



# Grace Beacon

Grace Baptist Church of Germantown  
Rev. Dr. J. Henry Buck, Jr., Senior Pastor  
May 2023

## Two Meditations for Mothers' Day

[Related by Faith](#) by Julius Medenblik

In many countries at some time of the year there is a focus of gratitude and celebration for the life and influence of mothers. Today is such a day in the United States and Canada as we celebrate Mothers Day.

On this day we generally celebrate the mothers who gave us birth, or adopted us, or stood in a mother's place for us (such as an aunt or grandmother). We give thanks for and rightly honor the people who have cared for us and loved us.

In God's family the basis of our relationships is love and care as well. Being part of God's family is about recognizing the love and provisions we receive from God, coming to faith by God's grace, and then connecting with others who have a similar relationship with God—and inviting still others whom God wants us to welcome into his family.

As we learn about how the early church developed, we see that the mother of Jesus became part of the household of the disciple John. She also became a “mother” to John and took care of him. Jesus made sure that this relationship of mutual adoption framed their future even as he paid the ultimate price for all our sin.

Let's not forget about this important link between Mary and John. The early church was noted for their love for one another in Christ. May we follow that example today too and live out that legacy.

*Father God, in your family help us to live by love, hospitality, and generosity for Jesus' sake.  
Amen.*

[Honor Your Mother](#) by Art Schoonveld

The well-known theologian Karl Barth was asked by a reporter, “Sir, you have written huge volumes about God. Tell me, how do you know it is all true?” According to the story, he answered, “My mother told me.”

That's a rather simple answer to a profound question. But this answer says a lot about the influence mothers have on the home and on their children. While both parents have an important role in early childhood nurture, it is usually the mother who makes the home and shapes the minds of little children. The mother is often the first one to tell her children about the Lord.

As a child, the first person I looked for when coming home from school was my mother. After she passed away, our home life changed radically. My father did what he could to keep our home special, but it was never the same without our mother.

If your mother is still living, tell her how much you love her and respect her. In the nine years I knew my mother, I never once told her that. Thank her for who she is, and for how she has shaped your life. And if she is gone, thank God for who she was in your life.

If perhaps your mother is or was not the mother you wished you had, ask God to help you forgive her even now, and to give you the grace to love and accept her as she is or was.

*Lord God, we thank you for our mothers. Help us to love and respect them. Help us to be loving children as well as loving parents and spouses, for your sake. Amen.*



Image by [Creative\\_hat](#) on Freepik





**Rev. Dr. J. Henry Buck, Jr.**  
**Senior Pastor**

April showers bring May flowers. "Our God is an awesome God, He reigns from heaven and earth, with power and love. OUR God is an awesome God!"

Grace, we pray that this article finds you well and in good spirits. It's the month of May and May has a few notable reflections and days to highlight. For one, May is "Get Caught Reading" month. May is a month in which we are all encouraged to "Get Caught Reading". When was the last time we read a good book? When was the last time we read a good reflection analysis? When was the last time we read something that inspired us to reach beyond the boundaries of our own limitations? If you are interested in some good reads for the month of May here are a few: "***The Secrets We Keep***" by Kate Hewitt, "***The Insanity of God***" by Nik Ripken, and then there is

"***10 Hours To Live***" by Brian Williams. This one is for sure a good read because it deals with a young twenty-two-year old fellow by the name of Brian Wills who has been give a time slate due to this rare form of cancer called Burkitt's Lymphoma. Let me ask us a question that is very critical, "What do we do with the time or the hours we have that God has given us?"

May is also National Good Car-Keeping month. Now you may ask "What does this have to do with a reflection?" I am soooo elated that you've asked. A car can only last premised on how well you maintain it. The car needs attention because it will have to have certain things changed and replaced in order to get the maximum life out of it. It will have to have regular tuneups. It will have to have oil changes, new tires and other maintenance performed on it so that it can take you where you desire to go. Can we not illustrate the issue of taking care of the car along with how we should take care of our relationship with God and one another? Should we not make sure that we are performing maintenance checks on our faith and trust? Isn't it time to change our oil so that we can run on a bit further in this race? How many of us are trying to serve with our engine light on knowing we need to get checked before something expensive happens? Yes, May has some good days going and we certainly look forward to them, but let us not forget that a good read is necessary and a good tune up is needed.

