G.T.A.H.

Volume III Issue 7

July 2016

Union Grove Missionary Baptist Church

Pastor David Anthony Clarke, Sr.
First Lady Michelle Wilson Clarke

Assistant Pastor John Dukes
Minister Dannie Dukes

~ MISSION STATEMENT~

"To draw people to Christ, maximize our potential and creatively meet the physical and emotional needs of the church and community."

809 South Davis Drive
Warner Robins, GA 31088

Phone: (478) 922-5514
Fax: (478) 923-6551

E-mail: UnionGrov1@aol.com
Web: www.thegrovewr.org

~ July Calendar of Events ~

4 & 5 Independence Day Holiday (Office Closed)

9	Golden Achievers, Vision Center	12:00 p.m.
11	Men's Bible Study, Vision Center	6 :30 p.m.
11	Spiritual Enrichment meeting, VC	7:00 p.m.
11-15	Vacation Bible School	6:00 p.m.
16	Ministers meeting, Vision Center	9:00 a.m.
16	GSWAG Rehearsal, S	12:00 p.m.
18	Heart to Heart Women's Bible Study, VC	7:00 p.m.
22	**Last Day of Summer Camp**	5:30 p.m.
25	Trustees, CR	5:00 p.m.
25	Men's Bible Study, Vision Center	6:30 p.m.
26	**Deadline to turn in Conference Reports**	**5:00 p.m.**
26	Deacons/Deaconess, VC	7:00 p.m.
28	**Church Conference, Sanctuary**	**7:00 p.m.**

Church Service Hours

Sunday Morning Prayer
7:45 a.m.

Sunday School
9:30 a.m.

Sunday Worship
8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Sunday Bible Study
6:00 p.m.

Wednesday Midday Manna
12:00 p.m.

Wednesday Bible Study
7:00 p.m.

Radio Broadcast
Sundays, 1:15 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
"The Light" FM 100.5

Church Office Hours
Tuesday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Additional Church Hours
Monday - Thursday
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

~ VISION STATEMENT ~

"To be a global network of learning, loving and life transforming ministries where hungry worshippers are discovering and walking in their God-given purpose with exceeding great joy".

FIT FOR A KING

"Great Faith"
"Great Faith"
Matthew 8:5-13
@TheGroveZone
6/12/16
Trouble
Brought me out
Without a doubt
I know He's a waymaker
Made a way just for me
Learn * Serve * Give * Connect
PICCOLLAGE

Awesome Ladies of the Music Ministry

"For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery."

Galatians 5:1 (ESV)

"For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another."

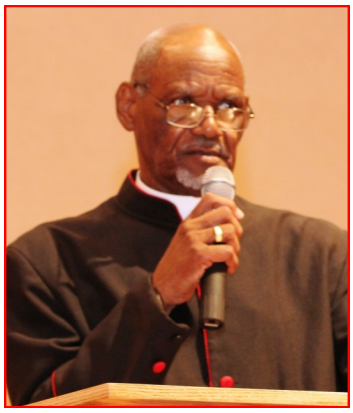
Galatians 5:13 (ESV)

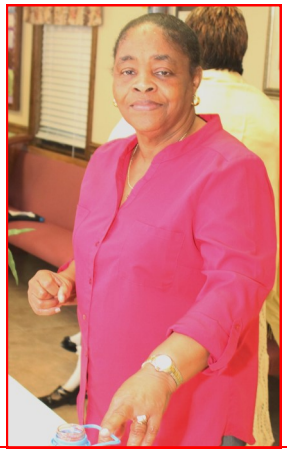
The Grove Tone
You make me happy
You make me whole
You take the pain away
I'm so in love with you
"Help My Unbelief"
Mark 9:14-29
Pastor David Anthony Clarke, Sr.
Father's Day
We will miss you
Sis. Rocksan Washington
6/19/16
PICCOLLAGE

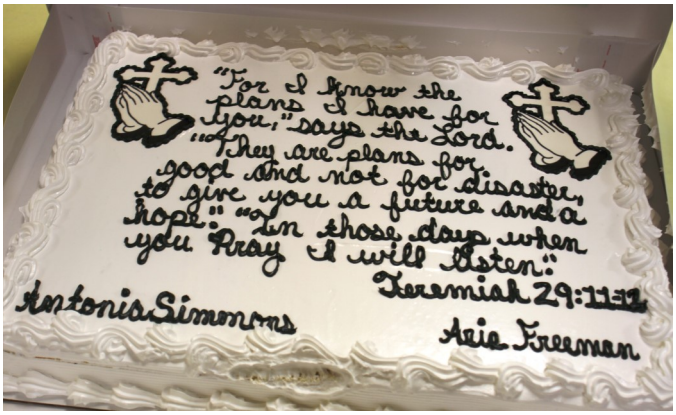
Farewell To the Simmons family
"Try Me & See"
Malachi 3:10
Pastor David Anthony Clarke, Sr.
Learn - Serve - Give - Connect
@TheGroveZone
"Pastor David Anthony Clarke, Sr."
6/26/16
ARCOLLAGE

