# **Voice of the Morning**

Morning Chapel Christian Methodist Episcopal Church

September & October 2015

## **Morning Chapel CME Church**

903 East 3<sup>rd</sup> Street Fort Worth, TX 76102 (817) 332-4842 info@morningchapel.com www.morningchapel.com

Reverend Doctor Willa M. Ross,
Pastor
Reverend Russell O. Fuller, Sr.
Presiding Elder
Sr. Bishop Lawrence L. Reddick III
Presiding Prelate

### **Schedule of Activities**

Sunday School — 9:30 am Sunday Morning Worship—10:45am Wednesday--Bible Study — 7:00 pm

# Voice of the Morning Committee: Editors-in-Chief:

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Birdia Fletcher

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Yvette Caldwell, Johnette Calhoun, Takiyah Evans, Tamiyah Fletcher, Christal Griffin, Linda Griffin, Katrina Jefferson Carter, Acacia Nolan, J. P. Barron, Shabra Watkins, and Shuntel Johnson Dangerfield



# From the desk of Reverend Doctor Willa M. Ross

# Faithful Stewardship

October has been designated as Stewardship Month here at Morning Chapel CME Church. As your pastor and servant leader I am concerned about the spiritual growth of each and every member. Spiritual growth entails a deeper understanding of discipleship and what it means to be a faithful steward of God.

Allow me to share a story with you about trusting God with our money and our future. The story is told of a mother and her three year old Josh. Between Sunday school and worship one Sunday, Josh came around the

corner with a donut in his hand. The mother asked him, "Where did you get money for that?" (During the fellowship, people put in a quarter to cover the cost of the donuts.) Josh said, "I saved it from my offering."

Many people in churches today operate out of this mindset. How often do we save money from the offering to buy something for ourselves because we are afraid we won't have what we need? This behavior is funny in a three year old; but it becomes a little more serious when it's a thirty year old.

All through the Bible, God's principle is 'give to receive'. This contrasts with our American thought patterns of 'gather and keep for ourselves.' Which belief do you follow?

"In Malachi 3:8-10 God says will a man rob God? Yet you rob me. But you ask, 'How do we rob you? In tithes and offerings. You are under a curse—the whole nation of you—because you are robbing me. Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this, says the Lord Almighty, and see if I will not throw open the flood gates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.'

The Bible is full of scriptures like this. It is because of the promises that I find in God's word that I can give freely and joyfully, trusting that

God will give what I need. I want God in control of not only my finances but my entire life. After all everything I have comes from God in the first place.

How many times have you saved money from the offering to buy a donut when God really wanted you to have steak? The truth of the matter is that we don't have to

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# From the Pastor's Desk (continued)

believe what God promises us in Malachi. We can keep our money and our talents. God is not a God that forces us to give of our time, talent and resources. God will allow us to control our money and lives as we wish. But as for me, I want the God of miracles in control of my finances and my life. I want the God who fed 5,000 people with three fish to be in control of all that I have. When was the last time you heard a homeless person say, "Well I was doing alright until I started that tithing business".

God is like a loving parent whom we can trust. People who say, 'I just can't afford to tithe' approach the subject of giving a tithe as if it were a sacrifice instead of a blessing. As for me I can't afford not to tithe. The truth of the matter is that many times it is through tithing that I am able to get through the rest of the month.

Beyond our tithes Christ also calls us to give of our skills and talents. For even if we had no physical structure called a church, our faith coupled with our talents and abilities, would make us no less a temple of worship. When the Christian steward leads, directs, comforts, teaches, sings, plans, coordinates, organizes, cooks, decorates, and *loves doing it*, -- then the church becomes the powerful force of solidarity and service.

Just look at what has taken place at Morning Chapel over the last year. God has blessed us in tremendous ways. And I believe that God will continue to shower us with blessings from on high, but God does require our faithfulness.

God has good and perfect plans for God's children. God wants us to be transformed by the renewing of our minds. God gave us His only son to make our lives better, because God wants what is best for us. We should give ourselves joyfully as living sacrifices for God's service.

