of all that you have given to us. I offer thanksgiving for that beauty, as well as the gift of faith, family and friendship. I ask now for your help as I care for my loved one.

As a "caregiver", the caring often finds me overwhelmed and filled with many unexpected and sometimes unwanted emotions. Some situations have arisen in which I find myself happy, sad, confused and even angry. It is only with Your help that I am able to continue ministering with love and sensitivity.

Please hear my prayer and bestow upon me the gifts I need to care for my loved one until Your healing comes, or You call them home from their earthly journey. Watch over them and keep them free from pain, harm and loneliness. I offer this prayer to You with faith, love and praise. Amen

Teresa McCouillard, nurse

JUST FOR LAUGHS!!

KIDS IN CHURCH

3 year old Resse:

Our Father, who does art in heaven,
 Harold is his name Amen!



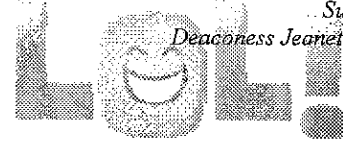
A little boy was overwhelmed praying:

"Lord, if you can't make me better don't worry about it. I'm having a real good time like I am."



After the Christening of his baby brother in Church, Jason sobbed all the way home in the back seat of the car. His father asked him three times what's wrong. Finally the boy replied, "That preacher said he wanted us brought up in a Good Christian home, I wanted to stay with you guys!"

*Submitted By:
 Deaconess Jeanette Anderson*



RECIPES OF THE MONTH

TECHNIQUE:

SESAME -GINGER STEAMED BROCCOLI

*Serves 4 - 30 minutes or fewer
 No steamer basket required for this recipe. A modest amount of liquid in a standard skillet steams the broccoli to perfection.*

- 1 lb. Broccoli, cut into medium florets (6 cups loosely packed)
- 2 Tbs. mirin or sake
- 1 Tbs. tamari
- 1 Tbs. minced fresh ginger
- 1 tsp toasted sesame oil
- 1 pinch salt
- 1 tsp sesame seeds

Place broccoli, mirin, tamari, ginger, oil and ¼ cup water in large (2 to 3 qt) skillet. Cover and bring to a simmer over medium heat. Steam 4 minutes, or until broccoli is bright green and crisp tender. Sprinkle with salt and sesame seeds.

1 CUP PER SERVING:
 57 CAL; 4G PROT; 2 G TOTAL FAT (1G SAT FAT);
 7 G CARB; 0 MG CHOL; 264 MG SOD; 3 G FIBER; 1 G SUGARS

CURRIED CARROT SOUP WITH ROASTED PISTACHIOS

*Serves 4 - 30 minutes or fewer
 Vadouvan spice, a French-style curry. Blend, lends a subtle heat to this soup.*

- 2 Tbs olive oil
- 1 20 oz pkg grated carrots (8 cups)
- 2 large leeks, light green and white parts thin sliced (2 cups)
- ¼ tsp plus 1/8 tsp baking soda
- ½ tsp vadouvan spice or curry powder
- ¼ cup roasted shelled pistachios, chopped

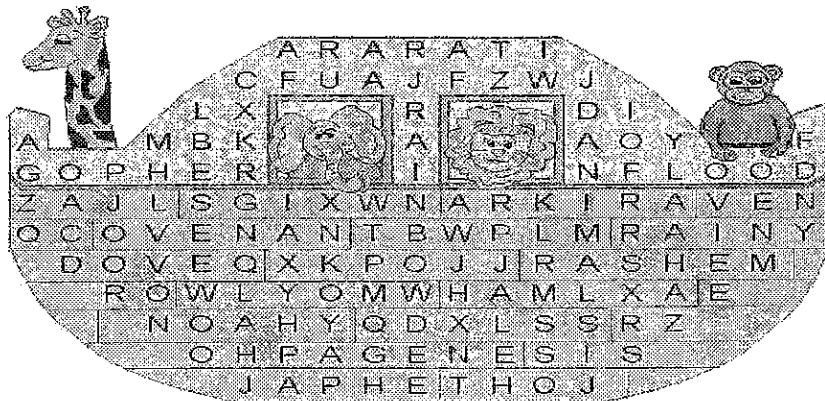
Heat oil in large pot over medium-high heat. Add carrots, leeks, and baking soda.