The Ministerial Ordination of Minister Antonia Simmons Minister Arie Freeman

"Why Could We Not Cast It Out?"
Mark 9:28-29
Pastor David Anthony Clarke, Sr.
Learn - Serve - Give - Connect
@TheGroveZone

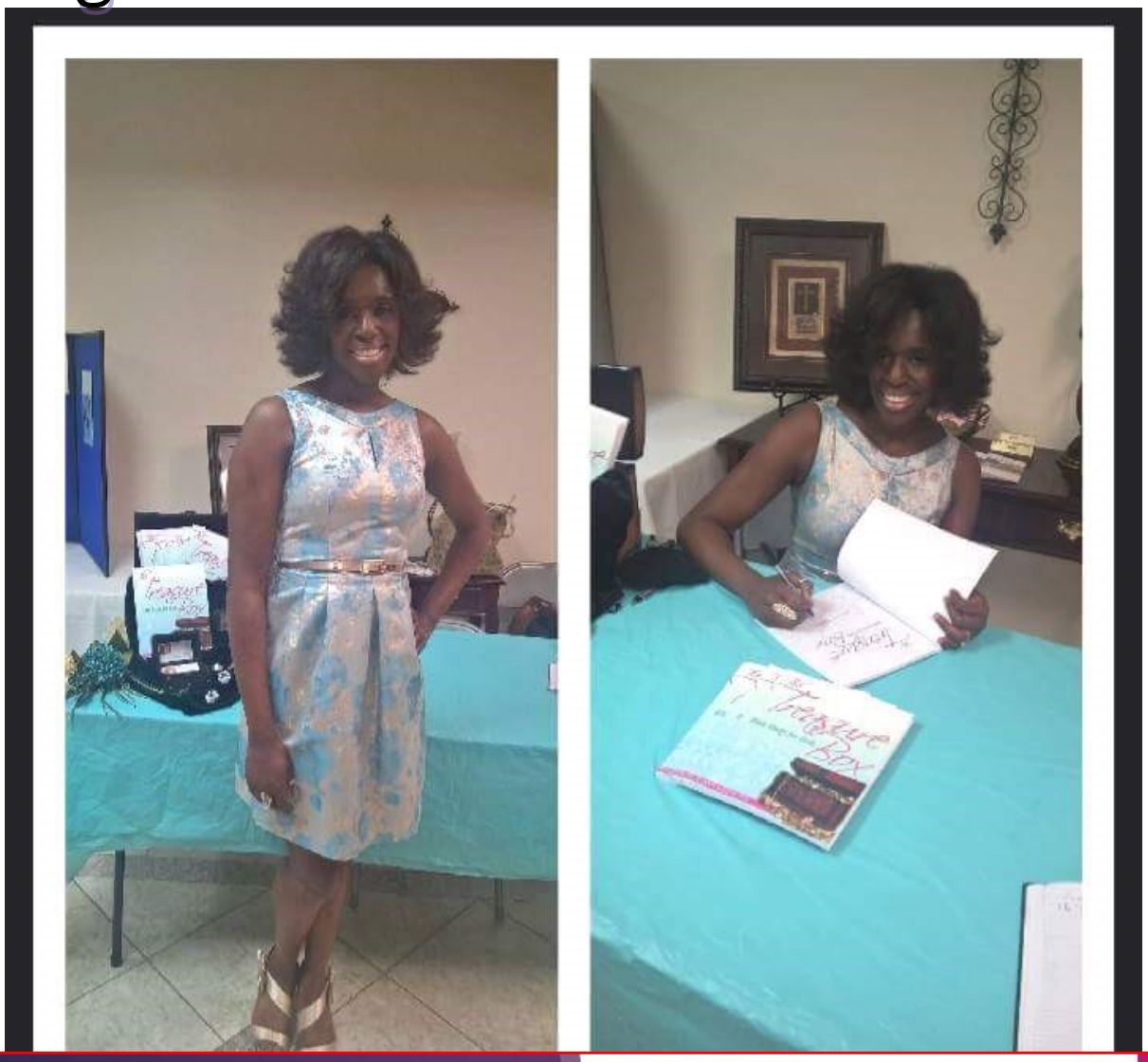




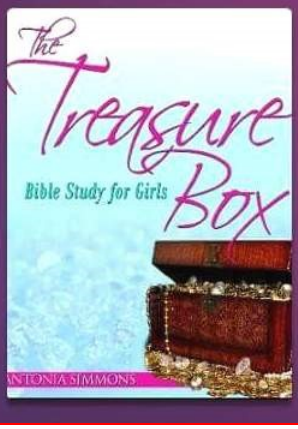


Farewell to the Simmons Family

Congratulations Minister Simmons!!!



THANK YOU!!!!



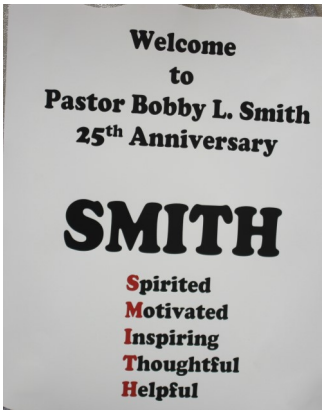
Thank you Union Grove family for supporting me and my new book! May God bless you each and richly for the kindness you have shown me and my family!

