

### Fenimore Street United Methodist Church

September -October 2023 – Volume 2 No 12

## "Fenimorian News from the Pews"

#### **Bi-Monthly Newsletter**

#### DESIRING THE PRESENCE AND MOVEMENT OF GOD





As the end of summer approaches and gives way to cooler mornings and evenings, the hunt for cheaper school supplies, talk of fall fairs and fresh apples ripe for picking in the orchards, even a trip to the mall will bear witness to the premature Holloween displays that autumn is soon upon us. While we may enjoy and welcome the shift in seasons for a variety of reasons, we can also choose to cultivate experiencing the movement and presence of God in and over our lives.

Although as saved people we can relish in the great grace and hope that Jesus offers us, our personal journey will still be filled with peaks and valleys. James 4:8 states "Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you." This is an invitation to focus our attention on Him for a fuller and a deeper

#### Continues from pg. 1 column 1 (Desiring the Presence...)

transforming experience. As we persevere and keep our "spiritual eyes" fixed on the Lord we can and will prevail.

The Lord has to become our "**lifestyle**." Psalm 105:3-4 tells us to "Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice. Look to the LORD and his strength; seek his face always." Thankfulness and gratefulness have to become "second nature" to us and part of our DNA.

While Jesus knows exactly where we are spiritually and doesn't require a GPS to gage our hearts, we can experience the movement of God in our life more fully learning to rest in His presence, through worship, spending time in His word, and by prayer. These practices or disciplines enable us to become more sensitive to His presence.

So, as you enjoy the cooler breezes of autumn filled with life's ebbs and flow be strengthen, renewed and transformed by the realization that the nearer the Lord is to each one of us the greater the opportunity we have to experience the sweetness of His movement and presence in a unique way designed specifically for you and me!!

Let us continue to give thanks and praise!!!

<mark>Sis Kim Jackson,</mark> Newsletter Ministry

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#### Upcoming Church Events:

Prayer on Zoom every Tuesday @ 8:00pm.

Bible Study will resume on Wed., 9/13/23 @ 7:00pm

Men's Day Service – in September, date TBD

#### Anniversary Fundraiser – date TBD

Fenimore's Ushers Shopping Trip Bus Ride on Saturday, 10/7/23. Bus leaves Rogers Ave. and Fenimore St. at 7:30 AM sharp. Stops: Fair Grounds Farmer Market and Philadelphia Premium Outlet.

Anniversary Sunday is 10/22/23. Speaker to be announced

Food Pantry Distribution hosted by Ladies in Waiting in Fellowship Hall every Tuesday between 10:00am-1:00pm.

Grab & Go/Community Breakfast hosted by Family Life Ministry on the  $4^{\rm th}$  Tuesday of each month (9/26/23 and 10/24/23)

Senior Citizen Center meets in Fellowship Hall Mon., Wed. & Thurs. 10:00am-4:00pm

#### From the Desk of the Pastor Jackson:



Grace, mercy and peace!

With the summer winding down, vacation excursions to places near and far enjoyed by those of us who were able to get away, I believe that this is the time to focus our attention on the movement of God personally.

In one of the daily devotional readings in the July issue of The Upper Room Disciplines author Leanna K. Fuller's scriptural focus was from the Gospel of Matthew chapter 13:44-52 where it and she speaks to our need in being deliberate about living in God's will for our lives and His Kingdom.

Leanna K. Fuller states, "The first two parables are distinct in theme and tone from the third parables, yet all three aim to describe the kingdom of heaven.

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#### Continues from pg.2 column 1 (From the Desk of the Pastor)

In each case people are confronted with a decision: whether to sell everything to buy the field or the pearl: whether a fish is good or bad." In the telling of these parables to His followers, "Jesus was showing them that pursuing the kingdom of heaven involves discerning what's most important and then acting accordingly."

According to Fuller "These parables invite us to examine our lives closely and ask what God is calling us to do. Some situations may require us to make sacrifices to obtain a hidden treasure or precious pearl. Others may lead us to contemplate what dimensions of our lives are life-giving or death-giving so that we can pursue what is good and turn away from paths that lead to destruction. Through these parables we are reminded that everyday decisions are opportunities for us to join the work God is already doing and to bring our lives more in line with God's will."

May this be our lived experience and exposed testimony for all to see!

From one whose mind is being transformed and whose heart has no choice but to accompany it!



*"Everyone makes mistakes; that's why pencils have erasers."* 

"Cheerfulness is contagious, but don't wait to catch it from others. Be a carrier."