Pastor Willa M. Ross

# Back to Church Sunday and Family and Friends Day

By: Micaela Watkins



On Sunday, September 20th, Morning Chapel celebrated Back to Church Sunday and Family and Friends Day, and what a celebration it was! The congregation was full

of royal blue and white, bright smiles, visitors, returning family, and YOU, the MC Family. Pastor Ross delivered a dynamic message, focused on Luke 15: 11-32. From the scriptural context, we were given the reminder that we should never be afraid to come back home!

Sister Adria Harris and Micaela Watkins were beyond thrilled to serve as chairpersons for the

event and to be able to interact with our church family even more, over the planning and preparation period. They truly appreciate the support, leading up to and on Back to Church Sunday. There



is something truly amazing about a body of believers that not only worships together, but can love and enjoy each other also.

Thanks again to Sis. Takiyah Evans, Sis. Shabra Watkins, Sis. Paula Patterson, and Sis. Felisha Cochran, for your support, encouragement, and assistance for Back to Church Sunday. It could not have done it without you. And to you, the Morning Chapel family, thank you just for being you! Micaela never grows tired of bragging on how much she love you all. Let us always be encouraged to bring guests- both new and old- to The Old Rock Church. Morning Chapel have something special here and the community needs to experience it with us!

# A Celebration of Love for Morning Chapel Pastor's First Anniversary

By: Shabra Watkins



Morning Chapel celebrated July 26<sup>th</sup> 2015 the 1<sup>st</sup> year appreciation service for their Pastor, Rev. Dr. Willa M. Ross, The theme was, "Great is Thy Faithfulness". The Celebration was chaired by the powerhouse team of Sis. Johnnie P.

Barron and Sis. Vernice B. Coleman which included a morning and afternoon day of celebration.

The Morning program began with a processional by petal princesses Avery Evans and Elena Nolen. Pastor Ross was escorted by Solomon Tolbert and AJ Dangerfield. Sis. Linda Griffin served as the worship leader for the morning program.

Following scripture readings and great music from the Morning Chapel Mass Choir music department, a stirring, emotional and loved filled tribute was given by Sis. Micaela Watkins.

The speaker for the hour was Rev. Pamela Bell, Pastor of Mt. Pisgah C.M.E. of Jacksboro, TX.

What a great message she delivered! She praised her friend and fellow colleague for a job well done in just a year at Morning Chapel. There was a delicious catered dinner for



everyone to enjoy following morning worship.

The guest for the afternoon was Elizabeth Chapel C.M.E. from Dallas Texas and their Pastor, Rev. Brian Lightner.

Pastor Ross was given in tribute, beautiful roses from all of the children of the church.

After songs from the Elizabeth Chapel choir and a great sermon, Morning Chapel stood as a family to honor their Pastor in love and with gifts.

It was a great day to honor a woman of God, chosen to lead Morning Chapel to new heights. Morning Chapel thank God for you, Pastor Ross and your vision and commitment to the Morning Chapel's vineyard. What a wonderful day of love and faithfulness!

Thanks Morning Chapel for your support and Sis. Vernice Coleman and Sis. J. P. Barron for the planning and preparation of this great program!



# Presidents' Brunch with Pastor Ross at Mimi's Café

By: Linda Griffin

The Presidents of Boards and Auxiliaries of Morning Chapel CME Church had brunch with Pastor Ross on September 12, 2015. Pastor Ross opened the meeting with a prayer, and then asked each attendee to think of a song that would best fit the current situation in their life. Each president was instructed to be prepared to sing one stanza of that song. Everyone sang at least one stanza of their song and some even sang the entire song. The three youth in attendance, Alivia Barron, Freddie Nolen IV & Khalun Griffin, sang Jesus Love Me. Even though we were at a restaurant you could feel the presence of the Holy Ghost moving throughout as everyone sang.

Pastor Ross challenged the presidents to think about the goals they want to accomplish as a church and within the various ministries. She further challenged all the Presidents to meet once a month, begin each meeting with a prayer, promote the church vision & mission, and set a date for training. The challenge also extends to each member to attend Sunday School & Bible Study; pray daily for the church; give 10% and above in tithes and service; see the movie War Room and participate in a group discussion of the movie utilizing the study guide; and read the book "I Am a Church Member".