Love,
Minister Antonia Simmons

dia Ministry
hings Are Happening
Treasure Box
Treasure Box
LOVE
Welcome
Please sign in
Name & Email

Treasure Box
LOVE

Pastor Bobby Smith's 25th Pastoral Anniversary

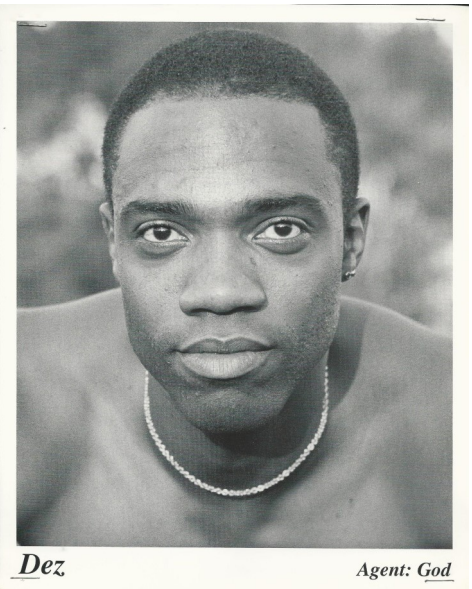


Pastor
of
Zion Canaan
Baptist Church
in
Columbia, SC
since June, 1991

25

25PASTORAL

~ Meet Desi Arnaz Giles, Sr. ~



Desi Arnaz Giles, Sr. (his mother "loved Lucy") was born in Jacksonville, FL in 1962 and grew up in Brooklyn, NY. He joined UGMBC in February 2016.

He moved to Warner Robins in October 2003 - only wanting all of his children together. He claims 10 in his quiver: 6 biological and 4 step.

He works for Transient Alert on Robins AFB and his only hobby is studying the Bible.

Desi has a Prayer Walking Ministry called *"Just Walkin 4 Jesus"*. Since August 18, 2007 he used to do one 4-mile walk per month. Now he does 2 per month on Saturdays - typically the 1st and 3rd, but this month, July 9 and 23rd. To participate, contact Bro. Dez at (478) 972-2035. JW4J has been performed in 12 states with the desire to walk in every state and country on the planet!

Desi served on active duty in the U.S. Air Force from 1980 - 1988 and in the Air National Guard from 1988 to 2005 as an Aircraft Technician. The military allowed him to travel and to see many countries in Europe and Asia.

When asked if he had any expectations or specific goals since joining UGMBC, he replied: *"I just want to grow spiritually. (Proverbs 27:17) The men of the church are bringing me to a higher Standard"*.

Desi is involved in the Men's Ministry and the Singles Ministry and is working with the LITE Ministry on a project. He is also assisting with VBS.

BLACK JESUS DEATH THREATS

Bigots target Passion play

Desi Arnaz Giles, who portrays Jesus in a New Jersey production of "The Passion Play," is being barraged with hate calls, and many have canceled their ticket orders.

FULL STORY: PAGE 7

He says that God made him an entertainer. After years as a "class clown", he began performing in 1987. He has been blessed to have performed in virtually every aspect of entertaining, including screen, stage, stunt work, modeling, commercials and voice-over work. He was blessed to play the Danny Glover role all six years of the *"Lethal Weapon Water Stunt Spectacular"* at Six Flags Great Adventure in Jackson, NJ. However, his claim to fame came in March of 1997 when he became the actor known world-wide as "Black Jesus" for his portrayal as Christ in the "Passion Play" at the Park Theater in Union City, NJ.

NATIONAL REPORT

Black Jesus In Union City, NJ, 'The Passion Play' Stirs Community Racism

When he accepted the role of Jesus Christ in *The Passion Play*, he expected some stunned looks, maybe. After all, Desi Arnaz Giles has been acting long enough to know that being the first Black man to portray the Biblical figure in the Park Theater Performing Arts Center in Union City, NJ, would be breaking new ground. And not everybody would be exactly happy about the change in hue.

"As soon as you're cast in something like this, you know it may stir some people," Giles told JET. "You know people are going to cancel. They're going to come to see Joe (Bukovec, the White actor with whom he alternates the role); you expect that. But death threats?"

Yes, death threats. After Giles was cast in the play's starring role, profane calls were made to the theater. It was reported that one would-be patron wanted to know "when the White actor is playing. I don't want to see that Black thing." Another, spouting profanities, called the artistic director a "lowlife and a scumbag." And groups—including at least two church organizations—canceled their ticket orders.

The cast's response to the onslaught of negative public reaction? "Surprise," says the 34-year-old Giles.

Francine Trevens, the production's press agent, characterizes it as "shock. Because they've had a Hispanic play the role."

▲ *Desi Arnaz Giles' portrayal of Jesus Christ in* The Passion Play *at the Park Theater Performing Arts Center in Union City, NJ, has led to some ticket cancellations and even death threats.*

Although stupefied by the negative reaction to a Black man being cast as Jesus Christ, Giles says, his castmates have been in his corner throughout the ordeal.

"I think anything like this has to be stopped in the bud," says Trevens.