We ask your continued prayers for those who are grieving loved ones who have transitioned from labor to reward. We also celebrate with those who will be enjoying anniversaries and birthdays during this month as well. We also are praising God for the celebration with will occur during Family Unity Day. Bring all your family from near and far and let's have a time like no other.

In closing, we ask that God would replace your anxiety, redeem your joy and replenish your praise for He has done great things.

Pas Vobiscum,  
Pastor Buck



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REV. DR. J. HENRY BUCK, JR.  
SENIOR PASTOR

April 24, 2023

Dear Grace Family,

On Sunday, May 7, 2023, the Women's Retreat Ministry is excited to host you as we celebrate 'family with a focus on reconciliation and unity' during our 10:00 AM Morning Worship Service. We have family ties through Jesus Christ, our Lord, and Savior so let's celebrate these ties at **Family Unity Day**. Our theme for the day is "We ARE Family" (Hebrews 13:1-3). Our guest preacher is Rev. Dr. Harold R. Jolley from Second Macedonia Baptist Church at 1301 W. Ruscomb Street, Philadelphia, PA.

We are encouraged to wear our favorite Grace or 'Family Reunion' T-shirt or sweatshirt. At the conclusion of the service, the celebration will continue with a reunion-style gathering with food, music, line dancing, and fellowship in the James B. Murray Social Hall on the lower level.

Every home at some point needs repairs. In the past, we've asked for a set amount but this year, we are asking that you just give whatever the Lord puts on your heart as a special sacrificial offering for "home repairs".

We look forward to seeing all of our family there. Bring your friends and family and let's just celebrate God's goodness in giving us a Grace Family.

Yours in Christ,

The Women's Retreat Ministry Leadership Team

cc: Rev. Dr. J. Henry Buck, Jr., Senior Pastor  
Deacon Sandie Jordan-Gordon, Chairperson, Deacon Board  
Trustee John S. Williams, Chairman, Trustee Board





**GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH  
OF GERMANTOWN  
REV. DR. J. HENRY BUCK JR.  
SENIOR PASTOR**

# Family Unity Day

**Join us for our Annual Day focused on showing love to families in all their forms. We ARE family!**

**SUNDAY, MAY 7, 2023**

**10:00AM**

**25 W. Johnson Street,  
Philadelphia, PA 19144**

**Featuring a message from our guest speaker Rev. Dr. Harold Jolley of Second Macedonia Baptist Church.**

*Wear your favorite family or church t-shirt and join us for a "Reunion-style" fellowship following service!*

