

COME HOME TO FAMILY

A Monthly Publication of the Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church

Volume 12, Issue 4



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Do Not Fear

When we find ourselves in unfamiliar territory, we tend to experience fear. Israel found herself in such a place. In spite of her exilic situation, God promised her a future. This should have been comforting news, but it filled Israel with fear. The people of Israel wanted a positive future but could not see how they could make it from the point of where they were to where God said they would be. The uncertainty of "how" caused them to be full of anxiety concerning the journey. Many times we are just like Israel - the fear of the journey creates a spiritual blockade to moving forward. We fear failure. We fear not making it to the God-declared destination. The Lord understands our fear-tendencies. He seeks to free us from our fears by offering us His presence. The "I AM" promises to be with us. There is no situation that He is not what and who we need to have a successful journey.

Sometimes we are dismayed when we fear. To be dismayed is to gaze from one thing to another looking for help and relief. We find ourselves trying out everything we see. We are so overwhelmed with our inabilities that we tend to look for help in all the wrong places. Israel was charged to not be dismayed because the Lord said, "I am

Continued on page 4

Come Home to Family

Publisher

Tabernacle Missionary
Baptist Church

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It is the mission of Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church to: Exalt the Savior through worship and praise, expound the scripture through biblical preaching and teaching, embrace the saved through membership and fellowship, equip the saints through Christian education and discipleship for the work of the ministry, encourage the struggling through ministries for the whole person and evangelize the sinner through the sharing of the Good News, all empowered by the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit, all done to the glory of God.

Come Home to Family is a monthly publication created to inform and encourage Tabernacle friends and family. Material must be submitted before the 15th of the month preceding each issue.

**Tabernacle Missionary
Baptist Church**
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Pastor's Schedule

STAY CONNECTED VIRTUALLY:

Sundays 9:30am - The Teaching Ministry of Tabernacle Discusses the Church School Lesson

Sundays 11:00am - Sunday Morning Worship

Wednesdays 12:00pm - Bible Class

Wednesdays 6:00pm - Church in Prayer & Study

Sermon Topics

March 1
Saved by Grace
Ephesians 2:8-9

March 8
Live Holy & Godly Lives
2 Peter 3:10-14
Rev. Dr. Bill Thompson

March 15
The Immanuel Factor
Psalm 48

March 22
The Personal Promise of His Presence
Isaiah 41:10

March 29
Unshakable Confidence
Psalm 27:1-3

(all sermons by Pastor Johnson unless otherwise noted)

Working through a New Norm for the Sake of the Gospel

Some of us can look back at the times in our life when things were different. We call them the good old days. Well, what about the good old days? Certainly, things were simpler. Communication was face to face which made it more personal. I can recall my Grandmother and my Mother in the kitchen cooking together and talking about day to day events. If the conversation became too adult for my ears I was instructed to "go play." We knew all our neighbors and often communicated over the fence while taking a break from hanging laundry, cutting grass or gardening. The front porch was a nice cool place to sit in the evening during the summer months with a cool glass of lemonade while conversing with those living next door as the children played up and down the sidewalk. When sickness or death came to our neighbors, we rallied around them with visits, food and prayer. So, what changed?

Cell phones, text messages, internet, email, social media, television and video games just to name a few. Let's not forget the most important change, people stop attending church like they used to. Many think it's obsolete or ok to participate in other activities on Sunday. Children are allowed to sleep in after a long night of playing Fort Knight a popular video game or to go to sports practice. Also, there are some who are forced to work on Sunday. It's a whole new NORM. Question is, how do we as Christians adjust our way of witnessing to the fit the new way we live?