[redacted]

The Role of a Lifetime

By GEORGE JAMES

DESI ARNAZ GILES was concerned about portraying Jesus in the annual Passion Play here, not because he is black, but because he is 6 foot 5.

"Isaiah described Christ as having an average frame," Mr. Giles said. "I always felt I was too tall for the role."

Joseph Bukovec, a first-generation Croatian-American who has been playing the role for 13 years and alternates with Mr. Giles this year, is concerned that people may think he is growing too old for the part.

He is 67, and although still lithe and youthful-looking and able to darken his thick silver hair with black mousse, he is twice the age of Jesus.

How *does* a person go about being Christ-like?

That is a question every actor who ever played the role has had to grapple with, but it is also at the root of Christians' faith as they prepare to observe Holy Week over the next seven days.

It has taken on even more significance than usual because of the negative response to Mr. Giles's casting as Jesus in the play, which runs through April 20 at the Park Performing Arts Center (560 32d Street, Union City; 201-865-6980). Theater officials have received two threatening telephone calls, and several tour groups have canceled.

Desi Arnaz Giles ("My mother loved Lucy") is the first African-American to play Jesus in what is billed as America's longest-running passion play, begun by German immigrants 82 years ago.

Aside from the deep Christian faith they share, he and Mr. Bukovec could not be more different. There are the differences in age (Mr. Giles is 34) and in height (Mr. Bukovec is 5 foot 10).

Mr. Bukovec is a longtime Teaneck High School teacher who created a reading skills program; Mr. Giles, who served eight years in the Air Force, is a student of applied science and theater at Raritan Valley Community College in North Branch, seeking work as an actor and stuntman under his stage name, Dez.

Mr. Giles is a Protestant charismatic, Mr. Bukovec a Roman Catholic who spent five years in a seminary preparing to be a priest.

"Both are extremely spiritual people," said Eric Hafen, the center's artistic director. "The difference is that Joe approaches the character from more the divine side than the human side, whereas Dez uses a more realistic approach and adds the divine to it."

Mr. Bukovec's Jesus "knows He is on earth for one purpose only," Mr. Hafen said, "whereas Dez is not sure why, but as He ages and grows into his spirituality, He discovers why He is here."

The casting debate has focused attention on the nature of Jesus and the meaning of His life. And by bringing their own feelings and life experiences to their differing performances, Mr. Bukovec and Mr. Giles, each in his unique way, tries to provide an answer to how one emulates Jesus.

'Most Important Part I Will Ever Do'

"For me it's a day-to-day thing, being a born-again Christian," Mr. Giles said. "The Bible is primarily the only book that I read. And on a day-to-day basis, I am trying my best to emulate Christ."

An outgoing man, he sat in the student activities room at Raritan Valley Community College wearing a T-short that on the front said, "I'm Much Too Blessed 2B Stressed" and on the back, "So I give it all to Jesus."

Since the threatening calls, he has been the subject of a score of articles and radio and television interviews and received 40 letters of support from as far away as Switzerland.

"This will be the most important part I will ever do," he said. "This is like the pinnacle of my acting career. Now, sure, I could get cast in a movie to be a superhero kind of guy that does a lot of stunts, etc., and they could make a little doll that looks like me. That might be more glamorous, but this is the most important to me."

Mr. Giles supports himself and his second wife and their two children through occasional teaching at a Presbyterian church day-care center and other odd jobs. His next paying acting job is as the Danny Glover character in a water-stunt show called "Lethal Weapon II" at Great Adventure in Jackson.

Born in Jacksonville, Fla., he spent his childhood in Brooklyn, where he attended high school at Brooklyn Tech. He finished high school in Basking Ridge, and after graduation he served in the Air Force. There, he says, he was born again.

"Jesus has been my only role model for life," he said. "I've been homeless like He was. I've been in jail like He was. I've been persecuted and doubted by those closest to me like He was."

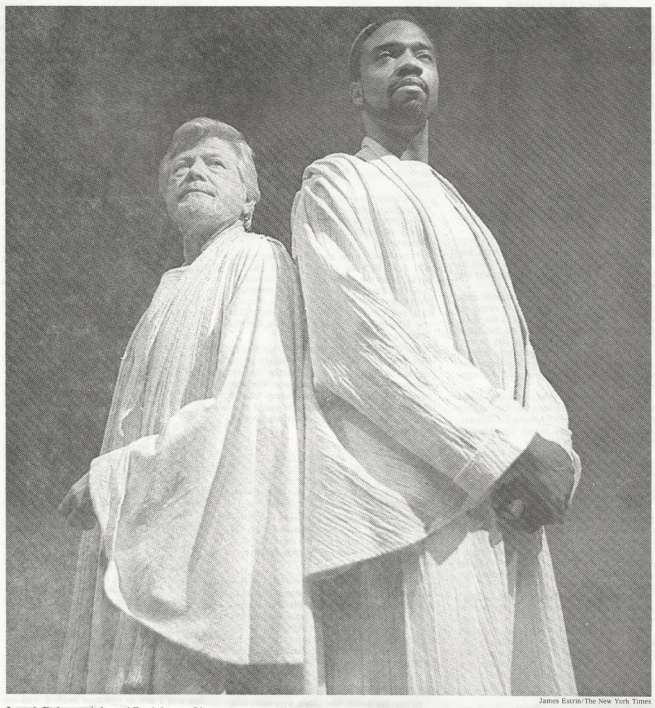
After the Air Force, Mr. Giles explained, he and his mother failed to rescue a sinking contracting company left by his dead stepfather, and he was homeless for a year, living in his car, which he used to deliver pizza. He was jailed for four days on a complaint by his first wife for failing to return their two children to Georgia after a Christmas visit.