"Most people want to serve God – but only in an advisory capacity."

"The future belongs to those who prepare for it." Anonymous Contributed by Sis. Marlene Ferguson



BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSINGS

Lord, please grant these precious children a deep desire to learn all they can this school year and open their hearts and minds to the joy of learning. Grant them creative teachers, friendships that You would approve of all done within a safe and nurturing environment.

In Jesus Name AMEN

Sis *Kim Jackson*,

#### DESIRING THE PRESENCE AND MOVEMENT OF GOD

Lord, I long to be in Your presence, not just in the beginning but through each day. For it is so easy to sit down with You in the morning hours, walk away all refreshed and recharged, and then sink into the world's ways. So help me to seek Your face and strength from moment to moment. To constantly yearn for Your presence, Your wisdom, Your way. For I know that with You by my side, I will find a way to rejoice in any and every situation.

#### "Praying the PROMISES of the *Bible* 380 Prayers to Strengthen Your Faith

Author Donna Maltese Contributed by Pastor Roger Jackson

GARGERERS "...whatever things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive." Mt 21:22 "Showcasing Our Summertime Events"



Prior to saying farewell to the sun-soaked skies of summer lets reminisce for a moment on some of the many memorable highlights that our Fenimorian family shared.

Following is a reprinted article taken from Dr. Nelson King's Caribbean Life which captured the June 17, 2023 UVOP (United Voices of Praise) concert led by Director Sis. Sophia Eversley

#### UVOP 'Praises in the Evening' for Caribbean-American Heritage

#### By Nelson A. King

Posted on June 23, 2023



UVOP President and Director Sophia Eversley, center, with bouquet of flowers, flanked by UVOP members. Photo by Nelson A. King

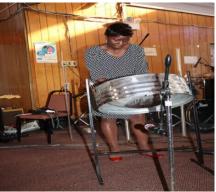
The United Voices of Praise (UVOP) at Fenimore Street United Methodist Church in Brooklyn on Saturday lifted up their voices mightily in giving

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#### Continues from pg.4 column 1 (Showcasing Choir)

"Praises in the Evening" as part of Caribbean-American Heritage Month celebrations.

The choir, which was founded in May 2004, also held its first concert to raise much-needed funds for the century-odd old church at the corner of Rogers Avenue and Fenimore Street.



Trinidadian Nadia Douglas plays "How Great Thou Art" and "Jehovah You" on steel pan. Photo by Nelson A. King

The two-hour-long concert primarily featured highoctane songs by UVOP, renditions by guest artistes Abena Amory and Brenda Browne, and steel pan music by Trinidadian Nadia Douglas.

The praises were backed-up by Jerome Roberts and Baba Dow Eaton on drums, Joseph Roberts on keyboard and Kelvin Burke on guitar.



Baba Dow Eaton on drums, with guitarist Kelvin Burke in background. Photo by Nelson A. King

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#### Continues from pg.4 column 2 (Showcasing Choir)

UVOP started with "Pressing On" and ended with a medley that included "Jesus is the Rock," "A Miracle-working God," "Praise the Lord," and "I Command My Hands."

They were interspersed with, among others, "How Excellent," "We Come to Praise Thy Name," "There is Power," "Your Name," "I Love You, Lord," "You are God," "I Lift My Hand in Praise," and "Let the Name be Praised."



Abena Amory sings "Coming Up the Rough Side. Photo by Nelson A. King

Amory, the daughter of celebrated Vincentian soprano Erlene Williams-King, echoed "Holy is Thy Name" and "Coming Up the Rough Side," Browne offered "I Love You, Lord," UVOP members Irlene Jones-Braithwaite noted "There is Power," and Stella Pringle (secretary) and Shadae Gooding sang "When I think About The Nation," and four UVOP young adults rendered the African version of "I Lift My Hand in Praise."

Mistress of Ceremonies Min. Deborah Hull, UVOP's Vincentian-born chaplain, hoped that the celebration was "a blessing" to patrons.

"We worked really hard for us to get this stage," she told the ceremony. "God is really doing a great thing in this place." Continues from pg.5 column 1 (Showcasing Choir)



UVOP young adults offer the African version of " I Lift My Hand in Praise." Photo by Nelson A. King

Sophia Eversley, UVOP's Barbadian-born director and president, said the group has been singing praises to "our risen Lord each fourth Sunday at the Fenimore Street United Methodist Church" since the group's formation."

