

"Fenimorian News from the Pews"

Bi-Monthly Newsletter

A FATHER'S LOVE LETTER: THE TRUTH OF HIS EVERLASTING LOVE





As we move into the second month of the new year, a time in which love is celebrated in this country let's spend a little time as beloved sons and daughters basking in the great love that **ABBA** extravagantly heaps upon you and me in His "love letter" the bible. A love that is constantly in action: it's steadfast, it's unfailing and it's unconditional and what's more the Father thoroughly, absolutely thoroughly delights in each one of us!! 1 John 3:1 loudly proclaims "See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!"

Father God has loved us from the very beginning and the word states "So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them."

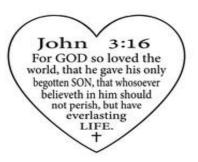
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(Genesis 1:27). This image and sacred gift give us the awesome responsibility to reflect the Father's love among others and throughout nature. In His vast love, we were knitted together in our mother's womb and we are each fearfully and wonderfully made (Psalm 139:13-14). We are God's "special possession" a chosen people, a royal priesthood (1 Peter 2:9) and we can rejoice in the knowledge that He knows the number of hairs or no hair on each of our heads!! (Matthew 10:29-31).

How very blessed we are to have a Father in heaven who rejoices over us with singing and we can rest assure and have peace in the knowledge that our "Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles" (2 Corinthians 1:3-4) and who did not spare his only Son, but gave him up for all (Romans 8:32) demonstrates the truth of His powerful everlasting **LOVE** daily!!



Sis Kim Jackson, Newsletter Ministry

Upcoming Church Events:

On Ash Wednesday, 2/14/24 we will have a noon day service at our church.

Bible study will be suspended during the Lenten season and will resume on Wednesday, 4/3/2024 @ 7:00 pm. We will continue studying the book of Genesis.

The United Women in Faith Anniversary celebrating 65 years in ministry is Saturday, 3/9/24 @ 12:00 noon located @ Glen Terrace, 5313 Ave. N., Brooklyn. Donation is \$150.00

The United Women in Faith Anniversary Worship Service celebrating 65 years in ministry is Sunday, 3/10/24 during the 11:00am service. Guest Preacher is Rev. Wendy Paul Paige.

The Family Life Ministry will host an Easter Party on Saturday, 3/16/24 from 11:00am-3:00pm for our Shelter Families in FH.

The Sunday School annual Easter Egg Hunt Party will be held Saturday, 3/23 @ 1:00pm in Fellowship Hall.

Prayer on Zoom every Tuesday @ 8:00pm.

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

Grab & Go Breakfast hosted by Family Life Ministry on the $4^{\rm th}$ Tuesday of each month.

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



Lenten Service Partial Schedule Church and locations will be provided once available

Church	Address	Date	Time
Each church	Fenimore	<mark>2/14/24; Ash</mark>	12:00
will have	Street UMC	Wednesday	<mark>noon</mark> (in
<mark>their own</mark>			person)
service			
Unknown at		2/21/24;	
this time		Wednesday	
Unknown at		2/28/24;	
this time		Wednesday	
Unknown at		3/6/24;	
this time		Wednesday	
Unknown at		3/13/24;	
this time		Wednesday	
Unknown at		3/20/24;	
this time		Wednesday	

Church	Address	Date	Time
Unknown at		3/28/24	
this time		Maudy	
		Thursday	
<mark>St. Marks</mark>	2017 Beverley	<mark>3/29/24;</mark>	12:00pm-
UMC	<mark>Rd. Bklyn.</mark>	<mark>Good Friday</mark>	<mark>3:00pm (in</mark>
			person)

From the Desk of the Pastor Jackson:



Grace, mercy and peace!

We are once again entering that season in the Liturgical calendar where we are reminded that our faith is founded upon that which

no other religion can stake claim to, our Lord and Savior died physically, was buried and rose again to live forever in the presence of God the Father.

As we make our way, worshipfully, prayerfully and spiritually to that great day of celebration and commemoration on Resurrection Sunday, the weeks of Lent is our opportunity to experience another level of faith filled transformation.

