

MAY Birthdays

Karen Brooks, 1st
 Calvin Robinson, 1st
 Fred (Father) Rouse, 4th
 Vas'shaun Farrar, 5th
 Melton Hall, 5th
 Leah Brooks, 6th
 Deedra Jackson 8th
 Alicia Friend, 8th
 Tracianna Taylor, 8th
 Sandra Clark Coley, 10th
 Donnie Singleton, 10th
 Amari Edwards, 13th
 Sharon Hunter, 13th
 Nathalie Walker, 13th
 Judy Atkins, 15th
 Reginald Chambliss, 16th
 Teresa Kelly, 16th
 Boris Austin, 17th
 Azeeza Alfred, 18th
 Bobby Brown, 18th
 Tiwana Wyche, 18th
 Demeterius Bailey, 19th
 Brandon Lee, II, 20th
 Patrick Jones, 20th
 Joi Raushan, 20th
 Adriene Collier, 22nd
 Tracy Davis, 22nd
 Caleb Jones, 23rd
 Larry Haywood, 24th
 Patricia Gilbert, 25th
 Kayla Mosley, 25th
 Melvin Jenkins, 26th
 Emanuel McDonald, III, 26th
 Bonita Tharpe, 30th
 Regina M. Andrews, 31st



Communion is available for home-bound members. The member must contact your assigned deacon

SPRING QUARTER Bible School Curriculum

Messianic Prophecy

Unit III The Eternal King

MAY 3 Jeremiah 23:1-8

The Righteous Branch

MAY 10 Ezekiel 37:15-25

One King Over All

MAY 17 Isaiah 49:1-10, 22

A Light For The Gentiles

MAY 24 Isaiah 59:1-4, 15-21

The Redeemer Will Come

MAY 31 Psalm 45:1-17

The King's Eternal Throne

(Weekly introductory online; hard copy see office)

GENDER STUDY Men: TBA

Women: Grace: A Bible Study of Ephesians for Women

NOON DAY PRAYER

All Special Prayer Requests should be given to Ann Wilcoxson; they will be addressed at Thursday's Intercessory Prayer & Supplication.

Those who can are asked to fast on Wednesdays.

May's fast is for God to send laborers to the vineyard.

"The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few." **Matthew 9:37**

As you fast, remember to pray; as we receive great power and watch God move in our church.

or call the church.

Homebound & Shut-Ins

Patricia Gilbert	Brenda Clark
Darryl Bentley	Shamaya Austin
Yvonne Parsons	Barbara Brown
Kenneth Mosley	Melton Hall
Andrew Chambliss	

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The NEW Piney Press

Volume 28- Issue 5

The Family

Matriarch of The Family

MAY 2020



Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:

(Philippians 1:6 KJV)

New & Improved

Before the COVID-19 Pandemic, I had began to see many positive signs of spiritual maturity among the membership of NPG. I don't think anyone expected the virus to be so devastating or to last this long. Had I known, I probably would have been greatly concerned. But during the period of shelter-in-place, I experienced something wonderful within our church family.

It has been said that when the going gets tough, the tough get going. I have seen you adapt to our current situation with resound faith, steadfast hope, and fierce determination. With the exception of physical fellowship, NPG has not missed a beat.

My wife and I would like to thank all those who have stayed in touch with other members through text, emails, phone calls, and social media. We also want to thank all of you who have checked on us. Thank you for loving us, attending Drive-In Service, joining us on Live streaming and for giving.

God has "begun a good work" through this pandemic, and we will be better for it. Let's continue to move forward as the NEW & IMPROVED New Piney Grove.

Pastor Donnell

+++++

Thank You

To NPG

Thank you for the gift, card and kind words during this most difficult time. We are blessed to know that your church family has us in their prayers.
 Love, The Hamilton & Franklin Family (Micaela Hamilton-Grandmother)

To NPG

The Family of Donald Leroy Grimes acknowledges with grateful appreciation your kind expression of sympathy.
 Love, Cynthia Lee Grimes (Brandon Lee's Dad)

The Chairman, Joseph McElroy, Jr.

We Are Family



For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ... I Corinthians 12:12

The saying is that April showers bring May flowers. If that is true, flowers should be blooming everywhere. First April brought the physical rain showers. Some time rain came alone while other times thunderstorms came with lightning. We even experienced the devastation of tornadoes and straight-line winds.

Then came the mental rain showers. Following some of these situations people were left homeless and hungry. Some even had to deal with the lost of a love one. But the most destructive is the spiritual rain showers. They too can be simple or destructive. Bishop Paul Morton sang a song "Let It Rain." He asks God to "*Open the flood gates of Heaven, Let it rain...*" The rain comes to soften the soil. This will prepare the soil for the planting of seed. The seed is needed for reproducing. After this the soil will produce.