As a wrap up Pastor Ross gave each attendee items to create a "Survival Pak" which included: a card with the Prayer of St. Francis; index cards for writing their prayer requests; a note pad & pen to jot down ideas and messages from God; Life Savers (candy) which represent God's Grace; Smartees (candy) which represent God's Wisdom to aid in making decisions; a Lollip (sugar-free) to remember the kid inside and to also refrain from unhealthy things that don't line -up with the will of God; Post-It Notes Pads to write and post affirmations; and lastly the Church Mission Statement. Everyone enjoyed a wonderful meal and fellowship with Pastor Ross.

# Strategic Planning as a Spiritual Process Conducted by Pastor Ross for Officers and Members

By: Shabra Watkins



Pastor Ross initiated a Strategic Planning Process for the Morning Chapel officers and members to assist in building their Spiritual Practice. The process is designed to be structured and create conversation regarding

what the members believe God has called them to do or be.

There were 3 identity Questions that were answered during brainstorming sessions held:

- 1. Who are We? Some of the answers given were God's people, A Body of Believers, Visionaries and connectional.
- 2. What has God called us to do? To bring the community to Morning Chapel, make Disciples, Allow others to see God in You/Us.
- 3. Who is our Neighbor? The community, Downtown, surrounding areas, missions, and shelters.

These questions and answers are still being discussed during the planning sessions. The goal Pastor Ross is striving to obtain is to have the church on one accord. These strategic sessions will be used toward empowering Morning Chapel to greatness. The members are currently working on initiating a new vision statement and a new mission statement that will identify the church toward the future.

Morning Chapel members look forward to the new things God has in store for them and are working together as a Family to accomplish it. All members are asked to attend the next planning sessions so every member will be included in the process of what God has for Morning Chapel as his Disciples.

# Fort Worth District Stewardess Annual Rozell Gray Program

By: Shabra Watkins



The Fort Worth District Stewardesses held their annual Rozell Gray Honors program at Moring Chapel on Sunday, September 13, 2015 at 5:00 pm. The theme for the day was "A Good Servant for Christ". The Mistress of Ceremonies for the program was Sis. Andrea Barron who

did an awesome job keeping the program in order and uplifted. The great Morning Chapel Mass blessed the program with two songs of ministry.

The special guest church for the program was Carter Metropolitan CME of Fort Worth and their Pastor, Rev. Clarence Health, who was introduced by Elder Russell O. Fuller, Sr. The Carter Metropolitan choir blessed us in music and Pastor Heath presented a stirring message.

It was then time to present the Stewardess of the Year. This award is given yearly to the Stewardess that displays commitment to the Stewardesses locally and district wide. This award was presented by the Fort Worth District President, Sis. Vernice B. Coleman. The 2015 Stewardess of the Year is Sis. Relvia Barnett from Steward Chapel. Her Pastor, Rev. Lionel Hayes escorted her to receive the award. She was surprised but very appreciative to be selected. Sis. Coleman read the inscription from the plaque and thanked Sis. Barnett for her commitment. A song in her honor, "Only what you do for Christ will last" was song by Angela Bell.

It was a great program with a reception that followed. Thanks to Sis. Vernice Coleman for an awesome program, the Stewardess of Morning Chapel, and all of the Stewardesses of the Fort Worth District for their work as Servants for Christ.

# **Hughes Chapel CME Church Scholars Program**

By: Johnette Calhoun

September 20, 2015, Morning Chapel traveled to Mineral Wells, TX to Hughes Chapel where Rev. Tyrone Pettiford is the pastor. Morning Chapel went to help Hughes Chapel celebrate their annual scholars program. There was a wonderful dinner prepared upon arrival. This program is to help college students that may be in need and to let them know that their church family is behind them. Hughes Chapel had six recipients. Two of the recipients are students at Texas College. It was a very inspiring program.

