



JANUARY 2019

ZION INFORMER

From Your Pastor



Zion as we embark upon 2019 with fresh ideas and new endeavors let us be mindful of the importance of our spiritual growth. It is my earnest desire that the things that seemed unconquerable in 2018 will be conquered in 2019. Strong faith that leads to productivity is always a wise principle to practice. The biblical passage recorded in Matthew 17:14-21 says *“And when they were come to the multitude, there came to him a certain man, kneeling down to him, and saying, Lord, have mercy on my son: for he is lunatic, and sore vexed: for oftentimes he falleth into the fire, and oft into the water. And I brought him to thy disciples, and they could not cure him. Then Jesus answered and said, O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? how long shall I suffer you? bring him hither to me. And Jesus rebuked the devil; and he departed out of him: and the child was cured from that very hour. Then came the disciples to Jesus apart, and said, Why could not we cast him out? And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you. Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting.”*

The disciples encountered a demon possessed person that they could not minister to because of their lack of faith. Jesus says, *“this kind goes not out but by prayer and fasting.”* In order to conquer that which seems to be unconquerable sometimes prayer and fasting is the only option. I’m requesting that the members of the Zion Baptist Church to start the year praying earnestly and fasting collectively January 6—January 27, 2019. Prayer is sincere communication with God. Prayer is not a monologue, but prayer is a dialogue with God. Moreover, fasting is depriving the flesh by sustaining from food or other habits while depending on spiritual nourishment such as prayer, personal devotion or public worship to gain spiritual strength and favor. Consider the following things during this fasting season:

1. Prayer & Fasting provides an answer for a Hard thing! The phrase “this kind” which is mentioned in **Matthew 17:21** is referring to the severity of the situation. Do not be afraid to pray for the miracle. Do not be afraid to pray for the dream. Pray for the Hard thing.
 2. Prayer & Fasting provides a manifestation for a Holy thing! In fact, our prayers should not be limited to stuff that is tangible. Pray for Holy things such as spiritual meekness, humility, perseverance, and power!
 3. Prayer & Fasting is healthy both spiritually and physically! Sometimes it’s just good to be good managers of our food intake.
 4. Prayer & Fasting provides a manifestation in Honor to God! As you crucify the flesh it awakens a spiritual conscience that will help us live a life that brings honor to God.
- Zion let us conquer All!!!

Pastor Davis

Vision Statement

“Victorious People”

The vision is to minister to people by Remembering our History, Rendering Help while Reaching forward with Hope to be victorious in our future demonstrating a unwavering love, steadfast faith and effective witness.

Remembering our History

Rendering Help

Reaching forward with Hope

Birthdays

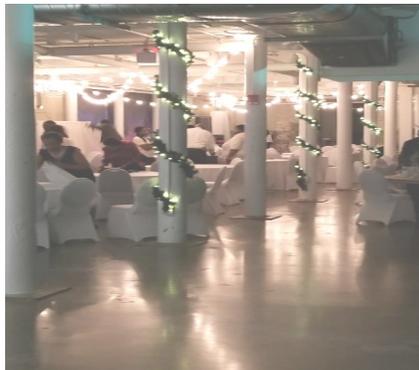
Tonja Mack Greene
Samiya Holmes
Alfreda Polite-Burkley
Cleo Fair
Nathaniel Abraham, Jr.
Joshua Etheredge
Nakia R. Franklin
Michele T. Brown
Thomas B. Levy, Sr.
Flossie M. Hall
Evetta Ross
Thelma Whitney
Clarence Williams, III
Linda F. Davis
Danielle Conyers
Mary E. Bowden
Marcus Frazier
Barbarettta Smith
Bridge Smith
Patricia Abraham
David McRae
Norma West
Sydney Worth
Rosa Trapp
Aniya Fluker
Jamiel Cobbs


*Birthdays
of the
Month*

ZION COMMUNITY FOUNDATION BLACK-TIE GALA

The Zion Community Foundation sponsored it's fifth annual gala on November 30th at the SC State Museum. What a grand way to start the Christmas season with music from Gospel Singer and Evangelist Beverly Crawford and the Fairfield Middle School Chorus under the direction of our own Director of Music, Sister Alicia Graham, assisted by Brother Logan Wade. The coemcees were our own Rev. Dr. Cynthia Walters and local radio personality Mr. Jeffrey Lampkin.

The vision for the Foundation is advancing victorious living. The purpose is to ensure healthy living by providing health related programs and services to the citizens of the Midlands. The evening was full of inspiration and fellowship. Dr. Lewis P. Graham is Chair.



Upcoming Events

January 6-21—ZBC 21 Days of Fasting and Prayer

January 12—SC Baptist Congress of Christian Education Winter Workshop, Benedict College, 8:30 a.m.