He was too ill to do so, he said, and she subsequently dropped all charges.

In playing Jesus, Mr. Giles, who fasts and prays before each performance, said, "I am trying to present a spirit of love, which is what God is all about, which is what Jesus was all about, which is what we're supposed to be all about."

"Off the stage," he added, "I have to deal with threats. And through that I love my enemies. I can honestly tell you right now I have not had any ill feelings towards them."

Two Very Different Actors Share a Devotion for Bringing Jesus to Life Onstage



James Estrin/The New York Times

Joseph Bukovec, left, and Desi Arnaz Giles, who alternate in the starring role in the Passion Play at the Park Peforming Arts Center.

PLACE

Finding Your Place In Ministry.

P - Personality Discovery

L - Learning Spiritual Gifts

A - Abilities Awareness

C - Connecting Passion with Ministry

E - Experience of Life

June 4
PLACE Workshop
attendees

~ Financial Corner ~

It's July!

Where did the time go? The year is half over already. However we've spent the past six months, we can't get them back. We can celebrate our victories and repent from our mistakes. Let's try to do better for the next six months.

Let's talk about vacations. Where can we go? Again, it would be nice to have planned and saved for a vacation. But I know, time just got away from us and before we knew it school was out. There are only a few weeks before school opens and maybe you haven't been anywhere. Where can we go on a tight budget?

If you can get yourself one of the Georgia magazines, or check on line, you will see loads of fun things to do in Georgia. If you are able to go away for the weekend, that would be great. This is what I sometimes had to do. Some years, we couldn't afford to even do that. There are fun things you can do as a day trip, i.e. Six Flags, White Water, Wild Adventures, etc. Sometimes, a small pool and a water hose will suffice. Remember, if you can't pay for it, vacationing isn't worth it. When I say pay for it, I mean no charging! Remember! If you can't get a greater return for the interest you will be paying, it is not wise to charge. Vacations and food fall into this category.

Now is a good time to get started on back to school shopping. In this area, it will still be hot when the kids start back to school. Summer clothes will be on all the clearance racks. You can get fall clothes when the winter clothes are on sale. Also keep in mind that you won't just be buying clothes. The supply list will be available just before school opens and they can be just as costly as the clothes.

Summer clothes can also be bought at yard sales, the Salvation Army, or my favorite store, Goodwill. If you have family or friends whose children are a little older than yours, see if they will pass them on instead of taking them to the Salvation Army/Goodwill. This works especially well if your family or friends live in another school zone. No one has seen the clothes. I grew up on hand-me-downs from our older sister. If your children have clothing they've outgrown, look for someone to bless.

Perhaps your children are grown and you are celebrating that you don't have to get anyone ready for back to school. Now is a good time to help out a struggling single parent, give a care bag to a teacher, or sign up at the school to help out in the classroom this year. Sign up now so your background check will be done by the time school opens.

Hope this was helpful. As always, if you have any questions, give me a call. See you next month.

Sis. Wanda Verrett

** Church Conference **

Thursday

July 28, 2016

7:00 p.m.

<u>All members are encouraged to attend!!!</u>

Ministry Reports are due to Sis. Jan Scott
<u>no later than Tuesday, July 26 by 5:oo p.m.</u>

** Save the Date **

"Honoring Marriages Weekend"

All married couples are invited!