Rev. Willa Ross was the preacher of the hour. She preached an awesome message entitled "Straight out of Hughes Chapel". Kudos to Morning Chapel Mass Choir who did a great job along with our wonderful music staff, Rev. Leslie Perry on the organ and Bro. Robert Evans on the drums.

# **Jersey Sunday**

By: Shuntel Johnson Dangerfield

On Sunday, September 27, 2015, Morning Chapel C.M.E church celebrated it's annual Jersey Sunday. As the members represented their favorite NFL football teams and colleges, Pastor Ross took the field leading the congregation in worship from Psalms 124; entitling her sermon "The trap is broken, we have been set free." As the Word filled everyone ears, their hearts over flowed with joy from their own life "escapes". Members joined together in singing "If it had not been for the Lord on my side, where would I be?"

As a dynamic closing the newest member, Shayla Davis, gave a heart felt testimony of her experience. She expressed, "if it had not been for the Lord uplifting her during the most difficult time in her life, where would she be".

Speaking for all members, Morning Chapel love you, Shayla! The annual Jersey Sunday gave a new meaning to the acronym NFL which stands for National Football League, to a much better meaning as "New Found Life".

# 84th Dallas Fort Worth Regional **Annual Conference**

By: Shabra Watkins



The Dallas Fort Worth Region Conference was held August 5th-8<sup>th</sup> 2015 hosted by Kirkwood Temple from Dallas Texas with their Pastor, Rev. Jerry Christian. The location was the Crown Plaza Hotel in Dallas.

This was the 84<sup>th</sup> session of the conference and the theme selected is being used by the entire CME Church: "The Investment Factor: A Changed

People Changing the World". The conference began on a Wednesday with early morning communion services. Each day was designated for a specific group or organization to host a program. This includes the Missionary Society, Lay Department, the Stewardesses, the Board of Christian Education, Ministers Spouses and the Clergy.



Morning Chapel had a total of 4 delegates including our Pastor, Rev. Willa Ross. Delegates were Sis. Vernice B. Coleman, Sis. Johnnie P. Barron, Sis. Aisha Barron and Bro. Thomas Jefferson. The delegates were in attendance each day and participated in all of the activities dur-

ing the conference. Several of Morning Chapel members were also at the conference for the week to participate. Also, several of Morning Chapel members were voted in or appointed to District and Regional positions to serve on different committees and organizations.

The highlights for the conference included Missionary night, Holy Communion, Lay Night and Youth Night. Youth night includes the Kings and Queens for Christ program. This year, Morning Chapel's youth designees were Egypt Davis and Terence Bell, II. They made us proud! They were awesome in their presentations and looked beautiful and handsome as our King and Queen. Great job, Egypt and Terence!

It was a great week of service, fellowship and new commitment toward making changes to change the world.

# Morning Chapel Kudos by: Shabra Watkins & Birdia Fletcher



**Note from the Editors:** 

Please give your Kudos (written) to Birdia Fletcher or Shabra Watkins or email mail to rdia.fletcher@att.net or shbra watkins87@yahoo.com.

# **Kudos to Takiyah Evans**

30 semesters at Brookhaven College Adjunct Instructor

Kudos to Terence Bell for starting his Senior Year at Mansfield Legacy High School and making the "B" Honor Roll for the first six weeks. He is also playing great football for the Legacy Broncos!!!

### **Kudos to Ethan Bell** for starting his 8<sup>th</sup> grade year playing for the Mans-

field Linda Jobe football

team. He has already had 2 interceptions and scored 2 touchdowns. Ethan was also on the "B" Honor roll for the 1<sup>st</sup> Six Weeks!!!

### **Kudos to Evan Bell**

for starting 5<sup>th</sup> grade at Mansfield Donna Shepard Intermediate School. He is also doing an excellent job playing Tight End for the Mansfield Buccaneers Little League Football team. Evan was informed that he scored exceptionally well on the 2015 STARS Test for Math!!!!