It is my prayer that you will join me during this season of Lent to prepare for transformational experiences, be it great or small, to come to fruition in you.

To assist in this regard, we are planning on having a Monday through Saturday time of prayer, scripture meditation and praise via conference call from 7:30pm to 8pm.

The season of Lent is meant to be a lived experience as we identify with the suffering of Christ who denied Himself the pleasure of personal wants and desires.

In this regard I am inviting all to enter into a fast

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where we do not eat anything between 1pm and 8pm

on Mondays. If you are required to eat something when taking medication during this time then do that, God will honor your heart's desire to keep the fast.

The discipline of fasting is the act of emptying or making room for the Holy Spirit to fill us with all that we need for the journey in faith that is before us.

The fast is a Spiritual discipline designed to produce transformed lives that are empowered and pleasing to God!

So, as we engage this Lenten Season preparing to remember and celebrate the mighty acts of God in Jesus Christ, may we rejoice in the knowledge that Christ's victory is our victory.

Walking by faith and not by sight!

Pastor Jackson

Calling Covenant Partners

During this season of Lent, we will pause as a collective Church Family to engage in Daily Devotions, Prayer and Fasting.

Theme: Watering Our Faith For Growth

Devotional Guide: The Sanctuary for Lent 2024

By Abigail Browka

Commencing on **Ash Wednesday**, we will gather via Zoom every **Monday-Saturday from 7:30-8:00p.m.** Every Monday, we will collectively observe a Fast from 1:00pm-8:00pm.

Scripture Focus – Isaiah 58:11

"The LORD will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail."

Additional info to follow regarding devotional guide distribution and Leader's Assignment Schedule.

Laughter, It's All In LOVE!!!

How do you keep a jewelry store safe on Valentine's Day? You locket.

What did the man with the broken leg tell his Valentine? I have a crutch on you.

How did the squirrel get his Valentine's attention? He acted like a nut.

How did the telephone purpose to his girlfriend? He gave her a ring!

Kelly Sullivan, Country Life, 4/29/23

AND FINALLY.....

After she woke up, a woman told her husband, "I just dreamed that you gave me a pearl necklace for Valentine's Day. What do you think it means?" "You'll know tonight." He said. That evening, the man came home with a small package and gave it to his wife. Delighted, she opened it to find a small book entitled "The Meaning of Dreams."

ChristiansUnite.com



Words of



"Prayer has always been our most powerful weapon."

"The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much." (James 5:16)

The late, great Dr. Charles Stanley

God's LOVE Shines In The Workplace For Our Brothers and Sisters

Psalm 23 On the Job



The Lord is my real boss, and I shall not want. He gives me peace, when chaos is all around me. He gently reminds me to pray and do all things without murmuring and complaining.

He reminds me that He is my source and not my job. He restores my sanity everyday and guides my decisions that I might honor Him in all that I do.

Even though I face absurd amounts of emails, system crashes, unrealistic deadlines, budget cutbacks, gossiping co-workers, discriminating supervisors and an aging body that doesn't cooperate every morning, I still will not stop---for He is with me! His presence, His peace, and His power will see me through. He raises me up, even when they fail to promote me.

He claims me as His own, even when the company threatens to let me go. His faithfulness and love is better than a bonus check.

His retirement plan beats any 401K there is! When it's all said and done, I'll be working for Him a whole lot longer and for that, I BLESS HIS NAME!!!

> Author Unknown Contributed by: Sis. Kim Jackson



"Heal me, LORD, and I will be healed, save me and I will be saved, for you are the one I praise."

<mark>Jeremiah 17:14</mark>

HEALTH CHANLLENGES

Bernice Walker Prays To Eventually Live Diabetes-Free



Min. Bernice Walker Photo by Nelson A. King

After quickly progressing from prediabetes to diabetes, Minister Bernice Walker says she is praying fervently to eventually be diabetesfree.

"With God's grace, I

hope to be able to live free of this disease," Walker, told *Caribbean Life*.

Walker, who was diagnosed with pre-diabetes in 2011 and has been "struggling" with diabetes over the years, as well as with other medical ailments, said her A1C went from 6.0 to 7.0 "in no time."