We must continue to live a Godly life before them (Mat 5:16) living a purpose driven life for Christ and seeking Him through prayer and studying His word. It is also important to train our children to be children of faith and love (Prov 22:6). Going to church is only part of it. We need to talk with family, coworkers, friends and sometimes strangers we meet during normal day to day living. Nobody wants to be lectured or preached to, so don't do it! We are ambassadors with stories to tell that can lead to the gospel and salvation by the power of the Holy Spirit (2 Cor 5:20). Our sphere of influence is only handicapped by our unwillingness to talk to the unsaved about the good news of Jesus Christ. Jesus walked about a hundred miles radius talking with people and you and I have cars, access to airplanes, cell phones and lots of technology to reach the masses. Let's face it, technology is not going anywhere so why not use it to build the kingdom along with face to face conversations. Our country is in panic mode right now and it's a good time to give them hope. Blessed Hope, not fear. Joshua 1:9 says "Be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord is with you wherever you go. The Church must be conscientious, vigilant and persistent in witnessing to reach as many people as possible for Christ. God sent Jesus (John 3:16, John 9:4) and Jesus sent us (Mat 28:19-20) WORD! Paul writes about bringing Gentiles to God and that being the only thing he could brag about. He had a message about the gospel and he worked among them (Rom 15:15-16). The time is coming when no man can work so let's work the work of the one who sent us, Jesus Christ our savior and Lord.

Want to know more? Get the book written by Jeff Iorg "Unscripted" it talks about witnessing as life happens. It's truly inspirationally eye-opening!

Engaging the Congregation in Prayer

Special Prayer Focus for April 2020:

That we will be quick to confess our sins and repent when we have fallen short of God's Word

Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much. James 5:16 [NASB]

We as Christians in the Church today have a tremendous responsibility. Our world today is in a state of confusion and nothing seems to be certain. Leadership is faltering and the economy is declining, and moral decay is rising rapidly. Not only that, the Coronavirus pandemic is affecting people worldwide. However, as believers, we know that there is a certainty of hope because we are convinced, and our lives are a living testimony of the saving power of Jesus Christ. We have been freed from the power and penalty of sin. During our daily living, we will encounter struggles and face challenges in the vicissitudes in life that might lead to sin, but when we confess and repent of our sins to God, we will be forgiven, cleansed and restored. [1 John 1:9]

The Bible says that there is none righteous, no not one (Romans 3: 10). Sin is contrary to God's will. It alienates us from Him and results in various consequences and different forms and severity of suffering for sin. All of us have need to confess. What does it mean to confess sins? It is an acknowledgement or admission of sins. In other words, "to own it," so to speak, meaning to take responsibility for having done it. Some have said it is to agree with God that we have sinned. Repentance, then, is the next necessary step. To repent is to regret the act and have a change of mind and attitude which results in a new behavior. Genuine repentance involves a turn; to turn from the sin to obedience to God. This pleases God. When we have fallen short of God's Word, let us be quick to confess and repent of our sins. No Christ follower should want to be out of relationship with God for long. Our rendered hearts should lead to transformed living and right relationship with God.

"Continual confession of sins is an indication of genuine salvation" (John MacArthur Study Bible, KJV). That is why it is necessary to commune and fellowship with each other by sharing our needs and being open and honest. What is shared should remain confidential. This enables us to uphold each other in our spiritual struggles. When we confess our sins to one another and pray fervently, this strengthens us for our spiritual journey by moving the merciful and compassionate heart of God.

Are any of you suffering hardships? You should pray. Are any of you happy? You should sing praises. Are any of you sick? You should call for the elders of the church to come and pray over you, anointing you with oil in the name of the Lord. Such a prayer offered in faith will heal the sick, and the Lord will make you well. And if you have committed any sins, you will be forgiven [James 5:13- 15 NLT].

This is a remedy in plain sight for all that ails us:

Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results [James 5:16, NLT].

James 5:16 expresses essential truth that many have heard yet few believe or practice. Most of us are familiar with and sing with sincerity the words of the following song:

*O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer!*

We need to practice what we preach and sing. Let's start now and watch God turn things in the right direction. Let's stop hiding our faults and troubles, pray for one another and watch God work.

Prayer:

Father, awaken us to the great privilege and access You have given us to boldly come to Your Throne of Grace. Let us finally call on You to be the Difference Maker in all our turmoil and pain. Make us transparent about our faults and weaknesses – You know them all anyway. Make us compassionate, honest and trustworthy so that we may safely confess our faults and fears to one another and pray for each other.

Lord we come to you recognizing that TAB did not make it to 100 years on our own efforts. You are the One who has been gracious and merciful to us. Please forgive us for any time we may have taken credit for the successes that we have experienced down through the years. Forgive us any time we lift ourselves up in any way suggesting it was our efforts. You are the One who has supplied us with all we have given. You are the one who has given us gifts and abilities to work in Your kingdom. Thank You Lord, for Your grace and mercy to us. May we be just as gracious and merciful to one another. Amen.