# Health Tips By: Johnette Calhoun

# Janelle's Blog: Tribute to a Nurse Dark Days of Breast Cancer



National Breast Cancer Awareness Month

National Breast Cancer Awareness Month

National Breast Cancer Awareness Month

At 12:05 a.m. light streamed across my bed as the door opened into my hospital room. It was not unusual for nurses to come and go at all hours. I was wide awake, anyway, since I could find no peace and rest from my inner turmoil. My nearly perfect life had been wrecked by the intrusion of breast cancer. I couldn't understand what had happened to me. Neal and I had been married 15 years, with three sons, ages 13, 10, and 3, and were about to move into a new home Neal had custom built for us. Now, one day after a mastectomy, I was picking up the pieces of my life and trying to figure out how to cope.

The nurse who entered my room had a familiar face. I knew her from my church, where she seemed quiet and reserved. For some reason our lives had not intersected except for an occasional greeting as we passed each other in the crowded fover of the church.

That night she took my vitals, then did something that had an extraordinary impact on my life. She pulled up a chair and sat at my bedside, and without saying a word, reached across the bed to take my hand. For about five minutes, she held my hand in the semi-dark room and didn't say a word. She was sensitive that I had cried away all of my words and had nothing more to say.

Different family members and friends had offered encouraging, sometimes clumsy words and well wishes to my broken heart. Even an occasional book was left for me, which meant nothing in this dark hour of my life. This dear lady gave me a gift of understanding and hope by not making me struggle to hold a conversation or make excuses for why such a terrible thing happened to me. With her silence, she let my soul rest and gave me comfort with her kind touch. It was like having Jesus holding my hand and enveloping me with His love.

The dark days passed and my life moved on—a life filled with family, friends, and a future. Little did I know that during my hospital stay God would drop something in my heart, a deepened compassion for humanity that started with that sweet nurse. My husband and I founded the National Breast Cancer Foundation several years later to help women who had no means of helping themselves to get free mammograms and medical assistance if they were facing breast cancer.

### **Kindness Lives On**

A couple of years ago Neal and I were having lunch with his brother and his new wife. We knew her from years ago when we all went to the same church. In fact, Don and Debbie dated as young teens and had reconnected their love many years later through marriage. I told Debbie the story of the kind nurse, but said I couldn't remember her name. I always wanted to tell her what her act of kindness had meant to me. Debbie's face became somber as her mouth slightly fell open.

"That nurse was my mother, Frances Gieger," she said. There was a stunned silence at the table. Silence again had spoken more than any words could have. Frances was no longer living, but her silence left a legacy.

### How You Can Help a Friend

Why do we feel we have to fill the atmosphere with words, as though everything we say will make things right? When talking with a friend or loved one who is facing breast cancer, observe their needs and allow them to tell you what is important to them. Breast cancer has robbed so many of their hope for a future. We really don't know why one gets breast cancer and another does not. What we do know is that early detection saves lives. Build your Early Detection Plan today as a reminder to take care of your health.

**Thought for Today:** "The right word may be effective, but no word was ever as effective as a rightly timed pause." Mark Twain (Live Life, Janette)

# Social Concerns by: Takiyah Evans



# Be on the Lookout for School Children and School Buses

As Texas school children

prepare to head back to school, the Texas Department of Public Safety reminds all drivers to watch out for children walking to school or waiting for school buses--and to obey all traffic laws related to school buses.

The Department of Public Safety has zero tolerance for vehicles that pass stopped school buses. Drivers must slow down, obey school zone speed limits and stop for school buses to ensure the safety of Texas school children.

Drivers also need to slow down and pay attention in school zones. Children may not be looking for oncoming traffic when they step into the roadway, so drivers must remain alert. The most dangerous time of a student's journey on a school bus is when they are entering or exiting the bus and state law requires that approaching drivers stop when a school bus is stopped and operating a visual signal (red flashing lights or a stop sign).

### **State law requirements**

State law requires approaching drivers to stop when a school bus is stopped and operating a visual signal (red flashing lights or a stop sign). Drivers should not proceed until the school bus resumes motion; the driver is signaled by the bus driver to proceed; or the visual signal is no longer activated. A driver does not have to stop for a school bus if it is on a highway with roadways separated by an intervening space or physical barrier. (If a highway is divided only by a left-turning lane, the roadways are not separated, and drivers must stop for school buses.)