October 28, 29 and 30, 2016

28th – Comedy Night, VC

29th – Couples Field Day/Picnic – UG Field

30th – Sunday School and Worship Service

** **Adults only on the 28th and 29th** **
so plan ahead for your child care!

MEN'S RETREAT 2016

OCTOBER 21-23, 2016

KELVIN COCHRAN

AUTHOR,

FORMER FIRE CHIEF OF
THE CITY OF ATLANTA, GA

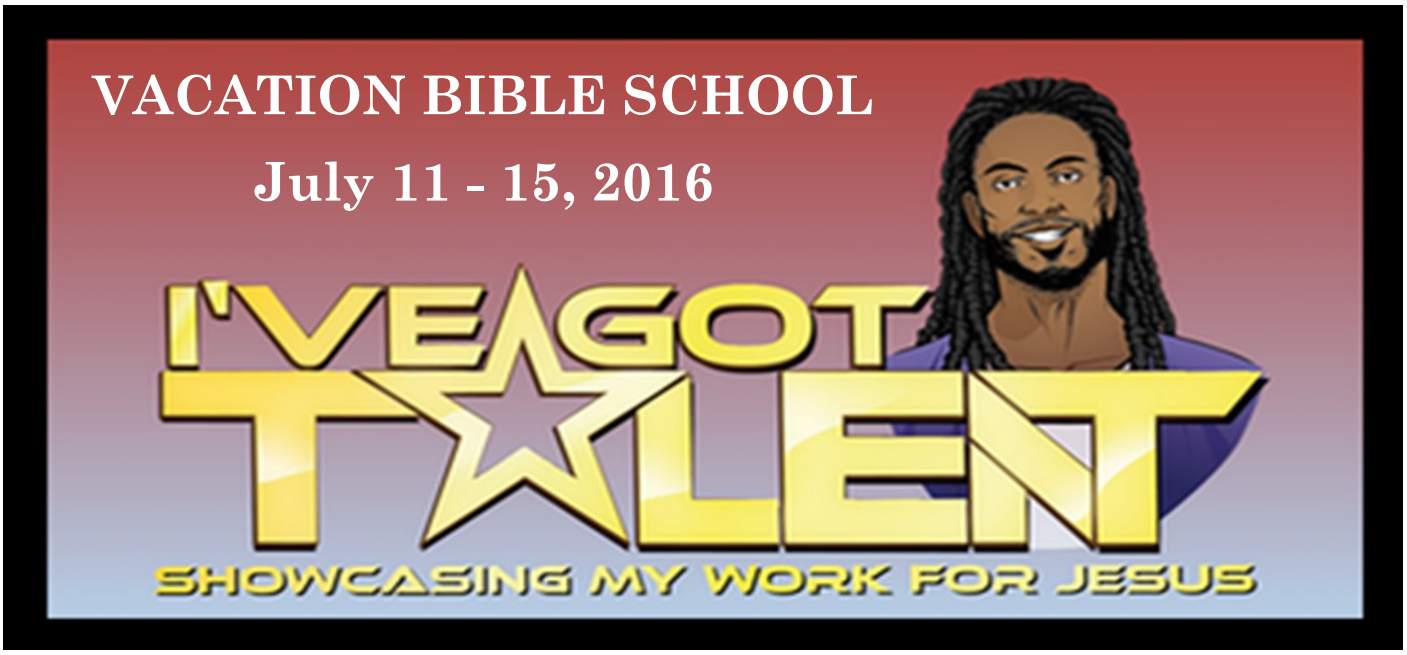
KELVIN'S PASSION IS FOR
MEN'S MINISTRY AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT.

Security Ministry

Greetings, we're asking you to help us with ensuring that proper security measures are being utilized when securing the church. We're asking that anyone remaining behind in the sanctuary after service is over, to please exit the building through any of the doors in the church office area. These doors will automatically lock and will allow our security personnel to concentrate on securing the front of the church. Your assistance will make our church that much more safer and secure.

Thankyou,

Hank Allen - Ministry Leader



INTERVIEWS

Monday
Mr. William Bowden
(Construction/Landscaper)

Tuesday
Dr. Shwanda Leggett
(Engineer/Biologist)

Wednesday
Deacon T.C. Caldwell
Brother Steve Wheeler
Mrs. Salina Wheeler
Mrs. Tamara Sanders

Thursday
Mrs. Keisha Ragin (Occupational Therapist)
Miss Tamika Jones (Medical Assistant)
Mrs. Komola Edwards (Prison Guard)

Friday
Miss Opal Prichard
The Smith Sisters (Authors)

ARTS & CRAFTS SCHEDULE

Monday
Ages 3 - 5 - Plant seeds in Styrofoam cups
Ages 6 - 12 - Plant a flower in a small pot

Tuesday
Ages 3 - 5 & 6 - 12 - Build Noah's Ark

Wednesday
Ages 3 - 5 - Children play dress-up
Ages 6 - 12 - Everyone wears the costume of their choice/Fashion Show

Thursday
Ages 3 - 5 - Tongue Suppressors and other things with Miss Jimya Oglesby
Ages 6 - 12 - Experiences with Science and Biology

Friday
Ages 3 - 5 - Make book covers with stick-on jewels and letters, etc.
Ages 6 - 12 - Create "I Am" Poems, Decorate Notebooks & Binders

Union Grove Missionary Baptist Church

2016

~ HOMECOMING ~

Family & Friends Day

August 7, 2016

Field of Dreams

110 - 112 Clay Street

Pastor Rushia Jackson

~ Run-off Election ~
Superior Court Judge

Early Voting

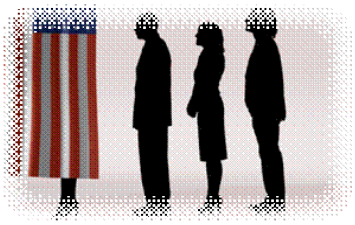
Tuesday, July 5, 2016

Board of Elections, Main Street, Perry Georgia

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

***

Early Voting Starts in Warner Robins



Monday, July 11, 2016

Houston Mall

Central Georgia Technical College

Cohen Walker Blvd

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. through July 22, 2016.

On **Tuesday July 26, 2016** all precincts in Houston County will open at 7:00 AM and close at 7:00 PM.

**** REMEMBER ****

People gave their very lives that we might have this great privilege.

LET'S GET OUT AND VOTE!!!

Contact Deacon Jerome Stephens (478) 929-1476 for more information.