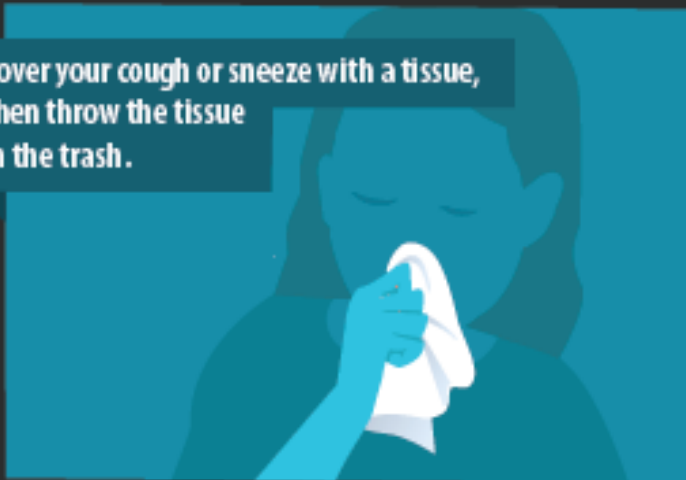
STOP THE SPREAD OF GERMS

Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like COVID-19.

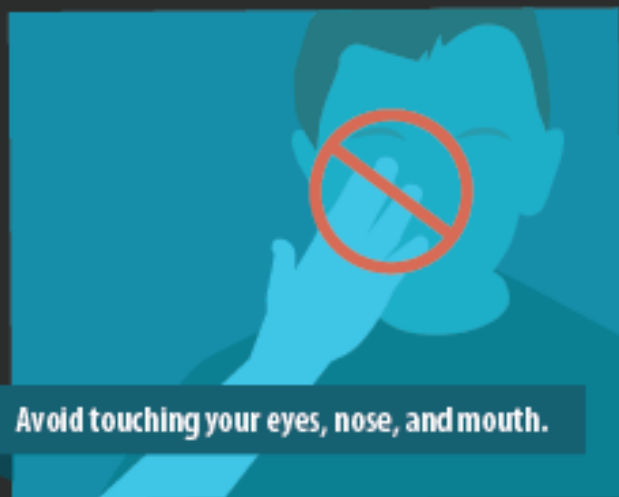
Avoid close contact with people who are sick.



Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.



Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.



Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.



Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.



Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.



cdc.gov/COVID19

Do Not Fear Continued from page 1

your God.” The proper noun “God” is the title God uses to introduce Himself as creator. He is the one who brings order out of chaos. He calls forth light in darkness. He uses the nothingness of our situations and makes something out of it. All the help we need is in the God who created this world. The Creator God promises to be with us.

We may feel that we are not able to make the journey, not able to do all that will be necessary to see it through. God knows about our lack of strength. He assures us that He will strengthen us for whatever lies ahead. He toughens us. The Hebrew word for “strengthen” is a translation of *amats*. The outcome of the strengthening of God is courageous fortitude. This fortitude is likened to the reptile’s capacity to survive in the most arid environments. Because God is omniscient, He knows what we need and when we need it. He gives us the ability to survive and thrive in difficult circumstances.

God promises to help us along the way. We often think of help as some sort of aid. However the word here means to surround. We must never feel that we are without protection. God Himself is the fence, the hedge of protection encircling us. Whatever would befall us would have to penetrate the Almighty God in order to harm us.

Whenever we are tempted to fear we should remember what the Lord has said to us in Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness" (Isaiah 41:10, Wordstudy KJV). One of the great hymns of the church makes this truth crystal clear for us.

*Be not dismayed whate'er betide,
God will take care of you; beneath His wings of love abide;
God will take care of you.
Thru days of toil when heart doth fail,
God will take care of you; when dangers fierce your path assail,
God will take care of you.
All you may need He will provide;
God will take care of you; nothing you ask will be denied;
God will take care of you.
No matter what may be the test,
God will take care of you; lean, weary one, upon His breast;
God will take care of you.*

*Chorus: God will take care of you, thru ev'ry day, o'er all the way;
He will take care of you;
God will take care of you.*

Shalom,
Pastor Johnson

Grateful

Celebrating God with Grateful Hearts...