Though we may be in a challenging season, Let It Rain; It's Reaping Time. Until then, we will continue to **Stand Together On His Word** and be united **In Perfect Harmony**.

CFO, Alvin Cearnal

God's Timing



Remembering today some lyrics from a church song, "*Behind every dark cloud, there's a silver lining. After each rain storm, there's a bright new star. When trials pull your heart strings, don't be discouraged. And even though pain and misery may fill your eyes with tears, these trials will soon pass, and soon they will depart, and Hallelujah day will come ...in the morning.*" **GOD'S TIMING!!!**

Isaiah 66:9 let's us know that God does not cause pain without allowing something new to be born. (Jeremiah 17:7) "*My blessing is on those people who trust in me, who put their confidence in me.*" We must continue to stay faithful in our services to God, especially now. This, too, will pass.



Outreach Ministry, Ronald Morgan, Hi Church Family

I am having withdrawal sensations from the lack of all of the kisses and hugs I used to get (smile), and longing for the Church life we used to know due to dodging this virus pandemic stuff that is trying to kill us off.

Please don't jump out in the public just because those in authority want to jump start the economy. Be very careful in your daily living. Even with all that is going on, the book of James 1:2-4 says *count it all joy, my brother, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.* We as Christians should still have the joy of the LORD even when we are locked down in our homes.

Some of us are calling those that are sick and shut in to cheer them up; but above all read your BIBLE and or listen to the radio or television for the WORD. There is peace and love and joy and patience, grace, mercy etc. in the WORD of GOD. Fear not my brothers and sisters this too shall pass and we will be ready, willing and able to seek those that are lost in due season. That's about it, until the next time know that GOD loves you and so do I.

Get ready to GO.
GOD's foot soldier, **Morgan**

Faith Development & Discipleship Ministry, Jeff Brothers

Faith Over Fear?



During the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent quarantine, "faith over fear" has become a popular slogan. Sounds good, but what does it mean? Specifically, what is faith? And what puts it in contrast to what we call fear? Are precautions fear? Is it fear that makes some wear a mask and adhere to social distancing? Is it faith that causes some to scoff at the current public health recommendations?

Scripture states that faith is the substance of things hoped for and the evidence of things not seen (Hebrews 11:1). Digging a little deeper, we see Abraham called the father of the faithful (Romans 4:16). Scripture says that God saw Abraham's faith and counted it as righteousness (Genesis 15:6). So what was this "faith" that Abraham had? Was it confidence that he was immune to illness or that he could name and claim whatever he wanted? No. Scripture says that Abraham simply "believed God." Not that he believed in God or even that believed what God had to say per se. He believed GOD. This faith (confidence, trust, reliance) wasn't situational. It was personal.

So when we say "faith over fear" let's be sure that we aren't pridefully making assertions about circumstances that only God is sovereign over. Instead, let's put our unwavering hope in the One who promised that, though it remains unseen, He who began a good work in you SHALL complete it (Philippians 1:6).

Youth Ministry, Brandon Lee, Sr.

We Are Gonna Make It!!!



We are gonna make it!!! Matthew 8:24-26 tells us, "*Suddenly, a fierce storm struck the lake, with waves breaking into the boat. But Jesus was sleeping. The disciples went and woke him up, shouting, "Lord, save us! We're going to drown!" Jesus responded, "Why are you afraid? You have so little faith!"* Then He got up and rebuked the wind and waves, and suddenly there was a great calm.

The LORD dropped this song in my spirit, You're Gonna Make It. The song says, "*no matter what the test, no matter what comes our way we are gonna make it.*" Everybody has something going on in their lives, but be encouraged, you will make it. As a matter of fact, we all are going to make it. With JESUS on our side things will work our fine.

So the question proposed is, Is JESUS on your side? In the text JESUS was in the boat with the disciples. Jesus was in the boat with the disciples when storm came up! The only way for things to work out in our lives is that we have to be close to JESUS. Then things will work out fine. So no matter what the test, whatever comes our way, we are gonna make it. Church family we will make it!!!!

Women's Enrichment, Bonita Tharpe



Challenges

A woman I know shared this story. She said that her life had been filled with many challenges. Dictionary.com defines the word challenge as *a call to take part in a contest or competition, especially a duel.; an invitation to engage in a contest.* A contest is to *engage in competition to attain.*

This woman had been faced with financial challenges, with health challenges, with family challenges and spiritual challenges. She did not volunteer nor did she ask for these challenges; she had been called to take part. Each situation was an opportunity for her to take part in the challenge. She had the chance to compete so that she could be successful. Being a born again Saint, she had the chance to point her success and accomplishments back to her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Like this woman, each of us face challenges daily. Like her, we have the opportunity to lay them at the feet of Jesus. I Peter 5:7 says, *Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you, ...* Therefore, be encouraged to direct all your challenges upon Jesus.