### **Punishment for drivers who do not stop**

Drivers who do not stop for school buses face a fine of up to \$1,000. If a driver is convicted of this offense more than one time, DPS can suspend their license for up to six months. A ticket for illegally passing a school bus cannot be dismissed through defensive driving.

For more information on school bus safety, please see http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/schoolbus.

# **School Bus Safety!**

To be safe when they travel to and from school, follow these simple safety rules:

### AT THE BUS STOP:

- Always walk to the bus stop. Never run.
- Walk on the sidewalk. If there is no sidewalk, walk on the left facing traffic.
- Always go to the bus stop about five minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive.
- While at the bus stop, wait in a safe place away from the road. Do not run and play while waiting.
- Never speak to strangers at the bus stop and never get into the car with a stranger. Always go straight home and tell you parents if a stranger tries to talk to you or pick you up.
- Wait for the bus to arrive, watch for red flashing lights and the stop sign to be extended, and cross only when all traffic has stopped. Look left, right, and left again before crossing.

### ON THE BUS:

- Go directly to a seat. Remain seated and facing forward for the entire ride.
- Talk quietly (so the driver will not be distracted).
- If you need to talk to the bus driver: wait for the bus to stop, raise your hand, and call the driver's name.
- Never throw things on the bus or out the windows. Never play with the emergency exits.
- Keep the aisles clear at all times.
- If there is an emergency, listen to the driver and follow instructions.

### **EXIT THE BUS:**

- When getting off the bus make sure you walk (not run) three more steps away from the door. This is the best place to be around a bus. Stay away from the bus wheels and watch out for moving cars!
- Once you get off the bus, go straight home so an adult will know where you are.
- Only get on and off the bus at your designated stop. If you need to get off the bus somewhere else, you will need to have a note from your parents.
- If you leave something on the bus, never return to the bus to get it. The driver may not see you come back and they may begin moving the bus.

Also, if you drop something near the bus, tell the bus driver before you attempt to pick it up, so they will know where you are.

# **August and September Calendar of Events**

Aug. 5-8 Dallas-Fort Worth Region Conference, Crowne Plaza Dallas Market Center Hotel 7050 Stemmons Freeway, Dallas, TX Aug. 16 Budget Input Forms should be submitted by Chairs/Presidents of Boards & Auxiliaries Aug. 16 Renewing Membership Vows and Installation of Officers for the 2015-16 Conference year Aug. 22 Eighth Episcopal District Planning Meeting, 10:00 a.m., Kirkwood Temple CME Aug. 29 Strategic Planning Meeting, 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. Sept. 12 President's Brunch with Pastor Ross, 11:30 a.m. Mi Mi's Café, 5858 Southwest Loop 820. This is a Dutch Brunch with the exception of our children. Sept. 13 Fort Worth District Stewardesses Annual Rozell Gray Program, 5:00 p.m. Sept. 20 National Back to Church and Family and Friends Day at Morning Chapel Travel to Hughes Chapel CME Church to celebrate with them their Scholars Program Sept. 20 Oct. 10 Fort worth District Council, 9:00 a.m., Elder Fuller, Presiding Oct. 18 Dallas/Fort Worth Region Ministers' Spouses Vesper Service Oct. 24 Morning Chapel's Fall Festival Halloween Oct. 31

# **Van Ministry**

In an effort to extend our reach and access to the community, Morning Chapel is seeking to establish a Van Ministry. We need your help. Each member is asked to donate \$1 weekly and each officer is asked to donate \$5 weekly, or any monetary amount you will contribute. Thanks for your support.