A1C is the average of the blood sugar levels in one's body over a three-month period; the higher the A1C number, the greater probability that one will develop diabetes complications. A1C 4.6 - 6.0 is considered normal (does not have diabetes); 5.7 - 6.4 (prediabetes); and 6.7+ (diabetes).

As a result of her high A1C, Walker, said her primary care physician prescribed Metformin to control her sugar levels.

"But it only made me feel worse. She said she has

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changed her diet to be more plant-based, adding that "even though I know the body requires some sugar, I try to limit the portion I consume on a daily basis."

"I also discovered that people of the Black race suffer more from the effects of diabetes because of poor nutrition or poverty on a whole," said Walker, who has been a member of Fenimore since 1985.

"But what I've come to discover is that this disease doesn't affect everyone the same way; it differs," she added, stating that she has also discovered that "it affects the endocrine system, which governs a small group of specialized cells that make up the endocrine portion of the pancreas."

The pancreas is an organ of the digestive and endocrine systems. The exocrine pancreas produces enzymes that aid in digesting food, primarily protein. The endocrine pancreas produces the hormone insulin that aids in controlling blood sugar levels.

Therefore, in order not to be dependent on insulin, Walker said she has been counting her calories, watching what she eats and trying to take care of herself as best as she can, noting that "the organs of the body can be damaged severely", if one does not exercise caution and closely follow medical instructions.

She warned that amputation or early death can result "if you don't take care of the body and what you put in it on a daily basis."

However, Walker expressed strong confidence that she will overcome diabetes, placing her faith in Jesus Christ and expressing gratefulness for "His many blessings."

> Contributed by Dr. Nelson A. King Excerpts from Caribbean Life posted on 11/28/23



<mark>An Original Love Letter to Jesus</mark> By Our Fellow Fenimorian

Almighty and eternal God, I glorify your Holy Name. You are King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Blessings and honor, power and glory belong to you and you alone.

I worship you with all my heart!! Father God, I thank you for all the blessings you have given me, they are so many I cannot mention them all. I am richly blessed with material goods. You have supplied me with a loving family, a church family and wonderful friends.

You have surrounded me with the beauties of your creation and have given me personal gifts and abilities. You have given me a long healthy life (hallelujah!!!) my inner most heart praises you.

O God I thank you for the saving faith in Jesus Christ my Savior and for the privilege of being a Christian. Thank you for the joy and peace of your gospel message, for the physical rest, the mental refreshment and the Christian fellowship which I have enjoyed and my life.

You have been with me all my life and have taken me through all my difficulties. I lift my heart and voice in thanks and praise to you.

Thank you God for sending your Son Jesus Christ into the world to redeem a sinner like me and thank you for the privilege of me accepting Him and serving you. Thank you for forgiving my sins daily, my heart, soul and body praises you.

Gracious Father my thanks and praise to you is

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unlimited. Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah.

You who together with the Son and the Holy Ghost are one God and one Lord. Amen, Amen and Amen.

Contributed by: Sis. Cicelyn Beaton



Jesus Loves Us

"Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so." This is a very special thought: to young and old it ought be taught.

God's love was there before our birth, even before He made the earth. In our mother's wombs He formed our parts; knit together body, soul and heart.

He loves as a shepherd loves his sheep; as a mother when her child weeps. He is our Father, saving, caring, protecting and our burdens bearing.

His love never fails, is always warm, giving peace inside when outside's a storm. He is gentle too, patient, kind, and with good thoughts fills our minds.

When we know God loves us so, we are strengthened to face our foes; not run away, feeling low, alone, uncertain how things will go...

For He makes secure, brings hope to life, boldness to stand for what is right; changes us to consider other's needs: God's love is shared through kindly deeds.

Jesus loves us: all may know what the Bible tells is so.