"We were privileged to be under the esteemed direction of Bro. Russell Cohen, who had high hopes for the choir until his deceased in 2017," she told *Caribbean Life*. "One of his wishes was for me to keep the choir going for as long as I could. In 2022, I decided to honor Bro. Russell's dream of having a choir concert and 'Praises in the Evening' was formed.

"As this was our first concert, I felt proud of achieving my goal and, as the choir president, I was also beaming with delight with their performance, as the selection of songs we chose showed how our journey began and where we are today," added Eversley, who was presented with a bouquet of flowers by members at show's end. "The celebration of our journey was not only to raise funds for the church but to also celebrate the key period in Caribbean-American Heritage Month.

"The United Voices of Praise choir thanks the Fenimore Street United Methodist Church for their continued prayers, support and encouragement throughout these 19 years," she continued.



**PICTORIAL** 



Members of SPPRC Sis. Cynthia Grant and Sis. Patricia Senhouse as Pastor looks on present Sis Kim Jackson with bouquet of her favorite flowers and gifts in celebration of her birthday. Photo by Nelson A. King



Sis Catherine leading her final usher march after extinguishing the candles on the altar. Photo by Sis Kim Jackson

"Baptism and Reaffirmation of Faith Recipient Receive Certificates"



Former Usher President Paula Scott embraces Usher Sis. Catherine Richmond who served faithfully as she bids the congregation farewell upon her retirement and pending departure to her homeland. Photo by Nelson A. King

Continues on pg. 6 column 2

July  $2^{nd}$ 2023



Pastor and Sis Kim pose with recipients (front row left) Pauline Thomas, Benita Lynn Malloy, Cecille "Peggy" White, Irlene Jones-Brathwaite and Carmen Hoffman. Back row left Pastor, Sis Kim Jackson, Patricia Henry, Glenner Strachn and Densa Belony Photo by Nelson A. King

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*Continues from pg.6 column 1 (Precious Moments)* 

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Continues from pg.6 column 2 (Precious Moments)





Graduate (Master's Degree Finance) Randy Pringle speaks words of encouragement and congrats to 14 fellow graduates ranging in age from Pre-K through high school Photo by Nelson A. King

"Confirmation Certificate"

Jada proudly displays her certificate which indicates her public confession of her faith in the Father, in Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit and her commitment to serve the United Methodist Church



Pastor, Jada Pringle and Sis Kim Photo by Nelson A. King

Continue on pg. 7 column 2

# Eleme Angeli

Elementary School graduate Angelica Nedd blessed the congregation in dance.

Photo by Nelson A. King



Pastor Jackson and Sis Kim with graduates

Photo by Nelson A. King



Aleksen Blemur	Pre-K
Allyon Baptiste	Kindergarten
Angelica Nedd	Elementary
Anella Gordon	Elementary
Mia Graham	Elementary
Jada Pringle	Middle School
Donte' Ajoni Jack	High School
Jonelle Gordon	High School
Kayomi Jones	High School
Khelis Ageda	High School
Andre Amissah (Abba)	High School
Rebecca Anwana	High School
David Anwana	High School
Selina Scarlett	High School
Randy Pringle	College

Continue on pg. 8 column 1

#### Continues from pg.7 column 1 (Precious Moments)

#### Continues from pg.7 column 2 (Precious Moments)



Matthew Jordon, grandson of Sis Merle Bartley plays the piano during the service

Photo by Nelson A. King

Strictly for Laughs

"Aging isn't always the most fun thing in the world, but it sure can be funny, if you approach it with a lighthearted attitude. In fact, joking about getting older-and the assorted health and life problems that come with it-can take some of the sting out of aging. Plus, science shows laughing is good for your health and well-being..."

How is the moon like dentures? They both come out in the night.

These are not gray hair!! They are wisdom highlights.

*Which underwear brand do seniors love best? It Depends.* 

One benefit of old age is that your secrets are always safe with your friends because they can't remember them!!

Now that I've gotten older, everything's finally starting to click for me. My knees, my back, my neck...

Stop thinking of them as "hot flashes." Think of them as your inner child playing with matches.





**Beyond Our Shores** 

## Willing to Pay the Price:

#### MAXIMILIAN KILBE 1945

"Catholic Priest who volunteered to die in place of another prisoner at Auschwitz"

To paraphrase scripture, 1 John 3:18 tells us to not love with words but in action and truth. Simply put the Lord wants us to love one another. Our role as disciples of Jesus Christ is to examine the depth of the gift of His love which was unconditional and bestowed upon us by His willingness to die for us at Calvary. The willingness to die for someone else or to intentionally put ourself in harm way for another is foreign to our natural state of thinking. 1 John 4:12 states in part "If we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us."