**In person and online:**

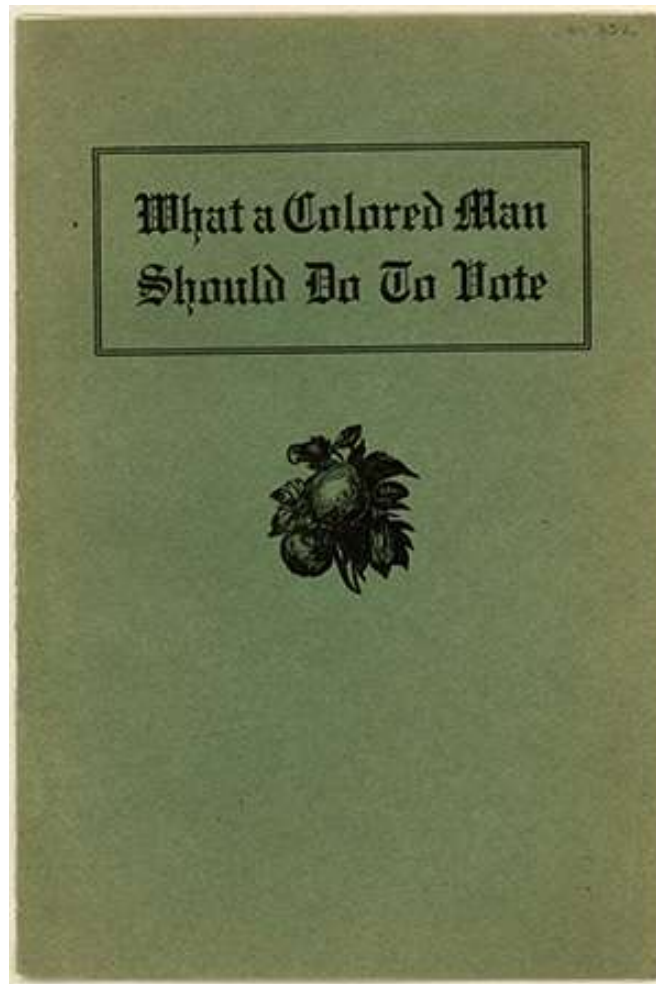
**(215) 438-3215**

**[gracebaptistgtn.org](http://gracebaptistgtn.org)**

# A Black History Moment

from AAHM, GBCOG

## Voting Rights for African Americans



To the Colored Men of Voting Age in the Southern States: *What a Colored Man Should Do to Vote*, pamphlet circa 1900

A terrible and bloody Civil War freed enslaved Americans. The Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution (1868) granted African Americans the rights of citizenship. However, this did not always translate into the ability to vote. Black voters were systematically turned away from state polling places. To combat this problem, Congress passed the Fifteenth Amendment in 1870. It says:

“The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.”

Yet, states still found ways to circumvent the Constitution and prevent blacks from voting. Poll taxes, literacy tests, fraud and intimidation all turned African Americans away from the polls. Until the Supreme Court struck it down in 1915, many states used the "grandfather clause " to keep descendants of slaves out of elections. The clause said you could not vote unless your grandfather had voted -- an impossibility for most people whose ancestors were slaves.

This unfair treatment was debated on the street, in the Congress and in the press. A full fifty years after the Fifteenth Amendment passed, black Americans still found it difficult to vote, especially in the South. "What a Colored Man Should Do to Vote", lists many of the barriers African American voters faced.



The fight for African American suffrage raged on for decades. In the 1930s one Georgia man described the situation this way: "Do you know I've never voted in my life, never been able to exercise my right as a citizen because of the poll tax? ... I can't pay a poll tax, can't have a voice in my own government."



Demonstrators marching in the street holding signs during the March on Washington, 1963

Many brave and impassioned Americans protested, marched, were arrested and even died working toward voting equality. In 1963 and 1964, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. brought hundreds of black people to the courthouse in Selma, Alabama to register. When they were turned away, Dr. King organized and led protests that finally turned the tide of American political opinion. In 1964 the Twenty-fourth Amendment prohibited the use of poll taxes. In 1965, the Voting Rights Act directed the Attorney General to enforce the right to vote for African Americans.

The 1965 Voting Rights Act created a significant change in the status of African Americans throughout the South. The Voting Rights Act prohibited the states from using literacy tests and other methods of excluding African Americans from voting. Prior to this, only an estimated twenty-three percent of voting-age blacks were registered nationally, but by 1969 the number had jumped to sixty-one percent.

Young Adults (ages 18 years old and above) the path way has been made for you to vote. Once you turn 18 years old you can register to vote!

**There are 4 convenient ways to register to vote or update your registration.**

You must register to vote at the address where you actually live – your residence address. Owning property or a business in a county does not make you a resident of that county.

**To register to vote:**

1. Fill out a voter registration application form.
2. Your county voter registration office reviews the form.
3. If your registration is accepted, you will get a voter registration card in the mail. The voter registration card will show your name, address, party affiliation, and the address where you will vote.

**You have 4 ways to register to vote. You can register:**

- [online](#)
- [by mail](#)
- [in person at your county voter registration office](#)
- [at PennDOT and some other government agencies.](#)



**From the keyboard of the editor**

## Beautiful May Moments

May is a happy time for many of us, but a sad time for others.

For those for whom this is a sad time, we pray for God to give you peace this month.

Those of us who celebrate the physical beauty of the month rejoice that signs of summer are underway. We can finally turn off the heater, and perhaps lighten the load on our wallets, although I must say that even with the rate increases, this year wasn't as bad as last year.

We celebrate our Mothers, Grandmothers, Aunties, and all those who stand in place of Mom this month. It is good to thank them and God for them whether they are yet with us or have joined that great cloud of witnesses!

### Happy Mothers Day to all!

We celebrate Family Unity Day here at Grace! Jesus prayed for us that we might be united as a family. 20 "I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, 21 that all of them may be **ONE**, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us **SO THAT THE WORLD MAY BELIEVE** that you have sent me. 22 I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be **ONE** as we are one— 23 I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to **COMPLETE UNITY**. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me." (John 17:20-23)

Complete Unity... Oh, how much we could accomplish for the Lord if we could have Complete Unity!