For allowing the Tabernacle Family to participate in His Kingdom Building Work.

Comfort and Care

The Comfort and Care Ministry is designed to help those who are suffering from loss. Loss encompasses loss of a loved one through death, a spouse from divorce, an important relationship, job, or income. Our ministry has trained, equipped, counseled, and provided resources for church members. In 2010, we launched the Precious Memories Service to offer support and comfort during the holiday season for those who have suffered the loss of a loved one within the past year. Counseling sessions were provided in the past by the counselors, social workers, and chaplains of the ministry. In September 2017, Support for the Journey, a small group session was birthed. It provides an opportunity for the bereaved to process their grief, receive counsel, comfort and inspiration.

The current goals of the ministry are:

- To provide avenues to comfort, encourage, strengthen, and promote healing for those experiencing loss.
- To surround them with caring Christians within the church and to provide avenues to connect with a group fellowship and/or bible study.
- To train, equip, and provide resources to promote healing in a healthy manner.
- To reach out, come alongside, and be of practical help where possible.
- To offer prayer and a godly perspective when appropriate.

Those suited for this ministry are individuals with a heart of compassion, who love people, and possess a desire to serve God by ministering to others. Those suffering from loss need people who are nonjudgmental and willing to reach out to them personally and attend to their need for someone to listen and empathize. When comforting and counseling people in grief, it is essential to have focused listening skills. Caring enough to listen and attend to their situation and state of being speaks volumes in the way of comfort to them. The Comfort and Care team members are the right people who bring compassion, character, competence, and chemistry to fulfill God's purpose here at Tabernacle. We welcome new members.

Current Ministry Members: Rev. Miller Adams, Sis. Melody Coleman (Adjunct Member), Sis. Diane Courtney, Deaconess Yvonne Gillespie, Deacon Charles Green, Deacon Stephen Iposu, Deaconess Anne Pearson, Sis. Sharon Pettway, Deaconess Eula Rice, Rev. Beverly McCutcheon, Deaconess Anne Pearson, Deaconess Marcel Robinson, Sis. Jacqueline Snodgrass, Disciple Virginia Winters, Sis. Beatrice Wright, and Rev. Patricia Mobley, Chairman

*It is of the LORD's mercies that we are not consumed, because HIS compassions fail not.
They are new every morning: great is Thy faithfulness*

Lamentation 3:22-24

**WAYS TO
STAY CONNECTED!**

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Nathan Johnson, D.D., Senior Pastor

Virtual Church School – 9:30 AM

Live Stream via YouTube, Facebook, and www.ZOOM.us/join (Meeting ID: **944 011 791**)

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP – 11:00 AM

Live Stream via YouTube, Facebook, and Teleconference

HOW TO ATTEND CHURCH ONLINE

GET OUT OF BED AND GET DRESSED

it will put you in the right mindset for worship

GO THROUGH YOUR NORMAL SUNDAY ROUTINE

minus the “hurry up, we’re late” part

GATHER TOGETHER AS A FAMILY

no multitasking; worship is a family activity

STREAM TO YOUR LARGEST SCREEN IF POSSIBLE

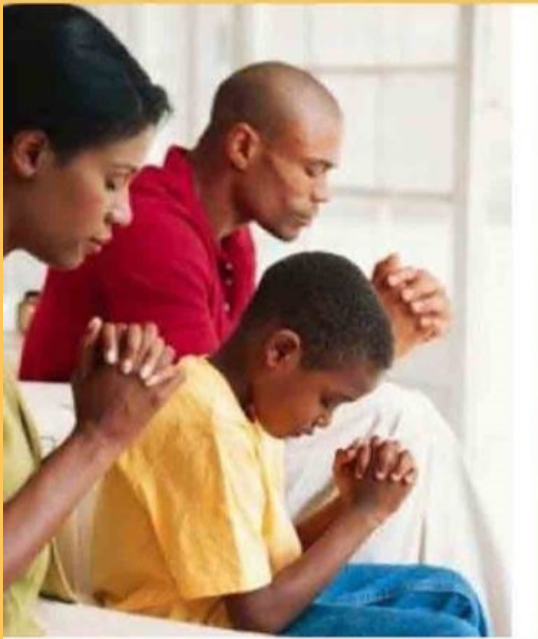
it will feel like you are really “there”