#### Scriptures to Meditate on:

"This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person?" 1 John 3:16-17 (NIV)

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in. I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me." "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." Matthew 25:35-36, 40 (NIV)

Continue on pg. 9 column 1

#### Continues from pg.8 column 2 (Beyond Our Shores)

"Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers." Galatians 6:10 3:16-17 (NIV)

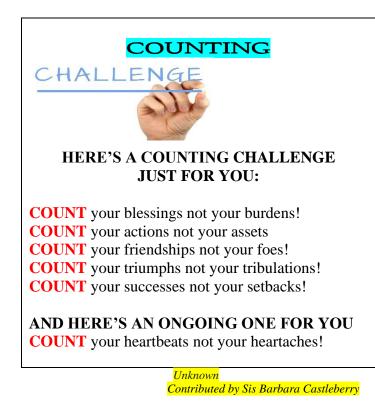
Many of our Christian brothers and sister beyond our shores in many parts of Africa, the Middle East and Asia are facing unspeakable persecution daily because of their love for Jesus Christ and their **unwavering willingness to follow Him at all cost.** They are in need of blankets, shelter, soap, medical supplies food and bibles.

To find out more about blessing God and His people in need please contact:

vom.org/driven or call (800) 747-0085



<mark>Sis *Kim Jackson*,</mark>





#### FAREWELL SISTER EDRIS DILLION

As you head for the shores of Tobago may you continue to share His love as you did so well among us. May the Lord's grace, peace, joy and favor remain with you as you embark on the next chapter.

With much love your Sisters in Christ, Ladies In Waiting



Sis Edris looks on as Sis Catherine Williams waits to serve the delicious chicken pelau that was prepared



Sis Edris, smiles at the spread before her which consisted of salad, soda, snacks and scrumptious deserts of homemade cupcakes and carrot cake prepared by Evangelist Murray. Sis Vivienne Arnold assisted in the set-up. *Continue on pg. 10 column 1* 

Continues from pg.9 column 2 (Farewell)



Ladies in Waiting Ministry pose for one last group photo. Front row left Chair Sis Joan Cox, Sis Dorothy Providence, Sis Endris, Sis Vivienne Arnold, and Sis Benita Lynn Malloy. Second row from left Sis Cynthia Grant, Sis Allison Crichton, Evangelist Evadney Murray, Sis Kim Jackson, Sis Catherine Williams and Chaplain Selena Lubell Photo by Pastor Jackson

Contributed by: Sis. Kim Jackson





#### THE FENIMORE USHERS ARE BACK!!!

#### COME JOIN US FOR OUR SHOPPING TRIP BUS RIDE TO



Fair Grounds Farmers Market <mark>&</mark> Philadelphia Premium Outlet

On Saturday, Oct. 7, 2023

Bus leaves Rogers Ave., & Fenimore Street at

7:30 am SHARP

See or contact any Usher for additional information Tickets available

#### Words of



"WE STAND TALLEST AND STRONGEST ON OUR KNEE"

"O LORD, I beseech You, may Your ear be attentive to the prayer of Your servant and the prayer of Your servants who delight to revere Your name."

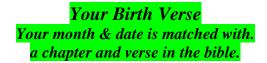
(Nehemiah 1:11)

The late, great Dr. Charles Stanley



### September & October Fenimorians





**Example:** if you were born on 1/30 your birth verse is 1 Corinthians 1:30 which reads "It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption."

#### Look for your birthdate below:

Genesis <mark>9:13</mark>	Matthew <mark>9:21</mark>	1 Corinthians <mark>9:25</mark>
Matthew <mark>9:29</mark>	John <mark>9:30</mark>	Jeremiah <mark>10:6</mark>
Romans 10:11	1 Corinthians 10:24	Mark <mark>10:27</mark>
1 Corinthians 10:31		

## Musical Summer Guests thank you for your enthusiastic praise!!!



Guest Praise & Worship Leader Shani Boxill from Vanderveer Park UMC

Photo by Nelson A. King



Guest Praise & Worship Group from the Seventh Day Adventist Church

Photo by Nelson A. King



We Welcome Fall

#### Psalm 74:16-17

"The day is yours, and yours also is the night; you established the sun and the moon. It was you who set all the boundaries of the earth; you made both summer and winter." Newsletter Ministry: Kim Jackson – Editor Cynthia Grant, Rev. Roger Jackson



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