The Legend of St. Valentine



The story of Valentine's Day began in the third century with an oppressive Roman emperor and a humble Christian martyr. The emperor was Claudius the 2nd. The Christian was Valentinus. Claudius had ordered all Romans to worship twelve gods, and he had made it a crime punishable by death to associate with Christians. But Valentinus was dedicated to the ideals of Christ, and not even the threat of death could keep him from practicing his beliefs. He was arrested and imprisoned. During the last weeks of Valentinus's life, a remarkable thing happened. Seeing that he was a man of learning, the jailer asked whether his daughter Julia might be brought to Valentinus for lessons. She had been blind since birth. Julia was a pretty young girl with a quick mind. Valentinus read stories of Rome's history to her. He taught her arithmetic and told her about God. She saw the world through his eyes, trusted in his wisdom, and found comfort in his quiet strength.

"Valentinus, does God really hear our prayers?" Julia said one day. "Yes, my child, He hears each one," he replied. "Do you know what I pray for every morning and every night? I pray that I might see. I want so much to see everything you've told me about!" "God does what is best for us if we will only believe in him." Valentinus said. "Oh Valentinus, I do believe," Julia said intensely," I do." She knelt and grasped his hand. They sat

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quietly together, each praying. Suddenly there was a brilliant light in the prison cell. Radiant, Julia screamed." Valentinus, I can see! I can see! Praise be to God" Valentinus exclaimed.

On the eve of his death, Valentinus wrote a last note to Julia, urging her to stay close to God, and he signed it" From Your Valentine." His sentence was carried out the next day. February 14, 270 A.D, near a gate that was later named Porta Valentini in his memory. He was buried at what is now the Church of Praxedes in Rome. It is said that Julia herself planted a pink-blossomed almond tree near his grave. Today the almond tree remains a symbol of abiding love and friendship.

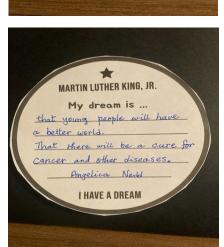
On each February 14, St. Valentine's Day messages of affection, love and devotion are exchanged around the world. **Happy Valentine's Day**

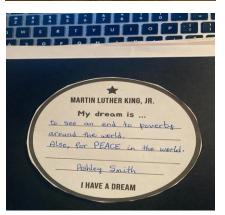
Contributed by Sis Cynthia Grant





I HAVE A DREAM





Youth Sunday

Ghanaian Pastor Appeals to Brooklyn Youth to Stay Focused on The Creator



On November 26, 2023, Youth Sunday, Rev. Dr. Angel Anthony Abakah, Pastor of Ghana Wesley United Methodist Church delivered the sermon and appealed to the youth to stay focused on The Creator and "Don't make the excitement of your youth cause you to forget your creator. "Some

Photo by Nelson A. King

of us have forgotten our creator because of the pleasures of this world," added Rev. Abakah, preaching on the topic, "Sold Out." "Sometimes, we forget God because of the excitement of this world. Don't try to be like them. If you try to be them, nobody will be you (laughter).

"Sometimes, we go to college, and we feel the church is not relevant anymore," said Rev. Abakah, who describes himself as "a man of fervent prayer, who preaches, teaches, counsels and inspires". "So, when we go to colleges, remember our church.

"When we get connected with Jesus, we can do all things," he said, urging the youth to set goals with their gifts. "Do not go without the gifts God has given you. Don't hide your gifts; do not be shy. If you can sing, sing to the Glory of God. Whatever you do, do it to the Glory of God.

In spelling out **YOUTH**, Rev. Abakah said "Y" stands for "young, fresh, active, alive," adding that "at this stage, you have to make the best of life"; "O" means "original," "U" means "whether people like you or not, you're unique," "T" means "tenacious" – "means to be determined – that you

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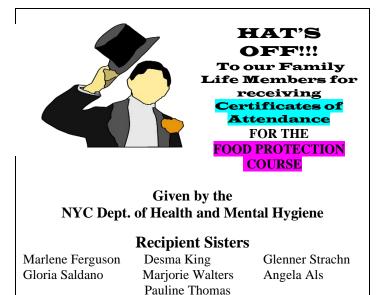
Continues from pg.8 column 1 (Youth Sunday)

want to be somebody in life," and "H" means "humble." "Whoever humbles him or herself, God lifts that person up."