Union Grove Missionary Baptist Church Members

Jerome and Catherine Butler,

parents of

Ylencia Dysonne Jackson

thank you all

for your prayers and moral support

as our daughter

recently passed her
State Boards Certification Examination

for

Family Nurse Practitioner Certification

Henry Allen
Anthony Anderson
Oscar Anderson
James Booker
Vincent Booker
TiEboni Bradshaw
Catherine Butler
Cassandra Clark
Shirley Clark
Pastor David
Anthony Clarke, Sr.
Juanita Cofer
Nathan Curtis
Juanita Davidson
Denise Davis

Gloria Defreitas
Loraine Easley
Myshawntae Edwards
Mortimer Floyd
Min. Arie Freeman, Jr.
Omari Green
Samuel Gude
Minister Shane Hardee
Loretta Harrison
Cedrick Hayward
Rodrick Hayward
Candis Howard
Amber Hunter
Breona Jackson
Mae Lane

Deacon Louis Laney
Christian Lee
Lakita Lee
Mario Lee
Minister Annie Lester
Patricia McCants
Eleanor Minter
Minister Africa Porter
April Rhett
Harmony Robinson
David Salone
Casey Sherman
Ashia Simmons
Donna Smith
Brandon Solomon

Chelsea Solomon
Nicole Steedley
Harriet Steele
Madison Swayne
Arzilla Tarrant
Ayla Toles
Caleb Torres
Dominique Toval
Margie Tuck
Nakeisha Tuck
Malachi Washington
MaKayla Wheeler
Salina Wheeler
Lasondra Wilson

Deacon Alvin & Deaconess Pam Myrick
July 14

Willie & LaShondria Smith
July 25

~ Ministerial Staff ~

Pastor David Anthony Clarke, Sr.
Assistant Pastor John Dukes
Elder Milo Bradley, Jr.
Elder Connie Dinkins
Elder James Ford
Elder Tommy Gray
Elder Rashee Ragin
Pastor Eddie Armstrong
Pastor Sheryl Armstrong
Pastor Teddy Madison
Pastor John Sutton
Minister Marie Anderson
Minister Marilyn Byrd
Minister Dannie Dukes
Minister Arie Freeman
Minister Linda Gray
Minister Shane Hardee
Minister Kentavius Hunter
Minister Mary Lenoir
Minister Annie Lester
Minister James Madison
Minister Bridgette Oglesby
Minister LaTonya Phillips
Minister Africa Porter
Minister Earnestine Thompson
Minister Cornelius Thorpe

~ Deacon Contact List ~

A-C	Deacon Jerome Stephens	929-1476
D-F	Deacon Slater Thorpe	218-8736
G-I	Deacon Donald Woodard	987-9865
	Deacon Louis Laney	329-0957
J-K	Deacon William Jackson	929-4918
L-N	Deacon T.C. Caldwell	293-8428
O-R	Deacon Monroe Clark	953-2044
S	Deacon Alvin Myrick	788-5696
T-V	Deacon Charles Lenoir	953-2350
W-Z	Deacon Nathaniel Davis	923-7713

~ In Training ~

Brother Curtis Jackson
Brother Willie Jackson
Brother Hosea Laney
Brother Jimmy Oglesby
Brother Steve Wheeler