I found an excellent article on Unity that I'd like to share with you.

## HOW TO ENCOURAGE UNITY IN THE CHURCH

*(CornerstoneSF February 8, 2020)*

Unity. It's a word we often throw around in church, but what exactly does it mean to be unified with the people in your church, and how can you foster this sense of unity? We're going to focus on the importance of unity in the church and talk about what you can do to create unity. Each of us has a role to play, and each of us has much to gain from being part of a unified Christian community.

### How to Create Unity in the Church

What is unity? Does it mean you agree with everyone else in your church on everything? Does it mean that you all love pizza and hate pickles? All watch the same TV shows and listen to the same music? Of course not — we're all different, and that's great. So, what does it mean to be unified with people who are different from you?

Unity in the church is about coming together to form something bigger. It's recognizing that we're stronger together than we are individually. It's enjoying fellowship with each other. Unity in the church doesn't necessarily happen automatically. As with any relationship, we have to work continually at building and maintaining this unity. Ephesians 4:3 makes that clear when it commands us to "[m]ake every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."

How can we make every effort to maintain unity? Here are eight ways you can do your part to create unity in the church.

### 1. Remember Your Common Identity

First, it's important to keep your common identity at the forefront. Even though we may disagree on all sorts of things, the key to church unity is being on the same page when it comes to the main thing — which sports teams we root for. Just kidding. No matter how many differences you and another Christian have, you are united by something that goes far beyond a similar personality, interests or even sports franchise. You've both been changed by the truth of the Gospel and have been adopted into the same spiritual family.

The Bible backs this up repeatedly. For example, Galatians 3:28 tells us distinctions like gender or ethnicity are meaningless to Christians because we "are all one in Christ Jesus." In Philippians, Paul asks the church to complete his joy by "being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind." That doesn't mean we all think exactly the same way. What it does mean is that we share a common identity in Jesus Christ.

### 2. Acknowledge Your Need for Community

The phrase "no man is an island" doesn't come from the Bible, but it certainly goes along with what the Word of God has to say about people and our need for community. You may be thinking, "but I'm an introvert" or "I'm an independent person." It's fine if you enjoy some alone time to catch up on your favorite show or read a book, but the fact is, none of us — not even the most introverted — would do well living in isolation. We need each other.

We need other Christians in our church to help us work through difficult times in our lives and even to rejoice with us when things are going great. We also need others to help us see areas where we need to grow and to pray for us.



When we acknowledge our need for each other and do our best to live in community with other believers, it lays the foundation for unity.

### **3. Stay Humble**

The command to "always stay humble and kind" doesn't just come from country music. It comes from the Bible. In discussing the importance of unity to the Ephesians, Paul says, "Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love." Philippians 2:3-4 says, rather than being conceited, we should "in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others."

The Bible emphasizes humility repeatedly. Why is it so important to be humble? For one, when we're mindful of our own weaknesses, we're less likely to act self-righteous and judgmental and more likely to be gracious toward our brothers and sisters in Christ who have weaknesses of their own. Even Jesus rode in on a donkey — not a high horse. When each of us remains humble, we value each other more and truly feel our need for each other.

### **4. Embrace Your Differences**

In 1 Corinthians, the Bible uses the human body as a metaphor for the church. Just as the body is comprised of different parts, all of which serve their own function, every member that makes up a church also serves their own function. To put it more simply, each of us has our own unique strengths and weaknesses. This passage makes it clear that unity doesn't mean we're all the same. We are each a unique piece that fits together to form a unified whole.

The person who sits in front of you in church may be a great teacher. The person behind you may be an amazing encourager. Or maybe they can make a batch of brownies that brings you and others a little piece of Heaven on Earth. No one person needs to be great at everything because we have each other. So embrace and celebrate those differences. If everyone in a church was exactly the same, it would be a pretty dull place.

### **5. Believe the Best in Others**

When we're cynical and assume the worst about other people, we're bound to experience some disunity. For example, imagine a friend at church walks past you and doesn't say hi. You could assume they didn't see you or were in a hurry to get somewhere, or you could become offended and assume they must be giving you the silent treatment. Which of these responses is healthier and more conducive to maintaining unity?