Rev. Abakah said his ministry is defined in the words of the Lord Jesus Christ in Luke 4:18-19: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because God has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. God has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives, and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free the oppressed. And announce that the time for the Lord's favor has come."

During the Youth Sunday Worship, the youth participated in most segments, including reading the announcements, delivering the opening prayer, conducting Praise and Worship, and reading the Scriptures.

> Contributed by Nelson A. King Excerpts from Caribbean Life posted on 1/3/24



Dedicated members of the Family Life Ministry monthly prepare a home cooked "grab-and-go" breakfast for the community in addition to having a team who deliver the breakfast to the sick and shut in.



Following is an excerpt taken from the Caribbean Life posted on 12/18/23 by Dr. Nelson A. King

Sis Dianne Brown Chairperson of the Higher Education Scholarship Fund Committee said the team worked "really hard" in planning the event, and that she wanted it to be "a relaxing evening of finger foods, non-alcoholic beverages, upbeat classical music, meet and greet, and painting. "My team and I are getting positive feedback about this event," she said. "The people who said 'I can't paint' were so enamored with the art piece that a few mentioned about framing theirs. It was also "thrilling to see the young children painting on their own terms as well.

"There is a piece of magic in each and every one of us, and you will never know until you try something new," Brown added. "Our expectations were met. We wanted people to have a good time, and they did."

Contributed by Dr. Nelson A. King



Sis Barbara Castleberry Photo by Nelson A. King



Photo Nelson A. King

"The Higher Education Committee's mission is committed to raise funds for the purpose of supporting the youth who attend and are active in the church" – Chairperson Dianne Brown



Painters: Anella Gordon & Mom Kerricka Golding





Painter: Catherine Williams Photos by Dianne Brown

Church Treasurer Gillian Prince (left) accepting fundraising proceeds from Chair Dianne Brown (center) and HEFC member Sherol Jeffrey

Photo by Nelson A. King



To Our February & March Fenimorians

May you hear His voice Be comforted by His care And live in His grace Now and forever"

AMEN

(Taken from Bing .com)

Meet the Man Who Created Black History Month



Carter G. Woodson, an African-American historian, wrote black Americans into US history

February marks Black History

Month, a federally recognized, nationwide celebration that calls on all Americans to reflect on the significant roles that African-Americans have played in shaping US history. But how did this celebration come to be – and why does it happen in February?

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The man behind the holiday:

Carter G. Woodson, considered a pioneer in the study of African-American history, is given much of the credit for Black History Month.

The son of former slaves, Woodson spent his childhood working in coal mines and quarries. He received his education during the four-month term that was customary for black schools at the time.

At 19, having taught himself English fundamentals and arithmetic, Woodson entered high school, where he completed a four-year curriculum in two years. He went on to earn his master's degree in history from the University of Chicago and later earned a doctorate from Harvard.

How the holiday came about:

Disturbed that history textbooks largely ignored America's black population; Woodson took on the challenge of writing black Americans into the nation's history. To do this, he established the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History. He also founded the group's widely respected

publication, the Journal of Negro History.

In 1926, Woodson developed Negro History Week. He believed "the achievements of the Negro properly set forth will crown him as a factor in early human progress and a maker of modern civilization."

In 1976, Negro History Week expanded into Black History Month.

Why he picked February

Woodson chose the second week of February for his celebration because it marks the birthdays of two men who greatly influenced the black American population:

Frederick Douglass, who escaped slavery and became an abolitionist and civil rights leader; though his birthdate isn't known, he celebrated it on February 14.

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President Abraham Lincoln, who signed the Emancipation Proclamation, which abolished slavery in America's confederate states; he was born on February 12.

For his work, Woodson has been called the Father of Black History.

Contributed by Sis. Pauline Thomas

We Are Marching By Carrie Law Morgan Figgs

We are marching, truly marching Can't you hear the sound of feet? We are fearing no impediment We have never known defeat.

Like Job of old we have had patience, Like Joshua, dangerous roads we've trod Like Solomon we have built our temples. Like Abraham we've had faith in God.