January 13—Pastor Davis; Ridgewood Missionary Baptist Church; Morning Worship Services; 8:00 a.m.

January 13—ZBC Installation of Officers, 11:00 a.m.

January 20—King Day Prayer Service, Zion Baptist Church, 4:00 p.m.

January 21—Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

January 21—King Day at the Dome Rally, Zion Baptist Church, 8:30 a.m.

Scripture

“Oh, how great is Your goodness, Which You have laid up for those who fear You, Which You have prepared for those who trust in You In the presence of the sons of men!” *Psalms 31:19 (NKJV)*

On Sunday, December 16, 2018, during the Sunday School period the youth of Zion Baptist Church displayed their various talents and presented the play “A Christmas to Believe In.” Good job !!

Sunday School Lessons

JANUARY 6

“Hold Fast to God’s Love”
2 Thessalonians 3:1-5;
2 John 4-11

JANUARY 13

“Submit to God in Love”
James 4:1-10

JANUARY 20

“Submit to God in Christ”
Philippians 1:12-21

JANUARY 27

“Devote All to Christ”
Philippians 2:1-11



GOOD NEWS

Brittney N. Gist was recently promoted to Program Assistant for the S.C. Violent Death Reporting System/Prevention. Brittney is the daughter of Rev. Israel Gist and Sister Cynthia Owens-Gist. **CONGRATULATIONS BRITTNEY N. GIST !!!**

Eric C. Flemming graduated December 15, 2018 with his Masters of Business Administration with a Concentration in International Business from University of Houston/Victoria Campus. He was also recently promoted to Senior Project Manager at Worley Parsons in Houston, TX. This follows his last assignment in which Eric was a Project Manager for an \$11 Billion USD project and will now be a Senior Project Manager over two major projects simultaneously. Eric is the son of Brother Clente and Sister Ojetta I. Flemming and brother of Sister Joy Flemming. **CONGRATULATIONS ERIC C. FLEMMING !!!**



2109—11 TIPS FOR A POSITIVE ATTITUDE

Maintaining a positive attitude is critical when you want to achieve anything...or just to improve the quality of your life. Check out these tips for **maintaining a positive attitude**.

(1) **You Determine Your Reality**—It's important to realize that you determine your reality by the way you react to the outside world. When something happens **you get to choose whether it's a positive or negative experience** and react accordingly.

(2) **Start Your Day Strong**—Most of us have to drag ourselves out of bed and this sets a negative frame for their entire day. **Positive people create a morning ritual** that reinforces how great life is and how happy they are to be alive. Whether you have 1 minute, 15 minutes or an hour to dedicate to your ritual you can start the day in whatever state you prefer.

(3) **Exercise Is The Natural Feel Good Drug**—Exercise is a great way to maintain your positive attitude because of all the **positive chemicals it releases into the blood stream**. Whether walking, jogging, dancing, etc. just do something !

(4) **Use Books, Audio And Videos To Overload Your Brain With Positivity**—There are millions of amazing books, audios and videos that you can use as inspiration. You can do this in the morning or while exercising, eating, commuting, cooking, cleaning...there's always time for positivity.

(5) **Your Language Shapes Your Thoughts**—Little changes in your language can change the way you think and how you act. Whenever someone greets you and asks how you're doing do you answer with "fine" or "not too bad?" Think about just what this language is communicating to others...and yourself.

(6) **Hang Out With Positive People**—It is often said that you will have a similar level of health, income and lifestyle as the **5 people you spend the most time with**. So if you want to be fit then start hanging out with fit people...want to start a business then hang out with business owners. And if you want to be positive make sure you're hanging out with positive people.

(7) **Show Your Appreciation For Others**—By appreciating others for a job well done, their outfit or their smile you start to cause a positivity chain reaction.

(8) **Garbage In, Garbage Out**—If you're feeding yourself with negativity all day long then it's pretty obvious you're going to be feeling negative as well. A lot of the media including news and TV thrive on negativity so **put yourself on a negativity diet** (including people).

(9) **Stop Negative Thoughts In Their Tracks**—When you start to notice negative thoughts, you can use a pattern interrupt to stop them in their tracks. The idea is to interrupt your current thought pattern and change your state. Whenever you start to get frustrated, try humming a song, quoting your favorite Bible verse, etc.

(10) **Live With Gratitude**—So many positive things happen during our day and we often ignore them while letting one negative comment or event ruin our mood. If you're reading this, then you probably live with a roof over your head and food in your belly which is a daily struggle for most of the world...so it should be easy to find tons of things you're grateful for.

(11) **Recharge Your Batteries**—A key to maintaining a positive attitude is taking the time to recharge your batteries. Simply try switching off from the outside world and spend time doing things you love. <https://www.lifehack.org/articles>

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Thursday Morning Prayer / 7:00-7:15 a.m. / 1-641-715-3395 / AC 511288#