Sure, there may be times when someone truly is brushing you off deliberately, but you can do a lot more harm by assuming the worst and being wrong than you can by assuming the best and being wrong. Wouldn't you want a friend to give you the benefit of the doubt? All of us have beautiful qualities and some not-so-beautiful qualities. Choose to focus on the good. As a writer for Christianity Today pointed out that, whether we look for the best in people or the worst, we'll find it.

### **6. Work Through Conflict**

We all know that relationships with our family and partners can get messy at times. Maybe you've had a family dinner or a date that ended in a shouting match. Whenever you're close with someone, it's inevitable that your faults and differences will lead to some conflict. The question is how we respond. Do we pull away or lean in and work through the conflict? Relationships with our church family can also get messy at times, and our response is just as important here.

As Paul closes his second letter to the Corinthian church, he urges them to "strive for full restoration" in their relationships. This is a far cry from avoiding someone you've had a negative interaction or an argument with. Instead of letting the issue drive a wedge between you and your friend in the church, work through the conflict with them. Don't hesitate to ask for forgiveness when needed and be quick to forgive so you can enjoy full restoration in your relationships.

### **7. Check Your Motives**

When conflicts arise or we're trying to respond, we should always check our motives. Our goal should always be to restore relationships and enjoy unified fellowship — not to get our point across, change someone's mind, make someone feel guilty or make them look bad. There are times when we're called to correct others, but we should only ever do it in love, for their own good.

Galatians 6:1 says that "if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently." This is a picture of kindness and humility, not a holier-than-thou mentality of condemnation. If you can't wait to go tell someone off, this is a good sign it's time to take a step back and prayerfully check your own heart. Leave your torches and pitchforks at home and approach the person in love, just as you would want them to do with you.

### **8. Don't Gossip**

Our culture tends to love gossip. Maybe it's because calling attention to other people's dirty laundry makes us feel better about ourselves. Unfortunately, many people in the church love gossip too, though we tend to frame it a little differently. We may say things like, "Pray for so-and-so because I heard..." or throw in a "bless their heart" for good measure. No matter how we frame it, the Bible makes it clear that there is no place for gossip in the church.

Gossip is an excellent way to create disunity in the church. A writer for the Gospel Coalition recommends that when Christians hear someone gossiping, they should take a hard stance by lovingly calling the person out and redirecting the conversation. No matter how tempted you may be to talk about a fellow believer, you should commit yourself to building others up rather than talking badly about them behind their backs.

### **What If You Disagree?**

You may be thinking, this is all well and good, but what do I do when I run into a disagreement with someone else in the church? We're not talking about a disagreement on whether drip or pour-over coffee is best or on whether cats or dogs make the best cuddle buddies. We're bound to disagree on lots of little things like this, and they likely won't get in the way of our friendships. However, more major disagreements can.

It could be a disagreement about doctrine, politics or another aspect of our belief system that seems important enough to either connect us or divide us. Politics, in particular, can be a major point of contention for some people in the church. No matter what the issue is, keep these three guidelines in mind for how to deal with division in the church:

- Don't moralize every issue: The Bible doesn't speak on every issue, and some topics are open to interpretation. Some issues are not so cut and dry, so each of us needs to rely on our own consciences and experience to discern the best way forward. It's okay if others come to different conclusions than you do.
- Keep an open mind: As with any disagreement, a little open-mindedness goes a long way. You may be sure you're right, but the other person likely is too. If you're in the midst of a disagreement with someone at your church, listen sincerely and consider the reality that you might be wrong or at least that you may not understand their perspective fully.
- Weigh your words: Ranting on social media and name-calling are not good strategies for maintaining unity. It's okay to share your opinions, but weigh your words carefully, always being respectful of the other person. And remember, in some cases, you're better off only listening and not saying much of anything.

### **The Importance of Unity in the Church**

Why should we all be working to maintain a sense of unity in our churches? There are a few important reasons. Unity isn't just a nice bonus or a Christian buzzword. Unity is something to fight for. Why? Because there are some important benefits of unity in the church. To boil it down, unity:

- Enriches our lives: Each of us stands to benefit from being part of a unified church. We're weak on our own, but we're much stronger together. When we're unified with other believers, we can learn more, grow more and enjoy the type of community God designed us to be a part of.
- Glorifies God: Romans 15:5-7 asks God to grant his church harmony, or the same attitude of mind, so that we "[a]ccept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God." Note the ultimate goal here. When we're unified, we bring glory to our Father who desires to see His people living in close fellowship with each other.
- Helps our witness: When Christians are fighting with each other, it can hurt our witness with unbelievers. When we instead commit to church unity, we create a beautiful picture for the world of what it looks like to love others like Christ does. It also points to the perfect harmony God intends for the universe, a harmony that will be restored fully one day.