Cover and cook 15 minutes, stirring occasionally, or until vegetables are tender and browned in spots. Stir in vadouvan spice and cook 30 seconds. Add 4 cups water, and bring to simmer. Remove from heat, puree with immersion blender, and season with salt, if desired. Serve sprinkled with pistachios.

1 1/2 CUP PER SERVING:
 189G CAL; 4 G PROT; 11 G TOTAL FAT (1 G SAT FAT); 22 G CARB;
 0 MG CHOL; 225 MG SOD; 6 G FIBER; 9 G SUGARS

CHRISTIAN PUZZLES

Noah's Ark



animals
Ararat
ark
covenant
dove

flood
Genesis
gopher
Ham
Japheth

Noah
rain
rainbow
raven
Shem

On the Sixth Day

Genesis 1:26-31

God created everything in one week. What did God create on the sixth day? Change each given letter by adding six letters. Then fill in each blank with the correct vowel, using the code.

Example: H - 6 letters = N

A = 1 E = 2 I = 3 O = 4 U = 5

M _ _ _ A _ X WL _ _ _ N _ X G _ H _ H B _ M

4 4 2 1 2 1 3 3

OH _ G _ A _ _ G _ F HX Z _ G _ F

4 3 1 2 1 2 1 2

B _ WL _ _ _ N _ X NB _ G

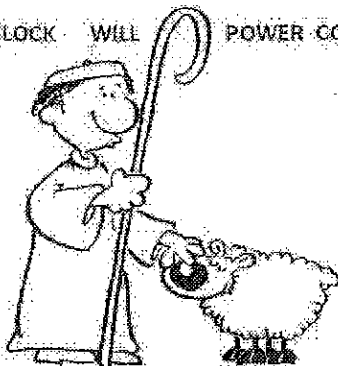
2 2 1 2 2



-Genesis 1:27

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S | R | L | F | O | W | D | R | D | S |
| N | P | E | E | H | S | C | E | S | C |
| O | D | P | W | D | I | R | H | D | A |
| D | E | E | A | O | I | E | T | N | T |
| N | A | E | V | H | P | F | A | A | T |
| A | L | S | G | H | F | I | F | M | R |
| B | A | L | E | I | F | L | G | M | E |
| A | T | R | I | O | O | D | O | O | G |
| R | D | L | L | W | I | V | O | C | S |
| S | R | E | T | T | A | C | S | D | R |

GOOD SHEPHERD SHEEP WOLF
VOICE ABANDONS FATHER LEAD
FLOCK WILL POWER COMMAND



CALENDAR DATES

OCTOBER 2014

- Sun 12th - *Founders' Day* - 10:00 a.m.
- Sun. 19th - *Church Anniversary* - 10:00 a.m.
Chancel Choir 60th Anniversary Concert - Presenting Gregory H. Hopkins, Minister of Music & Director— *Inspirational Ensemble* - 4:00 p.m.
- Sat. 25th - *Glaucoma Seminar* 10:00 a.m.
- Wed. 29th - *City Wide Revival* - 12:00 noon
Pastor Allen Noon Day Preacher at Sharon Baptist Church
Flu Shots - 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

NOVEMBER 2014

- Sat. 1st - *Male Chorus Concert* - 4:00 p.m.
- Tues. 4th - **ELECTION DAY — VOTE**
- Sun. 9th - *Lord's Supper* - 10:00 a.m.
- Sun. 16th - *Harvest Sunday* - 10:00 a.m.
Domestic Violence Seminar
- Thur. 27th - *Thanksgiving Service* - 10:00 a.m.

DECEMBER 2014

- Sun. 7th - *Annual Missions* - 10:00 a.m.
- Sun. 14th - *Lord's Supper* - 10:00 a.m.
- Mon. 15th - *Annual Joint Board Mtg.* - 7:00 p.m.
- Sat. 20th - *Annual Church Mtg.* - 9:00 a.m.
- Sun. 21st - *Chancel Choir presents MESSIAH* - 4:00 p.m.
- Wed. 24th - *Christmas Eve Service* - 7:30 p.m.
- Wed. 31st - *Watch Night Service* - 10:00 p.m.

NEWSLETTER STAFF

- James S. Allen, *Pastor*
- Sandy Lawrence, *Coordinator*
- Burwlyn Anderson
- Leslie Carter
- Anita Barnes Cauthorn
- Valerie Grant
- Cheryl Hawkins
- Bernice Palmer
- Evelyn Parker
- Amanda Smith
- Regina Vaughn