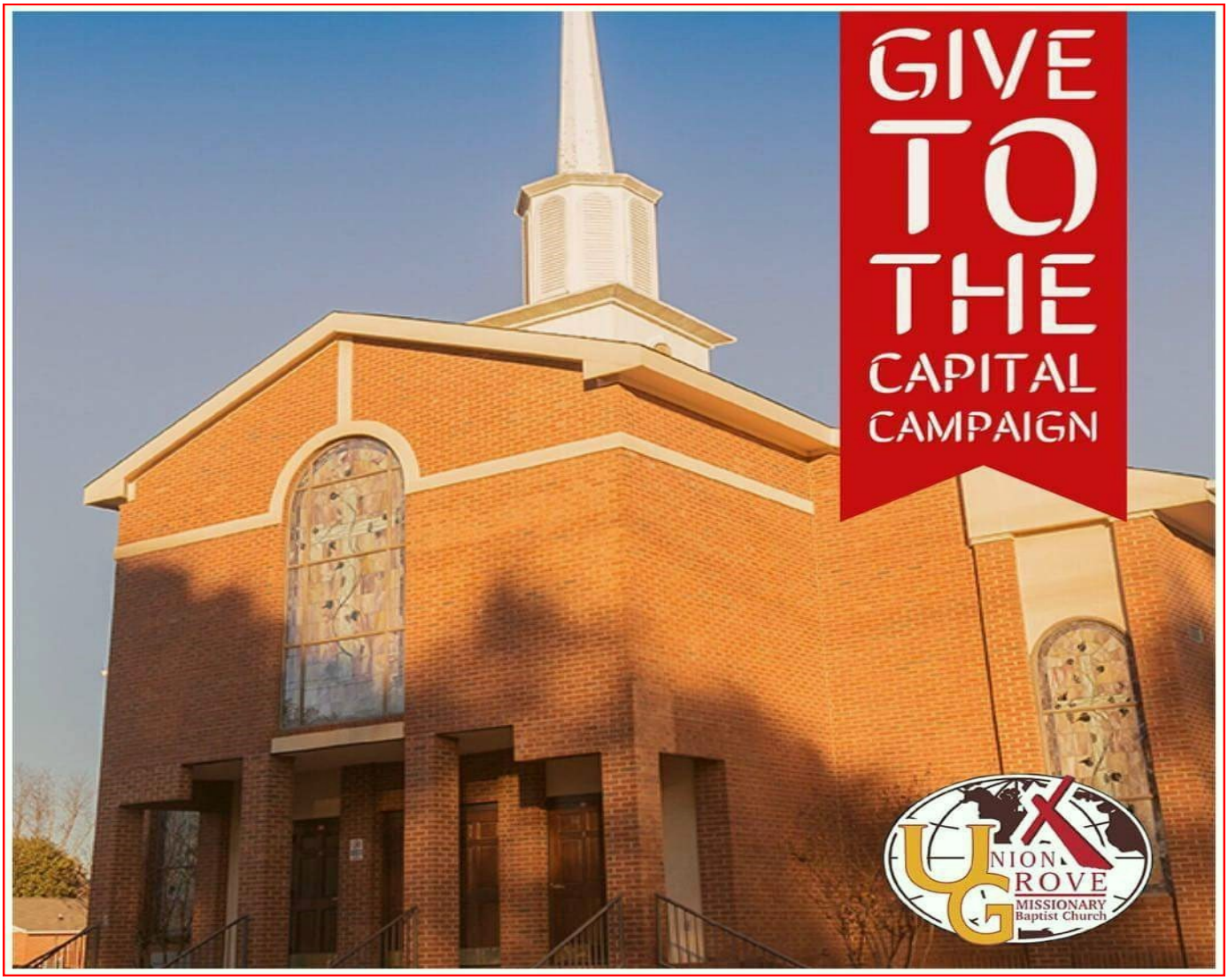
~ Administrative Assistant ~

Sister Janice Scott

DO YOU LOVE TO TRAVEL AND MEET PEOPLE? WE NEED YOU ON THE GROWVE ZONE BUS MINISTRY TEAM.

The Bus Ministry is looking for volunteers who love to serve in a small group setting, fellowshipping with God's people while on the road. What a great opportunity to do this by serving as a driver.

Please contact Sis. Iris Bracey @ 478-225-2776. Welcome aboard!!!



The **Capital Campaign** is a building plan (voted on by the membership) to extend the right side of the church. It will provide much needed classroom and activity space for the growing ministries. There are several ways to give and everyone has the option to select the Giving Plan that best suits them.

The goal is to raise $600,000.00...need 250 members to pledge $2,400.00 over a 5-year period

GOLD LEVEL

Contribute $2,400.00 in ONE to TWO years $200.00 a month x 12 months or $100.00 @ 24 months

SILVER LEVEL

Contribute $2,400.00 in THREE to FOUR years $66.66 a month x 36 or $50.00 @ 48 months

BRONZE LEVEL

Contribute $2,400.00 in FIVE years or less $40.00 a month x 60 months

OTHER

Any amount of consistent giving

In next month's issue:

The Golden Achievers take over New York City, Atlantic City and Philadelphia

Union Grove Summer Camp

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- All announcements for the bulletin, screen and website must be submitted by your Vision Leader and e-mailed to **UnionGrov1@aol.com no later than Tuesday at 5 p.m. Announcements must be submitted in PowerPoint or mp4 format.**
- **Church/Vision Center Rental (members and ministries of Union Grove only)**: Please contact Minister LaTonya Phillips at (404) 849-1502
- **To schedule funerals** at the church (**members only**), please contact Sister Wanda Verrett at 478-328-1483.
- **For a ride to Sunday services**, please call Sister Iris Bracey at **(478) 225-2776 by Friday at 5 p.m**.
- **The Healthcare Ministry** tests for total cholesterol panel using the state of the art equipment on Sundays after worship service. Remember, you must fast for eight hours prior to the test...Appointment only. Leave your name and number at the church office.

Minister Earnestine Thompson

If you wish to receive the GTAH via e-mail, please provide your e-mail address and you will be added to the distribution list. You may also download a copy from the Grove Zone website: **www.thegrovewr.org.**

The G.T.A.H Staff

Carolyn Jackson

Shirley Jackson

Queen Little

Jackie Powell

Tamara Sanders

Marion Thorpe

McKinley Verrett

Newsletter Submissions

Remember, if you would like to feature your ministry or if you would like to share your good news, praise reports, etc., please forward your submissions to GTAHNewsletter@gmail.com, call (478) 542-1739, place them in the Newsletter Ministry box in the copy room or contact any member of the GTAH Staff by Friday, July 29.

Don't forget to send us your testimonies for the *"Testimony Table",* a new feature of the GTAH.

G.T.A.H. Mission Statement:

"To aide others in spreading the knowledge of Christ and encouraging spiritual living through printed words."

Attention: When entering any building/property owned by UGMBC, you are giving consent to the church to use your image/likeness in church publications, media, website/Facebook, etc.

The Best is Yet to Come!!!