Getting back to those "Beautiful May Moments", we can't forget those beautiful moments when someone we love walks across a stage to receive a piece of paper that declares "I finished what I started!" Yes, Graduations are happening this month. Anyone wanting to see our own Rev. Dr. Dianne Faust and Min. Dr. Clifford Stanley take that walk can tune in on Friday, May 19, 2023 at 2:00 pm on ULS u-tube channel to share their joy!

**I'm reminding those graduating from high school that your Grace Scholarship application is due by June 1, 2023. Anyone reapplying for a scholarship for next semester should also forward the required notice and grades by June 1, 2023.**

**All graduates, from preschool to post baccalaureate, should forward notice of their graduation to the church by June 11 as we get ready to celebrate them at the June Recognition of Graduates Service.**

Birthdays, weddings, anniversaries, graduations and other special days all contribute to "Beautiful May Moments." Let's celebrate them, thank God for them, and enjoy them to the fullest!

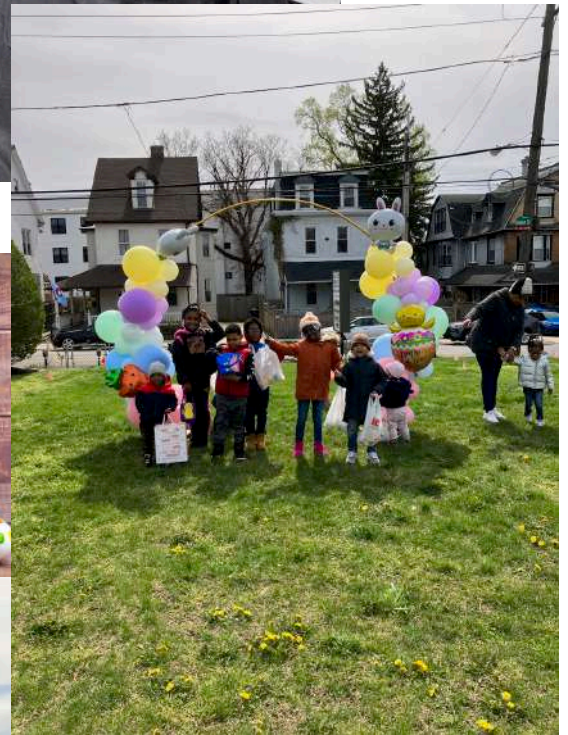
Have a blessed May, Grace!

Sandi





**THE KIDS  
HAD FUN  
AT THE  
EASTER  
EGG HUNT**



**THANK YOU REV. WATSON AND THE  
MEMBERS OF THE CHILDREN'S MINISTRY  
TEAM!**



FREE  
PARKING

FREE  
ADMISSION

theMann.

HBCU  
FESTIVAL

PRESENTED BY



TD READY  
COMMITMENT



PRETTY VEE

HBCU COLLEGE FAIR • MARCHING BANDS  
CHOIRS • CHEER SQUADS • FOOD TRUCKS  
GUEST SPEAKERS • FAMILY FUN ACTIVITIES  
MASTER CLASSES • LIVE MUSIC • DRUMLINE BATTLE  
SPECIAL GUESTS AND MORE!



TERRENCE J

MAY 20

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Join us at the first-ever HBCU Festival Presented by TD Bank at the Mann on May 20, 2023! This **FREE** festival will be an all-day community event celebrating Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and their vibrant culture. As an interactive college fair featuring representatives from national and regional HBCUs, the festival will serve to engage and inspire the next generation of students while celebrating the rich and varied performing arts that are integral to HBCU culture.

The festival will include performances by guest artists as well as live HBCU choirs, marching bands, majorettes, and cheer squads. Attendees can also enjoy masterclasses by choral and band directors, panel discussions on college affairs, and more. There will be food trucks and plenty of family-friendly activities such as face painting, balloon making, crafts, and more around the campus for all to enjoy!