SING ALONG LOUD AND PROUD

it may feel weird, but it also feels weird to the people leading worship
in an empty room

PREACH WITH THE PREACHER

say amen, clap, shout and take notes; have a time of prayer at the end;
make your home a sanctuary



★ WEDNESDAY EVENINGS ★

THE CHURCH FAMILY

STAYING CONNECTED VITUALLY

IN PRAYER & STUDY

Live Stream via YouTube, Facebook, Teleconference, and Zoom*

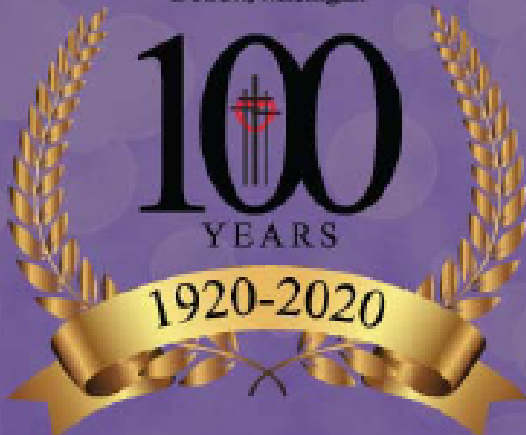
6:00 PM - PRAYER

6:30 PM - FAMILY BIBLE STUDY with Pastor Johnson

****Updated** (351) 999-3940**

***www.ZOOM.us/join - Meeting ID: 584 878 336**

Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church
Detroit, Michigan



Dr. Walter McLean & Trustee Tommye Roberts, Co Chairmen
Nathan Johnson, D.D., Senior Pastor

CELEBRATING & CONTINUING IN HIS ABOUNDING GRACE

Lamentations 3:22-24

Special Prayer & Fasting Focus ~ April 2020

April Prayer & Scripture Focus

That we will be quick to confess our sins and repent when we have fallen short of God's Word. (James 5:16)

Check the "Centennial Central" on www.TMBCdetroit.org for more

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As of March 21, 2020, **16.7% of households have responded to the 2020 Census**. America is stepping up to shape our future and ensure families and communities are counted. Amid the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, The Census Bureau is taking steps to help protect the health and safety of the American public, Census Bureau employees, and everyone going through the hiring process for temporary census taker positions.

It is at this time, the public is strongly encouraged to respond to the 2020 Census online using a desktop computer, laptop, smartphone, or tablet, and you can also respond by phone or mail. Everyone should respond to the 2020 Census as soon as they receive their invitation — and when they're finished, they can make sure their friends, families and social networks know about the importance of responding.



For all other Census Bureau household and economic surveys separate from the 2020 Decennial Census, Bureau personnel will begin using phone calls instead of in-person visits. In the limited number of instances where an in-person visit is necessary, we are working closely with public health authorities to ensure each visit is accomplished safely.

Once again, we encourage everyone to respond online today! at 2020Census.gov. With the flexibility and support of the American people, we will achieve a complete and accurate count which helps guide funding decisions for things like hospitals, roads and emergency services. Respondents can also respond by calling the number provided in their invitation or by mail once they have received a paper form.

Weekly Sunday School Lessons

Spring Quarter 2020—Unit II: God Promises a Just Kingdom

- April 5 God's Just Servant
(Isaiah 42:1-9)
- April 12 Resurrection Hope
(1 Corinthians; Mark 16)
- April 19 Injustice Will Be Punished
(Esther 3:5,7)
- April 26 The Lord Loves Justice
(Isaiah 61:8-62:12)

Spring Quarter 2020—Unit III: Called to God's Work of Justice

- May 3 A Vision of Restoration
(Zephaniah 3)
- May 10 Peace and Justice Reign
(Zechariah 8)
- May 17 Practice Justice
(Jeremiah 21)
- May 24 Repent of Injustice
(Jeremiah 22)
- May 31 Return to Love and Justice
(Hosea 11-12)

Flowers Enhancing the Beauty of the Sanctuary

are dedicated...

April 5, 2020

In loving memory of **Deceased Members of the Deacon and Deaconess Ministries**. Placed there by the Deacon Ministry.