Up the streets of wealth and commerce, We are marching one by one. We are marching, making history, For ourselves and those to come.

We have planted schools and churches, We have answered duty's call. We have marched from slavery's cabin To the Legislative Hall

Brethren can't you catch the spirit? You who are out just get in line. Because we are marching, yes we are marching To the music of the time.

> We are marching, steady marching Bridging chasms, crossing streams. Marching up the hill of progress Realizing our fondest dreams.

We are marching, truly marching Can't you hear the sound of feet? We are fearing no impediment We shall never know defeat.

Contributed by: Sis. Barbara Castleberry



Our Fenimorian Pioneer

"A Shared Intergenerational Experience"

Dr. Marguerite C. Thompson 4/14/2012

Today we visit our heritage Of many years ago, To learn about our forefathers And unlock history and open the door To **Weeksville**.

It goes back to the 1800's, Of a village we are trying to know; Of great black men and women, Freedom seeking people Striving to live and grow In Weeksville.

Community leaders, school-children, boy scouts to--Started digging in the ground To uncover our history, So important to learn To save memory of self and you At **Weeksville**.

We are making history today As we help this museum to grow; That others will come To seek and learn more About our heritage At **Weeksville**.

Contributed by Sis Doreen Thomas



Tuskegee Airmen (unofficial) Emblems of wing Active 1940–1948

Branch United States Army Air Corps United States Army Air Forces United States Air Force

Role Trained for aerial combat

Part of Graduates assigned to the 332nd Fighter Group (99th Fighter Squadron, 100th Fighter Squadron, 301st Fighter Squadron, 302d Fighter Squadron), 477th Medium Bombardment Group (616th Bombardment Squadron, 617th Bombardment Squadron, 618th Bombardment Squadron, 619th Bombardment Squadron)

Nickname(s) Red Tails Red-Tail Angels

Motto(s) Spit Fire

Engagements World War II The Tuskegee Airmen were a group of African American military pilots (fighter and bomber) and airmen who fought in World War II. They formed the 332nd Fighter Group and the 477th Bombardment Group (Medium) of the United States Army Air Forces (USAAF). The name also applies to the navigators, bombardiers, mechanics, instructors, crew chiefs, nurses, cooks, and other support personnel.

The Tuskegee airmen received praise for their excellent combat record earned while protecting American bombers from enemy fighters. The group was awarded three Distinguished Unit Citations. All black military pilots who trained in the United States trained at Griel

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Tuskegee Army Air Fields. [2] They were educated at the Tuskegee Institute (now Tuskegee University), located near Tuskegee, Alabama. Of the 922 pilots, five were Haitians from the Haitian Air Force and one pilot was from Trinidad.[3] It also included a Hispanic or Latino airman born in the Dominican Republic.

[4] The 99th Pursuit Squadron (later the 99th Fighter Squadron) was the first black flying squadron, and the first to deploy overseas (to North Africa in April 1943, and later to Sicily and other parts of Italy). The 332nd Fighter Group, which originally included the 100th, 301st and 302nd Fighter Squadrons, was the first black flying group. It deployed to Italy in early 1944

When the pilots of the 332nd Fighter Group painted the tails of their P-47s red, the nickname "Red Tails" was coined. The red markings that distinguished the Tuskegee Airmen included red bands on the noses of P-51s as well as a red empennage; the P-51B, C and D Mustangs flew with similar color schemes, with red propeller spinners, yellow wing bands and all-red tail surfaces.

The Tuskegee Airmen were the first African-American military aviators in the United States Armed Forces. During World War II, black Americans in many U.S. states were still subject to the Jim Crow laws[N 1] and the American military was racially segregated, as was much of the federal government. The Tuskegee Airmen were subjected to discrimination, both within and outside of the army.

> Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia Contributed by Deborah Jackson, Admin Asst

Shelter Family Christmas Party 12/9/2023

Hosted by the Family Life Ministry

"My dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain."