## Sick & Shut-in List

### OUR KNOWN SICK AND SHUT-INS:

Dr. K. Wesley Alford  
Mrs. Dorothy Allen  
Ms. Joyce Allen  
Deacon Robert Berkley  
Mrs. Luvonia Bivens  
Ms. Dolores J. Bouldin  
Mr. Leonard Carter  
Mrs. Shirley Carter  
Trustee Em. Ruben Collins  
Mr. Fred Corbett  
Mrs. Claudia Cuyler  
Mrs. Juanita Dade  
Mrs. Carol Daley  
Trustee Em. Sidney Estes  
Mrs. Liller B. Green  
Mrs. Brenda Hinson  
Mrs. Florence Jenkins  
Mrs. Deborah Steward-Johnson  
Mr. Darryl Jones  
Mrs. Jacqueline Johnson  
Mrs. Elayne King  
Mrs. Patricia Lomax  
Ms. Celesta McLean  
Mrs. Helene Morris  
Mr. James Napoleon  
Mr. Joseph Norman  
Mrs. Florence Palmer  
Ms. Ida Reeder  
Mrs. Dorothy Wint-Ryan  
Miss Aileen K. Scroggins  
Mrs. Beulah Steward  
Mrs. Virginia Thomas  
Ms. Alice Whitaker  
Ms. Sandra White  
Mrs. Irma Williams  
Mrs. Catherine Willie

Ms. Keisha Way, **Towne Manor East**

### PRAYER LIST:

Ms. Linda Lawrence, **sister**, of Mrs. Barbara Autry  
Mr. Kevin Barlow, **son** of Mrs. Cora P. Barlow  
Ms. Annette M. Jackson and Mrs. Shirley Macon, **sisters** of  
Mrs. Cora Barlow and Mrs. Theresa Smith  
Ms. Joanne Evans, **friend** of Mrs. Patricia Beach  
Ms. Karen Beyers and Mr. Eugene Beyers  
Mrs. Shyolanda Nichols-Brown of Denver, CO  
Mrs. Norma Birckett  
Ms. Juan Clairbourne of Las Vegas, NV, **cousin** of  
Rev. Dr. J. Henry Buck, Jr.  
Aeesha Butts, mother and Teesha Butts, **daughter**  
Mr. Adelbert Bush  
Ms. Janey Martin, **mother** of Mrs. Betty J. Coleman  
Mr. Robert Corbett, **brother** of Mr. Fred Corbett &  
Ms. Ellen Corbett  
Ms. Elizabeth Corbett  
Mrs. Helena Dennis, 125 E. McIver Road, Darlington, SC  
29532, **mother** of Ms. Lisa Dennis  
Mrs. Marlene Diggs  
Mrs. Mildred Elliott  
Mr. Willie Evans, **father of** Ms. Tiffany Evans  
Mrs. Parthenia Gardner, **sister** and Mr. Tyrone Randolph,  
**son** of Mrs. Geraldine V. Gilmore  
Mrs. Geraldine V. Randolph-Gilmore  
Mrs. Carolyn McLean of Raeford, NC, **sister** of Ms. Vera  
Graham  
Mr. William Harris, son of Mrs. Delores Harris  
Mrs. Ethel Johnson  
Mr. Edmund McLaurin, Jr. **nephew** of Ms. Joanne Johnson  
Mrs. Christina Pleasants-Johnson  
Mr. Christopher H. Vinson, **son** of Mrs. Geraldine Lamar  
Ms. Yvonne Love, **sister** of Ms. Vinnette Love  
Mrs. Florence Lucas, **sister-in-law**, Mr. Robert Lucas,  
**brother** and Mrs. Dorothy Ripley, **sister** of Trustee William &  
Adele Lucas  
Mrs. Jacqueline (Garden) Marshall  
Mr. Roger Lee Jenkins (NC), **uncle** and Ms. Yolanda Bailey,  
**cousin** of Deacon Prince & Lorraine Massey  
Rev. Victoria Monts and Master Joshua Monts  
The Moody Family  
Mrs. Lillian V. McClanahan-Nunn  
Mrs. Marlene Patterson  
Ms. Alice Vaughn (GA), **niece** and Mrs. Vira Dennis, **friend**  
of Rev. Arnold C. Storr  
Mr. Vito Scutti  
Mr. Kevin Turner, of Durham, NC, **son** of Mrs. Elayne Turner  
Mrs. Matilda Simmons, **sister** of Ms. Alice Whitaker &  
Mr. Landon Whitby  
Mrs. Lisa Williams, **wife** of Mr. Anthony Williams  
Mrs. Ellen L. Williams  
Mrs. Mae F. Williams