April 12, 2020

In loving memory of our parents, **Deacon Isaiah & Marie Reed** and our sister, **Sheila Reed**. Placed there by Shirley, Carolyn & Richard Reed, & Marlene Terry.

April 19, 2020

In loving memory of **Trustee Roosevelt Wise**. Forever in our hearts. Placed there by Sister Irma Wise (Wife), Kelvin Wise and Rosalind Ali (Children), Allison, Bradley, Arshad, and Amirah (Grandchildren).

April 26, 2020

In celebration & appreciation of **Members of the Worship Arts Ministry past and present**. Placed there by the Worship Arts Ministry.

Fellowship Hour

Fellowship Hour is planned for the **4th Sunday each month**.

April 26—Nurses Guild, Big Sisters, & Group #10/21

Celebrating Members with 11-20 years service to Tabernacle.

Church Office: 313-898-3325 | Prayer Requests—prayer@tmbcdetroit.org

Sick and Shut-In

ABSALOM, Sis. Carolyn MEBANE, Rev. Dr. William
ANDREWS, Sis. Eleanor NASH, Sis. Sara
ARNOLD, Sis. Nancy ODOM, Bro. Dan
BELL, Sis. Bessie RANDOLPH, Bro. Thelise
BENTLEY, Sis. Elois ROBERTS, Sis. Mildred
BERRY, Deaconess Rudelle SMITH, Sis. Alnieda
BERYL-BANKS, Sis. SMITH, Sis. Chanel
 Cynthia TYLER, Bro. Eddie
COLLINS, Sis. Ruth WALLICK, Sis. Pauline
HALE, Sis. Patricia WATSON, Sis. Irma
HAWKES, Bro. Earnest WELCH, Sis. Nettie
HERRING, Sis. Bessie WHITE, Sis. Thelma
HICKS, Sis. Mary WILMORE, Bro. Louis
HINES, Sis. Bernadine
HORTON, Sis. Carrie
HUNTER, Bro. James
JACKSON, Sis. Iola
JOHNSON, Sis. Ruby
LINEBARGER,
 Deaconess Nazell
LOGAN, Sis. Norma
LYNCH, Sis. Willie B.
MARTIN, Disciple Joan

Condolences

Sis. LaTasha Livingston & Sis. Nicole Muhammad for the loss of their mother, Sis. Shirley D. Shockley
    ~~~  
Sis. Kathleen McKenzie for the loss of her cousin, Sis. Mary Duncan  
    ~~~  
Dea. Robert & Trustee Anita Friday for the loss of her mother, Sis. Hattie Mitchell
    ~~~  
Sis. Rosa Brown for the loss of her sister-in-law, Sis. Emma Jean Brown  
    ~~~  
Sis. Angela Cobb for the loss of her mother & Bro. Joseph Riddick for the loss of his sister, Sis. Francis Marie Cobb
    ~~~  
Sis. Shirley Caviness for the loss of her nephew, Bro. Kenneth Ross  
    ~~~  
Sis. Rita Hunter for the loss of her aunt, Sis. Leona Davis
    ~~~  
Bro. John Edward Garrison for the loss of his mother, Sis. Coretta Peoples  
    ~~~  
Sis. Betty Daniels for the loss of her daughter, Sis. Makeba Daniels
    ~~~  
Bro. Victor Lee for the loss of his mother, Sis. Ruth Grimes  
    ~~~  
Sis. Cynthia Greene for the loss of her father, Bro. Fred Greene Jr.
    ~~~  
The family of Sis. Maxine Gultney  
    ~~~  
Sis. Kimberly Miles for the loss of her father, Bro. Bennie Miles

Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church

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Disciple Duane Hill, Children's Ministry	Rev. Samuel E. Spruill, Jail & Prison Ministry

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Every Sunday	
Worship Service	11:00 am
Sunday Church School	9:30 am
New Member's Class	9:30 am
Big Sisters • Children 2½-5 years • Child Development Center	11:00 am
Observance of the Lord's Supper • Every 1st Sunday (11:00 am)	
Baptism • Every 2nd Sunday (11:00 am)..... Dedication of Babies • Every 3rd Sunday (11:00 am)	
Children's Worship Celebration • Every 1st & 3rd Sunday (11:00 am)	
The Church in Fellowship, Study, and Prayer • Every Wednesday (5:30 pm-8:15 pm)	