# Weekly and/or Monthly Events:

Sunday School 9:30am-10:30am

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Membership Training,

9:30am-10:30am

**1st Monday:** Steward Meeting 6 pm Church Conference 7 pm

**Tuesday:** Mid-Day Bible Study 12:00 noon

**Wednesday:** Prayer Service 6:30 pm

Bible Study 7 pm

Children & Youth Rehearsal 7 pm (2nd Wednesday) Mass Choir Rehearsal 8 pm (1st, 3rd, & 4th Wednesdays

### **Prayer Line**

The Morning Chapel CME Church Prayer Line will be open every Thursday evening from 8:00 pm until 9:00 pm. The phone number is: 712-775-7031. The ID number is: 609-506-698. Mute:\*6... Please be mindful of background noise when calling in.

# **Greeters - Membership and Evangelism**

If you are interested in being a part of the Greeters Ministry or need more details, please contact Anthony Dangerfield

# Bridges

Bridges is a special interest group targeted at Morning Chapel members that are between 36 - 55 years of age. See Sis. Acacia Nolen to become a part of this group.

# May, June, & July Birthdays & Anniversaries



# **Birthdays**



11-Aug	Tatum Evans
15-Aug	Sheryl Hunter
17-Aug	Trinitee Young
18-Aug	Aileax Barron
19-Aug	Wayne Ashfore
23-Aug	Elnora Woods
27-Aug	Christal Griffin

1-Sep	Althea Barron		
4-Sep	LaRhonda McDonald		
7-Sep	Aarron Barron, Jr.		
8-Sep	Bruce Barron		
9-Sep	Linda Griffin	5-Oct	Kiamesha Parker
10-Sep	Annette Young	9-Oct	Micheal Watkins
11-Sep	Charlene Johnson	10-Oct	Micaela Watkins
18-Sep	Lydia Ward	12-Oct	Evelyn Caldwell
20-Sep	Vel Ivory	12-Oct	Robbie Watkins
21-Sep	Johnette Calhoun	15-Oct	Nicholas Griffin
22-Sep	Beverly Washington	17-Oct	Freddie Nolen, III
23-Sep	Shuntel Johnson	22-Oct	Rheaven Carter
25-Sep	Tori Evans	25-Oct	Vincent McDonald
28-Sep	Edwin Bell	25-Oct	Katilyn Williams
28-Sep	Takiyah Evans	26-Oct	DeTosha Williams
28-Sep	Mattie Roberts	30-Oct	Ashley McGilvery
30-Sep	Elena Nolen		, ,



# **Anniversaries**



17-Aug	Micheal & Shabra Watkins
22-Aug	Alfred & Barbara Brown
29-Aug	Anthony & Dietra Dangerfield
30-Sep	Edwin & Angela Bell
16-Oct	Joe & Beverly Washington

# Recipe for the Month by: Linda Griffin

# Five-Spice Turkey & Lettuce Wraps

# Ingredients

- 1/2 cup water
- 1/2 cup instant brown rice
- 2 teaspoons sesame oil
- 1 pound 93%-lean ground turkey
- 1 tablespoon minced fresh ginger
- 1 large red bell pepper, finely diced
- 1 8-ounce can water chestnuts, rinsed and chopped
- 1/2 cup reduced-sodium chicken broth
- 2 tablespoons hoisin sauce
- 1 teaspoon five-spice powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 heads Boston lettuce, leaves separated
- 1/2 cup chopped fresh herbs such as cilantro,

basil, mint and/or chives

1 large carrot, shredded



# Preparation

### Step 1

Bring water to a boil in a small saucepan. Add rice; reduce heat to low, cover and cook for 5 minutes. Remove from the heat.

### Step 2

Meanwhile, heat oil in a large nonstick pan over medium-high heat. Add turkey and ginger; cook, crumbling with a wooden spoon, until the turkey is cooked through, about 6 minutes. Stir in the cooked rice, bell pepper, water chestnuts, broth, hoisin sauce, fivespice powder and salt; cook until heated through, about 1 minute.

### Step 3

To serve, spoon portions of the turkey mixture into lettuce leaves, top with herbs and carrot and roll into wraps.

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# Morning Chapel Tidbits by Acacia Nolen

# **Tidbit & PUZZLE**

Unscramble the letters to find the words in our

# Lord's Prayer Anagram



Answers will be printed in the next Issue

Solution to last issue's puzzle