### OUR NURSING HOME & REHABILITATION

#### RESIDENTS:

Mrs. Jennie Robinson, **Cathedral Village**  
Trustee Em. Kenneth Jackson, Sr., **Complete Rehab at  
Harston Hall**  
Mrs. Pearl Montgomery, **Genesis Healthcare Nursing &  
Rehab**  
Deacon Em. William Ballou, Jr., **Germantown Home**  
Miss  
Ms. Ellen Corbett, **Phoebe Wyncote**  
Mr. George Beach, **ProMedica Total Rehab+**,  
Mr. Christopher and Mrs. Ludell Roberts, **Springfield  
Crossings Rehab and Health Care.**  
Mrs. Marian Davis, **Wesley Enhanced Living at  
Stapeley**  
Mrs. Barbara Hutchinson, **Wesley Enhanced Living at  
Stapeley**

## **WELLNESS MINISTRY'S MAY "DID YOU KNOW?" MAY IS NATIONAL MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH**



Did you know...

that mental health issues are often compounded by the psychological stress of systemic racism in the African American community

African Americans are 20% more likely to report serious psychological distress than white adults

Only one in three Black adults with mental illness receive treatment

Now that you know help is just a text away at 741741 or a call away at 866-903-3787.

## **MAY IS ARTHRITIS AWARENESS MONTH**



Did you know...

That people who suffer with arthritis can also suffer from depression and anxiety which can make their arthritis worse

Osteoarthritis is the most common form of arthritis. Gout, fibromyalgia and rheumatoid arthritis are common rheumatic conditions

More than 22% of American adults (over 52.5 million people) have arthritis, women are more likely than men to have osteoarthritis

Now that you know talk with your primary doctor if you suffer with arthritis or if you know someone who does suffer with arthritis encourage them to talk with their doctor.

## **MAY IS BETTER HEARING AND SPEECH MONTH**



Did you know...

That many people live with unidentified hearing loss  
Checking your hearing is the first step toward addressing the issue

Over 50% of people aged 12-35 years listen to music via personal audio devices at volumes that pose a risk to their hearing, volume should be below 60%

15% of adults report difficulty hearing, about 2-3 of every 1,000 children in the U.S. are born with a detectable level of hearing loss in one or both ears

Now that you know and would like more information, contact an audiologist or access the [asha.org](https://www.asha.org) website.

Minister Carolyn M. Blackson





## ***GBC VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2023***

**25 West Johnson Street \*\* Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19144**

**Wednesday, June 21, 2023 - Saturday, June 24, 2023**

**10:00 AM - 12:30 PM**

**(Children and Adults)**



**Wednesday, June 21, 2023 - Friday, June 23, 2023**

**6:00 PM (Adults Only)**

**In-person or via ZOOM**

<https://zoom.us/j/7599267727?pwd=dGFtSGtLY3pxRHF4WkEzUzQ1cVU1Zz09>

Meeting ID: 759 926 7727 \*\*\* Passcode: 869858





## MAY CALENDAR

**\*Birthday      \*Anniversary      \*Memorial**

<b>B</b>	<b>02</b>	<b>Sara Carter Blanford</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>02</b>	<b>Karla Dublin</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>07</b>	<b>Cora P. Barlow</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>07</b>	<b>James N. Jones</b>
<b>M</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>Trustee Austin Harrison</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>Fannie Russell</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>Michael X. Samuels, Sr.</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>Ruby L. Allen</b>
<b>M</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>Louis Harper</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>Mildred Robinson</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>Walter &amp; Peggy Vertreace</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>Elisha M. Williams</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>Christopher Haston Bowman</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>Edward Egerton</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>Adele Lucas</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>Carol Garrison</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>Kaylin Vertreace</b>
<b>M</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>Naomi M. Pinkett</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>Jasmine Reese Wallace</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>Dr. Arnold D. Jackson</b>
<b>M</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>Leedrester Jackson</b>
<b>M</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>Dr. G. Daniel Jones</b>
<b>M</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>William McQuillan, III</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>Beulah Steward</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>Kevin Jackson</b>
<b>M</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>Mary Harris</b>
<b>M</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>Mary LaVerne Wright Miner</b>