



"Though your beginning was small, your latter days will be very great." Job 8:7 (NRSV)

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Reverend Damon P. Williams, Ph.D., Senior Pastor and Reverend Khalia J. Williams, Ph.D., First Lady

THE VISION

Quarterly Newsletter of Providence Missionary Baptist Church



A New Year !!!!

As we leave 2017 in our past, we can say "whatever I had to go through in that year I got over it". Some may have lost loved ones and celebrated their lives while on this earth. We are encouraged by God that allowed us to be a part of their lives;

we are left with wonderful memories that will last a life time. As the circle of life is ever present, some welcomed new additions to their family. Babies are always a reminder

that faith is alive and our legacy will carry on. If you lost someone or saw the beginning of someone, **Rejoice!!!**

PMBC saw many indications of growth, participated in opportunities of fellowship, developed spiritual guidance for the congregation, studied the Word and offered Outreach to those in need.

We were not turned off from the events of world, politics, overwhelming disasters in many parts of the country and world, senseless gun violence and personal struggles were all on display in 2017. Suffice it to say, we are reminded that God is still in

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us."

Hebrews 12:1 NRSV

control. We know who holds our future. Those in Christ realize that there is only one true power and one true provider. We know because we have seen Him

bring us through

many trying circumstances and through his love we persevered. We do not doubt who is in control of our lives.

We embrace 2018 and know we will lean on God for the entire year.

The next four pages highlights some of the events of 2017 in photographs.

2017 IN REVIEW

1ST QUARTER

January through March

Praising the Lord



Domestic Violence Seminar - sponsored by Janie and Ida's House of Hope



Ash Wednesday Service



Black Family Life Dinner



2ND QUARTER

April through June

College Day



Easter Weekend and Services



Healthy Eating Seminar—sponsored by Health Ministry



Community Block Party



Vacation Bible School



3RD QUARTER

July through September

Back to School Luau



Worship on the Lawn



A New Place for our Youth



Yoga—hosted by the Health Ministry



4TH QUARTER
October through December

Revival and 146th Anniversary



Trunk or Treat



Community Street Festival



Pamper me Pink—Sponsored by the Health Ministry



OUTREACH

By Janice Green

The purpose of the Deaconess Board shall be to help enrich the spiritual life of the church; promote and support the programs of the church; administer to the needs of members as well as community; visit the sick and shut in; and help foster peace, love and Christian unity through respect and faithfulness.

Organized in the late 1940's by former first lady, Mamie Hubert, the Deaconess Board has evolved to play an important role in Providence today. In the early years, the deaconesses focused on several social outreach activities such as providing baskets to the needy during the holidays; establishing the "helping hands" angel program; soliciting items from businesses for Grady Hospital's Pediatric Ward; assembling care baskets for unwed mothers; visiting the sick and whatever other tasks that needed to be done.

Since the mid 1990s, the deaconesses have worked closely with the deacons in carrying out the ordinances of the church by:

Assisting with communion by preparing the table and providing gloves for the ministers and deacons.

Assisting with baptism which includes contacting candidates; greeting candidates prior to baptism; assisting with dressing candidates and laundering clothing and towels.

The deaconesses have made significant contributions inside as well as outside the church. In 2011, the Deaconess Board was one of only three groups to reach their goal of \$12,180 for the 140th church anniversary. The Board also made a donation toward the purchase of chairs for the fellowship hall. Previously, the board hosted some fun activities. For 10 years (2004-2013), the board sponsored a "Pre Mother's Day Brunch" which included fashion shows, hat and basket decorating as well as gifts for attendees. During some of these events, we would bring in ladies from Essence of Hope, our outreach counterpart, as our special guests. The Brunch was a very exciting time for our special guests and a most anticipated event for members of PMBC and the community. The latest inside outreach was to host family game night for PMBC members. It was a joyous occasion for all attendees. The Deaconess Board also partnered with the deacons to prepare and serve meals for Vacation Bible School (VBS).

Our outside outreach includes:

Partnering with Venetian Hills and Beecher Hills Elementary Schools (career day activities, supplies, etc.)

Assisting Essence of Hope (assistance for homeless women)

Assisting McClarin High School (toys for teenage moms)

Assisting Solomon's Temple (toiletries for women and children)

Twice a year preparing and serving meals to homeless teenagers at the Covenant House

Creating a "Prom Closet" for high school students, April, 2017(served male and female students in three Atlanta High Schools as well as Stand Up for Kids-Atlanta.)

All in all, the deaconess board has always been about service...service to members, service to the community, and service to the church. The deaconess board is here to serve!



Prom Closet



At McClarin High School



At Covenant House

ARCHIVES

Who Will Preserve Your Story?

By Leonard Brown

While attending at workshop at the Stuart Rose Library at Emory University, an unassuming gentleman introduced himself to me. He was Dr. Pellom McDainels III, the faculty curator of the African American Collection at Emory.

When I introduced myself, an expression of excitement covered his face when I mentioned I attended Providence Missionary Baptist Church. His next words were "Ruth and Charles Wood"! I knew of Mrs. Wood through her daughter Jeanie Shuffett but I did not know her personally. She and her daughter sat a few rows behind me in church and we greeted each other on occasions.

Mrs. Nettie Ruth Carr was born on July 11, 1911, on a small farm in Kelly (Bladen County) North Carolina. In 1937 she received her Bachelors of Science degree from Shaw University in Raleigh, N.C. She had a long career as a registered nurse, having worked at Spelman College and Hughes Spaulding Children's Hospital. She married Charles Rupert Wood, Sr and was the mother of four children... She was a dedicated member of Providence until her death in March of 2011. She lived to be 100 years old.

Dr. McDaniels couldn't wait to share his story about the Wood Family A real estate agent who was in charge of the sale of the Mrs. Wood's home on Chickamauga Ave, informed him that she had run across several historical items that may be of interest to the Stuart Rose Archival Collection. Dr. McDaniels made a trip to the home and literally searched the large dumpsters in front of the home and its interior retrieving priceless relics of the past lives of the Wood Family. Some of these items included: church programs from

Providence, yearbooks from Tuskegee and Shaw Universities, ledger books, letters to her spouse and mother, items of clothing belonging to her infant children, high school diplomas, college degrees and nursing materials.

The items he uncovered are now housed, organized, preserved, and catalogued at the Stuart Rose Library at Emory University. The Archives Auxiliary visited the collection and was amazed at how the lives of the Wood Family were reborn.

Recently, her grandson Vernon Shuffett visited Providence. Members of the archive team informed him of his grandparent's collection. Many of us have had and will have amazingly blessed lives.



Mrs. Nettie Carr Wood

Who Will Preserve Your Story?

"Know Your History Better Than Those Who Speak Of It".



Archives Auxiliary at Emory University Library

Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Location
January		
26th	Karoke Night	Fellowship Hall
February		
4th	"Rep Your Team" —7:45 AM and 10:45 AM (Wear your favorite Team Gear)	Sanctuary
11th	Myeloma Health Sunday —7:45 AM and 10:45 AM (Wear Red)	Sanctuary
14th	Ash Wednesday Worship Service—12:00 PM and 7:00 PM	Sanctuary
25th	Black History Dinner 12:30 PM	Sanctuary
March		
25th	Palm Sunday—7:45 AM and 10:45 AM	Sanctuary
30th	Good Friday Seven Last Words—12:00 PM	Zion Hill
31st	Easter Egg Hunt—12:00 PM	Fellowship Hall

Providence Missionary Baptist Church

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Postage
Stamp