(1 Corinthians 15:58 NIV)



Our guests had a wide selection of clothing items to choose from. Photo by Dianne Brown







Sis King & Christian are ready to give out hand-made scarfs and hats Photo by Dianne Brown



Sis Angela Als packed up gifts for the families as Pastor and Sis Shanae look on in the background. . Photo by Dianne Brown

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Noelani and Nicholas Charles, and Angelina Nedd take a break after interacting with our guest. Photo by Dianne Brown



Co-Chair Sis Marlene Ferguson packs up food for delivery to those in need.





Many toys and games were given to the children Photo by Dianne Brown







Sis Glenner Strachn made sure everyone had plenty to eat Photo by Dianne Brown

Fenimore Holds Annual Christmas Candlelight Service With Pageant



Sunday School children join adults in serenading the community with over a dozen songs and hymns on the steps the Church. Photo by Nelson A. King

Following is an excerpt taken from the Caribbean Life posted on 1/2/24 by Dr. Nelson A. King

Congregants, friends and family, and other Christians took comfort from the fact that the weather was not as bitterly cold as last year in participating in the annual Christmas Candlelight Service on Dec. 24, Christmas Eve.

After serenading the community for an hour before the service, from the steps of the church a pageant – dubbed "Missing Christmas", organized by the Sunday School and participated in by the Sunday School children and members of the congregation was held. Singing of Christmas carols and hymns, liturgical dances, prayers, and the lighting of the Advent and Christ candles were all part of the service.

Sunday School teacher Joycelyn King, a retired

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public school teacher told **Caribbean Life** afterwards that the Christmas Pageant was "a lasting experience on the hearts and minds of the Sunday School children, teachers and parents. "She further described the pageant as "intergenerational."

"We all shared in the singing of the carols; the children costumed to retell the story; the men's choral singing 'We Three Kings' brought light and peace to our world that sometimes seem so dark," said King, who coordinated the pageant with Sunday School Superintendent Gail Murray, a public school assistant principal.

"We give God all the praise for this blessing and for the opportunity to showcase all our children and youth," she added. "To God be all the glory."

Murray lauded the Sunday School children for doing "well," noting that their parents "chipped in."

"They did a good job," she said about the children. "It's the first time we've done this in years."

With the lighting of the Christ candles, the congregation sang "Silent Night, Holy Night", and Pastor Jackson prayed: "God, we thank you for Jesus Christ being the light of the world."

Contributed by Dr. Nelson A. King



This enactment scene shows an angel in the foreground. Mary and Joseph in the background along with the angels, shepherds and wise men. The children were adorned in beautiful costumes.

Photo by Sis King's family



Photo by Sis King's family

GREAT JOB!!!

The Resurrection: The Lord's Amazing, Unfailing Love

"You see the resurrection in God's promise, God's assurance that nothing is too hopeless, too desperate, too lost that God cannot overcome it. And that my friends is called grace." John Wesley

As we move closer to the miracle and gift of Jesus' resurrection, lets ponder for a moment on the connection between the unfailing and amazing love that Jesus has for each one of us and the glorious, historical resurrection that took place.

Although we know that the resurrection of Jesus is at the heart of our redemption and central to our

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faith, His is an all-encompassing sacrifice that continues to give us the ability to walk boldly along the road of life encircled in His **PRESENCE**. The power of the resurrection for the believer is available each and every day and will faithfully escort those of us into eternity which is the ultimate gift. What an amazing love!!

The resurrection power enables us to experience the gift of continuous **PEACE**, renewal and refreshment whether in the routine of the ordinary or in the middle of difficult circumstances. Jesus is above all of our problems: He is our "burden bearer." Jesus enfolds us in His peace guarding our heart and mind as we invite Him to infuse us with His amazing love!!

The power of the resurrection also enables us to daily experience the **PROTECTION** of Jesus through our communication with the Holy Spirit. We are strengthened not only by the by the gift of wisdom, instruction and counsel but by the love of Jesus who remains alert and active against dangers seen and unseen. There is no better security. What an amazing, unfailing love!!

This Resurrection season and always, let's remain deliberate and thankful for the gift that Jesus' blood has brought us, mindful that we have the **presence**, **peace** and **protection** of our Crucified, Risen Redeemer, the Lamb of God whose amazing and unfailing love is always with us.

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



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